

July 19, 2005

AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION FIELD DAY

WHITEHORSE – The public is invited to the Yukon Agriculture branch’s Research and Demonstration Field Day July 21.

“This is a great opportunity for the public to see firsthand the projects and research that branch staff have undertaken as part of our continued effort to encourage the growth and stability of the Yukon’s agriculture sector,” Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Archie Lang said.

The event is open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with a presentation by staff at noon. The Research and Demonstration site is at the Gunnar Nilsson and Mickey Lammers Research Forest, which is located on the left hand side of the North Klondike Highway heading north, just before the Hotsprings Road. A map is available at www.emr.gov.yk.ca/agriculture/new.html.

“The Yukon’s agricultural industry is important to our communities and our economy,” Lang said. “There is definitely potential for the industry to grow, improve and provide a greater range of products for Yukon people, further diversifying our economy.”

The agriculture industry is seeing increasing activity with the announcement this spring of a number of new programs that are available to Yukon agriculture producers through the Canada-Yukon Agricultural Policy Framework. These programs assist producers to enhance their businesses in the areas of economic growth and viability, food safety and quality, environmental sustainability, business development and science and innovation.

More information about the Yukon's agriculture industry is available in the new Yukon Agriculture 2002-2004 State of the Industry Report, which provides a description of agricultural programs, services and policies administered by the governments of Yukon and Canada. The report also summarizes private and non-government initiatives. Copies of the report are available at the Agriculture branch or online at www.emr.gov.yk.ca/agriculture/new.html.

For more information contact the branch (867) 667-5838 or toll free 1-800-661-0408 ext. 5838.

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