

HORT UPDATE

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Coming Attractions

February

12	Fruit & Produce League Business Meeting	CGCC Rm. 2.273, 1:30 pm
12	OSU/WSU Farm Succession and Estate Planning Workshop <i>(See accompanying article)</i>	CGCC Auditorium, Building 2, 12:30—4:30 pm, No Charge, Pre-register 296-5494
15	Wasco County Ag and SWCD Meeting and Awards Program	St. Peter's Parish Center, The Dalles, 5:00 pm
20 **	Wasco County Fruit & Produce League Cherry Day-** Note New Date!! <i>(agenda enclosed)</i>	Discovery Center, 8:00-12:00
20	Hood River Winter Horticulture Mtg. <i>(agenda enclosed)</i>	Pine Grove Grange, 8:00 am-3pm
24	Fruit Tree Grafting Class	Clackamas Community College
27	Pesticide Safety in Spanish (4 hours non-CORE credits applied for)	Pine Grove Grange, Hood River, 8:00 am-noon
27	Pesticide Pre-license training in Spanish (4 hours CORE credits applied for)	Pine Grove Grange, Hood River, 1-5pm
28	Pesticide Pre-license training in English (4 hours CORE credits applied for)	Pine Grove Grange, Hood River, 8:00 am-noon
28	Pesticide License Exam in English or Spanish	Pine Grove Grange, Hood River, 1pm, \$20

March

13	Farm Bureau Pancake Feed	St. Peter's Parish Center, The Dalles, 5:30pm
30	Wasco County Business and Agriculture Hazardous Waste Collection	Pre-registration is required by calling 1-800-228-2772

Cherry Day Features Congressman Walden Tuesday, February 20

The annual Wasco County Fruit & Produce League Cherry Day will feature Congressman Greg Walden who will discuss the immigration issues and the guest worker program. Due to the Congressman's very tight schedule, we were unable to find another day for the meeting and therefore the F&PL meeting and the Winter Hort meeting in Hood River are both scheduled for the same day. I apologize for the obvious problems that this presents to many of you, but I felt that it was important to have the Congressman address these issues in a timely manner.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20 (the date has changed due to the above stated reason) at the Discovery Center in The Dalles. Please see the attached agenda for details.

CORE & Pre-License Pesticide Safety Training in Spanish & English

Pesticide safety/pre-exam training classes will be offered on February 27 and 28 at the Pine Grove Grange in Hood River. The training will be offered in Spanish on Tuesday, February 27, beginning at 8 am and running to noon (four non-CORE credits applied for) and from 1 to 5 pm (four CORE credits applied for). There is no charge for these training sessions.

The English training session will be held on Wednesday, February 28, from 8 am to noon (four CORE credits applied for). There is no charge for this training session.

The pesticide license exam will be administered at 1 pm on Thursday, February 28. There will be a \$20 exam fee payable to the Columbia Gorge Community College at the time of the exam. The exam will be given in both English and Spanish.

Important additional information: The exam will be available in English and Spanish. Both exams will require the ability to read and comprehend a pesticide label written in English. Anyone planning to take the exam should bring a calculator. To schedule a different exam time, call the Columbia Gorge Community College Registrar's Office at 541-506-6013. It is highly recommended that you obtain and study one of the following study guides before attending the training session:

English - Oregon Pesticide Safety Education Manual (OSU EM 8850)

Spanish - Manual Para Aplicadores Privados de Pesticidas (WSU MISC0126S)

Both manuals are available at the Wasco County Extension Office.

Farm Succession Continues

It's listed as the second part in the series but even if you missed part one of the Farm Succession and Estate Planning Workshop, you are encouraged to attend this next step on February 12, from 12:30 to 4:40 pm at the Columbia Gorge Community College in The Dalles.

This session focuses on estate laws and writing wills, conducting successful family meetings and a discussion about challenges folks often encounter when trying to broach this often delicate subject with family. You should find suggestions to treat all children fairly without ending up leaving the farm with messy undivided interests.

There is no charge for the class, but you are requested to pre-register by calling the Wasco County Extension Office at 296-5494.

You are encouraged to bring all family members with a vested interest in the operation.

Annual Ag and Awards Meeting

The Combined Wasco County Ag and SWCD Meeting and Awards Program is February 15 at St. Peter's Parish Center in The Dalles, beginning with a social gathering at 5:00, dinner at 6:00 and program at 7:00 pm. The meeting is co-sponsored by the SWCD, the Wasco County Fruit & Produce League and the Wheat Growers League.

