Are You Eligible for Assistance Through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2?

Signup for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2) began on Sept. 21, 2020 and will continue through Dec. 11, 2020. CFAP 2 provides eligible producers with direct financial assistance due to market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19.

Many more commodities are eligible for CFAP 2 than CFAP 1. Our new, easy-to-use CFAP 2 Eligible Commodities Finder makes finding payment rates specific to your operation simple. Go to https://www.farmers.gov/ for more information.

Scott Duggan

Cover Crop Workshop Series

Are you a producer/researcher/Ag professional curious to find out what is going on with cover crops in the Intermountain Region? The Western Cover Crops Council, in partnership with University of Idaho and Oregon State University, is hosting regional workshops to unite the network of cover crop outreach/research efforts throughout the West. **This first workshop series covers the Intermountain West/Northern Rockies region, and is applicable to those in Idaho, Eastern Oregon, Northern Utah, Northern Nevada, Wyoming, and Montana – but everyone is welcome to join and learn what is going on in this region!**

Join this 4-part virtual workshop series to hear results from the Western Region cover crop survey, learn about region-specific cover crop projects, and network with colleagues to tackle emerging issues.

**Zoom meetings:** Dec 10, Dec 17, Jan 7, Jan 14 – all @12:30pm Mountain Time

**Registration:** [https://uidaho.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0jGK NppO4dnQO45](https://uidaho.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0jGK NppO4dnQO45)

**Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/westerncovercropcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/westerncovercropcouncil)

Clare Sullivan
Central Oregon Agriculture is a bi-monthly newsletter produced by the Central Oregon Extension offices and the Central Oregon Agricultural and Extension Research Center (COAREC). 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 of your local County office.

- Mylen Bohle, Editor, (541) 447-6228
- Carol Eviouk, Ag Newsletter Coordinator, (541) 447-6228

Central Oregon County Extension Offices (all area codes are 541)
- Crook County Extension Service - Phone 447-6228, 498 SE Lynn Blvd. Prineville, OR 97754
- Deschutes County Extension Service - Phone 548-6088, 3800 SW Airport Way Bldg, #4, Redmond, OR 97756
- Jefferson County Extension Service - Phone 475-7107, 850 Dogwood Lane., Madras, OR 97741
- Warm Springs Confederated Tribes - Phone 553-3238, 1110 Wasco St., PO Box 430, Warm Springs, OR 97761

Central Oregon Agricultural Research and Extension Center (COAREC)
850 Dogwood Lane, Madras 97741

- Carol Tollefson, Director, 475-7107

Extension Service & Experiment Station Web Sites
- Crook County: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/crook
- Deschutes County: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/deschutes
- Jefferson County: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/jefferson
- Warm Springs: https://extension.oregonstate.edu/warm springs

Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center: http://oregonstate.edu/dept/coarc/index.php

Central Oregon Agricultural Extension Service Staff
- Nicole Strong, Regional Director, 829-1270
- Mylen Bohle, Crops, Cereals, Hay, Pasture, Irrigation, Soil, Fertility, 447-6228
- Ariel Cowan, Wildland Fire, 548-6088
- Amy Jo Detwiler, Horticulture, 548-6088
- Scott Duggan, Livestock, 447-6228
- Jeremiah Dung, Plant Pathology, 475-7107
- Glenda Hyde, FCH, Master Food Preservation, 548-6088
- John Spring, IPM & Weeds, 475-7107
- Thomas Stokely, Forestry, 548-6088
- Toni Stephan, Horticulture and Small Farms Instructor, 548-6088
- Clare Sullivan, Small Farms/Specialty Crops, 548-6088
- Carol Tollefson, 475-7107
- Heike Williams, Bees & Pollinators, 475-7107
- Tracy Wilson, Ag Literacy Coordinator, 475-7107

Websites
- OSU Ag Information https://extension.oregonstate.edu
- Oregon’s Ag Progress https://oap.oregonstate.edu
- OSU Extension Publications Catalog https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu

The above individuals are devoted to extending agricultural information to producers. Many of the individuals, in addition to agriculture, have assignments in research, 4-H 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, or does it imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others.

