



Oregon State
UNIVERSITY
Extension Service

A Newsletter for Friends of North Willamette Research and Extension Center

SUMMER 2014

Growing Beginning Farmers

By Heidi Noordijk, *Small Farms Education Program Assistant*

The six-week Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management Course was held at NWREC February 26 through April 5. Twenty-two beginning farmers attended the weekly meetings and traveled north from as far as Monroe, OR and south from Washougal, WA. Clackamas County residents represented a third of the class. Participants who already owned or rented land comprised two-thirds of the class and the rest are interested in farming, but don't yet have land.

Here's what participants have to say:

"I feel better able and more motivated to evaluate the financial health of my business, and to find creative grant and marketing opportunities to finance it."

"Having no practical farm experience, this class has helped tremendously. Good advice from guest farmers."

"I feel both overwhelmed by information and empowered to move forward with my farm dream. I am thrilled to walk away with my 2 books and pile of resources as well as having met peers, people with a similar dream in a somewhat similar stage. I know I will stay in contact with some of my classmates and I know I will be reviewing the course materials regularly as I move forward. I now know I likely won't start with a CSA."



Chris Roehm of Square Peg Farm discussed crop rotations, cover crops and irrigation management while looking at this field.

Scholarships were provided by Clackamas, and East and West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation Districts for those needing financial assistance.

This was the fifth year Growing Farms was offered at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC). Nick Andrews and Heidi Noordijk, both with Extension's Metro Small Farms Program facilitated the course. Guest speakers included OSU faculty and agricultural pro-

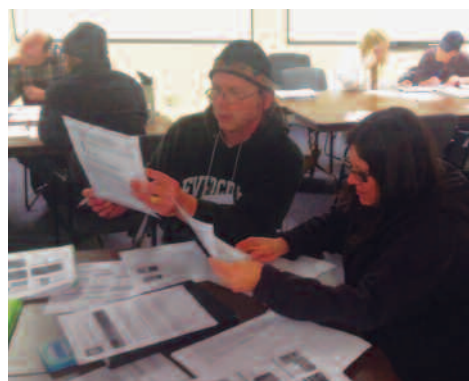
fessionals—with the highlight of each evening our experienced farmers. Group activities and networking over dinner helped build a strong community of new farmers sharing similar experiences. Throughout the course participants gained the skills to assess their resources and develop a whole farm plan.

Growing Farms Topics

- Dream It: Strategic Planning
- Do It: Farm Operations
- Manage It: Farm Finance
- Sell It: Marketing Strategies
- Grow It: Production
- Keep It: Managing Liability

The class traveled to Forest Grove for a Saturday full of farm visits.

The morning started off with a tour of Square Peg Farm including mixed vegetables and pork production, led by Amy Benson and Chris Roehm.



Participants working together to come up with a management plan for cabbage white butterfly.

.....continued on page 3

Youth Farm Equipment Safety Education, Training, and Certification Takes New Direction

During the past two years, the North Willamette Research and Extension Center has taught six youth farm tractor safety trainings to meet needs of the Valley's agricultural community. NWREC has been one of the few places in Oregon where youth could find this training and certification program. As a result, youth from as far away as Arlington, Redmond, Lebanon, and Astoria have come to NWREC for training.

And, since the first training in 2012, the faculty and staff working on the farm tractor safety program have totally revamped the curriculum and teaching approach. The model developed at NWREC has been noticed, too. In May, a state-wide "train-the-trainer" program was organized by the OSU Extension Service's 4-H program using these same concepts for training materials and program management used at NWREC. The goal of the statewide training in early May was to develop teaching teams across the state that can provide locally available trainings in their counties.

"What's worked really well for us has been a team approach," said Mike Bondi, NWREC Director. "Extension's 4-H program has the education, training, and certification responsibility for youth safety trainings according to state administrative rules." Clackamas County Extension 4-H Agent, Jan Williams, takes the lead on recruiting the youth for the program and the registration process. Also, she handles all the paperwork and record keeping that is required.

