

Nutty flavour to Territory economics conference

The 14th Northern Australia Regional Outlook Conference will provide insight into the latest trends, innovative business practices and a global commodity overview for the agriculture, fishing, forestry, energy and mineral industries.

The conference, run by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) and proudly supported by the Northern Territory Government through the Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development (DBERD) and the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM), will be held at SKYCITY Darwin on the 31 October 2007.

The conference will be a valuable forum for Territorians to access market assessments and forecasts for the traditional mining and agricultural industries in the Northern Territory, as well as new industries including forestry, sustainable alternative fuels, crocodile farming and peanuts.

Managing Director Peanut Company of Australia (PCA), Bob Hansen, will be talking about the expanding opportunities for the future of agriculture in the Northern Territory. PCA has recently purchased an additional 11,000 hectares of land on the Katherine River, and their aim is to supply enough peanuts to the Australian market to remove the need for costly imports.

Geoff Warriner, representing the Packer family's Consolidated Pastoral Company Ptd Ltd (CPC) and their 17 properties, will also be speaking about the challenges of live cattle exports.

Taking this annual event in a new direction, Loren Beaman from Natural Fuels Australia Limited will discuss the potential for achieving sustainable alternative fuels from renewable resources.



Alternative renewable fuel discussions will drive the 2007 Northern Australia Regional Outlook Conference in a new direction

To contribute to the competitiveness of Australia's agricultural, fishing, forestry, energy and minerals industries, ABARE and Northern Territory Government economists will provide rigorous and independent economic research and analysis for specific commodities including performance, economic overview, production, marketing, risk management and trade opportunities.

Registration to the conference is \$77.00 and includes conference admission, copies of available speakers' papers, morning and afternoon tea, lunch and a post conference regional product tasting.

For more information about the Northern Australia Regional Outlook Conference, or to register to attend the conference visit www.nt.gov.au/business or www.abareconomics.com/regional or call Angela Ellerman on (02) 6272 2303.