



Native Agri Update

No. 390 August 2021

www.indianag.on.ca

2021 BEGINNING FARMERS PROGRAM

Are you interested in starting your own farm business? If so, IAPO's Beginning Farmers Program (BFP) might just be what you need to get started. The program has two distinct areas of focus:

- Start Up Financing
- Workshops and Training

Eligible farm businesses include: livestock, crop, vegetable, fruit, maple syrup, honey, floriculture and nursery production, mixed farming and aquaculture. (Contact us to see if your business qualifies.)

Start Up Financing & Grants

Eligible participants will be able to access up to \$50,000 in financing and 30% in grants for their new farm business. Eligible costs include livestock, equipment, machinery, materials, inputs, building costs, storage, etc.

Mentoring and Support

From business planning to implementation, participants will be supported by mentors and IAPO staff regularly providing help and guidance including farm visits.

Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants must be First Nation with registered Status, and be between the ages of 16 and 40 years old.
- Applicants must contribute a minimum of 5% equity.
- To be eligible, applicants must not have previously farmed or owned a farm business with annual sales/ value of production greater than \$5000/year.

Applications are available from IAPO and participation is limited. Applications will be accepted until Sept. 30, 2021.

For more information or an application,

contact: info@indianag.on.ca or 1-800-363-0329. Also, join in on our online BFP info session scheduled for Tuesday September 16 at 7:00 p.m.

JH

FIRST NATIONS AGRICULTURE FOR SEVEN GENERATIONS

In 2020, The First Nations Agriculture for Seven Generations Program was created in partnership with IAPO and Ag-Scape to support increased First Nation participation in the farming and Agriculture Sector.

The goal of the project is to engage First Nation Youth's interest in farming and agri-business possibilities and opportunities through curriculum based lessons. In these lessons, grade 11 and 12 students will learn about the Past, Present and Future impacts of participating in farming and agriculture, locally and globally.

To help assist in the delivery of the program, IAPO is seeking applications from qualified individuals for the position of Seven Generations Lead. This position is part-time throughout the school year and will be piloted in North Eastern and South Western Ontario.

Are you looking for an opportunity to:

- Share your passion for agriculture, food, the environment and careers?
- Making a lasting impact on First Nations youth?
- Create awareness and engagement on issues related to farming, food production and food security?

If you are, please email Kayla Martin, Program and Communications Coordinator at kayla@indianag.on.ca for a detailed job description!

Find us on Facebook!



Don't forget to follow us on facebook!

KM

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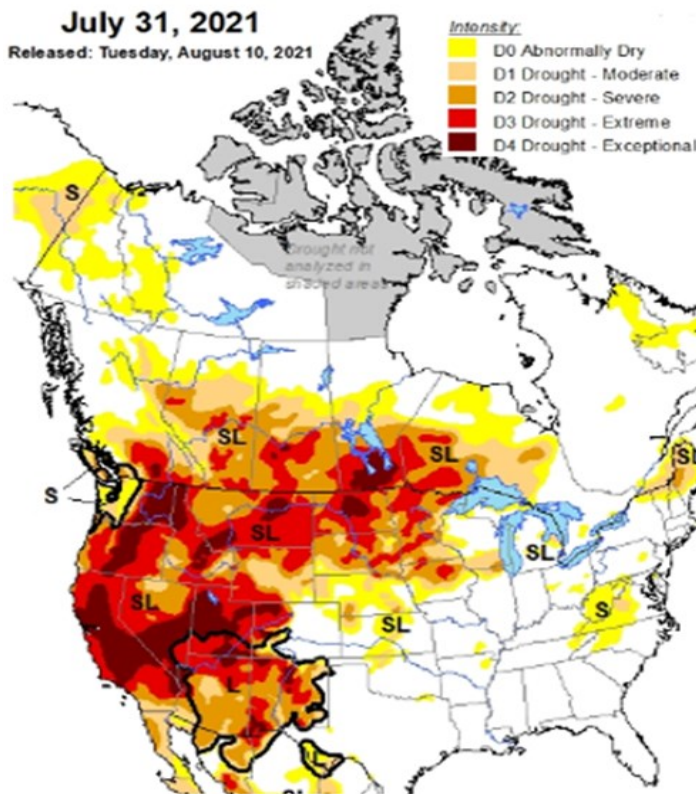
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Agribusiness

