



BC MEATING NEWS

Welcome to the BCFPA's BC Meating News, providing information towards increasing livestock harvest and sales of high-quality, safe, BC-produced-and-processed meat products. This is a monthly publication of the Meat Industry Enhancement Strategy (MIES).

US removes temporary restrictions on BC cattle and bison

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has removed temporary brucellosis testing requirements for certain cattle and bison from British Columbia as of June 17, 2010. The restrictions were put in place after three beef cows originating from two BC farms were suspected of having brucellosis, based on tests done by the USDA during routine slaughter testing. A subsequent investigation by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) did not find brucellosis in the animals or on the two farms. All cattle herds in Canada remain officially free of brucellosis.

BC Farm Industry Review Board removes Assurance of Supply to chicken processors

In a decision dated June 9, 2010, the FIRB has followed the recommendation of the BC Chicken Marketing Board and has directed the BCCMB to repeal the current assurance of supply policy found in Parts 7 and 8 of the General Orders. In its place, the Chicken Board is to implement an open contracting system between chicken growers and chicken processors. To protect smaller processors, assurance of supply will remain in place for processors with less than 2% of domestic allocation. This decision is part of a review of BCCMB pricing-related recommendations that also include the development of a new pricing model, amendments to the Market Development Program, and the development of catching standards and pricing structures. More detailed information can be found on the FIRB website at: http://www.firb.gov.bc.ca/bccmb_pricing.htm

Abattoir Competitiveness and Slaughter Waste Innovation Programs now open for applications

The Government of Canada is now accepting applications for the Abattoir Competitiveness Program and the Slaughter Waste Innovation Program.

The Abattoir Competitiveness Program is intended to help Canadian cattle slaughterhouses maintain critical slaughter capacity in Canada for over-thirty-month-old (OTM) cattle while the industry becomes more innovative and competitive when dealing with specified risk materials (SRM). Federally, provincially and territorially inspected cattle slaughter facilities that slaughtered OTM cattle in Canada during 2009 and 2010 calendar years will be eligible for support based on their 2010 production of SRM. For more information on the Abattoir Competitiveness Program, visit www.agrgc.ca/acp or call 1-877-290-2188.

The Slaughter Waste Innovation Program will help drive research, development, and adoption of innovative technologies or processes to reduce handling costs or return profits from the use or disposal of SRM. Federally, provincially, and territorially inspected cattle slaughterhouses, stand-alone businesses handling SRM, and research or engineering firms in partnership with these parties or with livestock industry associations are eligible to apply. For more information on the Slaughter Waste Innovation Program, visit www.agrgc.ca/swip or call 1-877-246-4682.

Global demand for lamb, sheep and goat meat rising

David Jones, European regional manager for Meat and Livestock Australia, outlined the state of sheep and goat meat markets worldwide during a presentation at an international meat trade show held in Frankfurt, Germany in May 2010. Demand is driven by growing populations and incomes combined with a preference for sheep and goat meat, particularly in the Middle East. At the same time production in the main producing countries - Australia, New Zealand and China - has fallen since the collapse in wool prices in the 1990s. Lamb production in Australia is forecast to double by 2020 to meet rising demand.

Whole Foods Market Local Producer Loan Program

Since 2006, Whole Foods Market has been offering low-interest loans to independent local farms and food artisans. Loan amounts can range from \$1,000 to \$100,000 for up to 80% of total project cost and can be used for expansion

Continued on Next Page



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and capital expenditures. Producers must meet Whole Foods Market's quality and animal welfare standards and have collateral and adequate cash flow to service the debt. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For an application, please contact Denise Breyley at denise.breyley@wholefoods.com or visit online at www.wholefoodsmarket.com/loans.

Sheep Field Day – Campbell Farm, Saturna Island, July 24, 2010

Open invitation to all sheep producers in BC to attend a Sheep Field Day at Campbell Farm, Saturna Island! The Campbell Clan are inviting you to see their upgraded, licensed and inspected small slaughter facility in action. A CFIA inspector will be present for a demonstration slaughter. The field day will include a demonstration of radio frequency ID (RFID) tag technology – the Campbell Farm is a participant in the national CSF RFID trial and is testing two or three tag types, a Psion tag reader, a Bluetooth-enabled scale head, and Farmworks software. This is a good opportunity to learn about RFID tags, which are to be mandatory in Canada by 2012. There will also be a tour of the farm, which produces its own beef, sheep and hay.

July 24, 2010 - all day - whenever you come, to whenever you leave. Overnight camping possible. The farm is located near the ocean, next to the Saturna Vineyard and Winery and the Gulf Island National Park Reserve. For further information contact Jacques Campbell, 250-539-2470.

Farewell to Angie, hello to Alisa

The Meat Industry Enhancement Strategy Team regretfully said farewell to Angie Froese who went on maternity leave at the end of June. We welcome Alisa Elliott to the position of admin assistant supporting the team. Alisa was born in Jamaica, studied and lived in the UK for 12 years, and then immigrated to Canada in 2006. Married with two sons, Alisa lives with her family in Mission, BC. She can be reached at alisa@bcfpa.ca

Angie Froese



Temple Grandin HBO movie receives 15 Emmy nominations

An HBO movie illustrating the life story of Temple Grandin, Colorado State University animal scientist and renowned animal behaviourist, has received 15 Primetime Emmy Award nominations. Entitled "Temple Grandin," the film chronicles her perseverance while struggling with autism. Grandin is well known and highly respected for her work on the welfare of food animals, particularly the humane handling of livestock at slaughter.

New Chairs of ALC, BCFIRB and the BCCMB appointed

Richard Bullock has been appointed chair of the Agricultural Land Commission, replacing Erik Karlsen who retired earlier this year. Ron Kilmury in turn takes over from Richard Bullock as chair of the BC Farm Industry Review Board. New Chair of the BC Chicken Marketing Board, replacing Ron Kilmury in that role, is Daphne Stancil.

For further information and access to more on-line resources, visit our Web site at <http://www.bcfpa.ca/programs/meat-industry-enhancement-strategy>



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The current BCFPA Team:
Alisa Elliott,
Chantay Simpson,
Kathleen Gibson,
Donna Brendon,
Adam Ford,
Nico Human

