



Haskaps at Little Fox Farm, owned by Jerry and Shari Heal. Photo: Jodi Crewe



The Plough Boy

A quarterly newsletter of the Yukon Agricultural Association

September 2013

MAYO ROAD LAND UPDATE

The YAA has received funding from Growing Forward 2 to fence the Mayo Road Land. There are currently two tenders open for this work:

1. Clean up of the old fence lines. This involves piling and burning the wind-rowed brush, and discing and planting the cleared area.
2. Building the new 4 strand barbwire fence around the property.

If you are interested in submitting an application to tender please contact the YAA office for more details on either project or visit the blog section of the YAA website at <http://www.yukonag.ca/Blog/index.cfm>. The tenders close at 10.30am on Aug 30, 2013.

There will be viewing day on the land Aug 29th at 1.00pm. Please confirm your attendance by calling 668-6864 or emailing admin@yukonag.ca.

A road access way is also currently under construction at the land.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: AG EVENTS!

- **Wed Sept 11**: YAA Away Meeting
- **Sept 29-Oct 3**: Circumpolar Agriculture Conference, Girdwood, AK
- **Fri Oct 11**: Food, Farms & Festivals Culinary Tourism Forum hosted by Tourism Yukon, Whitehorse
- **Fri Nov 1 & Sat Nov 2**: North of 60° Agriculture Conference & Banquet, Whitehorse **STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!**

YAA "AWAY" MEETING

The 2013 YAA Away Meeting (so named because it is "away" from the office) will be held on **Wednesday Sept 11** at the YAA leased land, km 207 Mayo Road. Signs will mark the entrance way.

Gates open at 4.30pm, meeting starts at 5.00pm. All members and families invited, social event to follow the meeting!



The YAA lease land, May 2013. Photo: Kirsten Scott.

Guest speakers will be:

- Shannon McNevin from Tourism Yukon about the Food, Farms and Festivals Event
- Patti Balsillie and reps from the Tourism Industry Association Yukon about their recent Culinary Tourism Gap Analysis Study
- Dean Swaykoski from the Culture Cruiser about developing farm tours.

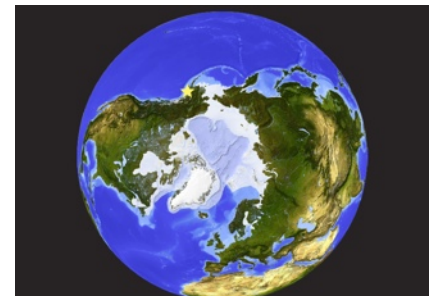
Coffee, tea, drinks provided. Please bring a potluck dish to share. Come and see the YAA lease land, meet the board of directors and socialise with other members!

8TH CIRCUMPOLAR AG CONFERENCE

The YAA and other Yukon agricultural delegates will be attending and presenting at the 8th Circumpolar Agricultural Conference in Girdwood, Alaska Sept 29 - Oct 3. The Circumpolar Agricultural Association and the University of the Arctic (UArctic), along with the University of Alaska Fairbanks have partnered to bring together world leaders who will discuss northern agricultural issues and challenges.

The conference themes are 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.

The draft program is available online at www.uaf.edu/cac/program. If you have specific interest in or questions about any of the agenda items, please raise this with YAA staff who will bring the matter forward at the conference.



8th Circumpolar Agricultural Conference
UArctic Inaugural Food Summit
Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security in the Circumpolar North
 September 29–October 3, 2013 • Girdwood, Alaska, USA

FOOD SYSTEM DESIGN PROJECT

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, has been contacting Yukon farmers, gardeners and food producers to request participation.

If you haven't already done so, please fill out the survey! This can be done online (you will be emailed an individualized link) or over the phone. Please call 668 6864 or email office@yukonag.ca to confirm your participation.

Recognizing that this is a busy time of year, a \$50 gift certificate to one of 4 Yukon farm supply stores is being offered to all the farmers who do so. Any questions about the project can be directed to Kent Mullinix kent.mullinix@kpu.ca or (604) 612-1252.

FARM EQUIPMENT RENTAL FOR 2013

Please book YAA farm equipment (aerator, mower, drill, manure spreader, plough or sprayer) and event tents **through the YAA office**. There is now a trailer to transport the tents so make sure your car is insured to tow a rental trailer.

Renters can phone the office to make a or check the online calendar (at www.yukonag.ca/equipment) 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.



