

Central Oregon Agriculture

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JULY/AUGUST 2015

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22nd Annual High Desert Garden Tour Saturday, July 18, 2015

This annual event presented by the OSU Extension and Central Oregon Chapter of OSU Master Gardeners™, is an educational and fun opportunity for gardeners to see a variety of garden styles and plant choices they can have in their own yards. It is a self-guided tour (from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm), with hundreds of participants. OSU Master Gardener™ Staff will be at all locations to answer gardening questions throughout the day. This year seven (7) beautiful gardens in Bend will be featured.

The cost of the tour is \$10. Children 16 and under are free. You can find tickets at these locations: Worthy Brewing Company, Strictly Organic (downtown and Old Mill), Shoe Inn, Moonfire & Sun Garden Center, Schultz Farm & Garden, OSU/Deschutes County Extension Service in Redmond and OSU/Crook County Extension Service in Prineville.

For more information contact the OSU/Deschutes County Extension Service at (541) 548-6088.

LAMB 300 Short-Course, From Pasture to Plate Tuesday – Thursday, July 28-30, 2015

Washington State University Extension, Departments of Animal Sciences and Oregon State University Extension are excited to announce the fourth *LAMB 300* short-course; to be held at the OSU James E. Oldfield Animal Teaching Facility on the OSU Campus in Corvallis, Oregon.

LAMB 300 is a three-day, hands-on workshop designed for progressive individuals involved with the sheep industry. The course will focus on teaching producers, feeders, and marketers (regardless of the size or type of operation) how to produce and market quality lambs and lamb products. Participants will learn how environmental, nutritional, genetic, and managerial factors contribute to meat quality. Participants will also learn how meat quality factors influence the price producers receive for lamb and lamb products marketed through various outlets. This program will increase one's understanding of lamb quality and marketing, enabling participants to make informed decisions to improve profitability, competitiveness, and wholesomeness of the livestock they are producing. The course will feature nationally recognized speakers in the area of sheep production, feeding, processing, and marketing.

The registration fee for *LAMB 300* is \$170 per participant, which covers meals, materials, and parking arrangements. Hotel accommodations will be the responsibility of the participants. The course is limited to 32 participants and will be available on a first-pay, first-serve basis.

For additional information on *WSU LAMB 300*, contact: Jan Busboom, WSU Meat Specialist, (509)335-2880 or busboom@wsu.edu; Gene Pirelli, OSU Regional Extension Educator, (503) 623-8395 or gene.pirelli@oregonstate.edu. More information and registration forms are available on the WSU Central Animal Agriculture web page at <http://animalag.wsu.edu> under "Upcoming Events". Individuals who wish to pay with a credit card can do so by going to <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/276005> (Link).

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This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please call (541) 447-6228 for information. If you have a physical disability that requires special considerations in order for you to attend an event, please notify Pam Wiederholt at (541) 447-6228, three (3) days prior to event date.

Central Oregon Agriculture is a bi-monthly newsletter produced by the Central Oregon Extension offices and the Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center (COARC). The intent of this newsletter is to extend agricultural research-based information, to solve problems, develop leadership and manage resources wisely. Please direct comments and changes to the mailing list of your local County office.

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Cell (541) 419-5714

◆ Pamela Wiederholt, Ag Newsletter Coordinator/
Webmaster, (541) 447-6228.

Central Oregon County Extension Offices (all area codes are 541)

Crook County Extension Service - Phone 447-6228,
498 SE Lynn Blvd., Prineville, OR 97754

Deschutes County Extension Service - Phone 548-6088,
3893 SW Airport Way, Redmond, OR 97756

Jefferson County Extension Service - Phone 475-7107,
850 Dogwood Lane., Madras, OR 97741

Warm Springs Indian Reservation - Phone 553-3238,
1110 Wasco St., PO Box 430, Warm Springs, OR 97761

Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center

◆ Carol Tollefson, Operations Director, 475-7107

Madras Site - Phone 475-7107, 850 Dogwood Lane, 97741

Powell Butte Site - 8215 SW Hwy. 126, 97753

Extension Service & Experiment Station Web Sites

Crook County: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/crook>

Deschutes County: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/deschutes>

Jefferson County: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/jefferson>

Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center:
<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/coarc/index.php>

