



Hort Headlines

July 17, 2009

- **Field Tour on Growing Nitrogen in the Orchard** – On Monday, August 10, 2009 from 4:00 - 5:30 pm. Warren Morgan Orchards will be hosting a field tour that will discuss growing nitrogen in the orchard with interplanted legumes. Come view a field-scale trial of four different perennial legumes direct seeded into orchard alleys with the goal of growing nitrogen in the orchard. Speakers will discuss the trial, the potential of using legumes in general, and also implications for insect biocontrol from interplanted legumes. Contact David Granatstein, WSU, granats@wsu.edu 509-663.8181 x.222 for more information. Warren Morgan Orchards is located in Quincy, WA at Rd. 9 NW, just west of Rd. V NW., on north side of road.
- **I-9 Training And Preparing For An ICE Audit.** – Last month the DHS Immigration and Citizenship Enforcement started enforcement operations on 652 EMPLOYERS along with announcing major new initiatives against employers. The Washington Farm Bureau will be conducting an informative seminar that is required for all employers (especially seasonal employers) working in today's environment. The seminar includes completing and retaining the Form I-9 and how to properly fill it out, steps to prepare for an ICE investigation, model policies/procedures for your business and more! Training will be conducted by Dan Fazio, Washington Farm Bureau Employer Services Director. Valuable handouts will be included. For more information and to register or visit www.wsfb.com.

- **HAACP Training** – A two day HAACP Certification Training will be available to GRAS²P specialists and other interested tree fruit industry members. HAACP is a management system in which food safety is addressed through the analysis and control of biological, chemical, and physical hazards from raw material production, procurement and handling, to manufacturing, distribution, and consumption of finished product. The training will take place August 17-18, 2009 in Ellensburg. Dr. Richard Dougherty (Professor and Extension Food Science Specialist at WSU) will conduct the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point training. A reduced registration fee is available for WSHA members. For more information and registration, please contact the WSHA office at 509.665.9641 x811 or email gras2p@wahort.org.
- **Sunrise Research Orchard Field Day** – The first annual field day for the WSU Sunrise Research Orchard will be held July 22, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. The orchard was established as a joint effort involving WSU and the tree fruit industry in 2007. The Field Day will focus on the development of the research orchard since it was started in 2007 and on research programs that are happening on the site or in the future. Also highlighted will be the challenges to keep development of the new research orchard moving forward and how the industry can help to ensure it stays a valued asset for years to come. Contact Darla Ewald at (509) 663-8181 or e-mail dewald@wsu.edu for more information. You can also [download the brochure](#) to learn more.
- **Grant Helps Bumblebee Habitat** – This week the Xerces Society, based in Portland, announced it received \$458,000 from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. A portion of the grant funds will go toward tracking how pollination improves on farmland around Davis, Calif., where farmers have established mile-long hedgerows to provide food and shelter for pollinators like bumblebees and insects like ladybugs, which prey on pests. The remainder will be spent on working with universities and agricultural organizations to develop local combinations that can be used nationwide to make life better for beneficial insects. Scientists continue to work on ways to restore natural habitats on or near farms. Native pollinators such as the bumblebee are responsible for \$3 billion worth of crops each year.
- **Growers Invited To Ag/Agency Conference Call** – During Tree Fruit Day, we met with Employment Security Department Commissioner Karen Lee who invited all WSHA members to join her and other state agencies for the quarterly "grower/agency" conference call. These calls are an excellent forum for growers and agencies to communicate and share current information on important topics like housing, H-2A, crop condition, and labor supply to name a few. The next call will be on Wednesday, July 29 from 3 to 4 p.m. The call-in number is 1-866-699-3239. Please email Hilary Young at or Lynette@wahort.org to receive the call in number and access code. HYoung@esd.wa.gov



- **Golf For A Great Cause** – We only have a few spots left! Teams have filled up fast this year for our 16th Annual WSHA Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament that will be held on **Tuesday, August 4, 2009** 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. Golfers will also have an opportunity for a shot at our **\$10,000 Hole-In-One shoot out prize** and some other great prizes on the par 3 holes!
- **Put Your Company In The Spotlight** – We have **ONE** hole sponsor opportunity left for our 16th Annual WSHA Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament Tuesday, August 4. Hole sponsors will have the opportunity to set up a table at your specific tee box with treats, promotional items or a contest for the golfers. It's direct, highly visible and will allow you to place your promotional materials at your sponsored area to supplement your signage! This year we have a new addition to our tournament, an award for "**Best Hole Sponsor**" that will be voted on by the golfers. Put your company name in the spotlight today, by becoming a tournament sponsor. Contact Lynette at lynette@wahort.org to learn more.
- **Have You Renewed Your WSHA Membership** – WSHA membership invoices have been mailed out to all members. If you have not yet received your invoice please contact WSHA membership director Nicole Bruner at 509-665-9641 or email nicole@wahort.org . Remember, it is important to renew your WSHA membership promptly. Membership is required in order to register and attend the [WSHA 105th Annual Meeting and Trade Show](#) that will take place this December 7, 8 & 9 in Wenatchee, Washington. Thank you in advance for your membership investment.
- **NW Hort Expo/Trade Show** – The 105th WSHA NW Hort Expo/Trade Show will be held at the Wenatchee Convention Center, December 7, 8 & 9th. Participating as an exhibitor 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 Dawn Milne at (509) 784-0357 or email dmilnetime2ride@verizon.net. The NW Hort Show is held in conjunction with the 105th WSHA Annual Meeting.

Headline Links

ICE Steps Up I-9 Audits – The Department of Homeland Securities launched I-9 investigations against hundreds of businesses across the country. Learn more at www.wsfb.com.

New Inspection Rules Help Western Cherry Exporters –Cherry growers in three West Coast states will be able to ship sweet cherries to Japan more cheaply because of a change in the country's pest control requirements for imports of the fruit. Learn more on this story from www.boston.com.

Bee Protection Pact Reached – San Diego beekeepers, avocado growers and pest control advisors have reached an agreement designed to protect bees from pesticides. Learn more on this story from [the Capital Press](http://the.Capital.Press).

Gov. Gregoire Announces More Washington Cherries Head To Japan Under New Inspection Protocol – Gov. Chris Gregoire and state Department of Agriculture Director Dan Newhouse announced today that Washington growers can immediately ship their freshly picked cherries to Japan under a new protocol that will reduce transportation costs and preserve the high quality of the fruit. Read more at www.governor.wa.gov.

'Organic' Label Doesn't Guarantee Quality Or Taste – Just because it's organic doesn't mean it's the best. Read more at [the LA Times](http://the.LA.Times).

Government Tightens Food Safety Standards – New safety standards aimed at reducing salmonella and E. coli outbreaks are part of a government effort to try to make food safer to eat. Read more at [CBS News](http://CBS.News).

Wenatchee Still Clings To Title As Apple Capital – Wenatchee has prospered from an apple-based economy for more than a century. Read more at [the Examiner](http://the.Examiner).

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