



## Hort Headlines

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May 7, 2010

- **WSHA/GRAS2P Food Hygiene Course** – The Food Hygiene Course will be held at Hal Holmes Center; Mount Stuart room on May 19 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. and the cost is \$35. This basic food hygiene course will cover: General principles of food hygiene, how food hygiene is addressed in food safety GAP programs, GHP programs, and HACCP plans and identification of food safety hazards related to food hygiene principals. Certificates of completion will be issued. For more details [Download the flyer.](#) or to sign-up or contact Nicole Brunner at 509-665-9641 x302 or [nicole@wahort.org](mailto:nicole@wahort.org).
- **Upcoming GRAS2P Training for Lead Auditors** – Orchardists in Washington State need auditors familiar with tree fruit and orchard practices! GRAS2P is providing another opportunity for training that serves as pre-requisite for becoming an auditor (or that can help you and your warehouse/business prepare for the food safety audit process). The training will be held May 24 – 28 at the Washington State Apple Commission Bldg in Wenatchee, 8am-5pm. Cost is \$1450. Training is provided in cooperation with NCS International. For more details [Download the flyer.](#) or to sign-up or contact Nicole Brunner at 509-665-9641 x302 or [nicole@wahort.org](mailto:nicole@wahort.org). Space is limited, please register by 19 May.
- **PMA Food Safety Symposium** – PMA's fourth Food Safety Symposium will be held May 18, in Ellensburg, Washington. This one-day event provides an opportunity to learn about new developments that will help better address the challenges of food safety. WSHA Members write "10SAFETYWAW" on the "Referred by" line to qualify for the

PMA member rate of \$595 on the registration form or type it in when asked for a promotional code online. [Download the flyer.](#)

- **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](mailto:lynette@wahort.org) to learn more.
- **Seeking Golf Tournament Raffle Items** – We are currently seeking raffle item donations for our 17th Annual WSHA Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament which helps raise money for our student scholarship fund. All proceeds from the tournament support scholarships that are awarded to students in honor of past tree fruit industry leaders. Scholarships are awarded in memory of Gerald Nolan, Melvin Crowder, Jim Matson and Delmar Smith. Over the past 16 years, the tournament has raised over \$142,500 for student scholarships. If you would like to participate by donating a raffle item please call (509) 665-8541 x302 or e-mail [lynette@wahort.org](mailto:lynette@wahort.org).
- **Find Out How Cold It Will Be In Your Area** – Fruit growers can get detailed information on frost conditions online at [www.clearwest.com](http://www.clearwest.com) or 1-888-982-1501. Forecasts will run through May 31.

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## Headline Links

**Plenty Of Workers In Washington Farm Labor Pool** – Slowdowns in other industries may be helping sustain the labor pool for Washington's agricultural employers. Learn more on this story from [The Seattle Times](#).

**A Comparison Of Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) For Pesticides Used On Sweet Cherries To Export Markets** – Pacific Northwest sweet cherry exporters are concerned with meeting international pesticide regulatory standards for crop protection chemicals. Learn more on this story from [NW Hort](#).

**Murray Urges Mexico To End Ag Tariffs** – Mexico's president intends to discuss a tariff his government imposed on Washington frozen potatoes and other agricultural products with President Obama during a state visit later this month, Sen. Patty Murray's office said Tuesday. Learn more on this story from [The Tri-City Herald](#).

**Farmers To Reps: Fix Labor Now** – Farmers used a U.S. House Agriculture Committee hearing on the 2012 Farm Bill here May 3 to push for immigration reform for farmworkers. Learn more on this story from [The Capital Press](#).

**Recession, Enforcement Driving Illegal Immigrants To Leave U.S.** – As word spreads that jobs are harder to come by in the U.S. because of the recession, others are deciding

not to come in the first place, slowing an unprecedented flood of immigrants that's lasted more than a decade. Learn more on this story from [\*The Bellingham Press\*](#).

**Orchardist Discovers Glorious New Cherry Variety** – The tree, which underwent DNA tests last year to certify it wasn't an already-named variety, ripens about 20 days after Bing trees, said Pete Van Well of Van Well Nursery. Learn more on this story from [\*The Wenatchee World\*](#).

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**GRAS2P "Tip of the Week"** - Pre-Harvest Preparations: Harvest Containers In preparation for cherry harvest, now is a good time to pre-check bags, lugs, and bins to make sure that they are in good repair as well as free of dirt, debris, etc. Any harvest containers that are being used for other purposes should be marked a) for that purpose and/or b) not for harvest (e.g. garbage / basura). It is also good to check that your policies are in place for workers to do these daily container inspections. This is part of Global G.A.P. (FV4.1.5 and 4.1.9) and USDA GAP (2-6, 2-8, 2-14, and 2-16).

**GRAS2P Web-Site** – [\*web-site\*](#).

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