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Oregon State University
North Willamette Research and Extension Center

A Newsletter for Friends of North Willamette Research and Extension Center **SPRING 2021**

Parker House Lab Remodel Moves Forward—major gift helping make possible

The Parker House at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center is a special place. The house was a gift from the Parker Family ("Parker"—as in OSU's Parker Stadium and now named Reser Stadium) donated the house to NWREC in 1992 when Joan and Jack Parker purchased their new property located at the southwest corner of the Research Center. The Parkers loved their new plot of land; but, wanted to design their own home.

The Parker House at NWREC has been used as an office space for faculty and staff since that donation. Formerly a home, the building has a kitchen and dining area that has served as a lunch room for faculty, staff, and summer students.

Our pressing need at NWREC, now, is for modern and state-of-the-art lab space to support faculty research. In the fall of 2019, NWREC received a $375,000 block of capital improvement funding from OSU to remodel Parker House office spaces into three labs—plant materials, soils and chemistry, and molecular.

Preliminary plans for the project were being developed at the time the COVID pandemic hit. Hopes to begin the remodel in September of last year didn't happen. Additional funding was needed to finance the entire project, too.

Then, in December and just before Christmas, NWREC received another very special gift. Northwest Farm Credit Services, based in Salem and well known for providing credit and financial services supporting agriculture and rural communities throughout the state, gifted NWREC $250,000 for infrastructure improvements. The Northwest Farm Credit Services gift to NWREC was part of a larger $1.5 million contribution the company has made to the College of Agricultural Sciences at OSU and is helping fund numerous projects and programs on campus and off campus.

Mike Bondi, NWREC Director, said, "The timing of this important gift couldn't have been better. Our budget for the project grew to $570,000 and we knew we could be facing additional costs due to newly discovered septic and asbestos issues that needed attention. The Farm Credit gift was a real God-send!"

Since the first of the year, plans have been progressing. Permitting is being finalized and the demolition will be the first step. Once the demolition and abatement work is complete, construction will be ready to begin. The west end of the Parker House will be extended 12'. Three labs (each about 20x23') will be created. A new lab entry will be added, too, with new restrooms to address accessibility standards.

"The Parker Remodel will be a huge step toward upgrading the older facilities at NWREC. Our faculty will all have access to these labs for their work with space designed for their needs. We hope to move into the new labs later this summer."

A special thank you, Northwest Farm Credit Services, for making this dream a reality!

New Croptime Extension Publication Available

By Nick Andrews, Organic Extension Program—NWREC; Len Coop, Associate Director, Integrated Plant Protection Center—Corvallis; Heather Stoven, Community Small Farms Extension Horticulturalist—Yamhill County; Heidi Noordijk, Metro Small Farm Outreach Program Coordinator—NWREC; and Aaron Heinrich, Field Development Specialist, Wilbur Ellis—Woodburn

The OSU Croptime Project recently published a new Extension Publication: Vegetable Degree-Day Models: An Introduction for Farmers and Gardeners (EM 9305). It is online at https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9305. It describes the research foundation for degree-day (DD) models, and explains how DDs are calculated. The publication also discusses how DD models can be used to predict vegetable harvest dates and the development of viable seed in some summer annual weed species. The online Croptime DD Calculator (https://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/croptime) and mobile app (https://uspest.org/dd/model_app) are also introduced with brief instructions. We explain the modeling methods used to develop Croptime DD models, and show how to evaluate their accuracy, and adapt them for use in regions with different climates from the Willamette Valley.

On your farm you can use Croptime vegetable variety models in the winter and spring to schedule planting dates and plan for successive harvests that avoid gaps or gluts in supplies during the harvest season. These early season predictions are derived from long-term forecasts that are based on climate models or historical weather data from your location. During the season you can run the models again to get more accurate harvest predictions because the long term forecast data is replaced by actual weather data from your farm. The weed models can help you predict whether certain weed species will set viable seed before crop harvest. If so, an investment in late season rogueing may be justified in order to prevent weed seed rain in your field.