The trainings are taught at NWREC. "We have the farm, classroom, space for the driving courses—and, of course, equipment," according to Bondi. "And, we have our farm staff—Marc Anderson (NWREC Farm Manager) and Derek Wells (Assistant Farm Manager)—who are experts on the equipment operation."

Besides upgrading the teaching curriculum for the tractor trainings and moving to a statewide delivery, the other big change is the addition of a new youth safety training with ATV/UTV equipment.



Farm Manager Marc Anderson and his Assistant Derek Wells instructing at the statewide Tractor and ATV safety training program in May.



Derek on the driving course during the train-the-trainer event.

Dave White, 4-H Youth Development Specialist for Outdoor Education & Recreation and Mechanical Sciences at Oregon State University, coordinates youth safety trainings in the state. Over the past four years, White has been directing Oregon ATV Safety, an ATV safety evaluation and training program for youth. State law now requires all youth under the age of 16, riding ATVs on public lands, to receive an endorsement of mental and physical riding skills.

According to White, "Oregon ATV Safety Youth Rider Endorsement Program's evaluation and training classes are designed for recreational users. When I first started talking to the guys at NWREC about their tractor training program, I learned Marc

and Derek were really interested in offering ATV training for youth working on farms, too."

White concluded, "We all appreciated that operating ATVs on farms required special skills and knowledge— especially around weight distribution, center of gravity and pulling trailers. So, we developed The Oregon Safe ATV and Machinery Operation Program to meet this need."

NWREC's Marc and Derek were trained and certified as "Master Trainers" prior to the recent statewide train-the-trainer workshop —and, then, led the training for others in the state.

"These trainings are important for the youth working on farms and for the farm

community needing and wanting to hire these students,” said Anderson. “The youth have to know how to safely operate this equipment for their personal protection and to protect the investment the farmers have in their equipment. These programs are good for everyone.”



Derek shows his certificate as a Master Trainer in the state.

The next Youth Farm Tractor Safety Training at NWREC will be June 16-18. The first ATV/UTV Youth Farm Safety Training will be coming in the future, too. If interested in either of these opportunities, contact NWREC for more information.

Tractor training for adults is coming too. See page 4 for more information.

NWREC's Youth Movement Returns this Summer

Faculty and staff at NWREC have been busy this winter and spring recruiting students for work at the farm this summer. It takes a lot of help to keep up with all the field work that includes everything from berry picking and evaluations, to rodent trapping, mowing to plant growth measurements—not to mention getting great practical work experience in agricultural science fields of study.

Twenty four students have been signed up for a variety of positions this summer. In 2013 NWREC hosted 28 summer students.

This summer's crew will include 11 returnees from 2013 plus 13 new students. Eight are high school students and 16 are college students. In this mix are student interns who will be working in the Berry, Nursery, IR-4, and Small Farms programs. These college students work with faculty on specific research projects for provide practical work experience.

High school and college students have been hired as part of the farm work crew in individual programs and for general farm work, too. Most of these students

Where our youth come from:

High Schools: Canby (6), Oregon City (1)

Community Colleges: Chemeketa (2), Clackamas (3)

Colleges/Universities: George Fox (1), Linfield (1), Reed (1), Oregon (1), OSU (7)

Graduate Students: OSU (2)

live in the community and are home for the summer.

Finally, in addition to our 2014 summer crew, NWREC will host two graduate students under the tutelage of OSU Berry Extension Specialist, Bernadine Strik. Masters student Emily Dixon will be finishing her work on the impact of weed management strategies, irrigation and training on the yield and nutrients in organic blackberry production systems of two commercial cultivars. And, Javier Fernandez-Salvador is a PhD candidate with Bernadine studying the impact of organic blueberry production systems on nutrient and carbon allocations.

Growing Beginning Farmers, continued from page 1

The afternoon featured visits to Gale's Meadow Farm and Fraga Farm, both in the Gale's Creek area. These farms are transitioning owners and the class took in some valuable information on farm partnerships, marketing and the successes and challenges with purchasing an existing farm.



