



The Rolling Thunder



Farm Service Agency

2013 Reporting of Fall Seeded Crops

All Oregon producers are reminded that the acreage reporting dates for many crops have changed. The first acreage reporting date is November 15 but it applies to only producers that have a purchase an Apiculture policy (honey) or a Perennial Range and Forage (hay and grazing) policy from RMA or a crop insurance agent. **December 15 is the new date** to report Alfalfa Seed, Fall Barley, Fall Canola, Established Perennial Forage, Fall Mint, Onions (planted 8/15-9/15), Fall Wheat, and all other Fall-Seeded Small Grains. Please contact your local office for an acreage report appointment now.

County Committee Elections

Watch your mailbox for your official county office committee election ballot starting early next month. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Nov. 5, 2012. If for some reason you don't receive a ballot, feel free to notify the county FSA office.

Completed and signed ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business on Dec.3, 2012.



Natural Resource Conservation Service

USDA—NRCS Update:

Do you have Rush Skeletonweed on your property???

Any producer with noxious weeds on their property may be eligible for cost share to help control these weeds. To be eligible for this program, you will need to fall into these criteria:

- Be an Agricultural Producer
- Be within a 2 mile area of either the John Day, Deschutes or Columbia River
- Be willing to treat acres that are affected



Natural Resources Conservation Service is taking application for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to help you treat your acres for noxious weeds. Please contact Kristie Coelsch at the Sherman County NRCS office to get signed up before November 16, 2012. Kristie's phone number is (541) 565-3551 ext. 102.

Another funding opportunity through the NRCS is the reshaping of terraces that are larger and hard to farm over. Contact our office to speak with Kristie about this program.

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Quote of the Quarter

"When the land does well for its owner, and the owner does well by his land—when both end up better by reason of their partnership—then we have conservation."

- Aldo Leopold

Soil & Water Conservation District



Biological Control - Did Ya know??

Do you have a Canada Thistle or other weed problem and would like to use Biological Control as your chosen method? Come talk to us at the SWCD @ 541-565-3216 as Bio-Control methods are available!

Already using Biological Control methods? How about implementing self propagation? For those of you who already have the bug populations at hand, self propagation is a great way to check on the hardiness of your populations and helping your little critters migrate and thrive while keeping the weed population down at the same time!

How do you self propagate? In the instance of the Canada Thistle Gall Fly, eggs are deposited on plant shoots throughout the summer and the hatching larvae burrow into stems, causing galls to form. There may be multiple larvae in one gall depending on the size. Overwintering larvae pupate in early spring and emerge as adults in late spring/early summer when plants are flowering. Galls can be collected in Autumn (September and October) to be redistributed in problem areas.



What Bio- Control methods can do for you:

1. Low-cost weed control.

Bio-control is considered by many to be the most cost-effective weed management method available. A recent economic analysis of biological control revealed a benefit/cost ratio as high as 100 to 1.

2. Effective weed control.

All bio control insects have a proven scientific record in attacking and feeding upon their target weeds.

3. Permanent weed control.

Once established and feeding in your weed infestations, your insects will continue to attack your weeds, month after month, year after year.

4. Environmentally friendly weed control.

Only the target weed is attacked--non-target trees, shrubs, grasses and crops are unaffected; safe for use along shelterbelts and waterways.

5. Integrated weed control.

Using bio-control insects is easy--just release each carton into specific areas where you want them to go to work. You can continue to use herbicides if you desire. Just limit your chemical treatments around your insect release sites in the first few years. As your insects expand their range and have an increasing effect, your herbicide use can decline or be integrated for an even greater degree of weed control!

"Herbicide applied to leafy spurge did not effect long-term Spurgia esulae population." This was one result of a North Dakota State University study on the effect of the herbicides 2,4-D, picloram and imazethapyr on the Spurge Shoot-tip Gall Midge. While there were short-term insect reductions in the herbicide treated areas, "Spurgia esulae would be compatible with herbicide treatment in an integrated leafy spurge management program."

Odds & Ends

- The SWCD and NRCS are looking for a volunteer (s) to offer up their shop this winter for our annual After Hours Meeting. Please consider helping your local conservation office so we can help you! Please contact Kayla Alberti @ 541-565-3216 ext. 109 or Kristie Coelsch @ 541-565-3216 ext. 102.
- The SWCD still has plenty of funding available for both large and small grants. We are here to help with your conservation needs, so call or come on in to our office and get signed up today! 541-565-3216
- As the weather gets colder in the upcoming months keep in mind that snow tire season runs November 1st - March 31st. It is a fine of \$190 to have them on anytime outside of these dates. Drive safe and buckle up!



OSU Extension Office— Fall Weed Control

Fall is an excellent time to spray many hard-to-control weeds, specifically perennials such as russian knapweed and canada thistle. The following is an excerpt from Techline, a Weed Management Services publication from Helena, MT:

"Fall Application of Milestone to Control Key Invasive Weeds"

Fall is an excellent time to control invasive weeds with Milestone. Late summer and fall rains in many areas of the west in 2012 will provide land managers with a good opportunity to extend their application season.

Russian Knapweed - Milestone at 5 or 7 fluid ounces per acre is highly effective for controlling russian knapweed. Unlike other herbicides, applications of Milestone can be made on russian knapweed through late summer and until after the foliage has died back (leaves are brown and dead!) in fall. Milestone is taken up by the foliage, through the root crown or from the soil into this noxious weed. Milestone will provide residual control of plants that try to re-grow and emerge after initial application.