Time to maturity or harvest may be influenced by many factors including time, temperature, sunlight, moisture, pest pressure and soil fertility. Time and temperature are usually the two most important factors. Our hypothesis is that DD models that calculate time and cumulative temperature are more accurate than maturity estimates based on calendar days alone. So far, we have developed DD models for four transplanted broccoli varieties, one transplanted and six direct-seeded cucumber varieties, three direct-seeded snap bean varieties, six direct-seeded and three transplanted sweet corn varieties, four transplanted sweet pepper varieties, four transplanted tomato varieties, and three summer annual weeds (hairy nightshade, lambsquarter and redroot pigweed).

Berry Initiative Leader Moving On

Javier Fernandez Salvador, Small Farms Extension Faculty for Marion and Polk Counties and Leader of the Berry Initiative at NWREC, has accepted a new position with the University of California at Davis as the Director of the Olive Center. The Center is considered the premier olive research, education, and marketing organization in the world.

Javier has two Bachelor degrees in Agricultural Business and Agricultural Engineering from his native Ecuador. He has been in the U.S. for the past 20 years working in agriculture, obtaining advanced degrees, and Extension faculty member at OSU since 2016.

For the past nine years, Javier has had a presence at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center—first as a Master's student of Bernadine Strik, and most recently, his PhD. Javier is in the final stages of completing his dissertation.

Since January, 2018 Javier has provided leadership for the Berry Initiative at NWREC. The Oregon Legislature has provided $125,000 of funding each of the past two biennia to support innovative applied research and outreach education for strawberry and caneberry growers in the region. The primary focus has been developing a year-around fresh market for Oregon strawberries. Javier has been experimenting with season extension techniques and utilizing California-bred day-neutral strawberry varieties. As this work progressed over the past three seasons, Javier and his team at NWREC have worked with low tunnel technologies, greenhouse culture, raised benchtop production, cultivar evaluation, nutrient management, organic production, crop optimization, and will be looking at high tunnel methods for production in the coming season.

"This work has really been a lot of fun for me," said Javier. "The berry industry is so great in Oregon. And I was blessed to work with the best—Bernadine Strik. It's been an amazing experience."

"But, we do need new techniques and new markets for our strawberries. The year-around approach for the fresh market in the state has real possibilities. It's been a great opportunity for me to be involved and help create new ideas."

Javier's involvement over the past three years at NWREC has also provided a place for him to follow another of his interests—growing olives in Oregon. "Of course, California is the primary place in the U.S. for olive production. We won't compete with them in volume. But, we do have a very passionate group of growers who have been producing Oregon olives. We think it's possible to develop a specialty industry here in the state and produce some wonderful oils."

And, now this experience with growing olives in Oregon, plus Javier's wide range of practical agriculture background, and his education, has led to this next opportunity at Davis. "I am very excited about this next step in my career. The UC Davis Olive Center is a special place that provides the lead for this important agricultural industry in California and the world. I am sad to be leaving OSU at this time, but the opportunity calling is too good to pass up. Thank you to all my Oregon friends and colleagues."

Javier begins his new position on June 1. Plans are underway to continue Javier's work and bring to conclusion the research and publishing for the growers and industry in the state.

We all wish Javier the best of luck and will be following his career!

Tractor Training

It was the summer of 2019 when we hosted our last tractor training and certification program for young people ages 14-17 at NWREC. Normally a harbinger of spring, this important safety training program has been a yearly event each Spring Break for the past ten years. The pandemic derailed plans in 2020 for the training last spring, as well as, our usual classes in June when school is out and youth are beginning their summers.

"I'm really proud of the role NWREC plays in getting young people ready to work on area farms through our youth tractor safety and certification program," said Mike Bondi, NWREC's Director. During the past ten years, the NWREC Farm Staff has certified more than 400 youth through this national safety training program."

As we come out of the pandemic, training is now being planned for this year. But, COVID restrictions will require changes to the program to ensure health safety. Here's what is being planned:

• Training dates will be three one day sessions at NWREC on June 21, 22, and 23.

• All classroom instruction (normally about a third of the typical three-day program) will be done by students, in advance, and online.

• Instead of the normal three-day and 24-hour education and training experience at NWREC, attendees will come in for one day only to include intensive driving and working with the farm equipment—followed that afternoon with the required field driving test and the written exam. Students need passing grades on both tests for their national certification credentials.

