



*Long-Term Thinking
for Today's Issues*

Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario

7660 Mill Rd., RR4 Guelph, Ontario N1H 6J1

Voice (519) 837-1620 Fax (519) 824-1835

E-mail: cfomail@christianfarmers.org

Web site: www.christianfarmers.org

Hon. Gerry Ritz
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

June 3, 2009

Hon. Leona Dombrowsky
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Hon. Gerry Ritz & Hon. Leona Dombrowsky:

Re: Producer Choice of tier one Agri-stability or Agri-Invest

The Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario (CFFO) is concerned with the impact that the change from Agri-stability tier one to Agri-Invest is having on those producers that are currently suffering from weak market prices.

The two programs serve different purposes, each complimenting each other in forming a strong safety net for Canada's food producers. Agri-stability provides support for producers that are suffering from below average market prices. Agri-Invest provides producers with savings for unexpected expenses and to make investments in new technologies, improving the long-run competitiveness of Canada's agriculture sector.

The CFFO recommends that producers have the choice of receiving the better of the two support payment measures, maximizing the positive effect for producers that are either facing weak markets or those saving for future investment.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Regards,

Henry Stevens, President
Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario