

USDA HELPS COLVILLE CONFEDERATED TRIBES CASH IN ON CANOLA

OMAK, Wash., October 13, 2009- The Canola Partnership will host a Canola Recognition Day on October 21 at the Paschal Sherman Indian School here to announce findings from a project that could produce \$8.8 million in revenue every year for tribal groups and surrounding communities. Participants from the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and other groups involved in this initiative will share their experiences about working with the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) to develop a viable winter canola crop that protects soils, provides livestock feed, and produces vegetable oil for food or oil that can be used to make enough biodiesel to fuel 70 local school buses and logging trucks every year.

WHAT: CCT members worked with a range of agronomic experts to develop environmentally sustainable production strategies for cultivating commercial winter canola crops on tribal lands. Morning events will include presentations, filling a school bus fuel tank with biodiesel generated from a local canola crop, and lunch. After lunch, representatives from ARS, the primary intramural scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will conduct a tour of the winter canola research plots at the Ed Townsend Farm, two miles east of Okanogan on Cameron Lake Road.

WHO: The following organizations will be participating: CCT, USDA-ARS, area growers, Washington State University Extension, local schools, the Washington State Biofuel Project, and the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

WHEN: October 21, 2009, 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., PST.

WHERE: Paschal Sherman Indian School

169 North End Omak Lake Road

Omak, Wash. 98841
Phone: 509-422-7590

HOW: Media are welcome to attend this event. Parking is available at Paschal Sherman Indian School.

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