Mid-Columbia Small Grains Technology Workshop

The Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon State University Extension Service and Ag-TEQ are hosting The Mid-Columbia Small Grains Technology Workshop December 8th, from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, at the Discovery Center in The Dalles, OR.

This workshop will focus on new technologies for producers of small grains. Program topics will include: Tailoring Technology for Individual Farm Needs, Spray Application Technology, Calculating Real Fertilizer Needs and Split Applications, and Using Optical Sensing and Electrical Conductivity Technologies to Manage Nitrogen. There will also be two breakout sessions in the afternoon that will focus on Local Technology Incentives and Practical Applications of Technology.

There is no charge for this workshop but pre-registration is required for the two afternoon breakout sessions by Friday, December 5th, with the Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District at (541) 298-8559 x 3. Pesticide hours have been applied for.

Brian Tuck, Wasco County Extension Service

High Residue Farming Under Irrigation Workshop

The High Residue Farming Under Irrigation Workshop will run from 8:30 (registration) until 4:15 pm on December 10th at the Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake, WA. High residue farming can cut fuel costs, improves soil, and reduces irrigation costs. Presentation topics will cover Planters, Drills, Attachments; No-till and Strip-till Basics, Local Experience with Dry Beans and Forages, and Soil Biological Benefits and Management. Specific crops of dry beans, no-till corn, alfalfa, timothy, silage corn, and other forages will be discussed. Five CCA credits will be available. Jill Clapperton, noted Rhizosphere Ecologist from Agri-food Canada, will discuss Managing the Soil as a Habitat.

Preregistration is $25 per person by Dec. 4th, and $35/per person after that date. Fee will cover lunch and refreshments. Information at http://grant-adams.wsu.edu/ or contact Andy McGuire at (509) 754-2011 x 413.

Mylen Bohle

12th Annual Northwest Direct Seed Cropping Conference

Meeting Global Demand is the 12th Annual Northwest Direct Seed Cropping Conference theme to be held January 21-22, 2009 at the Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick, Washington. The U.N. has challenged the agriculture to double food production by 2050; in anticipation of meeting the nutritional requirements of an anticipated 9.5 billion people.

Registration fee and deadline is January 5th, for Members $150 and Non-members $220 (there are special discounts for more than one from the same farm or business). Registration is more after that date. Information available at http://www.directseed.org/ or contact: (208) 883-3645 or email: PNDSA@directseed.org. Special Direct Seed Conference rates are available at the following Kennewick, WA hotels: Hilton Garden Inn at (509) 735-4600, Red Lion Inn at (509) 783-0611, or Quality Inn at (509) 735-6100.

Mylen Bohle
“Central Oregon Agriculture” is a monthly newsletter produced by the Central Oregon Extension offices and the Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center. The intent of this newsletter is to extend agricultural research-based information to solve problems, develop leadership and manage resources wisely. Please direct comments and changes to the mailing list to your local County Extension office listed below (all area codes are 541).

Central Oregon County Extension Offices:
Crook County Extension Service - Phone 447-6228, 498 SE Lynn Blvd., Prineville, OR 97754
Deschutes County Extension Service - Phone 548-6088, 3893 SW Airport Way, Redmond, OR 97756
Jefferson County Extension Service - Phone 475-3808, 34 SE D St., Madras, OR 97741
Warm Springs Indian Reservation - Phone 553-3238, 1110 Wasco St., PO Box 430, Warm Springs, OR 97761

Central Oregon Agricultural Research Centers:
Madras Site – Phone 475-7107, 850 Dogwood Lane, 97741
Powell Butte Site - Phone 447-5138, 8215 SW Hwy. 126, 97753

Central Oregon Agricultural Extension Staff:
Rich Affeldt - Mint, Seed Crops and Weed Control, 475-3808
Mylen Bohle - Forage, Pasture and Cereals, 447-6228
Marvin Butler - Mint and Seed Crops, 475-3808
Fara Currim - Ag. and Natural Resource, 553-1520
Tim Deboodt - Range Resources and Livestock, 447-6228
Amy Detweiler - Horticulture, 548-6088
Brian Duggan - Crop Physiology 475-7107
Steve Fitzgerald - Forestry, 548-6088
Barbi Riggs - Livestock and Water Quality, 447-6228
Libby Rodgers - Ag. Program Assistant/Fire Prevention, 447-6228
Pam Wiederholt - Ag Newsletter Coordinator, 447-6228

The above individuals represent 8.50 full time equivalents devoted to extending agriculture information to producers. Many of the individuals, in addition to agriculture, have assignments in research, 4H/youth, administration and community resource education.