• In-person class sizes at NWREC will be limited to 10 students (rather than the normal 20-30). Three learning stations will be set up to maximize the training experience—plus limiting physical interaction and ensuring proper sanitation of equipment can be managed.

• Registration is required, in advance. The cost for the program remains at $95. Scholarships are available. Register at: https://beav.es/JRB.

According to Derek Wells, Tractor Training Coordinator for NWREC, "We are excited to get back to tractor training. We know this is a very important service we provide for youth in the area, their families, and local farms and agribusinesses who employee our students. Yes, this year will be different, but I am confident we can provide an excellent training and do it safely!"

Calendar of Events

APRIL 5: First day of our brand-new bilingual online plant-health certification course offered through Oregon State University Professional and Continuing Education (PACE)! Course is entitled "**Disease Prevention and Diagnosis for Nursery Crops**". Six-week course offered in Spanish and English. 25% off registration fee! To register: https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/plant-disease-prevention-and-diagnosis-for-nursery-crops. Contact: Luisa Santamaria (luisa.santamaria@oregonstate.edu) or Maria Marlin (maria.marlin@oregonstate.edu).

APRIL 12: (in Spanish) **Scouting for the Scoundrel! Boxwood Blight Interactive Workshop** (9:00 am- Noon). Virtual via Zoom. Learn how to scout effectively and pinpoint signs and symptoms of boxwood blight! No fee. To register, please email maria.marlin@oregonstate.edu. Alternate days for trainings are available by request for individual groups.

APRIL 27, APRIL 29, MAY 4, MAY 11: **Train the Trainers Food Safety Workshops** (via Zoom). All days will have English offered in the morning (9 am- noon) and Spanish offered in the afternoon (1 pm- 4pm). $25/person. Registration will be available in late March 2021 at the following link http://bit.ly/TraintheTrainerFoodSafety Contact: Luisa Santamaria (luisa.santamaria@oregonstate.edu) or Maria Marlin (maria.marlin@oregonstate.edu)

MAY 17: (in English) **Scouting for the Scoundrel! Boxwood Blight Interactive Workshop** (9:00 am- Noon). Virtual via Zoom. Learn how to scout effectively and pinpoint signs and symptoms of boxwood blight! No fee. To register, please email maria.marlin@oregonstate.edu. Alternate days for trainings are available by request for individual groups.

Search Update for New NWREC Director

The search process is in full swing with four candidates interviewing and making presentations, remotely, the second week of March in a first round. A Search Committee of a dozen faculty and staff from OSU are managing the process. Dave Stone, the Director at OSU's Food Innovation Center in Portland, is the Search Chair.

The Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences will make the final decision on the hiring based on input from the Search Committee, as well as, direct input from industry and community stakeholders who are involved in the process, too.

"We believe this is a very strong pool of candidates," said Stone. "The level of enthusiasm among these candidates for the work that NWREC does is really impressive."

The next step will be a remote visit by one of the top candidates. Included will be meetings with the College of Agricultural Sciences administrators (Dean, Associate Deans, Unit Leaders), NWREC faculty and staff, a special stakeholder panel, and a presentation that will be open to the public. The public presentation will be remotely broadcast via Zoom. Watch for more details on the NWREC website at https://extension.oregonstate.edu/nwrec. These meetings and activities will be scheduled on April 19 and 20.

The goal is to have the new Director at NWREC in June. Current NWREC Director, Mike Bondi, retires on June 30.

Storm Damage Hits Hard at NWREC

The North Willamette Research and Extension Center suffered significant damage to older trees as a result of the ice storm in February. Nearly 40 trees were removed—1/2 of them so badly damaged that it didn't make sense to keep and the other half removed to clear way for the new agrivoltaics (solar energy and integrated farming research) project set to break ground this summer—and, many of those trees were damaged, too, with broken limbs and tops.

According to NWREC Director, Mike Bondi, "The good news is that we didn't sustain any damage to our buildings, greenhouses or other facilities. That was amazing! We were really concerned that a heavy snow and ice load would take down the greenhouses—as has happened throughout the region in previous big events like this. Falling trees and branches were, of course, a big concern, too."

