

Oregon State University Extension Service  
The Prompter / Rancher Review  
A Union, Baker and Wallowa County Farm & Ranch Newsletter



December 2009



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**OSU**  
Oregon State  
UNIVERSITY  
Extension Service

**CORE Pesticide Applicator Training Sessions Offered  
by OSU Extension and Oregon Dept. of Agriculture at  
Two Sites in NE Oregon**

Pesticide Consultants and Private/Public/Commercial Pesticide Applicators are invited to participate in training sessions offered in LaGrande or Enterprise. Training sessions are free, however, donations for doughnuts are encouraged. A variety of interesting topics for any licensed applicator needing recertification credit will be covered including topics such as: Label Interpretation, ODA Regulatory Updates, Worker Protection Standards, Record Keeping, Back-to-Basics Review, and other important information will be discussed. 4 CORE or 4 general re-certification credits are available at a session and each session is split up into a morning (AM) section (2 credits) and afternoon (PM) section (2 credits). **The training session agenda will be repeated at each site so you may participate in only one session.** Guest speakers will be on-site representing Oregon Department of Agriculture and other agencies if schedules permit.

**Session #1 Wallowa Co. - Enterprise**

**Date:** December 16<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** Clover Leaf Hall, Wallowa Co. Extension Office.

**Registration:** Call Jill at 541-426-3143.

**Lunch:** 30 minute lunch break at noon....don't forget to bring your lunch!!!

**Session #2 Union Co. - LaGrande**

**Date:** December 17<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** Ag Service Center Conference Room, Union Co. Extension Office

**Registration:** Call Connie or Sherry at 541-963-1010

**Lunch:** 30 minute lunch break at noon....don't forget to bring your lunch!!!

**What do I do if I need additional credit by December 31<sup>st</sup>?**

Applicators looking for additional training sessions may go online to the Oregon Dept. of Ag website to search the database for the most recent class postings and search by class format type (e.g. Live, CORE, internet, CD, videoconference, Spanish, etc.). Visit their website at:

[http://oda.state.or.us/dbs/recert\\_classes/Search.lasso](http://oda.state.or.us/dbs/recert_classes/Search.lasso)

# Workshops, Seminars and Training Events:

## PLEASE SUPPORT THE SUMMER AGRICULTURE INSTITUTE

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

### 2010 Summer Agriculture Institute (SAI)

I wish to pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Select One: Session #1 \_\_\_ June 20<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Corvallis  
                   Session #2 \_\_\_ July 11<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> Union/La Grande  
                                   \_\_\_ Divide between the two sessions

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.

### OR KNOW A TEACHER WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND?

For more information contact one of the Project Coordinators  
 Allette Hornung - 559-280-3007; allettearc@msn.com;  
 Jana Lee Dick -541-562-5129 x22; jana.dick@oregonstate.edu

#### 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!



*OAEF is a 501 (c) (3) Oregon non-profit organization and your gift fully qualifies as a charitable contribution under state and federal rules and regulations.*



**PUT AGRICULTURE BACK IN THE CLASSROOM**

# News and Information:

## Upcoming Events:

- Dec 16 Calving School. Eastern OR Ag Research Center, Burns, OR
- Dec 16 CORE Pesticide Applicator Training. Cloverleaf Hall, Enterprise
- Dec 17 CORE Pesticide Applicator Training. Ag Service Ctr. Conf. Room, LaGrande
- Jan 14-15 Oregon Mint Growers Annual Meeting. Gleneden Beach, OR
- Jan 26-28 WA/OR Potato Conference. Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick, WA
- Feb 23 Seed Production of Native Grasses and Forbes Workshop. Ontario, OR. Contact:  
Erin Denney via email at [edenney@fs.fed.us](mailto:edenney@fs.fed.us)
- Jan/Feb *Dates to be Determined.* NE Oregon Private Pesticide Applicator Pre-Exam  
Training sessions in Union, Baker, and Wallowa Co.

## **NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING – Oregon’s Rapeseed Control**

### **Area Rule:**

**Rule Summary:** The proposed amendments to Oregon’s rapeseed control area rule would clarify the definition of rapeseed to distinguish rapeseed/canola from vegetables derived from the same species. Production of vegetable varieties, including seed production, is not regulated. The proposed amendment would not change current restrictions on growing rapeseed/canola. A redundant section requiring a written request for a special permit (5)(d) would be deleted as this requirement is already present in (5). **Last day to submit written comments to the Rules Coordinator is January 4, 2010.**

**Contact:** Sue Gooch, ODA Rules Coordinator, 503-986-4583.

## **Next Wheat Marketing Video-conference Scheduled for January 14, 2010!**

Reminder!! We will not have a wheat marketing video-conference in December! Update your calendars, PDA’s, and cell phone reminders for the next marketing session to be held on January 14, 2010 from 8 to 9 a.m. Contact your local Extension Office to RSVP!