DROUGHT SUBSIDIES IN ONTARIO, WORSENS IN THE WEST

As outlined in the May edition of the Agri Update, drought was a going concern affecting farms across the province as Ontario experienced one of the driest Mays one can remember. Luckily for many farmers in Ontario, it started to rain. We are now looking to have a good growing season for the most part with hay and crops shooting up with the rains in June and July. But as lucky as some were to get the much needed precipitation, North Western Ontario, Western Canada and the United States have not been as lucky, as they experienced record heat and still lower than average precipitation.

As we look at the map for July below we can see drought conditions worsening across the west compared to the map shared for May.



One of the worst drought in western Canada in over 20 years, with record temperatures and limited rainfall have had major impacts on farmers across the west including crop failure, pasture & feed shortages, pest and water for livestock. With these concerns become a daily reality many farmers are having to sell cattle and debating what to do with burnt up crops. It has been a troublesome season to say the least for many Canadian farmers. *CL*

CORDA ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS



The Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA) program is accepting applications for 2022-2023. Eligible projects are eligible for funding up to \$35,000. CORDA supports a variety of natural resource management projects such as: fishing, forestry, trapping, resource-based tourism, traditional harvesting and more.

The deadline to apply is **Monday, October 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. EST.** Interest applicants should reach out to the CORDA, Laura Howard at (705) 295-3153 for more information and an application form.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

LOAN REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

IAPO is seeking applications from interested First Nations candidates possessing a financial background to serve on the Loan Review Committee (LRC).

The LRC reviews and renders decisions on all client loan application and submissions. Key responsibilities include: review and evaluation of financing applications, loan approval and recommendations to the Board of Directors as well as semi-annual portfolio reviews.

Participation on the Loan Review Committee is part time commitment with compensation. The ideal candidate will have an agricultural and business background, including financing.

If you would like more information or to apply, contact Jamie Hall, General Manager, jamie@indianag.on.ca. To apply please provide a coverletter and resume.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY WITH IAPO

IAPO is accepting applications for a Farm Management Advisor in our Lambeth office serving First Nation communities and members in South Western Ontario.

The Farm Management Advisor is responsible for supporting the growth of First Nation farms and agri-businesses across the region. Key responsibilities include community engagement, as well as the delivery of IAPO's agriculture extension services & business financing.

Visit our website, www.indianag.on.ca for the job posting. If you, or someone you know, would like more information regarding the Farm Management Advisor position, contact Jamie Hall, General Manager, at jamie@indianag.on.ca or 1-800-363-0329. *JH*

Market Information

BEEF MARKET WATCH

Prices are courtesy of the Beef Farmers of Ontario Weekly Market Information Report for the week ending Thursday August 19, 2021. Changes in this chart reflect the difference in prices from the week of June 7, 2021 to the week of August 16, 2021. Weekly reports provide prices on a per cwt basis for the week but do not include Friday sale results.

There were just 267 fed steers and heifers sold through auction markets this week down 108 head from last week and 44 fewer than last year at this time. Auction markets reported trade as steady to slightly lower this week to start but as the week progressed trade was just steady and ended the week \$1.00 cwt stronger.

Steers sold from \$143.48-\$157.50 averaging \$151.71 down 0.42 from last week and \$7.81 stronger than year ago prices.

Fed heifers traded from \$119.66-\$154.12 averaging \$143.69 down \$0.06 from last week's weighted average price but \$1.10 above year ago prices.

Cows traded from \$63.24-\$96.32 averaging \$77.20 up \$1.07 from last week on average but \$5.27 easier than year ago prices

Slightly lighter volumes 2,433 stocker and feeder cattle sold this week at auction markets down 181 from last week and 110 fewer than last year at this time. Auction markets reported trade as steady on the lighter weights with quality considered, while heavier replacement cattle were steady to stronger on a good demand.