Instead, the storm event was mostly ice damage at NWREC. The Farm Staff was able to protect the greenhouses with auxiliary heat to keep temperatures up to limit ice formation. But, there wasn't much to be done for the trees. They were hit hard. Power was out at the Center for over a week due to downed power lines and outages all around the area. None-the-less, no research was lost due to lack of cooling, heating or irrigation needs.

The next time you come out to the Research Center, you'll notice that all of the large birch trees bordering the Main Parking Lot area are gone. Birch trees are notorious for being brittle and they just didn't fare well with the ice that formed. They all had to be removed.

Professional tree fallers were hired to take all the trees down. Then, the Farm Staff began the clean-up, moving or disposing of the logs, picking up all the branches and hauling the debris away. It was a huge job over a three to four week period, and amongst other projects needing attention as the spring farming season approaches.

Be ready for a new look at NWREC!

Welcome, Monte!

By Dani Lightle, Pesticide Registration Research Leader

OSU's Pesticide Registration Research program is excited to welcome Monte Mattsson as a new Faculty Research Assistant (FRA). Monte's background as abiologist spans both academic research, as well as, on-the-ground pest management. Most recently, Monte worked for the City of Portland's Environmental Services Bureau, where he helped develop and implement management strategies for newly-arrived invasive species. This approach of 'nipping in the bud' any newly-detected species that have the potential to proliferate and threaten biodiversity, economy, and agriculture, is highly cost effective, such that every dollar spent on eradication and/or management early in an invasion can be worth $34 or more in management costs were the pest to establish and require intensive management later on (Oregon Department of Agriculture, 2000).

Prior to his position with the City, Monte worked for OSU as an FRA with Dr. Peter McEvoy (Department of Botany and Plant Pathology). There, Monte studied rapid evolution of biological control organisms, with emphasis on the tansy ragwort/cinnabar moth system. The topic of "rapid evolution" seems to be thematic in Monte's work, as he previously spent several years researching how new biological species arise, by focusing on regional populations of the apple maggot fly *Rhagoletis pomonella*. The apple maggot was accidentally introduced by humans to the Pacific Northwest in the 1970s, and now appears to be diverging and specializing on two local hawthorn species *Crataegus douglasii* and *C. monogyna*. When time allows, Monte continues to help characterize the ecological and physiological aspects of this ongoing process of host specialization.

As part of the Pesticide Registration Research program, Monte will be conducting magnitude of residue trials which develop data used by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set tolerances for newly registered pesticides. He will also be working to find new pesticide options for Oregon specialty crop producers who are facing loss of the use of chlorpyrifos as the state phases out this material. Monte's work will look at alternative control measures for cabbage maggot—a primary pest in Brassica vegetable and seed cropping systems where chlorpyrifos has been used.

On a personal note, Monte loves getting outdoors and exploring our region with his family, refining his birding, botanical, and entomological skills. He also looks forward to getting together with fellow musicians when the pandemic finally settles down.

Medicinal Herbs—a new-crop opportunity for the Pacific Northwest

Kristie Buckland, Vegetable and Special Seed Crops Extension Specialist

On March 4th, 2021 a virtual conference was held on the subject of domestic production of medicinal herb crops. The project team includes OSU researchers (Kristie Buckland, Alex Stone, and Nick Andrews) as well as leaders in the industry, such as national expert in Traditional Chinese Medicine herb crops, Peg Schafer, and Ben Marx, a researcher and acupuncturist. This project was funded by USDA's Organic Research and Extension Initiative to develop a plan for incorporating new medicinal herb crops to supplement current cropping systems and crop rotations in the Pacific Northwest.

Discussions with U.S. herb growers, buyers, patients, medical practitioners, and food processors have revealed opportunities to cultivate and sell a greater diversity and volume of U.S. grown Asian medicinal herbs. Though exciting, this opportunity presents challenges including ensuring quality and efficacy of U.S.-grown herbs and the economic viability for farmers introducing new herbal crops. Furthermore, herb producers have expressed the need for research to help them identify new herbs suitable for growing in the Pacific Northwest region, how to increase production of existing herb crops, and how to appropriately process medicinal herbs. We hosted the conference for the nation's most experienced growers and Traditional Chinese Medicine herbalists to identify the most pressing areas for research and education. At the end of the day, we walked away with a clear direction for future work and new connections throughout the region!

