



Hort Headlines

May 21, 2010

- **Second Set Of Buffers Set To Be Imposed By EPA** – Last week, The Environmental Protection Agency announced plans to impose no-spray buffers of between 25 and 1,000 feet around salmon-bearing streams for three carbamate pesticides. The second set of pesticides the agency has reviewed are Carbaryl, carbofuran and methomyl in response to a lawsuit brought against the agency in 2001 by the Washington Toxics Coalition. The buffers are proposed around salmon and steelhead habitat in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California. Read more at the [Capital Press](#) on this story
- **Assistance Program Announced By USDA For Orchardists And Nursery Tree Growers** – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced this week that orchardists and nursery tree growers can begin applying for benefits under the Tree Assistance Program, which was authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill. Signup began Monday, May 10, 2010, at local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. To be eligible for TAP, producers must have suffered more than a 15 percent death loss due to the natural disaster after adjustment for normal mortality. For more information on the new TAP program, please contact your county FSA office or the website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/tap>.
- **State Farm Worker Housing Cost Share Infrastructure Development Funds** – If these funds are not used by November 30th, they may be lost and future program funding may not be available. The process to construction completion can take up to four months. For more information contact Pat Arnold, Dept. of Commerce at (509) 480-9803.

- **Seasonal Housing Available In Malaga Area** – Mid June in Malaga, WA The Washington Growers League Sage Bluff seasonal housing facility is opening an additional 144 beds. Those interested in reserving beds should contact Jesse Lane at (509) 670-3032; or the resident manager Rosie Banda at (509) 664-5050. Rent is \$9 per bed per night.
- **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. Space is limited, please register by 19 May.
- **NW Hort Expo** – Participating as an exhibitor at the NW Hort Expo is one of the best ways to share with visitors about up-and-coming technologies and new products. If you have not received information about the upcoming NW Hort Expo or booked space for your booth please contact Angie Fiscus at (509) 728-0010 or email nwhort@gmail.com. The NW Hort Show is held in conjunction with the 106th WSHA Annual Meeting.
- **Tee Off For Student Scholarships** – Teams are filling up fast this year for our 17th Annual WSHA Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament that will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at the Lake Chelan Municipal Golf Course. Sign up today to guarantee your spot! Link to the [WSHA web-site](#) and download a WSHA Golf Tournament Registration form today. This year's event is sure to be another big success with tree fruit industry golfers playing to benefit student scholarships in the name (and memory) of past tree fruit industry leaders. Put your company name in the spotlight by becoming a tournament sponsor by contacting lynette@wahort.org to learn more.
- **Find Out How Cold It Will Be In Your Area** – Fruit growers can get detailed information on frost conditions online at www.clearwest.com or 1-888-982-1501. Forecasts will run through May 31.

Headline Links

Cherry Permits Simplified – California has agreed to simplify the permits for shipping Northwest fresh sweet cherries into California, starting this season. Learn more on this story from [The Good Fruit Grower](#).

NW Cherry Crop Pegged At 14 Million Boxes – The first official estimate of the 2010 Northwest fresh cherry crop is just under 14 million boxes (140,000 tons), a 30 percent drop from the record volume picked a year ago. Learn more on this story from [The Good Fruit Grower](#).

End The Trucking Dispute, 'Soon' – This dispute will be a topic as Mexican President Felipe Calderón visits Washington this week. Learn more on this story from [Wenatchee World](#).

Dissecting AgJOBS – As for the future of AgJOBS and how growers can make the most of it, Mallory says right now, the best thing growers can do is make sure they're educated and keeping their eyes and ears open relative to immigration reform. Learn more on this story from [Growing Produce](#).

Leading Off: Get Ready For Food Safety Law – If you're like most fruit growers, the matter of food safety hasn't exactly been a front burner issue for you. Learn more on this story from [Growing Produce](#).

Use Sustainability To Boost Organics, Says Analyst – Organic food producers should focus on the sustainable profile of their products if they are to maintain consumer interest in a flagging market, say analysts. Learn more on this story from [Food Navigator](#).



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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