

Calendar of Events

March

- 19*** **Crop Load Management Meeting**, Quincy Community Center, 9:00 am-12:00 pm, Contact: Karen Lewis, 509.346.1377
- 21** **Dairy Field Day**, Dwain Forester's Dairy, Royal City, 9:15 am-12:30 pm, Contact: CarrieAnn Sligar 509.754.2463 ext. 5, carrieann-sligar@wa.nacdn.net.org
- 22-23** **Pastured Poultry Workshop**, Nampa, ID, Contact: Mandi Thompson 208.332.8535
- 28-30** **Washington State Sheep Producers' 2002 Lambing School**, Feustal Farm, Lamont, WA., 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Contact: Carrie Christensen, 509.826.0535

April

- 1-6** **2002 WSSP Sheep Shearing School**, Parker Sheep Ranch, Moses Lake, Contact: Sara Smith, 509.754.2011

*recertification credits anticipated

Washington Poison Center
New Number: 1-800-222-1222

Post it, Remember it. It can be used anytime and from anywhere across the United States

The 2002 WSSP Sheep Shearing School is scheduled for April 1-6, at the Parker Sheep Ranch in Moses Lake. Experienced sheep shearers interested in tuning up their skills can participate in the Advanced Tune-Up School on April 1. The Basic Learning School will begin on April 2 and continue until April 6. Students attending the school will learn proper shearing techniques and equipment maintenance from world-class instructor Mike McWilliams from Myrtle Point, OR. In addition to learning about animal and wool care and marketing, students will receive an extensive reference notebook. Individuals interested in either school may receive an application and further information from the office or on our web page under "What's New". S. M. Smith

The Washington State Sheep Producers' 2002 Lambing School will be held on March 28, 29, and 30, at Feustal Farm in Lamont, WA. The tentative daily schedule is from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Dr. Jill Swannack will be conducting the "hands-on" school and those enrolled will have the opportunity to do the work, not just observe. Enrollment is on a first-paid, first-enrolled basis, with advance payment required to reserve your spot. For further information, please contact Carrie Christensen, WSSP Executive Secretary, at (509) 826-0535. S. M. Smith

Crop Load Management will be the topic for the spring tree fruit meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 19 at the Quincy Community Center. The meeting will cover Fruit and Flower Physiology, and The Programs, Products and Economics of Chemical Thinning. The half day meeting will begin at 9:00 am. and end at 12:00 pm. WSDA recertification credits are anticipated. For further information, please contact Karen Lewis at 509 346-1377. K. Lewis

Planting Late Blight Infected Potato Seed may result in a) healthy plants or b) no emergence due to totally decayed seed or, most undesirably, c) an emerged plant with late blight lesions bearing spores, which may spread the fungus throughout the area. The latter case generally results when seed infection is slight, according to recently published WSU and Oregon State University research. Perhaps most importantly, late blight-infected seed is a major source of inoculum which is spread to healthy seed during handling and cutting operations. The research indicates none of the known seed treatments are effective at combating seed already infected by late blight but they are quite effective in preventing infection of healthy seed, if applied during the cutting operation. They also note that German research indicates that seed may be infected by late blight without evident symptoms. Use of potato seed treatments, containing maneb or mancozeb are strongly recommended to reduce spread of seedborne late blight. G. Pelter

Potato Late Blight Spore Survival appears greater than previously suspected due to recent research conducted by Lyndon Porter of the WSU Department of Plant Pathology. He has determined that shaded spores may survive in water for eight to 10 days under Eastern Washington conditions. Spores in water exposed to full sunlight showed a dramatic reduction in survival after only two days. Adding field soil to the water containing spores greatly enhanced spore life... about 13 days in warmer July weather and nearly 20 days under cooler October weather with shorter day-length. Given this new information, growers must exercise even greater care to provide late season fungicidal protection until the time of harvest. Tubers growing under wetter conditions such as low areas of fields, near wheel tracks or the 80 to 100' nearest the center pivot are at greater risk. G. Pelter

Grass Tetany in Cattle is caused by a deficiency of magnesium in their diets or an imbalance of electrolytes including magnesium in the animal's system. Grass tetany typically occurs in the spring when there is an abundance of fresh, lush grass available. Mature cows that have recently calved are most prone to grass tetany. Typical signs of grass tetany begin with a staggered gait and terminates with convulsions, coma, and death. Cattle showing signs of grass tetany have a magnesium plasma level of less than 1.0mg/dl. To decrease the incidence of grass tetany take forage samples and supplement mineral supplementation or concentrate with magnesium. S. M. Smith