The YAA event tents. Photo: Deanna Paquin

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION SUMMIT WRAP UP

On behalf of the YAA, Kirsten attended the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit in Anchorage, Alaska, July 14-19 2013. PNWER is a public-private partnership between the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington, the provinces of BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan, and the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The organization is dedicated to encouraging global economic competitiveness and preserving the natural environment.



Dena'ina Convention Centre in Anchorage where the conference was held. Photo: Kirsten Scott

Links to these presentations are available on the YAA website under the "resources" tab.

Overall, attending the PNWER summit was a valuable experience to see what is happening in the region and within other industries or groups. Much of the information presented at the agricultural components of the conference was geared towards established agricultural industries (i.e. regulatory procedures, national policy, large-scale consumer issues and industry responses, integrated supply chain management processes, etc).

A representative from Alaska and Kirsten presented suggestions to include more information in the conference on relevant northern issues (access to infrastructure, transportation, knowledge, markets, etc) and addressing industry potential. Since the conference was held in Anchorage this was an opportunity to network across the border and ensure northern agricultural issues continue to be addressed. If these issues make it on next year's agenda, another Yukon agriculture representative attending the conference will provide continuity.

There is some firewood available on the YAA lease land. It was wind-rowed March 2013 when the fence line was cleared. Please contact the office for more details about obtaining this wood. Call 668-6864 or email admin@yukonag.com

HASKAP WORKSHOP WRAP-UP

The YAA hosted a talk by haskap grower Carl Barber from Birch Hills Sask, [Northern Light Orchards](#) on July 27 2013. This included a discussion of haskap varieties, business practices, harvesting options and marketing opportunities, as well as photos of his 10-acre operation. The Barbers also brought product samples with them: dried berries, topping sauce, muffins, juice concentrate, wine and liqueur to promote what can be done with the berries.

The morning talk was followed by a visit to the Whitehorse Community Garden and then the Yukon Grain Farm and Little Fox Farm after lunch. Thank you to Carl, his wife Sandra, and our hosts Randy Lamb, Steve and Bonnie Mackenzie-Grieve, and Shari and Jerry Heal. If you missed the presentation, we are hoping to get some of Carl's information posted under the "resources/presentations" section of our website.



Shari and Jerry Heal, YAA ED Sylvia Gibson, Carl Barber and Kirsten Scott at Little Fox Farm. Photo: Jodi Crewe.

CAAP CONFERENCE

The Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP) 'Issues and Opportunities' was held August 6 - 9 in St. John's, Newfoundland. The conference is held annually for the CAAP councils from each province and territory to gather and share information, look at issues, and address possible opportunities.

The Yukon CAAP Council administers CAAP funding for the Territory as a subcommittee of the Yukon Agricultural Association. As such, Sylvia attended this conference along with Yukon CAAP Chair, Len Walchuk. Since the CAAP funding is ending across Canada as of March 31, 2014, Councils were sharing the various ways they would be continuing post CAAP funding, looking at what value they bring to the agricultural sector and how they would like to continue collaborating past the end of the CAAP program.

The end of one funding stream has initiated reflection and new ideas on how each Council would like to continue to serve in agricultural sector in their province or territory. Stay tuned while the YAA explores new opportunities for the coming years!

CABINET SHUFFLE

Agriculture in the Yukon has a new minister. On Aug 6, Premier Darrell Pasloski moved Scott Kent from Minister of Education to Brad Cathers' position as Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Cathers will now take over for Elaine Taylor as Minister of Community Services and Taylor becomes Minister of Education).



The Honourable Scott Kent, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources

BLOG

The **local farm products** listing for YAA members on our website blog is being updated weekly (see right for example).

How it works: this is like a free online classified! If you are a YAA member with something to sell, please email or phone the office any time to get you information posted at www.yukonag.ca/Blog. We just need price, contact and pick up information, so consumers can get in touch with you directly.

The office will also send out a weekly call for listings on Wednesdays. We then update the blog on Friday afternoon.

After the blog has been updated, everyone with access to the internet can see what you have for sale. We also email a copy of the listings to our membership on Fridays.

As always, please feel free to share the farm products blog with anyone you think may be interested.

BROCHURE

The YAA is updating its promotional procure. We have some new photos but would like a few more of your farms and livestock! Please send high resolution images by email to office@yukonag.ca before Oct 1st.



Yukon
Agricultural
Association



YUKON YOUNG FARMERS UPDATE

In addition to farming, the YYF has been busy over the summer. They held a planning meeting and potluck social at Zakus Farms on July 26th. Lots of families were there with their kids to enjoy chatting, food, touring Tiana's garden and Warren's equipment, and of course the heated swimming pool! Thanks to hosts Tiana, Warren and Taia Zakus.

