



Garlic Growers Association of Ontario

Garlic Greetings December 2005

Currently your executives have helped support the establishment of 2 research projects using the A.A.C. Cord IV Research Funding for Horticulture. That was provided last year as part of the Federal Provincial Transition Funding.

This money has been made available to all horticulture crops with funding allocated based on the number of growers. Each crop has a specific dollar amount available to do research that will help improve production and marketing practices. All projects have to be approved by a committee of farm commodity representatives, and must be completed by March 2008.

The first Garlic project that has been approved, and will last 3 years is called "The Clean Seed Program". Using the latest technology researcher Becky Hughes will first test samples of Music Garlic for viruses, and then using tissue cultures to create virus free stock that can then be field planted to have virus free seed. This technology is routine in the strawberry and potato industries where all or most seed stock is virus free. The Garlic industry in California has also been 100 % virus free seed for a number of years. Some growers are experiencing up to 30% yield loss due to viruses so this will go a long way to improving yields for all of us in the future.

The second project that is awaiting approval would be done by John Zandstra at Ridgetown College and is called "The Allicin Project". John will compare the Allicin content in 2006 crop Garlic using a number of different cultural practices. John will also check the Allicin content of some Ontario grown samples and compare all of this to some imported Garlic samples. The purpose of this project is to prove that Ontario Garlic has a higher Allicin content than imported Garlic, and to see if different cultural practices impact the Allicin level in Ontario Garlic. We look forward to having preliminary results to assist in marketing the 2006 crop.

The third project will be "Garlic Promotion". Your executives are still finalizing the details. We look forward to having possibly "branded Ontario

Garlic promotional items such as signs, brochures, packaging etc. that members can use to market the 2006 and future crops. We are also looking at supporting a new Garlic Festival in southern Ontario to help provide another marketing opportunity for our members.

If you have any ideas or possible materials please contact me at atwalesfarm@hotmail.com before mid-January. If you have samples of promotional products or know of people who do good artwork on garlic please let me know.

Dumping

Well, transshipping continues and it appears government is unable or unwilling to stop it. Starting in 2006 the original tariffs will start to come off so we shall see how long it takes for the Chinese to resume dumping under their own country of origin label rather than using false documents from these countries!.

Annual General Meeting

We look forward to seeing everyone at the AGM on March 25 2006 at the OMAF office in Woodstock. We will have the researchers explaining each of the research projects plus other invited speakers.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday & winter season.

Sincerely Yours

Mark Wales (519) 773-7352

President Garlic Growers Association of Ontario



Garlic Growers Association of Ontario

Membership Application & Renewal Form

Fill in and Print this form and mail it with your fee to the address at the bottom.

Farm or Company (Member) Name: _____

Name of the designated person representing
the farm or company (Member): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City / Town: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Email: _____

For Harvest in 2005 -- # Pounds Planted = _____ on _____ acres

Varieties Grown: _____

I would like to contribute to the Association by being involved in the following:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promotions | <input type="checkbox"/> Executive | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Crop Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> OFA/Lobbying |

Membership Fee for ALL members is \$50 per year = \$50.00
=

Signature of Member Representative: _____ Date: _____

Send Completed Membership Form and cheque made payable to "Garlic Grower's Association of Ontario" To: **Alan Cowan, Treasurer GGAO,
R.R. #2, Allenford, ON N0H 1A0**

Additional forms available at www.garlicgrowers.on.ca

All dues are payable at the Fall Meeting for the following calendar year.