



## Hort Headlines

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November 6, 2009

- **Miller Travel Grant Applications Now Being Accepted** – Applications are now being accepted for the Charles J. Miller Memorial Travel & Study Grant. Qualified fruit industry fieldmen, extension workers or other fruit industry service personnel of North Central Washington are welcome to apply. The deadline for application submissions is November 16, 2009. Link to the Charles J. Miller Travel & Study Grant Announcement to [download an application](#). If you have additional questions email [lynette@wahort.org](mailto:lynette@wahort.org).
- **Action Needed: Contact Your Representatives Today!** – Congress is debating a healthcare reform bill that will institute new taxes, fines, and mandates on you and your business. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-California) has submitted HR 3962, anointing it as the healthcare reform bill that will be debated on the floor of the House of Representatives. Speaker Pelosi has scheduled a vote on HR 3962 for Saturday, November 7, 2009. This is your last chance to submit comments to your representatives on this massive overhaul of our healthcare system. Both Washington Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau oppose this bill. [Your comments are needed now!](#) [Read more](#) from a recent conference call on this proposed bill.
- **GRAS<sup>2</sup>P 103 – Global G.A.P. Documentation and In-Orchard Practices** – Hands-on training, utilizing the GRAS2P guidance manual will be available immediately following the 2009 Hort Convention in Wenatchee. The third session will take place on Thursday afternoon, 10 December. The session will focus on preparations for Global G.A.P. audits. Participants will utilize the GRAS2P

Orchard Operations Guidance Manual to prepare their documentation, procedures, and policies to meet Global G.A.P. standards. Specifically addressed in the training will be All Farm Base, Crop Base, and Fruits and Vegetables Base as well as EZ Audit Preparedness. **Cost** is \$75 for all three sessions or \$30/session plus \$50 for the GRAS2P Orchard Operations Guidance Manual for members of WSHA. For more information contact, the Hort office at 509.665.9641 or [gras2p@wahort.org](mailto:gras2p@wahort.org).

- **HAACP Training** – Washington State University is once again offering HAACP training: Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point. Dates are 11-13 November and the location is Ellensburg, Washington. Register online at [www.foodprocessing.wsu.edu](http://www.foodprocessing.wsu.edu) or contact Cathy Blood, WSU School of Food Science (p) 509.335.2845 or email [Cathy Blood](mailto:Cathy Blood)
- **2009 WSHA Annual Meeting—Conference Kick Off WILD HOCKEY** – Join industry friends for a fun-filled evening cheering on the conference champion Wenatchee Wild as they take on the Robertson Cup winners in fast-paced NAHL hockey action. Proceeds from ticket pre-sales will benefit the Washington Apple Education Foundation. Don't miss out on this opportunity to network with peers and support the industry's charity! Sunday, December 6, 2009 at the Town Toyota Center located in Wenatchee. Game time: 5:05pm. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.waef.org>.
- **WSHA 105th Annual Meeting Information is Now On-Line** – The Washington State Horticultural Association's 105th Annual Meeting program guide, registration form and lodging guide are now available on the WSHA web-site at [www.wahort.org](http://www.wahort.org). The theme this year is "**Resilient Growers – Facing Challenges, Leading Changes.**" Don't miss the largest educational conference in the nation dedicated to tree fruit industry issues December 7, 8, and 9 – sign up to attend today! To register contact Nicole Brunner at 509-665-9641 or email [nicole@wahort.org](mailto:nicole@wahort.org).
- **NW Hort Expo Contact Information** – 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](mailto:dmilnetime2ride@verizon.net). The NW Hort Expo is held in conjunction with the 105th WSHA Annual Meeting.

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## Headline Links

**EPA Proposes New Pesticide Labeling To Control Spray Drift And Protect Human Health** – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has rolled out proposed guidance for new pesticide labeling to reduce off-target spray and dust drift. Learn more at [www.yosemite.epa.gov](http://www.yosemite.epa.gov).

**Ag Official Says Budget Will Be Focus Of Legislators** – Some longstanding

agricultural issues likely will resurface when the state Legislature convenes for a short, 60-day session in January. Learn more at [\*the Yakima Herald\*](#).

**Department Of Labor To Growers: We're Watching** – Recent citations by the U.S. Department of Labor to blueberry farms and farm labor contractors in Michigan and New Jersey, along with a recent segment on a popular TV news program, have shone a spotlight on an ugly issue in the harvesting of fresh produce. Learn more on this story from [\*the Packer\*](#).

**Early Apple Numbers Are Looking Good** – After a record 2008 season of 109 million boxes, estimates indicate about 2 million fewer boxes were harvested this year. Learn more on this story from [\*the Capital Press\*](#).

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Washington State Horticultural Association  
PO Box 136 Wenatchee, WA 98807  
Phone (509) 665-9641 Fax (509) 665-8541  
Web-site [www.wahort.org](http://www.wahort.org)