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## **INFORMATION ON STARTING A GREENHOUSE OPERATION**

This addendum:

- is intended to be used in concert with the Information Bulletin entitled, “Starting a Business in Saskatchewan,” which provides general information and guidance on the legislative and regulatory requirements that affect business start-up in Saskatchewan;
- complements existing available information on starting a business;
- is not a substitution for legislation; and
- was prepared by Saskatchewan Industry and Resources in co-operation with other government departments, agencies and Crown corporations. The extent to which this information will apply to you is dependent upon the circumstances related to your business.

### **Finance: Provincial Sales Tax (PST)**

Your greenhouse is required to charge and remit PST. However, as a greenhouse operator, you may be eligible for exemptions under *The Provincial Sales Tax Act* if you qualify as a “farmer” within the meaning of the act. For example, the purchase of goods for resale is exempt from tax and a greenhouse may qualify for exemptions available for a farm if the greenhouse has at least 279 square metres (3,000 square feet) used solely for the growing of fruit, vegetables, nursery, bedding or florist crops for sale.

Saskatchewan Finance has developed a comprehensive bulletin that outlines the impact of the PST on a greenhouse operation. This bulletin may be accessed at:

<http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance/revenue/pst/bulletins/pst23.pdf>.

### **Finance: Farm Fuel Program**

Farmers are eligible to purchase marked diesel fuel and/or apply for a rebate of tax paid on gasoline and propane used in their own operations. For purposes of the Farm Fuel Program, a farmer is a person who is 18 years of age or older, owns or rents land, controls and is responsible for the operation of a farm and received gross revenue in the prior calendar year of at least \$10,000 from the sale of primary farm products that he or she produced in Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan Finance has developed two comprehensive bulletins that outline the impact of the Farm Fuel Tax and the Farm Fuel Tax Program on farmers. These bulletins may be accessed at:

<http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance/revenue/ft/bulletins/ft4.pdf> and  
<http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance/revenue/ft/farmfuel/default.htm>.

For further information on the Farm Fuel Program, please contact:

Farm Fuel Program  
P.O. Box 5012  
REGINA SK S4P 3M3  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-7587 (Regina)  
**Toll free in Saskatchewan:** 1-800-667-6102  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-6653  
**e-mail:** [sask.tax.info@finance.gov.sk.ca](mailto:sask.tax.info@finance.gov.sk.ca)

**Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: *The Livestock and Horticultural Facilities (Education and Health Tax) Remission Regulations***

Greenhouse packages, greenhouse components, building materials and certain greenhouse equipment may qualify under The Livestock and Horticultural Facilities Incentive Program for an exemption of PST. Information on the program may be found at:  
[http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/DOCS/about\\_us/programs\\_services/lvsthort.asp?firstPick=&secondpick=&thirdpick=NULL](http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/DOCS/about_us/programs_services/lvsthort.asp?firstPick=&secondpick=&thirdpick=NULL).

For further information on the program, or for rebate application forms, please contact:

Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization  
Livestock and Horticultural Facilities Incentive Program  
3085 Albert Street, Room 226  
REGINA SK S4S 0B1  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-5149  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-2366

**Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: Horticulture Unit**

Information on production-related issues and development opportunities may be accessed through the Horticulture Unit of the Sustainable Production Branch, located at:

Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization  
Horticulture Unit, Crop Development Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
3085 Albert Street, Room 125  
REGINA SK S4S 0B1  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-8034  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-0428

The unit also has a website that outlines a number of matters of interest to the horticultural industry. The site is located at: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca/Crops/Horticulture.asp>.

