

WEATHER	BC vineyards wiped out by freeze event	7
MARKETING	Study shows BC farmers markets add value	15
ACCOLADES	Berry farmer recognized for achievements	17



TerraLink

Seed
Plant Nutrition
Crop Protection
Supplies
Service

www.tlhort.com
1-800-661-4559

Rooted in your community* since 1973 **TerraLink**

COUNTRY LIFE IN BC

The agricultural news source in British Columbia since 1915



MARCH 2024 | Vol. 110 No. 3



Start me up!

An early introduction lays a great foundation for future farmers, as parents and kids alike checked out the equipment at the Pacific Agriculture Show in Abbotsford at the end of January. Strong attendance marked the three-day event, which also saw close to 800 people attend the education sessions at the Lower Mainland Horticultural Conference. See story, page 3. ANNA KLOCHKO

Crown land shakeup

First Nations to share oversight

TOM WALKER

KAMLOOPS – Proposed changes to the Land Act that will affect how Crown land tenures are administered and the province's intent to push them through the Legislature is not sitting well with BC ranchers.

In early January, the BC Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) began contacting stakeholders to offer online engagement sessions regarding the proposed amendments.

The government says its objective is "a legislative amendment to the Land Act

[More questions ►](#)

WaterTec
IRRIGATION

The name farmers trust

watertecna.com

888-675-7999 877-591-4790

BC Veg mandate expands

PETER MITHAM

SURREY – The mandate of the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission now covers the entire province, making it a truly provincial body regulating the marketing of vegetables from Atlin to Yahk, Stewart to Sparwood.

The change took effect January 1, and was highlighted in a bulletin released February 2. Prior to this year, the commission's general orders limited its mandate to areas south of

the 53rd parallel. (Quesnel is the benchmark city, sitting astride the coordinates.)

"On January 1, 2024, this restriction was removed from the General Orders and the regulated area was expanded to encompass the entire province," the bulletin stated.

"There's no reason not to," says BC Veg general manager Andre Solymosi, regarding the larger geographic coverage. "With climate change and the technologies in enclosed structures that can be applied now, we're

thinking you could see more farming happen up there."

However, he says the commission is not currently aware of any commercial producers of regulated crops in northern BC.

The commission regulates the sale and distribution of 20 storage crops, greenhouse crops and processing crops. These include all varieties of potatoes, yellow onions, tops-off beets and carrots, and greenhouse tomatoes,

[Climate change ►](#)

POSTES CANADA
Port payé Post-Publications
40012122

CANADA POST
Postage paid
Publications Mail
40012122

Vol. 110 No. 3

Postmaster, Please return Undeliverable labels to:
Country Life in BC
36 Dale Road
Enderby, BC V0E 1V4