

WSU Asotin County Extension



Connection Newsletter

www.asotin.wsu.edu

June 2010

Upcoming Events

Every Wednesday

10 am to 2 pm Master Gardener Plant Clinics through September at the Extension Office (basement of the Asotin County Courthouse).

June 12 Wallowa County Weed Tour. Contact Nelle Murray at 243-2098 for more info.

June 12 Forest Owners Field Day at Athol, Idaho. Contact Andy Perleberg at (509) 667-6658 for more information. <http://ext.wsu.edu/forestry>

June 15 Asotin, WA Weed Identification Walk. Asotin County Courthouse at 5:30 pm. Dress accordingly.

June 23 Clearwater Direct Seeders Tour of Asotin County starting at 8:00 a.m. RSVP to Dennis Roe at (509) 335-3491.

June 24 Asotin County Conservation District/NRCS Tour; WSU Winter Wheat Variety Trial and Agriculture BBQ. Contact the Asotin County Extension Office for additional information.

June 27-29 State 4-H Teen Conference, Pullman.

June 29 WSU Crop Diagnostic Clinic in Pullman. Contact Steve Van Vleet at (509) 397-6290 for more information.

July 6 Tammany Crop Tour. Meet at the Bert Henriksen Farm in Lewiston. Contact the Nez Perce County Extension Office at 799-3096 for more information.

July 17 Master Gardener Plant Clinic at the Clarkston Farmers Market from 8:00 a.m. to Noon.

July 26- 30 Extension Youth Activity Camp at Parkway Elementary in Clarkston.

Horticulture

June 15 Weed Walk to Identify Problem Weeds

The Asotin County Noxious Weed Office and WSU Asotin County Extension are co-sponsoring a Weed Identification Walk on Tuesday, June 15 beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Weed Walk will begin at the Asotin County Courthouse, located at 135 Second Street in Asotin. The leader of the Walk will be Dr. Richard Old of Pullman. Dr. Old is a renowned national and international speaker on invasive weeds and creator of interactive plant identification software.

During the walk participants will learn how to identify and control problem weeds in the area. Individuals are encouraged to also bring in samples of problem weeds for identification. Comfortable shoes and appropriate dress for current weather conditions is recommended. The Weed Walk is free to the public. For more information, please contact the Asotin County Extension Office at (509) 243-2009; or Nelle Murray, Asotin County Noxious Weed Coordinator at (509) 243-2098



Master Gardener Plant Clinics held each Wednesday through September

Master Gardener plant clinics will be held each Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. through September 22 at the Extension Office. Bring in your plant and insect problems and receive free expert advice from the Asotin County Master Gardeners. You may also drop off a sample at the Extension Office for diagnosis at any other time during the week.

Asotin County Extension Office
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Washington State University
Extension helps people develop
leadership skills and use research-
based knowledge to improve
their economic status and quality of life. Cooperating Agencies: Washington State
University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Asotin County. Extension programs
and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of
noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension Office.



Recent Weather Promotes Fungal Diseases

Fungus and fungal-like organisms (FLOs) cause more plant diseases than any other group of plant pest. Over 8,000 species are known to cause diseases in plants. The recent weather consisting of frequent rains with relatively mild temperatures have been ideal for fungus growth.

Here are some common fungal diseases to be on the lookout for:

Rusts- In general, rust diseases are easily diagnosed because of the abundant production of colorful powdery spores formed in tiny pustules. A microscope may be necessary to identify specific rust pathogens. Spore production sometimes is limited to the underside of leaves, while the top surface may show discolored spots. Fruit infections may occur in susceptible fruiting plants. Many rust spores appear orange to yellow, while some rusts produce brown to black spores. Most rusts are very host specific and only infect certain plants. Many rusts also need two different types of plants (primary and alternate hosts) to complete their life cycle.



Photo by: R.S. Byther

Leaf Spots- Leaf spots are localized lesions on host leaves consisting of dead and collapsed cells. Blights are general and extremely rapid browning of leaves, branches, twigs and floral organs resulting in their death. Leaf spots and blights can be caused by fungi, bacteria, viruses and environmental conditions. Many host plants are affected by leaf spots and/or blights. Determining the cause of the problem is the first step in managing a leaf spot or blight problem.



Photo by:
R.S.
Byther

Powdery Mildew- White powdery growth on the surface of leaves and sometimes stems is characteristic of this easily diagnosed fungal disease. Young leaves and shoots may be stunted and distorted. Severe infections can cause leaf drop and death of young shoots. Some powdery mildew pathogens attack many different plant species, but others are specific to a limited host range. Unlike most fungal diseases, powdery mildew fungi do not require surface moisture for infection, so this disease is often most prevalent during dry weather.



Photo by: R.S. Byther

Control of Fungal Diseases

Select Genetically Resistant Plants- plant breeders are developing more and more plants that have genetic resistance.

