



**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

Take Time to Smell the Flowers on Circle Farm Tour

Abbotsford, BC (August 11, 2008) – Now through September, visitors to the six **Circle Farm Tour** communities (Abbotsford, Agassiz – Harrison Mills, Chilliwack, Langley, Mission and Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows) will experience nurseries and farm gardens bursting with colour, texture and diversity.

The self-guided tours allow participants to experience the Fraser Valley through displays of unique BC plants and unusual international flowers, soothing ponds and water gardens. The Circle Farm Tours are a great **“staycation”** for families, couples and groups and feature a wide variety of agri-tourism destinations. From apples and alpacas to wineries and wild berries, there’s something for everyone in the Circle Farm Tours. Be sure to check the website (www.circlefarmtour.ca) for all agri-tourism related destinations, as well as special events, workshops and hours of operation at these great gardening destinations:

Abbotsford

Tanglebank Country Gardens is cultivating ‘the art of living’ beautifully. Their boutique style nursery is a favorite destination for both avid and beginner gardeners alike. Attend an educational workshop or seminar offered throughout the year. The annuals, perennials, ornamental grasses, trees and shrubs as well as outdoor garden art, pottery and garden accessories are the perfect accent for any garden. www.tanglebank.com

Agassiz/Harrison Mills

Limbert Mountain Farm, home of Simply Fine Foods is a Heritage farm from 1902. With tranquil hillside gardens, sensual herbs and local cuisine be sure to book your garden tour and lunch to ensure an enjoyable afternoon! Visit the store for home and garden décor. www.limbertmountainfarm.com

Chilliwack

Minter Gardens will dazzle every visitor’s senses through remarkable sight, sound, and fragrances. The thirty-two acres of extravagant flower displays and twelve themed gardens keeps visitors lingering in the immense displays of artistic flowers. The Trillium Restaurant Conservatory and Garden Cafe provides an elegant setting for afternoon buffet after a stroll through the lavish gardens. www.mintergardens.com



Langley

Erikson's Daylily Gardens has Canada's largest selection of award-winning daylilies as well as an extensive collection of hostas and hundreds of rare and unusual specimen trees and perennials. The striking display garden is home to 2,600 varieties of daylilies. Pam Erikson is known for naming her new hybrids in honor of people she admires and providing tips to help every gardener grow a 'green thumb.' Did you know daylilies are completely edible?! Flowers are fabulous for salads; the buds can be steamed like snow peas or fried in a fritter batter; the roots are similar to radishes! www.plantlovers.com/erikson

Cedar Rim Nursery is celebrating their 30th Anniversary this year! Situated on 30 acres, Cedar Rim Nursery is the largest retail/wholesale nursery in the Lower Mainland. They specialize in rare and specimen trees, deciduous shrubs, broadleaf evergreens, annuals and perennials. www.cedarrim.com

Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows

Trice Farms Pond and Garden Centre in Maple Ridge has several beautiful display ponds linked by brick paths and sheltered by amazing hanging baskets. Visitors can learn how to build and take care of an outdoor pond at the weekend seminars. www.tricefarms.com

Amsterdam Greenhouses & Garden Centre in Pitt Meadows has grown top-quality bedding plants and hanging baskets for 29 years! They invite you right into their bedding plant production greenhouses, so you can choose from an overwhelming selection. Amsterdam is proud to sell only locally grown perennials and shrubs, fruit and ornamental trees. www.amsterdamgreenhouses.com

Mission

Mission's Country Garden is a family run Nursery/Hobby Farm that provides a unique and relaxing shopping experience. They offer a selection of perennials, grasses, flowering shrubs, trees, potted plants and evergreens all nestled amongst show gardens and country displays. The wonderful selection of uniquely crafted gifts and garden collectibles will inspire every visitor to create a backyard haven. missionscountrygarden@shaw.ca

Priestley Studio & Garden Gallery is a place to soak up the atmosphere and capture a little inspiration while you wander the extensive gardens that surround the rustic vine laden studio of potter /gardener Jo Priestley. The award winning garden set in the backdrop of forest and mountains is a profusion of perennials, herbs, native plants and hardscape features. The upstairs gallery showcases Jo's exclusive

Porcelain & Raku pottery and you will find whimsical garden ware at the pond plant stand along with garden perennials herbs and lavender in season. www.jopriestleystudiopotter.com

Bellbrook Nursery offers a unique experience with their trees and shrubs potted in-ground allowing for easy access for both viewing and planting year round. Bellbrook Nursery carries hanging baskets, topiary/sculptures, Japanese Maples, flowering and shade trees, conifers etc to outdoor pottery!

The Regional Circle Farm Tour program is a marketing partnership promoting agri-tourism in the Fraser Valley. Brochure maps for each of the six community tours are available at Visitor Centers throughout BC and can be downloaded from www.circlefarmtour.ca.

Media Contact

Allison Longshore, Tourism Abbotsford

E-mail: alongshore@tourismabbotsford.ca

Phone: 604.864.5675