Astragalus is a member of the legume family and is grown as a short-term perennial crop of 2-3 years.

Astragalus root shown here has been washed and will now be dried prior to processing for medicine. Astragalus contains antioxidants and is used to support immune functions, as it has antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties.

In an effort to gain experience with these new crops, our group is also starting a demonstration planting area at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. The area will begin with some of the 'easy' to grow species including *Salvia miltiorrhiza* (common name red sage and used for medicine dan shan) and *Withania somnifera* (common name, Ashwagandha). We plan to include up to 10 species of crops well-suited to our growing conditions and having a high market demand. The first planting will be this spring.

Ashwagandha is in the same plant family as tomatoes and peppers and is grown as an annual crop. The root of the crop is harvested in the fall, washed, dried, and processed into medicine. Ashwagandha is an Ayruvedic herb and has become popular in recent years within western medicine as an adaptogen—helping the body to respond to stress.

The objective of this project is to identify specific research and educational needs to advance Pacific Northwest medicinal herb production and introduce new growers to these opportunities. The project will publish results of the planning conference and expects to host on-site events when allowed. To learn more about the project visit the PNW Medicinal Herb Working Group at https://pnwherb.org.

OSU Organic Extension Program Update

By Nick Andrews, Organic Extension Program Faculty—Vegetables

OSU Extension and Oregon Tilth, Inc. have been working together since 2017 to develop a new Organic Extension Program at OSU. The nascent program started in 2018 with one half-time Organic Vegetable Extension position. That year Friends of Family Farmers, the Oregon Organic Coalition, and Organic Valley joined the effort by advocating with Oregon lawmakers to fund the new Extension Organic program. Their efforts were rewarded on June 26, 2019 when House Bill 5050 provided funding for two new Organic Extension positions.

A group of Organic farming stakeholders met with OSU administrators, and decided to start the program with one Organic Vegetable, and one Organic Pasture and Forages Extension position. Both are full-time Professor of Practice faculty with field-based positions. They will be part of the OSU Center for Small Farms and Community Food Systems, but will work with organic farms of all sizes around the state. In January, 2020, I accepted the Organic Vegetable position based at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center one year ago. The Organic Pasture and Forages position is currently being filled. That position will be housed in Corvallis.

In 2019, OSU Extension formed an Organic Extension working group, an interdisciplinary team of OSU faculty and staff who are interested in working with organic farmers. That April we hosted an Organic Extension Summit at the OSU North Willamette Research and Extension Center with industry stakeholders to identify promising areas of collaboration.

Oregon Tilth has provided invaluable financial support to secure these positions, and are continuing that support with the aim of forming a third Organic Grains and Pulses position. Friends of Family Farmers, the Oregon Organic Coalition and Organic Valley are continuing their work with Oregon Tilth to advocate for additional Organic Extension funds from the Oregon Legislature. The Oregon Organic Coalition is also forming a stakeholder working group to develop an Oregon Organic Action Plan that will identify strategic ways to further strengthen the Organic agriculture sector in Oregon.

Agrivoltaics Research Coming to NWREC

Agrivoltaics n. "agri" meaning agriculture; and 'voltaics" meaning electrical power.

The concept of integrating farming practices and energy production, on the same ground, is what Agrivoltaics is all about. A new research initiative coming to NWREC in 2021 will likely be one of the only places in the world to scientifically study how agriculture and energy production can work together for the benefit of all.

"We all need food and we all need energy to power the work we do—not to mention personal or home needs," said Chad Higgins, Associate Professor in the Biological and Ecological Engineering Department at Oregon State University. Higgins has been an advocate for designing new and creative concepts that would allow farmers to produce their crops on lands where they can produce energy, too. The energy would power their farming operation plus provide power for local homes and businesses.

"Right now, we see the solar arrays along County Roads and along the freeway between Portland and Salem. These typical arrays are for a single use—energy production. But, what would happen if we spread the array panels further apart so we could farm the ground between them—and, then, raise the panels 9 or 10' off the ground, so we could drive tractors underneath them? This is what we are talking about with Agrivoltaics," said Higgins.

The importance of this new concept for energy production is based on the idea that we can utilize farm land more efficiently, create another revenue source for farmers, generate the power needs for homes and communities locally, and "close the energy loop."

