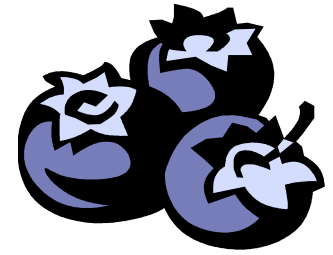




NOVEMBER 2023 dispatch



Nova Scotia's Provincial Berry

Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia

168 Dakota Road, PO Box 119 Debert, NS B0M 1G0

Tel: (902) 662-3306 Fax: (902) 662-3284

Email: info@nswildblueberries.com Website: www.nswildblueberries.com

WBPANS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 9, 2023 FOR BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ATTENDEES.

Where – Best Western Glengarry Hotel & Convention Centre & Zoom Conferencing

When – Thursday, November 16th (9:00 am– 5:00 pm)

Friday, November 17h, (8:30 am - 3:30 pm)

You may attend the meetings in-person or virtually via Zoom conferencing . Lunch will be provided both days for those attending in-person. **Pre-Registration is required.**

Please contact our office by November 9th to pre-register.

Thursday, November 17th from 9:00 am until 12 noon— Market Updates, Extension reports and Health Research Update.

1:00 pm—Annual Business Meeting including a presentation of the **Nova Scotia Wild Blueberry Economic Impact Study—A Detailed Analysis of the Economic Impact of the Wild Blueberry Industry to the Nova Scotia Economy** by Stiletto Consulting

6:30 pm until 8:30 pm - Banquet with sit-down meal to honour our Recognition Book Inductees.: **Carl Bragg and Gary Brown**

Tickets for the Banquet are \$30. Please contact WBPANS office to purchase tickets.

Friday, November 19th from 8:30 am until 3:30 pm - Technical Sessions with researchers and industry representatives. Pesticide Points will be available to those attending in-person and virtually.

TO PRE-REGISTER FOR ANY/ALL OF THE AGM SESSIONS, PLEASE CONTACT WBPANS BY NOVEMBER 9 - PHONE 902-662-3306 OR EMAIL: INFO@NSWILDBLUEBERRIES.COM

You can also register to attend the AGM at our website: www.nswildblueberries.com

Please make your own hotel reservations by calling the Best Western Glengarry Hotel & Convention Centre at: 902-893-4311

WBPANS ANNUAL CONFERENCE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 2023

**8:30 am—5:00 pm at the Best Western Glengarry Hotel & Conference Centre &
Zoom Conferencing**

Anyone wishing to participate in this meeting must contact WBPANS office by Nov. 9th to register. An email containing the link to the meeting and documents will be sent to those registered. Contact WBPANS Office at: 902-662-3306 or Email: info@nswildblueberries.com

8:00—9:00 am	Registration & Networking
9:00—9:10 am	Opening of Conference—Welcome from President, David Harrison
9:10—10:00 am	Insights on the State of Wild Blueberry Markets —Gilbert Lavoie, Forest Lavoie Conseil Inc.
10:00-10:30 am	Break & Networking
10:30—11:00 am	Wild Blueberry Extension Report—Hugh Lyu, Perennia
11:00 am—11:30 am	How Wild Blueberry Health Research is Funded and What is the Impact —Dr. Willy Kalt
11:30 am—1:00 pm	Lunch & Networking
1:00 pm	Call to Order Minute of Silence Approval of Agenda WBPANS President’s Report – David Harrison Nova Scotia Wild Blueberry Economic Impact Study: - A Detailed Analysis of the Economic Impact of the Wild Blueberry Industry to the Nova Scotia Economy —Stiletto Consulting Greetings from Minister of Agriculture—Hon. Greg Morrow WBPANS Executive Director Report – Peter Burgess Report from Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture - NSFA WBANA-Canada Report— Siren Group and Peter Swinkels Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting 2022 Financial Statements presented by Susan McIsaac, McIsaac Darragh Inc. Appointment of Auditors 2024 Proposed Budget – Presented by Neil Erb, Chair, WBPANS Finance Committee Promotion Committee Report – Alice Pugsley, Chair, WBPANS Promotion Committee Research Committee Report – Jeff Orr, Chair, WBPANS Research Committee Nominating Committee Report – Peter Swinkels, Past President Presentations to Retiring Directors New Business Adjournment
6:30 pm—7:00 pm	Reception and Cash Bar in Salon ABC
7:00 -8:30 pm	Banquet with sit-down meal honouring 2023 Recognition Book Inductees: Carl Bragg and Gary Brown (contact WBPANS office to purchase tickets by November 9th)

2022 NOVA SCOTIA WILD BLUEBERRY CONFERENCE
Friday, November 17th, 2023
Best Western Glengarry Hotel & Convention Centre & Zoom
Conferencing

