2010 Oregon Hay King Contest

sponsored by
Oregon Hay and Forage Association

in cooperation with
Oregon State University Extension Service
Oregon State University Agricultural Experiment Station

The 2010 Oregon Hay King Contest will be held on Saturday, November 13th at Pro-Line Fabrication in Prineville, Oregon (11288 SW Hwy126 – which is actually on the north side of the highway! Pro-Line is east of the Prineville Airport on top of the Grade.)

The Hay King contest is an annual event where hay growers can not only show off their hay, but network with other growers, get ideas, and just celebrate the end of another year’s harvest. The 2010 contest will be hosted by the Central Oregon Hay Growers’ Association and will judge classes of dairy alfalfa, retail alfalfa, grass, grass/legume mix, cereal, cereal/legume (pea or vetch) mix, and timothy hay. The due date to submit an entry form and core samples is November 3rd. On November 13th show up at Pro-Line Fabrication with a bale from the stack you core-sampled earlier and watch judges, Steve Fransen, WSU Extension Forage & Biofuels Specialist, and Mylen Bohle, OSU Central Oregon Area Extension Agronomist, feel, smell and paw through everyone’s hay. It is a very educational day.

The bales are judged and awarded points based on quality testing (RFQ score) and sensory evaluation. The quality testing will be predicted by NIRS at the Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center. Hay quality parameters quantified will include crude protein, ADF, NDF, TDN, RFV, RFQ and many more quality indicators. The RFQ nutrient analysis scores are combined with the sensory scores, to name a winner in each category. Enter one or more bales (all sizes of bales are eligible for competition) and be the next Hay King!

Send core samples, entry forms, and $25 per entry to: Hay King Contest c/o Chanda Engel, Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center, 6941 Washburn Way, Klamath Falls, OR 97603-9365. Checks should be made out to Oregon Hay and Forage Association.

Coffee, refreshments, and lunch will be available on site for $5.00 per person. Call Mylen Bohle at (541) 447-6228 (Crook County Extension office) or (541) 419-5714 (cell).

Want to have a Vendor Booth at the Hay King Contest? Contact John Lang at (541) 923-2849.

Hay King Contest Schedule -

November 3 - Due date for all hay samples (any samples turned in prior to this date will be appreciated)

November 13 - Hay and Straw King Contest at Pro-line Fabrication

7:00 am – 9:00 am — Bale check-in and entry registration

9:00 am – Contest Begins

4:00 pm – Contest Concludes

See Hay King Contest Rules, Page 3
**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), native bunchgrass and perennial grass recovery and enrichment, 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 Meetings. These monthly meetings generally occur the third Thursday of each month via Polycom conferencing at various locations throughout the state. The OWGL website is at www.owgl.org or for other information you may call Sally Christensen, Member Services Director, Oregon Wheat Growers League, (541) 276-7330 (Phone), (541) 276-1723 (fax).

The marketing meetings are tentatively planned for the third Thursday of each month which is Dec. 16, Jan. 13, Feb. 17, Mar. 17, and Apr. 21. Central Oregon producers can view the monthly polycom presentations at the COARC, Madras site. The meetings run from 8:00 am – 9:00 am. Please call (541) 475-7107 the day before, to confirm your attendance and/or to make sure the meeting is taking place.  

**Mylen Bohle**

**37th Annual Hermiston Farm Fair & Trade Show**

Hermiston Farm Fair & Trade Show is being held Wednesday, December 1 – Friday, December 3, at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Hwy 395. The Farm Fair is an agricultural forum co-sponsored by OSU Extension Service, the Agriculture Committee of the Greater Hermiston Chamber of Commerce, and local agriculture-related businesses displaying their wares and services, both inside and outside the Conference Center. [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/hermiston/announcements/farm-fair-amp-trade-show](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/hermiston/announcements/farm-fair-amp-trade-show)

There is a $10.00 fee for attending the Core Program. All other sessions are free to attendees. No pre-registration is required. Oregon, Washington and Idaho pesticide re-certification credits will be available, in addition to CCA credits. The full Farm Fair agenda with updates and pesticide credit hours will be available on the website by mid November. 

