

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Canada

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### This Week in Canadian Agriculture

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**Report Highlights:** Breakthrough in International Relations as Drug Approved Simultaneously on Both Sides of Border \* Canada Launches Mandatory Survey to Industry for 2,700 Substances \* Canadian Grain Commission Consultation Feedback \* Slump in Canadian Lobster Prices \* Canada's Food Industry an Innovation Laggard, Says Centre \* New GF2 Program Used to Create New Forage Markets \* Manitoba Town Grows as Pork Plant Expands

This Week in Canadian Agriculture is a review of Canadian agricultural industry developments of interest to the U.S. agricultural community. The issues summarized in this report cover a wide range of subject matter obtained from Canadian press reports, government press releases, and host country agricultural officials and representatives.

*Disclaimer:* Any press article summaries in this report are included to bring U.S. readership closer to the pulse of Canadian developments in agriculture. In no way do the views and opinions of these sources reflect USDA's, the U.S. Embassy's, or any other U.S. Government agency's point of view or official policy.

**Breakthrough in International Relations as Drug Approved Simultaneously on Both Sides of Border:** Last week marked the first time that the FDA and its Canadian counterpart, Health Canada, have worked together to simultaneously approve a drug as part of the Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) initiative. FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine and Health Canada's Veterinary Drugs Directorate leveraged each others' expertise and resources in order to approve for simultaneous sale within Canada and the United States a drug that kills fleas and prevents flea infestations in cats (comfortis). As part of the program, companies must take the initiative to submit an application simultaneously to Health Canada and the FDA, using the same data and with the intent to make the same claims in both countries.

For more information please see the following FDA press release:

<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/NewsEvents/CVMUpdates/ucm331933.htm>

**Canada Launches Mandatory Survey to Industry for 2,700 Substances:** On December 1, 2012, Environment Canada launched a list of 2,700 substances that importers and users of the substances must report by September 4, 2013. The Domestic Substances List (DSL) was first compiled in the early 1990s to identify substances that were in commerce in Canada between 1984 and 1986. At the time of compilation, basic information such as substance quantities, uses and industry sectors involved were collected. The DSL information is now dated and may no longer represent current commercial activity in Canada. The mandatory survey (2012 Section 71 Notice) represents Phase 2 of the work to update the DSL, undertaken by the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP).

Links to the mandatory survey and related materials are available at the following URL:

<http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/plan/approach-proche/dsl-lis-eng.php>

**Canadian Grain Commission Consultation Feedback:** On November 1, 2012, the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) released its User Fees Consultation and Pre-proposal Notification document, which outlined proposed individual fees, service standards and performance measures. Stakeholders had until November 30, 2012 to provide written submissions regarding the document. The CGC has now issued a summary of the feedback it received. It can be viewed at the following URL:

<https://www.grainscanada.gc.ca/consultations/2012/summary-resume/feess-sfrais-eng.htm>

**Slump in Canadian Lobster Prices:** Prices of lobster in Canada have taken a nose dive to about C\$9 a pound at the retail level. The slump in Canadian prices comes on the heels of a drop to as low as

US\$1.25 a pound in the United States this summer. According to news reports, this year's lobster harvest in Maine was unusually large as a consequence of an unseasonably warm winter, and supply has now outstripped demand. This led to prices that reached nearly a 30-year low. Meanwhile, the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) in Maine plans to hold 15 public forums across the state, in the wake of record high landings and low prices, to discuss the state of the industry, Canadian processing constraints and marketing strategies.

**Canada's Food Industry an Innovation Laggard, Says Centre:** The Canadian food industry has become an innovation laggard, according to a Conference Board of Canada report for its Centre for Food in Canada, "Competing for the Bronze: Innovation Performance in the Canadian Food Industry." The report argues that the industry is being hampered by financing problems and poor management. It examines Canada's food innovation performance, identifies opportunities for further innovation, and considers the barriers to improvement.

The report can be found at the following URL: <http://www.conferenceboard.ca/e-library/abstract.aspx?did=5255>

**New GF2 Program Used to Create New Forage Markets:** The Canadian government aims to increase the international competitiveness of the forage and grassland industry. Merv Tweed (Member of Parliament for Brandon-Souris, Manitoba), on behalf of Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, announced an investment for the Canadian Forage and Grassland Association (CFGA) that will help enhance the competitiveness of forage farmers internationally. This investment of more than C\$51,000 will enable the CFGA to conduct innovative marketing and communications activities in new and existing markets to help increase the competitiveness of the Canadian forage and grassland industry. The investment is part of the AgriMarketing program, one of three new programs under Growing Forward 2 (GF2).

More information on the three new programs offered under GF2, including AgriMarketing, is available at the following URL: <http://www4.agr.gc.ca/AAFC-AAC/display-afficher.do?id=1294780620963&lang=eng>

For information about the CFGA, please visit [www.canadianfga.ca](http://www.canadianfga.ca).

**Manitoba Town Grows as Pork Plant Expands:** The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) reported recently that the small western Manitoba town of Neepawa is expected to nearly double in size over the next few years, thanks to the expansion of a nearby pork processing plant. HyLife Foods Plant in Neepawa has brought in 375 workers in the past few months alone, many of which came from the Philippines. More than 90% of the pork produced by Manitoba slaughter plants is sold to customers outside the province and approximately 60% is shipped internationally. In 2011, most of Manitoba's pork exports went to Japan, United States, South Korea and Hong Kong/China. Manitoba is responsible for 20% of Canada's pork exports (and 62% of national pig exports).

The article can be read in its entirety at the following URL: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/story/2012/12/19/mb-nee-pawa-hylife-population-growth.html>

**Exchange Rate:** Noon rate, January 07, 2013 (Bank of Canada): U.S. Dollar =

C\$0.9860

**Most Recent Reports from FAS/Ottawa:**

<b>Report #</b>	<b>Name of Report</b>	<b>Date Submitted</b>
CA12052	Food Processing Ingredients Update	12/28/2012
CA12051	Food Service – Hotel Restaurant Institutional 2012	12/27/2012
CA12050	FAIRS Export Certificate Report	12/21/2012
CA12049	Export Guide: A Practical Guide	12/21/2012
CA12045	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue, Issue 21	11/26/2012
CA12044	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 20	11/13/2012
CA12046	The New Legislative Framework for Animal Traceability	12/03/2012
CA12042	Grain and Feed Annual	10/30/2012
CA12041	Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual	11/02/2012
CA12040	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 19	10/18/2012
CA12039	Dairy Annual	10/15/2012
CA12037	Potatoes Annual	10/01/2012
CA12036	Livestock Annual	09/11/2012
CA12040	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 18	8/17/2012
CA12034	Poultry and Products Annual	08/16/2012
CA12033	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 17	08/14/2012
CA12032	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 16	08/03/2012
CA12031	Grain and Feed July Quarterly	07/27/2012
CA12030	FAIRS Country Report	07/27/2012
CA12029	Biotechnology Annual	07/20/2012
CA12028	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 15	07/20/2012
CA12027	Biofuels Annual 2012 – revised	07/20/2012
CA12025	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 14	07/06/2012
CA12015	Oilseed and Products Annual - Canada	04/10/2012
CA12014	Grain and Feed Annual - Canada	04/03/2012