



Native Agri Update

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From The Manager's Desk

By D.E. "Ted" Young, General Manager
iapo-ted@on.aibn.com



WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY!

Eldred Glen Martin of Ohsweken has announced his retirement from the IAPO Board effective April 15, 2009. Eldred has farmed and been a business man in the Ohsweken area his entire life and will now turn his attention to more family time, his love of farming, and other personal retirement goals in the years ahead.

Eldred has represented the Brantford District on the IAPO Board for three consecutive terms since October 21, 2001. One of the immediate assets Eldred brought to the Board was his farming and business experience being an active, progressive, and successful farmer. This was of great benefit to the Board as his first hand knowledge, common sense of farming issues, farming expertise, and intimate knowledge of First Nations farmers needs served the Board and IAPO clients very well.

"Farming has come a long way ahead as IAPO made farming possible in First Nations territories and did a lot of things for a lot of people"... he proudly stated. "The issue of stable and adequate funding was always a constant concern to ensure assistance was available for our clients. Being able to take our lands back and farm them was a great accomplishment and a proud moment for many of our people." Eldred reflected that he is very proud to have been a part of that process to assist his fellow farmers and youth.

When IAPO began serving First Nations farmers in 1984 many farmers or would be farmers had no equipment, or only old equipment to take the land back to farm it. Looking at that reality and where farming is today Eldred asserts... "We have come a long way". One can see in his eyes and hear in his voice the pride and satisfaction that comes from his achievements over the last two decades.

Looking at the future, Eldred raises his voice as he shares a serious concern for the future of farming on First Nations territories especially at Six Nations. He asserts "Our reserve is shrinking badly from agriculture to make way for too much building and housing approvals on good farmland, coupled with no or non consistent planning controls. This is where our council and Chief have failed the farm community. Band councils and governments



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INDIAN AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM OF ONTARIO

Southern & Western Ontario Office

Box 83, Station Lambeth
6453 Hamlyn Road
London, ON N6P 1P9
Phone: 519 652-2440
Toll Free: 1-800-663-6912

Eastern and Northern Ontario Office

Box 100
220 North Street
Stirling, ON K0K 3E0
Phone: 613 395-5505
Toll Free: 1-800-363-0329

From the Manager's Desk...cont'd

need to realize that we must act to protect our agricultural lands that have been vital to the welfare of many of our people”.

His other concern for the next generation is “the disappointment that many young people have no interest in farming. Young people need the assistance of their parents and others to get established in farming”. Eldred reflects on

how disappointed he is with the disappearance of 4-H clubs and programs in the territory that was so vibrant and impacting in his youth and in past years.

“Once we had good 4-H clubs, and 4-H was doing a good job with our youth, and then they dropped us. Why are we not getting any help? This was a good program”. Clearly, the desire to see young people develop to be farmers and leaders is a solid value that Eldred em-

braces and will continue to support in the years ahead.

IAPO was certainly lucky to have his input and presence on the Board to be part of the good work that was achieved in the past decade. No doubt he will continue to make a difference in his community in the years ahead with the many challenges farmers will face.

We wish Eldred and his wife Muriel many happy years ahead.

NOTICE

**ELECTION FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM OF ONTARIO**

As you are aware, Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario is a non-profit Corporation owned by Status Indian farmers in Ontario. IAPO is managed by a Board of Directors who is made up of Status Indian farmers, and represents various farming districts across Ontario.

This year's Election for Directors will be held on April 16, 2009 at the Sour Springs Longhouse, Ohsweken, Ontario. Directors are not all elected in the same year to maintain continuity on the Board to better represent the farmers. In 2009, two terms expire, one vacancy exists and another position will become vacant with an April '09 retirement. Refer to the following list for the current Board of Directors in your area and the expiry date of their term.

District	Director	Current Term Expires	2009 Election
Brantford	Vacant		*
	Eldred Martin	April 10, 2010	*
London/Bruce	Jennifer Whiteye	April 10, 2011	
Peterborough	Wm. J. Brant	April 10, 2010	
	Amanda Ioannou	April 11, 2009	*
Sudbury	James Maniwabi	April 10, 2010	
Agricultural Lending Director	Robert Riddell	April 11, 2009	*

Criteria for being an IAPO Board Director, and voting for a Director:

1. Current Directors are eligible for re-election.
2. Have a First Nation registered status within the meaning of the First Nation Act (Canada) residing in the Province of Ontario.
3. Persons nominated to be Directors shall be residents of the District for which they are nominated.
4. Must be eighteen years of age or older.
5. Must comply with **one** of the following:
 - a. Operate a farm business
 - b. Operate an agriculturally related business
 - c. Be a client of IAPO in good standing
 - d. Be approved by interview by a committee of the Board of Directors
6. Persons shall be nominated in writing, and such nominations shall bear the signatures of support from the District for which they represent.