**Mylen Bohle**

**Need Pesticide Credits?**

Check out December 8th and February 4th and 9th on this months CO Agricultural Newsletter Calendar (back page).

You may want to attend the Central Oregon Farm Fair and the COHGA Forage Day as well; occasionally there are pesticide credits available at these events.  

**Mylen Bohle**
(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

Hay King Contest Rules

All contestants must enter a cored sample of their hay entry by the November 3rd deadline. The cored sample shall be given to the local collector and shipped to the lab or you may send samples directly to the contest lab yourself. The entry fee for each sample is $25 for OHFA members and non-members. Checks should be made out to the Oregon Hay and Forage Association and turned in with the cored hay samples and entry registration form. Additionally, one bale, of each class of hay entered, must be in place at the contest location by 9 am, November 13th.

1. Cored hay samples must be a representative sample of the entire lot of hay. This means that:
   - Multiple cored sub-samples (20) must be taken to make up your sample, rather than an entire flake, or a portion of a flake.
   - The inside diameter of the coring device must be no less than 3/8 inches (if you don’t have a coring device, contact your Extension office). Note the type & size of sampling device on your entry form.
   - A minimum of 20 bales must be sampled at random from each lot of hay (a lot is hay from the same cutting, variety, field, stage of maturity, and harvested within the same day). A lot should not exceed 200 tons of hay, or be less than 30 tons.
   - When sampling, probe the bale near the center, at least 12 to 18 inches into the butt end of the bale. The probe should enter horizontally at a right angle to the surface of the end of the bale. Be sure the probe doesn’t slant up, down, or sideways.
   - Combine core samples for each class entry into a single sample by combining them into a sealed freezer bag. Samples submitted with less than a quart bag full of sample may be rejected. (This equates to a minimum of about 200 grams or ½ lb or greater of sample material, if sampled properly) Do not ever try to subdivide the sample! It is impossible to subdivide the sample until it is ground. Even if you have too much, send the whole sample in.

3. NEW RULE: If there is not a minimum of 2 entries in a class of hay the classes may not be judged, this will be at the OHFA board’s discretion. The submitter will be informed prior to the contest.

4. Entries can be sent directly to a local sample collector or to the contest lab. If you send directly to the lab, please let your local collector know. Samples entered without an entry fee and entry form will not be accepted!

Local Collectors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Lake</td>
<td>Carlos Curry, Fort Rock</td>
<td>541-576-2044</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lakeview</td>
<td>Pete Schrader, OSU Lake County Extension office, Lakeview, OR, 541-947-6054</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harney County</td>
<td>Jack Bauer, Harney Co. Hay and Forage Assoc., Burns, OR, 541-573-7702</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tony Svejcar, ARS-USDA, Burns, OR, 541-573-8901</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Oregon</td>
<td>Mylen Bohle, OSU Crook County Extension office, Prineville, OR, 541-447-6228</td>
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<tr>
<td>Klamath Basin</td>
<td>Chanda Engel, OSU Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center, Klamath Falls, OR, 541-883-4590</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wallowa County</td>
<td>Mark Butterfield, Joseph, OR, 541-432-3735</td>
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Contest Lab:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chanda Engel, Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center, Klamath Falls, OR, 97603-9365 or phone: 541-883-4590 ext. 1003</td>
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Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Checks Payable To:</th>
<th>Oregon Hay and Forage Association (samples entered without entry fee and entry form will not be accepted!)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refreshments:</td>
<td>Coffee and rolls available prior to the start of the contest, lunch available on site for $5.00.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lodging:</td>
<td>Stafford Inn-1773 NE 3rd, Phone: 541-447-7100, $78.85 incl. tax, buffet breakfast, swimming pool.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>City Center Motel-509 NE 3rd, Phone: 541-447-5522, $52 single &amp; $57 for two beds incl. tax, continental breakfast (home cooked).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Best Western Motel-1475 NE 3rd, Phone: 541-447-8080, $78.85 incl. tax, full breakfast, swimming pool.</td>
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<td>(There are other motels as well, but, at the proceeding three...if you mention “The Hay King Contest” or “Fall Forage Day”, you will receive the reduced rate.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vendor Booth:</td>
<td>Want to have a Vendor Booth at the Hay King Contest? Contact John Lang at (541) 923-2849.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mylene Bohle