Hermiston Farm Fair & Trade Show

Hermiston Farm Fair will be held “Virtually” December 2-4. The Farm Fair is an agricultural forum co-sponsored by OSU Extension Service, the Agriculture Committee of the Greater Hermiston Chamber of Commerce, and local agriculture-related businesses. Call 541-567-8321. The full Farm Fair agenda with updates and pesticide credit hours will be available on this website: https://extension.oregonstate.edu/harec/events/farm-fair-2018-0

Mylen Bohle

SageCon 2020 Summit

This year’s gathering is going virtual on December 8 and 9, from 8:00 AM -12:00 PM (PST).

Join us for the 5th Annual Sage-Grouse Conservation Partnership Summit coming up December 8 - 9th, 2020 (held virtually via Zoom).

The 2020 Summit will feature partner-led sessions, panels and discussions on the latest science, community-based approaches and policy measures to leverage capacity and mitigate threats on the ground. After five years of implementation; partners old and new can reflect on what approaches are working and where we need to invest next to address threats and see benefits for sagebrush communities.

For flyer, agenda, and more information click here.

Confirm your participation for this year’s virtual Summit and RSVP by December 1st with the RSVP link below.

Click here to RSVP Now

Debbie Wood, Crooked River Weed Management Area

Far West Winter Conference

The Far West Agri-business Association will hold a Virtual Conference December 16-17, 2020. There are some good irrigated, dryland, pesticide, and safety related sessions always on the agenda. For more details and registration, keep checking this web site: http://fwaa.org/.

Mylen Bohle

Farm 2 Fork Fridays Webinars

Please join us for our Farm 2 Fork Fridays webinars, a monthly series that brings you stories about how our food systems work and the efforts behind the scenes to make them more sustainable.

Our stories will help answer questions like:
- Where does our food come from?
- Who makes it and how?
- How does it get to our supermarkets?
- And how is Food Science connected to it all?

The next webinar will be December 18, 2020 from 12:00 – 12:30 pm. Backvergnügen! The Art and Science of Making German Springerle Cookies. Speaker is Lisbeth Goddik, Oregon State University. For more information and recorded webinars visit the 2020 Webinar Schedule.

Mylen Bohle
Invasive Annual Grass Workshop  
*Hosted by High Desert Partnership and the SageCon Partnership*

Invasive annual grasses threaten millions of acres of sagebrush rangelands across the west. This two day workshop hosted by the Harney County Wildfire Collaborative and Oregon SageCon Partnership will explore the barriers and opportunities for addressing invasive annual grasses in Oregon and beyond the state.

December 14, 12:30 – 4:30 PM (PST) and December 15 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM (PST)

**Details and registration can be found on the High Desert Partnership** [Website](#).  
Debbie Wood, Crooked River Weed Management Area

Oregon Receives $139,000 for Organic Certification Cost Share Reimbursement—Deadline for Applications Extended

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) allocated more than $6 million for the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) nationwide. Oregon was awarded $139,000, down from $284,000 in 2017. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) is a USDA-accredited certifying agent for organic crop production and handling/processing. The purpose of the OCCSP is to reimburse organic operations for specific organic certification costs. Oregon is fourth in the nation in the sales of certified organic commodities.

“The cost of organic certification should not be a barrier for Oregon producers wanting to compete in the organic marketplace,” said Oregon Department of Agriculture Director Alexis Taylor. “Oregon is very competitive in the organic industry, with more than $454 million in annual sales and over 196,000 acres in production statewide and climbing. Our goal is to make these funds widely available in order to increase the opportunities for producers to contribute to the Oregon’s agricultural economy.”

The USDA is authorized by Congress to provide organic certification cost share assistance to Oregon producers or handlers who have paid eligible costs during the period of October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. Oregon producers or handlers that receive certification or renew their certification from a USDA-accredited certifier are eligible to receive reimbursement for 50% of eligible certification fees, up to a maximum of $500 per annual certification scope.

Completed applications and all necessary documents with proof of payment between October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020 must be submitted by **December 15, 2020**. Reimbursements will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis until all available funds have been disbursed. For completed applications, allow 3-4 weeks to receive your reimbursement.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture received an extension to continue reviewing Organic Certification Cost Share Reimbursement applications through December 15, 2020. Applications are currently being accepted.

