

# GROWING MATTERS

Mandarin Tango™ Potentilla

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*Proudly serving northern gardeners  
since 1982*

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## News Briefs

Michel Touchette will attend the CNLA horticulture value chain round table December 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> in Ottawa.

The NDNGA convention and trade show will be held at the Ramada Plaza Suites in Fargo, N.D. from January 29-31. More information at [www.ndnga.com](http://www.ndnga.com)

Our 2017 Reference Guide, Price List and Order Form are available online. Use the password: xxxxxxxx to access protected files. P-O-P orders should be submitted by February 1st.

## From the President

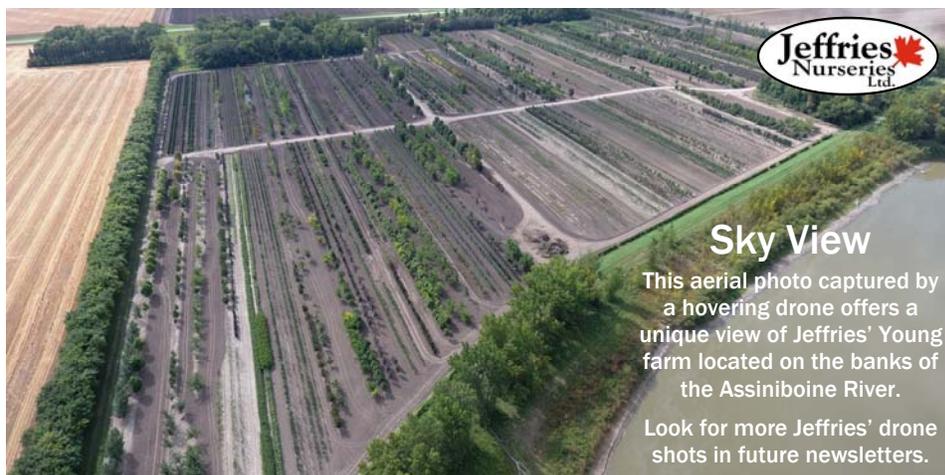
As I write on December 1<sup>st</sup> we recall one of our warmest Novembers on record and one that has enabled work to move forward at record speed. The container stock is asleep under 200 overwintering blankets, fields are manured and deep tilled and 10,000 white tree guards are installed on field liners to discourage our abundant rabbit population. The grading of a smaller crop of liner and seedling stock is finished and our staff will be reviewing/confirming orders and preparing for a production and sales review which is held December 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. The nursery office will be closed from December 19<sup>th</sup> until January 4<sup>th</sup> but staff will respond to urgent quotes and inquiries.

The coming year marks 35 years for the Ronald family and Jeffries Nurseries. We hope to have an open house and reception in early August 2017 at the nursery. This December newsletter marks the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> year of publishing a quarterly customer letter. From a single page in primitive colour back in 1997, it has developed into the quality editions you see today. We don't receive a host of comments but are encouraged to have some positive feedback that indicates its value. The newsletters are available on-line along with a wealth of information at our company website.

Next year we mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Canadian confederation as well as the inauguration of a new President for the United States. What better time is there to encourage a commemorative tree planting? We have a good supply of the best flowering crabapples in containers (including CVI for export), Amaro box pots and wire baskets. By August 15<sup>th</sup> we will have supplies of the new Regal Celebration Freeman maple developed for zones 2, 3 and 4 and the highly-rated Inferno sugar maple, both of which have come out of our research at the nursery. In general, there is a distinct shortage of liner trees in the US and Canadian market place and it will take some years to rebuild the inventories.

All of our ownership and staff want to wish you the best for the holiday season. We thank you for your support that has made for another year of solid growth for the nursery. God bless.

**Wilbert Ronald**



## Sky View

This aerial photo captured by a hovering drone offers a unique view of Jeffries' Young farm located on the banks of the Assiniboine River.

Look for more Jeffries' drone shots in future newsletters.

# Let's Grow our Canadian Colours

By Michel Touchette and Pete Van Vliet

One hundred and forty nine years ago a document was signed and Canada became a country! Three years later in 1870, Manitoba joined the union. In 1905, Saskatchewan and Alberta became new members of this young country called Canada. The Prairie provinces have a rich contribution in our Canadian heritage including agriculture, energy, mining, horticulture, hockey and football. Together, they have helped shape our Canadian society on many social facets.

The Canadian Shield Rose was released by the Vineland Research and Innovation Center specifically to coincide with Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday next year. This rose, bred by Larry Dyck from Morden Research Station, is hardy in zone 3 and has shown excellent leaf disease resistance at Morden and Vineland for the last 5 years. Canadian Shield offers large red flowers each with over 40 petals. This shrub rose matures at a height of 1.25 m and spread of 1 m on the prairies and may grow possibly larger in warmer climates.

In 2017, let's show our patriotism and love for our country by featuring our Canadian colours in the prairie garden. Together, a red **Canadian Shield Rose** accompanied with a white **Oscar Peterson Rose** symbolize our nation's flag colours. Surround the red and white with the multicoloured blooms of **Campfire Rose** to celebrate Canada's rich diversity.

The Canadian Prairie rose program is a precious achievement, a colourful heritage and needs to be celebrated during Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.



The Canadian Shield™ Rose was released by the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre specifically to coincide with Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday next year!

Let's show our patriotism, our love for our country, by growing this Prairie bred hardy rose in 2017!

Canadian Shield™ Rose features:

- large, multi-petal red flowers produced through the summer and fall
- a mature size of 4-5' high x 3-4' wide
- lush green leaves that are also resistant to powdery mildew and black spot
- winter hardiness to Zone 3

Let's encourage every Canadian to show our national colours for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary by planting a mix of Canadian Shield™ (red) and Oscar Peterson (white) roses. These will make a great end cap display in the garden center this spring.

Canadian Shield Rose is available for spring in 1 gallon and 2 gallon sizes (dormant or greenhouse-forced). The 1 gallon greenhouse-forced will be in a *red upgraded pot*.



**Canadian Shield**  
was developed at the Morden Research Station and is the first rose to be introduced by the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre



## VISIT US AT THE WINTER TRADESHOWS

NDNGA / NDUCEFA Convention & Trade Show, Fargo, N.D. - January 29 to 31, 2017

Landscape Manitoba Grow Day, Winnipeg, MB. - February 23, 2017