See “Hay King Contest Entry Form”, Page 4
2010 Hay King Contest Entry Form  
Due November 3, 2010  

Please include this entry form with your hay sample and registration fee.  
Checks should be made payable to: Oregon Hay and Forage Association  
Entry Fees: Member-- $25  Non-Member - $25  
Samples entered without entry fee & entry form will not be accepted!  

Name__________________________________________________________  
Phone ______________________________________ Email________________  
Address __________________________________________________________________  
Town, State, Zip______________________________________________________________  
Core Device Used ____________________________  
Inside Diameter Core Size_________ Core Tip Size _________  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* Hay Species &amp; Type (see below)</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Cutting</th>
<th>Cutting Date</th>
<th>Bale Size</th>
<th>Tons in Lot</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Alfalfa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail Alfalfa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cereal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cereal/Legume (pea or vetch)</td>
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<td>Grass/Seed Straw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy</td>
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* Hay Species & Type  
(choose from the designations below to complete the first column above for each entry)  

Samples due by November 3, 2010 to: Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center  
6941 Washburn Way  
Klamath Falls, OR  97603
Oregon Forage & Grassland Council Fall Forage Day
Friday, November 12, 2010
Clover Club Building, 502 SE Lynn Blvd, Prineville, OR

8:30 am  Coffee & Registration
9:00 am  Fall Forage Plant Management
  Steve Fransen, WSU Extension Forage and Biofuels Specialist, Prosser, WA
9:45 am  Fencing Technology
  Randy Bailey, Territory Manager, Gallagher Fence Co., Redding, CA
11:15 am Central Washington Warm Season Grasses and Biofuels Research for PNW
  Steve Fransen, WSU Extension Forage and Biofuels Specialist, Prosser, WA
Noon  Lunch: On Your Own or Make your own Sandwich…?
To be sponsored by Seed Companies? (To be confirmed)
1:00 pm  Tours Depart: Pick one of four Tours (We will car pool for the tours)
  Tour 1  Breese Ranch, Prineville-Grass Fat Water Buffalo and Beef
  Dan Rohrer Ranch, Powell Butte -Water Buffalo and Man Saver Post Driver
  Oberg Bison Ranch, Powell Butte-Grass Fat Bison
  Tour 2  Juniper Grove Dairy, Redmond -Pasture Based Dairy Goat Cheese Farm
  Tumalo Farms, Tumalo-Conserved Feed Dairy Goat Cheese Farm (To Be Confirmed)
  Tour 3  Great American Egg Company, Powell Butte-Pasture Poultry for Meat and Eggs, and Pasture Pork
  Sullivan Dairy, Prineville-Pasture Based 22 Jersey Cow Dairy for Cheese
  Dancing Cow Farm, Prineville-Multi-Species Grazing (Dexter Cattle, Jacob Sheep, and Chickens)
  Tour 4  Jos Poland Dairy, Madras- Pasture Based Organic 200 Holstein Head Dairy for Milk and Organic
  Holstein Beef
  Bob & Jeff Houts Farm, Madras-Conserving Big Bale Hay at 30-35% Moisture
  Steffens Hay, (Silverton) Powell Butte- Portable Hay Press for 3x3 & 3x4 Hay Bales to Produce 22-inch,
  60 lb Compressed Bales
Dinner on Your Own
7:00/7:30 pm  OFGC Board Meeting

RSVP by Wednesday, November 10th to:
OSU Crook County Extension Service Office at (541) 447-6228
(See “Hay King Contest Rules”, page 3, for motel information)  Mylen Bohle

Intro to Wine Tasting and Appreciation
Friday, November 12th, 6-9pm
Meadow Lakes Golf Course Restaurant/300 SW Meadow Lakes Drive
Prineville, Oregon

$39.00 Registration Plus Additional $8.00 for Wine

Learn:
  Basic components of wine  How to knowledgeably taste and analyze wines
  About wine grapes and growing regions  Tasting, serving and drinking etiquette
  Wine and food pairing

Join instructor Laura Craska Cooper, local columnist and Intermediate Certificate Holder in Wine & Spirits from the Wine
& Spirit Education Trust in London.