Category	Price Range \$	Ave Price	Top Price	Change
Rail Steers	258			
Fed steers	146-160	155	171	-1.3
Fed heifers	133-155	147	172	-6.8
Cows	63-96	77	129	-10.3
Bulls	96-118	108	138	-3.7
Stocker steers				
700 – 799	170-213	194	224	-1.5
600 – 699	184-225	214	238	-14.4
500 – 599	158-243	210	259	-9.5
Stocker heifers				
700 – 799	150-178	165	202	+7.8
600 – 699	155-197	180	209	+2.2
500 – 599	166-202	187	245	-1

All prices are on a hundred pound basis (cwt)

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CROP MARKET

Adapted from Market Trends Aug - Sep 2021 by Phillip Shaw GFO www.gfo.ca

Corn The August 12th USDA report pegged US corn at 174.6 bushels per acre, quite a bit lower drop than the trade had expected. The September report will include actual field sampling vs. survey and satellite data, which should give us a better idea of actual yield.

Corn demand is expected to be strong this year and that includes exports. However, the corn crop is not as good in the northwest part of the US corn belt. Expect basis to be higher in the west vs. in the east and this surely might affect movement of US corn in the China direction. It surely might also affect basis levels in Ontario and Quebec.

The December 2021 corn futures contract is currently 6.5 cents below the March contract, which is considered bearish for new crop corn. Seasonally,

corn prices tend to peak in early June and bottom in early October.

Soybeans The August 12th USDA report was bullish for corn, but not so much for soybeans. The 50 bushel per acre soybean yield forecasted for the US was expected. In fact, it's the tale of two soybean crops, west vs. east. North Dakota yields were projected at 24 bu/ac South Dakota at 39 bu/ac and Minnesota at 43 bu/ac. We need all of that going forward to satisfy demand. That will surely depend on August rains, which so far have been better than expected. Like corn, the next USDA report should give us a better indication of yield.

The November soybean contract is currently 3.75 cents above the March contract, which is a bullish indication of

new crop prices. Seasonally, soybean prices tend to peak in early July, but bottom in early October.

Wheat Demand has been incredibly good for wheat as lower wheat production has taken place in Russia, Canada and even in places like Brazil where frost had an effect. 60% of world wheat stocks are held by China and India.

This has been to the benefit of Ontario wheat producers who have benefited from higher futures prices and a Canadian dollar fluttering just under 80 cents US. Wheat prices in the \$8 range this year and for next year are part of the equation going forward. Soon, producers will be planning how much wheat to plant in Ontario, something that is usually impacted greatly by September and October weather.

Coming Events

September 15 - Virtual Field Day: Earth Haven Biodynamic Farm
2:30p.m. Visit: <https://efao.ca/events/>

September 16 - Beginning Farmers Program Info Session
7p.m. contact: workshops@indianag.on.ca or 1-800-363-0329

Livestock Information

BEEF COW HERD HEALTH INITIATIVE (BCHHI)



Cow calf farming is an important sector for First Nation farmers. Profitability of beef operation vary greatly with calf prices determined in the auction ring and producers focusing on cost control and producing healthy, quality calves.

A key part of beef herd productivity is herd health which has been identified as an area of opportunity for First Nations cow calf producers. To support First Nations cow calf producers in the evaluation and adoption of herd health management practices, IAPO is once again offering the Beef Cow Herd Health Initiative. This program is intended to assist beginning beef farmers in the development of a health program for the cowherd. For existing beef producers, the BCHHI will assist with fine tuning current health practices and cover areas of herd health that are not currently undertaken. Eligible First Nation cow calf producers will have access to on farm consultations with their Veterinarian throughout the year, with cost share opportunities on appointment and treatment costs.

IAPO staff undertook a pre-program interview with enrolled participants to assess current best management practices as they pertain to beef herd health. Areas of focus were developed and determined as important to beef cow herd health management. Participating Veterinarians during their initial farm review used these areas of focus to help the producer prioritize their Vet services. These areas of focus are as follows:

- **Cow related-** Pregnancy checking of females, parasite control, vaccination program status, bull assessment, health based culling decisions, handling facilities and biosecurity.
- **General calving herd health management-** Calving area, bedding, sanitation, concerns based on history, injections given at birth, castration and dehorning, injection sites, contents for a calving kit.
- **Calf marketing-** Dehorning, castration, weaning, vaccinating, starting on dry feed.