**Agricultural, Food and Rural Revitalization: *The Farm Financial Stability Act and The Big Game Damage Compensation Program Regulations***

Depending on the nature and extent of your greenhouse operation, you may also have field crops (i.e. market garden crops or trees in a tree nursery operation). Accordingly, you may qualify for the Big Game Damage Compensation Account if you sustain loss or damage to such field crops

by virtue of big game. Further information may be found at the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation website, located at: <http://www.saskcropinsurance.com/contacts/>, or by contacting:

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation  
484 Prince William Drive  
P.O. Box 3000  
MELVILLE SK S0A 2P0  
**Telephone:** (306) 728-7200  
**Toll-free:** 1-888-935-0000  
**Facsimile:** (306) 728-7268  
**e-mail:** [customer.service@scic.gov.sk.ca](mailto:customer.service@scic.gov.sk.ca)

**Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: *The Vegetable, Fruit and Honey Sales Act and The General Regulations Under The Vegetable, Fruit and Honey Sales Act***

The act and the regulations outline inspection, grading, marking and packaging specifications for Saskatchewan grown produce. The act and regulations **may** apply to your greenhouse operation, depending on the nature and extent of your operation. The Horticulture Unit administers the act and may be contacted at:

Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization  
Horticulture Unit, Crop Development Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
3085 Albert Street, Room 125  
REGINA SK S4S 0B1  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-8034  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-0428

**Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: *The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act, The Pest Control Products Regulations, 1995 and The Noxious Weeds Act, 1984***

*The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act* regulates and controls the use, distribution and handling of pesticides. The act prohibits:

- the sale of substandard pesticides;
- the use of pesticides other than for the purpose which it is intended;
- the application of pesticides into bodies of water except as allowed by permit issued by Saskatchewan Environment;
- the keeping of pesticides in certain containers other than containers specifically designed for the storage of pesticides;
- the disposal of pesticides or containers, except at a designated site;
- the cleansing of pesticide apparatus into an open body of water (all water must be retained for proper disposal); and
- the sale or application of commercial or restricted pesticides without a licence and the commercial application of any pesticide without a licence.

Section 3 of *The Pest Control Products Regulations, 1995*, designates every substance that is registered pursuant to *The Pest Control Products Act (Canada)* as a control substance, that substance is otherwise designated by the regulations. The regulations address:

- the storage of pesticides;
- the transportation of pesticides;
- the disposal of pesticides pursuant to *The Environmental Management and Protection Act*;
- pesticide applicator, service and vendor licensure, together with all relevant fees and exemptions;
- qualifications for dispensers and applicators of pesticides, including aerial application; and
- qualifications for inspectors for the purposes of this act.

*The Noxious Weeds Act, 1984*, mandates that every owner or occupier of land shall destroy noxious weeds on his land and prevent the spread of noxious weeds to other lands. The act empowers weed inspectors to, among other things and in certain circumstances, actually prevent a landowner or occupant from sowing a crop of any type on infested land. The act is essentially administered by individual municipalities, and, therefore, you may wish to contact your municipality about its administration of the act.

For more information on both acts, please contact the Sustainable Production Branch at:

Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization  
Production Technology Section  
Sustainable Production Branch  
3085 Albert Street, Room 125  
REGINA SK S4S 0B1  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-4662  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-0428

### **Saskatchewan Farm Land Security Board: *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act***

*The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act* contains provisions that restrict the amount of land non-residents can own. The Farm Land Security Board administers the farm ownership aspects of the act. Many intensive farming operations are organized as limited partnerships or corporations that involve both resident and non-resident investors. Typically, operations such as a greenhouse require a relatively small acreage to site the buildings and facilities associated with the enterprise; however, the acreage may well be in excess of the allowable acreage as mandated by the act. The board may grant exemptions to these types of organizations on the basis of the economic development they generate.

However, it should be noted that *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Amendment Act, 2002*, has been introduced by the government to amend the Province's ownership rules and restrictions. As of October 2002, the legislation had not yet been proclaimed.