Often it is appropriate to mention brand names of some commercial products; however, they are used only for the purpose of information. Extension does not guarantee or warrant the standard of the product, nor does it imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others.

Extension work is a cooperative program of Oregon State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Oregon counties. Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials without discrimination based on age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran’s status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

OSU Extension programs will provide reasonable accommodation to persons with physical or mental disabilities. Contact Pam Wiederholt at (541) 447-6228 to request reasonable accommodation.

GENERAL AG —

A letter from Brian Duggan/Crop Physiologist

Dear Readers,

Recently I was offered a position with Monsanto and after some serious deliberation I have decided to accept their offer. Early in the New Year I will be relocating with my family to St Louis. The decision was not an easy one as while the offer is very attractive, my family and I have thoroughly enjoyed our time in central Oregon. As a researcher central Oregon has been such a unique place to work and it is also a wonderful place to live and raise a family. While I have tried to thank everyone with whom I have worked, that has not been possible. To anyone who has ever offered advice or simply explained to me the way things work, let me say thank you, it has been a pleasure working with you.

Kind regards and take care,
Brian Duggan

Western SARE Grants

SARE grants are used to increase knowledge about sustainable agricultural practices and to help farmers and ranchers adopt those practices. The Western SARE program administers grants in several categories that help it achieve those aims. Each grant operates on an annual cycle and is selected through a competitive process. Applicants are typically informed whether their project has been approved for funding within six months of the submission deadline. Dispersion of funds rests on Congressional budget decisions.

Research and Education Grants
Farmer/Rancher
Professional & Producer Grants
Professional Development Program Grants

For more information (or hard copies of calls for proposals) contact: Western SARE Office, Utah State University, (435) 797-2257. For more information (or for paper copies of calls for proposals) on Professional Development Program grants, contact: Western SARE PDP Office, University of Wyoming, (307) 532-8892.

The following information will help you with your grant application. For questions about developing your budget, consult the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s publication, “Required Budgetary Details”. If your project involves livestock (any vertebrate animal), you will want to consult the guidelines for proper and humane care of animals as outlined by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

For more in depth information and application due dates see: http://wsare.usu.edu/.

Mylen Bohle
CROPS —

ENERGY/Regional Producers Can Make Clean Energy a Profitable New Crop

Rural landowners and communities from throughout the Pacific Northwest can learn how to make renewable energy – like wind, biofuels and solar – a profitable new crop at the Harvesting Clean Energy Conference, January 27-29, 2008, in Portland, Oregon, at the Red Lion Hotel on the River.

The Harvesting Clean Energy Conference is the Northwest’s premiere gathering for agriculture and energy interests working to advance new opportunities for agriculture producers and rural communities in clean energy production. Clean energy offers real solutions – financial and practical – for our farmers, ranchers, rural utilities and towns, tribes, and regional economy.

Now in its eighth year, the Harvesting Clean Energy Conference will feature experts and farmers with direct experience in successful clean energy projects. Speakers will walk project feasibility and economic assessments, technical and financial resources, and finding markets.

Harvesting Clean Energy Conference provides a hands-on guidance for clean energy projects!

Sessions will explore how rural landowners can:
- Produce renewable electricity or bio-fuel to power the farm’s operations
- Own or lease land for wind power
- Consider new crops for emerging bio-energy markets
- And much more…

Panel discussions will focus on:
- The Emerging Energy Technology Revolution and What It Means for Rural Economic Opportunities in the Northwest.

