



HMGA News

The newsletter of the Holland Marsh Growers' Association - Volume 8 - July 2010



3rd Annual B-B-Q
July 24, 2010
3:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Alex Makarenko's House



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That's right folks – the third annual B-B-Q is taking place on July 24th at the HMGA Chair, Alex Makarenko, house on the hill. EVERYONE IS CORDIALLY INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

The Holland Marsh Growers' Association has completed its second successful year and it is all due to our farmers' participation and encouragement. This is our way of saying THANK YOU. Everyone is welcome – all family members.

Priorities for you . . . AGAIN

Now is the time to figure out what are priorities to you, the farming community. This will give you an opportunity to have input where it matters most: to you.

Rank your priorities, with one (1) being most important – and work your way through the list. Get it back to either Jamie or one of the HMGA board – or drop it off at Alex's shop.

- Chemicals – access, harmonization (what was promised under NAFTA), and usage as well as maintaining and ensuring that product availability. This also includes lowest dose (difference in U.S. registration) and timeliness of getting new chemistry out. Would also include emergency use program leading to unfairness.
- Marketing, Promotion, and Communication – for farmers, consumers, stakeholders
- Research and innovation – resistance issues included due to above mentioned lowest dosage.
- Rules and regulatory issues (and solutions)
- Food Safety
- Retailer, wholesale, food service markets
- Other (your decision)

Please take the time to tell us what YOU want done for you.

Tow-motor Course . . .

In what can only be deemed hugely successful, the HMGA tow-motor courses continue in the month of July with a possible second either at the end of the month or beginning of August. The dates have yet to be determined but it will likely be held on July 22 or 27 – a Spanish-only course, with an English-only course to be held shortly afterwards.

What has been confirmed is that the location is:

Gwillimdale Farms (John Hambly)
8:30 a.m. prompt start

for both courses.

If you and your employees want to participate, please contact Jamie Reaume (905-251-6786 or via e-mail at jreaume@rogers.com) to enroll, drop off contact information to him – and he will get back to you with confirmed dates.

The reason for this obvious since another tow-motor accident occurred in the Niagara area and the Ministry of Labour continues to visit farms throughout southern Ontario.

As well, with the new canal project now in full operation – it is the best interests to remember that there will be various ministry staff (both federal and provincial) paying visits more often than not.



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First Aid Course . . .

Once again, the HMGGA is offering a first aid course for its members. If you completed the course last year, there is no need for you to attend this one as your certificate is still good.

However, if you have an interest in the two-day course, and there have been requests already, this is the course for you. We will be providing interpretation again this year (Spanish), so let us know what you require.

While the date has been confirmed as August 11 and 12, the location will shift this year to the Bond Head Community Hall.

Please contact Jamie Reaume (905-251-6786 or via e-mail at jreaume@rogers.com) for more information and to enroll.

Finally (t.g.) . . . Again

- There is no word yet as to the outcome for our proposed Lake Simcoe Clean-up Fund project – but, we'll let you know when it comes in, one way or another. There is a great amount of interest in it – so we'll hope for the best.
- Beginning in July, the canal reconstruction program gets underway in full gear. It is VERY IMPORTANT that you make sure that every farm property you own has a farm registration number so that you are eligible for the agricultural rebate accorded under the provisions of this project. If you do not have a farm registration number than get one ASAP to qualify. If not, you will be paying the full rate rather than the rebated levy.
- As well, considering the canal reconstruction project – there will be some bumps along the way for farmers and we are working with the

townships and the drainage board to smooth out as many of these in advance as possible. If there is a situation that arises, please don't hesitate to contact Jamie about your concerns. The association has a good working relationship with staff and would be able to bring those concerns to the forefront as well as discuss potential solutions. It's what we're here for – your behalf.

- We were told to keep the newsletter shorter. Where possible, we will. That is not always the case – but we will keep you up-to-date.

Did We Miss Something . . .

Then by all means, let us know. Go to our website at www.hollandmarshgold.com, find a board member you know – and give them a call. Or contact Jamie at 905-251-6786 and let him know what you need the association to do for you.