Jesse and Aaron Nichols of Gale's Meadow Farm sharing their horse powered equipment knowledge while the class looks at the manure spreader.



Hands-on milking demonstration and kidding around at Fraga Farms.

Farmer Land Lease Program Expands

Two years ago NWREC tried something different—we piloted a program to lease farm land not being used for research to a local farmer, Big B Farms in Aurora, wanting to expand his operation. Big B Farms did all their own work, used their own equipment, and coordinated their cultural practices—like spraying for pest management—with our activities on the farm. The idea was to shift responsibility for the management of some of our NWREC property to others interested in the opportunity to be with us at the Research Center.

That first year experience went great. We re-upped for last summer leasing out about five acres for the second year in a row.

Now heading into our third summer, we are expanding to add a second farmer, Postlewaite Farms in Aurora, who was interested in leasing our available certified organic ground at the Center—about 10 acres. In addition, Postlewaite's expressed

interest in leasing another 20 acres we are "transitioning" to organic production ground.

"We see the land lease program as a good way to fully utilize the land at NWREC, reduce our need to manage the land and market the crops, and build a closer connection with our local farming community," said Marc Anderson, NWREC's Farm Manager. "Besides, we are looking for a more consistent stream of guaranteed income to help the rest of the farm's operations." In past years, the non-research land at NWREC was used to raise wheat—just to put something on the land for weed control and recover basic costs of management. About 40-60 acres each year are in "non-research ground." But, with fluctuat-



Frank Battilega, owner of Big B Farms, has worked closely with NWREC's staff over the years. He is experimenting with different veggie varieties and planting methods on his project area this year.

ing markets, prices, and weather conditions, there is little income after expenses. Leasing land for a set price provides a better flow of income for the Center.

"We've been careful to avoid competing with our local farmers. And, we aren't big enough or have developed specialty markets for our products. That's not what we do at NWREC—we focus on research," said Anderson.

During 2014 Big B Farms is growing fresh market tomatoes, peppers, and squash on their 4 acres of conventional and 1 acre of organic land at NWREC. Most of their produce supplies their Farmers Market retail shops. Postlewaite's plan is to grow pumpkins for seed and baby food markets on nearly 30 acres of organic and transition ground.

Food Safety Training Completed

30 trainings in 15 locations throughout Oregon—and, this spring's Food Safety Trainings are now complete. And, instructor Luisa Santamaria, NWREC's Nursery Pathologist and Bilingual Educator, is exhausted! All the trainings were delivered during a nine-week period from late February through the end of April.

445 signed up for the trainings. Each of the 15 training sites included a three hour English language session in the morning and a three hour session in Spanish in the afternoon. Each person attending was trained in best practices for safe worker handling of fruits and vegetables during the field harvesting process. Also, each attendee received training on teaching methods and are expected to return to their farms to implement the training for their field workers.

The train-the-trainer effort to improve food safety and handling in the region is the result of an *E. coli* outbreak at an Oregon strawberry farm in 2011.

"The level of interest in the trainings this year from Oregon farmers was very encouraging," said Philip Gütt, Administrator for the Oregon Strawberry Commission and the Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission. "The berry commissions (including the Oregon Blueberry Commission) tried to respond to the critical need of ensuring that our farm workers and farmers are doing everything they can to prevent any food-borne contamination of our produce that is going to market. The feedback we've received from attendees has been very positive and I think we made good progress in raising the level of awareness about the value of on-farm food safety. Luisa does an excellent job supporting this project. We are very appreciative of all her time and efforts."

The 2013 food safety training program included 8 locations and 16 three hour classes with 165 attendees. From those post-training survey results, it is estimated that the attendees shared their training information with more than 6,000 field workers in Oregon last year. Gütt says he will gather similar survey data following this year's growing season to present to the three berry commissions in the fall.