If you are interested in nominating a Director, or being nominated for a Director.

1. Contact the Lambeth or the Stirling office for a nomination form.
2. Complete the nomination form as required.
3. Return the completed nomination form to arrive at the Lambeth IAPO office no later than Friday, March 20, 2009.
4. Nominations for vacancies are welcomed at anytime.
5. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact D.E. 'Ted' Young, IAPO General Manager.

Crop Information

By Peter Jay Lanthier, Farm Management Advisor

iapo-peter@on.aibn.com

PRE-EMERGE SPRAY PAYS OFF IN ROUNDUP READY CROPS

(excerpts from Christy Sprague, MSU,
2009 Southwest Agricultural Conference, Ridgetown)

There are two very good reasons for using a pre-emerge herbicide in your Roundup-Ready soybean crop; it opens a wider window for applying glyphosate without having to worry about early weed competition and it helps to reduce the potential of weed resistance to Roundup. Quite a bit of research has been done to back this up both in Roundup Ready soybeans and corn. Glyphosate does a good job of weed control but it is important to remember that preserving yield, not just clean fields, is the number one goal of a weed control program. Your weed control program should be applied early enough to prevent early emerging weeds from competing with the crop. For soybeans in 7.5 inch rows that means controlling weeds before they're four inches tall. Under the right growing conditions some weeds can grow from four to six inches in just a few days. If you can see the weeds from the road you're already losing yield. In corn the critical weed free stage is the three to four leaf stage of the corn crop. Waiting just two days beyond these critical application times can cost five or more bushels of beans and as much as 10 bushels of corn. And we all know how fast a couple of days can go by in the spring due to rain, poor application conditions or just plain timing.

Consistent Weed Control



Studies have shown that in-crop glyphosate following a residual herbicide application consistently controlled 90 percent of weeds including hard to control weeds like lamb's quarters and perennial weeds. One application of roundup alone can give good results as well but research shows control is quite variable, ranging from excellent to poor. A second application with Roundup gave the same variable results. However, applying a residual herbicide pre-emerge and following up with a single glyphosate spray consistently controlled 100 percent of weed populations. Residual herbicides don't always outperform in-crop glyphosate but they provide a more economic return. In some situations where your application of

Roundup is delayed, a weed control program utilizing a pre-emerge residual herbicide can show tremendous dividend.

Roundup is delayed, a weed control program utilizing a pre-emerge residual herbicide can show tremendous dividend.

Remembering Land Stewardship

If you have already converted a large percentage of your soybean acreage to Roundup Ready soybeans you may feel somewhat concerned about the potential for promoting weed resistance to glyphosate. This apprehension may increase as you swing more of your corn acreage into a Roundup Ready program. Weed resistance stewardship promotes the rotation of crops, tillage practices and herbicides. You may also consider that adding some conventional herbicides to your Roundup Ready program either as sequential applications or as tank mixes fits the stewardship aims. The conventional chemistry component will help in reducing the pressure to select weeds that might otherwise get exposed only to glyphosate.

Balancing Cost with Yield Loss

The logic or value of applying pre-emerge herbicides to fields where you have planted herbicide tolerant crops will vary with each operation, and essentially it becomes a question of timing. If you can spray every corn field on time (i.e. 3-4 leaf stage) or spray your soybeans in a timely fashion before weed pressures reduce yields, then you only need do your post-emerge glyphosate application. If however, your acreage, distance, soil type, other farming activities, custom applicator schedule, etc. means that on a fairly regular basis you miss the beginning of the critical weed-free period, then you might need to reconsider. This strategy then becomes one of laying down a very low cost pre-emerge program, that gives you some early season weed control, and builds some flexibility into your post-emerge spray schedule. Then even if you can't get to that field with your first glyphosate application until the crop is at the 6-7 leaf stage yield loss will be negligible, and you clean it up with a single post emerge trip over the field. This will not be a low cost herbicide system, but eliminating the yield losses from poor timing may make it a profit optimizer. A potential side benefit is that on some fields or in some years the "bare bones" pre-emerge program may supply adequate control on its own and an in-crop application of glyphosate may not be required providing you with herbicides saving as well.



Chipper Chirp

A good leader inspires others with confidence in him; a great leader inspires them with confidence in themselves.

Author Unknown

Livestock Information

By Mark Leahy, Farm Management Advisor-

mark@indianag.on.ca

SOME TIPS AT CALVING TIME

Those who calve out cows and heifers have the best suggestions for making the job at little less stressful. Here are ideas from cattle owners.