Harvesting Clean Energy attracts rural landowners and a variety of professionals from agriculture organizations, rural utilities, tribes, economic development agencies, lending institutions, energy developers and consultants, research institutions, federal, state and local governments.

Biodiesel and associated bio-based products, biopower (including biogas digesters), geothermal resources, and farm-scale renewable power technologies to enhance profitability.

Discussions focus on the practical steps to successful project development, financing and marketing.

In addition to the exciting panel discussions and in-depth session tracks participants can visit clean energy facilities in the Portland area, and network with other attendees during two field tours on Sunday, January 27 from 1-5pm. Space is limited, so if you’re interested be sure to sign up when you register!

In addition, Harvesting Clean Energy and the Northwest Agricultural Show have joined forces to bring clean energy exhibits and workshops to the NW Ag Show on January 29-31. Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, registration for the conference is remarkably affordable. Farmers, ranchers and other private individuals can register by January 4, 2008 for just $75, professionals for $125. Register on-line at www.harvestcleanenergy.org/conference, or call Dana Schlenker at (253) 445-4575 for more information. Register early to receive low rates.


Idaho Oilseed Conference

The University of Idaho is organizing a region-wide Oilseed Conference on February 27, in Moscow, ID. The website for the conference is at: http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/oilseeds/conference/. It contains the brochure and registration information ($30). Registration is limited to 180 participants. Deadline is February 6, 2009. For more information call Sara Kinser at the University of Idaho, (208) 885-8929.

FORAGES —

Central Oregon Forage Seminar and Central Oregon Hay Growers’ Association Annual Meeting

There will be a Central Oregon Forage Seminar held on Saturday, January 31, 2009 at the Brothers Family Diner Banquet Room in Prineville. Agenda TBA.

The Central Oregon Hay Growers’ Association will then hold their Annual Meeting and Dinner that evening after the seminar. Agenda will include election of board members, OSU Forage/Livestock Research Endowment, local forage research, college scholarships, and other items of business. More information will be available in the January2009 CO Agriculture Newsletter.

Greg Mohnen, President, COHGA, and Mylen Bohle
CEREALS —
2008 Summary Report Cereal Leaf Beetle Economic Impact and Biological Control in Oregon

Economic Impact

Ag chemical suppliers and growers were surveyed by personal communication to estimate the acreage treated with insecticide to control cereal leaf beetle (CLB), *Oulema melanopus*, and to determine the economic costs associated with pesticide application. Indirect costs to Oregon producers such as commodity certification, yield and/or quality loss are not considered here.

The following table shows acres treated to control CLB in Oregon during the last three years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2008 Acres</th>
<th>2007 Acres</th>
<th>2006 Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>1400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crook</td>
<td>2370</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deschutes</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>3811</td>
<td>1544</td>
<td>1235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malheur</td>
<td>4629</td>
<td>1283</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2100</td>
<td>7944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallowa</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>1180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willamette Valley (by location of chemical supplier)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benton</td>
<td>1650</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lane</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linn</td>
<td>14,630</td>
<td>3270</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>15,219</td>
<td>1493</td>
<td>1085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multnomah</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polk</td>
<td>4230</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td>1340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>4436</td>
<td>3700</td>
<td>4250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamhill</td>
<td>2822</td>
<td>1716</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Acres Treated for CLB: 57,347

CLB continues to expand its range outward from infested areas, particularly in central Oregon and the southern Willamette Valley. Lincoln County was designated as infested with CLB in 2008, the first new county since 2003. CLB is now found in 20 Oregon counties.

Spraying for CLB has increased considerably in Oregon in 2008. Acres of grain planted increased 6.7% in the state (Oregon Ag statistics). The high price for grain this year and the increased cost of chemicals and fuel combine to increase the economic impact of CLB significantly in 2008.

CLB is an economic pest of grain crops, primarily oats, wheat, and barley. However, these figures also include treatment of 300 acres of grass seed, and 1225 acres of sweet corn. The latter was treated to meet California’s quarantine requirements. CLB causes more damage to spring grains than winter grains. Many treatments are done in conjunction with fungicide or herbicide applications.

