

FRUIT	Apple growers get access to cold storage	7
POTATOES	Moderate potato crop expected	9
BEEF	BC rancher brings home esteemed sector award	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 OCTOBER 2024 | Vol. 110 No. 10

BC Veg strikes back

Greenhouse levies withheld

PETER MITHAM

ABBOTSFORD – The BC Vegetable Marketing Commission is suspending payments to the BC Greenhouse Growers Association over its “unwavering resolve” to establish a separate marketing commission for greenhouse vegetables.

“BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (BCVMC) has made the decision to suspend payments to the BC Greenhouse Growers’ Association (BCGGA) until the BCVMC is satisfied that funds are being used appropriately and not used to undermine the purposes of the BCVMC as established by the

Allegations of bad faith ▶



Not your grandparents’ apple harvest

Apple harvest in the Okanagan was in full swing in September. At Sandhar Farms in Kelowna, harvesting with a mechanical platform means less apple bruising and less body aches. Pickers no longer carry heavy apple bags or climb ladders. This crew picks from ground level and from two upper platforms on the machine. Apples are placed on three conveyor belts which move fruit gently into a bin. MYRNA STARK LEADER

Confinement order issued for poultry

PETER MITHAM

ABBOTSFORD – Regulated poultry flocks across the province have been confined to their barns for a third year following a September 17 order from the province’s chief vet.

Commercial poultry belonging to any of the regulated commodity groups must be kept indoors until further notice to prevent contact with wild birds.

“Based on the recurring Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreaks

over the past two years and the increased risk of transmission from infected wild birds to domestic poultry during peak wild bird migration in fall, and high local overwintering populations of wild birds, this order is issued to minimize exposure of domestic poultry flocks to wild birds,” the order states.

The order does not restrict the sale, transportation or slaughter of poultry, or the disposal of poultry carcasses.

No confirmed cases have been reported on BC poultry

farms since December 25, 2023. Since April 2022, more than six million birds at 158 premises in the province have been impacted by HPAI.

The province remains at a yellow biosecurity level, and growers are asked to remain vigilant.

During a September 4 webinar organized by the poultry industry’s Emergency Operations Centre, producers were given an update on preparations for this season, and lessons learned to date.

Preparations for AI ▶

DELTA WATERTEC

SAVE NOW, PAY LATER!

ON ALL IN-STOCK HOSE REELS

No Payments & No Interest for 6 Months

Contact Us to Learn More!

1-888-675-7999 watertecna.com

POSTES CANADA / Port payé Post-Publications 40012122

CANADA POST / Postage paid Publications Mail 40012122

Vol. 110 No. 10

Country Life in BC
 36 Dale Road
 Enderby, BC V0E 1V4

Postmaster, Please return Undeliverable labels to: