

CONFERENCE PROGRAM - Islands Agriculture Show - Wednesday July 6, 2022		
	8:00 AM Registration Desk Opens	8:30 AM Trade show Opens
Session Location	MNP Conference Room	BMO Conference Room
	Soil and Water Sessions	Marketing our food; The COVID Reset
Session 1: 9:30 am - 10:30 am 	<u>Integrating pigs with vegetable production</u> <i>Dr. Leah Sandler, Institute for Sustainable Food Systems, Kwantlen Polytechnic University</i> Since 2018, research has been conducted at the Tsawwassen First Nation Farm School, located on Tsawwassen First Nation land (Delta, BC), focused on determining best management practices for rotating grazing hogs in vegetable production. The first portion will cover the best practices of setting up hog grazing operations, with the methods and equipment used. Then we will share results from our research on how the soil and crops have been impacted from this method of grazing.	
Network Break		
Session 2: 9:30 am - 10:30 am 	<u>Institutional Markets 101: Tips for getting ready to sell to commercial and institutional buyers</u> <i>Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> Are you a B.C. producer or processor interested in selling your B.C. products to commercial and institutional buyers? Getting ready to sell to these markets takes substantial research, persistence, and preparation to understand each of their unique dynamics and requirements.	
Network Break		
Session 3: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm 	<u>Balancing costs and trade-offs with soil nutrient, moisture, and organic matter management: Lessons from Vancouver Island on farm research</u> <i>DeLisa Lewis Ph.D., Sustainable Agriculture Lab, University of British Columbia and co-owner of Greenfire Farm</i> With increased frequency of weather events that disrupt familiar patterns of tillage, seeding, and a range of field operations, what are the strategies Vancouver Island and other regional farmers are relying on to sustain their productivity? How do the so-called “best management practices” of cover cropping, rotations, planning for diversity, and integrated nutrient management stack up against their costs? Join us for an interactive session featuring results from on-farm field research, and a real time dialogue on the challenges and rewards of soil health management fine-tuned to your own farming operation.	
Lunch Break		
Session 4: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm 	<u>Food hubs: Fostering growth and innovation in our communities</u> <i>Taylor Jeffery, Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Dani Stancer, Food Hub Manager, Cowichan Green Community</i> Taylor Jeffery will provide an overview of the BC Food Hub Network. Dani Stancer, Food Hub Manager with Cowichan Green Community will share about their journey in establishing a food hub in Duncan, BC – connecting local farmers, food processors and consumers together.	
Lunch Break		
Session 5: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm 	<u>If I Can...</u> <i>Keynote Speaker: Chris Koch</i> The limitations we face in life are often the ones we place on ourselves. Despite being born without arms and legs, Koch didn't let limitations and obstacles stand in the way of achieving his goals and dreams. He still grew up working on his family farm, and has spent his adult life snowboarding, running marathons, and travelling independently. If a guy without arms and legs can do all this, he says, we are all capable of some pretty amazing things!	

Network Break	
Session 6: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<p>Agri-tourism and Value Addition: Connecting Producers and Consumers <i>Reed Bailey, Land Use Planner, and Caroline and Mark Nagtegaal, Promise Valley Farm, Duncan, BC.</i></p> <p>Agri-tourism can be a great way to add value to your farm enterprise. Hear from the ALC on recent changes that may enhance the agri-tourism potential of your farm. Caroline and Mark will share their experiences about owning and operating a family dairy farm and creamery in the Cowichan Valley. They are passionate about land, cows and nourishing dairy products and have recently opened a farm store to help connect consumers with a better understanding of where their food comes from.</p>
Network break	
Session 7: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<p>Call before you dig - the wetland edition <i>Angela Cameron, R.P. Bio. Senior Authorizations Specialist, Ministry of Forests</i></p> <p>Did you know that under the <i>Water Sustainability Act</i> the definition of a stream includes wetlands? Learn about what this means for working in and around wetlands on your farm.</p>
4:00 PM	Welcome Reception