For more information please visit the [Organic Cost Share Reimbursement Program](#).  
Email: [organiccostshare@oda.state.or.us](mailto:organiccostshare@oda.state.or.us)  
Phone: 503-986-6473

Mylen Bohle

Funding For Farmers: Understanding Your Options and Writing Winning Proposals - A three-part seminar series from HDFFA

Accessing finances to fund infrastructure and invest in the viability of an operation is a critical but often-overlooked tool in the farming/ranching tool kit. Now’s the time to build the skills and knowledge that can bring the right financing to your farm or ranch and grow your farm business. Join the High Desert Food and Farm Alliance for a three-evening, hands-on series for an introduction and overview that will help you answer questions like "Why would I want a grant or other financial help?" and "How do reimbursements, matches, and other money management things work?" and " How do I write a proposal that helps me do what I want to do?".

This series of three will feature experts, from all over Central Oregon and beyond, sharing their knowledge with you, and offers a chance to practice writing proposals and budgets - and to ask lots of questions!

The sessions build on each other, so participants should plan on attending all three. They will be held on Wednesday evenings on December 9 and 16, and on January 6. Participants will get individual coaching and feedback, so class size is limited - please sign up by December 2 at [hdffa.org/farmer-funding](http://hdffa.org/farmer-funding), and for any questions, please contact Laurie Wayne (laurie@hdffa.org) or call HDFFA at (541) 390-3572.

Laurie Wayne, *Farm Support Program Coordinator*, HDFFA
Professional and Continuing Education Winter Courses

We have a number of courses starting in the new year to help you advance your career. Many of these courses fill up well ahead of time, so make sure you don't miss out!

Our classes can help you train in the critical fields of e-learning, permaculture design, writing and more! And all of these courses allow you to train with OSU expert instructors in a convenient online format.

We also have a number of popular publications from the OSU Extension Catalog. You can learn about growing table grapes, starting a distilled spirits business, opening a farm stand and more.

Upcoming Winter courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Starts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UX/UI for Experience Design</td>
<td>December 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permaculture Design Certificate</td>
<td>January 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring E-Learning Tools</td>
<td>January 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articulate Storyline Training</td>
<td>January 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Gardener: Home Horticulture</td>
<td>January 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Courses into Spring:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Starts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Worker Course</td>
<td>January 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Writing Course</td>
<td>February 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Steward Online Short Course</td>
<td>February 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blueberry Systems and Management</td>
<td>January 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permaculture Design for Climate</td>
<td>February 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer Quality and Analysis</td>
<td>May 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Free resources from OSU Extension Catalog:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Growing Table Grapes</td>
<td>Starting a Distilled Spirit Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinoa in the Willamette Valley</td>
<td>Tribes and Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is Starting a Farm Stand Right for You?</td>
<td>Survival Basics: Stress Less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recovery for Shared Prosperity Virtual Leadership Summit Series – Final Event

Save the Date: **December 14, 2020** Virtual Summit

Thanks to all who joined us for the Leadership Summit Series virtual events so far. Expert insights and thought-provoking conversations from this series have set the stage for this year's Summit.

Save the date and join us for the final event on December 14 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. as Oregon leaders present a strategy for an equitable recovery as a resource to policy makers.

For more information click [here](#).

Mylen Bohle
Welcome
to the final issue of The Source for 2020. What a year it has been. Way back in January no one could have guessed what unique challenges lay ahead – and what tremendous opportunities we would uncover. We’ve learned that even though we cannot meet to celebrate traditions, we can still come together to share experiences and unite under common passions and goals... Learn more ...

Students who are staying in town for Thanksgiving were able to sign up to receive a FREE Thanksgiving dinner.

The College of Agricultural Sciences partnered with Corvallis Sustainability Coalition’s action It's On Us Corvallis, Bombs Away Café, (a locally owned restaurant and keystone of OSU’s music & food scene), Tarn Tip, the OSU Organic Growers Club and many other colleges and offices within the university to provide free Thanksgiving dinners for students staying in Corvallis for the Holidays.

Launched by James Cassidy, a Senior Instructor in the Crop and Soil Science department, the announcement was made the morning of Friday November 20 and more than 250 students signed up within a few hours. As more donations came in, they were able to expand to offering 450 meals to serve the students.

Planning is underway to offer a free Christmas dinner next month. Consider donating today to encourage students who are minimizing travel in an effort to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 while also supporting struggling local area restaurants integral to our campus' vibrancy. Thank you for your support! Learn more...

