

The Mid-Columbia Agriculture Hall of Fame was formed in Year 2000 to recognize and honor distinguished individuals that have made significant contributions to the agricultural community in the Greater Franklin County region and its immediate surrounding areas; although nominees from neighboring counties of Franklin County within a 150-mile radius are often also considered for this prestigious award.

The Pasco Chamber Board has proudly created a Selection Committee comprised of quality individuals representative of our agriculture industry and has chartered them with the honorable task of reviewing all nomination submittals. Induction candidates are selected based on their outstanding performance in the agriculture industry and their bountiful support of the local and rural communities. Candidates are recognized by their peers for not only their dedication, generosity, and selflessness, but also their demonstrated achievements, noteworthy expertise, and creative innovations that often provide a legacy of impactful results and lasting benefit to the overall enhancement of the local agricultural industry and community at large. Farmers, growers, ranchers, and owners/employees of agribusiness firms are all eligible for nomination as either individuals and/or families.

The Ag Hall of Fame inductions will be presented at a special gala January 18, 2024 at the Pasco Red Lion. ***Deadline for Application is November 1, 2023***

Mid-Columbia Agriculture Hall of Fame Intent to Nominate

Nominee's Name Tim Waters

Mailing Address 404 W. Clark Ave., Pasco, WA 99301

Nominee's Phone 509-545-3511 Fax _____ E-Mail twaters@wsu.edu

Date of Birth _____ Birthplace _____

Date of Death (if deceased) NA

Nominator's Name Kerrin Bleazard

Phone 509-542-4785 Fax None E-Mail kbleazard@columbiabasin.edu

Family Contact _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-Mail _____



Tim Waters

Area Extension Educator, Franklin & Benton Co. Commercial Vegetables

Brief Bio of the Nominee

Tim grew up in Burbank, WA. His first introduction to agriculture was working short stints during the summer at his uncle's small hay and cattle farm at the base of Radar Hill near Othello. Tim's uncle also worked for the East Columbia Irrigation District. He spent time as a kid riding around with his uncle grabbing the water ordering cards out of the glass jars near the water gates and weir boxes. At that time Tim was mostly interested in the best spots to find pheasants and waterfowl. What sealed his interest in agriculture was attending graduate school at Washington State University. Tim's advisor, Doug Walsh, took him along on all of his farm visits when growers or crop advisors asked him to come out and look at problems they were having. Tim became interested in figuring out how to solve the growers' problems on these visits and observed how impactful that it could be to remedy pest management problems for them. He decided he wanted to go into an occupation that allowed him to help growers, which led to a career in WSU Extension in Vegetable Research. Tim also found that being an agriculture scientist meant you didn't have to sit behind a desk all the time, and that cemented his career choice. Tim's passion for helping growers through vegetable research in the Columbia Basin has made him into one of the most relied upon experts in the field of vegetable production, especially in Integrated Pest Management in potato and onion production. Tim's 17 years of research, grower talks, volunteering, and helping mentor the next generation of agriculturists has made him a strong candidate for admittance into the Mid-Columbia Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Tim specializes in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) of potato, onion, carrot, dry bean, and other production vegetables in the Columbia Basin. He has worked for WSU since 2002 and been Eastern Washington's regional vegetable specialist since 2006. Tim's areas of interest include pest management in vegetable production, vegetable variety development, alternative cropping systems, and transdisciplinary IPM. Tim received the WSU CAHNRS Faculty Excellence in Extension Award in 2016 and was a member of the team that received the USDA Western Region Excellence in Multistate Research Award in 2018.

Tim has published over 200 articles, raised over 2 million dollars in grant funds for vegetable research in the Columbia Basin, and has given countless talks and presentations at commodity shows and other events. His goal is to help the growers to grow the best potatoes, onions, carrots, and other vegetables in the Columbia Basin by trialing different pesticides, varieties, and growing systems for them. He has worked hard to continue his education and test new technologies to maintain proficiency in his field. On

top of all these accolades, Tim is always ready to help new growers, students, and anyone interested in learning. Tim is a member of the CBC Agriculture Advisory Committee and has been invaluable in developing curriculum for new agriculture degree pathways, and offering expertise in field operations.

