

Washington

Committee updates wine research priorities

By DAN WHEAT
Capital Press

YAKIMA, Wash. — A research project shows wine grape quality doesn't suffer when vineyards are pruned and thinned mechanically, but another year is needed to determine the effects on the wine that is produced.

The project is related to research priorities recently updated by the Washington State Wine Commission's research advisory committee.

"A lot of growers use a mechanized pre-pruner that knocks off the big stuff and use hand crews to clean things up," said Melissa Hansen, the commission's research program manager.

The test is no hand touch at all, and so far there's no difference in grape or juice composition from total mechanization, she said.

While vineyards producing grapes for the most premium wines can afford hand labor, this shows promise for mid-



Dan Wheat/Capital Press

Wine grape harvest last September at Milbrandt Vineyards' Clifton Hill Vineyard near Mattawa, Wash., where mechanized harvesters have long been used. Researchers are looking at the effects of mechanized pruning and thinning on grapes and the wine they produce.

tier wine producers turning to greater mechanization as hand labor becomes higher-priced and harder to find, Hansen said.

The updated priority list, released July 21, includes a range of issues challenging the wine industry, including improving the efficiency of vineyard water use and working toward improving wine quality through fermentation

management in the winery.

The committee used the results of an industry-wide survey to update the priorities which are categorized: fermentation management, aroma and flavor compounds, winery waste, viticulture production efficiency and profitability, pest control, climate impacts on site and viticulture, mechanization options, and emerging issues.

The survey was conducted in April. More than 150 respondents ranked research topics and provided research suggestions.

"The priorities help researchers submit relevant proposals that address the needs of industry," Hansen said, adding the annual exercise helps ensure emerging issues are not overlooked.

Wheat growers say falling number funding request progressing

By MATTHEW WEAVER
Capital Press

Washington wheat farmers' request for money for research on falling number problems is progressing in Washington, D.C., the state association executive director says.

Washington Association of Wheat Growers representatives traveled to Washington, D.C., the week of July 17 to meet with legislators and representatives of USDA's Agricultural Research Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Risk Management Agency and the Department of the Interior.

"It was probably one of the best trips that I've been on for advocacy," said Michelle Hennings, executive director of WAWG.

The wheat growers' appropriations request for \$1 million from USDA ARS to study the accuracy of the falling number test survived House and Senate agriculture committee markups, but still must go through other steps in the budget process.

"This is a big win for wheat," Hennings said. "We just need to keep advocating. We are being heard but that doesn't mean we shouldn't keep going over there."

WAWG's request for \$2 million in National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Agriculture and Food Research Initiative grants to study quality loss in soft white wheat went through House appropriations. The request is advancing, Hennings said.

Washington State Department of Agriculture Director Derek Sandison also attended WAWG's meetings, advocating for funding to conduct falling number research.

Hennings said she hasn't heard any instances of fall-

ing number problems this year, but it's still early in the harvest season.

"We're crossing our fingers that hopefully this year farmers will not have to deal with that devastating factor," she said.

WAWG emphasized trade, crop insurance, research and conservation during meetings with decision makers.

The organization met with Ray Starling, special assistant to President Donald Trump for agriculture, trade and food assistance.

Sarling told WAWG members that the Trump administration understands trade for agriculture, Hennings said.

Washington State University President Kirk Schulz attended the meeting, Hennings said.

"It shows (decision makers) how much we use WSU for our research and how important these funds are so they can help us prevent wheat quality issues," Hennings said.

WAWG is inviting Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer to visit the Pacific Northwest in the fall. Hennings hopes to convey the importance of the various wheat varieties grown and of the region's port system for shipping grain overseas and to the Midwest.

WAWG will next go to Washington, D.C., in September with National Association of Wheat Growers representatives. Hennings said the organization intends to be in D.C. "quite often," speaking with legislators about farm bill priorities.

"This is a very important time for us to get our message out," she said. "We've been there with good timing, and I think that has made a big difference."

Third-party damage exempted from growers' production history

Changes begin with 2017 crop year

By MATTHEW WEAVER
Capital Press

SPOKANE VALLEY, Wash. — Growers with crop insurance will no longer be penalized for damage to their crop caused by someone else.

