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# Report to Producers

## 2008 Activities

Bleuets NB Blueberries is a highly effective organization that works in the best interest of all NB blueberry producers and cooperatively with all industry stakeholders to address the needs and priorities of producers.

### 1 Services to Producers

- Two newsletters (spring and fall)
- Collaboration with DAA on provincial technical sessions
  - Provincial Information Day, March 15, 2008
  - Annual Regional Meetings including technical sessions
    - April 14, 2008 Moncton
    - April 17, 2008 Tracadie
    - April 26, 2008 St. George
- Advance Payment Program – 5 producers (\$162,359)
- Open House in Tracadie, May 13, 2008, in partnership with Department of Agriculture and Aquaculture, Department of Health and Department of the Environment
- Provincial Field Day, McKay's Blueberries, July 19, 2008
- WBANA Symposium, October 31 – November 1, 2008, Moncton, NB
- Strategic Planning Kitchen Meetings
  - November 12, 2008 Tracadie
  - November 20, 2008 St. George
  - November 27, 2008 Moncton
- Preparation of research summary document, Maritime initiative
- Maintain bilingual web site, [www.nbwildblue.ca](http://www.nbwildblue.ca)
  - Newsletters / technical abstracts / meeting activities

### 2 Administrative / Industry Activities

- Board Meetings & Conference Calls
    - December 5, 2007                      January 28, 2008 (cc)
    - January 16, 2008                      February 19, 2008 (cc)
    - March 14, 2008 (Moncton)          April 21, 23, 2008 (cc)
    - May 2, 2008                              October 2, 2008 (cc)
    - July 11, 2008
    - September 22, 2008
  - Alliance AGM presentation, January 24, 2008
  - Farm Products Commission, annual review, March 12, 2008
  - Agricultural Summit, March 3-4, 2008 (also pre-summit meetings)
  - Canadian Horticultural Council AGM, March 7 - 8, 2008
  - WBANA Board meetings and conference calls
  - Maritime Blueberry Meeting, April 29, 2008 (BNBB hosted)
  - Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture and Aquaculture, May 7, 2008
  - Agriculture Canada one-day training for APP, April 22, 2008
  - WBPANS Field Day, July 26, 2008
  - CHC Blueberry Working Group, July 30 (cc), October 29 (cc)
  - CHC working session in Moncton, August 11, 2008
  - Ecological Goods and Services consultations
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## 3 Research

Bleuets NB Blueberries recognizes the importance of ongoing, innovative production research that allows producers to improve their operations and the industry as a whole to remain competitive in the global market. To support the industry wide research agenda BNBB engages and supports the following:

### 1 BNBB Research Committee

- Russell Weir, chair of the research committee, engages in priority setting meetings with Department of Agriculture and Aquaculture officials. Russell keeps the board informed of upcoming initiatives and works with NB producers to generate ideas for research projects.

### 2 BNBB Pollination Committee

- Benoit Savoie chairs the pollination committee. The committee works with the New Brunswick Beekeepers Association and other pollination providers to develop strategies to support a strong pollination industry.

### 3 Canadian Wild Blueberry Industry Research and Development Institute

- CWBIRDI is located in Debert, Nova Scotia and works on behalf of the Canadian wild blueberry industry to take on specific projects and to communicate research to producers. BNBB supports CWBIRDI with a budget allocation and is represented on the board of directors. The 2008 budget allocation was \$4000.

### 4 NSAC Entomology Research Chair

- The New Brunswick Agricultural Council supports the Entomology Research Chair at NSAC with ACAAF funds.

### 5 Insect Research

- Developing a flea beetle population and management protocol for future control and forecasting of population development. Verifying existing thresholds established by the industry.

### 6 Weed Trials

- Facilitating funding for the following research trials through the Canada/ New Brunswick Embracing Innovation in Agriculture and Agri-Food Program under the project entitled “Enhancing Weed Management in New Brunswick Lowbush Blueberry Production”.