Register at http://noncredit.cocc.edu or call COCC Community Learning at (541) 3838-7270.

Jeff Papke, Oregon open Campus Coordinator/Crook County
Central Oregon Irrigation & Agriculture Energy Efficiency Forum
November 10, 2010, 11:30 am – 3:00 pm
Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center
South Sister Conference Hall/3800 SW Airport Way, Redmond, Oregon 97756
AGENDA
11:30 am LUNCH (must pre-register for lunch)
11:35 am Welcome & “We can do this too!”
Elizabeth has been called the “gold standard” when it comes to providing services and support to rural Oregon businesses that are implementing energy efficiency projects. Elizabeth will highlight projects around the state and discuss financing and project support opportunities for Central Oregon irrigator and agricultural businesses.

Elizabeth McNannay, Resource Consultants

11:50 am Production Efficiency
No matter the size or nature of your agricultural operation, energy costs are probably growing faster than you’d like. Irrigation, processing equipment, refrigeration, heating, lighting, and more—together, they consume a large part of your potential profit. Assistance is available so you can cultivate healthy energy cost savings in any economic climate.

Kevin Wooster, Energy Trust of Oregon
Robert Wallace, Wy’East Resource Conservation & Development

12:30 pm Scientific Irrigation Scheduling
Scientific Irrigation Scheduling is the technique whereby technology (such as moisture probes and weather stations) are used to determine soil water status and evaporation demand in order to plan for optimal irrigation set size and intervals to meet the objectives of the grower, whether that be maximizing crop yield or conserving water.

Jac le Roux, Wy’East Resource Conservation & Development

1:00 pm BREAK

1:15 pm Rural Energy Audits
Now more than ever, promoting energy efficiency is critical in a time where the economy is faltering and farmers and agricultural producers need help in cutting costs. It is the Oregon State University Energy Efficiency Center’s goal to provide the necessary services to help as much as possible in this realm. The Energy Efficiency Center is looking to apply years of tool development, share its knowledge base and serve the agricultural community.

Steve Roderick, OSU Energy Efficiency Center

1:45 pm USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)
USDA Rural Development's Business & Cooperative Programs can support private rural businesses and farmers who are undertaking energy efficiency projects.
The REAP program provides matching grants to rural small businesses and agricultural producers to make improvements to their facilities. Energy efficiency measures include lighting, heating, cooling, insulation, and pump improvements.

Don Hollis, USDA Business Programs Specialist

2:15 OREGON Business Energy Tax Credit
Protecting Oregon’s environment is part of Oregon Department of Energy’s mission. That’s why ODOE offers the Business Energy Tax Credit to those who invest in energy conservation. Energy efficiency measures include insulation, HVAC, heat recovery, variable frequency drives (VFDs), controls, irrigation, and other process changes that reduce energy use.

Joe Colello, Oregon Department of Energy

2:45 pm Panel Q&A
3:00 pm ADJOURN

WyEast RC&D, (541) 923-4358

Oregon / Idaho Grains Conference
The Oregon / Idaho Grains Conference and state annual meetings will be held December 1-3 in Doubletree Hotel - Lloyd Center, Portland, OR. The Conference - Keys to Success 2010 – Partnerships, Education, and Networking - is sponsored by the Idaho Grain Producers Association and Oregon Wheat Growers’ League. A couple of highlights are Senator Larry Craig, from Idaho, Jim Miller, Under-secretary for Farm/Foreign Ag Service, D.C, many breakout sessions, and choice of a tour of the Widmer Brewery or the Grain Marketing Center.

