



JULY 2015

dispatch



Nova Scotia's Provincial Berry

Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia

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2015 FIELD DAY SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2015 Millen Farms, 80 Little Dyke Road, Great Village, NS

We are very pleased that Millen Farms, Great Village, NS, have offered to host our WBPANS Annual Field Day this year.

Millen Farms is operated by Curtis and Ann Millen and their sons Jonathan and Brandon and is one of the region's largest and most progressive small fruit operations. Millen's are berry specialists, with some 500 acres of wild blueberries under management and 160 acres of day neutral and June bearing fresh market strawberries. The farm was one of the first in Nova Scotia to adopt extended season strawberry production and now have a continuous supply from early June to late October. Millen's are also a leading packer of fresh wild blueberries and increasingly, frozen wild blueberries for the domestic retail market. Recently, they have entered into a new joint venture, East Coast Wild Blueberries, focusing on the overseas export market. As a bonus, the Millen Farms operation has several very large new buildings to shelter us from showers or hot sun, as well as plenty of space for machinery displays.

We hope you will stay for an afternoon bus tour to fields in the local area, We're also happy to be welcoming back our leading researchers and extension workers with their information booths, as well as some new projects and displays, which we know will interest you.

9:00 am - 10:00 am **REGISTRATION - \$20 per person (includes lunch)**

- STATION 1 **INSECT IDENTIFICATION & CONTROL CLINIC** – Dr. Sonia Gaul, AAFC & Robyn McCallum & Jatinder Sangha, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
- STATION 2 **SPOTTED WING DROSOPHILA** – Dr. Debra Moreau, AAFC
- STATION 3 **WEED IDENTIFICATION CLINIC** - Dr. Scott White, Dalhousie Ag Campus & Peter Burgess, Perennia
- STATION 4 **EQUIPMENT & MACHINERY DISPLAY**
Visit the most up to date technology in precision agriculture, harvesting equipment, mowers, gps, variable rate sprayers, tractors, land clearing and development, wildlife management, pollination services, pest control and information on crop insurance, Farm Loan Board, and risk management programs.
- STATION 5 **DISEASES & NUTRITION** - Dr. David Percival, Dalhousie Agricultural Campus
- STATION 6 **WBANA-CANADA** – Neri Vautour
- STATION 7 **WILD BLUEBERRY HARVEST FESTIVAL**- Alice Pugsley
- STATION 8 **PRECISION AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY** – Dr. Qamar Zaman, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
- STATION 9 **FARM SAFETY** – Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, Farm Safety Coordinator, Farm Safety NS
- STATION 10 **NS CROWN LAND PROJECT** – Mark Tekamp, NS Dept. of Natural Resources
- STATION 11 **WILD POLLINATOR RESEARCH PROJECT** – Steve Javorek, AAFC

11:30 am – 12:30 pm **ENTERTAINMENT** by *Andy Crossan & Friends*

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12:00–1:30pm **LUNCH** – Barbeque on site – Pulled Pork, Salads, Wild Blueberry Dessert, Soft Drinks
Welcome: President, Jeff Orr
Spotted Wing Drosophila Update – Dr. Debra Moreau, AAFC
Market Update: Peter Rideout, WBPANS
WBANA Update: Neri Vautour, WBANA-Canada

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm **FIELD TOURS** - you must get on a bus to participate in the field tour. Due to parking and turning restrictions in the fields, no cars or trucks following buses will be allowed.

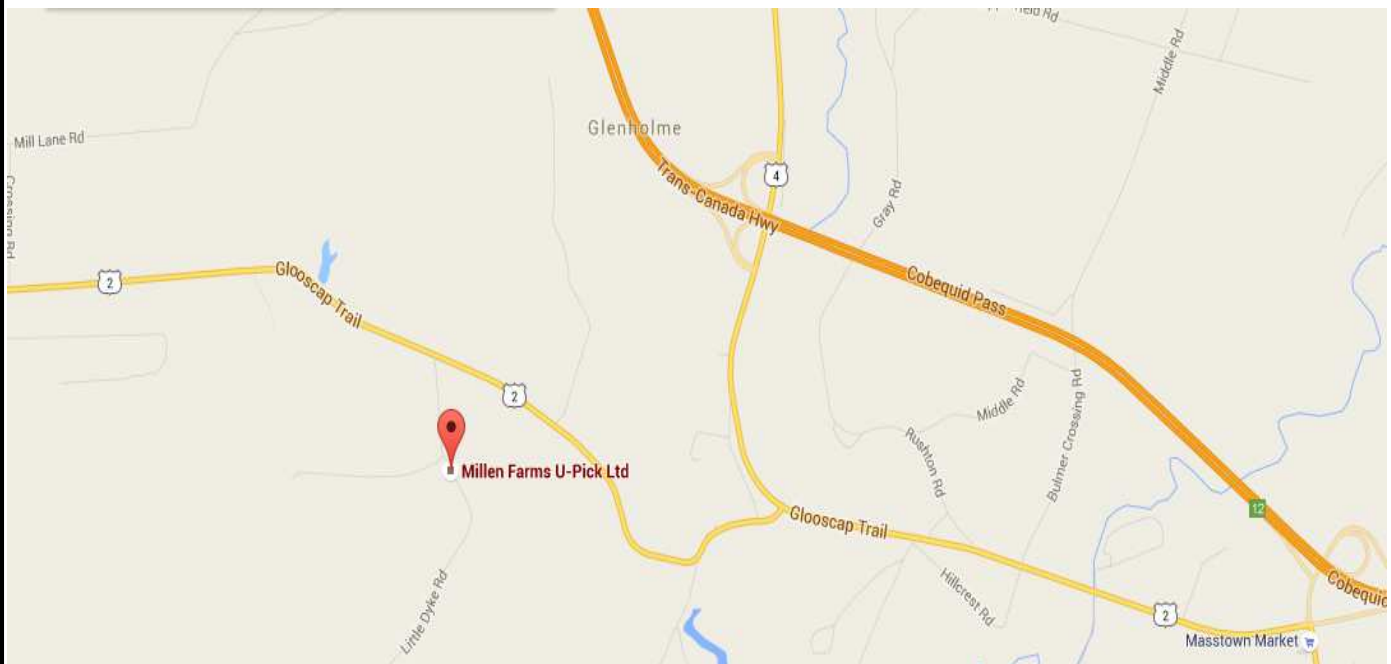
Reminder: Bring your insect, disease & weed samples to the Field Day for identification as well as your pesticide applicators license number to be eligible for pesticide re-certification points.