Each of four geographic areas; Malheur County, NE Oregon, Central Oregon, and the Willamette Valley, differ in the timing of CLB activity, which was about two weeks later than normal this year, as well as the ratio of custom versus private application, the insecticides used, and their costs. Baythroid was the most frequently used chemical. Mustang, Warrior, and Malathion (oats) were also used regularly. Cobalt (new), Lannate, Discipline (corn), and Lorsban were used occasionally.

Costs reported for most of these chemicals range from $4.00-7.00/A, with Cobalt costing $10 and Discipline $20. Application costs run $5.50-8.00/A (custom) for ground application, and $8-10.00/A for aerial. Using a weighted average cost of $6.45/A for the chemical and $6.50/A for the application, the estimated cost to treat CLB in Oregon this year was $742,644.

See CEREALS: Cereal Leaf Beetle in Oregon, Page 5
Cereals: CEREAL LEAF BEETLE IN OREGON

Continued from Page 4

The chart below shows the progression of CLB impact in Oregon.

![Chart showing progression of CLB impact in Oregon.](image)

**Biocontrol Program Proving Successful**

USDA APHIS, ODA, and OSU Extension have been cooperating in the release of parasitic wasps as natural enemies of CLB since 1999. The CLB larval parasitoid *Tetrastichus julis* is now present in most Oregon counties where CLB has spread. It is well established in NE Oregon and northern Willamette Valley where parasitism rates reach 100%. Parasitoids are collected from these counties for redistribution to other sites in Oregon. This year releases were made in Deschutes and Jefferson counties. Monitoring shows *T. julis* can spread long distances on its own within grain production areas.

In Union and Baker counties larval parasitism has been high since 2006. Growers there have gained confidence that the parasitoids will kill CLB larva before yields are affected. Treated acres are down 99% compared with those of 2003, the peak year for CLB treatments. Experience in Union County indicates *T. julis* can effectively reduce CLB damage below economic levels.

We encourage growers to watch CLB threshold levels carefully, and consult with their extension agents before insecticide applications. If treatment is necessary, growers are encouraged to leave untreated areas to provide refuges for parasitoid survival. If requested, and resources permit, ODA or APHIS personnel can monitor fields for parasitism levels to assist with treatment decisions. Contact us directly or through your local Extension office.

Gary Brown     Barry Bai
USDA APHIS PPQ    Oregon Dept of Agriculture
(503) 326-2814 x 239    (503) 986-4645

The CLB Biocontrol Program was partially funded by the Oregon Hay and Forage Association. Thanks to Darrin Walenta and Mylen Bohle, of OSU for NE and Central Oregon data.

*Gary W. Brown, Colin Park, and Crystal Fakesch - USDA APHIS PPQ*
GENERAL AG —

HOLIDAY SAFETY/To Keep the Holiday Season Merry, Keep Fire Hazards Out!

Select a firm, fresh tree and put it at once in a cool place. When you bring your tree home, immediately cut a 1” diagonal piece off the bottom and place in a mixture of one part sugar and sixteen parts water. Keeping the container filled will help prolong your tree’s freshness.

Locate the tree away from heat and where it will not block exits. Take it down as soon as possible after Christmas. The more it dries out, the more of a fire hazard it becomes.

Never use lighted candles on a tree or near any evergreen decorations. When using candles in decorations, make sure they are made not to tip over. A wide base on it or a non-combustible holder prevents tip over. There should be a responsible adult in the room while a candle is burning, if you leave the room blow the candle out.

Check sets of electric lights closely for worn insulation, broken plugs, loose bulb sockets, and use only sets that carry the label of the leading national testing laboratory.

Never hang sets of lights on metallic artificial trees. To avoid shock hazard, use indirect spot lighting instead. If your artificial tree has built-in electrical lighting systems, it should be “listed” by a recognized national testing system.

Turn off all indoor tree and decorative lights when leaving the house or retiring for the night. Outdoor lights should have special wiring intended for outside use.