Use Sound Cultural Practices- removing diseased branches and leaves helps to reduce the source of future fungal diseases. Rotating fruits and vegetables and planting them in different areas each year helps to reduce the interaction of susceptible plants with pathogens.

Chemical applications of fungicides may help limit new outbreaks of fungal diseases or help to reduce current outbreaks.

Source: WSU Hortsense- <http://pep.wsu.edu/hortsense/>

Looking for places to get information about horticulture issues?

WSU Publication Web Site

<http://pubs.wsu.edu>

UI Publication Web Site

<http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/catalog.asp>

WSU Hortsense

<http://pep.wsu.edu/hortsense/>

WSU Pestsense Web Site

<http://pep.wsu.edu/pestsense/>

UI Gardening Web Site

<http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/idahogardens/>

City of Lewiston Urban Forestry

<http://www.cityoflewiston.org/index.aspx?NID=284>

OSU Department of Horticulture

<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/ldplants/>

Area Agriculture

Stripe Rust Update and Recommendations, June 8, 2010

Xianming Chen

We were checking wheat and barley fields in Garfield, Columbia, Whitman, and Spokane counties in Washington and Latah County in Idaho yesterday and today. Stripe rust was widespread. Infection of various levels was found in almost all fields checked. Most fields had below 10% of severity and below 20% incidents, mixing with resistant, moderately resistant, and susceptible reactions. Two winter wheat fields, (one west of Colfax and one north of St. John in Whitman County), had large "hotspots" with 100% of plants infected and 40-80% of severity in the hotspots. Varieties in these fields were not identified. Plants in these fields had mostly necrotic stripes with limited rust pustules, which could be due to moderate resistance or fungicide application. Such fields could have been sprayed earlier to reduce yield loss.

Because stripe rust started earlier in the Walla Walla and Dayton (Columbia County), I was able to take preliminary notes in the variety trial near Dayton. The stripe rust reactions of the most of tested varieties were as expected with some exceptions. Variety Rod had more susceptible plants than in the past, indicating a considerable proportion (estimated as 20%) of plants became susceptible. Similar, susceptible plants in 'Tubbs 06' became more than in the past a couple of years after the re-selection from 'Tubbs'. Even with a moderately resistant reaction, 'Lambert' had very high severities (40-80%). The changes towards more susceptibility of these two varieties are not only due to the low temperature and high moisture conditions this year, but also possibly due to changes of races and their frequencies.

Based on the notes in this variety trial and previous data, the unique weather conditions, and HTAP resistance has started kicking in, I'd like to group the major varieties into the following three groups regarding fungicide applications:

Varieties should NOT be sprayed: Eltan, Madsen, Eltan/Madsen, Chukar, Finch, Skiles, ORCF-102, ORCF-103, Coda, Madsen/Rod, Legion, Bitterroot, Bruehl, Stephens, Brundage 96, Eltan/Tubbs06, KCF9002, RJames, Goetze, Goetze/Skiles, Cara, and George.

Varieties should be sprayed: AP Legacy, Salute, KCF9003, CDC Ptarmigan, Paladin, Eddy, Finley, Finway, and Buchanan.

Varieties can be either sprayed or not sprayed: Tubbs 06, Simon, Xerpha, Rod/Tubbs 06, Rod, Lambert, Masami, WB-528, AP700CL, Farnum, and Bauermeister. The difficulty to make a decision of spray or not spray for varieties in this group is due to the inadequate levels of HTAP resistance in some of these varieties under the cool and wet conditions and genetic mixtures within some of the varieties. Whether to spray or not spray should depend upon the location and yield potential. Under current situations, these varieties may be sprayed if they are

grown in Walla Walla, Columbia, and Garfield counties and southwestern Whitman County as rust severity has reached to significant levels and expected to increase more in another week or so. In most of the other areas, rust levels are still quite low and we expect that HTAP resistance starts to work in most of these varieties as the weather is going to warm up next week. The second consideration is the yield potential. The higher yield potential, the easier to justify the cost of fungicide application. A general guideline is that fields of 100 bushel per acre should move toward spraying as yield losses of such varieties may range between 5 to 15%.

In addition to Tilt, Quilt, Quadris, Stratego, and Headline, Folicur can be used.

Growers start worrying about spring wheat. Spring wheat has a much wide variation in growth stages, from tillering to flag leaf stage. We saw rust in spring wheat fields, but in very low incidence and severity (less than 2%) in general. If susceptible varieties (such as Scarlet, Hank, Nick, Eden, Westbred 926, Tara 2002, Jefferson) are grown, you may consider an early spray before rust reaches 10% severity or incidence as you



may be able to use ground application in early stage. If resistant varieties (such as Louise, Wakanz) are

grown, fungicides may not be used you should not use fungicides. Alpowa is in between and we hope its HTAP resistance starts working as the weather becomes warm.