## Feeding DDGS to Horses

Distiller's grains have become a staple in some bovine diets, but a Kansas State University researcher is not recommending that they be used in horse rations.

"People have asked 'can I feed dried or wet distiller's grains with soluble (DDGS) to my horses?'" said Teresa Slough, equine nutrition specialist with K-State Research and Extension.

Given the information researchers have so far, Slough said she would not recommend feeding DDGS to horses.

There has been little research done in feeding DDGS, a byproduct of the ethanol production process, to horses, she said. So far, the studies that have been done examined feeding DDGS for only a short period of time.

"There is no information available so far on the long-term effects of feeding DDGS to working horses, mares or foals," she said.

The upside of feeding DDGS to horses is that they will eat it and, in fact, they like it, said Slough, who is an assistant professor in K-State's Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. In addition, it is sometimes a less expensive source of protein.

But Slough warns that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages.

"Horses are very susceptible to fumonisin poisoning from moldy corn. Fermentation during ethanol production doesn't destroy the mold, rather it is concentrated.

"Feeding DDGS contaminated with fumonisin just once could cause death," she said.

Another disadvantage, the researcher said, is that DDGS has a high phosphorous content.

"Unless the other feedstuffs in the horse's diet are very high in calcium, the potential exists to create a diet inverted in its Ca:P ratio and negatively affect bone development," Slough added. "This is of particular concern with broodmares and foals."

DDGS has a high sulfur content, which also makes it problematic for horses.

"Sulfur toxicity in horses, although rare, can result in colic, jaundiced mucous membranes, labored breathing, cyanosis and convulsions, followed by death," she said.

"The bottom line is, feeding DDGS to horses is not recommended unless it's been tested for fumonisin and contains less than 5 parts per million, and then it should only comprise a small percentage of the total diet."



## News & Information:

# Calving School

Preparing for the Next Calving Season

Wednesday, December 16th 2009

Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center

67826 Hwy 205 - Burns, OR

This program will consist of presentations, educational videos, and simulated calving assistance. A handbook will be provided. Registration fee: \$10.00

For more information, please contact

Dustin Johnson (541-573-8386) or Reinaldo Cooke (541-573-4083).



### New Weed Management Guides Available

#### for PNW Wheat Cropping Systems:

Dan Ball, OSU Weed Scientist based at CBARC-Pendleton, recently co-authored a new Extension Bulletin published by Washington State University entitled **Integrated Management of Jointed Goatgrass in the PNW**. The bulletin should provide valuable information on managing jointed goatgrass under our PNW dryland conditions with much of the information from research conducted in northeastern Oregon. "With wide-spread use of CLEARFIELD™ wheat and Beyond® herbicide, growers may tend to forget about other management practices necessary for a more sustainable, integrated management approach to controlling jointed goatgrass. This bulletin will reinforce the importance of integrated management concepts" states Ball. Additional hard-copies are available (free) at WSU Extension Publishing and Printing office, and a PDF version is available on the National Jointed Goatgrass website at: <http://www.jointedgoatgrass.org/>. Limited quantities are also available at the OSU Extension Service-Union County office.

Another new PNW Extension Bulletin (PNW 613) is available entitled **Rattail Fescue Biology and Management in PNW Wheat Cropping Systems**. Hard-copies of this bulletin are available through the OSU Extension Service Publications and Multimedia on-line catalog and as a PDF version online. Visit <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/> to order or print on demand.

## News & Information:

### Where is the Rest of My Beef?

Ron Torell, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Livestock Specialist

It happened again this year as it does every year; we get a new buyer at our local 4-H fat steer auction. The animal is harvested, aged, then cut and wrapped to specifications. The animal, now packaged for a family of four, is delivered back to Elko for pick up. The steer now fits into eight card board boxes and I get a phone call.

“Where is the rest of my beef?” This year the first-time customer paid \$3.50 per pound for a 1200 pound steer which equates to \$4,200. They paid an additional \$400 for harvest, cutting, wrapping and return transportation and only received 700 pounds of meat in return. The total cost per pound of packaged meat is \$6.57. They feel cheated. Additionally they wanted more steaks -- porterhouse and fillet mignon, less hamburger and no soup bones. They wanted several tri-tip roasts and no tough arm or chuck roasts.

I explain, with a hidden chuckle, that the harvest facility did not realize they wanted the bawl, hide, internals, and rumen fill. This amounts to approximately 40 percent of the animal. In our “new customer’s case” this amounts to 480 pounds. This portion of the animal is called the drop or offal.

