Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management Series

Do you want to farm? Are you already farming and want to enrich your skills? The OSU Extension Service Small Farms Program presents a course to provide beginning specialty crop and livestock farmers with tools and knowledge to manage the biological and financial risks of farming. Participants will assess their farm enterprise and gain the ability to develop a whole farm plan. This program targets farmers in their first five years of farm business. A mix of OSU faculty, experienced farmers, and other professionals will present information and resources vital to developing a sustainable farm.

Topics Include:

- Dream It—Strategic Planning (define values, set goals, assess farm resources, create a farm plan).
- Do It—Farm Operations (irrigation, innovative equipment, labor, season extension).
- Grow It—Production (soil/composting, growing techniques, animal production, insects and disease).
- Manage I—Farm Finance (planning, accounting, bookkeeping systems, understanding financial statements).
- Sell It—Marketing Strategies (marketing plan, wholesale and direct strategies, innovative techniques).
- Keep It—Managing Liability (insurance, food safety, risk management).

Class Information:

Dates: Wednesdays (January 26; February 2, 16, 23; March 2, 9)
Time: 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Location: OSU/Deschutes Extension Office, 3893 SW Airport Way, Redmond, Oregon.
Cost: $200 per person or $350 for two people from the same farm (Scholarships Available!)
Registration Deadline: January 21, 2011 (register online at: http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/central-oregon-growing-farms-workshop-series or call (541) 548-6088 x 7957.

Registration Includes:

More than 40 hours of education and information!
Farm Tour, Saturday, February 12, 2011
Living on a Few Acres Conference, March 5, 2011
Workbook, resources and light meals.

Sponsored by The Risk Management Agency and OSU/Deschutes County Extension Service.

Dana Martin, (541) 548-6088 x 7957 or dana.martin@oregonstate.edu
Town Hall Meeting—Open Forum
Tuesday, January 18th, 2:00 pm
OSU/Deschutes County Extension Office
Redmond, Oregon

Sponsored by the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District, the featured discussion will cover "Water Rights and Beneficial Use", with experts from Deschutes River Conservancy, Central Oregon Irrigation District and Swalley Irrigation District. This open forum, which is free of charge, allows you to discuss issues or concerns you might have on your property. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Spring Alaska Olson, (541) 647-9604, springalaska@hotmail.com.

Spring Alaska Olson

Oregon Small Farm News ---- New Edition Online


Featured articles include several from Central Oregon:

- USDA Offers Conservation Funding to Organic Producers Initiative in its Third Year
- Farm Profile: Jim and Debbie Fields, Fields Farm (Central Oregon)
- Crop Planning - One Farmer’s Approach
- Pioneering a Local Food System in Central Oregon
- Aminopyralid Residues in Compost
- Meat Short Course at Small Farms Conference: Raise It, Process It, Sell It
- Pacific Northwest Researchers and Farmers Collaborate on Organic Breeding Efforts
- New OSU Dairy Foods Facility Open
- Pioneering a Local Food System in Central Oregon
- Aminopyralid Residues in Compost
- Do You Have Lousy Animals?
- Oregon Small Farm Conference, Corvallis

Dana Martin

Central Oregon Food Network Website — NEW LOOK

Take time to check out the new features on this website: http://centraloregonfoodnetwork.com. While there, be sure that your information on the Producer Directory is correct. As this website grows, it can be a valuable tool to help market your products. Since the mission of this website is to connect agricultural producers with their community, new features are being added. For example, a “Blog” and “Current Events” calendar are being considered to keep communication flowing. If you have more ideas, please share them!

Dana Martin
Small Farms Conference
Saturday, February 26, 2011
9:00 am to 5:00 pm
LaSells Stewart Building, Corvallis, Oregon

Conference topics include: marketing, food safety, multi-farm CSA, farm policies, meat and poultry processing, farm energy, measuring economic impacts of local food, niche meat markets, cover cropping, value-added farm products and more. A special “meat short course” is also being offered during this conference.

Guest speakers include Chuck Hassebrook, “The Next Wave of Change in Agriculture, the Food System & Rural America” and Congressman Kurt Schrader, who currently serves as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Agriculture.

Cost: $45/person or $80/for two; Registration site: http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu or call (541) 766-3556.

Dana Martin

Living on a Few Acres – Saturday, March 5, 2011
Redmond, Oregon

This annual conference for rural land owners is going to be bigger and better than ever with more class offerings, a keynote speaker and expanded trade show. You won’t want to miss it. You can select 4 classes from more than 30 choices and here’s the lineup:

Ag/Field Management
• Pasture and Grazing Management
• Irrigation Management
• Aquatic Weed and Algae Management for Ponds
• Quality Hay
• Weed Control

Agriculture/Forestry Equipment
• Tractor and Small Equipment Maintenance, Repair and Safety
• Tractor Driving, Implement Options and Safety
• Chainsaw Safety and Usage

Wildlife
• Managing Rodents, Deer and other Mammals on Your Acreage
• Communing With Nature

Small Farm Production
• Organic Production and Season Extension
• Honey Bees 101
• Profits or Play: Business Plan and Methods

• Right Breed, Right Location & Multi-Species Grazing
• Hydroponics
• Direct Marketing to Increase Profits
• Permaculture
• What Can I Do with My Small Acreage?
• Seed Collecting

Livestock
• Neonatology: Care of Newborn Lambs, Kids, Calves and Piglets
• Raising Poultry the “Natural Way”
• Health and Nutrition of Small Ruminants
• Electric Fencing – Is It For You?
• Raising Your Own Meat

Agriculture/Laws and Regulation Awareness
• Land Use Planning in Oregon: What You Should Know, What We Should Know
• Food Safety --- Know the Rules, be Safe and Prosper
• De-Mystifying the Pesticide Label

Food Preservation
• Drying Food
• Making Salsa

Forestry/Small Woodland Owners
• Assessing and Reducing Wildfire Risk on Your Property
• Juniper Management in Central Oregon
• Maintaining the Health of your Trees on Woodland or Forest

Additional LOAFA Information
• Keynote Speaker: “Turning the Food Pyramid Upside Down” with Pete Ballerstedt
• Registration Cost: $40/person or $75/couple if registered by Feb. 22 (includes lunch)
• Sponsorship and Trade Show/Vendor forms available
• Registration will be found online by mid-January at: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/deschutes/

LOAFA is sponsored by OSU Extension Service in partnership with Oregon Department of Agriculture, Deschutes County, Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District, Wy’East Resource Conservation and Development and Oregon Department of Forestry. For more information, contact Dana Martin, (541) 548-6088 x 7957; dana.martin@oregonstate.edu.

Dana Martin
Central Oregon Food Policy Council

Central Oregon Food Policy Council (COFPC) is the result of many efforts this past year including the Central Oregon Food Summit and Community Food Assessment. The COFPC is a volunteer Council composed of individuals, groups, and organizations committed to bringing together stakeholders who support a sustainable food system within Central Oregon. This tri-county Council is composed of 12-15 seats with representation from the following areas: Agricultural Production, Public Health, City/County Government, Food Related Businesses, Hunger Relief, OSU Extension Service, Non-Profit Advocacy Land Use, and Community At-Large. Information about this Council can be found on the Central Oregon Food Network website: http://centraloregonfoodnetwork.com/cofpc.html

Vision: Central Oregon Food Policy Council (COFPC) will lead the effort to achieve a sustainable and just food system.

Strategies:

- **Healthy Food Access**: To support the production, availability and consumption of local healthy food, and support projects that increase self-sufficiency and encourage active participation in a local sustainable food system.

- **Public Policy Advocacy**: To advocate for public policies that increase sustainable food production. The Council will utilize critical stakeholders to analyze and direct public policies and engage the community in food policy initiatives. It is our belief that policies should reflect the unique needs of farming communities in the Central Oregon region.

- **Networks and Knowledge Sharing**: To connect stakeholders in the food systems field, and provide opportunities to share experiences, expertise and resources to build capacity.

COFPC’s next meeting (Thursday, January 13, 6:00 pm at the OSU/Deschutes County Extension office in Redmond), will focus on farm land use policies and interpretation of laws (Extension office located off of parking lot D at the Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center). For more information, contact Katrina Van Dis, (541) 504-3307, kvandis@coic.org or Dana Martin, (541) 548-6088 x 7957, dana.martin@oregonstate.edu.

Free Community Education Event!

Crook County Soil and Water Conservation Annual Landowners Workshop

Thursday, February 17, 2011, 3:30 pm

Paulina School Gymnasium, Paulina, Oregon

3:30 Meet and Greet
3:45 Identifying and Treating the Local Weed Issues - Kev Alexanian
4:30 Financial Assistance Available for Juniper Removal in Sage-Grouse Habitat - Chris Mundy
5:00 Do it Yourself Riparian Planting - Garry Sanders
6:00 Dinner

While there visit the information booths provided by:

- Crooked River Watershed Council
- Crooked River Weed Management Area
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
- Crook County Extension Service
- Central Oregon Livestock Extension Agent
- Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Oregon Forage and Grassland Council
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Agent
- Farm Services Agency

Please feel free to call the Crook County Soil and Water Conservation District with questions at (541) 447-3548.

**Pricilla Johnson**

Great Resource for Beef Cattle Producers

Reinaldo Cooke, OSU Beef Cattle Extension Specialist, has collected and hosts a website that has a growing collection of factsheets available. The website also has updates on statewide Extension programs happening, free ration balancing and EPD software, research updates and more. If you haven’t looked at the site in a while, you will be surprised just how much more is now available. New items are added regularly so be sure to make http://beefcatytle.ans.oregonstate.edu a favorite on your web browser!

**Barbi Riggs**

OSU Across-Breed EPD Calculator

The OSU Across-Breed EPD Calculator software is a tool for commercial cattlemen to compare sires of different breeds. The software is free and can be downloaded from the Beef Cattle Sciences website at: http://beefcattle.ans.oregonstate.edu. Microsoft Excel is required for operation.

**Barbi Riggs**

Farmers are encouraged to attend this meeting to share their thoughts about land use policies and discuss what changes are needed to help maximize use of land. Four specific areas of land use legislation have been identified for this meeting:

- Housing Farm Employees
- Agritourism/Overnight Guests
- Mobile Butchering/Processing
- Rendering

**Dana Martin**
“Production, Processing, and Marketing of Niche Meats” Short Course

Saturday, February 26, 2011, Corvallis, Oregon

It’s Not All Steaks and Chops? Beef & Pork Carcass Breakdown Workshop

Sunday, February 27, 2011, Corvallis, Oregon

A two-day short course is being offered on the Campus of Oregon State University. The classroom portions of the short course will take place within the OSU Extension Small Farms conference on Saturday, 26 Feb. 2011, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. A limited enrollment Carcass Breakdown Workshop will take place at the OSU Clark Meat Center on Sunday, 27 Feb. 2011.

Participants may sign up for both or either day of the short course. The Sunday Carcass Breakdown Workshop will be limited to 30 registrants. The cost of the Small Farms Conference is $45 per person or $80 for two from the same farm or organization. The cost of the Carcass Breakdown Workshop is $75 per person.

This short course is sponsored by USDA’s Western Center for Risk Management Education.

Register online for the Small Farms Conference to attend these classroom sessions at:
http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/2011SFC

| Production Challenges for Niche Meat Markets. What do “grass-fed” and “organic” mean, not just on the label but in the field? Livestock producers aiming for niche markets may need new techniques, from pasture and forage management to animal health and beyond. In this session, you’ll learn ways to meet these certification standards on the farm. Presenters: Gene Pirelli, OSU; David McKibben, McK Ranch; Garth Kahl, Oregon Tilth |

| Meat and Poultry Processing: Relationships, Costs, and DiY. Your processor is one of the most important partners in your supply chain. In this session, processors and livestock producers talk about building effective partnerships, including understanding each other’s costs. A poultry producer describes his own on-farm processing operation. Presenters: Bob Dickson, Dayton Meats; Karen Schueller, Scio Poultry Processing; Bette McKibben, McK Ranch; Tyler Jones, Afton Field Farm |

| Niche Meat Markets: From First Date to Lasting Relationship. Who will buy what you’re selling, and what do they really want? A panel of niche meat producers and their customers discuss the nuts and bolts of market channels, including restaurants, retailers, and institutional buyers, as well as direct sales like buying clubs, farmers’ markets, and “locker” meat. Presenters: Cory Carman, Carman Ranch; John Neumeister, Cattail Creek; Scot Laney, Eat Oregon First; Jeannie Holiday, First Alternative Coop. |

Register online for the Carcass Breakdown Workshop at:
https://secure.oregonstate.edu/smallfarms-events/register/38

Lauren Gwin/OSU, lauren.gwin@oregonstate.edu

New Century Farmer Conference
July 24-30, 2011

Pioneer Hi-Bred International Campus
Johnson, Iowa

The New Century Farmer conference is a five day experience held annually during the month of July on the Pioneer campus in Johnson, IA. New Century Farmer helps participants achieve career success in production agriculture by providing cutting edge information about the agricultural industry as well as creating a networking experience that allows participants to expand their circle of knowledge. Through networking, seminars, field tours and more, New Century Farmer participants will explore topics including the global marketplace, farm financing, consumer trends and risk management. Through the generous sponsorship of Pioneer – A DuPont Business, Rabo AgriFinance, and Case IH, there is no cost of the students who are selected to participate in the conference each year. Applicants for the program must be currently attending or a recent graduate of an agriculture college or university, have a background in production agriculture, and plan to return to production agriculture as a career after college. For more information, please visit www.ffha.org/ncfarmer or contact Jeff Papke at (541) 447-6228.

Jeff Papke/Oregon Open Campus Coordinator/Prineville

Deschutes County SWCD 2010/2011 Small Grant Program in Here!

Funding for the Small Grant Program is generated through Oregon lottery dollars and is a voluntary program that works with your framework and objectives to enhance and preserve natural resources on your property. Some of the goals for maximizing resource potential include: soil stabilization (reducing erosion in uplands and riparian, weed control, in-stream and riparian enhancements, irrigation efficiency, improve wildlife habitat, increase water quality and improve water quality. Funding is limited, so if you're interested, please contact Spring Olson/Conservation Technician at (541) 647-9604 or email: springalaska@hotmail.com.

Spring Alaska Olson

Statewide Monthly Wheat Marketing Meetings

The Oregon Wheat League Marketing Committee is sponsoring Statewide marketing Education Series monthly meetings generally the third Thursday of each month via Polycom conferencing at various locations throughout the state. To find out when the next series starts (September?), contact the OWGL at: www.owgl.org or call (541) 276-7330 in Pendleton, Oregon.

Mylen Bohle
The goal of SAI is to help educators use Agriculture as a context (or theme) for teaching the Academic Standards (science, math, social studies, English, etc.). Additionally, educators will receive hands on instruction and collateral materials to incorporate agriculture into their classroom curriculum. SAI provides a working environment for participants to experience current, factual, scientific information about agriculture.

**What the Teachers Learn About**
- Ag Marketing & Economics
- Beef Production and Rangeland Management
- Ag Education Applications
- Hydroponics, Nursery, Row Crops, Dairy
- Dryland Farming
- Forest and Riparian Management
- Soils, Irrigation, and Pesticide Management

**AND A WHOLE LOT MORE!**

**PUT AGRICULTURE BACK IN THE CLASSROOM**

To make a pledge and help educate teachers about Oregon Agriculture send this form and checks to:

Janice Reed, Director
Oregon Agriculture Education Foundation
3415 Commercial Street SE
Salem, OR 97302

2011 Summer Agriculture Institute (SAI)

I wish to pledge: $________
Select One: Session #1 June 19th - 24th, Corvallis, OR
Session #2 July 17th – 22nd, Union/La Grande, OR
Divide between the two sessions

**OR KNOW A TEACHER WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND?**
For more information contact one of the Project Coordinators
Debbie Crocker, (541) 740-5073; dcrocker@99webstreet.com
Jana Lee Dick, (541) 562-5129 x22; jana.dick@oregonstate.edu

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**7th Annual Cattleman’s Workshop**

“Pathways to Success”
Saturday, January 22nd, 2011

Blue Mountain Conference Center, 404 12th Street, La Grande, Oregon

9:00—9:15 **Workshop Introductions & Overview**
Rick Haines: Owner Independent Ag Network; Twin Falls, ID

9:15—10:00 **Strategies for Beef Cow/Calf Production in the 21st Century**
Clay Mathis: Director & Chair, King Ranch Institute; Texas A&M—Kingsville

10:00—10:45 **Genetic Tools for Successful Cow/Calf Breeding Decisions**
Darrell Bullock: Beef Cattle Extension Specialist, Beef Cattle Breeding & Genetics; University of Kentucky, Lexington