Use decorations which are non-combustible, such as glass, or which are flame-retardant. Keep natural evergreens and polystyrene decorations away from candles, fireplaces and other open flames.

Use care in dispensing of wrappings and tree. **Do Not** burn in your fireplace or woodstove as it may cause a flash or chimney fire.

RECYCLE YOUR TREE

When the Holidays are over, you can recycle your tree. Contact your local county Landfills or transfer stations for more information.

FORAGES —

USDA Hay Market Report

Supply and Demand is what drives the price of the commodity in any fair and free market system. You as an individual producer of hay can help be a part of the market information system. If you selling or buying hay, you can report your sale or buy, on a weekly basis, to Jack Getz at the USDA Livestock, Grain and Hay Market news office in Moses Lake, WA. Jack and crew can be contacted at (509) 765-3611 by phone or (509) 765-0454 by fax, or by emailing jack.getz@usda.gov. You may also contact them for present market information and trends. The home page is located at [http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateA&navID=Home&topNav=Home&page=Home&acct=AMSPW](http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateA&navID=Home&topNav=Home&page=Home&acct=AMSPW).


Information to have handy when reporting a hay buy or a sale, includes hay type, tons, price per ton, and quality. The Central Oregon Hay Growers Association and the Oregon Hay and Forage Association worked with the USDA Market News Service and were very instrumental in starting these regional hay market reports including the Central Oregon Hay Market Report. This a great tool for aiding in marketing your hay; take advantage of this report and the system set up and keep reporting your hay buys and sales.

Libby Rodgers

Mylen Bohle
* Wells and the Well-Being of Oregon

December 11, 2008
8:00AM to 5:00PM
Northwest Viticulture Center
Chemeketa Community College at Eola
215 Doaks Ferry Rd., Salem, Oregon, 97304

The Conference:
National, state, and local experts will convene on December 11, 2008 at the Northwest Viticulture Center in Salem, Oregon for a one-day symposium reexamining the importance of ground water and wells to the well-being of Oregonians.

• Morning sessions will focus on overviews of groundwater trends, well issues, regulatory obstacles and opportunities in Oregon and the western states.

• Afternoon sessions will provide a practical overview of well ownership topics through well water education and safety, case studies in ground-water challenged areas and an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on well-water issues through a facilitated process.

Who should attend this symposium?
• Water Well Owners
• Real Estate Agents
• Bankers
• Well Drillers
• Lawyers
• Land Use Planners
• Hydrogeologists
• Ground Water Engineers
• Water System Supervisors and Operators
• Economists
• Water Policy Experts

Visit the symposium website for detailed information http://oregonstate.edu/conferences/wells2008/

Registration:
Questions about pre-registration or this website may be directed to:
OSU Conference Services
Oregon State University
200 LaSells Stewart Center
Corvallis, OR 97331
(541) 737-9300 conferences@oregonstate.edu
On-site registration begins at 8:00AM in the foyer outside of the Riesling and Merlot rooms.

Northwest Viticulture Center
Chemeketa Community College at Eola
215 Doaks Ferry Rd.
Salem, Oregon, 97304 (503) 584-7272

* Sponsored by the Institute for Water and Watersheds and Oregon Sea Grant Extension

Samuel Chan, Assistant Professor
Watershed Health/Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist
Oregon State University
(503) 679-4828 Samuel.chan@oregonstate.edu
LIVESTOCK —

Carcass Disposal

You will remember that after Redmond Tallow shut down, a local mini crisis emerged for local livestock owners, especially those with very small acreages, and butcher shops regarding how to dispose of dead animals and butcher waste. With the significant assistance of our Central Oregon Extension Agent, Barbi Riggs, we reviewed the various options for carcass disposal and gradually eliminated all of them as being infeasible or uneconomical. We were left with options for carcass disposal and gradually eliminated all of them as being infeasible or uneconomical. We were left with the options of tossing “deads” in the landfill (which is a management challenge on several levels) or transporting carcass waste. We settled on the latter. We began accepting waste in totes, storing it in a refrigerated truck unit and having Darling International of Tacoma pick up and transport the waste on a regular basis. The local butcher shops are able to use our service or contract directly with Darling for pick up, so the landfill has pretty much been relegated to receiving dead carcasses of cows, horses, goats, sheep and llamas. At times we have received 20 or so carcasses a week, though that would be on the high side. More typically, we receive three or four. We suspect there is still a fair amount of volume being buried on private lands or dumped on public lands, but at least the landfill provides a legal and environmentally safe option for the public that chooses to use it.

