



# 2022/23 HAZELNUT RENEWAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS SPRING PLANTING -REMOVAL

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### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Karina Sakalauskas, Industry Specialist, Emerging Markets  
B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries  
Phone: 778-666-0587  
Email: [AGRI.HazelnutRenewal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AGRI.HazelnutRenewal@gov.bc.ca)

## INTRODUCTION

The B.C. Hazelnut Renewal Program is a cost-sharing funding program which is intended to revitalize, regenerate and increase the competitiveness of the B.C. hazelnut industry in local and global markets. This program is being delivered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries with input from the BC Hazelnut Growers Association.

## PROGRAM GOALS AND PRIORITIES

The goal of the Hazelnut Renewal Program is to mitigate the spread of Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB) by removing infected trees and to increase the amount of acreage planted with new-disease resistant trees.

The priority for 2022/23 is to provide cost-share funding for eligible hazelnut fields that have been removed, planted, or will be planted in 2022. Successful applicants will be reimbursed for a portion of their plant/removal costs following planting/removal and a satisfactory field inspection.

## FUNDING AVAILABLE

### A. NEW HAZELNUT PLANTINGS

The planting of new, disease-resistant hazelnut orchards will be funded at \$5.00 per tree to a maximum eligibility of \$13,450 per farm operation.

Example:

- Double density: 218 trees per acre (10' x 20' / 3m x 6m) or 269 (9' x 18' / 2.7m x 5.4m)
- Single density: 108 trees per acre (20' x 20' / 6m x 6m) or 134 (18' x 18' / 5.4m x 5.4m)

### B. REMOVAL OF EFB INFECTED HAZELNUT TREES

A maximum of \$1,800/acre will be available to applicants who remove hazelnut trees from orchards infected with Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB). When applying for Removal Funding, the applicant must indicate this on the application and should follow the [Guidelines for Removal and Disposal of EFB infected orchards](#).

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order to be eligible to receive funding under the Hazelnut Renewal Program for 2022/23, 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.

Note: See eligibility criteria according to the type of funding: A: Hazelnut New Planting and Renewal Funds; and B: Removal of EFB Infected

### Hazelnut Trees Funds

#### NEW HAZELNUT PLANTINGS (A)

##### 1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- The applicant must be a new or existing hazelnut grower in the province of British Columbia.
- The applicant must be the owner or lessee of the land to be planted.

##### 2. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- Applicants must be planting EFB-resistant varieties. For the purposes of this program, eligible hazelnut trees are defined as hazelnut varieties released by the Oregon State University hazelnut breeding

program that have resistance to EFB. The complete list of eligible OSU hazelnut varieties is provided in Appendix A.

- The planting occurred or will occur between **March 2022 and June 1, 2022**.
- The planned planting site must be in British Columbia.
- The owner (and in the case of leased property, both the owner and the lessee), must maintain the property as a commercial orchard operation for a period of at least 10 years from the date of replanting.
- Planting stock must have been ordered from a commercial nursery that have followed the instructions of the [CFIA Directive "D-00-03: Import requirements from the United States and domestic movement requirements for material to prevent the introduction of Eastern filbert blight into British Columbia](#).
- The minimum eligible acreage per applicant for planting new orchards in 2022/23 is **1 acre**. If the project includes an expansion of an existing hazelnut orchard, then the total contiguous area of the existing and new orchard must be at least 1 acre. The intention of the program is to support renewal projects that are larger than 1 acre.
- The maximum eligible acreage for 2022/23 planting is **10 acres for double density planting** (maximum 269 trees/acre) or single density planting and **20 acres exclusively for single density planting** (maximum 134 trees/acre) per farm operation.
- Support and irrigation system must be installed and completed at planting time.

## REMOVAL OF EFB INFECTED HAZELNUT TREES (B)

### 1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- The applicant must be a new or existing hazelnut grower in the province of British Columbia.
- The applicant must be the owner or lessee of the land to be planted.

### 2. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- The removal occurred or will occur between **March 2022 and June 30, 2022**.
- The removal site must be in British Columbia.
- The minimum eligible acreage per applicant for removal of EFB infected hazelnut trees in 2022/23 is **1 acre**.
- The maximum eligible acreage per applicant for removal of EFB infected hazelnut trees in 2022/23 is **10 acres**.

***The following types of projects are not eligible for consideration:***

- a. Interplantings in existing orchards (planting young trees between each existing tree in the row).
- b. Planting of hazelnut varieties that are not resistant to EFB
- c. Purchasing hazelnut planting stock not in accordance with the [CFIA Directives D-00-03](#)
- d. Planting of hazelnut varieties that are not suitable for the growing conditions in B.C.

## APPLICATIONS

### 3. APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINES

Applications will be accepted from **February 2, 2022 to March 28, 2022**. If additional years of funding become available, application timelines will be posted on the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries (the "Ministry") website.

Completed applications can be submitted in two ways:

1. By email no later than **4:30 p.m. Pacific Time** March 28, 2022 to: [AGRI.HazelnutRenewal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AGRI.HazelnutRenewal@gov.bc.ca) or
2. By mail arriving no later than **4:30 p.m. Pacific Time** on March 28, 2022 to:

ATTN: Hazelnut Renewal 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.

#### 4. APPLICATION PROCESS AND FORMS

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

##### Hazelnut New Planting/Renewal (A)

- A completed and signed 2022/23 Hazelnut Renewal Program Application Form.
- A complete and accurate map of the farm showing location of new planting/renewal, layout of cultivars (including pollinizers), location of irrigation water source and road access to the field. A city webmap or satellite image is preferred.
- A copy of the soil test results from the planting site taken in the previous 3 years.
- A copy of the nursery tree order (nursery confirmation of tree order or copy of root stock purchase).
- Photos of the field site showing soil and irrigation water source.
- Confirmation of ownership/lease of the land.

##### Removal of EFB Infected Hazelnut Trees (B)

- A complete and accurate map of the farm showing location of removal, and road access to the field. A city webmap or satellite image is preferred.
- A confirmation of ownership/lease of the land.
- A cost estimate for contaminated orchard destruction by a recognized contractor.
- A copy of the business license of a recognized contractor. Contractor must have been in business for at least one year.
- A burn permit issued by the local fire marshal.

**The application deadline is March 28, 2022 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 (ARC) comprised of hazelnut 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 April 5, 2022, and the Ministry will select projects within 10 days.

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

1. Likelihood of project success;
  - a. Strength and quality of new planting or removal plan.
  - b. Applicant has horticultural experience growing crops (of any type) on a commercial scale
  - c. Applicant has demonstrated initiative in seeking agronomic advice
2. Horticultural soundness
  - a. Variety selected: Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB) resistant varieties suitable for field site and growing conditions
  - b. Pre-plant soil analysis completed
  - c. Field preparation activities completed
  - d. Tree spacing appropriate for variety and location;

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 mid-April to inform them of the funding decision. Approved applicants will receive an approval letter listing the details of their new planting/renewal or removal 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.

Field inspections will take place in August/September 2022. Applicants must report any planting/removal 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 by August 2022 to arrange for a field inspection.

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

#### NEW HAZELNUT PLANTINGS (A)

- 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. Measure field area;
- e. Assess plant quality in terms of overall health;
- f. Assess whether a support system/trellising is in place;
- g. Ensure permanent irrigation system is installed;
- h. Ensure support system is completed and trees are tied; and
- i. Take photos

#### REMOVAL OF EFB INFECTED HAZELNUT TREES (B)

- a. Verify that infected trees have been removed following the guidelines for removal and disposal of EFB infected orchards.
- b. Assess the disposal methods implemented;
- c. Assess quality of removal

In order to receive payment the project must be completed to the satisfaction of the Ministry as per the Hazelnut Renewal 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 trees per project.
  - b. the allocated maximum number of acres per farm operation.
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 Hazelnut Renewal Program.

## APPENDIX A: HAZELNUT VARIETIES ELIGIBLE FOR NEW PLANTING/REMOVAL

### OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY (OSU)-Hazelnut Varieties with the Gasaway Gene for Resistance to Eastern Filbert Blight

- Dorris
- Jefferson
- McDonalds
- Yamhill
- Wepster
- Eta\*
- Felix\*
- Gamma\*
- Theta\*
- York\*

\* Shaded varieties have been released as pollinizers

#### NOTE:

- [Additional varieties from Oregon State University](#) may be available in B.C. Check with your nursery.
- If the OSU resistant to EFB 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

- **Hazelnut Reference Guide**

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/programs/hazelnut-renewal/hazelnut\\_ref\\_final.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/programs/hazelnut-renewal/hazelnut_ref_final.pdf)

- **Guidelines for Removal/Disposal of hazelnut Orchards Infected with Eastern Filbert Bligh**

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/programs/hazelnut-renewal/hazelnut\\_efb\\_tree\\_disposal\\_report\\_mctavish\\_final.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/programs/hazelnut-renewal/hazelnut_efb_tree_disposal_report_mctavish_final.pdf)

- **Oregon State University Extension Service: Hazelnuts Growing Hazelnuts in the Pacific Northwest Hazelnut**

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/produce-forage/nuts/growing-hazelnuts-pacific-northwest>

- **Growing Hazelnuts in the Pacific Northwest: Hazelnut Varieties**

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/em9073.pdf>

- **Growing Hazelnuts in the Pacific Northwest: Orchard Design**

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9077/html>  
<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/em9077.pdf>

- **OMAFRA-Guide to Hazelnut Production in Ontario**

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/em9073.pdf>

- **CFIA Directives D-00-03**

<http://epe.lac-bac.gc.ca/100/206/301/cfia-acia/2011-09-21/www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/protect/dir/d-00-03e.shtml>