College of Agricultural Sciences launches Climate, Diversity and Inclusion Initiative

As the founding college of a land grant university, we have an obligation and mission to serve all Oregonians in addressing complex challenges facing our society. This requires us to not only reflect the society we serve in our composition but also to respect all voices in what we do and how we do it. This seems particularly important as we continue to see such inequality in our society on the basis of race, gender and identities of all types.

This fall, the College launched a new Climate, Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce, led by Executive Associate Dean, Staci Simonich. This group held its first meeting in October with the goal to actively work on developing strategies that promote sustainable programs to improve access and visibility for underrepresented communities in agriculture and natural resources, here in the college and beyond. Learn more ...

Oregon State-led project receives $10M grant to harness biomedical knowledge to aid patients, doctors and researchers

A group of researchers led by a team at Oregon State University have received a $10 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to establish a Center of Excellence in Genomic Science where they will develop tools to modernize how medical knowledge about genetic conditions is captured, stored and exchanged. Learn more...

Undergraduate Research Inspires the Next Wave of Scientists

OSU’s College of Agricultural Sciences held an Undergraduate Research Showcase on Thursday, Oct. 29th. This year, the event was held virtually with students presenting posters and videos of their research online using the collaborative educational tool, Canvas. Most of the students were also available via Zoom, where they were able to answer questions from virtual visitors and further explain their research and unique experiences. Learn more...

Wildfire Responses and Resources

Learn what the College of Agricultural Sciences has done in response to the wildfires that effected our area this fall. Learn more...

View all stories
Changes to Energy Trust’s Production Efficiency Program

Due to an unprecedented volume of incentive applications, **Energy Trust is pausing new applications for electric industrial and agricultural equipment rebates and calculated incentives today, November 30, at 4 p.m.**

This pause does not impact industrial and agricultural gas equipment rebates and calculated incentives. Custom gas and electric industrial incentives are also not impacted.

**Why is this change necessary?**

In May 2020, Energy Trust introduced bonus incentives to provide a stimulus to help industrial and agricultural customers invest in energy-saving projects during this time of economic uncertainty. Customers and trade allies responded enthusiastically to the bonuses. As a result, Energy Trust received an unusually high number of incentive applications this fall. Last week our data revealed that the incentive application volume has grown much faster than anticipated.

To manage this high level of activity, Energy Trust is pausing new applications for industrial and agricultural **electric** equipment rebates and calculated incentives immediately as detailed below.

**Important details about industrial and agricultural calculated incentive applications**

Energy Trust will honor all **existing** customer-signed calculated incentive applications (420SI) for electric projects that complete by the customer’s incentive reservation expiration date listed on the application. Projects that have received a calculated incentive application (420SI) for a pre-approved electric project have until their application submittal deadline to sign and return to Energy Trust to have their incentive paid. No new applications will be issued for electric calculated incentives.

We are unable to make any exceptions or extensions for projects.

This pause **does not apply to custom** incentive applications.

This pause **does not apply to gas calculated incentives.**

**Important details about industrial and agricultural equipment rebate applications**

Energy Trust will accept equipment rebate applications for qualifying electric equipment with a purchase date on or before November 30, 2020, on a first-come, first-served basis, until December 31, 2020, or until our remaining incentive budget is exhausted (whichever comes first).

Energy Trust is establishing a maximum incentive amount of $2,000 per project for all equipment rebate applications received after November 30, 2020.

These changes **do not apply to gas equipment rebate applications**

The industrial compressed air leak reduction and municipal water leak repair offerings are also subject to the pause.

What does this mean for incentives in 2021?

Because we have an unusually strong pipeline of committed projects that will complete next year, we will have a smaller budget available for new projects in 2021. By the end of February 2021, we will issue revised program guidelines and eligibility requirements to ensure we can manage to our available budget next year.

We will assess the incentive budget available for 2021 between now and then and will share more information as soon as we can. We are updating Energy Trust’s website with this information and posting this communication to our Insider newsletter for trade allies.

On behalf of the program, Energy Trust apologizes for the short notice and any challenges this may cause. Energy Trust strives to provide advance notice of program changes, but our need to manage to our budget required an immediate change.