Feed With a Drenching Gun: If a calf won't suck on its own consider using a 300 ml drenching gun. This encourages the calf to swallow by itself. It also avoids using a plastic bag with tube that could damage the larynx. *Helene and Pierre Brassard, Canadian Cattleman.*

Recycle Ashes: To reduce the number of cattle slipping on ice, which may lead to abortions, use ashes from your stove. Scatter them around drinking areas, feeders, gates, wherever ice builds up. *Canadian Cattlemen*

Pen Reluctant Mothers with Calves: First calf heifers in particular are not willing to let the calf nurse. Penning together in a small pen provides a chance for mother and calf to bond. Mother can't easily escape! *Canadian Cattlemen*

Prepare Before You Pull, *Glenn Selk, OSU Extension:* Before applying the obstetrical chains to "pull" a calf during a difficult birth, a proper analysis of the situation must be made. Wash the vulva, anus and the area in between using soap and warm water. Pulling on a calf should only be done when the presentation and posture of the calf are normal. Normal is defined as the "anterior presentation" with fore feet first, head resting on the limbs, and the eyes level with the knees. A backwards calf can be delivered only when both back limbs are presented. Before chains are applied, **be certain that the cervix is completely dilated.**

To properly use obstetrical chains when assisting with a difficult birth, follow the procedure. To attach the chain, loop it around the thin part of the leg above the fetlock. Then, make a half hitch and tighten it below the joint and above the foot. Make certain that the chain is positioned in such a manner that it goes over the top of the toes. In this way the pressure is applied so as to pull the sharp points of the calves' hooves away from the soft tissue of the vaginal wall.

WIKY PRODUCER ATTENDS OCA ANNUAL

Joe Naokwegijig was a voting delegate at last month's Ontario Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting in Toronto. He was representing the Manitoulin Cattlemen's Association. Joe picked up some ideas for Native beef producers.

FROST SEEDING

Jack Kyle, Grazier Specialist, OMAFRA

Late winter and early spring is the ideal time to frost seed pastures. Broadcasting one to three lbs of legume seed in March will provide several benefits to the pasture productivity. A pasture that has 35% or greater legume content should provide sufficient nitrogen to meet the needs of the grasses. This nitrogen will promote increased grass growth and improved feed quality. The clover or trefoil provides excellent quality feed that compliments the grass species in the pasture.

Frost seeding is most successful when the existing stand has been grazed short in the fall, providing an opportunity for the seedling legumes to establish with

minimal competition. The seeding year will see minimal or limited growth. If germination is successful, it will be the second year (possibly the third) before you will see many plants. Patience is a requirement.

Grass species do not usually establish well with frost seeding. The light seed and rough seed coat prevent the grass seed from getting good seed-to-soil contact. Under ideal conditions, some limited success has been achieved with rye grass and orchard grass.

A COOL UPDATE

(From CCA article)

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association is calling on the federal government to challenge U.S. pending country of origin labelling rules.

CCA says that if implemented, the changes will further disrupt cattle and beef trade between Canada and the U.S.

The suggested changes are:

- Multiple country labels -- specifically state the country where each production step took place. For example, if born and raised in Country X and slaughtered in Country Y, or born in Country X but raised in slaughtered in Country Y, then labels should clearly reflect this.

- Processed meats -- label all cooked, cured and smoked products, not comminuted, like canned ham.

Inventory window on ground beef -- adopt a 10-day window, rather than 60-day.

CCA President Brad Wildeman says the guidelines substantially change the intent of COOL's final rule.

"The implications for the industry on both sides of the border are significant," he says. "If the Secretary's suggestions are adopted, the rule will become even more onerous, costly and impractical than it is now, and extremely trade disruptive."

CCA urges the federal government to undertake all available actions, including an early resumption of a World Trade Organization challenge against the U.S.

Market Information

BEEF MARKET

By Mark Leahy



Prices are courtesy of the Ontario Cattlemen's Association Weekly Market Information Report for the week ending March 5/09.

Rail prices and fed cattle prices were off last week. Rail prices were down \$5/cwt and fed steers and heifers down \$1.

Stocker prices have generally shown improvement.

Heavy replacement steers (7 to 8 weights) are up \$2, 6 to 7 weights, up \$4 and 5-6 weights, improved \$3. Heifers (7 to 8 weights) are down with last month about \$6 with small sale numbers, 6 to 7 weights are down \$4, and 5 to 6 weights are up \$5.

Cull cows and bulls are steady.

All prices are on a hundred pound basis (cwt).