$250 for early registration or $320 for late registration (after Nov. 15. You can register online at www.idahograin.org or http://www.owgl.org/ or call OWGL at 541-276-7330. Hotel information is available on the web site.

Mylen Bohle

2011 Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management
This popular course is being planned for Central Oregon, schedule to begin in February, 2011.

The Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management series is designed to provide beginning specialty crop and livestock farmers with the 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.
The workshops address these six broad topics:

• Dream It: Strategic Planning
• Do It: Farm Operations
• Manage It: Farm Finance
• Sell It: Marketing Strategies
• Grow It: Production
• Keep It: Managing Liability

More information about Growing Farms will be available soon. If you are interested in getting on the registration list, please contact Dana, dana.martin@oregonstate.edu or call (541) 548-6088 x 7957.
Dana Martin
Weaning Strategies

Stress can be minimized by implementing weaning strategies that reduce the degree of separation from the dam, incorporate slow changes in diet, and capitalize on the familiarity of the environment. There are several different strategies or combinations of strategies that can be used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pro</th>
<th>Con</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Separation</td>
<td>Abrupt separation of cow and calf without physical contact.</td>
<td>Will allow a ranch the option to sell the calf right off the cow. Decreases the need to reserve forage or purchase feed for calves. Can also eliminate the need to have special facilities to handle bawling calves.</td>
<td>High Stress Calves are typically transported, exposed to a new environment, new diet and not allowed adaption period to separation from dam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fence-line Weaning</td>
<td>Cow and calf have nose to nose contact through a fence line for a period of time. Preferred method allows both cow and calf access to forage. However, a drylot can be incorporated.</td>
<td>Decreased Stress Calf remains in a familiar environment and diet and allow adaptation to separation.</td>
<td>Unique fence line may need to be constructed to adequately contain calves and/or cows. Grazing management will need to be carefully thought out to accommodate cows and calves. Cost and Labor. Low risk of lesions or abscess from nose ring. Calves must be run through a chute 2 times during the weaning phase; 1) insertion of ring 2) removal of ring. However, calves can be processed during one of these times. Devices cost $2.00 (reusable). Retention rate reported 64-98%. May not be suitable for calves less than 425 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-Stage Weaning</td>
<td>A device is used to prevent the calf from suckling the cow, such as a specially designed nose ring. Stage 1: Calf is fitted with nose ring for 4-14 days. Calf remains with the cow. Stage 2: Nose ring removed and cow and calf are physically separated.</td>
<td>Less stress than abrupt separation. Calf is allowed a period of adaptation to restricted suckling prior to total separation. During this time they remain in a familiar environment and diet.</td>
<td>Cost and Labor. Low risk of lesions or abscess from nose ring. Calves must be run through a chute 2 times during the weaning phase; 1) insertion of ring 2) removal of ring. However, calves can be processed during one of these times. Devices cost $2.00 (reusable). Retention rate reported 64-98%. May not be suitable for calves less than 425 lbs.</td>
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</table>

Affect of weaning strategy on total weight gain of calves 2 weeks and 10 weeks after weaning. Fence line weaning resulted in larger gains at both two and ten weeks post weaning compared to the calves that had total separation.

Destination of calf and hay adaptation did not statistically affect weight gain during the weeks following weaning. Adapted from Price et al. 2003.

SAVE THE DATE --- March 5, 2011

The annual Living on a Few Acres Conference (LOAFA) will be bigger and better this year with greater class offerings, more instructors, a larger trade show and wonderful opportunities to learn and network.

Dana Martin
OSUEA Cooperator Awards --- Congratulations!

Each year, the Oregon State University Extension Association honors individuals who have made significant contributions to Extension programs. It is through these cooperators that Extension is able to accomplish so much.

This award is highly competitive with typically fewer than 10 presented statewide. We are proud to announce that two of these 2010 OSUEA Cooperator Awards will be presented to Central Oregonians: Jim and Debbie Fields of Bend, and John “Norm” Say of Prineville. These folks are very deserving of the recognition and we at OSU Extension truly appreciate their contribution. Here is a little information about them.