Not counting the rumen fill that stays on the kill floor, the drop is generally priced between \$6.00 to \$9.00/cwt or approximately \$150 to \$200 per head. The hide makes up the majority of the offal value. The packing plant owns this portion of the animal at this point. They use it to offset their operating costs. I usually point out that there is generally a 1-2 percent saw cutting loss. In other words cutting the meat itself will reduce the weight of this carcass by approximately 14 pounds. If the carcass is dry aged, in other words hung on the rail for two weeks or more we can expect an additional 5% ( 30 pounds or more) of weight disappear.

As I continue my conversation with our loyal 4-H supporter I explain that rib eye and T-bone steaks originate from what we call the “middle meats.” This area consists of the rib and loin section of the carcass and represents the most valuable portion of the animal. As an industry we never have a problem selling the middle meats, especially if the animal is a choice or higher quality grade. It is unfortunate that we can’t magically convert other portions of the animal into middle meats however, our checkoff dollars are working on doing just that.

I continue to explain that there are a limited number of favorite cuts from one beef. For example, you may be surprised when you find only one small package of fillet mignon. The quantity of middle meat steaks will depend on your cutting specifications; if you want a rib roast you won’t get as many rib eye steaks. I also explain that there are only two tri-tip roasts on an animal and the tri-tip comes from the bottom sirloin, the top of the sirloin yields sirloin steaks. The tri-tip is a crowd favorite and relative newcomer to the picture because it originated from the dollar checkoff funded muscling profile efforts.

About that excess hamburger -- I generally say that there is not much we can do about that. Hamburger is a great outlet for trim and lower-valued muscle cuts that can’t be marketed in other ways. Grinding hamburger also offers a place to market a portion of the fat waste that is inherent with fat cattle. Soup bones are essentially the same story. (continued on next page)

# News & Information:

(continued from p. 6)

I usually don't even get into explaining yield or quality grades of cattle. I do if the complaint deals with tough eating experience or meat that has too much fat on it. Yield and quality grade is an entirely different lesson plan and another article.

I then give the 4-H supporter a flyer that describes what the customer can expect from a 1000 pound steer (see below), and tell them that for all the above reasons their 1200-pound live steer now fits into 8 card boxes. I also explain that the live resale price posted at the auction represents the open market for fat cattle, in this case \$80/cwt or \$960. The difference between the open market value and the amount purchased at the 4-H auction is the portion that is tax deductible, not the entire amount.

## WHAT THE CUSTOM PROCESSING BUYER RECEIVES ( BEEF)

Live weight 1,000 lbs.

Yields 600 lb. carcass

<u>RETAIL CUTS</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
Steaks	130
Roasts	110
Brisket, misc. cuts	20
Short Ribs	30
Stew Meat	30
Ground Beef	122
Trim (waste)	158
Saw loss	??
Cooler or dry aging loss	??
<b>Total carcass</b>	<b>600</b>



Are you beginning to see the educational challenges your local extension agent has after each fair and the challenge the industry as a whole face? It is imperative now more than ever that we educate our consumers. Today's typical consumers have never been exposed to production agriculture. We in the ranching industry grew up with this knowledge so we don't see the need to spend so much time, money and energy on educating the consumer. However, it is imperative that we support the dollar checkoff so our promotion and research can continue to improve the quality and value of our product, beef.

Other articles on this topic are The Grocery Value of My Beef Steer By Cindy A. Kinder, University of Idaho Area 4-H Extension Educator and Purchasing or Raising Beef for Your Freezer What you need to know! By Cindy A. Kinder, University of Idaho Extension Educator.

### Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy New Dean of College of Agriculture

Sonny Ramaswamy has been named Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University. For the past three years, Ramaswamy has been Associate Dean of Purdue's College of Agriculture and directed the university's agricultural research programs. He brings to OSU extensive experience in different agricultural settings, including Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, and India.

An entomologist, Ramaswamy has studied the reproductive biology of insects and plant-insect interactions, conducting applied research on insect pests affecting wheat, cotton, beans, other row crops and trees.


At Purdue, Ramaswamy supervised coordination of the university's research programs in agriculture, food and natural resources – both on campus and at eight regional research centers and several research farms. He will find a similar challenge at Oregon State, where he will direct the Agricultural Experiment Station as well as serve as dean of the college.

Prior to joining the Purdue faculty in 2006, Ramaswamy was head of the Department of Entomology at Kansas State University (1997-2004), where he held the title of distinguished professor. He also was on the faculty of Mississippi State University. He began his academic career as a research assistant at the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore, India, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees, and at Rutgers University, where he received his Ph.D. All of his degrees are in entomology.

We welcome Dr. Ramaswamy to Oregon and hope that he will be visiting Northeastern Oregon soon so that we can meet him.

**PROMPTER/RANCHER REVIEW      DECEMBER 2009**

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