

M.D. of Bonnyville Media Release September 24, 2015

Poisonous Jimsonweed Spotted in Alberta

Ag & Waste Department urges farmers to be on the lookout for "Devil's Trumpet"

Matt Janz, Director of the Municipal District of Bonnyville's Agriculture and Waste Department is urging farmers to be on the lookout for Jimsonweed.

While there have been no reports of the poisonous weed in the M.D., the plant (aka Devil's Trumpet) has been spotted in canola fields in Central Alberta. It has caused death in humans and cattle that have ingested it.

"It's new to Alberta," Janz said. "The authorities are looking into it, and believe it made it into Alberta via canola seed from the U.S."

Jimsonweed can stand up to five feet tall. The seed pod can be up to two inches, and has spikes surrounding it. The bloom of the Jimsonweed is purple and white and shaped like a trumpet – hence the name Devil's Trumpet.

"This is when farmers will see it, when they're out swathing canola fields," he said. "If you do see it, don't touch it with bare hands."

Janz encourages farmers who find the weed to contact the Ag and Waste Department at 780-826-3951 to have someone come and remove it.

Please see the Government of Alberta release attached to this email for more information.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Agriculture & Waste Services Department

780-826-3951