We I received word from Darling International of yet another wrinkle in this ongoing saga. Effective April 27, 2009, the federal Food and Drug Administration will ban rendering plants from accepting for processing any carcasses from animals 30 months of age or older which have not had the brain and spinal cord removed. The practice and cost of removing the brain and spinal cord is intensive and expensive, relative to the limited number of animals this affects, and Darling does not intend to invest in a mechanical removal processing line. Thus, Darling has informed us it will shut off accepting animals 30 months of age and older, effective January 15, in order to allow time to clear its inventory of any of these prohibited carcasses by the implementation date of the new rules. The final rule was published in the Federal Register, Vol. 73, No. 81, Friday, April 25, 2008, page 22756, part 589.

The rationale behind this decision is that this step is necessary to prevent the possibility of BSE (Mad Cow Disease) prions entering the food supply, which could lead to the contraction of the human form of the disease, Creutzfeld Jacob Disease. Because rulemaking is finished and because of the public health implications, FDA is unlikely to reverse itself on this.

This leaves our landfill and our livestock community once again with the problem of what to do with those animals 30 months or older. It also leaves the public lands agencies further exposed to the problem of illegal dumping.

So here’s what Crook County is going to do.
For now, Carl Chaco, who was the owner of Redmond Tallow and who is now running a successful pickup and transport business, has agreed to remove the spinal cord and brains of animals which he picks up. He will then transport the “clean” carcass to Darling. When we receive dead animals 30 months and older at the Crook County landfill, they will be refused, but we will refer the owners to Carl for processing and transport.

The county will accept (at a price) the removed brain and spine from these animals in its landfill, since that is the most logical way to dispose of these byproducts safely and these small amounts of scrap will not pose the management problems that an entire carcass presents. As long as Carl continues in business, this plan should work. If further rulemaking or the ordinary vicissitudes of business should put Carl out of business, the problem of disposal will either re-emerge, or we will have to find someone else to provide this unpleasant, but necessary service.

So, for now: Problem identified. Problem solved. However, this is one we will have to continue to watch.

Scott R. Cooper, Crook County Judge
(541) 447-6555; FAX (541) 416-3891
scott.cooper@co.crook.or.us

SOIL FERTILITY MANAGEMENT —

Up in Smoke!

Previous work in Manitoba, Canada showed that straw burning showed estimates of total loss of Nitrogen and sulfur, and no loss of phosphorus and Potassium. Present research there, showed that average nutrient loss is over 90% of the carbon, 98% of N, 70% of S, 24% of P and 35% of K in spring wheat, oat and flax straw. The nutrient concentration in the ash was concentrated from 2 to 10 times greater than that in the straw, but there was less overall weight left of the nutrients. It was assumed that most of the loss was in the smoke or as particulate that drifted away, since the smoke or particulate matter was not measured. Wind speed and direction, and “perhaps high temperature volatilization of K may have been a factor, but not likely” they say. While there are also positive benefits to burning (for reducing insects, weeds, mites, and reducing straw load so you can farm), if one can avoid any recreational burning, it would be advantageous from a fertility standpoint, as well as, reducing the carbon load into the atmosphere.

An agronomist working in Saskatchewan reported that a composite soil sample showed that the soil test K value was 223 ppm.

See SOIL FERTILITY MANAGEMENT: Smoke!,

Page 9
Soil Fertility Management: SMOKE!