Central Oregon Agricultural Extension Service Staff

◆ Dana Martin, Regional Administrator, 548-6088

◆ Mylen Bohle, Crops, Cereals, Hay, Pasture and Irrigation,
447-6228

◆ Marvin Butler, Research

◆ Tim Deboodt, Range Resources and Livestock, 447-6228

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◆ Scott Duggan, Livestock, 553-3238

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◆ Tracy Wilson, Soil Health and Plant Nutrition, 475-7107

◆ Toni Stephan, Horticulture and Small Farms Instructor,
548-6088

◆ Nicole Strong, Forestry, 548-6088

The above individuals are devoted to extending agricultural information to producers. Many of the individuals, in addition to agriculture, have assignments in research, 4H/youth, administration and community resource education. Often it is appropriate to mention brand names of some commercial products; however, they are used only for the purpose of information. Extension does not guarantee or warrant the standard of the product, or does it imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others.

Is There a Stream or Pond on Your Property in Need of Riparian Restoration?

The Oregon Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is open for sign-up and could be the solution to assist you. The CREP provides a cost-effective way for landowners to restore and enhance riparian vegetation along streams and around permanent water bodies.

- An annual rental rate is offered, plus cost-share payments of up to 75 percent of the eligible costs to install conservation practices and additional sign-up incentive and practice completion payments.
- Administered through the Farm Service Agency (FSA), using a collaborative approach the CREP addresses conservation issues such as impacts to water resources, soil erosion, critical habitat, and reduced habitat for fish populations such as salmon.
- The CREP is a community-based effort that emphasizes results-oriented projects, while presenting an opportunity to foster a partnership between producers, the state and federal governments, and the local soil and water conservation districts.
- During the 10 – 15 year contract period the CREP provides payments to producers who offer to voluntarily remove riparian areas from production through the creation of a buffer (minimum 35') along the stream.
- Common practices include riparian fencing, riparian planting, weed control, and off-site watering facility establishment.

Visit the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District website, or the other websites listed, for additional information about the program.

Jefferson SWCD: <http://jeffswcd.org/> (Link)

Oregon: <http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/pages/crep.aspx> (Link)

FSA: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/> (Link)

If you would like to schedule a site visit please contact the CREP Planner for Jefferson, Crook and Deschutes Counties: John Speece, CREP Planner, (541) 923-4358 ext. 139.

What is Hay Worth?

Wondering what the price of hay is whether you are buying or selling? Especially if you are raising and selling hay, you may want to get in on the weekly call from USDA Market News Service, Portland, Oregon. The C.O. hay market report can be freely accessed at the home page:

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ml_gr313.txt, or if you want to go directly to the page to check on all of the different state markets, go to this web site: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateN&navID=MarketNewsAndTransportation>

[Data&leftNav=MarketNewsAndTransportationData&page=LSMarketNewsPageHay](http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateN&navID=MarketNewsAndTransportationData&page=LSMarketNewsPageHay).

Once you are signed up to participate in the hay market report if you would like to contribute to the report, someone from the office will call (or you can call) and inquire if you have sold hay, number of tons, for what price, what the quality is, etc. This information is then compiled weekly and put up on the Internet report and also published in the Capital Press. The idea is if both seller and buyer know the market, then a true, free, and fair market exists for all concerned. It also works if you want to buy hay and you are wondering where the market is at, when looking for hay to purchase.

Contact Information: USDA Market News Service, Portland, OR., Portland.LGMN@ams.usda.gov. 24 hour grain price information (503) 326-2022, www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ML_GR313.txt www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketnews, (503) 326-2237.

Eastern Oregon Liming Guide

As we continue to add more years of farming to our soils, soil pH has been declining and becoming more acidic. At some point, depending upon the crop to be grown, the soil pH needs to be raised to allow beneficial and economic growth of the crop. The cost of doing so is always a major capital outlay. There is a new “Eastern Oregon Liming Guide”, EM 9060, published by OSU Extension Service and should be of great interest to all producers. It is available online at: <http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/38532/em9060.pdf>.

OSU has initiated a tilled and non-tilled lime rate (0-8,000 lb/ac) trial with mixed grass species hay at Tumalo. Hopefully, better lime rate recommendations will be produced in the coming years based on the results of this trial.

For more information contact Mylen Bohle at (541) 447-6228, mylen.bohle@oregonstate.edu or Tracy Wilson at (541) 475-7107 or tracy.wilson@oregonstate.edu.