If you have questions, please contact Tom Beverly at [tom.beverly@energytrust.org](mailto:tom.beverly@energytrust.org)

Mylen Bohle

---

**State Winners for Wheat Growers’ 2020 Contest Announced**

The state winners for the 2020 contest includes 77 growers from 25 states. For more details click [here](#).

Mylen Bohle
COVID-19 PPE Available to Agricultural Producers and Farmworkers

The Extension offices in Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties have KN95 masks and hand sanitizer still available at no cost for any agricultural producers and farmworkers that need these supplies. In addition to the PPE supplies, the Extension offices also have high-speed hand-washing posters, in English and Spanish, designed by OSU Extension Family and Community Health faculty that illustrates how groups of people can properly wash their hands in five minutes or less.

Locations in Central Oregon to pick up PPE:

Crook County Extension Office
498 SE Lynn Blvd
Prineville, OR 97754
Phone: 541-447-6228

Deschutes County Extension Office
3893 Se Airport Way
Redmond, OR 97756
Phone: 541-548-6088

Central Oregon Agricultural Research and Extension Center
850 NW Dogwood Ln
Madras, OR 97741
Phone: 541-475-7107

Debbie Wood, Crooked River Weed Management Area

Pesticide Recertification Courses for Fall 2020 – Winter 2021

Over 40 High-Quality Webinars to Choose From
All of our recertification events will be delivered as webinars. You can participate in the comfort of your home or office, or even in the cab of your truck!

We offer morning and afternoon sessions at each webinar event, with a variety of speakers from industry, academia, and government. Tailor your recertification experience by picking the most relevant topics to your industry and interests. You can view the agenda for each 2-hour session on the PSEP website.

Featured topics are offered more than once, such as:
- Pollinator protection practices
- Updated laws & regulations
- Disinfectants: public health pesticides
- Pesticide research updates

Online Registration Has Never Been Easier
With our new online registration system, you can easily view all of our sessions and select multiple events, all on one screen. Due to COVID-19, OSU is not accepting checks or paper registration forms.

More Affordable than Ever
At $40 per session, our webinars offer flexibility and affordability. You can register at any time, even on the day of the event! No travel costs, and no sitting through sessions that don’t pertain to your work.

Simple Technology
We know technology can be intimidating and frustrating at times, and we have you covered. All you need is an internet-connected computer, tablet, or smart phone. We provide step-by-step instructions on how to access the webinars and customer service to help you if problems arise.

For more information visit the Pesticide Safety Education Program website. Dates of courses may be found on the Pesticide Recertification Courses brochure.

Register Online at https://beav.es/o5q. Due to the global pandemic, OSU is not accepting checks or paper registration forms. For help with registration, contact OSU Conference Services at (541) 737-9300 or (800) 678-6311. For general questions regarding PSEP programming, contact PSEP at OregonStatePSEP@gmail.com or (541) 737-5958.

Debbie Wood, Crooked River Weed Management Area

Tracy Wilson
2021 Lambing School  
*Sponsored by Oregon Sheep Growers Association*

**DATE:**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021

**TIME:**  
8 am to 5 pm

**LOCATION:**  
Mont Alto Ranch, 2800 French Creek Rd, Glide, Oregon

**PRESENTED BY:**  
Gene Pirelli  
Dr. Paul Bailey, Bailey Veterinary Clinic  
John Fine

This is an excellent opportunity to learn how to increase your odds of getting live lambs on the ground and off to a good start! This school will be held in a commercial sheep lambing barn, so there will be ample hands-on opportunities.

**“EMPHASIS TO BE HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE”**

**Ewes:** Lambing problems, obstetrics, grafting, foot trimming and health.  
**Lambs:** Castration, docking, vaccinations, and emergency situations as they arise.

The school will also include discussions on sheep nutrition and facilities. **Participants are also asked to wear warm, appropriate barn clothing and bring clean rubber boots!** All footwear will be disinfected before entering the barn.

**Cost:** $50 per person. The school will be limited to 12 participants. Selection for the school will be based on the first 12 registered. Preference will be given to those attending for the first time. Lunch will be provided with registration.

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION**  
Monday, January 11, 2020  
(Or until the class is filled)

Remember, first come, first served, because, unfortunately, we can only accommodate twelve people in the class. Fees will be returned if the class is filled. If you must cancel your plans to attend, please notify us four (4) working days prior to the lambing school, so that we can still refund your money.