We found a very low level of stripe rust on barley in a couple of fields in Whitman County, not warrant immediate spray. People should check their fields for stripe rust and its increase. If moderately resistant varieties (such as Baroness and Bob), spray may not be necessary. If other varieties (mostly susceptible) are grown, spray may be needed in a week or two when rust reaches about 10% severity or incidence.

Stem rust: The rust samples we collected from barberry bushes in the Latah County Idaho and Whitman County, Washington last month have been identified as stem rust. We couldn't find any stem rust in the wheat fields nearby the barberry bushes in the Latah County today. Rust reached late stage of aecial on the bushes.

Upcoming events of interest include the June 12 Wallowa County Weed Tour; and the June 24 Asotin County Conservation District/NRCS Tour and the WSU Winter Wheat Variety Trial. Enclosed with this newsletter is additional information on these and other events.

Youth and Family

2010 Beef Carcass Show Results

Carcass data was collected on 13 Asotin County Fair steers processed at Heights Meats and NW Specialty Meats in Clarkston following the fair. Twin Rivers 4-H Club member Angela Polumsky had the champion overall beef carcass with a steer that graded High Choice, with a Yield Grade of 2.75. Asotin FFA member Michele Heitstuman, and Clarkston Critters 4-H member Caleb Blunt had the 2nd and 3rd place carcasses respectively. Each of these steers also met the Washington State Steer of Merit requirements.

The 13 steers had an average daily gain of 3.68 pounds per day. Eighty-three percent of the carcasses had a quality grade of at least low Choice, and the 13 steers had an average yield grade of 3.0. A complete summary of the 2010 carcass data is available by contacting the Extension Office. Thanks to the Asotin County Cattlemen for their continued support of the 4-H and FFA youth. Dr. Everett Martin, retired WSU Professor of Animal Sciences, served as the official evaluator for the carcass contest.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
4-H Youth Development Program



Agriculture Scholarships Awarded to Asotin County High School Students

The Asotin County Wheat Growers, Asotin County CattleWomen and Asotin

County Cattlemen recently announced the recipients of their 2010 agricultural scholarships. Scholarships are awarded by all 3 organizations to graduating seniors at Clarkston and Asotin High Schools who are planning to major in agriculture or family and consumer sciences in college.

Frederick Haberman, son of Mike and Kelly Haberman of Asotin, received a \$300 Asotin County Cattlemen's Scholarship; a \$300 Asotin County Wheat Growers Scholarship; and a \$350 Asotin County

CattleWomen's Scholarship. Frederick plans to major in Fisheries Resources at the University of Idaho.

Riley Swanson, daughter of Mark and Jerri Swanson of Clarkston, received a \$350 Asotin County CattleWomen's Scholarship and a \$300 Asotin County Wheat Growers Scholarship. Riley plans to major in Agribusiness at the University of Idaho. Asotin High School graduate Sara Browne, daughter of Mary and Bud Scott, and Rex Browne, plans to major in Veterinary Technology at the College of Southern Idaho. She received a \$350 Asotin County CattleWomen's Scholarship.

Summertime Fun for Kids!



Extension Youth Activity Camp (EYAC)

Each year the Asotin County Extension office puts on a half-day youth camp for one week. This year's camp will be from July 26—30 at Parkway Elementary in Clarkston, WA. The cost is \$25 per child and scholarships are available for those in need.

Camp is for youth entering 2nd through 6th grades. Campers will check-in with the option of a free lunch from 12:30 - 12:50. The workshop sessions start at 1:00 and end at 5:00.

Classes are fun with a hands-on learning approach. Classes to choose from are "Ready, Set, Click", "Sports Week", "Where the Wild Things Grow", "Fun with Food", "Awesome Ag Adventures", "Scrapbooking and Crafts", "Theatre Arts", and "Outdoor Fun".

Registration is due by July 12, 2010. You can find a brochure and the registration form on our web site at <http://www.asotin.wsu.edu/EYAC.html> or call our office at 509-243-2009

JOIN 4-H!



4-H Enrollment is Open for the New Year

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
4-H Youth Development Program

4-H isn't just about raising livestock to sell at the Asotin County Fair. Lots of projects are offered to youth that teach life skills. Some fun projects include dog agility, horsemanship, foods and nutrition, showing poultry, rabbits, cavies, cats, and dogs. Maybe learning shooting sports sounds fun. How about learning leadership and demonstration skills. There are many projects to choose from with new ones added regularly.

In addition to the wide variety of 4-H projects, there are activities, including workshops, conferences, camps,

community service projects, and leadership development opportunities for both youth and adults at the local, district, state, national, and international levels. How about participating in Demonstration Day, Know Your Government, Super Saturday, Teen Conference, Achievement Night, State Ambassadors, Teen Rally, to name a few.

Bring a world of adventure to your youth by calling Nicole at 509-243-2009 or checking out our web site at www.asotin.wsu.edu.