Jim and Debbie Fields, Fields Farm, Bend

The Fields are known as the pioneers of organic farming in Central Oregon. They generously share what they have learned from their more than 20 years of farming in the challenging Bend climate. Fields Farm serves as a learning laboratory for adults and youth who are interested in learning about growing food. From production techniques to marketing strategies, Fields Farm has paved the way for aspiring Central Oregon farmers who want to follow in the Fields’ footsteps and direct market their products.

Jim teaches classes for OSU Master Gardener and OSU Extension Small Farms programs. Fields Farm hosts school tours so children can learn where their food comes from. The farm also provides hands-on education for Central Oregon Community College culinary students. As one of the founders of the Bend Farmers’ Market, Jim serves on the board of directors of this expanding market. He also serves on the OSU/Deschutes County Extension Advisory Board where he has contributed as a Budget Committee member.

John “Norm” Say, Prineville

John has been an OSU Master Gardener volunteer in Central Oregon since 1996. To date he has contributed over 4000 volunteer hours. He is a well known gardening icon in Prineville where he works in the plant clinic and answers gardening questions. John takes time to listen to clients and assist them while “on duty” as a volunteer and “off duty” when he further assists people with their home landscapes.

John has written gardening columns for the local newspaper and each year, organizes a master gardener area at the Crook County Fair. He is often asked to share his expertise at pruning and vegetable gardening classes. John spearheaded a community based pruning project in Prineville called “Triple Win” where he and other master gardeners lead Boys and Girls Club members in pruning trees for homeowners throughout the community. Homeowners then donated money to support the local Boys and Girls club.

Dana Martin

Pioneering a Local Food System in Central Oregon ---things are happening!

Community Food Security is defined as “a situation in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and social justice.”

So, how are “safe”, “culturally acceptable” and “sustainable food system” defined? What does it mean by “social justice” and “community self-reliance”? The definition and interpretation of these terms can be debated and answers are not simple. However, one thing is for sure -- with issues of hunger, unemployment and the challenges of locally produced food, there is no doubt that Community Food Security is of great concern and communities are moving forward to find solutions.

In order to understand what is happening, here is a quick review of the year; what has been learned and the “next steps” taking place to build a local food system that will enhance community food security in our region.

In the fall of 2009, a Community Food Assessment (CFA) was initiated by Wy’East Resource Conservation and Development. Sydney Leonard, VISTA AmeriCorps volunteer, was brought on to work in partnership with Neighbor Impact, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council and Oregon State University Extension Service.

A CFA is a collaborative, participatory project that takes a big picture look at our food system in all its parts (production, distribution, consumption) with the purpose of learning how it works and how to improve our food and farms. “It shows what our most pressing needs are, as well as the key community assets on which to build,” says Sydney.

CFA process:

• Gather data, information and community input regarding food access and availability

• Engage, educate and empower the community through the CFA process

• Facilitate strategic visioning.

See “Pioneering a Local Food System in Central Oregon”, Page 9
Pioneering a Local Food System in Central Oregon

Central Oregon CFA actions:

- Agricultural Producer Survey, Consumer Survey, and Community Food Survey, community meetings, direct interviews, focus groups (February-July, 2010)
- Central Oregon Food Summit (September 10, 2010)
- Central Oregon Food Policy Council (Currently meeting)

CFA Report: The findings from all the information collected through the past year have been published in a 115-page Pioneering a Local Food System in Central Oregon: A Community Food Assessment Report. Please contact me if you would like to have a copy of this report. Here are a few highlights from the CFA report that relate to producers.

Farm/Ranch Viability: The biggest issues impacting the viability of farming in Central Oregon were related to marketing challenges, profitability and regulatory compliance, all which are interrelated.