Outside of his job, Tim coaches several sports teams, and helps his 4-H club members learn how to care for and show swine at our local fairs. He is actively involved in his community, always ready to help others. His graduate students and student employees speak about Tim in glowing terms, talking about how much they learned from Tim and how much guidance he provided for their research projects. Tim is very deserving of being inducted into the Agriculture Hall of Fame, not only for his contributions to the Vegetable Industry in the Columbia Basin, but also for his impact on graduate students, student employees, and members of the Agriculture community at the local, regional, and national level.

Years of Community and Agricultural Service

Tim Waters has several meetings and organizations he regularly participates in to help inform others in the agriculture industry about his research findings and their applications. He is considered an expert in potato and onion research and actively shares his knowledge with others, being asked to speak at local, state, national, and international conferences. He is active in many organizations and continually strives to improve his knowledge. Tim is also involved as a leader in 4-H, helping his kids and other members of his 4-H club to raise swine to show at local fairs. He is a baseball coach, and can always be counted on to help provide tours and lab experiences to students of all ages. Tim's extensive resume is attached, but I have included some recent highlights below.

- 2018-2022 Faculty Research Advisory Council Member, WSU CAHNRS Ag Research Center
- 2019-present Promotion and Tenure Advisory Committee Chair for Bernardita Sallato C
- 2009-present WSU Columbia Basin Irrigated Ag Communications Team Member.
- 2006-present Pacific Northwest Vegetable Extension Group Member.
- 2019-present Columbia Basin College Agriculture Advisory Committee Member
- 2018-2019 WSU CAHNRS Grant Support Services Task Force Member
- 2016 -2022 W-3008, Onion and IYSV Working Group, Chair 2016, Local Arrangements 2018.
- 2014 -2021 Pacific Northwest Insect Management Conference, President (2014, 2017); Sec.
- 2008-2022 University Adviser and planning committee for the Pacific Northwest Vegetable Associations annual meeting. He attended the monthly planning sessions and serve as co-chair for the carrot and onion sessions of the meeting.
- 2021-2022 WSDA Produce Safety Advisory Committee. Participate in quarterly meetings.
- 2008-2022 Planning Committee for the Washington-Oregon Potato Growers Annual Conference.

PROFESSIONAL & SCHOLARLY ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS

- Entomological Society of America, Pacific Branch
- Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association
- Washington State Potato Growers Association
- Columbia Basin Vegetable Seed Growers Association
- Potato Association of America

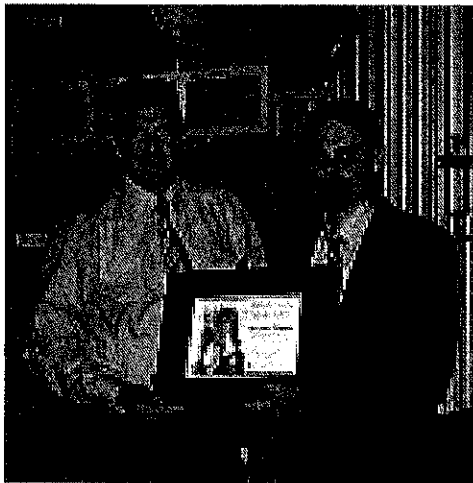
Attachments and Support

Awards

- 2016 CAHNRS Faculty Excellence in Extension Award.
- 2012 CAHNRS Team Excellence Award for the PNW Vegetable Extension Group.
- 2010 Achievement Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.
- 2008 WSU CAHNRS Team Interdisciplinary Award.
- 2007 Team Award for Integrated Pest Management. Pacific Northwest Branch of the Entomological Society.
- 2007 Team Award for Integrated Pest Management. Entomological Society of America.
- 2005 Walter J. Clore Memorial Scholarship, Washington Wine Industry Foundation.
- 2004 Larry Larson Graduate Student Award in Applied Entomology, Entomological Society of America.

