

January 2011

PEI Department of Agriculture

PEI Wild Blueberry Newsletter

PEI Wild Blueberry Growers' Association

Field Manager Pro Workshops for Blueberry Growers

Field Manager Pro is a Field and Crop Record Management Software package. It allows growers to create, maintain and manipulate field records to generate summary reports specific to an individual operation. It is a record management system which can help producers determine field-by-field or overall farm profitability by keeping accurate field input records.

The PEI Wild Blueberry Growers' Association has obtained 90% funding from the Canada-PEI Business Development Program Training to host this training workshop. Syngenta is the corporate sponsor for this event. The training will be delivered in two three-hour sessions. Due to space limitations, the workshop will be limited to 10 farms (each farm may have no more than two people present). Pre-registration and payment is required in advance.

There are two components to this workshop:

Group Training Component:

The group training component is provided in two three-hour blocks of time. Topics covered will include installation & overview of the program, setting up and entering crop records, creating farm financial plans and creating various types of reports. Each participant will receive a training manual and a current copy of the Field Manager Pro software.

Each participant will be required to use their own laptop computer. Limited numbers of laptops may be available for those who do not have them. Please indicate if you need a laptop at time of registration.

One-to-One Training Component:

This will be held at the grower's place of business using their own computer. The one-to-one training component strives to implement the learning from the group training. Participants will go home from the group training with a list of information they require to set up their data file and to record previous year's crop records.

Dates & Locations:

Session #1 of 2: Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Friday, February 11, 2011 - Farm Centre, 420 University Avenue, Charlottetown

(Storm Date: Monday, February 14, 2011 - Research Station, 440 University Avenue).

Session #2 of 2: Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Thursday, February 17, 2011 - Rodd Royalty Inn, Charlottetown

(Storm Date: Friday, February 18, 2011 - Research Station, 440 University Avenue).

Registration Cost & Deadline:

Cost is \$100.00 / farm (true cost / farm is \$774) - an excellent value! All registrations must be received no later than Friday, February 4, 2011. Please note that individual farms will not be considered registered until full payment is received.

To register, call Chris Jordan at (902) 569-7638 or toll-free at 1-866-PEIFARM (734-3276). Payment should be made payable to the PEI Wild Blueberry Growers' Association and delivered to the PEI Department of Agriculture, Research Station, 440 University Avenue (Attention Chris Jordan). Only ten farms will be accepted for this workshop. After ten confirmed registrations, growers will be put on a waiting list until a spot becomes available or another course is offered in the future.

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Department of
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Growing Forward



Advance Payment Program



Blueberry growers in PEI are eligible to take advantage of the Advance Payment Program. The Federation of Agriculture has been approved by AAFC to offer the Program to eligible producers. This will help assist growers with working capital in order to plant, harvest and market their crops effectively. All funds received under this program are repayable within the time frame as established for the production period.

approved amount up to \$100,000 (interest free portion of the program) and 5% on all amounts over \$100,000; interest charged at rate of Prime – 0.25 %) to a trust account administered by the Federation. The Federation shall hold this money in trust and use it to pay the interest portion monthly until such time as the producer has repaid the net amount received, or in the case of default, at such time as determined by the program operating guidelines.

tion fee of \$500 to access the interest bearing portion of the program or the provincial interest free portion of the program , as well as cover any security documentation fees or fees associated with delivering this program (i.e. crop inspections, credit verifications etc.).

The maximum amount advanced to one producer under this program shall be \$400,000.

The program will be administered by the Federation of Agriculture. For more information please contact Tim Seeber at 902-368-7289.

The maximum amount advanced to one producer under this program shall be \$400,000.

The Government of Canada provides a 99% guarantee to all monies advanced under this program for the current production year. Approved producers will be required to invest 1% of

Approved producers under this program shall pay an administration fee of \$315 to access the federal interest free portion of the program or an administra-



PEI Wild Blueberry Growers' Association travels to Japan in March 2011

The PEI Wild Blueberry Growers' Association will be travelling to Japan this coming March with Trade Team PEI. The Association will be represented by Paul Gallant and joined by Chris Jordan from the PEI Department of Agriculture as part of Trade Team PEI.

Several other PEI companies will also participate in the trade mission. The goal of the Association is to promote wild blueberries in Asian markets. The intent is not to 'make deals'. The Association is attempting to promote the uniqueness of the

wild blueberry crop and explain how the crop is grown in Prince Edward Island. The trade show will also provide an opportunity to see the vast array of other products which compete with the wild blueberry in the marketplace.

WBANA Update—by Neri Vautour



Last fall, WBANA started a pilot project in which articles and information from our PR agencies outlining their activities, were sent by email to interested producers. This has been very successful in providing you, the industry, with a better idea of the type of work that WBANA and our PR agencies are doing on your behalf. If you wish to receive this type of information, please send an email to neri.vautour@nb.aibn.com.