NEW Phone Numbers

The NWREC phone system changed to a new provider and service beginning on June 9. We now have a Voice-Over-Internet Provider (VOIP). Although, our main NWREC phone number into the office will remain the same (503-678-1264), please note that the extension numbers for each of the faculty and staff have changed—see website. Also, each permanent staff member now has a direct-to-desk line, so you won't need to go through the switchboard anymore, if you know who you need to talk to. And, the faculty and staff will be able to forward all office calls directly to their cell phones for more efficient management. We appreciate your patience as we get everything operational and up to speed.

Nursery Position Update

The hiring process is underway for a new Nursery Research and Extension Faculty member at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center—a position vacant for the past 2½ years. This position was identified as a priority for filling when new Head of the Department of Horticulture, Bill Braunworth, was hired last winter.

A Search Committee has been selected and includes: Ryan Contreras, Associate Professor in Horticulture at OSU (Co-Chair); Chal Landgren, OSU Extension Christmas Tree Specialist at NWREC (Co-Chair); Jim Gilbert, Owner, Northwoods Nursery; Gary McAninch, Oregon Department of Agriculture; Jennifer Parke, Associate Professor in Crop and Soil Science at OSU; Luisa Santamaria, OSU Nursery Pathologist and Bilingual Educator at NWREC; and Walter Suttle, Technical Services Manager, Monrovia Nursery.

This is a national search process. The position announcement posted on June 4th. The closing date for applications will be July 7th. The plan is to have the new faculty member in place sometime this fall.

Friends Harvest Dinner Coming, Again!



Did you miss last autumn's amazing NWREC Friends Harvest Dinner? If so, you'll get another chance. Plans are underway now for another special meal event. Be watching for us in late September. We expect to be "on the lawn," again, and featuring our OSU-themed dinner party. We plan to be bigger and better in 2014!

The NWREC Harvest Dinner is a celebration of the bounty of agriculture in the north valley and is an invitation event to all Friends of NWREC members and those providing support to the Center in the past year through their financial and in-kind contributions.

Become a Friend of NWREC today and receive your invitation to the Harvest Dinner. Friends membership begins at \$25. Go on-line to the NWREC website and the Friends of NWREC tab on the right rail—located at <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/NWREC/friends>. There you will find information about the Friends, a photo album of last year's dinner party, and a membership brochure. Don't miss the fun!

Calendar of Events

June 11: Identification and Use of Beneficial Insects in Controlling Aphids in Christmas Trees; NWREC, Aurora (8:30am-4:30pm). Contact: Jean Bremer, 503-655-8631. Registration required; fee is \$30.

June 11: Strawberry Open House; NWREC, Aurora (1:00-4:30pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810).

June 16-18: Youth Farm Tractor Safety Training and Certification; NWREC, Aurora (8:30am-4:00pm each day). Contact: Jan Williams, 503-655-8631. Cost: \$75.

June 27: Public Farm Tour; NWREC, Aurora (2:00-4:00pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810). Free.

July 9: Caneberry Field Day; NWREC, Aurora (1:00-5:00pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810).

July 14: Adult Farm Tractor Training Workshop; NWREC, Aurora (8:30am-4:00pm). Contact: Heidi Noordijk, 503-678-1264 (x67831).

July 16: Blueberry Field Day; NWREC, Aurora (1:00-5:00pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810).

July 23: Community Open House; NWREC, Aurora (4:00-7:00pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810).

July 25: Public Farm Tour; NWREC, Aurora (2:00-4:00pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810). Free.

August 13: Sprayer Calibration and Quality Detection Workshop; Hans Nelson Nursery, Sandy (6:00-10:00pm). Contact: Robin Rosetta, 503-678-1264 (x67826). Registration required and limited.

Aug. 13-14: Soil Health and Nutrient Management Workshop; NWREC, Aurora (Times TBD). Contact: Heidi Noordijk, 503-678-1264 (x67831).

Aug. 14: Smart Sprayer Demonstration; Hans Nelson Nursery, Sandy (3:00-5:00pm). Contact: Robin Rosetta, 503-678-1264 (x67826).

Aug. 29: Public Farm Tour; NWREC, Aurora (2:00-4:00pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810). Free.