### Innovative Herbicides and Tank-mixes

- 2007-2008: Evaluation of innovative herbicides applied in the spring of the sprout year in wild blueberries (Northeast)
- 2008: Evaluation of spring herbicide application for lambkill, rhodora and bracken fern control in wild blueberries (Northeast)
- 2008: Evaluation of fluazifop, mesotrione and tank mixes for grass weed control in the cropping year of wild blueberries (Southwest)
- 2008: Evaluation of sethoxydim, mesotrione and tank mixes for poverty oatgrass control in the cropping year of wild blueberries (Southwest)
- 2008-Ongoing: Evaluation on hexazinone, terbacil, mesotrione and tank mixes applied in the spring of the sprout year for grass and broadleaf weed control in wild blueberries (Southwest)



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### Fall Herbicides

- **2006-2008:** Evaluation of fall herbicide application followed by hexazinone application in the spring for lambkill and rhodora control in wild blueberries (Northeast)
- **2006-2008:** Evaluation of fall application of group four herbicides in addition to tank mixes of 2,4-D ester for lambkill and rhodora control in wild blueberries (Northeast)
- **2007-Ongoing:** Evaluation of fall herbicide application for lambkill and rhodora control in wild blueberries followed by fall or spring pruning (Northeast)
- **2008-Ongoing:** Evaluation of fall applications of dicamba, glyphosate and tank mixes for lambkill and rhodora control in wild blueberries (Northeast)
- **2008-Ongoing:** Evaluation of fall glyphosate application in combination with sprout year hexazinone timing for lambkill control in wild blueberries (Northeast)
- **2008-Ongoing:** Evaluation of the rate effect of fall application of dicamba, 2,4-D ester and tank mixes for lambkill and rhodora control in wild blueberries (Northeast)

### Sheep Sorrel Management

- **2006-2008:** Evaluation of fall herbicide applications after pruning for sheep sorrel control in wild blueberries (Southeast)
- **2007-2008:** Evaluation of spring applied, sprout-year herbicides for sheep sorrel control in wild blueberries (Southeast)

## 4 Promotion

- **WBANA contribution** (2007 crop) \$51,103.17
- **Feast in the Field**, September 7, 2008 at the Riverside Resort and Conference Centre. Involved participation of businesses, corporate sponsors and local chefs to offer an afternoon of food, drink and entertainment. The event is a fundraiser for the Canadian Paraplegic Association (NB) Inc. and is an excellent opportunity to raise local awareness of the goodness and tastiness of wild blueberries. BNBB thanks Russell and Bonnie Weir of MacKay's Blueberries for their generous donation of blueberry pies for this event.





## Project Revenue and Expenses 2009

	Revenue	Expenses
WBANA Symposium	63,996	59,628
Flea Beetle	11,142	11,142
Communicating Research	26,532	23,776
Assessment & efficiency in Wild Blueberry Production System	16,310	15,102
Technical Training to Growers	3,632	3,476
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,612</b>	<b>113,124</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>8,488</b>	

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Northeast Region

Joseph Savoie 395-4068  
 ► Vice Chair, Board of Directors  
 Benoit Savoie 776-4432  
 ► Chair, Pollination Committee  
 Gail Savoie Doucet 395-3734

#### Southwest Region

Graham Hooper 755-6615  
 Richard Taylor 755-2104  
 Russell Weir 755-6001  
 ► Chair, Research Committee

#### Southeast Region

Stuart Bowman 532-4318  
 Arden Woodworth 882-2550  
 Kathy Trueman 536-8995  
 ► Chair, Board of Directors

Producers are invited to call their local board members with any ideas, questions, and comments they may have concerning the agency **Bleuets NB Blueberries**, upcoming activities, and the work of the board. Please remember that at the annual regional meetings one board member will be elected in each region for a three year term. We please ask producers to consider serving for a term on the board. If you would like more details please call the office at (506) 459-2583 or toll free at 1-866-840-2583.

#### Office Hours

The hours of operation for the office located at 1350 Regent Street in Room 247 of the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre are: Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 4:30. Producers are invited to stop by the office when they are in Fredericton.

#### Bleuets NB Blueberries

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