CAHNRS 2016 Faculty and Staff Awards

Faculty Excellence in Extension Award



Team's research to protect onions from pests, pathogens wins USDA award

July 27, 2018

By Seth Truscott

<https://news.cahnrs.wsu.edu/article/teams-research-to-protect-onions-from-pests-pathogens-wins-usda-award/>



Researchers evaluate onions at a WSU Onion Cultivar Trial and Storage Evaluation in Pasco, Wash., part of the 5-year project. Bulbs are harvested, stored, and evaluated for storage qualities and disease. With a market value of nearly a billion dollars, onions are the fifth most valuable vegetable produced in the U.S. But some farmers have been abandoning the crop due to losses from pests and disease—meaning fewer onions for consumers and a shrinking industry.

Leading national efforts to save the onion industry from destructive pests and pathogens, a team of researchers and Extension specialists at Washington State University, working in concert with scientists and stakeholders across the country, has received the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Western Region 2018 Excellence in Multi-State Research Award.

The honor recognizes the multi-state team's five-year W-2008 project on management of onion pests and diseases. W-2008 ran from 2012 to 2017.

At WSU, members included Lindsey du Toit, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology; Tim Waters, regional vegetable specialist and director of Franklin County Extension; and Hanu Pappu, distinguished professor and Chuey Endowed Chair in the Department of Plant Pathology; as well as colleagues at Cornell University, the University of Georgia, Pennsylvania State University, Colorado State University, New Mexico State University, Oregon State University, and Utah State University.

Advances save crops

Onions are susceptible to bacteria, fungi, insects and other pests that cause losses in fields and storage. Pesticide use drives up costs to farmers and the environment.

WSU researchers have teamed up with colleagues at land-grant universities across the U.S. to solve these challenges, finding effective ways to manage pests and diseases and identifying onion varieties with better resistances and tolerance. Their advances are transforming how onions are grown around the world, making production more sustainable for farmers and ensuring a stable supply of onions for consumers.

"Farmers are counting on us to deliver solutions to these challenges, and we've made important strides, developing new tools in disease detection, resistance and productivity," said du Toit.

“Protecting our onion crops from increasingly costly outbreaks of disease and pests has been a team effort,” she added. “We could not do it without the support of the USDA, industry, and partner institutions here and around the world. We’re achieving results together, and we thank the USDA for this inspiring award.”

Service to Agriculture Community (a sampling)

- Tim teaches 2 labs per year for CBC on vegetable grading for Hort 203, and on Insect Collection and Scouting methods for BIOL 252.



Teaching Columbia Basin College Students about Potato and Onion Grading.

- Graduate Student Advisor for Jennifer Darner (pictured below) and 10 other students



News Articles (complete list of publications in attached CV)

Onion Business Magazine

<https://onionbusiness.com/new-research-committee-formed-to-serve-wa-and-or/>

New research committee formed to serve WA and OR

April 21, 2016



The newly-organized Columbia Basin Onion Research Committee, which filed for its non-profit status in Washington, will serve that state's onion growers as well as Oregon growers who are not included in other regional assessment-based research committees.

Between growers in Washington and the designated regions of Oregon, some 30,000 acres of onions are planted each season. Washington accounts for 22,000, and Oregon has 8,000. To reach those growers, the new committee sent a letter out about two months ago, announcing the plan to form the research group.

The self-assessing group will operate on a voluntary basis, assessing \$5 per acre for those participating. The fees, due this fall, will be collected and administered by the Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association-PNVA, headed by Sheri Nolan. The source of all funds collected will be kept private.

The non-profit has four principals on record: Larry Bauman from Connell, WA; Lorin Grigg from Quincy, WA; Michael Locati from Walla Walla, WA; and Taryn Hartley from Prosser, WA.

During a trip to Washington recently, OnionBusiness.com met with Dr. Tim Waters, advisor to the group and WSU Area Extension Educator, who will work closely with the committee as it moves forward.

Waters has worked on many onion research projects since his appointment as Area Extension Educator for Franklin & Benton Co. Commercial Vegetables in 2006. He holds a Ph.D. in Entomology from Washington State University and began his extension work after completing his education.

Waters said that onions have become such an important crop to the region's economy that formulating a special non-profit research committee makes good sense for future growth and stability.

"We have been very fortunate to have had growers, seed, chemical and irrigation companies volunteer their resources to build a good research program in the area," he said. "The funds collected through the new voluntary assessment process will allow us pursue larger research projects and tap into matching government funding."