10:45—11:00 **Strategies to Optimize the Use of AI in Cow/Calf Production Systems**
Dave Patterson: Professor Beef Cattle Reproductive Physiology; University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

11:45—1:00 Lunch (provided by sponsors)

1:00—1:45 **Optimizing Cow Genetic Potential with Low-Cost Production Strategies**
Twig Marston: Director, Northeast Research & Extension Center, Beef Production Systems; University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE

1:45—2:30 **Economic Outlook for US Beef Cattle Production**
Scott Brown: Agricultural Economist & Program Director, Food & Agriculture Policy Research Institute, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

2:45—3:30 **World Beef Markets: Is Brazil Our Biggest Competitor?**
Reinaldo Cooke: Beef Cattle Extension Specialist; Oregon State University, Eastern Oregon Ag Research Center, Burns, Oregon

3:30—4:00 **Panel Discussion & Wrap-Up**
Rick Haines: Owner Independent Ag Networks; Twin Falls, ID

**Note:** For more information, please contact Kim McKague or Tim DelCurto at (541) 562-5129
2011 Central Oregon Forage Day

Saturday, January 29, 2011
4-H Clover Club Building
502 SE Lynn Blvd.
Prineville, Oregon

8:30 Registration
9:00 Workshop Introductions/Presentations Begin
11:45—1:00 Lunch (provided by area Agri Businesses)

Presentations:
✓ Sampling Hay: The Most Important Step
✓ Quality: What Is It and How Do We Measure It?
✓ Beef Nutrition
✓ Dairy Nutrition
✓ Horse Nutrition
✓ Central Oregon Hay Growers Association Business Meeting
✓ Hay Finder Update
✓ Nitrogen & Potassium Fertilizer Yield and Economic Responses
✓ The Economics of Making Hay
✓ Oregon Department of Ag Updates (pest recertification credit applied)
✓ Weed and Pest Control Panel (pest recertification credit applied)
✓ AND MUCH MORE!!

4:30 Adjourn

Note: Please R.S.V.P. to the Crook County Extension office at (541) 447-6228 or email pam.wiederholt@oregonstate.edu

Sponsored by: The Central Oregon Hay Growers Association in cooperation with Oregon State University Extension Service
### Calendar

**January**
- **13**  Central Oregon Food Policy Council Meeting (see article page 4).
- **18**  Town Hall Meeting (see article page 2).
- **22**  Cattleman’s Workshop (see article page 6).
- **26**  Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management Series (see article front page).
- **29**  Central Oregon Forage Day (see article page 7).

**February**
- **2**  Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management Series (see article front page).
- **2-3**  Central Oregon Farm Fair. Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Madras. Contact Rich Affledt at (541) 475-7107
- **4**  Central Oregon Pest Management Course. Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR. For more information: ahlvinl@oregonstate.edu
- **9**  Core Training. 8:30 – Noon. Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Madras, OR. Information: (541) 475-7107
- **10-12**  Organicology 2011, Oregon Tilth, Portland, Oregon. Web: [www.organicology.org](http://www.organicology.org) or Phone: 1-877-378-0690.
- **14**  Central Oregon Hay Growers Annual Banquet. Location TBA.
- **16-23**  Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management Series (see article front page).
- **17**  Crook County Soil and Water Conservation Annual Landowners Workshop (see article page 4).
- **22-23**  Idaho Alfalfa and Forage Conference. Best Western Burley Inn, Burley, ID. Call Glenn Shewmaker at 208-736-3608, or go to: [http://www.idahohay.com/](http://www.idahohay.com/)
- **26**  Small Farms Conference (see article page 3).
- **27**  “Production, Processing, and Marketing of Niche meats” Short Course (see article page 5).

**March**
- **2-9**  Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management Series (see article front page).
- **5**  Living on a Few Acres (LOAFA) (see article page 3).

**July**
- **24-30**  New Century Farmer Conference (see article page 5).

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The first Extension programs began Oregon in 1911. Education in the form of institutes and demonstration were popular throughout the state in agriculture, and counties quickly embraced this new idea. The first faculty members assigned to the new Extension Division traveled around the state by train in order to meet people in the state’s diverse counties and demonstrate science-based techniques in agriculture and home economics. 2011 marks the 100th Anniversary of the Oregon State University Extension Service. If you would like to share one of you favorite Extension memories, please contact your local Extension office, we would love to hear from you!