

NW Small Fruit Notes

NORTHWEST CENTER FOR SMALL FRUITS RESEARCH



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A Consortium of Idaho, Washington and Oregon Ag Experiment Stations, USDA-ARS, and the Small Fruits Industry

Announcing the **The Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research 2012 Annual Conference in Kennewick**

Red Lion Hotel Columbia Center, Kennewick, Washington

**Main Conference Day - Thursday, Nov. 29
Committee Meetings - Friday, Nov. 30**

It's time once again to come together for the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research Annual Conference. Along with our regular program, this year we will be adding a session to discuss the current state of our research grant program and what's in store for the future.

Funding Update: With the moratorium on earmarks still in effect, the Center's funding for research grants continues to be significantly reduced. However, there may be light at the end of the tunnel. The Liaison Committee made their annual trip in March to Washington, DC to discuss their concerns with both Congress and the USDA and to look for other funding opportunities. One avenue that has been explored is the 2012 Farm Bill. The Liaison Committee was able to work with the offices of Representatives Walden and Schrader to include language in the House version of the Farm Bill that could open some exciting opportunities for the Center to be able to access funding in existing competitive research or extension programs. This could potentially provide a significant and stable funding stream for the Center. We would like to discuss the details with you at the conference.

Registration: In addition to the reduction in funding for our research grants, funds for the administration of the Center (maintaining an office, coordinating meetings and conferences, RFP, peer review, etc.) have been eliminated because they were part of the Center's terminated federal earmark. As a result we have found it necessary to increase the cost of the conference registration to cover the expenses of organizing this event. Coordination of the annual trips to DC continue to be funded through the PNW small fruits commodity commissions.

[Link to Draft Schedule](#)

Annual Conference in Kennewick

**RED LION HOTEL
COLUMBIA CENTER**



[Link to Conference Webpage](#)

1) Registration

If you know you're coming, please feel free to fax, mail or email us your registration form. Your registration fee can arrive separately.

[Registration Form - Fill out using MSWord](#)
[Registration Form - Print and fill out by hand](#)

2) Hotel Accommodations

Red Lion Hotel Columbia Center (see info to the right)

3) Main Conference Day

- Final Reports on Funded Projects
- Update on Research Grant Options through ARS and Farm Bill
- Poster Session for Funded Research
- Commodity Priority Review/Setting
- Wine Tasting/Reception
- Dinner & Evening Presentation

Attendees of the NCSFR Annual Conference will have the opportunity to hear research reports and view poster presentations from five disciplines including genetics, berry & grape processing, wine processing, production/physiology, and pest management; network with science and industry partners; and help set research priorities for the Center, which will be used for competitive research grant considerations next year.

4) Research Priorities - Commodity Groups

During the Annual Conference, time is set aside to revisit the research priorities. Please review them within your commodity groups prior to the conference and come prepared for discussion. To ensure balanced outcomes, we strongly encourage small fruit industry members to attend and participate in these research priority discussions. You can find copies of the most recent priorities at this [link](#).

5) Committee Meetings (After the Conference)

- Stakeholder Council
- Liaison Committee
- Coordinating Committee



RED LION
HOTELS

[Website](#)

N 1101 Columbia Center Blvd., Kennewick

We have a block of rooms with singles and doubles for \$89.95.

Call 509-783-0611 and let them know you are with the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research.

Deadline for reservation block is Wednesday, October 31.



Call for Washington Wines

Every year the NCSFR Annual Conference holds a wine tasting/reception in the evening. As is the tradition, the winemakers of the hosting state provide the wine for the event. So, we are putting out a formal request to the Washington wineries to please let us know if you can bring some of your latest and greatest vintages to share with our members. A mix of reds and whites would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Tel: 541-758-4043
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