Unsolicited Seeds from China

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) is aware that people across the country, including Oregon, are receiving unsolicited packages of seed from China in recent days. Often the package is labeled as jewelry and the recipients say they did not order jewelry or seeds.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is warning Americans not to plant the unsolicited package of seeds. ODA is working closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspections Service (APHIS) and the Department of Homeland Security’s Customs and Border Protection on this issue. The goal is to collect the seeds and test them to determine if they are a concern to agriculture or the environment.

Anyone who receives an unsolicited package of seeds from China should immediately contact their state department of agriculture or the APHIS state plant health director and follow these steps:

- Save the seeds and the package they came in, including the mailing label.
- Do not open the seed packets.
- Do not plant any of the seeds.
- If the packets are already opened, place all materials (seeds and packaging) into a zip lock bag and seal it.
- If the seeds have been planted, leave the seeds/plants in the ground until you receive further instruction from your state department of agriculture or APHIS.

In Oregon, if you have received a package of seeds that you did not order, please include the packaging that includes the return address and send the shipment to:

Oregon Department of Agriculture
Plant Protection and Conservation
635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301

If you have already opened the seed package, please place the entire package in a plastic bag and seal it and then send it to ODA. Do not plant any of the seeds. If you already planted the seeds, please contact Dr. Helmuth Rogg, ODA Plant Programs Director at 503-986-4662 or hrogg@oda.state.or.us.

To reach APHIS please call 1-844-820-2234 or email CustomerServiceCallCenter@aphis.usda.gov.

Andrea Cantu-Schomus, ODA
Nitrates in Livestock Feeding

There is a new U. of Nebraska “Nitrates in Livestock Feeding” bulletin (G1779). It is an excellent publication (6 pages), which also updates new research that has shown that ruminant animals (cattle, sheep, goats, etc.) can tolerate grazing higher nitrates forages compared to animals eating high nitrate hay or silage.

https://animalscience.unl.edu/Our_People/g1779.pdf

Mylen Bohle

Irrigation Demand by Crop

The warm (hot) days in the high 90’s and 100 degree F temperatures had some crops using over 0.40 inches of water daily. Check out the latest crop-water use reports at https://www.usbr.gov/pn/agrimet/. (In the last newsletter, we could not access some of the Agrimet sites; they had a power outage problem at some of the sites, but the weather data was still collected and were able to predict crop water use.)

Mylen Bohle

ATTRA Resources

This is the home page for ATTRA; you will probably find a lot of useful agricultural and horticultural information at their web site: https://attra.ncat.org/?utm_source=WH&utm_medium=PM&utm_campaign=ATTRA.

To help you understand the COVID-19 pandemic and how it affects your farming operation, ATTRA has gathered some resources that can help. Links to information on food safety, business assistance, farmers market operation, alternative markets, and food security are available at: https://attra.ncat.org/covid/?utm_source=WH&utm_medium=PM&utm_campaign=spotlight.

(They have come up with a lot of links to resources.)

Mylen Bohle

The Oregon Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Do you have a stream or natural pond on your property in need of Riparian Restoration? The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program can provide funding for planting, fencing, seeding, livestock water development and other practices to enhance habitat and improve water quality. This program serves Crook, Deschutes & Jefferson County. For more information, contact Victoria Fischella, CREP Planner for Jefferson, Crook and Deschutes Counties at: 541-699-2936 – Victoria.Fischella@usda.gov – USDA Service Center: 625 SE Salmon Ave. Suite 6. Redmond, OR 97753.

Victoria Fischella, C.O. CREP Planner
Oregon Worker Relief Fund

The Quarantine Fund provides financial support of up to $1,290 to farmworkers who have been exposed to COVID-19 at work or at home, and who quarantine for 3 weeks (21 days).

Who is eligible to apply to this fund?
Who qualifies as an agricultural worker for this fund?
Do I need to apply to the state to be eligible for the quarantine fund?
How is this fund different from the worker relief fund?
Can an employer register to apply to this fund?
What type of paperwork is required?
Can undocumented Agricultural Workers apply?
What is the amount of aid available to eligible agricultural workers under the fund?
What is the application process?
During self-quarantine, can a worker return to work and still be eligible for funds?

Answers to these questions are at https://workerrelief.org/quarantine-fund-faq/ or call 1-888-274-7292.

Thousands of Immigrant Oregonians are facing extreme economic hardship as a result of COVID-19, yet have been intentionally excluded from worker relief programs. Over 100 Oregon community partners have come together to form the Oregon Worker Relief Fund to help immigrant Oregonians make ends meet during this crisis.

The Oregon Worker Relief Fund provides financial support directly to Oregonians who have lost their jobs yet are ineligible for Unemployment Insurance and federal stimulus relief due to their immigration status, and now face hunger, homelessness, and economic hardship.

