



Oregon State University Extension Service

Central Oregon Agriculture

Volume 19 Issue 6

October/November 2010

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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

"Central Oregon Agriculture" is a bi-monthly newsletter produced by the Central Oregon Extension offices and the Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center. 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 to your local County office. Pam Wiederholt - Ag Newsletter Coordinator, Crook County, (541) 447-6228

Extension offices listed below (all area codes are 541)

Central Oregon County Extension Offices:

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 475-3808, 34 SE D St., 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:

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

Powell Butte Site - Phone 447-5138, 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/coarcl/index.php>

Central Oregon Agricultural Extension Service Staff:

Rich Affeldt - Mint, Seed Crops and Weed Control, 475-3808

Myleen Bohle - Forage, Hay, Pasture and Cereals, 447-6228

Fara Brummer - Ag. and Natural Resource, 553-1520

Marvin Butler - Mint and Seed Crops, 475-3808

Tim Deboodt - Range Resources and Livestock, 447-6228

Amy Detweiler - Horticulture, 548-6088

Steve Fitzgerald - Forestry, 548-6088

Fahrettin Goktepe - Potatoes, 475-7107

Dana Martin - Small Acreage, 548-6088

Barbi Riggs - Livestock and Water Quality, 447-6228

Bo Ming Wu - Plant Pathology, 475-7107

The above individuals represent 7.75 full time equivalents 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, nor does it imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others.

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OSU Extension programs will provide reasonable accommodation to persons with physical or mental disabilities. Contact Pam Wiederholt at (541) 447-6228 to request reasonable accommodation.

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. *Myleen 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>

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. *Myleen Bohle*

Need Pesticide Credits?

Check out December 8th and February 4th and 9th on this month's 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. *Myleen 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 1/2 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:

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

Contest Lab:

Chanda Engel, Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center, 6941 Washburn Way, Klamath Falls, OR, 97603-9365 or phone: 541-883-4590 ext. 1003

Information:

Checks Payable To:	Oregon Hay and Forage Association (samples entered without entry fee and entry form will not be accepted!)
Refreshments:	Coffee and rolls available prior to the start of the contest, lunch available on site for \$5.00.
Lodging:	Stafford Inn-1773 NE 3 rd , Phone: 541-447-7100, \$78.85 incl. tax, buffet breakfast, swimming pool. City Center Motel-509 NE 3 rd , Phone: 541-447-5522, \$52 single & \$57 for two beds incl. tax, continental breakfast (home cooked). Best Western Motel-1475 NE 3 rd , Phone: 541-447-8080, \$78.85 incl. tax, full breakfast, swimming pool. <i>(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.)</i>
Vendor Booth:	Want to have a Vendor Booth at the Hay King Contest? Contact John Lang at (541) 923-2849.

Mylen 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 _____

* Hay Species & Type (see below)	Variety	Cutting	Cutting Date	Bale Size	Tons in Lot

* Hay Species & Type
(choose from the designations below to complete the first column above for each entry)

<i>Dairy Alfalfa</i>	<i>Retail Alfalfa</i>	<i>Grass/Legume mix</i>	<i>Grass</i>
<i>Cereal</i>	<i>Cereal/Legume (pea or vetch)</i>	<i>Grass Seed Straw</i>	<i>Timothy</i>

**Samples due by November 3, 2010 to: Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center
6941 Washburn Way
Klamath Falls, OR 97603**

Free Event! Free Event! Free Event!

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
 About wine grapes and growing regions
 Wine and food pairing

How to knowledgeably taste and analyze wines
 Tasting, serving and drinking etiquette

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 pm 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 at <http://www.owgl.org/> or call OWGL at 541-276-7330. Hotel information is available on the web site.

Mylene 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

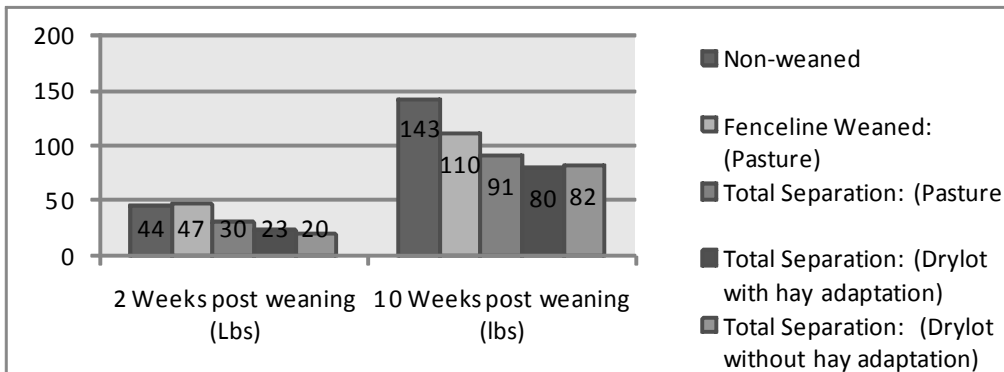
More information about Growing Farms will be available soon. If you are interested in getting on the registration list, please contact Dana, dana.martin@oregonstate.edu or call (541) 548-6088 x 7957.

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.

Strategy	Description	Pro	Con
Total Separation	Abrupt separation of cow and calf without physical contact. 1) Removal of calf to a new environment (i.e. sold, pasture or drylot). Or 2) Removal of cow to a new area thus leaving the calf in the pasture or rangeland.	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.	High Stress Calves are typically transported, exposed to a new environment, new diet and not allowed adaptation period to separation from dam.
Fenceline Weaning	Cow and calf have nose to nose contact through a fenceline for a period of time. Preferred method allows both cow and calf access to forage. However, a drylot can be incorporated.	Decreased Stress Calf remains in a familiar environment and diet and allow adaptation to separation.	Unique fenceline 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.
Two-Stage Weaning	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.	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.	



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.

Barbi Riggs

☺ **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 directories 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

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)**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 Deboodt

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.

Topics to be covered include: Genetics, Variety Testing & Selection Testing, Seed Production, Growth & Development, Forage Quality and Terms, Soils: Fertility and Manure Management, Establishment, Irrigation, Pest Management, Harvesting: Options, Losses, & Decisions, Mowing and Field Drying, Silage Preservation, Hay Preservation, Alfalfa in Rotations, Role of Alfalfa in Animal Diets, Alfalfa – Custom Harvesting, and Economics.

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.
Intro to Wine Tasting and Appreciation, Prineville, Oregon. See article page 5.
13 Oregon Hay King Contest. Oregon Hay & Forage Association. Prineville, Oregon. See articles front page, 3, 4, and 5.
16-18 Alfalfa Intensive Training Seminar, Denver, CO. See article page 9.
20 Catching the Rain/Rainwater Catchment Workshop. Underwood Conservation District, WA. Registration at (509) 493-1936.
25-26 Holiday - COARC and County Extension Service Offices Closed.
30 Alfalfa IPM Intensive CAFA Pre-Symposium Workshop. Kearney Ag Center, Parlier, CA.
http://ucanr.org/sites/Alfalfa_Forges/

December

- 1-2 California Alfalfa and Forage Symposium. Visalia, CA. http://ucanr.org/sites/Alfalfa_Forges/
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.
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

- 12-13 Washington State Hay Growers Convention, Three Rivers, Convention Center, Kennewick, WA. For more info: <http://www.wa-hay.org/>
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
10-12 Organicology 2011, Oregon Tilth, Portland, Oregon. Web: www.organicology.org or Phone: 1-877-378-0690.
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/>

**Oregon State University
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3893 SW Airport Way
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