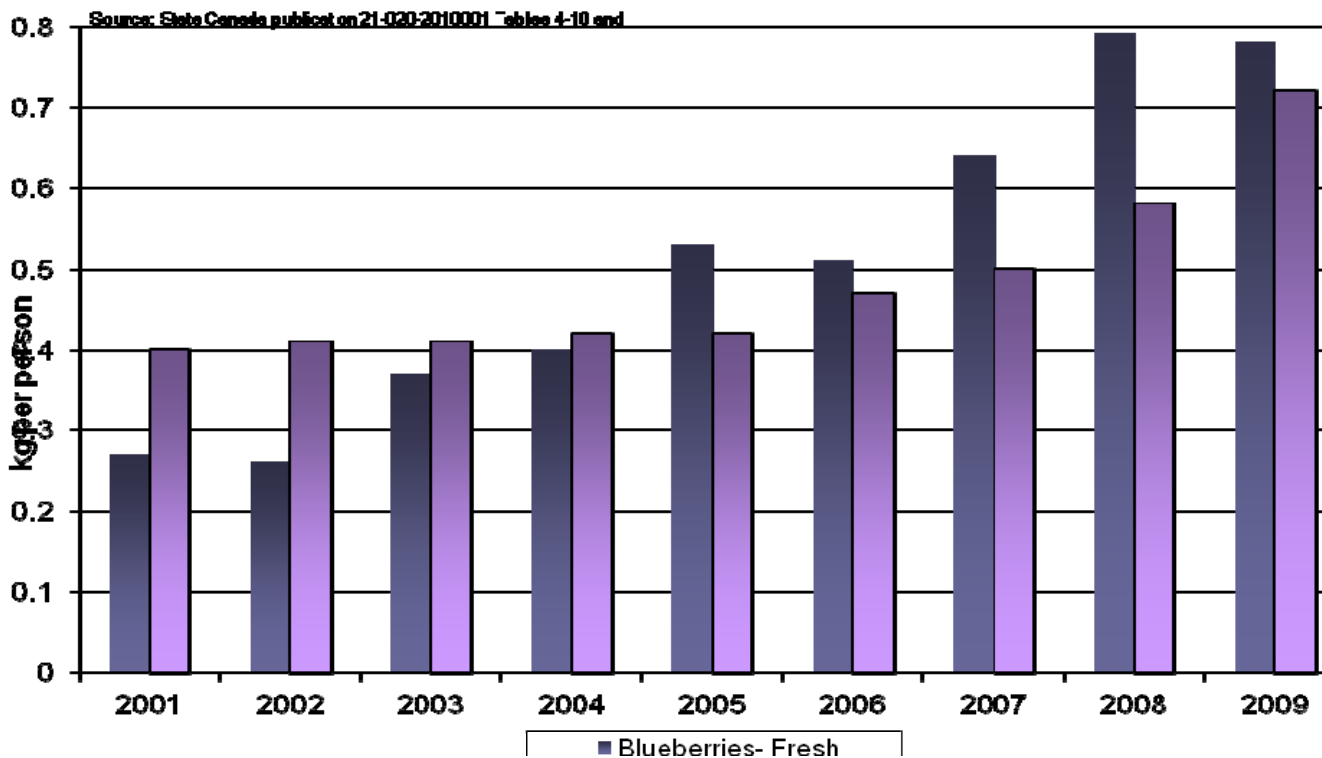
The WBANA Symposium 2010 that was held in Quebec City was very successful. Great presentations on promotional activities from PR agencies from the UK, Germany, France and the United States, and also presentations on new Health Research were very much appreciated by those in attendance. The credit for a job well done goes to Daniel Simard of the Syndicat des producteurs de bleuets du Quebec (Grower

Association) and his hard working committee. The presentations can be seen on line by going to the SPBQ web site (www.spbq.com), click on WBANA Symposium and you will see the presentations listed.

The WILD BREW (extension specialists) met in Quebec City at the same time as the Symposium and by all accounts, was one of the best meetings ever for the group.

WBANA has attended a number of International trade shows in past few months and we are encouraged to see that some of the world economies are starting to bounce back and we are seeing a renewed interest in Wild Blueberry products. Let us all hope that 2011 continues in a positive direction.

Canadian Blueberry Consumption 2001 to 2009



Pesticide Continuing Education Credits

The Department of Agriculture will be offering two different training days (Day A and Day B). Under the new process, you no longer are required to track individual credits. Instead you are required to attend one **Day A** and one **Day B** over the five year re-certification period. Only one day per calendar year can be credited.

Day A - Topics covered: General Information, Regulations, Environmental Safety and Application Technology.

Day B - Topics covered: Emergency Response, Labeling, Professionalism, Traceability, Integrated Pest Management, and Human Health and Safety.

Day A:

February 1, 2011	Loyalist Lakeview Resort, Summerside
February 3, 2011	Rollo Bay Inn, Rollo Bay
March 1, 2011	Loyalist Lakeview Resort, Summerside
March 3, 2011	Rodd Royalty Inn, Charlottetown

Day B:

January 27, 2011	Rodd Royalty Inn, Charlottetown
February 10, 2011	Access PEI, O'Leary
February 22, 2011	Rollo Bay Inn, Rollo Bay
February 24, 2011	Loyalist Lakeview Resort Summerside
March 10, 2011	Rodd Royalty Inn, Charlottetown

Time: All training sessions begin at 8:15 am and will be completed by 4:00 pm.

Cost: Lunch and refreshments will be provided, and there is a \$ 20 fee to offset this cost.

To register, call: 1-866-734-3276 or 368-4145 or email mmpower@gov.pe.ca

Calendar of Events

Field Manager Pro Workshop

February 11 & February 17, 2011— a workshop for blueberry growers to become familiar with this field and crop record management software system. Growers must pre-register with \$100 workshop fee. Workshop is limited to 10 farms. Contact Chris Jordan at (902) 569-7638.

PEI Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meeting

January 28, 2011—The PEI Federation of Agriculture will hold their Annual General Meeting at the New London Community Centre. Contact Karolyn Tweedy at 368-7289 or email at karolynt@peifa.ca to register.

Blueberry Spring Information Day

April 5, 2011—please reserve this day to attend the annual Blueberry Spring Information Day

Farm Mechanization Show

March 10-12, 2011— Moncton will once again host the Farm Mech Show. Plan to attend to see the latest in equipment and services.