

CRANBERRY WEB

The Newsletter of the BC Cranberry Marketing Commission
and the BC Cranberry Growers Association



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CHAIR'S REPORT

The news is out - I have been appointed Chair of the BC Cranberry Marketing Commission for another term. I am very honored to be your Chair again and I will do my best to fulfill my duties as such.

The BC Cranberry Marketing Commission AGM was held on March the 7th with the turnout consistent with past years, and we had John Les, Chair of FIRB, as our guest speaker. John outlined the role of FIRB for us and was available to answer any questions.

We had an unfortunate setback during the election process this year. BC FIRB's supervisory role enables it to review, oversee and, where deemed necessary and appropriate, give direction to marketing boards and commissions. Due to administrative errors of the election process, we had no choice but to declare it cancelled after receiving direction to do so from FIRB. We recently received instructions from FIRB on how to proceed with another election this spring to fill the one vacancy on our commission, and in the near future more communications will be delivered to all registered growers and producer vendors outlining the nomination and voting process. This is an unexpected turn of events, but your continued patience is appreciated as we go forward and complete the process.

The 2018 Annual Congress was a success and well attended, we have received many positive comments and ideas for the Congress next year. The day following the Congress the Research Committee met and prioritized the research projects for the year 2018. These priorities fit well with the activity on the Research Farm. This year we plan on having two grower days at the farm, one when the bog is in bloom (late May early June) and another in late August or early September.

Upcoming Events

May 2018:

Open House – BC Cranberry Research Society
Research Farm, Delta

September 2018:

Open House – BC Cranberry Research Society
Research Farm, Delta

CHAIR'S REPORT (continued)

The weather has been everything from snow to hail to rain and even a little sunshine now and then. Hopefully April will see a more seasonable weather pattern.

Before we know it the end of May will be upon us, I look forward to seeing you at the Open House at the Research Farm in Delta.

Jack Brown, Chair

BC Cranberry Research Projects for 2018

Once again, researchers were asked to submit project proposals to address industry research priorities. Priorities are identified by the Research Committee as "High", "Medium" and "Longer Term". The Committee met recently to review submitted proposals. This year, projects recommended for full or partial funding include:

1. **Assessment of New Pest Management Tools That Address Priority Needs of the BC Cranberry Industry**, Dr. Patten
2. **Evaluating Varietal Performance at the Cranberry Research Farm**, ES CropConsult, Dr. Prasad
3. **Effect of Fall Nitrogen Fertilization on Nitrogen & Carbohydrate Reserves, Yield Components, and Fruit Quality**, Dr. Atucha
4. **Canopy Management Trials**, Dr. Harbut



BC Cranberry Marketing Commission 2018 Scholarship

The BC Cranberry Marketing Commission is once again offering the program to provide a \$2,500 scholarship grant for a family member of a grower licensee, towards the cost of post-secondary education.

The scholarship grant is available for attendance at any recognized post-secondary institution within BC or out of Province. Funds awarded must be used within an initial 12 month period. Applications will be reviewed by a designated Committee and one award will be made each year.

If you, or a family member may be interested, please contact the Commission for more information on how to apply.

BC Cranberry Research Farm (BCCRF) Update

Dormancy is breaking at the BCCRF....slowly. It's been a cool, damp winter here in the South Coast of BC, consequently the cranberry phenology is behind normal by 2-3 weeks from the last couple years. Is this an issue? Time will tell, but likely plant growth will progress quickly and catch up if we get a few weeks of warm weather.

Ongoing activities at the BC Cranberry Research Farm have once again begun. Pruning all of Field 4 (Stevens), the outside 25' of Field 1 (1/4 acre trials) and the second year of the Canopy Management Demonstration in Field 3 (top vs deep pruning) has been complete.

Field 4 will have its second year Caseron applications applied at the 4 progressive rates from 25 lbs – 100lbs / acre. This is a long term trial to see where and when we may see plant health issues with the various rates.