Producer Eligibility

First Nations beef producers in Ontario and Quebec (St Regis, Snye) who are First Nation with registered Status are eligible. Eligible producers must have at least 5 cows (including cows and bred heifers) and must have owned the herd for at least 60 days before date of application into the program. Exceptions for start-ups and youth will be consider on a case by case basis.

Eligible Cost Share Expense

Eligible cost share expenses include Veterinarian call fee, time on the farm fee to a maximum of 1.5 hours per call and approved licenced veterinary products. Program participants

are eligible for up to three consultative visits/year in the 2021/2022 program year from a local veterinarian or veterinarian technician. This allows for an initial visit, as well as fall and late winter visits, prior to March 31, 2022. To qualify for 3 visits, participants must apply by September 30, 2021.

Sign Up by September 30 for Best Value!

Keep in mind costs associated with emergency Veterinarian calls like calving difficulties, respiratory illnesses and other diseases are not part of the Beef Cow Herd Health Initiative and not eligible for cost share funding. Existing herd health practices on farm are not eligible for the BCHHI, however these existing practices could be part of a Veterinarian review. A complete list of eligible Vet services expenses and best management practices is available with the application.

Cost Share Based on Herd Size

Eligible producers must apply for enrollment in the program and submit annual fee/cost share contribution with their application. Fees are based on herd size.

Apply Now!

For more information or to receive an application contact IAPO at 1-800-363-0329 or info@indianag.on.ca.

HOW MUCH HAY DO I NEED?

source: June 2019 Native Agri Update—M. Leahy

If hay is stored inside or covered we need less hay because there is less waste. If we feed with a feeder we need less because there is less waste compared to feeding on the ground. 20% loss isn't uncommon for hay stored outside and fed in a feeder!

A medium frame cow will likely need 40 lbs of hay per day to compensate for 20% waste. We will assume that the feeding period is from mid-October until mid-May. This is about 210 days. Some will feed hay much longer. Others will be able to graze later in the fall and may send cows to pasture before mid-May.

This amounts to 40 lbs/day x 210 days or 8,400 lbs of hay per cow. This is about 15 4' x 4' bales at 550 lbs per bale or 11 4' x 5' bales at 750 lbs per bale. A herd of 20 cows will need 300 smaller bales (4' x 4") or 220 larger bales. If you can reduce waste it will take less than this amount. Also hay disappears faster in colder winters.

FORAGE TESTING & BALANCED RATIONS

Good farm management includes balancing rations for beef producers. A balanced ration means the cowherd is fed according to its needs and limits waste.

For eligible farmers, IAPO is offering to take a sample of your hay and to send it to a lab for testing. This will be followed up with a ration recommendation at no charge. Contact IAPO for details or to arrange a forage test at 1-800-363-0329 or info@indianag.on.ca.

BB

Crop Information

WINTER WHEAT PLANTING DATES

sources: fielddropnews.com, Joanna Follings, GoCereals.ca

When it comes to determining your optimum planting date for your region, Ontario's Optimum Winter Wheat Planting Date map (below) is a great resource. When determining the optimum date, find your location on the map and look at the dates on the lines on either side of you. The planting date range for that region falls between those two dates. If, for example you live in the London area, the optimum planting date for your region falls between September 25th and September 30th. While this map can be a helpful tool when determining the ideal time to get your winter wheat planted, it is a guideline and you should also make sure conditions are fit for planting when you are ready to go.

Planting your winter wheat at the optimum time for your region is important as it takes time for wheat to get established and grow. The later we plant wheat, the less time and growing time we get, resulting less root growth and tillering before winter. Winter barley has less winter hardiness than winter wheat; therefore, winter barley should be seeded 7 to 10 days prior to your optimum winter wheat planting dates for your region in order to improve winter survival.

While it may come as a surprise, you can actually plant winter wheat too early due to the increased risk of snow mould,

lodging and Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV). It is generally not recommended to seed more than 10-14 days prior to the optimum date for your region.

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

source: *Regenerative Agriculture Planting the Seeds For a Healthy Ecosystem*

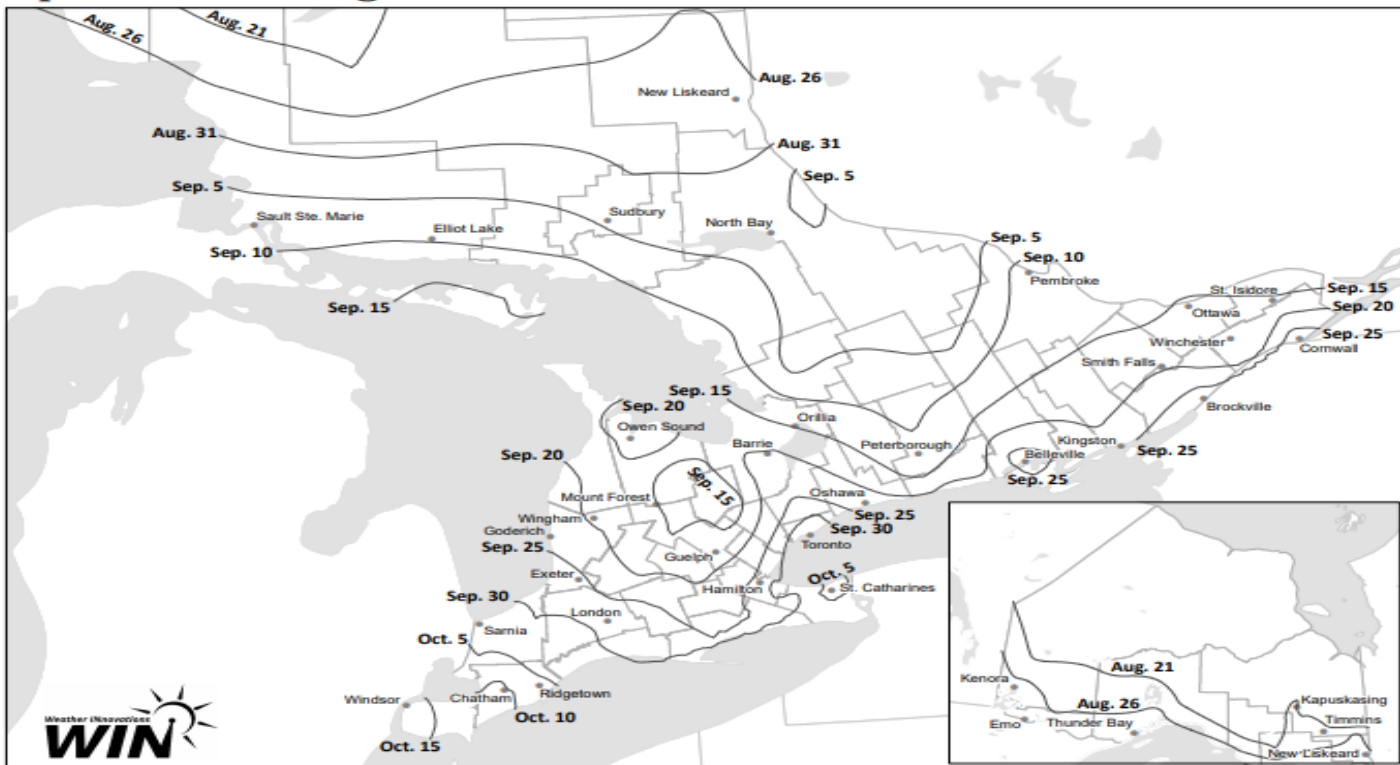
Regenerative agriculture is a growing area of interest not only farmers, but food companies as well. (McCain Foods, General Mills). Regenerative Ag's potential to improve soils and the environment, strengthen farm resiliency, as well as sequester carbon are some of the major benefits.

