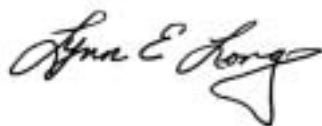


HORT UPDATE

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Coming Attractions

January

- 9 Cherry Institute, Yakima Convention Center
(See December newsletter for agenda)
- 22 Hood River Pruning Tour (see insert with agenda and map)
- 27 Oregon Horticultural Society Tree Fruit Section
- 27-29 2004 Northwest Agricultural Show, Expo Center

February

- 5 Mid-Columbia Cherry Day (insert)
- 9 Spray Barrier and Windbreak Course (insert)
- 12 Hood River Winter Hort Meeting (agenda insert)
- 19 Wasco County Fruit and Produce League Annual Business Meeting (insert)
- 25 Pesticide Training in Spanish (AM)
- 25 Pesticide Pre-Exam Training in Spanish (PM)
- 26 Pesticide Pre-Exam Training in English (AM)
- 26 Pesticide Exam (PM)



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<i>Mid-Columbia Cherry Day</i>	<i>Insert</i>
<i>Living Spray Barriers & Windbreaks Workshop</i>	<i>Insert</i>

Mid-Columbia Cherry Day

The annual Wasco County Fruit and Produce League, Mid-Columbia Cherry Day will be held Thursday, **February 5**, at the Discovery Center in The Dalles beginning at 8:15

Dr. Anita Azarenko will report on her two-year nitrogen partitioning study and give us some practical information on nitrogen management of sweet cherries as derived from this study.

A panel made up of nursery representatives will give us their observations of cherry varieties and rootstocks. They will share reports that they have heard from growers throughout the Northwest, provide observations of variety/rootstock combinations that seem to be successful, share with us information on varieties such as Sunset Bing, Benton and Selah as well as rootstocks such as Maxma 14. They will also tell us what variety and rootstocks are most popular at this time.

Having just returned from a grower tour of cherry production areas in Australia and New Zealand, I will report on what is happening in cherries in the world Down Under.

Catch these and other topics at the annual Mid-Columbia Cherry Day. See the enclosed agenda for details.

Oregon Horticultural Society Features Cherry Replant

This years Oregon Horticulture Society Tree Fruit Section will be held at the Columbia River Double Tree Inn in Portland on Tuesday, **January 27**, beginning at 8:15 AM.

Dr. Gary Grove, WSU and Dr. Helmut Riedl, OSU, will discuss some of the new pesticides that are available to us. A panel discussion on new varieties will follow, featuring Andy Gael, head fieldman from Stemilt Growers. Andy will give Stemilt's view on some of the new cherry varieties. A second panel will feature cherry growers from The Dalles who have experience with one or more of the new training systems. They will share their experience and observations of these systems. Finally, we will focus on reducing labor needs. What is the economics of pedestrian orchards versus conventional orchards and mechanical harvesting of fresh cherries? See the attached agenda for more details.



Pesticide Safety and Pre-License Training Offered in English/Spanish

Pesticide safety/pre-exam training classes will be offered on February 25 and 26. The training will be offered in Spanish on Wednesday, February 25, beginning at 8:00 AM with a pesticide safety class. At 1:00 a pesticide pre-exam training will be conducted in Spanish. This class will help Spanish-speaking individuals pass their private pesticide applicators license. These classes will be held at the Columbia Gorge Community College in The Dalles in the third floor lecture hall of Building 2, above the Extension Office. There is a \$5.00 fee for each of these classes. Checks should be made payable to Oregon State University Extension Service.

On February 26 the Pre-License training will be repeated in English beginning at 8:00 AM in Building

1, third floor, Room 1.333 at Columbia Gorge Community College. There is a \$5.00 fee for this class. Checks should be made payable to Oregon State University Extension Service.

The pesticide license exam will be administered at 1:00 PM on Thursday, February 26 in Room 1.333. There will be a \$20 exam fee that must be paid to the Columbia Gorge Community College at the time of the exam. The exam will be given in both English and Spanish. Please call the Wasco County Extension office at 541-296-5494 to pre-register for the exam.

I am working on obtaining Oregon pesticide applicators credit for all sessions. Please call to verify that the courses have been assigned credit.

Business Meeting Scheduled for Fruit and Produce League



The annual business meeting for the Wasco County Fruit and Produce League will be held on Thursday, **February 19**, beginning at 3:00 p.m.. The meeting will be held in the large boardroom, next to the cafeteria, in Building 1 at the Columbia Gorge Community College. Among other things, the annual budget will be discussed and approved, and elections will be held to fill two board positions. Nominations for these positions should be submitted to Jeff Heater at 541-308-6175.

Commission Decides Not to Increase Assessments

The Oregon Sweet Cherry Commission met Wednesday, December 17, 2003 in Hood River for the regular meeting and a public hearing on proposed administrative rule changes. Along with rules that relate to the appointment and service of Commissioners was a proposed rate increase of \$1.00 per ton on all sweet cherries, fresh and processed. However, due to recent changes the anticipated amount that will be spent next year for promotions has been reduced, so an increase in assessment rates is not necessary. At this time with the current rates in place and larger size crops the Commissioners believe it will be possible to meet the goal of increased funds for research reserves.

The other proposed amendments and additions to the Administrative Rules were approved as filed.

Spray Buffer Zones to be Mandated by Courts

The following article was written on December 12 by Paul Jepson, OSU Integrated Plant Protection Center.

On December 9th, Judge Coughenor in Seattle, directed Earthjustice (<http://www.earthjustice.org/>) to draft the final order that provides for interim measures to protect endangered salmonids against up to 54 pesticide active ingredients (AI's). Following review, the judge expects the final order to be issued by the end of 2003.

For AI's that are considered likely to affect salmonids, or AI's that have not yet reviewed, there will be a requirement for buffer zones of 20 yards for ground applications, and 100 yards for aerial applications. Buffers apply to applications adjacent to salmon-bearing streams. These streams can be identified by consulting StreamNet at <http://www.streamnet.org/>. Through a series of queries of the interactive map you will find that these streams permeate agricultural areas in Oregon.

The number of AI's that will be included within the order is now much less than 54. The number may be as low as 17, but this may depend upon geographic region, and on interpretation of the effects determinations. Dr. Jepson's analysis suggests that an upper limit 37 is possible. In any event, chlorpyrifos (Lorsban) and malathion are likely to be on the list.

You can go to <http://oregonipm.ippc.orst.edu/> to obtain more information about this subject, including the current summary of effects determinations for the list of 54 AI's within the lawsuit, and a list of the priorities for review by EPA during 2003.

The main WSDA web site contains a frequently updated link to news about the lawsuit:
<http://agr.wa.gov/PestFert/EnvResources/Lawsuit.htm>.

Oregon Farmers Handbook Available On-Line

The update version of the Oregon Farmer's Handbook is now available on-line at <http://oda.state.or.us/information/fh>.

This handbook is intended to serve the agricultural industry as an evolving educational reference tool. Each section includes basic information about compliance issues, resources, and contact information for responsible agencies.

Section titles include Employing Minors, Employment Eligibility Verification, Unemployment Tax: Federal and Oregon, Right to Farm, Bird Predator and Rodent Damage Control and Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices (GAP/GHP), among others.

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New Cherry Pest Invades Oregon

The cherry bark tortrix (CBT) *Enarmonia formosana* is an introduced moth pest from Eurasia that was initially reported in European literature in 1837. In North America CBT was first detected infesting cherry trees in Richmond, British Columbia in 1989. It invaded Washington, near Blaine in 1991 and by 1998 it was found near Centralia, about 35 miles north of the Oregon border. In 2000, two moths were trapped in Portland. The number increased to 1,020 by 2002. So far, no moths have been trapped in the Mid-Columbia.



CBT larvae prefer cherry and plum, but attack other rosaceous trees such as apple, apricot, pear and peach as well as a number of ornamental species. The larvae are bark borers,



feeding within the bark, making irregular tunnels and causing the bark to loosen and crack. The first indication of attack is the exuding of gum-like resin, which often is mixed with fecal pellets and silk. High infestation levels cause large swellings and cankers, eventually girdling and killing the tree.



Due to heavy bark formation, older trees are most susceptible to CBT damage, however, nursery stock is subject to attack at graft sites and at stem tips where repeated clipping of shoots causes formation of extra bark.



CBT distribution in Eurasia suggests that cold will not limit the moth's range in Oregon. Warmer, drier areas may inhibit its spread, since eggs apparently die when exposed to temperatures above about 90° F.

As with other wood boring insects, CBT primarily attacks weak and injured trees. Therefore, it is important to keep cherry trees healthy and vigorous. Proper pruning, nutrient management and site location for new orchards are important cultural control methods. Chemical controls in Europe have consisted of dormant oil and insecticide applications against overwintering larvae. These controls are supplemented by summer branch and trunk sprays.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture is continuing to monitor the distribution of CBT. Traps are placed each year in the Mid-Columbia. I will notify you when and if moth is trapped in this region.

References:

Westcott, R.L. and J.D. DeAngelis (1992). Cherry Bark Tortrix Moth. EC 1409. Oregon State University Extension Service and Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Sivesind, C. (September, 2003). Cherry Bark Tortrix. Digger Magazine.