Sept. 6: Clackamas Small Farms School; Clackamas Community College, Oregon City (8:00am-5:00pm). Contact: Heidi Noordijk, 503-678-1264 (x67831). Registration required.

Sept. 22: Vegetable Variety Field Day; NWREC, Aurora (1:00-4:00pm). Contact: Heidi Noordijk, 503-678-1264 (x67831).

Sept. 26: Public Farm Tour; NWREC, Aurora (2:00-4:00pm). Contact: Jan Egli, 503-678-1264 (x67810). Free.

503-678-1264 • oregonstate.edu/dept/NWREC

Another NWREC Student Excels

During the past five years, more than a dozen valley area high school students have received their first taste of agricultural research and education while volunteering at NWREC. Now, at least five have achieved significant success and recognition for their accomplishments.

It all started with Ann Bernert, a West Linn High School student, who wanted to learn scientific research methods. Her high school came to NWREC looking for a “real scientist” to mentor their student. That began a unique project for Ann, working in Luisa Santamaria’s nursery pathology lab. Ann spent two summer’s volunteering time to develop her lab skills while working on research in her areas of interest and leading to her Science Fair projects.

“This was a wonderful opportunity for Ann and for me,” said Santamaria. “Ann learned quickly, has a very keen mind, and loves learning.” Following two summers with Luisa, working in the lab and engaging in practical scientific research, Ann enrolled at OSU and was awarded a prestigious Presidential Scholarship.

By 2012, and using this same approach to high school student mentoring, Luisa took

on eight more summer volunteer interns from West Linn and Wilsonville High Schools to receive lab training and pursue their Science Fair projects during the school year. By the summer of 2013, three of these students received district, state and international Science Fair competition awards—all based on work done at NWREC.

That same year, Ty Seely from Glencoe High School in Hillsboro, called NWREC one day to inquire about work opportunities in the scientific field. “I remember the day Ty called,” said Mike Bondi, NWREC Director. “He said he was really interested in tissue culture techniques for bananas and wondered if we could help him learn these skills. I recall saying we didn’t really work with bananas, but there might be other possibilities.” Bondi shared the conversation with Santamaria.

Luisa offered Ty the opportunity to join her cadre of summer interns from West Linn and Wilsonville. Ty and the other stu-



Ty Seely

dents learned pathology lab skills. He continued to work with Luisa last summer, too, and began seeing the broader opportunities of agricultural research and Extension work done at NWREC.

So, what’s next for Ty? He graduated in June from high school. He applied to OSU and was accepted to pursue a degree in Horticulture. “I can’t wait to get to OSU,” said Ty.

And, as he was planning his next steps to college, Ty applied for a scholarship offered by the Oregon Blueberry Commission. In early May, Ty was notified that he will be a recipient of a \$1,500 scholarship from the Commission. “This will be a huge help to my college financing. I couldn’t be happier. I am very thankful for the experiences I have had at NWREC and the connections I have made.”

Then in late May, Ty received word that he had received a \$5,000 scholarship at his high school honors night program.

Where will the next generation of agricultural researchers and educators come from...some will be getting their first taste at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center!

Tour Time at NWREC this Summer

It’s tour time. Beginning in late June, we will feature monthly farm tours for the public—the last Friday of each month from June through October. All tours begin at 2:00pm and conclude by 4:00pm. All are welcome. Bring friends and family or neighbors. Our goal is to share the work at NWREC with as many people as possible.

Larger groups (more than a dozen) can be accommodated, too. Contact NWREC to schedule your group at a convenient time.

Summer is a great time to see activities on the farm. Monthly tours will travel the entire farm property and stop to visit with researchers and farm staff, where possible, to see close up and hear about their work.



Visitors get up close at blueberry tree research at NWREC during a public tour in 2013.

Adult Tractor Training Class Coming

Since NWREC began offering tractor training classes for youth, we have been asked to do something like this for adults, too.