As Innovation Guelph's recent "Regenerative Agriculture Planting the Seeds for a Healthy Ecosystem" outlined, regenerative agriculture principles are based on mimicking nature:

1. **Reduce tillage** – protect soil structure, plant roots, and soil organisms by not disturbing their habitat.
2. **Cover the soil** – use crop residues, mulches, and cover crops to protect the soil from erosion.
3. **Keep living roots** – provide a year-round feed source for soil organisms that stabilize and store carbon.
4. **Diversify cropping systems** – improve resilience through a variety of crops with different root structures, nutrient demands, pest complexes and economic returns.
5. **Incorporate livestock manures & other organic amendments** – return natural carbon and nutrient sources back to the soil to keep it healthy.

JH

Optimum Planting Date: Winter Wheat



Other News

CANNING: A STEP BY STEP GUIDE

Sourced from *Bernardin Home Canning: Because You Can: Step by Step*,
<https://www.bernardin.ca/en/stepbystep.htm>

Home canning is very rewarding and can be a lot of fun if you take a few minutes to prepare. Review the recipe to ensure you have all the ingredients and tools.

Tools typically needed:

- Your ingredients. (Partially thawed fruits, frozen without added sugar, may be used in some home canned recipes) For best results, preserve ingredients at it's peak of freshness.
- Mason jars or freezer jars with two-piece SNAP LID® closures or freezer jars lids
- Large deep pot to prepare recipe.
- Canner - either a large deep pot fitted with a rack and lid (boiling water canner for high-acid foods)
- Designate head space for the food and jar size.
- A current, tested home canning recipe.
- A pressure canner (for low acid foods)
- Common kitchen utensils - measuring spoons and cups, long handled spoons and spatulas, a ladle or handled cup to transfer recipe to jars

Step 1: Disinfecting the Jars

Fill home canner with fresh water and heat. Visually inspect mason jars for nicks, cracks, uneven rims or sharp edges that may prevent sealing or cause breakage. Wash jars (even if new) and place on a rack in a boiling water canner. Cover jars with water heat water to simmer (180°F/82°C). Keep jars hot until ready to use. Set screw caps aside, place SNAP LID® closures in small pot of hot (but not boiling water).

Step 2: Set Up Your Filling Station

Set up your "filling station" and have your non-metallic funnel, your ladle, paper towels, tongs, measuring spoons and cups, and screw bands at the ready. Also, if making spreads, a spoon and bowl for skimming during cooking time is handy. Set clean tea towels in a place near the stove where your processed jars can rest, undisturbed, for 24 hours. Heat process ALL home canned foods (freezer spreads excepted).

Low-Acid Foods

Vegetables, meat and game, poultry, seafood, soups, stews, tomato-vegetable sauces and tomato-meat sauces are all Low Acid Foods. **All Low Acid Foods must be "heat processed" in a pressure canner** to eliminate the risk of botulism. The growth of *Clostridium botulinum* spores is prevented when filled jars of low acid foods are "heat processed" at a temperature of 240°F (116°C) for the prescribed time. **The only way for a home canner to achieve a 240°F (116°C) temperature is in a pressure canner.**

High-Acid Foods

Fruits, fruit juices, jams and jellies and other fruits spreads, pickles, salsa, chutney and tomatoes with added acid (lemon juice or vinegar) are all High Acid Foods. Boiling

water canners heat only to 212°F (100°C), the temperature of boiling water). Because *Clostridium botulinum* spores do not grow in the presence of acid, HIGH ACID Foods can be safely processed in a boiling water canner.

How to Blanche and Freeze Vegetables

"Blanching" is recommended when preparing almost all types of vegetables for freezer storage. Vegetables are placed in boiling water to partially cook them and then immediately transferred to cold water to stop the cooking process. Peppers, onions, leeks and rutabaga do not need to be blanched.