- A majority of local farm products are not being sold in the places that people are used to accessing food; this “lack of access” was indicated to be a greater barrier than “price” as a reason for consumers not buying local food.
- Local producers are struggling to get products into the local sector and on existing distribution lines because of marketing related challenges and the challenge of meeting quality consistency, and quantity needs of retailers and distributors.
- The economic viability of farming in Central Oregon is an important issue if we want to preserve farms and farmland and secure our ability to meet food needs as a region. Most local producers rely heavily on off-farm jobs to survive, leaving less time for marketing and on-farm work. Many survey respondents were landowners who were interested in making use of their land and producing food for the local community but faced marketing challenges.
- Survey respondents emphasized the prohibitive effects of land-use regulations in regards to diversifying farm income through activities such as agri-tourism, farm internships and building a separate dwelling on farmland. Because of the immense struggles around the economic viability of small-scale farming, this will be an important issue for the public and county governments to address.

- 60 percent of those surveyed described the current state of agriculture in Central Oregon as struggling, with 35% surviving and 5% thriving. However, when asked about future plans, 52% said that they plan to expand or diversity production over the next 5 years.

As the next step to this CFA process, a Central Oregon Food Policy Council has been formed. A diverse group of stakeholders who support a sustainable food system have been meeting to focus on issues identified by the CFA. One of the priority goals of this group is to review governmental regulations and policies that stand in the way of revitalizing the local food economy and promote implementation of new policies that will help local farmers, food processors and food retailers. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 4, 5:30pm in Bend. Contact Katrina Van Dis, kvandis@coic.org, 541-504-3307 for more information.

Dana Martin

Locally Grown Spuds For Sale!

The Crook County FFA Alumni and Crook County FFA are selling potatoes grown on the Crook County Land Lab. Varieties included Russet, Red, and Yukon Gold. All varieties sell for $.30/lb. Potatoes are sold in 25lb and 50lb sacks with custom orders also available. Proceeds help fund activities for the Crook County FFA Chapter. Please contact Dan McNary at (541) 416-6903 or dan.mcenary@crookcounty.k12.or.us, or Jeff Papke at (541) 233-8023 or jeff.papke@oregonstate.edu, to place an order.

Tim Debooedt

Alfalfa Intensive Training Seminar

The Alfalfa Intensive Training Seminar will be held November 16-18 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Denver International Airport, Denver, CO. To register contact the National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance at www.alfalfa.org or call 1-509-585-6798. Registration is $600.

The seminar is taught by Extension Forage Specialists and USDA Dairy Research Center personnel from Kentucky, Wisconsin, Idaho, and Minnesota. There will be 11.5 certified crop advisor credits offered.


Mylen Bohle
November
10  Central Oregon Irrigation and Agricultural Energy Efficiency Forum, Redmond, Oregon. See article page 6.
12  Oregon Forage & Grassland Council Fall Forage Day, Prineville, Oregon. See article page 5.
13  Intro to Wine Tasting and Appreciation, Prineville, Oregon. See article page 5.
25-26 *Holiday - COARC and County Extension Service Offices Closed.*
30  Alfalfa IPM Intensive CAFA Pre-Symposium Workshop. Kearney Ag Center, Parlier, CA.

December
1-3  Hermiston Farm Fair, Hermiston, Oregon. See article page 2.
1-3  Oregon / Idaho Grains Conference, Portland, Oregon. See article page 6.
5-7  Irrigation Show. Phoenix, AZ. Call (703) 536-7080 ext 11 or go to [www.irrigation.org](http://www.irrigation.org).
8  Private Pesticide Applicator Exam Prep Class, Madras, Oregon. 8:30 to Noon, Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Call (541) 475-7107
16  Statewide Monthly Wheat Marketing Meeting, Madras, Oregon. See article page 2.
24 & 31 *Holidays—COARC and County Extension Service Offices Closed.*

January
22  Central Oregon Forage Day. Central Oregon Hay Growers’ Association. 4-H Clover Club Building, 502 SE Lynn Blvd., Prineville, OR. (541) 447-6228

February
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. Email: ahlvinl@oregonstate.edu
9  Core Training. 8:30 – Noon. Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Madras, OR. Information: (541) 475-7107
14  Central Oregon Hay Growers Annual Banquet. Location TBA
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/)