Let’s work together to make our community strong, healthy, and whole. Now more than ever, this pandemic shows us our individual health and well-being is intrinsically linked to the health and well-being of others. For more information and to help, go to https://workerrelief.org/

Edited from the Oregon Worker Relief Fund Web Site

Puncturevine and Nightshades – Summer Noxious Weeds to Treat

Puncturevine also known as goatheads, is commonly found on disturbed sites, roadways, driveways, trails and parking areas, in overgrazed pastures, gardens and waste areas. Seeds may remain viable in the soil for up to five years and a plant growing by itself without competition may produce 10,000 to 14,000 seeds. See publication for more information. https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/puncturevine-2

Hairy, cutleaf, and black nightshade are tap-rooted annuals, starting each year from seed. They are notorious for invading disturbed land and the dry horse lots. Although all parts of these nightshade species are considered poisonous, toxicity is thought to vary tremendously based upon environment, plant part, degree of maturity, and genetic makeup of the individual weed. See publication for more information. https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/nightshade-biology-and-control-in-the-pacific-northwest

Now is the time to treat! The Crooked River Weed Management Area can help with assistance, including plant identification, and treatment options. Backpack sprayers can be checked out in the Crook County extension office. Please call first at 541-447-6228. Jefferson County Public Works has backpack sprayers to loan out as well. Please call first at 541-475-4459 For more information contact Debbie Wood at (541)447-9971 or email at debbie.wood@oregonstate.edu

Debbie Wood, Crooked River Weed Management Area

2020 State Wide Cereal Variety Trial Results

If you are interested in the 2020 state wide cereal variety trial results, you can check out the different Winter and Spring cereal irrigated and dryland testing site results. Madras winter and spring wheat trial results have-not been posted yet. http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu/wheat/variety-trials/2020-oregon-elite-yield-trial-data

Mylen Bohle
Asian Giant Hornet Detections

Since Dec. 2019, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) has confirmed the detection of several individual Asian giant hornets in Whatcom County. All of these detections were reported by alert residents.

These multiple finds indicate there’s a population in the area, but USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) does not consider the population to be established. APHIS considers a pest to be established in an area when there is evidence of a reproducing population over multiple years.

WSDA is currently surveying the State for AGH. Should WSDA locate any nests, they will respond quickly to eradicate them. People in Washington State should report possible sightings through the WSDA website.

AGH does not attack people unless it feels threatened. Most of the time, the hornets feed on insects, sap, and soft fruits. They are known to attack and kill bee hives in the late summer and early fall when developing males and future queens need protein.

USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is closely monitoring the situation in Washington. We are also providing technical and financial support to WSDA. At this time, we do not have any evidence that AGH is present in any other State. Please visit APHIS’ Asian Giant Hornet website for more information.

APHIS researchers have determined that humans are unlikely to accidentally spread the Asian giant hornet, although this species’ arrival in North America shows that human assisted movement is possible.

Research indicates that closely related hornet species with similar flight capacities spread naturally rather than by human-assisted means.

APHIS’ research shows that natural dispersal is the most likely pathway for AGH to spread from the Pacific Northwest to other parts of the United States.

If asked:

We do not know where these AGH specimens came from. WSDA is currently looking for AGH nests but hasn’t found one yet. This is an evolving situation, and we are closely monitoring it.

Officials in British Columbia, Canada, have also confirmed several detections of AGH in the southwestern part of the province. This includes a single nest in the Nanaimo area of Vancouver Island in August 2019. Canadian officials destroyed that nest.

Outside of Washington, report potential sightings to your state apiary inspector

COVID-19 Information

The following links will help you be informed about COVID-19, the Coronavirus Virus.

OHA COVID-19 Information and Fact Sheets

CDC Fact Sheets

CDC COVID-19 Information

American Public Health Association Fact Sheets
http://aphagetready.org/coronavirus.htm

If you would like to keep up on the states in the USA and countries of the world confirmed COVID-19 cases, check out this web site. https://ncov2019.live/

Oregon Health Authority is a good web site to keep track of what is happening in Oregon at https://www.oregon.gov/oha/pages/Index.aspx and https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19

Mylen Bohle
Summer Squash

Is your garden exploding with summer squash? Although summer squash can be available year-round, July and August are the season for the freshest and less expensive zucchini, scallop, round ball, and yellow crookneck varieties. When shopping for summer squash, look for squash that is firm, with a thin, bright and glossy skin. Your extra summer squash can be frozen in 1/2 -inch pieces and blanch first for best color and texture. Food Hero has a variety of fabulous summer squash recipes. Try Baked Zucchini Sticks or Zucchini Pizza Boats for fun summer snacks. When kids help make healthy food, they are more likely to try it. Have kids wash produce, measure ingredients or grate summer squash with a box grater. For more recipes and tips on summer squash, visit www.foodhero.org

Katie Ahern, Senior Instructor & SNAP-Ed Deschutes and Crook County Manager

Farmers Markets

Farmers markets are now in full swing! Visit your favorite farmers market, or try them all, and support local businesses. Some markets offer pre-ordering and curbside pickup to allow for customers who want to limit in-person contact.

