

November 2009

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Calendar of Coming Events

- **November 17**
BARN OWL Workshop
Columbia Gorge Discovery Center,
The Dalles
- **November 19**
CORE Pesticide
Training
Pine Grove Grange,
Hood River
- **December 10**
Cherry Pruning Tour
The Dalles

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Mid-Columbia Hort News

Steve Castagnoli, Extension Faculty

Spotted Wing Drosophila—a new fruit pest has arrived in Oregon

You may have heard about the detection and spread of the spotted wing Drosophila (SWD) in Oregon this summer. SWD was recently detected in orchards in the Hood River Valley and The Dalles, and may now be widely distributed in both districts. There is a lot that we don't know about this pest, but there are reports that it caused damage in crops including cherries, raspberries, and strawberries in California this past season. In Oregon, it has been found in blueberries, wild blackberries, red raspberries, Marionberries, cherries, strawberries, plums, peaches, grapes,

figs, hardy kiwis, and Asian pears. Apple is listed as another potential host, but pear is not considered to be a host.

SWD is here and is likely to be an issue in susceptible crops next season. To date, there are no established management plans for SWD. We will actively search for information on management programs and provide that over the coming months in an effort to avoid damage next season.

More information about this pest is available at:

[http://
ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/
bitstream/1957/13090/1/
em8991.pdf](http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/bitstream/1957/13090/1/em8991.pdf)
and
[http://
suzukiore-
gon.hort.oregonstate.edu/home](http://suzukioregon.hort.oregonstate.edu/home).



Core Pesticide Training/Recertification for Private Applicators

A Core pesticide training session will be offered at the Pine Grove Grange on Thursday, November 19. The training session will run from 1 pm to 4:35 pm. Four hours of Oregon and Washington recertification credit will be available for the training session. You must attend the entire session to receive credit.

There will be a \$10 per person charge for the training. Cash or checks payable to OSU Extension Service will be ac-

cepted. For more information about the Core training, call the OSU Extension Service Office in Hood River at (541) 386-3343.

Private applicators must accumulate a total of 16 credit hours during their five-year certification period. Four of these hours must be Core training. Twelve must be "other" ODA accredited training. The Core training may be repeated one additional time during the certification period for "other" cred-

its. No more than eight credit hours may be accumulated in any one calendar year.

Not sure of your recertification status? You may check your accumulated recertification credits, as well as get more information about pesticide related certification exams, licensing, or recertification by contacting the ODA Pesticides Division at (503) 986-4635 or: [http://
egov.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/).



Barn Owl Workshop

A Barn Owl Workshop will be held Tuesday, November 17 at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, The Dalles. This workshop will begin with a classroom session at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center beginning at 8:00 am. Presenters are Mike Omeg, a local orchardist and avid researcher of alternative methods of pest control, and OSU wildlife ecologist Jennifer Gervais. Topics will include:

- the biology and ecology of local rodent pests such as gophers and voles
- their role in crop damage
- alternatives for rodent control including barn owls

The indoor session will be followed by a field tour from about 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, which will include a visit to a demonstration site with recently installed barn owl boxes and

raptor perches. This workshop is jointly sponsored by Wasco County SWCD, Wasco County OSU Extension, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Pesticide credits have been applied for. For more information, contact Shilah Olson, Wasco County SWCD, 541 296-6178 x 105.

Cherry Pruning Tour—December 10th, The Dalles

The tour will be conducted in English beginning at 8:30 am and repeated with Spanish translation at 1:30 pm. Coffee and donuts will be provided by Chamberlin Distributing.

John Carter Point Block – Three Mile and Pleasant Ridge Road

Mature Bing/Mazzard trained to the Steep Leader System

From I-84 take Exit 87 (avoiding Brewery Grade which is under

construction). Head south on US-197 towards Dufur. In 0.3 miles turn right onto Fremont St. Continue west on Old Dufur Rd. and make a slight right onto E. 10th St. Turn left at Dry Hollow Rd. At the Y turn left onto Three Mile Rd. Continue for about 2.5 miles. The Point Block is on the right. Watch for Pruning Tour sign.

Steve Agidius Orchard – Doane Road

Rainier/G6 Vogel Central Leader – Planted 2004; Sweetheart/

Mazzard KGB – Planted 2006 and 2008.

John Morton Orchard – Doane Road

Regina/G6 Vogel Central Leader – Planted 2008; Skeena/G6 KGB – Planted Fall 2004 and Spring 2005.

For more information contact Lynn Long: 541-296-5494, lynn.long@oregonstate.edu.

Tour conducted in English starting at 8:30am
In Spanish starting at 1:30pm



Hood River SWCD Announces Plant Sale

Each spring, the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) hosts a native tree and shrub sale to promote planting native species and give local landowners a convenient and inexpensive way to obtain them. For 2010, a variety of native conifers, deciduous trees and shrubs are being offered as

1-2 year old bare-root seedlings that will be available in early April 2010. Order forms and plant descriptions are available online (www.hoodriverswcd.org) and at the SWCD office located at 3007 Experiment Station Road. Tree and shrub orders can be placed now by mail, e-mail (hrrswcd@gorge.net) or

phone (541-386-4588). Orders will be accepted until March 1, 2010, but orders will be filled in the order in which they are received, so to ensure availability get your requests in early.