



# Garlic Growers Association of Ontario

## April 14 Annual General Meeting

*Interested in Garlic?* Don't miss the AGM at the Woodstock OMAF office on highway 59, just north of Woodstock. Coffee will be on at 9 am and meeting starting at 9:30.

### **Speakers:**

*Becky Hughes- Clean Seed Project\*\*\*\*John Zandstra - Allicin Content*

*Mike Celetti Nematode\*\*Recipe Cards\*\*\*The Stratford Garlic Festival*

The snow cover came in deed, and with abundance to protect this year's crop, so hopefully open freezing weather should not have been an issue this year. During this winter the Associations projects are working to nurture the crop as well.

#### **Becky Hughes of the Clean Seed Project**

and her team have been finding tissue in bulbs, bulbuils, and sprouts that has low or no disease vectors. Over these many months, lo & behold the beginning of a protocol is developing to increase the vitality and returns of the Ontario crop. Come and hear from Becky which tissue is providing the best starting material, and what the next steps will be.

#### **John Zandstra OMAFRA**

(one of the hardest working, longest serving, and great resource in garlic) is putting together details with regards allicin content of Ontario garlic and all the factors that may influence garlic allicin level.

#### **Michael Celetti OMAFRA Plant Pathologist**

Mike has agreed to help the Association out with the Clean Seed Program. Mike also has been working on some interesting approaches to of cover crops to knock back Stem & Bulb Nematodes. Mike will be available to shed some more light on this issue.

**Recipe Cards:** Securing Cord 4 funding has enabled the Assoc. to develop and print eye-catching and informative recipe cards that consumers demand. These will be made available to members, on a basis to be determined.

Bringing Ontario's garlic crop directly to consumers is getting a huge boost. The Kiwanis club of Stratford is holding on Sept 15 2007 **The Stratford Garlic Festival.** The Stratford club after visiting the successful Hudson Valley Garlic Festival in upstate New York, (40,000 over two days) decided that they would like to use the template and expertise of the New York Club in Stratford. The committee has been meeting and working over the winter and the event is gaining momentum and building excitement amongst the members and the community.

The Ontario- New York & Michigan consumer will be in for a day of learning about growing garlic, health benefits, great food, great entertainment and just plain fun with the farmer. The Association through Cord 4 funding is assisting in seeding this event. Being involved the first year is a way of reserving your spot in what is sure to become the annual event where consumers can come to find YOU year after year for their fix of garlic for the table or seed. An application for membership, and selling at the Festival are enclosed. Bring them to the meeting or mail back by April 21<sup>th</sup>.

**See you out Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> of April for this important, informative event.**

**Any questions your Executive is listed here:**

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