"Eventually, I see Agrivoltaic systems growing food and producing energy on the same land, using the energy we produce on the farm to power the electrical farm tractors and other equipment needed by the operation, power the pumps for irrigation, power the production of fertilizers needed to feed the crops, power the greenhouses, and on and on. The opportunities will be endless!"

The North Willamette Research and Extension Center has identified a 5 acre portion of land at for this research initiative. The location of the Center in the greater Portland metropolitan area, the media market, and along the corridor from Portland to Salem, makes an ideal location for sharing this work with the community and decision makers. Also, NWREC is home to a dozen faculty research and education programs cutting across many of the Valley's most significant agricultural crops and production systems.

According to Higgins, "There will be a huge number of topics that will need to be addressed in Agrivoltaics research. At NWREC, we have a wealth of plant science expertise to draw on with our faculty. How do different crops perform in partial shade, what are the mechanical and operational considerations, what do the economics of these systems look like for the farmer—just to scratch the surface."

Since this new initiative at OSU was announced by Dean Alan Sams at last year's NWREC Harvest Dinner, work has been going forward with all of the planning, permitting, financing, and sharing of details for the coming Agrivoltaics project at NWREC and in the community.

Here's a quick list of accomplishments on the project over the past three months—plus an idea of what to expect.

• Check out the video about agrivoltaics on the NWREC website homepage. See https://extension.oregonstate.edu/nwrec/agrivoltaic-project.

• There has been a number of news media stories already published in local and regional newspapers. Perhaps you've seen some of these.

• All of the land use permitting with the County and the memoranda of understanding between the university and other entities are in process and should be completed this spring.

• Financing for the solar panel infrastructure and associated installation costs has been secured with the Oregon Clean Power Cooperative. Subscriptions for purchase of green power are available to anyone in the community. Oregon State University will be the anchor subscriber with access to 40% of the nearly 750,000 kilowatts that will be produced annually. For information about green power subscriptions contact Mike Bondi at michael.bondi@oreonstate.edu..

• A meeting to share the project information with the Wilsonville City Council occurred in March.

• A meeting to brief the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners on the research initiative is scheduled in April.

• Oregon's first electric tractor, a 40 horsepower unit, came by for a visit to NWREC on March 4. The manufacturer, Soletrac, is a Santa Rosa, California company and is the first producer of electric tractors in North America. Soletrac is working with the farming community in Central Oregon to showcase their equipment. The Agrivoltaics project expects to have an electric tractor as a part of our operation at NWREC.

• About 20 large trees were removed along what will become the western border of the Agrivoltaics project site since they would have shaded the solar panels. The trees were also damaged in the recent ice storm.

• What's next: Look for solar panels being installed beginning this summer.

Meet Mr. Surplus

One man's junk, is another's treasure. And, in the case of surplus farm equipment, vehicles of all kinds, plus a wide range of other "gems" coming mostly from the federal government, it's definitely been a HUGE TREASURE for NWREC—plus many others in the College of Agricultural Sciences and around the state who have benefitted, too.

Mr. Surplus at NWREC is our Farm and Facilities Manager, Marc Anderson. Marc came to NWREC from his own business in 2007. Since coming to NWREC he has developed quite an eye for spotting items of value and to fit the needs of researchers and staff, as well as, the general operations at the Center.

"It's a bit of a game," Marc shared. "You have to know what you are looking for, be able to spot something on-line that looks like it might be good value, in good shape, and fit a particular need. And, you have to watch and move quickly to lock an item when you see it. There's plenty of people out there looking for a good deal on surplus equipment."

Marc's first venture in surplus acquisition at NWREC started with the Center's vehicle fleet. "We had faculty spending a lot of money to purchase or lease vehicles for their programs. The same was true for the general operations at the farm. Depending what was needed and whether it was used or new, we might spend $10,000 to $40,000 per vehicle. Vehicle costs to the faculty leasing from the University Motor Pool could be $300-400 per month. No one could afford these costs easily. When I got into surplus vehicles, I learned that the cost is essentially the expense of going to get the item or having it shipped—sometimes from another part of the country."