Here is a list of farmers markets happening in Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties:

**Madras Saturday Market**: June – September 19th
Saturdays at Sahalee Park (Madras, OR), from 10 am to 1 pm
The goods: local produce, honey, meat, fish, tea, soap, candles, and more.
For more information contact: saturdaymarketmadras@gmail.com or go to https://www.madrassaturdaymarket.com/

**Crooked River Open Pastures (CROP) Farmers Market**: June – September 26th
Saturdays at Stryker Park (Prineville, OR), from 10 am to 2 pm
The goods: fresh produce, eggs, meats, local crafts, hand-made goods and products, and more.
For more information contact: cropfarmersmarket@gmail.com or go to https://www.cropfarmersmarket.org/farmers-market

**Bend Farmers Market**: June-October 14th
Wednesdays at Downtown Brooks Alley (Bend, OR), from 2 pm-6 pm
The goods: fresh local produce, farm products, and more.
For more information contact: bendfarmersmarket@gmail.com or go to https://www.bendfarmersmarket.com/

**Northwest Crossing Farmers Market**: June - October 3rd
Saturdays at NW Crossing Dr. (Bend, OR), from 10 am – 2 pm
The goods: fresh produce, locally-raised meats, fresh eggs and cheese, handmade items, flowers, and more.
For more information contact: farmersmarket@c3events.com or go to https://nwxfarmersmarket.com/

**Redmond Farmers Market**: June – September 15th
Tuesdays at Centennial Park (Redmond, OR) from 3 pm – 6 pm
The goods: locally grown produce, artisan foods, prepared foods, crafts, and more.
For more information contact: redmondfarmersmarket1@hotmail.com or go to https://redmondoregonfarmersmarket.com/

**Sisters Farmers Market**: June – October 4th
Sundays at Fir Street Park (Sisters, OR), 11 am – 2 pm
The goods: fresh produce, baked goods, meat, cheese, crafts, and more.
For more information contact: sistersfarmersmarket@gmail.com or go to https://www.sistersfarmersmarket.com/

Carol Evoniuk, Newsletter Coordinator
Oregon Hay Market Report

This is latest hay market report – it is posted every Friday morning. If you are Not participating and providing information, and would like to participate, contact Niki Davila at 503-535-5001. The only way you can have a hay report is if producers, and buyers, report their hay sales or purchases.

Mylen Bohle
ML_GR313
Moses Lake, WA    Fri Aug 07, 2020    USDA Market News

**NOTICE:** As Market News transitions reports to the MARS platform and My Market News, report formats will be converted from a text version to a more user-friendly and accessible PDF format. In the next few weeks, this report will move to the new platform and will be accessible at: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AMS_3057.pdf
If you would like to learn more about MARS and My Market News, please contact us at Websupport.lpgmn@ams.usda.gov.

Oregon Weekly Hay Report

Compared to July 31: Prices trended generally steady compared to last report's prices. Some growers are reporting first cutting sold out and starting to sell second cutting.

Tons: 20,317    Last Week: 2016    Last Year: 3090

**Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Wasco Counties:**

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<tr>
<th>Alfalfa</th>
<th>Tons</th>
<th>Price Range</th>
<th>Wtd Avg</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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**Eastern Oregon:**

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Alfalfa hay test guidelines, (for domestic livestock use and not more than 10% grass), used with visual appearance and intent of sale. Quantitative factors are approximate and many factors can affect feeding value.

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<th></th>
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<th>NDF</th>
<th>RFV</th>
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RFV calculated using the Wis/Minn formula. TDN calculated using the western formula. Values based on 100% dry matter. TDN both 90% and 100%.

Source: USDA Market News Service, Portland, OR
Niki Davila 503-535-5001
Portland.LPGMN@ams.usda.gov
www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ML_GR313.txt
www.ams.usda.gov/lsmarketnews

0700p nd

**Calendar**

*Please contact event holder to verify if event is cancelled/rescheduled*

**August**

Now - Sept. 15 Redmond Farmers Market (see article)
Now - Sept. 19 Madras Saturday Market (see article)
Now - Sept. 26 CROP Farmers Market (see article)
Now - Oct.  3 Northwest Crossing Farmers Market (see article)
Now - Oct.  4 Sisters Farmers Market (see article)
Now - Oct. 14 Bend Farmers Market (see article)

Winter wheat trial at COAREC. Photo credit: Mary Stewart. © 2019 Oregon State University