

NWSOMA 2010



Mt. Vernon, WA

Northwest Seed Orchard Manager's Association  
Annual Meeting and Tours  
WSU-Mt. Vernon Northwestern Washington Research & Extension Center  
Mt. Vernon, WA, June 8-9, 2010

## Seed Orchards 201: Managing Established Orchards

Tuesday, June 8

- 8:00-12:00     Orchard Manager's Roundtable – Facilitated by Jim Smith  
*This is the most popular part of our annual meetings, where orchard managers share new things they have been trying, ask if others have solutions for a particular problem, or just provide an update on recent activities. Come prepared to join the conversation.*
- Using Gibberellin A4/7 for cone induction – Organized by Jeff DeBell  
*This section will provide an overview of using gibberellins(GA) to induce cone crops in conifers. Various speakers will provide technical look at GA use, talk about proper dosing, review recent work in small trees, how to be efficient in application, and other tips orchard managers may want to share.*
- Tree topping in orchards – Organized by Mike Crawford  
*Some orchard managers top their trees routinely, while others avoid the practice. Often the choices reflect the specific conditions at each orchard. This section will include insights from various managers into why they do or do not choose to top, information on cone yields, and advice on efficient approaches to topping.*
- 12:00-1:00     Lunch & Travel to seed orchards
- 1:00-5:00     Tour Sierra Pacific and Longview Timber seed orchards on Whidbey Island – led by Dan Cress & Keith Greenwood  
*Both of these orchards have been undergoing work in recent years. We will see older rogued blocks, newly established blocks, and reworked irrigation systems.*
- 6:30             Dinner at Skagit River Brewery

## Wednesday, June 9

8:00-12:00      Seed insects and their control – Organized by Mike Tucker  
*We will have entomologists familiar with seed orchards talk about insects and their control in seed orchards. Orchard managers will talk about their use of insecticides, and how they decide on timing and rates.*

Seed diseases and seedborne pathogens – Michael Peterson  
*We focus a lot on insect damage in the seed orchard business, but disease problems can affect seed quality and cause problems in nurseries. This section will discuss considerations to minimize these problems in orchard crops.*

Seed orchard management in the Southeastern U.S. – Early McCall & Josh Sherrill  
*Two of our colleagues from the Southeastern U.S. will be joining for the meeting, and they will share information on how Rayonier's southern pine orchards are managed.*

New larch seed orchard for the Blue Mountains– Larry Miller  
*A new cooperative larch orchard is being developed for the Blue Mountains in northeast Oregon and Southeast Washington. Larry Miller will fill us in on how that effort was put together and provide an update on progress.*

12:00              Adjourn and head for home

### Driving directions to WSU Mt. Vernon Research Center, 16650 State Route 536, Mount Vernon, WA:

From Interstate 5, take the Kincaid Street Exit (exit 226).

From the exit ramp, turn west towards Mount Vernon.

Turn right at the first light (Third Street), wrapping around the edge of downtown to SR 536.

Cross the Skagit River Bridge and travel west through West Mount Vernon - 2 miles.

WSU Mount Vernon is on the left (south side of highway), 1/3 mile past the Avon Allen Road intersection. After you have crossed Avon Allen Road, watch carefully for our flag and sign - the parking entrance is very easy to miss!!

### Lodging Information:

No formal arrangements for lodging have been made. However, there are several convenient choices available in Mt. Vernon at exit 227, including:

*Best Western Cotton Tree Inn: 360/428-5678; [www.cottontreeinns.com](http://www.cottontreeinns.com)*

*Quality Inn: 360/428-7020; [www.choicehotels.com](http://www.choicehotels.com)*

*Tulip Inn: 360/428-5969; [www.tulipinn.net](http://www.tulipinn.net)*

### Registration fees:

Participants: \$100

Spouses/Guests (box lunches, field trip and dinner only): \$50

The participant registration fee includes two box lunches, and a field trip and dinner on June 8. Checks should be made payable to Western Forestry and Conservation Association. Purchase orders, VISA, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted. Tax ID # 930-331-712. No refunds for cancellations, but substitutions are always welcome. **Both electronic registration and printable forms available online at [www.westernforestry.org/nwsoma](http://www.westernforestry.org/nwsoma).**

For registration questions, call Michele at 888-722-9416 or 503-226-4562 or [michele@westernforestry.org](mailto:michele@westernforestry.org)

For program questions, contact Jeff DeBell (360/407-7578 or [jeff.debell@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:jeff.debell@dnr.wa.gov)) or Dawn Sleight (503/390-8480 Ext.227 or [Dsleight@odf.state.or.us](mailto:Dsleight@odf.state.or.us)).