Further information is available through the board's website at <http://www.farmland.gov.sk.ca/> or by contacting the board directly at:

Farm Land Security Board  
Farm Ownership  
3988 Albert Street, Room 207

REGINA SK S4S 3R1  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-5047  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-8599  
**e-mail:** [bbest@farmland.gov.sk.ca](mailto:bbest@farmland.gov.sk.ca)

**Learning: *The Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Act, 1999 and The Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Regulations***

Section 69.2 of *The Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Regulations* defines the nature and extent of the “horticulture technician trade” and outlines the requirements necessary to work in the trade. Saskatchewan’s Apprenticeship Program is explained in detail at: [http://www.sasknetwork.ca/pages/et/et\\_128.htm](http://www.sasknetwork.ca/pages/et/et_128.htm).

Further information may be obtained by contacting:

Saskatchewan Learning  
Career Information  
2220 College Avenue, 3rd Floor  
REGINA SK S4P 3V7  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-8431  
**Toll-Free in Saskatchewan:** 1-800-597-8278  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-9178  
**e-mail:** [hotline@sasked.gov.sk.ca](mailto:hotline@sasked.gov.sk.ca)

OR

Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission  
2140 Hamilton Street  
Regina SK S4P 3V7  
**Telephone:** (306) 787-2444  
**Toll-free:** 1-877-363-0536  
**Facsimile:** (306) 787-5105  
**e-mail:** [apprenticeship@sasked.gov.sk.ca](mailto:apprenticeship@sasked.gov.sk.ca)

**SaskWater: *The Ground Water Conservation Act and The Ground Water Regulations***

*The Ground Water Conservation Act and Regulations* address all matters related to drilling, boring, digging, driving or jetting for ground water. The act only applies to wells drilled for non-domestic use. The regulations outline all requisite application, permitting and licensure processes related to drilling for and usage of ground water. Groundwater works (including groundwater dewatering) that require approval include municipal, irrigation, industrial and any other use, except domestic.

Further information on any of SaskWater’s services, programs or projects may be obtained by e-mailing SaskWater Communications at [comm@saskwater.com](mailto:comm@saskwater.com) or by contacting:

SaskWater Head Office  
Fourth Floor, Victoria Place  
111 Fairford Street East  
MOOSE JAW SK S6H 7X9  
**Telephone:** (306) 694-3900

**Facsimile:** (306) 694-3944

Head Office will also be able to direct you to the Water Resource Management Office in your area.

**SaskWater: *The Water Rights Regulations***

*The Water Rights Regulations* mandate the process and procedure to be followed when constructing dams, dykes or other methods of water diversion. Further information on any of SaskWater's services, programs or projects may be obtained by e-mailing SaskWater Communications at [comm@saskwater.com](mailto:comm@saskwater.com) or by contacting:

SaskWater Head Office  
Fourth Floor, Victoria Place  
111 Fairford Street East  
MOOSE JAW SK S6H 7X9  
**Telephone:** (306) 694-3900  
**Facsimile:** (306) 694-3944

Head Office will also be able to direct you to the Water Resource Management Office in your area.

**Saskatchewan Government Insurance: *The Highway Traffic Act and The Vehicle Classification and Registration Regulations***

*The Highway Traffic Act* requires vehicles to be registered. Section 8 of *The Vehicle Classification and Registration Regulations* outlines the guidelines for determining the classification for each type of vehicle. In order to obtain a farmer classification ("Class F"), a greenhouse grower must use an area of land in Saskatchewan to grow or raise primary farm products for sale that generate an annual gross revenue of at least \$10,000 for the previous year. "Primary farm products" are defined in section 2(1)(t.1) of the regulations to include bedding plants, nursery and florist crops.

For further information on the act or regulations, please contact the Saskatchewan Government Insurance Call Centre, toll-free 1-800-667-8015, or (306) 751-1200 (Regina).

If you have any questions or require further information on this bulletin, please contact:

Saskatchewan Industry and Resources

Competitiveness Branch

2103 - 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2nd Floor

REGINA SK S4P 3V7

**Telephone:** (306) 787-0272

**Facsimile:** (306) 787-3989

**e-mail:** [djameson@ir.gov.sk.ca](mailto:djameson@ir.gov.sk.ca)