

Spring 2014



www.AlbertaAerialApplicators.com

Contact Information:

P.O. Box 21064

Edmonton, Alberta

T6R 2V4

T: (780) 413-0079

F: (780) 413-0076

E:

info@albertaaerialapplicators.com

The Windssock

President's Report

What a great CAAA conference we had in Regina this year. I think everyone came out of it with some new knowledge and it was fantastic to see friends in person again. The IceBreaker was excellent especially with Team Jamaica winning the Amazing Race!

Thanks to Jill and her team from ManageWise, along with the CAAA Board, who all worked very diligently to put the conference together for us. To the sponsors and exhibitors that we all do business with during the course of the year, thank you very much for supporting our profession. I enjoy seeing you every year and visiting with you all.

Currently we are having some large power transmission lines and towers being constructed in south eastern Alberta. This has eliminated more than 3000 acres of yearly work for us and the growers are surprised that we just can't sneak in there to spray their fields. A few years ago when this was proposed (more like announced,) that there would be two strings of towers to be added to the existing high capacity transmission lines, we protested at the public hearings but to no avail. They're constructed now, looking more industrial here all the time.

Cell/Data towers is another piece of infrastructure that we all should be very aware of, they are popping up all over the country at an alarming rate. The telecommunication companies need to have one every 8 Kilometers for full coverage along any corridor they wish to supply service, and sometimes they need to add more within that 8 Kilometer area if the usage is high.

A telecommunications company has just proposed a 300 ft. telecommunications tower to be constructed right in the middle of cropland that we service every year with multiple applications.

It is very important to keep a constant eye on the local newspapers for those little announcements of proposals from various companies who wish to construct some kind of infrastructure that will hinder your ability to service your customers safely or be able to service them at all. If nobody says anything in the allotted time, you'll have a tower where you don't want. Get your customers along with the local county/municipal representatives involved in the process of steering the proposed construction to a location that won't have an economic impact on you or your customer.

I wish everyone a successful season this year, circle those fields to spot obstacles in and around before diving in, allow just an extra couple of seconds for your turns and remember these are work aircraft we are operating, not aerobatic machines. Stay rested and hydrated and we will see you all next winter.

Have a safe and productive season,

Pat Stinnissen

AAAA's Annual General Meeting & Conference

The AAAA's Board of Directors is excited to announce the AAAA's AGM and Conference will be expanded to three days and will take place from November 2-5, 2014 in Red Deer, AB. The additional day has been added so the association can provide a full day training session that will meet Transport Canada's requirements.

Make sure you mark you calendars for this valuable program!

Important Service Updates from Clean Farms

We are once again reaching out to our Alberta partners to thank you in advance for your participation in the empty pesticide and fertilizer container recycling program and pass on some important information.

We hope you will notice several improvements to this year's container management program, starting with a new contractor. Stericycle Canada, one of Canada's leading waste management firms, will be servicing our Alberta collection sites.

Stericycle Canada will be introducing several operational improvements that are aimed at improving collection site cleanliness with minimal disruptions to farmers

and landfill operators. The most significant improvement is the discontinuing of on-site shredding.

There will be no change in how containers are currently collected at the collection sites. Farmers are to continue returning their triple or pressure rinsed pesticide and liquid fertilizer containers loose to the collection sites, with caps and booklets removed. When Stericycle Canada services a site, the containers will be placed into bags by Stericycle employees and transported off site, where any further processing or shredding of the plastic will occur.

We continue to ask for your assistance in ensuring that any

containers returned to a collection site are triple or pressure rinsed with caps and booklets removed.

We are pleased to offer communication tools that emphasize this message.

With any transition, we may encounter some bumps in the road. While we aren't anticipating any significant disruptions, we thank you in advance for your patience as we work through these.

Stericycle Canada can be reached toll free at, 1-866-783-7422 where you then be prompted to a CleanFARMS container program extension. This will be the primary contact number for Stericycle.

Training of Assistants

Training and supervision of assistants is a requirement under Section 3 of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA)*, *Pesticide (Ministerial) Regulation (PMR)* and also in Section 5 of the *Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides (the Code)*. Following these requirements provides the applicator with the assurance that they have been duly diligent in training their assistants.

The Section 5(5) of the *Code* specifies that Aerial applicators CAN NOT have assistants conducting the application, however Section 5(3) indicates that an applicator must complete a Training Checklist (found in Appendix A at the back of the *Code*) documenting the instruction of each assistant who is mixing and loading pesticides (including mixing/loading for aerial applications).

Appendix A indicates the Training Checklist must be completed at least yearly, when an assistant changes employment and again when a new pesticide or new equipment is used (new aircraft, new mixing and loading equipment etc.). The checklist provides all the subject areas that must be included in the training and both the applicator and the assistant must sign it after the training is complete. Applicators can use the Pesticide Applicator Core Lesson as the basis for training their assistants. The Core Lesson is available by contacting Lakeland College at 1-866-853-8646.

EPEA, *PMR* and the *Code* can all be accessed online at <http://www.qp.alberta.ca>.



**Specialists in
Propellers, Governors &
Components**

**Total Support and
Maintenance
to Turbine &
Reciprocating Aerial Aircraft**



1-800-773-6853

24/7 & AOG Support

www.canadianpropeller.com

A Message From The Alberta Beekeepers

Although much of the news cycle in regards to pesticides and honeybees revolves around neonicotinoids and seed treatments being harmful to bees, there is always the potential for honeybee losses to occur if aerial spray applications are not done carefully. Drifting and overspray are of particular concern, as bees will drink from standing water and forage on wildflowers in ditches away from fields.

By my count, the Alberta Crop Protection *Blue Book* contains 94 uses of the word “bees” in it. It covers a long list of application hazards and products that are toxic to honeybees. Page 361 in particular gives a list of best practices for pesticide application.

The Alberta Beekeepers Commission are observing other Driftwatch programs in Saskatchewan and several US states. I think a program like this would be of tremendous benefit to both beekeepers and applicators alike. Beekeepers can register their locations on a website and applicators can avoid accidental bee kills. This is an easy tool to use and will greatly increase communication between farmers, beekeepers and aerial applicators.

Any questions can be directed to the Alberta Beekeepers crop spraying committee members, our provincial apiculturalist or our general manager.

Ryan Olthof - NE Central Region Director
 Alberta Beekeepers Commission
 780 352 2266 or ryan.olthof@gmail.com

Adam Ovinge - South Region Director
 Alberta Beekeepers Commission
 403 687 2154 or aovinge@gmail.com

Dr. Medhat Nasr—Alberta Provincial Apiculturalist,
 Crop Diversification Centre North,
 780 415 2314 or Medhat.Nasr@gov.ab.ca

Gertie Adair, General Manager, Alberta Beekeepers
 Commission
 780 489 6949 or Gertie.Adair@AlbertaBeekeepers.org

Believe in your instruments



Instruments showcased on www.buy-ei.com
 Videos, Testimonials, Install Instructions

**Affordable
 Glass Panel Technology**

1.800.776.4656
www.yorktonaircraft.com

**Now Available:
 Digital Instruments
 for Pistons & Turbines**
 Monitor Engine Performance
 Manage Fuel
 Monitor Temperatures and More
 STC'd for many models

Sold
 and
 Supported
 by:



—SERVICE LTD—
 We're There to Keep You in the Air



When you talk financing with FCC, we'll listen

Ready to expand your business? We're ready to help. We get to know you and your business. Once we learn how you want to grow, we'll create a financing package that helps you do it. If you're ready for a lender who listens, let's talk business.

www.fccfinancing.ca

CST Concerns when Jointly Invoice Crop Inputs & Custom Application Services

Concerns regarding the method of reporting GST on the sale of crop inputs have been brought forward by several members of both the Canadian Association of Agri-Retailers (CAAR) and the Canadian Aerial Applicators Association (CAAA).

In late 2013, a retailer received a GST audit retroactive to 2010. The finding indicated that the manner by which the member was invoicing crop inputs and custom application services made the crop inputs subject to GST, rather than GST exempt. This is based on a change to the GST/HST policy statement dated January 1, 2010, and found at <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pub/gl/p-254/p-254-e.html>.

The retailer invoiced both the inputs and service on the same invoice, with the items on separate lines clearly showing which was GST applicable and which was GST exempt. However, the GST auditor stated that if the product and service are considered a single supply (unable to be purchased separately, see the definition on the GST/HST policy statement above) then GST must be charged on both product and service if listed on the same invoice.

It appeared, the operator being unable to provide documentation stating that the product could be purchased separately from the service, was assessed for GST back taxes to January 1, 2010 when the regulations came into effect. At the meeting with the

CRA, it was demonstrated that it is standard in the industry that the product or custom application can be purchased separately and is not being sold as a single supply. Documents stating the operator's customers understood they could purchase the product and the service separately were provided by the operator. It was also explained that the retail sales industry is a "gentlemen's agreement" kind of business rather than working by contracts, and almost no one would have the type of service agreement that CRA were looking for that explains to the customer that they have the option to purchase product/service separately or have another company's product applied by the service provider. These seemed to be the two key points that led to the back tax assessment.

As a result of the meeting with CRA, all back taxes and penalties were dropped in this case.

However, the GST policy is still extremely unclear and the examples they offer for deciding whether the product is GST eligible or exempt do not relate to our industry so the policy still needs to be changed. CFIB has already taken the lead on lobbying in Ottawa for this change. We will update you when anything further develops.

**FLY SAFE
EVERYONE!**

Membership Renewals

Have you renewed your 2014 AAAA's Membership?

Wild Rose Protective Fund (WRPF) renewals have been mailed. Remember you must have a current AAAA's membership to be eligible for the WRPF. If your membership is still outstanding or you haven't received either renewal forms please contact 780-413-0079 or email us at info@albertaaerialapplicators.com

PROPWORKS

Propeller Systems (Alberta) Inc.

Mike Wagner

Cliff Arntson

15357 - 114 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5M 3S9

propworks@telus.net

Tel: (780) 457-1910
Toll-Free: 1-888-457-1910
Fax: (780) 457-1939
www.propworks.ca

Expect MORE with LI 700

LESS drift, **BETTER** coverage, **MORE** penetration.



With LI 700, you get more from your pesticide investment. LI 700 is a non-ionic penetrating surfactant designed to enhance the performance and reliability of foliar applications.

With LECI-TECH technology, LI 700 helps spray operators better manage their application risk for a higher return on their investment.

Adhesion – droplets stick to the leaf surface

Coverage – spray droplets spread out on the leaf (better pesticide dispersion)

Penetration – superior penetration of waxy leaf cuticle

pH Reduction – prevents alkaline hydrolysis of many pesticides including glyphosate and dimethoate that could otherwise impact performance

Droplet Management – produces a more uniform droplet size distribution for reduced drift

Crop Safety – better crop health due to less cell wall disruption of plant surfaces

*Now Available
3.78L Jug*



Scan for more information on LI 700.

Loveland
PRODUCTS
Get Growing