Continued from Page 8

But when the agronomist sampled the field in the burned windrow area and between the windrow burns, the results were very different. He found that 25% of the field had a soil test K value of 325 ppm (burned windrow area) and 75% of the field had a soil test K value of 114 ppm (area between windrows). So redistribution of the nutrients by burning, in some cases, needs to be thought about as well.


SMALL ACREAGE —

* Small Acreage Water and Weed Management

Redmond Service Center, 625 SE Salmon Avenue, Redmond, OR

Saturday, December 6, 2008, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

WATER QUALITY ISSUES

Ellen Hammond/Oregon Dept. of Ag

- Irrigation water diversions
- Riparian streamside vegetation
- Manure and other wastes
- Sediment and nutrients in irrigation tail water

WEEDS IN CENTRAL OREGON

Dan Sherwin/Deschutes Co. Weeds

- Problem pasture/hay land weeds and their control
- Noxious weed identification & their programs
- Cost Share Program
- Hay certification program

IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT

Randall Brady

- Measuring soil moisture and Irrigation scheduling
- Optimizing use of irrigation water
- Minimizing erosion and runoff
- Sprinkler equipment maintenance

Managing Small-acreage Horse Farms

OSU Extension Service has just released a new publication: EC 1610, “Managing Small-acreage Horse Farms in Central and Eastern Oregon”. This 38 page bulletin can be purchased from your local Extension office at a cost of $4.50 or found on line in a printable PDF form at:
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/ec/ec1610.pdf

Topics include:

- What do you want from your farm?
- Poor conditions on farms affect’s animals, people, and wildlife.
- What makes horses different?
- Seven steps to a safe efficient, environmentally friendly horse farm.
- Don’t beat up your pasture.
- Manage your pasture for optimal grass growth.
- Use buffer strips to protect water.
- Manage manure and bedding resources.
- Manage weeds to protect your horses.
- Install rain gutters and downspouts.
- Protect your household water supply.
- Other resources.

2009 Living on a Few Acres (LOAFA) Conference

Saturday, March 14, 2009, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR

Educational Classes: Attend a variety of workshops covering different topics such as: Pasture Management & Irrigation Techniques, Specialty Crops (raspberries, blueberries, strawberries, fruit trees, vegetables), Weed and Feed Toxicity, Pond Maintenance, Fencing for Livestock, Wildlife Habitats, Irrigation system maintenance, Animal First Aid, and more.

Trade Show: Visit with various equipment dealers, trade association representatives and people from agricultural agencies who can help you with your needs ranging from financial to operational and management.

Networking Opportunity: Talk to other land owners and exchange ideas. Make connections and develop marketing opportunities.

Featured Lunch Program: Sponsored by the Deschutes County Farm Bureau; includes a free lunch!

For more information contact: OSU Extension Service, Deschutes County, (541) 548-6088 x 7957, or email: dana.martin@oregonstate.edu

Dana Martin
Central Oregon Agriculture Calendar

December
6  Small Acreage Water & Weed Management, Redmond Service Center, Redmond, OR., (see article page 9).
8  Mid-Columbia Small Grains Technology Workshop.  8:00 am to 3:30 pm, Discovery Center, The Dalles, OR., (see article front page).
10  High Residue Farming Under Irrigation Workshop.  Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake, WA., (see article front page).
11  Well and the Well-Being of Oregon, Northwest Viticulture Center, Salem, OR., (see article page 7).

January
6-7  Pasco Ag Show.  Pasco, WA.  High Residue Farming Equipment will be at this show.  http://www.pascoagshow.com/
21-22  2009 NW Direct Seed Cropping Systems Conference.  Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick WA., (see article front page).
27-29  Harvesting Clean Energy Conference.  Red Lion Hotel on the River, Portland, OR., (see article page 3).
31  Central Oregon Forage Seminar and Central Oregon Hay Growers’ Association Annual Business Meeting and Dinner, Prineville, OR., (see article page 3).

February
27  Idaho Oilseed Conference.  Moscow, ID., (see article page 3).

March
14  2009 Living on a Few Acres (LOAFA) Conference, Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR., (see article page 9)