

News & Notes

Working for a Vibrant and Innovative Agriculture Industry



Message from the President Sid Atkinson

This will be a year no one will forget, even as much as some of us would like to. At your NFA we have learned to use zoom for most of our meetings although the last two have been outside and together which was much needed for that personal connection that we all need. As we see it our principle purpose is to lobby government and advocate for our members. We have used zoom for this as well and we've found leaders from all sectors of government perhaps even more accessible this way saving travel time, booking meeting rooms and adding a

new convenience that no of us would have imagined a year ago. The next issue that has caught our attention is the Clean Fuel Standard, there seems to be a lot of land use questions that we need answers for, we are planning a zoom meetings with Philip Lawrence and with David Picini to get those answers. if this has piqued your interest google Clean Fuel Standard.

The downside of this year is that social events with our county councilors just can't happen, traditionally we would arrange a farm tour

with innovative farms across our county and stop for lunch, a great way to get to know them and for them to get to know us better. Our AGM will be different this year as we go virtual, be sure to check out elsewhere in this newsletter for details on how to connect. With all the upheaval over the virus and this years drought that has hurt some areas of our county badly, I'm reminded of a saying that my Mother used to tell us "this to shall pass". From all of your directors at NFA have a safe productive harvest.

Sid

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Notes from Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Canada's effective national pandemic response has helped Canada's food and agriculture industries settle into a relatively stable 'new normal' operating environment, despite acute disruptions early in the COVID era. Canadian food and agricultural industries appear to have avoided many of the dire predictions made in the spring of 2020, and the largest bilateral agricultural trade relationship is functioning relatively smoothly in spite of the continued border closure. The U.S.-Canada border has been closed to non-essential traffic for months – and remains closed at least through September 21 – but agricultural trade has barely skipped a beat. Though it has provided more than \$200 million USD of

agri-food support programming, the Government of Canada largely resisted agricultural sector requests for targeted financial assistance, relying on the existing agricultural safety net and COVID-response measures open to the broader economy. The Department of Finance Canada has forecast a nearly 7 percent economic contraction in 2020, and while the long-term financial ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic cannot yet be tallied, the Canadian food and agricultural industries appear to have avoided many of the dire predictions made in the spring of 2020.

** Taken from a USDA publication*

Bruce Buttar, OFA director Zone 12



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Resi's Report OFA Member Service Rep

Bill 156 Update

Beginning September 2, 2020, sections of the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020*, are in force to prevent persons from stopping, obstructing, engaging or interfering with livestock transportation vehicles.

At OFA, we know clear communication of the new provisions from the Ontario government to police enforcement officers and the justice system will be critical to the effectiveness of the regulations. Without their understanding and enforcement of the regulations, the risk of trespassing and harassment by groups and individuals remains high. Everyone in the agri-food sector depends on the legal system and law enforcement to protect their safety.

There is still a lot of work to be done with local police enforcement to ensure everyone is working towards the same goal of keeping our farm properties safe, and our food supply uninterrupted. OFA is committed to working on this issue on your behalf and it is a top priority for us.

Please continue to be vigilant about monitoring unwanted visitors on your farm and watching out for your neighbours.

Freedom of Information Request Update

On August 10, OMAFRA advised all three general farm organizations in the province that it intends to release the business names of FBR registrants but withhold the FBR number portion of the record. The names will be released to the person who submitted the FOI request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Jointly, all three farm organizations oppose the release of this information. That sentiment was echoed by a substantial number of Ontario farmers who voiced their input and concerns to OMAFRA's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator throughout the comment period. The overwhelming response from farmers was to oppose the requested disclosure of FBR information.

Going forward, OFA will officially appeal this decision on behalf of the membership, and we have been approved to do this by the Information & Privacy Commissioner. With this appeal, the release of the information is stalled. When the filing period closes for submitting an appeal, we will enter the mediation stage. If the matter cannot be settled, it then proceeds to the Inquiry Phase. OFA is committed to seeing this appeal through and protecting the privacy of farmers in Ontario.

