



2020/21 RASPBERRY REPLANT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

The B.C. Raspberry Replant Program is a cost-sharing funding program which is intended to revitalize, regenerate and increase the competitiveness of the B.C. raspberry industry in local and global markets, while creating jobs and increasing food security for British Columbians. This program is being delivered by the Ministry of Agriculture with input from the Raspberry Industry Development Council.

PROGRAM GOALS AND PRIORITIES

The goal of the Raspberry Replant Program is to increase the amount of acreage planted with raspberry varieties suitable for fresh and individually quick frozen (IQF) raspberry markets.

The priority for 2020/21 is to provide cost-share funding for eligible raspberry fields that will be planted in the spring of 2021. Successful applicants will be reimbursed for a portion of their plant costs following planting and a satisfactory field inspection.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order to be eligible to receive funding under the Raspberry Replant Program for 2020/21, applicants and projects must satisfy the below criteria. Satisfaction of the eligibility criteria does not guarantee that an applicant or project will be selected for funding.

1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- The applicant must be a new or existing raspberry grower in the province of British Columbia.
- The applicant must be the owner or lessee of the land to be planted.
- If the applicant produced raspberries in the previous year, the applicant must be a member in good standing with the Raspberry Industry Development Council in accordance with the B.C. Raspberry Industry Development Council Regulation and the B.C. Raspberry Industry Development Council Operating Procedures.
- The applicant, or a representative of the applicant if the applicant is a business, must plan to be enrolled in an industry-recognized food safety program in 2022 or be the holder of an equivalent valid food safety certificate.

2. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- Applicants must be planting eligible raspberry varieties. For the purposes of this program, eligible raspberry varieties are defined as raspberry varieties that are suitable for Individually Quick Frozen (IQF) or fresh markets. The complete list of eligible raspberry varieties is provided in Appendix A.
- The planting must be scheduled to take place in the spring of 2021.
- The planned planting site must be in British Columbia.
- The owner (and in the case of leased property, both the owner and the lessee) of the land to be planted, must intend to maintain the field(s) as a commercial raspberry field(s) for a period of at least 4 years from the date of planting.
- Planting stock must have been ordered from a commercial nursery and be certified virus free.
- The minimum eligible acreage per applicant for planting new fields in 2020/21 is **1 acre**.
- The maximum eligible acreage per applicant for planting new fields in 2020/21 is **10 acres**.

The following types of projects are not eligible for consideration:

- a. Planting of raspberry varieties that will be grown primarily for bulk block frozen markets (straight pack, puree or juice);
- b. Planting of raspberry varieties that are not suitable for the growing conditions in B.C. unless they are grown using protected cultivation methods.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Funding for planting of raspberry fields will be provided on a per plant basis. Funding will be provided up to \$1.50 per plant for plug plants and up to \$1.00 per plant for bare root (root stock) and canes. The exact amount of funding per plant will be determined based on the number of eligible applications received. Each successful applicant will receive the same amount of funding per plant type.

The total amount of funding provided per acre will be based on planting density, to a maximum of \$3,300 per acre (based on a maximum 2200 plants per acre).

APPLICATIONS

3. APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINES

Applications will be accepted from **December 1, 2020 to January 11, 2021** for Spring planting 2021. If additional years of funding become available, application timelines will be posted on the Ministry of Agriculture (the “Ministry”) website.

Completed applications can be submitted in two ways:

1. By email no later than **4:30 pm** January 11, 2021 to: raspberryreplantprogram@gov.bc.ca or
2. By mail arriving no later than **4:30 pm** on January 11, 2021 to:

ATTN: Raspberry Replant Program
Abbotsford Agriculture Centre
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford, B.C. V3G 2M3

Important Funding Information:

- Submission of an application does not guarantee funding of the submitted project.
- If planting occurs before the approval letter from the Ministry is received, the planting will not qualify for funding.

4. APPLICATION PROCESS AND FORMS

Applications must include the following in order to be considered complete:

- A completed and signed [2020/21 Raspberry Replant Program Application Form](#);
- A complete and accurate map of the farm showing location of new planting, location of irrigation water source, orientation of rows and identification of buildings and roads. A satellite image can be used;
- A copy of the soil test results from the planting site taken in the previous 3 years;
- A copy of the nursery plant order;

- Confirmation of ownership/lease of the land;
- Confirmation of relationship with a processor/packer (previous year's contract and payment summary slip, or letter from processor/packer) if varieties are intended for individually quick frozen (IQF) markets.

The application deadline is January 11, 2021 at 4:30 pm. Late submissions will not be considered or accepted. The Ministry will provide written confirmation that a completed application is received.

5. APPLICATION REVIEW

Applications will be reviewed for eligibility by the Ministry and eligible applications will be scored by an Application Review Committee comprised of raspberry industry representatives. The applicant may be requested to provide further information or make changes to an application to improve the quality of the project prior to being selected for funding.

The Application Review Committee will recommend projects for funding to the Ministry by the end of January, and the Ministry will select projects for funding in early February.

