

Summer's here and so are the wild roses! Photo: Kirsten Scott



The Plough Boy

A quarterly newsletter of the Yukon Agricultural Association

July 2013

FARM PRODUCTS & SERVICES BOOKLET

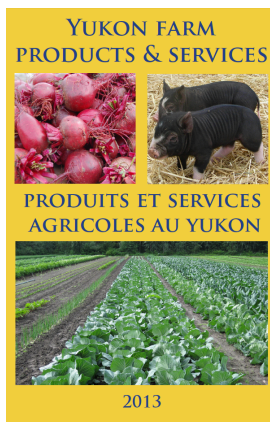
The YAA is very pleased to announce that copies of the **2013 Yukon Farm Products & Services** directory booklet are now available from our office!

Please come in to pick one up for yourself and a few to share with interested folks. A big thanks to all farmers, gardeners and businesses who contributed content/photos.

If you have a business and would like to display some booklets, please let us know and we can provide you with a batch.

Additionally, if you live outside of Whitehorse but will be in town sometime soon and are able to take some books back to your community to put in a central public location, we can give you some for this purpose.

The information in the guide is also available online at www.yukonfarmproducts.ca. The YAA is looking to update this website in the coming months, so if you missed being listed in the directory, please advise and we can work towards including your farm or garden business.



SPEAKER SERIES: HASKAPS

Sat July 27: 9am-noon at the High Country Inn, followed by farm visits in the afternoon. Speaker is Carl Barber of Northern Light Orchards in Birch Hills SK who has been growing haskaps since 2008 and has 10 acres in production for U-pick, retail and wholesale markets. Carl has experience from the small scale to the large scale and from the production through to marketing.



Carl Barber in his Northern Light Orchards, Sask.

Please let us know if you would like Carl and workshop attendees to visit your farm and we will arrange the tour! Respond by Fri July 19 to the YAA office to be part of the field visit tour. Contact admin@yukonag.ca or 668-6864 for details or if you want to be on the tour.

In the afternoon we are looking to visit farms that either have planted/are interested in haskaps to cover practical aspects of production. Several farm visits in the same area may be possible.

FOOD SYSTEM DESIGN PROJECT SURVEY

As part of ongoing work by researchers at Kwantlen Polytechnic University on the **Yukon Food Systems Design and Planning Project**, a Territory-wide survey of Yukon farmers is being conducted this summer.

To support the project goals of growing Yukon's agriculture sector and improving Yukon's food security, we are aiming to capture as much information as possible about the current state of farming in the Yukon. Kirsten Scott, who is working on the project as the Agriculture-Industry Liaison, will be contacting you soon to **request your participation in a survey**.

Recognizing that this is a busy time of year, there are many ways to complete the survey (over the phone, online, or by mail) and a \$50 gift certificate to one of a selection of Yukon farm supply stores is being offered to all the farmers who do so.

Stay tuned for more information on this in the coming weeks and as always, any questions about the project can be directed to Kent Mullinix at kent.mullinix@kpu.ca or (604) 612-252.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: AG EVENTS!

- **Fri July 5:** YAA Board of Directors planning session
- **July 8-11:** YAA office closed
- **July 15-19:** Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Summit & Cross Border Livestock Health Conference in Anchorage AK
- **Fri July 26:** YYF Potluck BBQ Zakus Farms
- **Sat July 27:** YAA Speaker Series - haskap berries at High Country Inn
- **Sat Aug 17:** 2nd Annual Tagish Harvest Fair hosted by Tagish Community Market Society
- **Late Sept:** Tourism Yukon Food, Farms & Festivals Culinary Tourism Forum
- **Sept 29-Oct 3:** Circumpolar Agriculture Conference in Girdwood, AK

2013 CIRCUMPOLAR AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE IN ALASKA

The YAA is pleased to announce that it will be making oral and poster presentations at the Circumpolar Agriculture Conference in Girdwood Alaska (Sept 29-Oct3). This is the 8th conference and it is held every 3 years. The first conference was hosted by the YAA back in 1992 and since the conference has been held in Iceland, Norway, Newfoundland and Alaska.

This year's theme is "advancing food security and sustainable agriculture in the circumpolar north" and "building an integrated vision, creating a process for sustainable food security in northern communities." Barriers and challenges will be discussed to and develop solutions and opportunities across key critical areas, such as food production; food access and distribution systems; sustainable practices; land use planning; and food policy and food safety issues. A tentative program is available online here: <http://www.uaf.edu/cac/program>.