Waters continued, "With the funds collected, the group will identify short-term issues and release RFPs for projects that can address things like pesticide solutions. When we can solve these short-term problems, we are better positioned to access additional federal matching funds to tackle long-term issues and focus on the big picture, like breeding. Ultimately, the goal is to give our growers the tools they need to produce the best crops possible."

Waters also noted that in addition to grower members, support industries will be invited join as associate members. The funds collected this fall will be used to fund research for the 2017 crop, he said.

Capital Press Articles:

https://www.capitalpress.com/state/washington/wsuv-researcher-weighs-sweet-potato-potential/article_a6ed57d7-867a-5c11-a693-8798744bc9ab.html

WSU researcher weighs sweet potato potential

- Matthew Weaver Mar 24, 2014 Updated Dec 13, 2018

Photo of Tim Waters Washington State University Extension vegetable specialist Tim Waters says sweet potatoes like the one being measured here could be a niche crop option for warmer micro-climates in the Columbia Basin, but more research and some modifications would be required.

Sweet potatoes could one day become a niche crop in parts of the Pacific Northwest, a Washington State University researcher says.

Tim Waters, regional vegetable specialist for Washington State University Extension in Franklin County, conducted research into sweet potatoes as a possible crop in the region for several processing companies, which he cannot disclose.

Potato processors in the Columbia Basin hoped to bring more sweet potato production into the region to save on shipping costs.

Waters tested varieties and irrigation needs.

"It's a crop that requires warm soil temperatures," he said. "Warmer micro-climates in the Columbia Basin would be better suited."

Sandy soils serve sweet potatoes best because they heat up sooner and have good drainage, Waters said.

A cool growing season hinders the crop. Soil temperature and moisture are critical for the first 30 days in the ground. If the soil temperature isn't warm, a sweet potato cutting won't start to grow the proper kind of root, Waters said.

"If you don't have those conditions, you're just going to get these big, above-ground, beautiful plants with nothing below them that you can harvest," he said.

Sweet potatoes are a different family and species from the Irish potato. Some equipment is similar, but sweet potatoes seed pieces require more care and hand labor when planting and more heat for storage, Waters said.

Waters is interested in pursuing research further if funding becomes available.

"We've been learning what not to do, which is almost as important as learning what to do sometimes," he said.

Growers in California and Louisiana sort the best sweet potatoes for the fresh market. The ones that aren't near-perfect shapes and sizes are processed, bringing a lower price.

"In order for a grower around here to make good money, they would have to have access to both types of markets," Waters said, noting processors would have to find a way to select for fresh markets.

Waters believes sweet potatoes could be a small-scale niche crop for the region, with its access to processing and transportation infrastructure and export markets.

Plants that can process potatoes could process sweet potatoes with some modifications, he said.

Storage for sweet potatoes would be needed.

Sweet potatoes are grown on relatively few acres, so few herbicides are labeled for their use, Waters said.

He advises growers to try any new crop on a small scale and have a sure market.

https://www.capitalpress.com/ag_sectors/research/researchers-quantify-lygus-bug-impacts-on-potatoes/article_e42b73b6-4224-11ea-8063-2bd98021e2d3.html

Researchers quantify lygus bug impacts on potatoes

- By MATTHEW WEAVER Capital Press Jan 29, 2020

Tim Waters, Washington State University commercial vegetable extension educator, talks about the effects of lygus bugs on potatoes Jan. 23 during the Washington Oregon Potato Conference in Kennewick, Wash.

KENNEWICK, Wash. — Researchers are tallying the cost of lygus bugs to Washington potato farmers to help determine the most efficient way to control the tiny insects.

"We need to know if the economic damage warrants the cost of an insecticide application," said Tim Waters, area educator for vegetables for WSU Extension in Franklin and Benton counties.

The damage appears to be worst later in the season.

"My feeling is, if you let these things go later in the season, you're going to lose some money," Waters said.

"But having them reproduce in your field and grow in number is not a good thing, either," he said.

Waters and other researchers want to quantify the impact lygus bugs have on potato yield and quality. Alfalfa is a primary driver for lygus populations. The insect also likes weeds, which host lygus during the spring.

