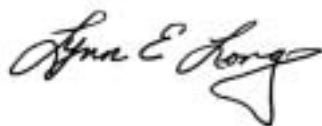


HORT UPDATE



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Inside this issue:

Australia/New Zealand 2
continued

CORE Pesticide Training 2

MCAREC Field Day and Hood River Hort Tour 3

Cherry Day, Summerland, B.C. 4

Grower Tour to Australia/New Zealand

If you want more from your vacation this year, then think Down Under. In these beautiful lands of Australia and New Zealand you'll find everything from pristine beaches, unique wildlife, untouched rainforests to incredible orchards filled with Bing and Sweet Valentine cherries. On this grower tour you will experience ancient culture, superb cities and friendly growers.

Preliminary plans call for us to fly to Sydney in time for us to bring in the New Year by watching the fireworks over Sydney Harbour. Enjoy Sydney with its magnificent Harbor and Opera House, stunning sights and beautiful beaches. You can choose to climb to the top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge for spectacular views, swim at a famous beach or take yourself on an exciting shopping expedition, where your dollar will go a long way.

From here we travel to Adelaide. Kim Green, an Australian grower and long time friend of the Oregon cherry industry is our host in the Adelaide area. Cherry harvest will be in full swing. This is the heart of the cherry production region on the mainland. Here we will see new cherry varieties such as Sir Don, Sir Tom and Dame Roma. We will also be able to meet the breeder, Dr. Andrew Granger and see training systems such as the KGB Bush (modified Spanish Bush) and the Lenswood Tie Down. We can't go to Australia without seeing the incredible wildlife. Kangaroos and Koala Bears will be our companions as we go on a photographic safari.

An overnight ferry takes us to Tasmania. The greatest attraction of Tasmania lies in its lavish swathes of protected wilderness, which preserve most of the earth's last temperate rainforests. Orchard visits in the north and south part of the island will be interspersed with sightseeing along the west coast, which is wild, wooded, and mountainous. We plan to spend a couple of nights in Hobart, a charming harbor town and the capital of Tasmania. Hobart nestles

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We're on the web!
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wasco/>

Grower Tour to Australia/New Zealand ... continued

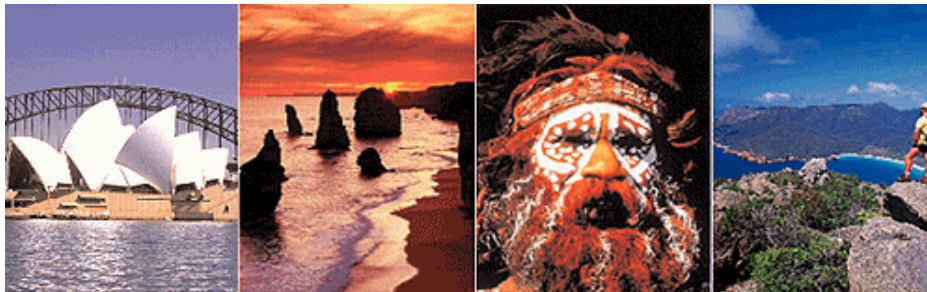
between towering Mt. Wellington and the River Derwent. Great shopping.

From Tasmania it's on to the Melbourne region. Here we will visit the Tatura and Wanden Valley where we will see cherry trees grown on Tatura Trellis and Spanish Bush systems. We will learn about deficit irrigation, compost teas and rain covers. Before we leave this region we may choose to immerse ourselves in the Yarra Valley, Dandenongs and the Ranges, where tall trees and ancient mountain ranges meet the vineyards and world-class wineries of the Yarra Valley.

Australia gives way to the lush beauty of New Zealand as we fly to Auckland and make our way to the South Island. The South Island is known for some of the most stunning scenery to be found anywhere in the world - towering snow-capped peaks, magnificent rainforest and spectacular waterfalls. It is also the location of the New Zealand cherry industry. Dr. Greg Lang from Michigan State University will be on sabbatical in New Zealand when we arrive and will be our host

during this part of the tour. Here we will observe the cherry research that Greg and his wife Suzanne will be conducting and visit local growers such as Hugh Dendy from Kelowna, B.C. who has a winter orchard near Queenstown. From Queenstown we will work our way north, sightseeing as we head back to Auckland for our return journey home.

I am currently working with Dolores Habberstad of Hazel Philips Travel, Kym Green and Dr. Lang to formalize the itinerary. Until this is done the itinerary, as presented above may change to some degree. I will be serving as tour guide. In order to provide the best possible experience for everyone, group size will be limited. To learn more about the trip come to an information meeting scheduled for Tuesday evening **July 29 at 7:00 PM at the Columbia Gorge Community College Auditorium** located directly above the Extension office. If you cannot make this meeting, but are interested in the trip, call the Extension Office at 296-5494 to register your interest.



CORE Pesticide Training

A CORE pesticide training session will be offered at the Pine Grove Grange on Tuesday, July 29. This will be an opportunity to learn about using the web based Pesticide Use Reporting System to submit pesticide use reports to the ODA, the HRGSA Best Management Practices project, and accessing and using predictive models for orchard integrated pest management. Coffee and donuts will be provided at 8:00 AM. The training session will run from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. There is no charge for the training session. For more information call the OSU Extension Service Office in Hood River at (541) 386-3343.



Not sure of your recertification status? You may check your accumulated recertification credits by contacting the ODA Pesticides Division at (503) 986-4635 or at the following website <http://www.oda.state.or.us/pesticide/info.html>.

Mid-Columbia Agricultural Research and Extension Center Field Day and Hood River Summer Horticulture Tour

The annual MCAREC Field Day and Hood River Summer Horticulture Tour are scheduled for July 24. The Experiment Station Field Day will be an opportunity to learn about several new and ongoing research projects at the MCAREC. This year's field day will focus on fewer topics with greater depth than in recent years. The program for the field day is included on the insert. Please note that coffee and donuts will be available starting at 8 a.m. and a sandwich buffet lunch will be provided free of charge. There will be an informal poster session highlighting several research projects during lunch.

The Hort Tour will begin in Oak Grove at approximately 1:30 p.m. First, we will visit Annala

Orchards where we will focus on pear pest management with and without OP insecticides. This stop will include an update on results from the Areawide II Pest Management Project. We will also take a look at several of the Best Management Practices for orchard spraying.

The second stop will be at von Flotow Orchards in Oak Grove where we will look at a block of top-worked Honeycrisp apples managed by Derek DeBorde. Honeycrisp is a variety that some think

has a good fit for the Hood River Valley. Several resource people will be present to discuss the attributes of and answer questions about this apple variety.

The last stop on the tour will be at Graves Orchards in Odell. Blueberry production is not new to the Hood River Valley. Growing blueberries specifically for a processing market, however, is relatively new. Randy Graves has established a blueberry planting with varieties that produce medium sized berries destined for the Gorge Delights Pear Bar. We will discuss several aspects of this alternative enterprise.



One of several weather stations in the Hood River Valley.

Each tour stop will be approximately one hour long. A schedule and map of the

tour route will be available during the field day.

Sponsors for this year's MCAREC Field Day and Horticulture Tour include: *Chamberlin Distributing, Columbia River Bank, Diamond Fruit, Duckwall-Pooley Fruit, Farm Credit Services, GS Long, Hood River Supply, Sheppard's, Stadelman Fruit, Underwood Fruit, and Wilbur Ellis.* Thank you sponsors!

Future Newsletters Accessed Online



This newsletter, as well as back issues are now available online at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wasco/>.

Due to a significant reduction in county support for the Wasco County Extension office future newsletters will be available online. Please send me your e-mail address at lynn.long@oregonstate.edu to receive notification of my upcoming newsletters. Type "Newsletter" in the heading.

PACIFIC AGRI-FOOD RESEARCH CENTRE

CHERRY DAY

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

1:00 PM

at

Pacific Agri-Food Research Centre
Meet in the Ornamental Gardens parking lot
4200 Hwy 97
Summerland, British Columbia

- *CHERRY ROOTSTOCK TRIALS*
- *LAPINS ON GISELA 5 FERTIGATION TRIAL*
- *CHERRY SELECTIONS AND VARIETIES AVAILABLE FOR TASTING*
- *POSTERS OF CHERRY RESEARCH AT PARC - SUMMERLAND*

Dr. Frank Kappel

along with other members of the
PARC Cherry breeding programme and
staff of the Okanagan PLANT IMPROVEMENT CO., LTD. (PICO)
will be available to answer questions!