Canada Thistle - Field research has shown that fall applications are extremely effective with Milestone at labeled rates of 5 to 7 ounces per acre. Tank mixing with another herbicide is not necessary; Milestone alone will control canada thistle. University of Nebraska research reports canada thistle is actually more susceptible to herbicides when applied in the fall following a frost. Applications can be made in the fall as long as there is live canada thistle foliage. Even though the leaves will begin to senesce, generally there is still excellent efficacy up to late October as long as there is some green foliage."



Rush skeletonweed would also be a good candidate for fall applications with Milestone. Milestone is a non-restricted product with low use rates and no activity on desirable grasses. ALWAYS Read and Follow the Label.

For more information on these or other weeds, contact Rod Asher at the Sherman County Weed District (541-565-3655).



Experiment Weather Station

August:

- Precipitation for August is a trace which is 0.29" below normal
- The crop year total for 2011/2012 is 10.82" which is 0.43" below normal
- The highest temperature was 99° on the 18th.
- The lowest temperature was 39° on the 24th.
- Long time averages indicate we can expect 97° and 41°
- The average air temperature was 69.9° which is 2° above normal
- 4" soil temperature ranged from 68° to 92°
- Average wind speed was 4.5 miles per hour which is 0.4 above normal
- Total pan evaporation was 13.18" which is 2" above normal
- Greatest evaporation was 0.62" on the 1st



September

- Precipitation for September 2012 is a trace of rain
- Long time average precipitation for September is 0.51"
- The highest temperature was 92° on the 20th
- The lowest temperature was 34° on the 11th
- Long time averages indicate we can expect 91° and 33°
- The average air temperature was 62.4° which is 2.2° above normal
- 4" soil temperature ranged from 79° to 63°
- The average wind speed was 3.3 miles per hour which is 0.4 below normal
- Total pan evaporation was 11.75" which is 4.6" above normal. Deer Problem.
- Greatest evaporation was 0.89" on the 21st

Oregon Department of Agriculture

Keeping water Clean is a legal requirement and a priority in Oregon

Oregon laws require landowners to:

- Maintain sufficient vegetation along stream-banks for bank stability, stream shade, and filtration of potential pollutants from land overflow.
- Prevent pollution of ground or surface water from discharging wastes where they are likely to enter groundwater, canals, ditches, or rivers.

Oregon clean water concerns:

Soil erosion

- Can clog irrigation equipment
- Can fill ponds and ditches
- Can accumulate silt in fish habitat

Warm stream water

- Can harm fish
- Can encourage algae growth

Excess manure/fertilizers

- Can encourage algae growth
- Can contaminate ground water

The Oregon state legislature designated the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) as the agency responsible for working with landowners to prevent and control water pollution from agricultural activities. If you believe you have a water quality issue please do not hesitate to contact your local SWCD or ODA regarding your issues.

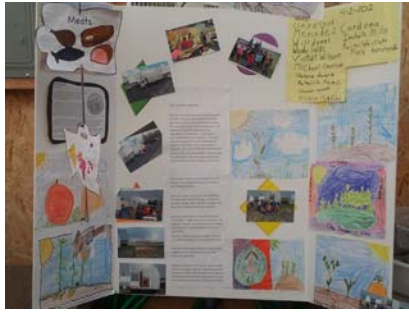
Sherman County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)—541-565-3216; Kayla.Alberti@or.nacdn.net

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) - 541-617-0017; ehammond@oda.state.or.us

Sherman County Grade School

Last spring the SWCD funded a proposed project to the 3rd grade class at Sherman County Elementary School. This project was for the school's very own greenhouse and garden which was headed by the 3rd grade teacher Mrs. Shannon Hansen and was completed by the students and volunteers. The students were in charge of helping come up with a budget, calling all the supply stores for prices and materials, as well as learning how to properly install some of the materials. The garden project consisted of two raised beds, a compost site, and a year-round greenhouse to compliment the already existing potting shed. The raised beds were used to grow what is known as the 3 sisters; in this case they planted Corn, Squash, and Beans. They were taught the importance of each plant, and how each plant used what nutrients the other plants placed back into the soil. They were also taught how composting works and what benefits they give back to their soil by using it. Lastly they were able to grow other types of plants in the greenhouse that normally they would not be able to during the winter months. This allowed for many more educational opportunities to be taught. After everything was installed and all the lessons learned, the class held a presentation on their hard earned work! Great job kids!

Sherman County Grade School Continued



Local Advertisements

SHERMAN COUNTY BUSINESSES!!

Are you interested in showcasing your business cards in our newsletter? Advertisements are \$20 per issue or \$75 for the year! Issues are dispersed quarterly. For those of you who already advertise, its time again to renew!

Don't get left out! Please contact our office at 541-565-3216 ext 109 if you wish to be included.

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~CALENDAR OF EVENTS~

1. October 31, 2012—Halloween!!
2. November 12, 2012—Veterans Day—Office Closed
3. November 13, 2012—Board meeting to be held in the SWCD office on @ 8:30am
4. November 16, 2012—EQIP sign up deadline
5. November 22, 2012—Thanksgiving—Office Closed.
6. December 11, 2012—Board meeting to be held @ the SWCD office—Date subject to change
7. December 25, 2012—Christmas—Office Closed
8. January 1, 2013—New Years Day!! —Office Closed
9. January 8, 2013—Board meeting to be held @ the SWCD office—Date subject to change



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NRCS Staff

Kristie Coelsch, District Conservationist
Mary Beth Smith, Basin Resource Conservationist

We're on the Web! Don't forget to check us out for current news! www.shermancountyswcd.com

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