

# **DECAS CRANBERRY**



## **CODE BOOK SUPPLEMENT For ORGANIC GROWERS 2009**

# INTRODUCTION



Dear Grower,

In order to assure that all organic growers fully understand the standards relative to the 2009 harvest season we are providing you with this codebook supplement. Although some of this information has already been shared with you we think that this format will be informative and convenient for most growers.

As always, we mention that field fruit sampling and the interpretation of resulting test data can sometimes create confusion. Please read the fruit sampling statements carefully and feel free to call us if you have any questions.

Our goal is to increase the volume of quality fruit delivered to us so we can generate the highest value possible for Decas and the grower. It seems only fair that those growers that deliver high quality fruit get paid more than growers that deliver poor quality.

Please read the information contained in the codebook supplement and as always feel free to call us with any questions.

Wishing you a successful harvest,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Decas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "C".

John C. Decas  
Chairman of the Board

# 2009 WET HARVEST FRUIT QUALITY REQUIREMENTS FOR **ORGANIC CRANBERRIES**



## FRUIT SAMPLES

We permit growers to bring fruit samples to the Receiving Station for quality testing to help them make harvesting decisions. However, growers should expect sample test information to vary from actual delivery test results as cranberries are a difficult crop from which to collect a good field sample. In order to ensure a representative sample, growers should sample multiple locations from the top of the canopy to the bog floor. Sample testing is done for grower informational purposes only and does not represent an “OK” for delivery.

## VARIETY “AMNESTY” DATES

Early Blacks	October 1
Ben Lears	October 1
Stevens	October 10
Howes	October 15

\* Please call the Carver Receiving Station for delivery dates for other varieties

## LOW COLOR

If fruit is delivered after the appropriate variety “Amnesty” dates there will be no color assessments. These dates will be strictly enforced. If deliveries are made before the variety “Amnesty” dates they will be subject to the following assessments.

TAcy	RESULTS
20 +	Eligible for organic premium payment level (with 10% rot or less)
17 - 19	Base price
16 or below	\$5.00/bbl assessment

- Fruit with low color *and* high rot will most likely be rejected
- Test is performed on delivery sample
- Assessments are calculated on packout quantity
- Assessments are applied to individual deliveries
- Low Color assessment can be applied to any variety
- ***Please be aware that pre-harvest SAMPLES may not be representative of the entire bog. Growers should sample multiple locations and give themselves a margin of error when determining date of harvest.***

## ROT AND DEBRIS

The level of rot and debris in delivered fruit will determine if organic fruit is suitable for the Decas Sweet and Dried Cranberry (SDC) program.

<b>ALL FRUIT VARIETIES</b> Combined Rot and Debris % in delivery sample	<b>RESULTS *</b>
<b>10% or lower</b>	<b>Fruit qualifies for SDC program            and premium payment level</b>
<b>Above 10% to 15%</b>	<b>Fruit qualifies for the organic            base price level</b>
<b>Over 15% to 30%</b>	<b>Rot % (weight) will be deducted            from the delivery weight and            grower will be paid base price            for balance</b>
<b>Over 30%</b>	<b>Most likely rejected</b>

***\* Organic fruit must test at or above 20 TAcY to qualify for the organic premium payment level.***

## ORGANIC FRUIT DOCUMENTATION

Growers supplying organically certified fruit to Decas Cranberry Products must supply a host of documents during the growing season to insure that their fruit production has been adequately documented for the manufacturing of fruit products which will be marketed throughout the world. Because most countries have their own organic certification standards, several different organic certification documents are required. In order to pay the highest return to the grower, Decas must be able to market their organic products into foreign markets where there is a premium return for manufactured goods.

Decas organic cranberry growers are required to supply all of the following documents in order to qualify for the organic premium payments. The forms are attached to this code book supplement and are also available for download at the Decas Cranberry Products website: [www.decascranberry.com](http://www.decascranberry.com)

1. NOP compliant certification document for current crop year.(Canadian growers may supply the Canadian organic certificate)
2. EU ECC 2092/91 certification document for current crop year
3. Fertilizer and pesticide application records
4. Contract acreage map
5. Pre-shipment inspection form.