COVID-19 Information

OFA's website has an abundance of resources for all things COVID, including HR resources and information about government programs. Go to: www.ofa.on.ca/information-and-resources-covid-19/

Be Social
Like us on Facebook:
@OFAzone12

Find us on Facebook

YOU ARE WHAT YOU TWEET
Follow on Twitter:
@ResiWalt

www.FARM911.ca

Northumberland County has declared

October 5-12th Agriculture Week in Northumberland



Quinte Farm Research and Stewardship Collaborative is actively looking for farmers to participate in research and best management projects!

Quinte Farm Research and Stewardship Collaborative (QFRSC) is initiating a project focused on soil health and water quality. QFRSC is establishing a network to look at modern agricultural practices, best management practices and their effects on water quality and soil health/conservation.

Interested in participating?

Reach out to the QFRSC Coordinator:
Lindsay Nash
Qscia.farmresearch@gmail.com
613-919-5622

Follow QFRSC on social media:
@QuinteCollab
on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn
www.qscia.ca



www.qscia.ca

Conservation Authorities Making Connections

The **Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA)**, in efforts to work in partnership with the local agricultural community for the benefit of agriculture and the environment, would like to communicate more often with farmers and farm businesses/agencies.

Topics would include:

- Agricultural specific programing offered by the GRCA (e.g., farm project funding).
- Partner information regarding funding and educational opportunities (e.g., Environmental Farm Plan workshops and funding).
- Collaborative information (e.g., East Central Farm Stewardship Collaborative and the Quinte Farm Research and Stewardship Collaborative).
- Agricultural webinars, conferences, workshops and training opportunities.
- Research opportunities from universities, colleges and government ministries.
- Other relevant agricultural and environmental information.

If you would like to be on the GRCA quarterly update distribution list contact **Pam Lancaster** and you can be added to the list.



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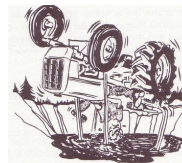
Farm Safety and Our Family

With the increased number of kids being homeschooled and Grandparents helping out, there may be extra bodies around your farm. This is an interesting video showing blind spots on farm machinery. We all can take a moment or two to get a refresher of how to be safe.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=884257635318321&extid=dlgnGv2HCk2jPFk4>

Tractor overturn/run overs are the number one cause of injury and death on the farm. Here are some prevention tips:

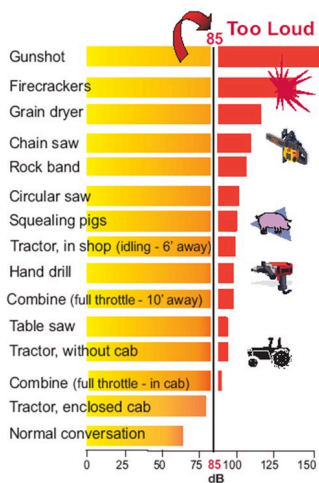
- When given the option, drive tractors on the flattest possible land.
- Keep side mounted implements on the uphill side of the tractor.
- Avoid turning on slopes. Turn downhill, versus uphill, when turning is a necessity.
- Stay away from the edge of ditches and steep slopes.
- Attach hitches to the drawbar.
- Make sure tires are not frozen to the ground or stuck in mud before moving the tractor.
- Do not allow passengers on tractors.
- Check surroundings for individuals close by.



Did you know the rate of injury and death on the farm increases after the age of 70?

<https://www.casa-acsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/Summary-Report-Agricultural-Injuries-Deaths-Senior-Farmers-EN.pdf>

Common Noise Levels



A "decibel" is the unit used to measure the loudness of sound. Decibel levels for each item shown in the graph may vary.

How Long Is Too Long?

The red bar shows how long it takes for a particular sound level to become

dangerous to the human ear.