The State Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP's) lists have been revised. The new lists are now available on the PNN webpage at www.pnn.wsu.edu. In the left-hand frame under Washington, click on the link for State RUP List. The lists contain product name, registrant name, ingredient, and EPA number. These lists do not include adjuvants although if adjuvants are intended for aquatic use they are considered to be RUP's. K. Lewis

Profiting from Pastured Poultry is the subject of a March 22-23 workshop in Nampa, Idaho. According to Virginia agricultural entrepreneur Joel Salatin, pastured poultry is one of the best new family farm enterprises. It has high profit potential, low start-up cost, produces a high demand product, and is a good starter business for farm youth. This workshop will help prospective farmers learn about producing and marketing pasture-fed poultry. Call for more information or visit our on-line Resources page. A. McGuire

The 2002 Crop Protection Guide for Tree Fruits in Washington is now available for purchase at the extension office or directly from the publications office in Pullman. Cost of the bulletin is \$5.00 per copy. The guide is also available for viewing or downloading. See the Resource List. K. Lewis

2001 Onion Storage Demonstration Results comparing 31 early-maturing and 28 late-maturing cultivars are available upon request from the extension office. The same data is now accessible at our website. Information is provided on percentage of rotted bulbs, single centers and relative firmness, scale quality and shape uniformity. G. Pelter

The Conservation Districts Partnership is encouraging practices that achieve more production per unit of water consumed by agriculture. One program they are using to promote best practice management of irrigation water in the Upper Grant, Warden, Othello, and Moses Lake Conservation Districts is ISETS (Irrigation Systems Evaluation and Training Services). The goals of ISETS are to increase irrigation water use efficiencies and reduce non-point contamination of water sources. Operators and irrigators who are interested in learning about ISETS are invited to schedule a free training course in English or Spanish. Contact Sergio Paredes at 509-754-2463 ext. 5 or Don Hanson at 509-488-2802 ext. 106. Para registrarse o mayor información por favor llame a: Sergio Paredes al (509) 754-2463 ext. 5 o a Don Hanson (509) 488-2808 ext. 106. A. McGuire

Garlic Research Results from three years of studies in the Columbia Basin are available from the extension office. The effects of clove orientation at planting on bulb yield and quality, and effects of scape removal from "handneck" garlic types upon bulb yield are summarized. G. Pelter



Elvin Kulp, Chair of the Grant-Adams Cooperative Extension Office is retiring April 1, after 40 years of service to the citizens of Grant and Adams County. There

will be an open house for Elvin and Molly on Friday, March 29, at the Courthouse Justice Building, in the Multipurpose Room from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. The public is invited to come and wish him well in his new adventures. We will greatly miss him here at the Extension Office.

Resources:

[2001 Onion Storage Demonstration Results](#)
[WA Sheep Producers Shearing School](#)
[Pastured Poultry Production Links](#)
[Assessing the Pasture Soil Resource](#)
[Nutrient Cycling in Pastures](#)
[Dung Beetle Benefits in the Pasture Ecosystem](#)
[2002 Crop Protection Guide for Washington Tree Fruits](#)

Unless stated otherwise, you may request a print version of these resources. Underlined resources are available online through links from our homepage.

Homepage: <http://grant-adams.wsu.edu>

E-mail: elkulp@wsu.edu

Courthouse, PO Box 37 509.754.2011

Ephrata WA 98823 509.765.2160

Fax: 509.754.0163 Toll Free: 1.800.572.0119

John Kugler - Agronomy/Forage

Elvin L. Kulp - Chair - Agronomy

Betty J. Meloy - Family Living

Andy McGuire - Ag Systems

Gary Q. Pelter - Vegetables/Vegetable Seed

M. Christine Price - 4-H/Youth

Lynnel Rowan - Dairy

Sarah M. Smith - Animal Sciences

Karen M. Lewis - Tree Fruit

Helping You Put Knowledge To Work

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Cooperative Extension is implied. Publishing and distribution by Bonnie Bright, member of the Grant-Adams Cooperative Extension Team.

Cooperative Extension
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Washington State University
Pullman, Washington 99164-6230
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300
Return Service Requested

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
EPHRATA, WA 98823
PERMIT NO. 268