

## Seasonal Reminders

Make sure you're taking the steps you need to take in the fall, to prepare for the upcoming seasons. Read more on page 2 of this newsletter.

## Please Plan Ahead

This year, all Growers Supply Co. stores will be closed at noon on December 24th and will reopen on January 4th. Please start planning ahead with any larger projects.

## Cleanfarms Collections

The Cleanfarms collection of unwanted pesticides and equine medicine is currently underway. Page 4 of this newsletter gives you more information and collection dates.

# Food For Thought

Monthly Newsletter  
October 2021



## Exciting New Partnership with Finning Canada!

Growers Supply Co. has recently entered into an exciting new partnership with Finning to bring Cat® equipment to the vineyards and orchards that we serve. All the details are on page 3 of this newsletter.

### A Message From Our General Manager

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### A Message From Our General Manager

Firstly, I would like to thank all our customers for your patronage this year. The Growers Supply Co. team is always excited to see familiar faces in our stores week after week.

The year did bring its challenges as we continue to battle covid but we are here to serve you in all weathers and nothing will stop us from getting you the products you need.

The Purchasing team are working hard to secure supplies for the 2022 season and we look forward to serving you next spring. If you have

irrigation or post and wire installation projects planned for 2022, please contact one of our specialists and they can talk you through how we can ensure supply of the items you need.

We are enjoying some mild weather this first part of fall, so I hope this means you can get to some of those important projects on the farm before winter sets in.

Have a great fall season and stay safe.

*Mark Welton*  
Growers Supply Co. General Manager

## Company Updates and Reminders

### From the Purchasing Department

I am sure that many of you have been hearing about the worldwide supply chain issues through the media. We would like to assure everyone that the purchasing team is fully aware of this and is working right now with our suppliers to ensure we will have the crop input products that you will require available for 2022.

On that note though, if you have an infrastructure improvement plan for Spring 2022 involving posts, wire or irrigation we would strongly advise you to contact us as soon as possible so we can ensure that we have the inventory available when you require it. Demand for these types of products in North America has been very high and is expected to be even higher next year.

Our Hickok pruning supplies were delayed this year but we are expecting them to arrive mid-October.



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## Seasonal Reminders

Make sure you are doing all of the following in the fall and [reach out](#) to a Growers Supply Co. expert for assistance.

### Irrigation

Irrigate to fill the soil profile before the final frost to protect plant roots. Fall is a good time to locate irrigation “misses” – water deprived fruit will mature earlier and leaves will senesce and fall before their neighboring plants. Flag these zones for your attention in the spring – changes to your irrigation set-up and ordering of new parts can start now in time for next year.

### Soil Samples

After the crop is off, it is a good time to do a soil sample (before the snow comes). If you are replanting next spring, or if your previous soil test is older than 5 years old, it is strongly encouraged to have your soil tested. Growers Supply Co. horticulturists and BCTF Grower Support staff can assist you with protocols for soil testing, lab sample submissions, and result interpretation. Doing your soil sampling in the fall gives you time to amend your soil prior to the onset of the next season. Fall could be a good time to apply ground fertilizer product such as K-Mag, based on the results from your soil test. In addition, if your soil test dictates the need for lime, elemental sulphur or gypsum, fall can be a great time to apply these amendments. Contact Growers Supply Co. or Grower Support for ordering your lime and discussing different product choices.

### Rodent Control

- A fall weed control and keeping grass cut low will help to reduce rodent habitat
- Watch for mice and vole activity and place covered bait stations as needed
- Continue pocket gopher control by trapping or baiting. Fall is one of the best time to control gophers

### Winterize Sprayers

#### Fall Herbicide Applications

A late season herbicide application using a low rate of Glyphosate is a common fall herbicide practice. Make sure to apply the glyphosate after a first frost or when the tree leaves have started to senesce to prevent tree injury. An application of a pre-emergent herbicide, such as Chateau, mixed with Glyphosate burns down weeds, and affects seed germination the following spring. A fall application versus spring application is a good option due to dry spring weather conditions, as Chateau requires moisture for its activation. Chateau will not leach nor volatilize. Alion and Casoron are two other pre-emergent herbicides that can be applied late fall. Casoron is effective in controlling horsetail, amongst other controlled weeds. Each pre-emergent herbicide has its specific use limitations. Talk to your horticulturist or Grower Support advisor for more details regarding the safe use of pre-emergent herbicides.

## Shutting Down Young Vines

If you have young vines that have not hardened off enough (lignified) for winter, then cutting back on water can help. Copper applied typically one month before the first frost appears will help induce some level of bud hardiness and wood maturity. If after 2 weeks they are still not hardening off, apply another ½ rate. Consider a spray of Copper Oxychloride (fixed copper), or Copper Sulphate at 3kg – 5 kg per hectare. A Bordeaux mix of Copper Sulphate plus Hydrated Lime can also suppress late season powdery mildew. Make sure to pre-mix the lime first as it can plug nozzles if not mixed thoroughly.

## 2021 Holiday Season Closure

This year, all Growers Supply Co. stores will be closed at noon on December 24th and will reopen on January 4th. Please start keeping this in mind when planning ahead for the upcoming season.