Category	Price Range	Ave. Price	Top Price
Rail Steers	163-166		
Fed steers	93 - 101	97	97
Fed heifers	92- 101	96	115
Cows	39 - 56	48	85
Bulls	55- 68	62	82
Stocker steers			
700 - 799	94 - 1100	102	115
600 - 699	97 - 118	110	125
500 - 599	102 - 124	115	131
Stocker heifers			
700 - 799	83 - 98	92	108
600 - 699	91 - 106	101	109
500 - 599	102 - 109	101	116

CROP MARKET

By Peter Lanthier

Markets Should Rally on USDA Report

The latest USDA report, released on March 11, was favourable for both corn and soybeans. USDA lowered both U.S. corn and soybean ending stocks for 2008-09 as higher ethanol use buoyed corn usage while soybeans got a bump in record exports to China. "U.S. ending stocks should be viewed as bullish for both corn and soybeans," according to DTN Senior Analyst Darin Newsom, with USDA's projection for ending stocks in both corn and soybeans coming in lower than industry pre-report estimates. Ending stocks figures should be considered bearish for wheat, Newsom added.


It's high time for the corn market to mount a seasonal move higher. Whether that hope pays off, unfortunately, has little to do with the corn market. Day-to-day price movements remain controlled by outside markets, where money managers and investors look for investments more stable than the stock market and commodities. But the real fundamental driver of the mar-


ket over the next two months should continue to be acreage. Those who make acreage projections based solely on statistics this time of year contend farmers are ready to plant as much corn as they did a year ago. Those who talk to farmers, on the other hand, believe producers will cut acreage due to uncertain margins fueled by high input costs. Analysts expect a rally to buy acres at some point over the next two months. Strong rallies the past couple of years have belied a long-term seasonal tendency. Soybeans tend not to rally much until later in the spring and summer. South American production will be


closely watched as estimates on the ground in Brazil and Argentina vary widely.

The countdown for the 2009 wheat crop is officially underway, as more plants emerge from dormancy.

While the best time for rallies is a month or more away, producers should be getting ready to figure out how they'll take advantage of whatever comes along. The US government won't make any official predictions on the world crop for 2009, but so far most areas are in good shape. That means export competition should remain fairly strong again for the coming year.

CORN-Tuesday, March 12, 2009: (NORFOLK)				
	2008	Futures 3.85	Basis .60	Price 4.45
	2009	Futures 4.16	Basis .50	Price 4.66

SOYBEANS-Tuesday, March 12, 2009: (NORFOLK)				
	2008	Futures 8.82	Basis 1.90	Price 10.72
	2009	Futures 8.42	Basis 1.05	Price 9.47

SOFT RED WHEAT-Tuesday, March 12, 2009: (NORWICH)				
	2009	Futures 5.37	Basis - 1.02	Price 4.35

Other News

By Mark Leahy, Farm Management Advisor-
mark@indianag.on.ca

ORGANIC GARDENING OR NOT?

Organic gardening is a popular topic when visiting First Nation Communities. Often discussions centre on the spirit of organics rather than meeting the requirements for “Certified Organic”.

Communities and individuals are looking at growing food that is safe, produced locally and at a reasonable cost for family consumption. To many this means without the use of commercial fertilizer and pesticides. Soil fertility and pest control is still important in growing wholesome fruit and vegetables.

Community gardens often provide fresh produce for food banks. Last year a number of communities in the North were at various stages of “growing our own”. In most situations they were using organic principles.

The organic concept starts with the soil. Soils that have not seen commercial fertilizer or pesticides applied for at least three years are ideal. This includes many of the garden sites I have been involved with in the North. Some communities have sparse soil and less than ideal soil type. Adding organic matter or humus will improve soils with acceptable ph levels whether sandy, loamy or heavy clay. Compost may be the most readily available and cost effective source of organic matter. It loosens heavy clay soils to allow water and air to penetrate. It adds substance to sandy soils to help hold water and nutrients.

Control of weeds and pests may be a concern depending on the gardener’s level of tolerance. Try to keep the areas around vegetable plants weed free. Weeds nearby may attract helpful insects and be attractive to less desirables. Burning diseased plants provides some control. If watering is an option, do it in the morning so leaves can dry off. This discourages molds and mildews.

Make your gardening plans now. Start small. Expand as you gain experience.



A RAISED BED IN BACKYARD



A MARKET GARDEN

Calendar of Events

- Mar. 17-19 Ottawa Valley Farm Show, Lansdowne Park, Ottawa (for details visit www.ottawafarmshow.com)
- April 1 -3 Profitable Pastures 2009 —April 1-Elmwood Community Centre, April 2-Stirling Lions Hall, April 3-Drumbo Agricultural Hall— *Pre-registration is required for this event by calling 877-892-8663 or 519-986-1484 by March 27th.*
- April 16 IAPO Annual General Meeting, Sour Springs Longhouse, Ohsweken, Ont., 1pm

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR AGRICULTURAL EVENTS IN YOUR AREA
Please contact us if you have an item for the Calendar of Events