28- Southpoint Sun Wednesday, July 28, 2021



Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers have a wide variety of tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers to fit your family's taste buds! Because greenhouse produce is grown in a protected environment, fruits and vegetables normally restricted to certain seasons and areas can be grown. Many of our farms have rows of plants dedicated to developing new and exciting varieties that may one day find their way to store shelves and restaurant plates.

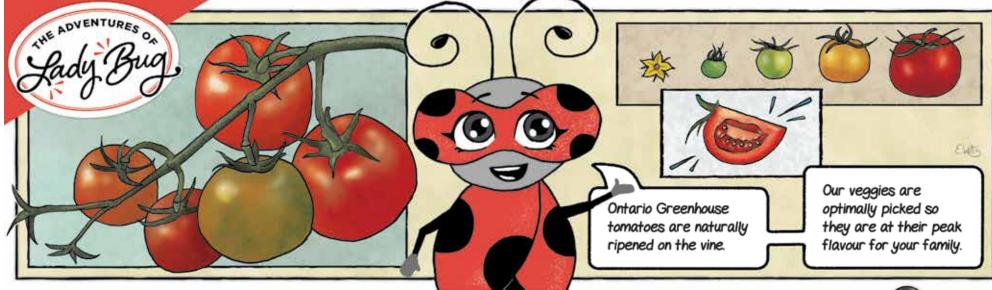
Over the years, our growers have helped in the expansion of new varieties that we now see in your favourite grocery stores. These include a colourful array of snacking cherry and grape tomatoes, each

boasting their own unique size, shape and flavour profile! You can even find mini and micro cucumbers and sweet peppers from mini to long.

Many farms are expanding the crops that are normally found in a greenhouse and are now growing herbs, greens and even berries!

All over North America consumers look to Ontario greenhouse growers for innovative new flavours from healthy and nutritious produce that fit any families' needs. Whether sauce-making or on-thego snacking, Ontario greenhouse farmers have you covered, ensuring the perfect product is available throughout the year.





Charity Spotlight: CASHISKING 50/50 RAFFLE

In support of Erie Shores Hospice, OGVG proudly supports this summer's Hogs4Hospice 'Cash is King' 50/50 draw! This Saturday, July 31st they are also hosting a poker run to further raise funds. Keep a look out at local restaurants for our

'Costers and Posters' promotion, and consider purchasing for a chance to win! Tickets can be purchased as easily as scanning the QR code or by visiting www.

hogsforhospice.com.

Since its inception in 2016, the Erie Shores Hospice has been able to help over 500 local residents and families, by dramatically improving end of life care in Essex County, and is home to over 400 volunteers.



Scan this QR code to buy tickets directly



OGVG FARMER PROFILES H&A Mastronardi



H&A Mastronardi has always striven to stay on the cutting edge of greenhouse growing technology and has remained an important player in the Ontario greenhouse vegetable market thanks to this drive for innovation.

Brothers, Albert & Rudy Mastronardi are third-generation greenhouse growers, having taken over the farm from their father, Henry Mastronardi and grandfather, Alberico Mastronardi before him. When H&A got their start farming in the late 50s they were growing lettuce and potatoes outdoors as a field farm. As greenhouse farming started gaining popularity internationally, H&A made the switch to growing indoors and put up their first greenhouse in the 1960s. Initially, H&A was growing pink beefsteak tomatoes in soil inside their greenhouse - a staple

variety of tomatoes. By the late 90s, H&A Mastronardi was also growing tomatoes-on-the-vine that are still very popular today. Their ability to adapt and remain

conscious of consumer's needs and desires has been one of the main traits that's helped H&A to see continued success over the years of operation. Today, H&A grows primarily specialty tomatoes of various colours for

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the snacking tomato segment. To learn more about how H&A farms today, check out our Farmer Profile at OGVG Connect.

https://www.ogvgconnect.com/grower-profiles/handamastronardi