SAIF Repeats Program

SAIF is sponsoring a repeat of the December safety session for employers and employees on February 14 at the Discovery Center in The Dalles. The free workshop begins at 9:30 and ends at 2 pm and includes a hosted lunch. Attendees can also earn 2 hours of pesticide credits.

You must pre-register to attend as space and meals are limited. Pre-register on line or by calling 800-285-8525.

If you have employees who are more comfortable learning in Spanish, the class will be repeated the next morning (Feb. 15) from 8 to noon with a continental breakfast. Again, pre-registration is needed.

Fruit Tree Grafting Class

Clackamas Community College will be conducting fruit tree grafting classes on February 24. The classes will be held in the Clairmont Hall, room 118.

Two beginner classes will be offered at 9:00 am and 10:45 am. Veteran grafters will cover the basics of grafting, including hands-on experience with grafting your own fruit tree. You will receive an apple rootstock and your choice from several varieties of scion wood. Please bring a straight-edged knife.

An intermediate class will be held at 12:45 pm. This session will cover more advanced grafting methods, including: cleft graft, Kerf graft, bark graft, side-bark graft, bark inarching and invent your own. Again, you will be provided with a rootstock and scion wood. Please bring your straight-edged knife.

All sessions are \$15.00 each. Pre-register through Clackamas Community College. For more information contact Loretta Mills at 503-657-6968 ext. 2246.



Son of PURS

The Pesticide Use Reporting System is back, but with a slightly different flavor. You will still need to file the reports on-line and will for the next couple of years because the original sunset date of 2009 still exists, at least at this time. That should give the state enough information about what pesticides are being used, how much is being used and where they are being used.

The original bill (1999) was never a "right to know" bill as some argued early in the debate when program development was shut off due to a lack of state funding in the budget deficit period in 2002-03. But eventually with some tweaking that adds greater privacy protection for the applicator, an added means for surveying home use applicators and a return to a healthier state budget, it's revived.

Data reporting is mandatory and begins January 1, 2007. It is the responsibility of the applicator to report, so if you hire something custom applied, it is the applicator, not you, that is responsible. Both general use and restricted use pesticides need to be reported. One of the nice changes is that you no longer need to identify the range and township that the application was made; it is now made by Hydrological Unit 3, the larger water basins more commonly associated with the CSP regions or for home use applications by zip code.

Farm/commercial applications in Wasco and Sherman Counties will report in one of three water basins: the Mid-Columbia, the Deschutes or the John Day.

Households will report via a random survey in which they will be asked to track, then report the pesticides they use (yards, structures, pets, etc) over a selected time period. They will identify their region by zip code.

You will actually have two reports to file. The first one identifies you and collects your personal information. You are then given an identification number which you will use to report the actual use of pesticides. These are maintained separately so if anyone should tap into the pesticide system, they won't know who applied what. Legal access to the number is limited to a very few.

So be sure to keep track of all pesticide applications you make this year. If you need a computer or a faster one, try the school/public libraries who usually have a high speed connection and generally have one available for the general populace. We may also see some enterprising individual that will set up something to enter your data for a small fee.

However you choose to report your data, be sure that you do. All 2007 information must be reported by January 31 of the following year; there are serious fines for failure to do so.

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Fruit quality characteristics of various sweet cherry cultivars and selections, in comparison to 'Bing'. The Dalles, Oregon