The YYF is currently working with the Agriculture Branch of the Yukon Government to develop an exciting and innovative program for this year's North of 60° Agriculture Conference and Banquet. Please stay tuned for more information about this conference. It will be held Friday Nov 1 and Saturday Nov 2 in Whitehorse.

AUG 23 - 29 BLOG: AVAILABLE FARM PRODUCTS

SAWMILL ON WHEELS

Contact Joseph Gwerder - call/text 332 9027, or email forestjoe71@gmail.com

New, portable sawmill, will go to your site or forest and cut your logs into lumber: 1x4, 2x4, 4x4, 6x6, 6x8 or all kinds of straight cuts, up 24"x 24" and 21 foot long. Able to resaw your big lumber into boards. Can also make columns, posts, octagon, hexagon up to 12" diameter and 12 foot long (or even smaller jobs). Located in Haines Junction but serving the Yukon. Check it out on Youtube under "Lathemizer Yukon" or "Muotaman"

PELLY RIVER RANCH MARKET GARDEN

Contact Dorothy Bradley - call (867) 332-3771 or email bradleyd@klondiker.com

Lots of potatoes and carrots for sale: Yukon gold, Norland and Narkota.

CIRCLE D RANCH *Contact Barbara Drury 668-1045 or email strangerintheland@hotmail.com*

Beef boxes of assorted cuts available now: 25 lbs @ \$8.75/lb = \$218.75. 50 lbs @ \$8/lb = \$400

Order now for 'by the side' fall sales \$4.50/lb for a hanging side of beef.

Elk 25 lbs of assorted cuts \$350. Elk 50 lbs of assorted cuts \$600

Elk & beef bones available for great soup stock. Summer special \$1.50/lb normally \$3/lb, will be over Sept 1.

'Green' Beef Tripe for dogs to make your own dog food. Frozen. Small (1lb), medium (2lb) and large (5lb) bags, \$2/lb.

RIVENDELL FARM *Contact Mary Girourad 633-6178 or girourad@northwestel.net*

Tomatoes: Tumbling Tom, Early Girl, Lemon Boy, Manitoba and Roma.

Vegetables: Kale 4 colours, Swiss Chard 2 colours, Lettuces Head and Leaf Lettuce, Mixed Greens, Radish.

Turnips in 2 colours, Beets in 3 colours, Sugar Snap Pea, Snow Pea, and Shelling Pea, Yellow and Green

Zucchini, Green, Yellow and Burgundy Beans, Kohlrabi, Broccoli, Cauliflower: Cabbage Green and Red, Onions small green and large bulb, Potatoes in 4 types.

Herbs: Lovage, Mint, Oregano, Chives, Sorrel, Italian Parsley, Curly Parsley, Rosemary, Sage, Dill.

Small Fruits: Rhubarb, Black, Red and White Currants, Strawberries, Raspberries and Saskatoonberries.

HAY *Contact B Luken at 456 2035*

Top quality brome hay bales. 65 pound square. Very leafy with minimal stalks. \$12.50 each. Takhini Hot Spring.

YUKON VALLEY FARM *Contact Marie Schneider 335-4431*

Pork available. Sold by the half or whole. Price \$4.50 per lb. All our animals are raised naturally with no hormones/antibiotics. Taking orders for Beef in the fall.

HAY *Contact Mike and Tullio Albertini 633-4496*

Cost is \$10.00 per bale off the field.

THREE SLAVES FARM *Contact Ann-Marie Stockley 633-6934*

Some bedding quality/goat quality hay for sale. \$7 per bale.

LITTLE FOX FARM *Contact Shari Heal 667-4858 or little.fox.farm.yukon@gmail.com*

Farm fresh brown eggs. \$5/dozen.

Taking order for Fall turkeys (12-20lbs, \$5/lb)

KERRSDALE HERITAGE FARM

Contact Anja Hoehle - call/text/leave msg (867) 993 3532 or email kerrsdaleheritage@hotmail.com

Dawson's very own pork, poultry & egg producer! All animals are raised free range on mixed pasture; no growth hormones or chemicals used in meat production.

Contact Us

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Website: www.yukonag.ca
Blog: www.yukonag.ca/blog

Office Hours: Mon - Fri 11:30am - 1:30pm

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 (credit card). A ten year membership gets you a copy of the Boreal Herbal for free! Thanks for your support!
- ▶ 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