An economic threshold has been determined for the insect's impact on alfalfa crops, and now researchers want to get similar information for potatoes.

Lygus nymphs look similar to adult lygus, growing wings as they mature, Waters said.

"They overwinter as adults, so right now they're out overwintering in plant debris, cracks in the soil and that kind of thing," Waters said. "We talk a lot about crop diversity in Washington and Oregon, and these things feed on almost every crop that we have."

Lygus cause damage by eating and laying eggs on the plant.

Farmers might see three to six generations of lygus per year.

Aphids and lygus are similar in appearance. Aphids are slow, have two little "tailpipes" called cornicles and live in colonies.

Lygus bugs are fast. "For a little green insect they are quite quick and hard to sometimes capture," he said. They also have five black spots on the back, don't have cornicles and tend to be loners, Waters said.

Lygus species vary according to growing conditions and host crops. WSU researchers collected lygus bugs from 20 fields in 2018 and 15 in 2019.

Some species may be more susceptible to insecticides than others, Waters said.

The researchers compared potato plants that were caged to protect them from lygus, plants that were uncaged and plants that were caged but had lygus bugs introduced at the flowering stage.

Researchers hope to further study the effect lygus feeding has on potatoes, Waters said.

Umatilla potato varieties seem to be most susceptible to damage, Waters said.

Lygus feeding may be a possible cause of "mysterious" leaf damage observed on potato plants in 2017 and 2018, said Kylie Swisher Grimm, potato research scientist at the USDA Agricultural Research Service in Prosser, Wash. Several entomologists are working to verify the theory, she said.

Waters and Swisher Grimm spoke during the Washington-Oregon Potato Conference in Kennewick.

Articles Published in Potato Country Magazine



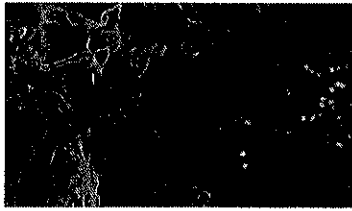
Insect and Weed Control Field Tour

Washington State University will be hosting an insect and weed control field tour on July 20th from 9-4 pm. Participants at the WSU Davenport/Hyattsville Farm in Pomeroy will view experiments...



WSU Provides MH-30 Use and Application Notes

The information was compiled by Corrie White, Washington State University (WSU) Extension, with input from Tim Waters, WSU Extension, and Mark Pank, WSU Extension. We have been getting a lot...



Potatoes and Heat Stress

WHAT HEAT STRESS? Plants can be reasonably good at acclimating to the high temperatures that are common for the Columbia Basin in the summer. It is the sudden spikes in temperature...



Online Meeting 8/13: Reducing COVID-19 Spread Among Employees

The Washington State Potato Commission and WSU Extension will host a discussion to Zoom for growers to address ways to minimize COVID-19 spread among workers during potato harvest, packing, and other...



Best Practices

Story and photos by Devin Keller, Extension. When does lightly mulched matter matter? What conditions make the most sense? In creating a plan to improve potato production practices, Washington...



Columbia Basin Mystery Disease: Studies on the Recent Mysterious Foliar Damage in Columbia Basin Potato Plants

By Julie H. Dinkler-Graham, USDA-ARS, Temperate Tree Crops and Vegetable Research Unit, The National Washington State University Corrie White, Washington State University. In 2017 and 2018, growers like...



Recent Pacific NW Ag Network Articles

<https://pnwag.net/tags/tim-waters/>



2/27/2020

Waters Anticipates Cold Winter Will Benefit Area Row Crop Growers

With a not a record-breaking winter, temperatures have been below normal over the past couple of months for many locations across the PNW. That, said Washington State University's Dr. Tim Waters, is good news, especially for row crop growers. No not...



2/27/2020

Waters: Despite Cool Temperatures Growers Need To Watch For Pests

With the cool, wet weather of the spring, plant growth for many crops has been slowed considerably. One that does not mean pest activity has slowed as well. Washington State University's Dr. Tim Waters and the slower growth rates allows pests and diseases to out compete the crop...



2/27/2020

Will 2021's Heat Impact 2022's Pest Pressures?

