**January 2009**

### Calendar of Events

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 17</td>
<td>5th Annual Cattleman’s Workshop. Blue Mt. Conference Center, LaGrande, OR</td>
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<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>Wallowa Co. Stockgrowers &amp; OSU Extension Educational Day and Scholarship Fundraiser. Cloverleaf Hall, Enterprise, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 21-22</td>
<td>NW Direct Seed Cropping Systems Conf. Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick, WA (<a href="http://www.directseed.org">www.directseed.org</a>)</td>
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<td>Jan 27-29</td>
<td>2009 NE Oregon Private Pesticide Applicator Pre-Exam Trainings (see article)</td>
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<td>Jan 29-30</td>
<td>2009 Oregon Potato Conference. Washington Square, Tigard, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 2-27</td>
<td>USDA Lamb Referendum, check with your county FSA Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 12</td>
<td>Statewide Wheat Industry Workshop Video conference Contact local extension office.</td>
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<td>Feb 12</td>
<td>Biodiesel &amp; Oilseed Conference, Moscow ID</td>
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<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>Grasshopper Integrated Pest Management Workshop, OSU Extension Service, Baker County, Baker City, OR. (see article)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>Forestry and Ag Biomass Renewable Energy Workshop. OSU Extension Service Union Co. Ag Service Center Conference Room, LaGrande, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management Annual Field Day. Location TBA. Contact Mike Borman at <a href="mailto:michael.borman@oregonstate.edu">michael.borman@oregonstate.edu</a></td>
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Workshops, Seminars and Training Events:

Wallowa County Stockgrowers Scholarship Fundraiser and OSU Extension Service Educational Day

January 20, 2009

A prime rib scholarship fundraising dinner and educational day is set for Tuesday, January 20th at the Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise. The program begins at 2:30 p.m. and includes a Beef Quality Assurance Program and discussion of the wolf/cattle research being conducted in Northeast Oregon and Idaho. A prime rib dinner, sponsored by the Wallowa County Stockgrowers, will follow at 6:00 p.m. There will be a dessert auction with special homemade desserts to be auctioned off and enjoyed after dinner as well as a silent auction with dinner. Prices for dinner are Adults $15, Youth 6-12 $10 and Youth 5 & Under free. All proceeds benefit the Wallowa County Stockgrowers Scholarship Program.

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) is a voluntary producer focused, management concept that ensures beef consumers enjoy a safe, wholesome and healthy product. This program will be taught by Cory Parsons, Baker County Extension and Statewide BQA coordinator.

Doug Johnson, OSU Range Department, will discuss the wolf/cattle research being conducted in NE Oregon and Idaho. This collaborative research project is attempting to identify the behavioral changes in livestock when wolves become established in the area and the associated economic impacts of those changes to the producer. This program will begin at 5:00 p.m.

The educational program and dinner are open to the public. Attendance at the educational program is not necessary to attend the dinner.

This event is sponsored by the Wallowa County Stockgrowers and the OSU Extension Service. For more information contact: Jeff Parker 426-5989, John Williams 426-3143 or Saralyn Johnson 886-8701.

Forestry and Ag Biomass Renewable Energy Workshop

Date: Thursday, April 9, 2009

Time: 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location: OSU Extension Service Union Co.
Ag Service Center Conference Room
10507 North McAlister Road
LaGrande, OR 97850

Topics include: Incentives for Forestry and Agriculture; USDA Rural Development Incentives; Environmental Considerations for Biomass Removal; and a case study: Getting It Done – Implementing a biomass energy facility in Lakeview, OR. Speakers include representatives from the Oregon Department of Energy, Oregon Department of Agriculture; USDA Rural Development; USDA Forest Service; Oregon State University; and Lake County Resources Initiative.