If you are interested in attending, funding is available through Growing Forward 2 (via the Yukon Government Agriculture Branch) and the application deadline has been extended to July 10. The GF2 application form is available on the Agriculture Branch website: www.agriculture.gov.yk.ca or call 867-667-5838 for more information.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION SUMMIT

The YAA will be represented at the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Summit from July 15-19. The summit encompasses the Cross Border Livestock Health Conference agenda. Please find the agenda online at <http://www.cblhconference.com/pdf/2013-agenda.pdf> and provide any input or questions you would like the YAA to take to the conference by 4pm Friday July 12.

FARM EQUIPMENT RENTAL FOR 2013

Please book YAA farm equipment and event tents (there is now a trailer to transport the tents) through the YAA office.

Renters can phone the office to make a booking or check the online calendar (at <http://www.yukonag.ca/equipment.cfm>) for equipment availability. Equipment caretakers can still make same-day rentals when the equipment is free and notify the office that these have taken place.

If you want to rent the YAA farm equipment or tents in 2013, please call the office first at (867) 668 6864.

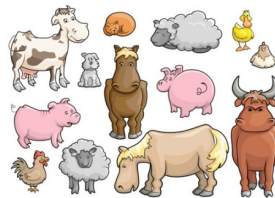
YUKON YOUNG FARMERS BBQ

Friday July 26th will be a potluck BBQ! AYYF executive meeting is scheduled for 4:30, with potluck BBQ dinner afterwards at Zakus Farms (call us for instructions, 668-6864). Inclement weather "plan b" is Three Slaves Farm. All YYYF members and families invited! Come out and meet local young farmers, share some information and socialise! Please bring lawn chairs and swimsuits for



YAA BROCHURE

Submit your farming photos for consideration! The YAA is updating its brochure promoting both the organization and Yukon agriculture and we're looking for digital photos to include in this publication - images should be high resolution, in focus and of Yukon farming, cropping or gardening content. Please contact the YAA office for a publication



TOURISM YUKON - FOOD, FARMS AND FESTIVALS: A CULINARY TOURISM FORUM

Tourism Yukon (TY) will be hosting a one-day educational tourism forum at Yukon College in late Sept. This event is intended to attract Yukon food suppliers, restaurateurs, caterers and tour operators to learn about the importance of local foods to our visitor's experience, how culinary experiences can be created and promoted, how farms develop and benefit from agri-tourism, and what the key ingredients to a successful culinary event are. Keynote presenters along with local experts will share their knowledge. Lunch will be catered by local chefs in partnership with Yukon College staff and students to create a gastronomic dining experience.

TY knows that peak-growing season is just around the corner so are encouraging you to take some pictures of your harvest or bring along some samples and take advantage of this event to meet potential new partners in an effort to grow culinary tourism experiences across the territory. TY will be updating you periodically regarding the confirmed date and presenters.

In the meantime if you have any questions please contact Shannon McNevin, Tourism Yukon - Industry Services. Phone: 867-667-8723 or e-mail Shannon.mcnevin@gov.yk.ca.

Contact Us

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NOTES

- ▶ The **YAA membership** year runs Apr 1 - Mar 31. If your membership has expired you're always welcome to re-join at the office (cash or cheque) or online. Thanks for your support!
- ▶ The **local farm products** listing for YAA members on our website blog will be updated weekly again in the coming months. E-mail or phone the office anytime to get YOUR information posted at <http://www.yukonag.ca/Blog/index.cfm> (reminders emails for listings will be sent out). As always, please feel free to share the farm products blog with anyone you think may be interested.
- ▶ Want to be our next **guest columnist**? Contact us with your ideas!
- ▶ Please send in **photos, updates and information** for the gallery section of the website and the Plough Boy quarterly newsletter!

CLASSIFIEDS

Lettuce, radishes, Swiss Chard & baby beet greens for sale. Sale price for leafy vegetables \$2.00 a bag, or dozen radishes. Must go. There is leaf lettuce, Cos lettuce & muscelan lettuce. Rhubarb will be \$1.00 a pound. Call 332-3771 or email Dorothy Bradley for orders at bradleyd@klondiker.com.

YAA MAYO ROAD LAND UPDATE

There is some firewood available on the YAA lease land. It was wind-rowed this March when the fence line was cleared. Please contact the office for more details about obtaining this wood: 668-6864 or admin@yukonag.com



YAA leased land on the Mayo Road. Photo: Kirsten Scott