July 14 is our first adult-designed tractor training class. Metro Small Farms Extension Program Assistant, Heidi Noordijk, is organizing the program. Farm staff, Marc Anderson and Derek Wells, are providing technical assistance and training. The inaugural event will be a one-day class and limited to 20 participants. The target audience is smaller property owners who have recently purchased a tractor or who have needs for safety and operational training.

According to Anderson, "People move

onto a few acres all the time and buy a tractor. But, maybe, they haven't used farm equipment much or haven't had any real instruction in safe operations."

Class topics will include: basic functions and operations of a tractor; safety features and concerns when operating a tractor; safety check of farm equipment exercise and tractor controls; practice driving; and attaching 3-point hitch implements.

The adult tractor training class will begin at 8:30am and adjourn at 4:00pm. Registration cost is \$50 per person. Go to the NWREC website for registration information at <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/NWREC/>.

Recent Publications, Scholarship by our Faculty

Listed here are recent publications and educational output produced by the faculty and staff at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center since our last *Down on the Farm* issue. We will plan to list recent publications, grants, contracts and awards from our people in each future issue to keep you up-to-date on these significant accomplishments.

Extension Publications:

Finn, C.E., B.C. Strik, and P. Moore. 2014. Raspberry Cultivars for the Pacific Northwest. PNW 655

Finn, C.E. and B.C. Strik. 2014. Blackberry Cultivars for Oregon. EC 1617

Finn, C.E., B.C. Strik, and P. Moore. 2014. Strawberry Cultivars for Western Oregon and Washington. EC 1618

Murray, K. and DeFrancesco, J. February, 2014. Pest Management Strategic Plan for Pears in Oregon and Washington.

Rosetta, R.; Santamaria, L.; Uribe, G. 2014. Azalea Lace Bug (Chinche de encaje de la azalea) poster. OSU Extension Service, M 9066-P (\$35.00). Bilingual format laminated for field and nursery teaching and identification.

Rosetta, R.; Santamaria, L.; Uribe, G. 2014. Azalea Lace Bug: Biology and management in commercial nurseries and landscapes. OSU Extension Service Fact Sheet, EM9066.

Santamaria, L.; Uribe, G.; Rosetta, R. 2014. Chinche de encaje de la azalea - una nueva plaga de las azaleas y los rododendros. OSU Extension Service Fact Sheet, EM9066-S (Spanish).

Santamaria, L.; Landgren, C. 2014. Identifying and Managing Christmas Tree Diseases, Pests and Other Problems/Identificación y Manejo de Enfermedades, Plagas y Otros Problemas en

Arboles de Navidad (bilingual publication). Extension Service—PNW 659, 120 pages (\$33.00).

Strik, B.C., C.E. Finn, and P. Moore. 2014. Blueberry Cultivars for the Pacific Northwest. PNW 656

Peer-reviewed Publications:

Strik, B.C. 2014. Organic blueberry production systems—advances in research and industry. Acta Hort. 1017:257-267 (invited presentation/paper)

Strik, B.C. and G. Buller. 2014. Nitrogen fertilization rate, sawdust mulch, and pre-plant incorporation of sawdust—long-term impact on yield, fruit quality, and soil and plant nutrition in 'Elliott'. Acta Hort. 1017:269-275.

Larco, H., D.M. Sullivan, B. Strik, and D. Bryla. 2014. Mulch effects on highbush blueberry under organic management. Acta Hort. 1018:375-382.

Referred Publications:

Harkins, R.H., B.C. Strik, and D.R. Bryla. 2014. Weed management practices for organic production of trailing blackberry: accumulation and loss of biomass and nutrients. HortScience 49:35-43.

Santamaria, L. and Uribe, G. May, 2014. Bilingual Workshops on a Systems Approach to Plant Disease Prevention in Oregon Nurseries. Journal of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. Vol. 7, Issue 1.

Strik, B.C., G. Buller, and J.M. Tarara. 2014. Grow tubes reduce root and crown growth but not early production during establishment of highbush blueberry. HortScience (accepted, in press).