For example a chain saw has a sound intensity of about 109db.

Without proper hearing protection, running a chain saw for only 2 minutes can cause hearing loss!

112 dB | <1 min

109 dB | <2 min

106 dB | <4 min

103 dB | 7.5 min

100 dB | 15 min

97 dB | 30 min

94 dB | 1 hour

91 dB | 2 hours

88 dB | 4 hours

85 dB | 8 hours



Clean Fuel Standard

From the Government of Canada web site:

In late 2016, the Government of Canada announced that it would consult with provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, industries, and non-governmental organizations to develop a clean fuel standard to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions through the increased use of lower-carbon fuels, energy sources, and technologies.

The objective of the Clean Fuel Standard is to achieve up to 30% of annual reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, making a significant contribution toward exceeding Canada's target of reducing national emissions by 30% below 2005 levels by 2030. The Clean Fuel Standard will be a performance-based approach designed to incent the innovation and adoption of clean technologies in the oil and gas sector and the development and use of low-carbon fuels throughout the economy.

The Clean Fuel Standard regulations will cover all fossil fuels used in Canada. They will set separate requirements for liquid, gaseous, and solid fossil fuels. Environment and Climate Change Canada is developing the regulations in a phased approach, with liquid-fuel regulations being developed first followed by gaseous- and solid-fuel regulations.

The Clean Fuel Standard is complementary to other climate policies and investments under the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change— including carbon-pollution pricing. Together, these measures will reduce emissions across the economy and create incentives for innovation and clean growth.

Clean Fuel Standard: Proposed Regulatory Approach details online.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-pollution/energy-production/fuel-regulations/clean-fuel-standard/regulatory-approach.html>

Here is a positive link put out by RealAgriculture.com

<https://www.realagriculture.com/2020/09/exploring-the-sustainability-question-in-the-proposed-clean-fuel-standard/>



NORTHUMBERLAND
FEDERATION OF
AGRICULTURE

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Gadgets

Digital resource that you
may find useful.



Agrivi farm management
software lets you plan, monitor
and analyze all activities on
your farm easily. Tillage,
planting, spraying,
fertilization, irrigation,
harvesting and all other
activities are managed with a
few clicks.

<https://www.agrivi.com/en/>

Save the date!

The NFA AGM- Virtual of Course

This year the AGM will be held on Thursday, **October 15, 2020 @ 12:30 pm** in a virtual format. You will be sent a link to join via email with voting instructions after you **register** (see below). OFA is not endorsing any none virtual regional meetings at this time. We are hoping you will take some time during the lunch hour to get updated on what the year has been like for your local Federation and what we are working on for you in the coming year. In this difficult year, your directors have kept up with issues that affect the farmers of Northumberland and represent this industry well to the politicians so we continue to have sustainable farms and a strong food chain for all.

Lisa

How To Participate In This Years AGM

OFA members **must register** by
October 13th, 2020 to be eligible to vote.

Call or email Resi Walt

613-847-3037

resiwalt@ofa.on.ca

Once you are registered you will be sent a link to view
the virtual AGM, given instructions how to vote virtually
and be sent the annual report.

Don't delay get registered.

**PROTECT
YOURSELF
AND OTHERS**



WEAR A MASK

For more information:
Visit www.hkpr.on.ca
Email info@hkpr.on.ca
Call 1-866-888-4577 ext. 5020



Hey Teachers!



Do you know any teachers looking for some inspiration this difficult school year? How about some parents doing home schooling? AgScape provides factual, balanced, curriculum linked food literacy programs and resources for Ontario's educators and students. And if you aren't teaching any grade one to twelve kids, it is great to see what is available as a window to our agriculture food producing industry. Check them out!



<https://agscape.ca/resources>

<https://twitter.com/AgScapeON?s=20>



Food and beverage processing
is Canada's
LARGEST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
with **\$103.4 BILLION** in shipments

Source: An Overview of the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food System 2016
(Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)