THANK YOU TO MILLEN FARMS &

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FIELD DAY SPONSORS AND PARTICIPANTS!!



MAP TO FIELD DAY LOCATION: 80 LITTLE DYKE ROAD, GREAT VILLAGE, NS
(www.maps.google.ca)



Directions to Millen Farms, 80 Little Dyke Road, Great Village, NS

From Truro:

- Take Highway 104 west to Exit 12, Masstown
- Exit Highway 104 at Exit 12
- Turn right toward Glenholme
- At Glenholme corner turn left and follow Highway 2 toward Great Village
- Turn left onto Little Dyke Road
- Turn right into Millen Farms (80 Little Dyke Road)

From Amherst:

- Take Highway 104 to Exit 11, Glenholme Loop
- Exit Highway 104 at exit 11
- Follow Highway 4 to Glenholme Corner
- Turn right onto highway 2 to Great Village
- Turn left onto Little Dyke Road
- Turn right into Millen Farms (80 Little Dyke Road)



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Growers,

I extend a happy summer blueberry seasons greetings to all my fellow growers. It was so delightful to meet so many of you at the Twilight meetings. We had over 150 growers at our three sites and heard some important information from our research and extension partners. Our theme of pollination habitat was well received. Special thanks to Pete Burgess for leading the field walks. I am always so inspired by the researchers who take the time to joins us at these meetings and to share their work. Scott White, Deb Moreau, Sonia Gaul, Robyn McCallum, Jason Sproule, Chris Cutler, Qamar Zaman, and David Percival are all so committed to our industry and their participation exemplifies this. We have also been active in advancing research support on important priority areas for your production, including funding support and regional meetings, and are working with the other provinces to advance a pollination tech transfer project that should result in better information for our pollination decisions.

I know it has been extremely busy as we all scramble to keep up with the pressures of blight control, herbicide application, pollination and fertilizing. As I write you, pollination is winding down and many of us are trying to finish fertilizing. We are all hopeful that the weather we have been experiencing will translate into a good crop.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the field day. We are expecting that the Minister of Agriculture will be joining us and that he will be giving us an important update on several projects we have been working on that have direct impact on supporting your farm profitability. See you on July 18th at Millen farms.

Jeff Orr
President, WBPANS
902-870 1578
wildblue@eastlink.ca



Prices Paid to Growers as of June 24, 2015, for 2014 Wild Blueberry Crop

Maritimes	\$0.55 / lb
Maine	\$0.60 US / lb
Quebec	\$0.55- 0.65 / lb **

** Includes a \$.10 / lb additional payment disbursed to a significant percentage of Quebec growers who are members of co-operative receiving stations or who make large volume deliveries direct to factories.

WILD BLUEBERRY HARVESTER OPERATION PILOT COURSE

July 13th -15th , 2015

The Nova Scotia Community College, in partnership with the Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia and Farm Safety Nova Scotia, is offering an Introduction to Blueberry Harvester Operation course pilot this year.

Duration: 2 days

Date & Location:

July 13th—Theory: NSCC Springhill Campus
July 14th or 15th— Practical: Collingwood

The objective of the course is to provide an introduction to safe blueberry harvester operation.

Admission requirements:

- Minimum 16 years of age
- Valid Class 8 license or greater
- Competent farm tractor operator

We would like to thank all those that have contributed to the development of the course. In particular, Doug Bragg Enterprises for providing equipment and CKD Fabricators for providing a demo kit.

Cost: \$200 / student

Note: *Only 20 spots available. All participants are required to attend the theory day and one day of practical for course completion. Practical date to be confirmed prior to the course.*

To register contact:

Farm Safety Nova Scotia
(902) 893-2293
info@farmsafetyns.ca

WBPANS
(902)662-3306
wbpans@ns.aliantzinc.ca



www.nswildblueberries.com



2015 MEETING DATES

- Maine Field Day—Wednesday, July 15, 2015, Jonesboro, Maine
- WBPANS Field Day—Saturday, July 18, 2015 — Millen Farms, 80 Little Dyke Road, Great Village, NS
- Bleuets New Brunswick Blueberries Field Day—Saturday, July 25, 2015, Petite-Riviere-de-l'île, NB
- WBPANS Annual Meeting—November 20 & 21, 2015—Best Western Glengarry, Truro, NS

Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia
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