8:00—8:30 am Registration Desk Open & Nutrition Break

Wild Blueberry Production Technical Session

8:30—8:45 am **Welcome**—WBPANS

8:45—9:30 am **Atlantic Tech Transfer Team for Apiculture Update and BMP Guide Launch -**
Andrew Byers, ATTTA, Perennia Food & Agriculture

9:30—10:15 am **Chikara + Ignite, Spartan Tank Mixtures, and Sequential Callisto Applications: 2023**
Weed Management Update for Wild Blueberry-
Dr. Scott White, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture

10:15—10:45 am Nutrition Break & Networking

10:45 –11:30 am **Optimizing Field Efficiency During Harvest -**
Dr. Travis Esau / Craig MacEachern, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture

11:30 am -12:00 pm **Update on Blueberry Maggot Fly Project—**
Dr. Chris Cutler / Janelle MacKeil, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture

12:00—1:15 pm LUNCH & NETWORK— Salon ABC

1:15—2:00 pm **Improving Wild Blueberry Resiliency Through The Incorporation of Disease**
Management, Remote Sensing, and Nutrient Management Technologies-
Dr. David Percival, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture

2:00—2:45 pm **Important Wild Blueberry Growth Stage Growing Degree Days (GDDs) Research**
Update—
Hugh Lyu, Perennia Food & Agriculture

2:45—3:05 pm **Ecology and Germination Requirements of Cow Wheat (*Melampyrum lineare* Desr.)**
in Wild Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium* Ait.) Fields in Nova Scotia
Vanessa Deveau, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
(2022 WBPANS Scholarship Recipient)

3:05—3:30 pm **Emerging Technologies: Machine Vision and A.I. Applications For Wild Blueberry**
Production
Patrick Hennessy, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
(2022 WBPANS Scholarship Recipient)

PESTICIDE RE-CERTIFICATION PONTS PENDING

POLAR VORTEX INDUSTRY RECOVERY PROGRAM

The Polar Vortex Industry Recovery Program is available to address the immediate needs of the industries who were affected by the polar vortex in February 2023. The program is now open.

Stream 1 provides virus testing support for grapes producers wishing to propagate their own vines for replant. This stream is only necessary/relevant for those grape producers wishing to propagate from their own wood.

Stream 2 provides maintenance recovery and is meant to help off set the additional costs incurred this year due to trying to aid the plants in recovery. This stream is not meant to cover all costs or to be an income replacement.

The Polar Vortex Industry Recovery Program will provide a variety of supports over the next number of months to assist producers in getting their crops reestablished and back into production. Phase 1 is phase 1.

The program phase 1 guidelines and application are available on the Horticulture Nova Scotia website <https://horticulturens.ca/who-we-are/polar-vortex-industry-recovery-program/>

If you have any questions please contact Patricia at Horticulture Nova Scotia 902.403.7218.

Special Notes:

1) **If your crop is not listed and you were impacted by the Polar Vortex**, you are welcome to apply on a case by case basis as outlined in the program guidelines and in the application. There is no Phase 2 that will list your crop if it is not listed now. For example, if you are a strawberry producer and you were impacted please complete the phase 1 application if you wish to be considered for the maintenance recovery. (I have received calls and people are telling me they heard that if their crop isn't listed that it will be in phase 2. **This is not accurate**. Please reach out to me for questions and answers; my phone is turned on morning and night.)

2) If you are a grape producer and you are not planning to propagate from your own wood and if/when you replant you are planning to purchase from a certified nursery then you do not need to apply for stream 1. This is for growers who wish to do their own propagation and require testing services at this time. Stream 1 is not a replant program. Stream one is for virus testing.

For more information contact: Patricia Bishop, Polar Vortex Outreach Coordinator, Horticulture Nova Scotia, cell: 902.403.7218

AGRI STABILITY PROGRAM STILL AVAILABLE TO NOVA SCOTIA FARMERS

Nova Scotia farmers affected by this year's extreme weather events can still receive assistance under the AgriStability program, even if they did not previously enrol.

AgriStability supports farmers experiencing a large decline in farm income by providing protection for income losses of more than 30 per cent.

"Nova Scotia's agricultural businesses have faced real challenges due to several extreme weather events this year. That's why we are working with the Government of Canada to help the agriculture sector," said agriculture minister Greg Morrow. "We are giving farmers who need income support more opportunity to get it, if their incomes have dropped sharply due to damaging rains, extreme heat, wildfires or other conditions."

Farmers who did not previously enrol in AgriStability for 2023 can now participate in the program as late participants until **December 31, 2024**.

AgriStability is one of the business risk management programs offered under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP). The program is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially.

For more information or to enrol in the AgriStability program go to: <https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agristability>