Tarara, J.M., B. Chaves, and B.C. Strik. 2014. Grow tubes change microclimate and bush architecture but have little effect on bush biomass allocation at the end of the establishment year in blueberry. HortScience (accepted, in press).

Gil Buller is Retiring after 15 Years at NWREC!

Gil Buller, Senior Faculty Research Assistant in Bernadine Strik's Berry Research Program at the NWREC, is retiring effective July 1,



Gil Buller

2014. Gil obtained his Master's in Soil Science at OSU in 1998 and shortly thereafter started working with Bernadine on berry crop production systems research. Gil's training in soil science was valuable, particularly in the establishment of berry crop plantings for various research projects and in the USDA-ARS/OSU Cooperative Breeding Program. Gil took great pride in helping make the plantings and associated research projects representative of good commercial production to ensure the research findings would be valuable to the industries we serve. Gil also contributed to various other projects at the NWREC including various hiring committees and the Farm Safety Committee. He will be missed by us all, but we wish him a fabulous retirement!

Bernadine has hired a new Faculty Research Assistant, Patrick (Pat) Jones. He will be mainly responsible for helping to manage the cooperative breeding plots at the NWREC. He joins Amanda Vance, Faculty Research Assistant, who started about a year ago and is responsible for managing the berry crop production systems research trials. Welcome to the new faculty!

Webinar:

Strik, B.C., D. Bryla, and L. Valenzuela. 2014. Organic Blackberry Production: Tips learned from an ongoing research study. March 13, 2014. Webinar on-line at: <http://www.extension.org/pages/70279>
Attendees: 144 (from 34 US States and from Canada, Argentina, Australia, Great Britain, and Portugal).

North Willamette Research
and Extension Center
Faculty & Staff

Administration & Support Staff

Mike Bondi

Director

Shelley Hughes

Administrative Assistant

Jan Egli

Office Specialist

Marc Anderson

Farm and Facilities Manager

Geoff Lewis

Building Trades and Maintenance

Derek Wells

Farm Management (3/4 time)

Extension & Research Faculty

Bernadine Strik

Berry Research Leader

Wei Yang

Berry Crops Extension Agent

Robin Rosetta

Nursery IPM Extension Agent

Luisa Santamaria

*Nursery Pathologist/Bilingual
Extension Agent*

Chal Landgren

Christmas Tree Extension Specialist

Nick Andrews

Metro Small Farms Extension Agent

Chip Bubl

Extension Agriculture Agent

Joe DeFrancesco

Pesticide Registration Research

Research and Program Staff

Gil Buller

Berry Research

Amanda Vance

Berry Research

Pat Jones

Berry Research

Heather Andrews

Berry Research

Gina Koskela

Pesticide Registration Research

Peter Sturman

Pesticide Registration Research

Heather Stoven

Nursery Research

Judy Kowalski

*Nursery, Christmas Tree, and
Pesticide Research*

Derek Wells

Nursery Research (1/4 time)

Gilberto Uribe

Nursery Program Assistant

Heidi Noordijk

Small Farms Program Assistant



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North Willamette Research & Extension Center**

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Community Open House Set

The annual NWREC Community Open House will be **Wednesday, July 23 from 4:00-7:00pm**. Postcards for advertising will be distributed in the community in June. Faculty and staff are already making plans for a "bigger and better event." Although last year's record attendance of over 350 will be hard to beat!

Traditional favorites will be the faculty and staff educational exhibits, the hayride farm tour, fresh veggies, berry tasting, and tractor driving.

"This is a fun event for NWREC and for the community," said NWREC Director Mike Bondi. "The public's response to our program last year was very positive. People have been asking about our next tour for months. And, we have lots of new items to share."



One of the many educational displays highlighting faculty research at the 2013 NWREC Community Open House.

Everyone is welcome. Save the date!

For more information, contact NWREC at 503-678-1264.

Oregon State University-North Willamette Research & Extension Center
15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002 • Phone: 503-678-1264 • Website: oregonstate.edu/dept/NWREC
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm