

Monday November 21

Grant Harrison:

To Brine or Not to Brine

OVERVIEW OF LIQUID BRINE

An introduction to liquid brine for owners and operations managers looking to invest in brine in their winter operations.

Jim Hole:

Jim grew up in his family's business that evolved from a small mixed farm to an ultra-modern 200,000 square foot greenhouse/garden centre facility. Jim will take us on the family's journey from farm gate sales to the sale of the business and all the complex family dynamics along that path. Jim will also share important lessons learned on how independent garden centres can differentiate themselves and compete with the chain stores.

Tim Webster:

Vulnerability of Nova scotia's coast today and in the future with climate change

With ongoing sea-level rise, our province is at an increased risk of coastal flooding and erosion from any given storm. This problem will only get worse with climate change. The presentation will explore new technologies Nova Scotia is leveraging to map vulnerability and how we can ensure a more resilient Nova Scotia in the future.

Laura Anderson:

Weeds ID & Control Tactics

This presentation will provide a profile for problematic turf and lawncare weeds in the Atlantic region. This will include weed identification tips, lifecycle classifications, and tools to develop a weed management program. Weed control tactics will include chemical herbicides, and how to select the right one, as well as other integrated weed management (IWM) practices suitable for the green industry.

Paul Brydges:

Climate change and how designers are the first contact in that strategy from government to site implementation.

Tracey MacKenzie:

Wednesday, November 22

Jim Hole:

Integrated Pest Management

Pest control in Greenhouses and other Controlled Environment Facilities is complicated. New pests arrive, and many pest control products that once provided excellent control no longer work. Integrated Pest Management is a multifaceted approach to pest control and essential to understand in a world where ecological issues are top of mind and the constant emergence of new pest problems. Jim is a certified pesticide applicator and consults with the CEA industry on IPM solutions and will share important lessons that he has learned on keeping pests under control.

Grant Harrison:

Let It Snow

TACTICAL SNOW PLANNING

Drawing on his 30+ years of experience with snow operations, Grant talks about equipment purchasing and maintenance, health and safety training, standard operating procedures, recruiting and training, route management, site engineering and preparation, customer engagement and contract renewals, and budgeting and strategic planning.

Jim Hole:

Fine Tuning the Grow Environment

Maximizing the return on investment begins with ensuring the best performance from all plants in their respective CEA environments. From greenhouse benches to highly automated vertical farms, Jim will share the pros of cons of what he has seen in various CEA facilities.

Gavin Carnegie:

Seed production areas of North America, Grass Seed Guidelines and Species Characteristics

I will be discussing seed production areas of North America for the common species that are utilized in Eastern Canada, Kentucky Bluegrass, Perennial Ryegrass, Fine Fescues and Tall Fescue. During the 2nd portion we will be discussing grass seed guidelines germination days & establishment for the common species utilized in Eastern Canada, seed sizing, and the main characteristics of these main species.

Peter Duinker:

The talk will highlight the major challenges to trees in towns and cities as the 21st-century climate continues to change. New directions for urban forest management in this region are identified.

Jeff MacAloon:

Commercial Solar Energy in Atlantic Canada, Maximizing your business return

With a global push towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions and recent improvements in federal tax incentives, businesses all over the Maritime Provinces are looking at the adoption of solar energy. While this technology has been around for several decades, there are still many questions about how this approach can help businesses in Eastern Canada. Do we have enough sunlight in this part of the world? What about all the snow we get? Is it better to install solar on my roof or on the ground? How long will a solar installation produce electricity for? How do I navigate all the tax incentives and rebates to really understand what my return on investment will be?

The Smart Energy Company has installed over half of the grid tied solar in the Province of New Brunswick and has been focused on the agricultural sector since its inception in 2016. We'll discuss the myths and facts related to solar in the Maritimes and we'll simplify the new federal incentives related to renewable energy.

Gordon Johansen:

Irrigation & Sustainable Water Use for Lawns & Landscapes

As Canada's population continues to grow and the extreme effects of climate change are just becoming apparent, more vigilance will be needed in managing our water resources. This is especially true in urban areas where opposing demands on these resources will force us to justify the use of water for lawns and landscapes.

Some topics that will be discussed to address these needs include:

- innovative irrigation products
- water conserving design
- conducting water audits