



FOOD NEWS

DECEMBER 2016

Workshops

Troubleshooting Shelf Life

January 10, 2017– Lacombe, AB

April 11, 2017–Airdrie, AB

This workshop is designed for farmers' market vendors and farm direct operators who want to understand how to determine the shelf life of food products. Attend this workshop to learn what shelf life means, how to use various testing instruments and understand food labelling requirements that are applicable to you.

Pricing Principles Workshop

January 24, 2017– Leduc, AB

January 26, 2017–Airdrie, AB

January 31, 2017– Grande Prairie, AB

Planning on selling to retail? Expand your understanding of the costs related to setting a profitable price. Attend this workshop if you are looking to price your products for profit, understand the components of pricing for the retail market, and/or comprehend retail buyers' needs.

Human Resource (HR) Essentials

January 31, 2017– Airdrie, AB

February 1, 2017– Stony Plain, AB

Are you struggling to hire the right people? Would you like to learn effective strategies to boost employee performance and retention? This workshop offers a practical, hands-on approach to your most challenging HR management issues.

To register to any of the above workshops, call the Ag-Info Centre at 1-800-387-6030. The cost of each workshop is \$25 per person (includes snacks, lunch and GST).

Leadership and Strategic Relationships Workshop

February 22, 2017– Airdrie, AB

This interactive one-day workshop will help your company develop and discuss best practices for developing strategic relationships with partners, suppliers, and customers. The workshop will be facilitated by Dr. Brynn Winegard, a Canadian award-winning professor, consultant, speaker, and writer. The cost is \$30/person (includes snacks, lunch and GST). For more information please contact [Lisa Iwanyk](mailto:Lisa.Iwanyk@aginfo.ca) at 780-968-3511.

Export Events

Winter Fancy Food Show

January 22 - 24, 2017 – San Francisco, USA

Mark your calendars and get planning for this must-see event for all food-makers!

- See over 100,000 specialty food products at their best in tastes, trends, brands and innovations - take the ideas back to Alberta and create change!
- Attend fantastic, peer-to-peer education sessions on pricing, branding and best practices, etc.
- Facilitated tours through retail/grocery sites in San Francisco, look at merchandising, marketing, brand position, etc.

For more information, email [Lindsay Sutton](mailto:Lindsay.Sutton@aginfo.ca) or call 780-643-3849.

Foodex Japan

March 7 - 10, 2017 – Chiba, Japan

Agriculture & Forestry is proposing a mission to the Foodex Japan Show, with both exhibiting and walking program options. Foodex is Asia's largest food and beverage tradeshow and an important entryway into the Japan market for value-added food and beverage suppliers. Contact [Katie Meredith](mailto:Katie.Meredith@aginfo.ca) to indicate your early interest and receive full details once available.

Mission to Seoul Food Show

May 16 - 19, 2017 – Seoul, South Korea

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is in the proposal stages for a mission to the Seoul Food Show, taking place May 16-19, 2017 in South Korea.

Seoul Food has become the fourth largest food industry exhibition in Asia and an important entryway to the Korean market for value-added food and beverage suppliers. Please contact [Katie Meredith](mailto:Katie.Meredith@aginfo.ca) to indicate your early interest and receive full details once available.



Horticulture Events

HortSnacks-to-Go: Webinar Series: Integrated Pest Management, January 16, 2017 (3PM MST)

Rick Peters, who is a research scientist from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, is studying the fungal diseases of carrots and other crops in Prince Edward Island. He will be looking at the ins and outs of integrated pest management in carrots from seed to harvest and everything in between. To register for this webinar session, please call [Dustin Morton](mailto:Dustin.Morton@agf.ca) at 780-679-1314.

Adding it Up: Getting a Handle on Your Greenhouse Financials, February 15-16, 2017 - Lacombe

Cobra GREEN is a financial software developed by Alberta Agriculture to help greenhouse vegetable growers better understand the numbers behind their business. In this workshop, growers will learn how to use this software to help make their business more profitable and better position themselves for lending opportunities. The cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch. For more information, contact [Dustin Morton](mailto:Dustin.Morton@agf.ca) at 780-679-1314 and to register call 1-800-387-6030.

Outline of Proposals to Change Food Labels

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is engaging in key proposals to modernize food labelling.

CFIA "is seeking feedback on specific proposals to modernize regulations and on a new approach for truthful and not misleading food labelling." To participate in this round of consultations [click here](#) to link to survey page on CFIA's website. **Deadline to complete the survey is February 28, 2017.**

Health Canada (HC) has recently launched new consultations as part of a [Healthy Eating Strategy](#) approach to food labelling.

Front-of-package (FOP) nutrition labelling is aimed at helping consumers make better informed decisions when they are selecting foods. The FOP labelling "approach that highlights sodium, sugars and saturated fat can also encourage the food industry to reformulate foods to be lower in these nutrients." HC is also considering updating "the requirements for other information on the front of food packages, including certain claims and labelling requirements for certain high-intensity sweeteners (i.e., aspartame, sucralose, acesulfame-potassium and neotame". You can [click here](#) to access the FOP nutrition labelling consultation (includes on-line questionnaire).

Moreover, HC is looking at eliminating the use of partially hydrogenated oils (PHO). HC position is "eliminating the use of partially hydrogenated oils in foods will help protect the health of all Canadians by decreasing trans fats in the food supply to the lowest level possible." For the consultation to ban PHOs, including an on-line questionnaire, [click here](#).

On-line consultations deadline for FOP nutrition labelling and PHO ban is January 13, 2017.

Alberta Food Processors Association

The Alberta Food Processors Association presents "**Practical Strategies for Carbon Reduction**", a full-day workshop outlining Alberta's carbon levy and how it will be applied to your business operations.

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 – Edmonton, or

Thursday, February 2, 2017 - Calgary

Food Safety Training

BRC Internal Auditor – *February 1-2, 2017 - Calgary*

Webinar Food Safety Culture - *February 3 or 14, 2017*

HACCP for Produce – *February 13-14, 2017 - Calgary*

Understanding Canada's GAP - *February 15-16, 2017 - Calgary*

Environmental Monitoring & Microbiology - *February 22, 2017 – Calgary*

For more information on any of the above training, please contact [Melody](mailto:Melody@afpa.ca) at 403-201-3657 (ext. 21).



Connect with Agriculture and Forestry on Social Media:



Alberta Agriculture and Forestry 310-0000 (AB Toll-Free)

Crop Extension Section 780-643-6249

Processing Industry & Workforce Development Section 403-340-7625

Local/Domestic Market Expansion Section 780-968-3553

Livestock and Farm Business Section 780-968-6556

Safe Food Section 780-415-4570