As the Pacific Northwest gears up for another growing season, many here wonder what, if any impact the extreme heat of 2021 will have on the year ahead. Washington State University's Dr. Tim Waters said there was no doubt last year's heat, which saw temperatures into the high 110s had on...



2/27/2020

Waters Is Hopeful Cold Temperatures Will Help Farmers This Growing Season

The cold temperatures the Pacific Northwest saw to ring in the New Year may help farmers later this growing season. Washington State University's Dr. Tim Waters says while those high temperatures will do little to the insect and disease population, the temps will disrupt where many of them...



2/27/2020

WSU Potato Field Day Set For June 24th

As the farming community continues the slow trek toward normalcy, the row crop sector will take a noticeable step Thursday June 24th, as Washington State University hosts their Potato Field Day in Onalla. WSU's Dr. Tim Waters said this year's Field Day will not be like those from the...



2/27/2020

Waters: Veggie Growers Must Continue Active Scouting

Thanks to cooler temperatures, the disease pressure on vegetable growers across the Inland Northwest has been relatively light. But growers are reminded to continue to scout. Dr. Tim Waters with Washington State University said typically the time of year potato growers need to worry...



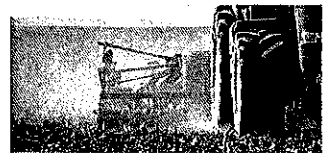
HOME | CROPS AND COMMODITIES | COMMUNITIES | ECONOMY AND TRADE | FARMERS



2/27/2020

Corn Growers Warned To Watch For Yellow Nutsedge

Dr. Tim Waters with Washington State University Extension is warning row crop growers to be on the lookout for Yellow Nutsedge this season. He noted they've already seen a lot of this difficult weed across the Columbia Basin. One of the places in the rotation where you can do a better job of...



2/27/2020

Waters: Potato Growers Need To Watch For Volunteer Potatoes, Colorado Potato Beetle

With temperatures warming and more and more producers getting out into the field, it's important potato growers are mindful of disease pressures that could come down the road. Washington State University Extension's Dr. Tim Waters said one of the main concerns this season will be the...



YouTube Videos

Washington Grown: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=YcPFSJR0j6s>



Tim Waters WSU Extension | Pasco, WA | Washington Grown



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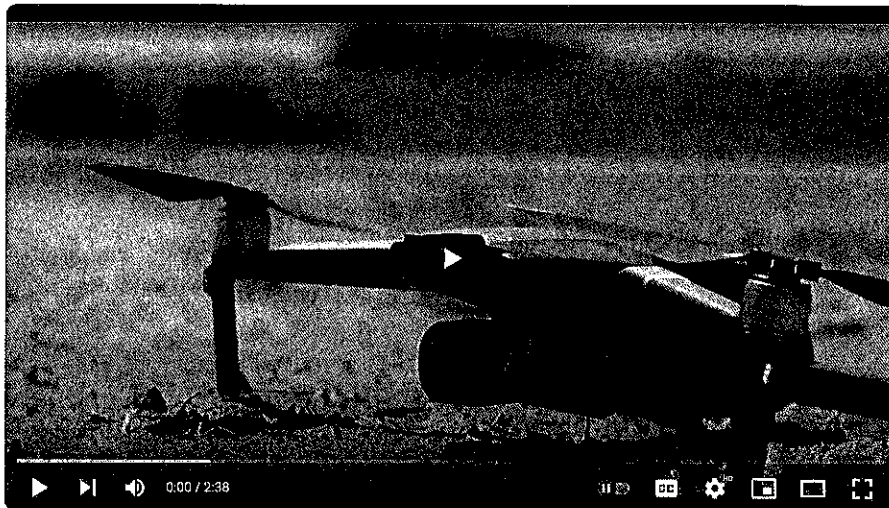


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Clip



Washington Grown: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOA_DpAuJe4



Technology Helps Farmers with Pest Control | Washington Grown



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Clip



454 views Apr 21, 2021 #Spokane #SeattleFoodie #WashingtonState

Potato farmers in Washington do a great job growing the best potatoes in the world! But they also face many challenges like pests and fungus. That's why researchers, like Tim Waters with WSU Extension, are using cutting-edge technology to work with farmers!