The Sprinkler System is set and ready to go for Frost Protection. An interesting observation with the plastic rotor sprinklers, the coyotes seem to enjoy chewing on them and even un-threading and taking them away.... Something to be aware of as the water coverage can be impeded by the chewing damage.

Renee Prasad has been planning her strategy for data collection in the ongoing long term varietal trials and future projects are in the planning stages with input from Dr. Kim Patten (WSU), Nick Vorsa (Rutgers) and Ocean Spray Ag Scientist, Miranda Elsby.

Growers are encouraged to attend Field Days at the Research Farm, the first towards the end of May or June (TBA) for Blossom. Nick and Kim will hopefully be in attendance, as well as some of the local researchers from universities, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Agriculture Canada.

The BCCRF is always seeking questions and input from Growers. Field days and other Farm Events are a great time to speak with the Researchers, Field Technicians and IPM Specialists. At any time you can also send your questions and ideas to the BCCRF Manager, Heather Carriere.

All the best for the 2018 Growing Season,

BCCRF Board

BC Cranberry Research Society



BC Cranberry Congress – February 19, 2018

The Congress Planning Committee would like to thank all of the cranberry growers and other industry stakeholders for attending the recent Cranberry Congress. A special thanks to our speakers, which included:

1. Dr. Prasad, ES CropConsult and UFV – **Evaluating Varietal Performance at the Farm**
2. Dr. Fitzpatrick, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada – **Tipworms, Aphids and Beneficial Insects in the Post-Diazinon Era**
3. Bill Franz - **Cranberry Economics – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow**
4. Caroline Bédard, BC Ministry of Agriculture – **Update on Minor Use of Pesticides**
5. Taku Someya, Kwantlen Polytechnic University – **Characterization of Cranberry Decline in BC Cranberry Beds**
6. John Wilson, Cranberry Institute – **Cranberry Institute Update**
7. Dr. Amaya Atucha, University of Wisconsin – **Cranberry Root Growth Patterns**
8. Dr. Siva Sabaratnum, BC Ministry of Agriculture – **Efficacy of Fungicides against Cranberry Fruit Rot Pathogens**
9. Dr. Patten, Washington State University – **Assessment of New Pest Management Tools that Address Priority Needs of the BC Cranberry Industry**
10. Dr. Rebecca Harbut, Kwantlen Polytechnic University – **To Sand or Not to Sand, Is That the Only Question?**

A copy of the 2018 Congress presentations will be included on the Commission's website:

www.bccranberries.com.



Are you a young Cranberry Grower in BC?

The BC Cranberry Commission is fortunate to have wonderful volunteers on various committees that provide valuable input on key initiatives that support our industry. We are looking for interested young growers to join these committees in 2018.

If you would like more information, or would like to help, please contact Heather at info@bccranberries.com.

Registering New Acreage

All Growers and Producer Vendors are reminded that you must register any additional intended acreage with the Commission prior to planting. A copy of the Commission's "Registration of New Cranberry Acreages" form can be found on the Commission's website.



The poster features the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation logo (aitc.ca/bc) in the top left. A purple banner in the top right says "SAVE THE DATE". The central graphic is a circular emblem with a sprig of cranberries on the left. Inside the circle, it reads "BC AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM PRESENTS TASTE OF Spring ANNUAL FUNDRAISER DINNER". Below the emblem, a purple bar contains the event details: "THOMAS HANEY CENTRE, 23000 116TH AVE., MAPLE RIDGE SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST, 2018 | 6:00 PM TO 9:30 PM WELCOME RECEPTION · ENTERTAINMENT · PRIZES". At the bottom, it states "Gourmet dinner prepared by Red Seal Chefs & Culinary Arts Students of 'Take a Bite of BC'". A dark grey bar at the very bottom contains the ticket information: "TICKETS \$80 per Person or \$600 for a table of 8 a tax receipt will be issued for 50% of the ticket cost for cheque payments, contact Emma Sweeney".

Your Industry Representatives

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