Detailed agenda TBA.
Workshops, Seminars and Training Events:

2009 Direct Seed Cropping Systems Conference

The adoption of direct seed cropping systems is sweeping across the Palouse as growers look for ways to reduce costs, increase efficiency and improve soil health and productivity. The 2009 Direct Seed Cropping Systems Conference being held January 21 and 22 in Kennewick, WA, is focused on delivering specific agronomic information from growers, research and extension. The scope and depth of this on-the-farm usable information cannot be found at any other single event in the PNW. This is accomplished by including three concurrent sessions throughout the conference where 9 different topics are each presented twice during these three sessions. This provides enough variety to meet the information needs of most growers who are looking for cropping information.

In addition to the information sessions there is also a tradeshow targeting direct seed cropping system technologies and if you don’t find the information you are looking for in either of these two places there will be more than a few direct seed farmers looking to discuss what worked for them and, more importantly, what hasn’t. For more details on these sessions and on the keynote presentations that will tie all of these topics together visit the conference web site at: www.directseed.org/conference.html. Contact: Russ Evans, Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association, 208.883.0190, russ.evans@directseed.org

Oregon Seed Certification Service Offers New On-line Services

The OSCS has offered online ordering of tags, mixture approvals, and sample certificates for several years; however, beginning this fall/winter you can submit seedling field applications online! For anyone interested in using any of the online services you start by simply creating a user account with your existing e-mail address and a PIN number assigned to you by OSCS. It is important to remember that a field does not enter the OSCS system until a completed field packet is received at the OSCS office in Corvallis and is processed. A completed field packet contains the same documents as previously required, which includes the following: a signed copy of the online application, tags, field map, and the payment check. All of this can be done from the comfort of your own home office without the need to visit the local Extension Service office! Visit the new web site (under development) at http://web.oscs.orst.edu/online to create your new account and beginning utilizing the new services. If you need help with the new services, take a look at the publication “Online Applications – A “How-To Booklet” available at the site.

As we all know, field maps are a critical component of the certification process for obvious reasons. There are a number of online sources for obtaining maps of your fields and OSCS has also provided a brief summary which compares a few web mapping sources at the main OSCS web site at http://www.oscs.orst.edu/ under the heading “Mapping Options”. Detailed instructions on how to print out your own field maps are included as well.

(See page 10 for information on how to print field maps)
Workshops, Seminars and Training Events:

2009 NE Oregon Private Pesticide Applicator Pre-Exam Training

Only the key principles and knowledge needed to take the private pesticide applicator exam will be covered. The training session is designed to cover the key principles and knowledge needed to take the private pesticide applicator exam and is not considered a comprehensive review. Self-study and thorough review of all ODA-recommended materials strongly encouraged. However, it will also be helpful review for: 1) individuals preparing to take a Laws & Safety exam for any public or commercial license; or 2) any licensed applicator (Private, Public, or Commercial) who needs general re-certification credit.

Please RSVP by calling your local OSU Extension Service office! 4 total pesticide applicator re-certification credits are anticipated for this event (AM Session = 2 credits & PM Session = 2 credits). Current licensed applicators may obtain credit for either the AM session or PM session or both sessions. Need an exam? Set up an appointment with the Union-Baker ESD by calling 541-963-4106.

Training Session Dates & Agenda

January 27 (Tues) Union County—Agriculture Service Center Conference Room, Island City. Contact: Darrin L. Walenta, Union Co. Extension, 10507 North McAlister Road, LaGrande. Phone: 541-963-1010

January 28 (Wed) Baker County—OSU Extension Service Conference Room, Baker City. Contact: Cory Parsons, 2610 Grove Street, Baker City. Phone: 541-523-6418

January 29 (Thur) Wallowa County - Community Connection, Enterprise. Contact: John Williams, Wallowa Co. Extension, 668 NW 1st St, Enterprise. Phone: 541-426-3143

Morning Session (2 re-certification credits anticipated):

10:00 a.m. Welcome, Orientation & Pesticide Applicator Update - Host County
10:05–11:15 am Pesticide Labels and Formulations – Cory Parsons, OSU (all 3 counties).
11:15am – noon Math for Applicators. Gary Kiemnec-OSU (Union, Baker Co.) John Williams-OSU (Wallowa Co.)

Noon – 12:30 p.m. Lunch (lunch on-site, please bring your lunch)

Afternoon Session (2 re-certification credits anticipated):

12:30 – 1:00 pm Review Math Exercise – Gary K. / John Williams
1:00 – 2:00 pm Pesticide Safety, Toxicity, & PPE – Darrin Walenta, OSU
2:00 – 2:15 pm Break
2:15 – 3:15 pm Calibration, Nozzle Selection, & Spray Drift – Tom Wolf, Agri-Food Canada
3:15 pm Session ends
Workshops, Seminars and Training Events:

Grasshopper Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Workshop

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service, and the Oregon State University Extension Service cordially invite to an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) workshop to be held on February 13th at the Oregon State University Extension office in Baker City, OR. The free workshop will offer latest technology for dealing with grasshopper outbreaks.

Place: Oregon State University Extension Service - Baker County
2610 Grove Street, Baker City, OR 97814

Contact: Cory Parsons. Phone: 541-523-6418.
Email: cory.parsons@oregonstate.edu

Date: Friday, February 13, 2009
Time: 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

RSVP Deadline: February 1st

Who can participate? The workshop is open to anyone interested in learning about grasshopper biology and outbreak management including ranchers, growers, Extension Agents, public and private land managers, and students. Oregon Pesticide Applicator re-certification credits have been requested.

Some of the topics of the workshop are:
- Latest management tools, including the Clearwinged grasshopper, Camnula pellucida
- Biology and ecological role of grasshoppers
- Grazing management as a method to keep grasshoppers populations down
- Cost share program for grasshopper suppression
- Hands-on demonstration of calibrating an ATV sprayer

Speakers and Organizers:
- Cory Parsons (OSU Extension Service, Baker City)
- Gary Brown (USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Portland)
- Helmuth Rogg (ODA, La Grande/Salem)

2008 OSU-CBARC Eastern Oregon Weed Control Research Report

Dr. Dan Ball, Weed Scientist located at the OSU-Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center, Pendleton just recently announced the release of results from his 2008 weed management trials conducted in wheat, dry peas, lentils, chickpeas, canola, Roundup Ready canola, chem fallow, rangeland/native grasses, and Kentucky bluegrass. The report is available on-line at http://oregonstate.edu/weeds or call 541-278-4394 for a printed copy.
Workshops, Seminars and Training Events:

5th Annual Cattleman’s Workshop
Opportunities in a Changing Beef Industry
Saturday, January 17th 2009
Blue Mountain Conference Center
404 12th Street, La Grande, OR

9:00 - 9:15 Workshop Introductions & Overview. Ron Rowan, Beef Northwest Feeders. North Powder, OR
9:15 - 10:00 Challenges and Opportunities for the Beef Cattle Industry. Dr. Tom Field, National Cattlemens Beef Association. Denver, CO
10:00 - 10:45 Integration of the US Beef Industry in the World Market. Chandler Keys (JBS), Vice President of Government and Industry Relations. Washington, DC
10:45 - 11:00 Break (provided by sponsors)
11:00 - 11:45 Strategies for Cow/Calf Production Success. Dr. Jerry Lipsey, Executive Vice President American Simmental Association. Bozeman, MT
11:45 - 1:00 Lunch (provided by sponsors)
1:00 - 1:45 Cow/Calf Strategies for Uncertain Times. Dr. Gary Sides, Cattle Nutritionist, Pfizer Animal Health. Sterling, CO
1:45 - 2:30 Commodity Markets and Positioning a Business in Uncertain Times. Don Killingsworth, Former Vice President of Procurement for Continental Grain. Kansas City, MO
2:30 - 2:45 Break (provided by sponsors)
2:45 - 3:30 Tailoring Cow/Calf Production for a Changing Beef Industry.
Tom Brink, Senior Vice President, Five Rivers Ranch Cattle Feeding. Loveland, CO
3:30 - 4:15 Panel Discussion & Wrap-up.
Tommy Beall, Beall Consulting Group, previously with ContiBeef and Cattle Fax. Mead, CO

Note: For more information, please contact Kim Verhelst or Tim DelCurto at (541) 562-5129
http://oregonstate.edu/dept/eoarcunion
News & Information:

New Website for USDA Risk Management Agency

USDA-Risk Management Agency recently launched a new web site designed to producers manage their farm/ranch businesses. There are 4 main modules at the site which are loaded with tons of information in the following areas:

1. Risk Management Planning
2. Improved Marketing
3. New Enterprise Planning
4. Farm Planning Library

RMA includes guidelines at the site so you can conduct your own “Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threats” (also known as SWOT Analysis) analysis of your own farm-ranch business operation to identify solutions/strategies for possible or existing problems in an existing business or new venture. The Union Co. OSU Extension Service Advisory Council recently conducted a SWOT analysis and found the process to be very helpful in developing a business plan for the service district. Visit the site at http://farm-risk-plans.usda.gov.

USDA Set Date for Lamb Referendum

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced that it will offer lamb producers, feeders, and first handlers the opportunity to vote in a nationwide referendum on whether to continue or terminate the Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Order, authorized under the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996. The referendum will be held Feb. 2-27, 2009.

The referendum will be conducted at USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices. To be eligible to vote, persons must certify and provide documentation, such as a sales receipt or remittance form, which shows they have been engaged in the production, feeding, or slaughtering of lambs during the period, Jan. 1, 2008, through Dec. 31, 2008.

Beginning Feb. 2, 2009, and continuing through Feb. 27, 2009, persons eligible to vote should obtain form LS-86 from a county FSA office either in person, by mail, fax, or via the Internet at: http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketingprograms. Persons must vote in the referendum at the County FSA office where their administrative farm records are maintained. For those persons not participating in FSA programs, the opportunity to vote will be provided at the County FSA office where the person owns or rents land.

Form LS-86 and supporting documentation must be returned in person, by mail, or by fax to the appropriate county FSA office. The form and documentation returned in person or by fax must be received in the appropriate county office prior to the close of business on Feb. 27, 2009. The form and documentation returned by mail must be postmarked no later than midnight on Feb. 27, 2009, and received in the county FSA office by March 6, 2009.

USDA monitors activities of the American Lamb Board. The mandatory program is financed by producers, seedstock producers (breeders), feeders, and exporters who are assessed one-half cent ($.005) per pound when live ovine animals are sold. The first handler, primarily packers, pays an additional 30 cents per head on ovine animals purchased for slaughter.
News & Information:

Winter Cold Stress On Cattle

Steve Boyles, Ohio State University Beef Extension Specialist and Jeff McCutcheon, Knox County ANR Agent

Factors that create stress during the winter months are cold, wind, snow, rain and mud. The primary effect on animals is due to temperature. All these factors alter the maintenance energy requirement of livestock. Maintenance requirement can be defined, as the nutrients required for keeping an animal in a state of balance so that body substance is neither gained or lost. An interesting thing to note is that while energy requirements increase, protein requirements remain the same.

Some published sources contain nutrient requirements for beef cattle that include guidelines for adjusting rations during winter weather. Even without published sources, competent livestock producers realize the need for more feed during cold weather. Make sure that water is available. If water is not supplied, cattle will reduce feed intake.

| Daily dry matter intake of beef cows with respect to temperature |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Temp, F | 5  | 5-22 | 22-41 | 41-59 | 59-77 | 77-95 | >95 |
| Intake, % change | 1.16 | 1.07 | 1.05 | 1.03 | 1.02 | 0.90 | 0.65 |

The metabolic response to the stimulus of cold involves practically all the systems of the body. The striated muscles shiver, the heart beats faster, breathing becomes deeper, urine flow is increased and the sympathetic and pituitary controlled systems are activated so to elevate biological oxidations (energy expenditure or heat production) in all tissues. The result is an increase in the cow's requirements for energy.

Spring calving cows, and particularly heifers, in poor body condition are at risk for calving problems. The result may be lighter, weaker calves at birth, which can lead to a higher death loss, and more susceptibility to things such as scours.

Animals in poor condition before calving, provide inferior colostrum and lower milk production. This can lead to lighter weaning weights or fewer pounds of calf to sell. Females that are in less than desirable body condition at calving are slower to return to estrus. Therefore body condition at calving affects the current calf crop (milk production) and next year's calving date (rebreeding date).