Application assessments will be based on, but not limited to, the criteria below:

1. Likelihood of success in producing fresh or IQF quality raspberries:
 - a. Applicant has horticultural experience growing raspberries on a commercial scale, and
 - b. Applicant has horticultural experience growing raspberries for fresh or IQF markets;
2. Market potential:
 - a. Variety selected has fruit quality traits suitable for fresh markets or IQF processing,
 - b. For processing varieties, preference will be given to varieties that ripen when IQF processing capacity is available (early season),
 - c. For processing varieties, preference will be given to producers that have established a relationship with a processor/packer
 - d. For fresh varieties, preference will be given to applicants who sell wholesale or have the ability to market fruit through farm direct sales
3. Horticultural soundness
 - a. Variety selected suitable for field site and growing conditions
 - b. Pre-plant soil analysis completed, and field preparation activities completed or planned.

Please note the Ministry expects that the program will be fully subscribed. A waitlist may be created once the funding is fully allocated to approved projects.

The Ministry may choose to re-open the application process from time-to-time, if funds are available.

NOTIFICATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS FOR PAYMENT

6. FUNDING NOTIFICATIONS AND PROJECT CONFIRMATION

The Ministry will notify applicants by email in early February to inform them of the funding decision. Approved applicants will receive an approval letter listing the details of their replant plans (the "Project Plan") and a confirmation form with an assigned project number. Approved applicants will be asked to review their Project Plan and confirm project participation by returning the confirmation form by email.

No response from the applicant within 2 weeks of the date of the approval letter will result in the cancellation of the project.

NOTE: At any point in the process, applicants must immediately notify the Ministry of project cancellation or project modification.

FIELD INSPECTIONS Planting must be completed prior to March 20, 2021. Applicants must report any planting delays to the Ministry .

The Ministry may require updates from applicants prior to planting, such as confirmation of:

- a. Pre-planting field work completion;
- b. Receipt of planting stock (confirming varieties and target numbers);
- c. Other data relevant to the program or inspection.

The Ministry will contact approved applicants in March 2021 to arrange for a field inspection following planting.

During the field inspection, the Ministry will undertake the following actions:

- a. Verify the source of planting stock and varieties;
- b. Assess site preparation and weed control;
- c. Measure average plant spacing and row spacing;
- d. Conduct a plant count by variety and block;
- e. Assess plant quality in terms of overall health;
- f. Assess whether a support system/trellising is in place; and
- g. Take photos and GPS measurements.

The Ministry will also confirm the applicant, or a representative of the applicant if the applicant is a business, has enrollment in an industry-recognized food safety program for 2022 or holds an equivalent valid food safety certificate.

In order to receive payment the project must be completed to the satisfaction of the Ministry as per the Raspberry Replant Program requirements and the Project Plan.

7. REQUIREMENTS FOR PAYMENT

1. Payment is made based on the outcome of the inspection and the Ministry's assessment of the project's progress.
2. Payments to approved applicants will be conditional upon applicants carrying out their projects, as detailed in the Project Plan, to the satisfaction of the Ministry.
3. Payment amount will be subjected to the details of the approved Project Plan such as, but not limited to:
 - a. the allocated maximum number of plants and
 - b. the allocated maximum number of acres.
4. For overall program evaluation, applicants are requested to provide progress updates to the Ministry during the course of their projects.

8. PROJECT PLAN MODIFICATIONS

Any changes to projects made after the selection of a project for funding and the approval of a Project Plan risk losing eligibility for funding. However, some changes are permissible:

- a. A project will remain eligible for payment if there is a reduction in the area planted, as long as spacing, variety and other factors remain the same as in the Project Plan;
- b. A project will remain eligible for payment if there is an increase in density of planting. However, the funding available for the project will be limited to the spacing information in the Project Plan.

- c. The location of the field may be moved from the location shown on the Project Plan, if the Ministry provides written approval for the change in location and the approvals are completed prior to planting.

Requests to change the details of a Project Plan must be made in writing to the Ministry. The Ministry must approve the changes for plant costs to be deemed eligible for reimbursement. Funding for additional plant costs will depend on the availability of funds remaining in the Raspberry Replant Program.

APPENDIX A: RASPBERRY VARIETIES ELIGIBLE FOR REPLANTING

Florican-fruited Varieties

- Cascade Delight
- Cascade Harvest
- Cascade Premier
- Chemainus
- Malahat
- Rudi
- Saanich
- Squamish
- Tulameen
- WakeHaven
- WakeField

Primocane-fruited Varieties

- Anne
- Autumn Bliss
- Autumn Britten
- Caroline
- Dinkum
- Heritage
- Jaclyn
- Joan J
- Kokanee
- Nantahala
- Polka
- Summit
- Vintage

NOTE: Additional varieties may be considered for eligibility by the Application Review Committee if there is evidence of suitability for IQF or fresh markets for the entire life of the planting, and compatibility with the growing conditions.

If the variety that you are looking to plant is not listed above, please supply a rationale from a nursery or a processor/packer outlining the attributes of the proposed variety.

APPENDIX B: LINKS AND RESOURCES

B.C. Raspberry Production Guide:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriservice-bc/production-guides/berries/raspberries>

OMAFRA Publication 360B: Crop Protection Guide for Berries:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/pub360/pub360B.pdf>

Raspberry Cultivars for the Pacific Northwest (2014):

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/pnw655.pdf>

Commercial Red Raspberry Production in the Pacific Northwest (2007):

<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/documents/smallfruit/CommercialRedRaspberryProduction.pdf>