



Hort Headlines

March 19, 2010

- **Decision Upheld Regarding Pesticide Permits** – In late February, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review a lower court ruling that affects pesticide applications and tied to the Clean Water Act. This decision will likely make it more difficult for growers who apply pesticides via spray nozzle. Other agricultural groups including the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) protested the court's decision. NPDES permits will be required starting April 9, 2011, for pesticides applied directly to water to control pests, or applied to control pests that are present in, over or near water. According to EPA irrigation return flows and agricultural runoff will still not require NPDES permits because they are specifically exempted from the Clean Water Act.
- **Special GRAS2P Sign Up Night** – Learn more about GRAS2P and Audit Readiness on Wednesday, April 7th from 5:30—7:30 p.m. at the Washington Apple Commission. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Nicole Brunner at Nicole@wahort.org or call 509-665-9641 x302. Don't miss this opportunity to sign up for GRAS2P. Limited to the first 150 people.
- **WSHA Membership E-Billing** – WSHA has upgraded our membership billing system and we are now setup to e-bill. What is e-billing? E-billing will allow you to pay your membership dues online. If you would like to pay your membership online and get setup with our new e-billing system please email Nicole@wahort.org with your email address and we will update your information. This is also a great way to make sure we have the current email in place for you. We thank you for your previous investment and encourage you to renew your WSHA membership in June.

- **Find Out How Cold It Will Be In Your Area** – Clearwest frost forecasts for the Yakima Valley/Central Basin district will begin Wednesday, March 10th and continue through May. The daily forecasts for the Wenatchee/Okanogan District will begin on Monday, March 22 and continue through May. Forecasts can be accessed at www.clearwest.com. Beginning on March 10th forecasts can be heard by calling the toll-free telephone number: 1-888-982-1501.
 - **Get Geared Up For Golf** – Time to start planning for the 17th Annual WSHA Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament that will take place Tuesday, August 3 at the Lake Chelan Municipal Golf Course. This year's event is sure to be another big success with tree fruit industry golfers playing to benefit student scholarships. Put your company name in the spotlight by becoming a tournament sponsor by emailing lynette@wahort.org to learn more.
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Headline Links

Study: Low Pesticide Levels Found Near Salmon – Low pesticide concentrations, generally below levels that violate state or federal water quality standards, have been detected in five Washington watersheds where salmon are found, according to a new study. Learn more on this story from [The Yakima Herald](#).

Guestworker Regulations Challenged By Farm Bureau – The American Farm Bureau Federation filed a lawsuit seeking a temporary restraining order to prevent new H-2A rules from going into effect. Learn more on this story from [The Daily Sun News](#).

Money Woes Keep Lawmakers In Capitol – Washington state legislators returned to Olympia on March 15 for a special session expected to last a week or more. Learn more on this story from [The Capital Press](#).

Lawmaker Confident US Food Safety Law Will Pass In 2010 – The US Congress will pass legislation to overhaul its outdated food safety system in 2010, a leading lawmaker predicted yesterday. Learn more on this story from www.foodnavigator-usa.com.

Brazil Imposes Sanctions On U.S. Growers – In a move that will affect U.S. fruit and vegetable growers, Brazil announced \$829.3 million in trade sanctions on a range of American goods. Learn more on this story from [The Fruit Grower News](#).

Mexican Tariff Hurts Washington Farmers – A tariff imposed by Mexico on some agricultural and processed food products is hurting Washington farmers, with potato growers feeling the brunt of the nearly year-old trade dispute. Learn more on this story from [The Tri-City Herald](#).



Week" - First Aid Instruction at Employee Orientation – As part of your employee orientation, instruct workers to promptly seek treatment for cuts, abrasions, and other injuries. Reporting minor cuts or scrapes are just as important as major injuries. This is part of USDA GAP (G-14) and Global G.A.P. (AF3.3.3)

GRAS2P Web-Site – [*web-site*](#).

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