## A Message from the BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

The BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries has just announced a funding opportunity to provide support to farms that employed seasonal workers from other parts of Canada. With program, farms are eligible to receive support for some of the costs they incurred to keep their workers safe and ensure British Columbians could enjoy local fruits and vegetables this summer and fall.

Visit their website [here](#) for more information about this opportunity.

## Exciting New Partnership with Finning Canada

This exciting partnership was formed in July 2021, in an effort to enhance the support we are able to provide our growers. We are now working in partnership with Finning to bring Cat® equipment to the vineyards and orchards that we serve.

Any Growers Supply Co. account holder who is looking to purchase a skid steer, compact track loader, mini excavator or wheel loader should speak with their Growers Supply Co. in-store representatives who will submit a referral form on your behalf and connect you with a representative from Finning.

Every Growers Supply Co. grower who purchases a Cat machine, using this referral process, will receive up to \$250 credit off their Growers Supply Co. account. To ensure that this credit is received, please talk directly to your Growers Supply Co. representative and let them know which equipment you're interested in.

Visit the website [here](#) for more information.





**British Columbia**



# Cleanfarms 2021 Unwanted Pesticides & Old Livestock/Equine Medications Collection

Okanagan, Interior, Kootenay – Sept. 27 to Oct. 21

## Farmers! Got unwanted pesticides or livestock/equine medications?

Safely dispose of unwanted or obsolete agricultural pesticides and livestock/equine medications – **no charge!** Take them to the following locations on the dates noted between **9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

### Check for Event Locations & Dates here:

#### ERICKSON

**Tuesday, Oct. 5**

Growers Supply - Creston  
754 - 35 Ave South  
250-428-5124

#### KAMLOOPS

**Wednesday, Oct. 13**

Purity Feed Ltd  
471 Okanagan Way  
250-372-2233

#### KELOWNA

**Tuesday, Oct. 19**

Grower's Supply - Kelowna  
2605 Acland Rd.  
250-765-4500

#### McBRIDE

**Monday, Sept. 27**

McBride Regional  
Transfer Station  
500 NW Frontage Rd.  
250-960-4400

#### OLIVER

**Thursday, Oct. 21**

Grower's Supply - Oliver  
5911 Sawmill Rd.  
250-498-6406

#### PENTICTON

**Wednesday, Oct. 20**

Growers Supply - Penticton  
272 Dawson Rd.  
250-493-2885

#### PRINCE GEORGE

**Tuesday, Sept. 28**

Foothills Boulevard  
Regional Landfill  
6595 Landfill Rd.  
250-960-4400

#### QUESNEL

**Thursday, Sept. 30**

Four Rivers Co-operative  
Quesnel Branch  
1280 Quesnel Hixon Rd.  
250-992-7274

#### VANDERHOOF

**Wednesday, Sept. 29**

Four Rivers Co-op  
1055 Hwy 16 West  
250-567-4225

#### VERNON

**Thursday, Oct. 14**

Growers Supply - Vernon  
1200 Waddington Dr.  
250-545-1278

#### WILLIAMS LAKE

**Friday, Oct. 1**

153 Mile Fertilizer  
#80 - 5101 Frizzi Rd.  
250-392-5333

- Next Cleanfarms collection in this area in fall 2024.
- COVID social distancing measures may be in place.
- For collection dates elsewhere, go to:  
[cleanfarms.ca/materials/unwanted-pesticides-animal-meds/](https://cleanfarms.ca/materials/unwanted-pesticides-animal-meds/)

Partner



**Cleanfarms.ca**

[info@cleanfarms.ca](mailto:info@cleanfarms.ca) @cleanfarms



## A Message from Richard: The New Penticton Store Manager

I am very pleased to announce myself, Richard LaRoche, as the new store manager for Growers Supply Co. in Penticton, BC.

My previous experience includes over 30 years of retail management, where I worked for Staples for 10 years as a General Manager and for PetSmart in Penticton, BC. I previously lived in Quesnel, BC as well as Yellowknife, NT.

I was more than excited to join my team at Growers Supply Co. in Penticton as well as the farming community. My main goal is to satisfy and support our customers in all of their business needs. I am looking to increase our team's knowledge regarding both the products and the services that we offer. I aim to understand what our farmers need on a continual and seasonal basis and to ensure that we are always meeting your needs.

In joining Growers Supply Co., I am looking forward to meeting all of you, our customers, in store as well as at your place of business. I look forward to touring your locations and hearing your feedback regarding how we can continue to build strong business relationships and improve, in order to meet our goals.

When joining Growers Supply Co. I was excited to be working within a farming community that is proud of their orchards and vineyards. I consider myself to be a hobby gardner and really enjoy the outcome of my vegetables at the end of the season. I take pride in trying to grow only the best.

Being new to Growers Supply Co. I will do my best to ensure that we have the products you will need to grow only the best and to have these items readily available in stock.

I am inviting you all to come down to the store and say hi and I hope to meet you at your place of business soon.

*Richard LaRoche*

Growers Supply Co. Penticton Store Manager

