



FOR RELEASE  
November 6, 2013

## **Agricultural advocates named Yukon's top farmers for 2013**

WHITEHORSE—Wayne and Alison Grove, operators of the El Dorado Game Farm near Whitehorse, were named the 2013 Farmers of the Year at the North of 60° Agriculture Banquet on Saturday.

"The Yukon government recognizes the Groves' hard work and advocacy on behalf of the local agricultural community," Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Scott Kent said. "Their success will inspire other farmers to succeed and to create a more sustainable Yukon agri-food industry."

Since acquiring land near the Takhini Hot Springs Road 17 years ago, the Groves and their children, Nicole and David, have turned what was an underdeveloped parcel of agricultural land into one of the largest hay producers in Yukon. Home-grown hay helps Yukon farmers and horse owners save the steep costs of importing hay from other jurisdictions.

The El Dorado Game Ranch also produces farmed elk for an expanding domestic and culinary tourism market.

Wayne Grove is a director with the Yukon Agricultural Association and President of the Yukon Game Growers Association. Grove has represented the Game Growers on the territory's Agriculture Industry Advisory Committee, an industry/government advisory group, for several years.

The Groves also attribute their farming success to embracing the latest agricultural research available – and adapting it to the special needs of Yukon land, soil and growing season.

Each year, the Yukon government recognizes a farmer, farm family or farm advocate who has made an outstanding contribution to Yukon agriculture. Recipients are nominated by their peers for their commitment to, and passion for, local farming.

For more information about Yukon agriculture, visit [www.agriculture.gov.yk.ca](http://www.agriculture.gov.yk.ca).

-30-

Contact:

Elaine Schiman  
Cabinet Communications  
867-633-7961  
[elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca](mailto:elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca)

Catherine Young  
Communications, Energy, Mines and Resources  
867-667-3005  
[catherine.young@gov.yk.ca](mailto:catherine.young@gov.yk.ca)