CONFERENCE PROGRAM - Islands Agriculture Show – Thursday, July 7, 2022		
	8:00 AM Registration Desk Opens	8:30 AM Trade show Opens
Session Location	MNP Conference Room	BMO Conference Room
	Biodiversity- Plants and Animals	IPM (Pests big and Small)
Session 8: 9:30 am – 11:00 am 	<p><u>The Role of biodiversity in agriculture</u> <i>Dr. Sandra Gillespie, Assistant Professor, University of the Fraser Valley and Andrea Shaw, Agroecologist, Ministry of Agriculture and Food.</i></p> <p>Dr. Gillespie’s work research focuses on pollination ecology, with a special interest in bumblebees. This session will focus on the role of biodiversity in improving pollinator habitat and improving pollinator health. Andrea Shaw will share information about the Environmental Farm Plan as well as biodiversity-related resources for your farm.</p>	
Network Break		
Session 9: 9:30 am - 10:30 am 	<p><u>Managing pests in a changing climate</u> <i>Tracy Hueppelsheuser, Entomologist, Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> <i>Bonnie Zand, Bonnie’s Bugs IPM</i></p> <p>Tracy will share updates about pest biology, monitoring approaches, and management ideas for major forage pests, including True Armyworm, wireworm, and corn rootworm. You will also hear insights from Bonnie about the Vancouver Island Pests, Pollinators and Beneficials project. Vegetable and fruit pests as well as pollinators and beneficial insects are now being monitored for, providing insight and information to local growers. In addition to the field monitoring, outreach and grower workshops have occurred to enable growers to incorporate pest monitoring into their production systems. Learn about some of the new pests of concern that could impact local agriculture.</p>	
Network Break		

<p>Session 10: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm</p> 	<p>Hazelnut orchard establishment practices and the Hazelnut Renewal Program <i>Thom O'Dell Ph.D., Nature Tech Nursery and Karina Sakalauskas, Industry Specialist – Emerging markets, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i></p> <p>Why grow hazelnuts? Join this session to learn about the potential for hazelnuts on Vancouver Island. Thom will speak about hazelnut orchard establishment practices and best management. Karina will speak about the BC Hazelnut Renewal program in BC.</p>
<p>Lunch Break</p>	
<p>Session 11: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm</p> 	<p>Avian Influenza - Protecting your flock <i>Dr. Gigi Lin, DVM</i></p> <p>Learn about protecting your flock from avian influenza and other poultry diseases through the implementation of biosecurity measures on your farm. This session is sponsored by the BC Egg Marketing Board and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.</p>
<p>Lunch Break</p>	
<p>Session 12: 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> 	<p>What's New in Cannabis <i>Rajiv Dasanjh, Horticulture Team Lead & Emerging Markets Specialist, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, – Dylan Sherlock, Director, The Cannabis Legalization Secretariat, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Sarah Campbell, Director, Craft Cannabis Association of B.C., and Katy Connelly, Owner and Operator of Sea-Dog Farms.</i></p> <p>Dylan and Rajiv will provide an update on upcoming programs such as Farm-Gate Sale, and Direct-Delivery for licensed cannabis producers in British Columbia. Sarah will provide an overview of the recent CVRD Cannabis Study, as well as an update to the initiatives COABC are currently working on in the sector. Katy Connelly is a co-owner, with husband Shawn, of Sea Dog Farm, the first outdoor micro-licensed cannabis production in BC to have flower listed on the BCCS. Since Health Canada licensed outdoor cultivation in 2019, they have now had two growing seasons. Katy will discuss their challenges and successes to date as well as provide a breakdown of the financial implications of adding outdoor micro-cannabis cultivation to their small southern Vancouver Island farm.</p>
<p>Session 13: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm</p> 	<p>Cider apple management on the BC coast <i>Molly Thurston, P.Ag., Agronomist with Pearl Agricultural Consulting, Nick Ibuki, Summerland Varieties Corp. and a panel of Vancouver Island Cider growers</i></p> <p>Sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. In this two-hour session Molly Thurston will present Integrated Pest Management for Organic Apples: an overview of common insect pests and diseases that affect apples in BC, and discuss organic management practices. With anywhere between seventy-five and a hundred apple cider cultivars to choose from, Nick Ibuki will talk about some of the more popular and available ones in BC and what to expect from them. You will also hear from a panel of Islands cider producers.</p>
<p>3:00 PM</p>	<p>Conference and Tradeshow Ends</p>

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