



MuckerNews

Monthly Articles & Updates For HMGA Members

CANADA GAP

New changes are now in effect as of April 1, 2017.

- 1) The newest manual is version 7 manual.
- 2) Fees have been increased.
- 3) You may be chosen for unannounced audit this year. If you are chosen, it will be replaced your scheduled audit for that year.
- 4) Audit pass score has been raised to 85%.

All this can be found on the CanadaGap website.
www.canadagap.ca

If you have questions, CanadaGap welcomes your call at
1-613-829-4711.

MOECC

The MOE is continuing to do checks on water taking permits. They look at how many hours you are permitted for. As well as the amount you are permitted to use. If you are over in either, they could fine your operation. If you have questions or issues with this, contact Jody and she can assist you with it. Jody continues to work with the Minister of Environment, OFA and OFVGA regarding this.

DE-DIRTER PROJECT UPDATE

The de-dirter project is in the wrap up stage. There is still some space to get funding. Cut off date is March 20, 2017. The project is ending March 30, 2017. Anyone interested in this can contact Jody or Charlie for more information.

CHC AGM 2017 - WINNIPEG

John and Jody will be attending the Canadian Horticulture of Canada AGM to represent the area and hold those votes at the table.

CARBON CREDIT

We continue to work with OFVGA, OFA and the government on this. We all support the approach provided that a broad range of activities that our members engage in are eligible to be sold as credits.

We have created list the would include the following that sequester carbon and reduce carbon emissions.

* no-till, grass buffers, high efficiently irrigation, plasticulture, and carbon dioxide fixation by greenhouse growers as a few examples.

The working group is now in the planning stage. We are working on strategies on how to proceed on lobbying this.

HMGA MEMBERSHIP FEES

There are now two fee options to be a member of the HMGA.

- 1) 1 percent from the Coop self-directed fees.
- 2) \$18.00 per FARMED acres.

Anyone who still has not joined can contact either Matt or Jody to assist you with this. If you have any question you can contact Jody, Dom or Quinton.

LEAN PROCESS

The OPMA and HMGA will be working together to host a Food Waste Reduction Workshop early this summer, in Bradford. Participants will learn Process Improvement tools that can be applied to reduce waste and improve profitability in their own company. This is part of a province wide project managed by the OPMA and supported by Growing Forward 2 and AAC so training will be provided free of charge! An earlier workshop is available March 29 at the Toronto Food Terminal. To register for the 29th or to add your name for information on future dates, please email dee@opma-assn.com or me at hmgexec@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHC: March 14-16, 2017 - Winnipeg
COOP AGM: March 27, 2017 - Bradford

Muck Conference: April 12-13, 2017 - Bradford
CPMA: May 9-11, 2017 - Toronto