In most years hay and stockpiled forage can adequately provide the needed nutrients, but it can very widely and should be tested to make sure it is adequate. Your local Extension Office may have a test probe and can help you with submitting the sample to a laboratory.

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There is a range of temperature where cattle are neither too hot nor too cold and their performance is optimal. This temperature range is called the thermoneutral zone. It is the temperature range where the fewest nutrients are needed to maintain bodily functions. For cattle the lower temperatures of the thermoneutral zone are shown in Table 1. All of the critical temperatures listed are effective ambient temperatures, which basically means the wind chill temperature is used if the cattle are not sheltered. The critical temperatures also take into consideration the insulating ability of the cattle, as shown by the change between a wet and dry coat.

If we have a choice, snow is preferred to a cold rain. We lose what is called "air insulation" in cattle that get wet versus those that are out in the snow. The air pockets between hair fibers are a source of insulation. We lose this insulation when hair gets matted down in a cold rain. The result is that the Dry Winter Coat goes from having a critical temperature of 32 degrees F to about 59-60 degrees F.

From several studies it is estimated that for every one degree below the critical temperature a cow’s energy requirement (TDN) increases 1 percent. It is also estimated that for every ten degrees below the critical temperature the digestibility of the ration decreases by 1 percent. This means that when the temperature drops below the critical temperature the cattle need to be fed better. It may be that more or better hay needs to be fed.

Besides cold weather effecting cattle performance producers have another thing to consider during winter, mud. It is less clear what effect mud has on a cow’s energy requirements but it is estimated that it can increase the maintenance requirement from 7-30%. If cattle have to deal with mud then their ration should also be improved, to help avoid the consequences listed above.

Another tool producers have to help determine if what they are feeding is adequate, besides forage testing, is Body Condition Scoring (BCS). In the last trimester of pregnancy a cow should have a score of 5,6 or 7 on a 1-9 scale. If a cow is going down in BCS then the ration is inadequate and should be improved.

| Table 1. Estimated Lower Critical Temperatures for Beef Cattle * |
|------------------|------------------|
| Coat Description | Critical Temperature |
| Summer Coat or Wet | 60 degrees F |
| Dry Fall Coat     | 45 degrees F |
| Dry Winter Coat   | 32 degrees F |
| Dry Heavy Winter Coat | 19 degrees F |


| Table 2. Example of Effect of Temperature on Energy Needs |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Effective Temperature | Extra TDN Needed (lbs./cow/day) | Extra Hay Needed (lbs/cow/day) | or, Extra Grain Needed, (lbs/cow/day) |
| 50 F                  | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| +30 F                 | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| 10 F                  | 20%              | 3.5-4 lbs        | 2-2.5 lbs        |
| -10 F                 | 40%              | 7-8 lbs          | 4-6 lbs.         |

(Continued from page 8)
PRINTING GROWER FIELD MAPS OFF THE WEB

Google Earth:  http://maps.google.com/

Pro – Very easy to use; easy to print map (either directly or via extraction to Word); easy to scale up or down; locator makes finding field area easy; streets, towns, and rivers labeled; possible to put icons and field borders in on fields (via “My Places” layer)

Con – Must download program (free); scale not easy to set exactly

NRCS Web soil survey:  http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/

Pro – Web-based and free; locate fields by a large variety of methods including address, state/county, latitude/longitude, TRS; township/range shown, in some areas section borders are shown; streets, cities, and rivers labeled; scale precise and adjustable; easy to print image directly, but it is not clean (only a ½-page map with web page clutter on it).

Con – Often unavailable and sometimes a bit slow; (recently) can only copy image on PC using Internet Explorer, not a Mac using Firefox; will not work on Safari at all


Pro – Web-based and free; locate fields by address, latitude/longitude, or point-and-click; easy to use; scale shown; easy to print full-page images and/or extract to word file

Con – No labels (no street/city or stream names); older maps (1994); cannot adjust location of maps to precisely fit needs (i.e. set maps borders)