Forage Management During Drought

As your farm or ranch runs out of irrigation water...remember that you want to leave tall stubble height of perennial grasses when going dormant. You want to leave at least 4-5 inches of stubble from now until next spring when green up returns. Plants store their carbohydrates and sugars in that crown area to survive drought and winter, and then begin green up in the spring. And you want to leave those tillers there for next year’s harvest or grazing.

Legumes store those carbohydrates in their more expansive tap roots. If you can induce dormancy in the alfalfa plant so there is no regrowth once harvested; little use of carbohydrates is used. Legumes utilize stored carbohydrates to grow those first 6-8 inches of growth, before they start to recharge their root system. Grasses are very similar in use of non-structural carbohydrates to regrow.

Ideally, if you can harvest at full heading for grasses or 10-50 % bloom for legumes, then you will leave your plant in great shape to go through drought-induced dormancy. Try not to drive across fields that are dormant.

For more information contact Mylen Bohle at (541) 447-6228 or mylen.bohle@oregonstate.edu.

Crop Enterprise Budgets

Enterprise budgets for alfalfa and grass hay production, along with wheat budgets were updated this spring. While they are still in draft form or are preliminary; they are available. Zach Flegel did an OSU senior class internship spring quarter with Crook County Extension and did the background work to put together these budgets. We would also be interested in your feedback on the budgets as well. Anyone that is interested can contact Mylen at the Crook County Extension office at (541) 447-6228 or mylen.bohle@oregonstate.edu.

Crop Water Use

We got though a brutal June and perhaps will be challenged with a warm July and August? It is challenging to keep up with irrigation needs when the temperatures are running between 90 and 100 degrees F. Below are some figures from July 4-7, 2015.

Predicted daily crop water use (inches/day or evaporation and transpiration = evapotranspiration) of selected crops for July 4-7, 2015, at Madras, Powell Butte, Bend, and Christmas Valley, Oregon.

	Madras	Powell Butte	Bend	Christmas Valley
Alfalfa Peak	0.35-0.39	0.29-0.38	0.22-0.29	0.29-0.33
Grass Hay Peak	0.32-0.36	0.27-0.35	0.20-0.26	0.27-0.31
Pasture	0.24-0.27	0.20-0.26	0.15-0.20	0.20-0.22
Winter Wheat	0.22-0.23	0.16-0.23	0.08-0.12 (?)	0.26-0.32
Spring Grain	0.35-0.39	0.29-0.38	0.22-0.29	0.29-0.33
Field Corn	0.32-0.37	0.16-0.21	0.12-0.16	----

More crops are listed for these locations at Agrimet: <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/agrimet/h2ouse.html>.

For more information contact Mylen Bohle at (541) 447-6228 or mylen.bohle@oregonstate.edu.

1st Cutting Mixed Grass Species Hay Dry Matter Yield Response to Nitrogen Rates, and Greenseeker Mean Numbers

Harvested June 10, 2015 at the McGinnis Ranch, Tumalo, Oregon
 (“ Preliminary Results”)

Nitrogen Rate (lb/ac)				
0	40	80	120	160
Yield (tons/acre)				
0.85	1.39	2.04	2.24	2.38
Greenseeker #'s				
0.585	0.695	0.739	0.769	0.810

+ There was no lodging. Urea was the source of N.

Greenseeker measurement #'s taken just before harvest: 0 – 1.0 (1.0 is “Greenest”)

For more information contact Mylen Bohle at (541) 447-6228, mylen.bohle@oregonstate.edu or Tracy Wilson at (541) 475-7107, tracy.wilson@oregonstate.edu.

Calendar

July

15-18 Jefferson County Fair, Madras, Oregon.

18 [High Desert Garden Tour](#) (Link), Bend, OR., Amy Jo Detweiler (541) 548-6088, See article Front Page.

28-30 *LAMB 300*, From Pasture to Plate, Corvallis, OR., Gene Pirelli (503) 623-8395 or gene.pirelli@oregonstate.edu, See Article Front Page.

29-*August 2nd*

Deschutes County Fair, Redmond, Oregon.

August

5-8 Crook County Fair, Prineville, Oregon.

September

12 4th Annual Small Farm School, Oregon City, OR., [Information](#) (Link)

15-18 Lost Rivers Grazing Academy, Salmon, ID., [Information](#) (Link).

16-18 Society for Range Management (SRM) Pacific Northwest Section Fall Meeting, Richland, WA., Richard Fleenor at (509) 323-2965. [Registration](#) (pdf)

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