To register for the class, please fill out the enclosed form. Registration forms and fees must be received by January 13th to reserve your place in the class. All class participants will receive a packet of information.

For more details on the Lambing School please call John Fine at 541-673-0369 or email at johnandpeggyfine@charter.net.

Registration Form

**LAMBING SCHOOL 2021**  
JANUARY 16, 2021  
*(Please Print)*

Name__________________________________________________________

Last ___________ First ___________

Mailing Address_____________________________________________________

City __________________________ State _______ Zip_________________

County __________________________ Date_________________

Home Phone __________________________

Message Phone __________________________

Email address __________________________

Make check payable to: **Oregon Sheep Growers Association**

Please return registration form and $50 per person to: John Fine  
618 Temple Brown Road  
Roseburg, OR  97470

Directions to the Lambing School:
Take exit 125 from I-5; Turn east on Garden Valley Blvd and proceed .5 miles; Turn right on NE Stephens and proceed 1.0 miles; Turn left on OR-138 E/NE Diamond Lake Blvd and proceed 18.0 miles; Proceed through Glide and cross the bridge and turn left on French Creek Road; Follow the signs.

Scott Duggan
SWCS Conservation NewsBriefs

These are the topics in this issue of the SWCS Conservation NewsBriefs. If you are not receiving this you can click on the link below and check it out. Each issue has very educational and scientific articles that are interesting and thought provoking. Web Site: swcs@multibriefs.com

Worm-like, soil-swimming robots to explore crop underworld

Biden-linked team rolls out climate plan for agriculture

Self-driving tractors, robot apple pickers: Witness the high-tech future of farming

Bacteria can unlock phosphorus in the soil to help plants grow

Commentary: Wetlands do much more than just hold water

Researchers aim to 'upcycle' nutrient waste on farms using duckweed

Hemp provides option for crop rotation

Indian farmers march on Delhi in protest against agriculture laws

NSAC releases Farmers' Guide to Conservation Stewardship Program

TPU scientists develop eco-friendly hydrogel for agriculture

Mylen Bohle

Beginner Farmer and Rancher Resources in Oregon.

Farmer Training, Business Training, Financing, Land Access, Bilingual Services.... Put together by a group of organizations serving Oregon farmers at all stages of farm development, you can visit individual organizations to connect with service providers in your area. All of these organizations work together and can point you in the right direction.

- Oregon Beginning Farmer and Rancher Resource Guide: Brochure
- Beginning Farmer and Rancher Service Provider Guide: Online Story Map

Clare Sullivan

Genomes of Animals and Plants Virtual Conference

Sponsored by Dovetail Genomics

Dovetail Genomics is excited to announce the inaugural Genomes of Animals & Plants Virtual Conference (GAP2021) to be held January 12-14, 2021. The conference is focused on bringing together leading researchers in the field of plant and animal genome biology from around the globe for three days of scientific presentations and discussion. Conference highlights will include:

- Three days of novel science illuminating breakthroughs and findings covering various aspects of animal and plant genomes
- Three conference tracks (one per day) for AgBio, species conservation and evolution
- Must see speaker line-up (Current Speaker List)
- Panel discussions
- Poster presentations available to all attendees (details on how to submit your poster coming soon!)
- Opportunities for networking with other conference attendees

Registration is free and open to all, so please tell your colleagues. Register now

Stay tuned for the release of the full agenda, poster submission guidelines and further event details in the near future. Visit Dovetail Genomics at: www.dovetailgenomics.com

Mylen Bohle
Considering Overwintering Wildlife

Winter is a very difficult time for many wildlife species. For instance, mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk migrate from high-elevation summer range where forage is plentiful, to lower-elevation areas to evade deep snow and blistering winds. Human development has altered migratory routes and overwintering areas, resulting in human-wildlife conflict and declines in mule deer populations. Many other critters create dens and forage caches or forgo the woes of winter by either hibernating or going into a deep sleep called torpor, typically underground and within dead logs and slash piles (piles of dead branches).