Blanching helps:

- preserve vitamins, minerals, flavour, colour and texture
- remove dirt and bacteria from vegetables

Tools and ingredients:

- large pot
- stove or hotplate
- water and ice
- freezer bags or food storage container
- strainer
- vegetables
- large bowl
- timer or watch



Steps:

1. Wash and prepare vegetables.
2. Fill half of the pot with water. Bring water to a boil, keep heat on high.
3. Place vegetables into pot. When water returns to boil, begin timing according to the vegetable blanching chart (see next page).
4. When the blanching time is done, drain boiling water from the pot.
5. Place vegetables in a bowl of cold water and ice to cool down. Cool vegetables for the same amount of time they were boiled.
6. Drain vegetables again and pat dry using a clean tea towel or paper towel.
7. Package vegetables in freezer bags or tight seal containers to prevent exposure to air and moisture loss.
8. Label packages with name of vegetable and date frozen. Use within six months for best flavour

KCM

LOW ACID FOODS – STEP BY STEP

- 1 Wash jars & lids. Place jars on rack in pressure canner; add 2-3 inches (5-8 cm) water, and heat to a simmer (180°F/82°C).


- 2 Set screw bands aside; heat SNAP LIDS^{®/MD} in hot water, NOT boiling (180°F/82°C). Keep jars and SNAP LIDS^{®/MD} hot until ready to use.


- 3 Prepare recipe. (a) Ladle food into jars leaving **1 inch (2.5 cm) headspace**, (b). (c) Using nonmetallic utensil, remove air bubbles. (d) Wipe jar rim, removing any stickiness. (e) Centre SNAP LID^{®/MD} on jar; apply screw band **securely and firmly** until resistance is met – fingertip tight. Do not overtighten.


- 4 Place jars on rack in pressure canner. Adjust water level as directed by canner manufacturer. Lock canner lid in place. Place over high heat.


- 5 Vent canner – allow steam to escape – following manufacturer’s directions.


- 6 When pressure reaches required level, begin counting processing time. Regulate heat to maintain required pressure level for your altitude. Avoid sudden or drastic changes in heat level.


- 7 When processing time is complete, turn heat off. Let canner stand undisturbed until pressure drops to zero. Wait 2 minutes longer, then remove cover, tilting cover


- 8 Remove jars without tilting. Cool jars upright, undisturbed 24 hours. Do NOT RETIGHTEN screw bands.


- 9 After cooling 24 hours, check jar seals. Sealed lids curve downward and do not move when pressed. Remove screw bands; wipe and dry bands and jars. Store screw bands separately or replace loosely on jars, as desired. Label and store jars in a cool, dark place.



HIGH ACID FOODS— STEP BY STEP

1

Wash jars & lids. Place jars on a rack in boiling water canner; cover jars with water and heat to a simmer (180°F/82°C).



2

Set screw bands aside; heat SNAP LIDS^{®/MD} in hot water, NOT boiling (180°F/82°C). Keep jars and SNAP LIDS^{®/MD} hot until ready to use.

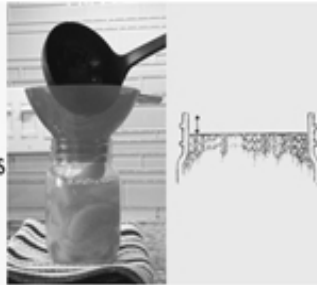


3

Prepare recipe. Ladle hot food into a hot jar leaving recommended headspace.

1/4 inch (0.5 cm) – jams & jellies

1/2 inch (1 cm) – fruit, pickles, tomatoes, chutney, relish



4

Using nonmetallic utensil, remove air bubbles. Readjust headspace if needed. Wipe jar rim removing any stickiness.



5

Centre SNAP LID^{®/MD} on jar; apply screw band **securely & firmly** until resistance is met – fingertip tight. Do not overtighten.



6

Place jar in canner. When all jars are filled, adjust hot water in canner so that jars are covered by at least 1 inch (2.5 cm) water.



7

Cover canner; bring water to a full rolling boil. Process – *boil filled jars* – for time in recipe. At altitudes higher than 1,000 ft (305 m) increase processing time (see page 12).

8

When process time has elapsed, turn heat off and remove canner lid. When boil subsides and water is still, in approximately 5 minutes, remove jars without tilting. Cool jars upright, undisturbed 24 hours. Do NOT RETIGHTEN screw bands.



9

After cooling 24 hours, check jar seals. *Sealed lids curve downward and do not move when pressed.* Remove screw bands; wipe and dry bands and jars. Store screw bands separately or replace loosely on jars, as desired. Label and store jars in a cool, dark place.

