

Agricultural celebration set for August

Want to have fun and learn more about farming and food production? How about sampling some awesome food and wine? Touring beautiful gardens and learning how to grow them? – all while listening to great music.

Then beautiful Canning, Kings County is the place to be from August 5-8. On a 50-acre site bordering the North Mountain is *Agrifest*, a celebration of the innovation and the people that make up the heart of Kings County's founding industry – agriculture.

A Maritime event, Agrifest is expected to draw 25,000 visitors. Agrifest Co-chair Lynne Godlien believes the diversity of agriculture in Kings is key to making it the right location for the event.

"Kings County is very much an agricultural centre for the province," says Godlien. "Horticulture and livestock are all well-represented in the county."

A 1990 crop expo for Kings County farmers was the seed that started *Agrifest*. Its progression now means the public is invited and all areas of agriculture are involved.

Whether a farmer, related industry professional, a gardener or a youngster, the event will expand everyone's knowledge of advancements in agriculture. Hands-on demonstrations, a food pavilion, unique garden plots and tours, and the introduction of new and niche crops are just some of the many events to be discovered.

Especially for growers, are seminars and workshops focusing on areas such as crop input trials, weed identification and solutions, organics, and farm machinery.

"It's a great opportunity for the farming community in Kings County," says Ron Clarke, president of the Kings County Federation of Agriculture. "The hands-on demonstrations will give a lot of farmers more insight into new technology. It would be well worth the small cost to take a day to learn something that could improve their livelihoods and their bottom lines."

Exhibits at Agrifest cover the agricultural spectrum of horticulture, livestock, field crop, and agri-business. Visitors need to check out all the exhibitor pavilions carefully in order to cast a vote for their favourite in the "People's Choice" draw. The Kings Community Economic Development Agency will be awarding **\$300 of Kings County Cash** to one lucky winner.

Agrifest is hosted by AgraPoint, a unique industry-driven company with its head office in Kentville. Its team provides expertise in many areas of agriculture as well as in professional skills that can help farmers excel in their profession. For more details on all the Agrifest events, log on to www.agrifest.com or phone (902) 678-7722.