As a result, it could cost $500 or $1,000 or more to bring a vehicle in. But, as Anderson learned, you could find some like new vehicles for just that cost—almost next to nothing. "I found that the federal agencies have vehicle replacement schedules. If you know what to look for, we can find like-new trucks and cars with as little as 40,000 miles on them and barely broken in. If I can grab a vehicle like that for someone that costs them

Marc picks up modular buildings, too, on Surplus. Check out the new Farm and Nursery Staff office. Plus, a tool find so each program can have their own supply.

$500 or $1,000, we all win. If I had my list ready of needs, I realized, I could find several vehicles on surplus at one time for faculty and staff here at NWREC, plus other locations in the state, and we could ship the vehicles together, share on a whole truck load of equipment, and everyone's cost could be shared for an even bigger bargain!"

Marc's work became so popular that each faculty at the Station now has their own fleet of program vehicles—cars for highway and Corvallis trips, pick-ups for field work, maybe flatbeds or other utility vehicles for hauling, and ATVs or UTVs for back and forth around the farm.

So, what difference does all of this make? Over the past dozen years or so, Marc has acquired more than 70 cars, pick-up trucks, and utility vehicles—alone—for NWREC faculty, staff and others around the state. The replacement value of these acquisitions is estimated to $1,200,000!

And, this doesn't include all kinds of farm equipment from tractors, implements, and mowers to diesel-powered light standards used for night-time field work or night lighting at educational events, a farm tour bus, bucket truck, 100 HP generator for back-up emergency power supply, and a walk-in freezer/cooler. Then, there are modular office buildings. Marc's picked up two of these, too.

Josh Hackenbruck is the Accountable Property Officer for the federal surplus program in the College of Agricultural Sciences at OSU in Corvallis. He shared, "Marc has a great knowledge base for most of what's available on surplus and pinpoints quality without a lot of time invested. I use him as a resource, often, to appraise surplus property. He looks out for Station researchers, as well as the specific facility needs on the farm."

Josh continues, "Office space is tight everywhere. Marc picked up a great modular in 2019 that now houses 7 faculty and staff at NWREC. The building had an acquisition value of $80,000, which was low. And, Marc dealt with some difficult logistics to transfer that building. He does an amazing job!"

One might ask what Marc's favorite "find" has been…"I'd probably have to say my last one—only because it's fresh in my mind. Just picked up a Jacobsen commercial golf course lawn mower to help us better manage our mowing needs at NWREC on our lawns and roads. This thing is amazing. Truly, like new. Only has 1,000 hours on it. Mows to 1" so we can keep things neat and tidy. Value is $25,000 if we had to buy this machine of like quality and condition. Cost to us was a trip down to the VA Hospital in Grants Pass. We are now ready for the grass to start growing—and mowing!"

Thank you, Marc, truly Mr. Surplus at NWREC and around the state!

North Willamette Research and Extension Center
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Shelley Hughes, *Admin. Assistant*

Jan Egli, *Office Specialist*

Marc Anderson, *Farm & Facilities Mgr.*

Derek Wells, *Building/Trades Maint.*

Joe Battilega, *Farm Technician*

Extension & Research Faculty

Bernadine Strik, *Berry Crops Research Leader*

Wei Yang, *Berry Crops Extension Agent*

Javier Fernandez Salvador, *Special Berry Initiative*

Lloyd Nackley, *Nursery & Greenhouse Production & Management Research*

Luisa Santamaria, *Nursery Pathologist/ Bilingual Extension Agent*

Chal Landgren, *Christmas Tree Extension Specialist*

Nick Andrews, *Organic Extension Faculty*

Heidi Noordijk, *Metro Small Farms Outreach Coordinator*

Kristie Buckland, *Vegetable & Specialty Seed Crops Extension Specialist*

Dani Lightle, *Pesticide Registration Research Leader*

Nik Wiman, *Orchard Crops Extension Specialist*

Nicole Anderson, *Field Crops Ext. Agent*

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Maria Marlin, *Nursery Pathology & Bilingual Education*

Brian Donovan, *Field Crops Research*

Ann Rasmussen, *Vegetable & Specialty Seed Crops Research*

Clint Taylor, *Metro Small Farms Program*

Monte Mattsson, *Pesticide Registration Research*

Cora Bobo-Shisler, *Berry Initiative Research*

Tessa Barker, *Olive Research*

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