Lynn E. Long, Roberto Núñez-Elisea and Pam Manning, Oregon State University

Cultivar	Picking time + or - 'Bing' (days)	Average first bloom + or - 'Bing' (days)	Average fruit size (mm)	Average firmness (g/ mm)	Total soluble solids concen- tration (%)	Titratable acid (g/100 ml) ^z or pH	Ctfl skin color	Ctfl flesh color	Tree produc- tivity ^y	2005 natu- ral crack- ing ^x (%)
Tieton ^w	-6 to -9	+3	31.1	202	15.9	pH 3.9	6	5	3	28
SPC 136 ^w	-6 to 7	+9	31.2	272	18.6	pH 3.7	6	6	3 on K5&K6	8 (2006)
Santina	-6 to 7	+2	30.6	314	16.5	0.48	5	4	2	90
13S-03-13	-5 to 7	+1	32.3	261	17.5	0.76	5	4	2	10
Cristalina	-1 to 4	+3	30.6	289	15.3	0.44	5	4	4	10
Benton ^w	-4	+8	31.4	332	16.7	pH 3.5	3	3	1 maz. 3 G5	17 (2006)
Bing	0	0	29.3	272	17.8	0.80	5	5	3	55
Sandra Rose	+3 to 5	+3	32.8	278	18.8	0.68	5	3	1	25
Sonata	+4 to 6	+1	32.3	335	18.7	0.84	5	3	3	45
0900 Ziraat ^w	+7 to 9	+5	28.5	224	15.9	pH 3.6	5	4	1 st crop	16
Kordia	+7 to 10	+6	29.1	292	18.0	0.64	6	6	3	5
NY252 ^w	+8 to 10	+3	30.5	307	21.4	pH 3.46	58%blush		3	0 (2006)
Stardust ^w	+9 to 10	+7	31.0	260	16.9	pH 3.8	41%blush		1 st crop	
Lapins	+10 to 15	-4	30.2	311	17.7	0.72	5	2	4	10
13S-42-49	+13 to 17	+5	31.3	363	18.1	0.72	6	6	3	40
Skeena	+14 to 17	+5	31.9	318	20.9	0.68	6	6	2	40
Regina	+14 to 17	+9	31.0	314	21.5	0.60	6	6	1	5
Sweetheart	+20 to 22	-2	29.0	348	19.6	0.68	6	2	4	5
Staccato	+26 to 31	-1	31.4	343	18.6	0.64	6	3	3	10
13S-21-01	+35 to 38	+2	29.7	270	19.0	-	6	1	3	-

^zg/100 ml malic acid

^ySubjective assessment on a scale of 1-4, low to high respectively.

^xTwo rain events totaling 8.9 mm of precipitation occurred 12 and 13 days prior to 'Bing' harvest.

^wOne year of data (2006)

Hood River Winter Horticulture Meeting

Pine Grove Grange, Hood River

February 20, 2007

-
- 7:30 AM** **Coffee and Donuts provided by our sponsors***
- 8:00 AM** **Welcome**
Steve Castagnoli, OSU Extension Service, Hood River
- 8:15 AM** **Changing Faces at the OSU MCAREC**
Clark Seavert, OSU-MCAREC
- 8:30 AM** **Economic Decision Making Tools for Tree Fruit Growers**
Clark Seavert, OSU-MCAREC
- 8:50 AM** **Automating Orchard Tasks for Increased Efficiency & Orchard Systems for Increased Efficiency** Karen Lewis, WSU-Grant Adams
- 9:40 AM** **Innovative Pear Orchard Systems at OSU-MCAREC**
Janet Turner, OSU-MCAREC
-
- 10:00 AM** **Break - Juice Provided Courtesy of Tree Top**
- 10:15 AM** **Developing & Retaining High Quality Employees**
Karen Lewis, WSU-Grant Adams & Grower Panel TBA
- 11:00 AM** **Overview of the Hands-on Training for Spanish-Speaking Pesticide Handlers**
Steve Castagnoli, OSU Extension Service, Hood River
- 11:15 AM** **HRGSA Project Updates and Elections**
Hood River Grower Shipper-Association Board of Directors
-
- 12:00 PM** **Lunch Provided – Thank You Sponsors!**
- 1:00 PM** **Immigration Reform Legislation: Potential Impacts on Labor Availability**
Speaker TBA
- 1:30 PM** **Recent Studies in Orchard Heating for Frost Control**
Dr. Martin Hellickson, OSU Dept of Biological & Ecological Engineering
- 2:10 PM** **Sprayer Technology and Vegetative Barriers for Managing Drift in Mid-Columbia Orchards,** Kelly Wallis, OSU-MCAREC
- 2:30 PM** **Update and Future Direction for Spray Application Technology Research**
Paul Jepson OSU-IPPC
- 3:00 PM** **Adjourn**



***2007 Winter Horticulture Meeting Sponsors: Chamberlin Distributing, Columbia Reach Pack, Columbia River Bank, Diamond Fruit, Duckwall-Pooley Fruit, Farm Credit Services, GS Long, Hood River Supply, Sheppard's, Stadelman Fruit, Tree Top, Underwood Fruit, Valley Ag, and Wilbur-Ellis.**