There are many things we can do to help protect these animals in their overwintering habitat:

- Obey road and trail closures to reduce stress on animals in their winter range.
- Use wildlife-friendly fencing and remove objects that can entangle deer and elk (e.g., vegetable cages, hammocks, loose wire & rope).
- If you are working to reduce wildfire risk on your property, retain patches of shrubs such as bitterbrush, crucial forage for deer and elk and cover for songbirds, rabbits and hares.
- Maintain some dense patches of trees to provide thermal cover from the cold and hiding cover from predators.
- Retain large snags (dead trees) and downed logs that provide critical denning sites for porcupine, small mammals and for black bear during torpor.
- Create slash and log piles which also provide denning sites for non-hibernating small mammals and hibernacula (hibernation cover) for small mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Keep in mind that fresh, green slash may increase the risk of Ips beetle outbreak if not thoroughly dried by spring.

Thomas Stokely

Standard Measurements for Soil Health – Assessing Soil Health Webinar

This webinar will be held Tuesday, December 8, 2020 from 9:00 – 10:00 AM Pacific, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Central, and 12:00 Noon 1:00 PM Eastern time.

Measuring and assessing soil health are critical for understanding how changes in agronomic management practices affect the capability of soil to support cropping systems. In this presentation, the Soil Health Institute will highlight how the Institute is using data from the North American Project to Evaluate Soil Health Measurements to develop a standard set of measurements for both monitoring and evaluating soil health. The Institute has assessed over 30 measurements across N. America using 124 long-term agricultural research sites resulting in the analysis of over 2,000 soil samples. This presentation will focus on how the Institute is using this comprehensive data set to quantify soil functions and inform measurement selection. Speaker is Christine Morgan, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer Soil Health Institute.

CEUs:
CCAs and CPAs will receive 1.0 Soil and Water Management CEU.
CPSS and CPSCs and will receive 1.0 Professional Meetings CEU.

FREE to all registrants. You may need to create an account with the Soil Science Society of America to join
Register Now

Celebrate World Soil Day with the Soil Colors of the Continental United States

World Soil Day (WSD) is held annually on December 5th to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources. “Soil is one of the critical resources for life on earth,” said David Hoover, Director of USDA-NRCS, National Soil Survey Center.
For more information click here.
Manure Exchange Program

The Manure Exchange Program is a community resource, connecting local farmers who have excess manure on their farm with local gardeners, landscapers or anyone who needs manure to improve soil health on their lands. The program is a simple FREE way to recycle valuable nutrients and organic matter. Find out more at www.deschutesswcd.org

Todd Peplin, Programs Lead/Planner, DSWCD

National Hemp Symposium

On behalf of the National Academies of Sciences Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources (BANR) and Oregon State University’s Global Hemp Innovation Center (GHIC) we would like to invite you to the inaugural National Hemp Symposium. A virtual conference taking place February 9-10, 2021, this event will include a diverse program with a broad focus on both what the industry has accomplished to-date and what lies ahead. Major US corporations participating in international supply chains across all sectors will join us to express their views on the science and R&D needs for the thousands of hemp-based sustainable products that could displace unsustainable fossil fuel and water-intensive source materials currently in use. For more information go to: https://nationalhempsymposium.org/

Mylene Bohle

Tri-State Growers Convention

The Tri-State Grains Conference has been rescheduled for November 30 to December 3, 2021. http://www.owgl.org/.

Mylene Bohle

Calendar

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-4</td>
<td>Irrigation Show &amp; Education (Virtual) Conference <a href="http://www.irrigation.org">www.irrigation.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>Hermiston (Virtual) Farm Fair Hermiston, OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Celebrate World Soil Day (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>SageCon 2020 Summit (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Standard Measurements for Soil Health – Assessing Soil Health Webinar (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>SageCon 2020 Summit (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>PSEP Agriculture CORE Course (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Funding for Farmers Seminar Series (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Cover Crop Workshop Series (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Invasive Annual Grass Workshop (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Recovery for Shared Prosperity Virtual Leadership Series – Final Event (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Invasive Annual Grass Workshop (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Cover Crop Workshop Series (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Funding for Farmers Seminar Series (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>Far West Winter Conference (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Farm 2 Fork Fridays Webinar (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Funding for Farmers Seminar Series (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cover Crop Workshop Series (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>Genomes of Animals and Plants Virtual Conference (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Cover Crop Workshop Series (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Lambing School (see article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>C.O. Forage Seminar CANCELLED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-29</td>
<td>PNW Ag Show (Virtual). <a href="http://www.northwestagshow.com">www.northwestagshow.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>