The USDA Risk Management Agency is now offering third-party damage and fire exemptions — under certain criteria — for events such as chemical drift caused by a neighbor or a fire caused by a cigarette tossed out the window of a passing car.

"They're all to some extent unavoidable and they're also uninsured," said Ben Thiel, director of the USDA Risk Management Agency office in Spokane Valley, Wash. "They sustained damage, it's not insurable, there's no indemnity for these types of damages."

In the past, the damage went on a farmer's production history report, which is used to establish crop insurance coverage.

Farmers can now report their production as always, but exclude the acres affected by third-party damage, said Rick Williams, senior risk management specialist.

Such situations are fairly rare, Thiel said, but "for those affected, it's a huge deal."

Pacific Northwest grower associations requested the change, Thiel said.

"There's a lot of things

the farmer is dealing with, psychologically and emotionally and financially," Thiel said. "To have just one more thing being piled onto it — 'Here I'm getting penalized for something that's

no fault of my own.'"

The farmer is responsible for reporting and providing information about a loss in a timely manner to the crop insurance agent. The changes start with the 2017 crop

year, Thiel said.

The program works for any crop under crop insurance nationwide, Thiel said. The agency is educating crop insurance companies about the changes.

SUMMER SAVINGS

12 month waiver -OR- 3 years at 1.9% -OR- 5 years at 2.9%

All financing on approved credit. See dealer for list of qualifying units for financing specials.

TRACTORS	TRACTORS	TRACTORS
<p>JD 8270R, 2014, 829 hours, premium cab, IVT, MFWD, 5 remotes, A/T ready, 800-38 duals, 600-30 frt tires..... \$240,000 McMinnville 91340</p>	<p>JD 8320R, 2015, 851 hours, premium cab, IVT, ILS, A/T ready, 5 remotes, Hi Flow, 620-46 duals, 480-34 frt duals..... \$283,000 Salem FD101279</p>	<p>JD 7230R, 2010, 3022 hours, premium cab, PS trans., TLS axle, front 3pt and PTO, 4 remotes, 710-38 singles..... \$142,000 Donald AC000101</p>
<p>JD 5075E, 2016, 183 hours, ROPS, MFWD, 9x3 trans., 25CV's, JD H240 NSL loader, 16.9-28 tires..... \$42,500 Hillsboro GG100418</p>	<p>JD 7230, 2011, 4822 hours, premium cab, IVT, MFWD, mid valve for loader, 2 remotes, 480-42 singles \$74,000 Walla Walla 27614</p>	<p>Challenger MT595B, 2008, 1900 hours, susp. cab, susp. MFWD, CVT, 4 remotes, 480-46 singles, 380-34 frt singles..... \$89,000 Madras T079072</p>
<p>JD 9360R, 2013, 596 hours, premium cab, PS trans., 4 remotes, bareback 520-42 duals, front weights \$211,200 Madras DP008265</p>	<p>JD 8370R, 2015, 1056 hours, premium cab, ILS, IVT, full auto track, rear 620-46 duals, front 480-34 duals, all new..... \$295,000 Walla Walla FD101233</p>	<p>Case IH 290, 2011, 2714 hours, deluxe cab, MFWD, PS trans., 5 remotes, 380-54 rear duals, 380-34 frt duals..... \$124,900 Walla Walla BRD02229</p>
<p>JD 8530, 2006, 9856 hours, premium cab, IVS, ILS, 4 remotes, 480-46 rear duals, 380-34 frt duals..... \$88,500 McMinnville DD001850</p>	<p>Case IH 195, 2009, 5740 hours, deluxe cab, MFWD, PS trans., 3 remotes, 480-42 rear duals, 380-30 frt tires..... \$69,500 Fall River Mills ABH40541</p>	<p>JD 9420, 2003, 5284 hours, premium cab, PS trans., 4 remotes, bareback, 800-38 duals, front weights..... \$115,000 Tangent OP011006</p>
HAY EQUIPMENT	HAY EQUIPMENT	HAY EQUIPMENT
<p>NH BB960 baler, 2001, 3x4' bales, double tie knotter, single axle..... \$25,000 Madras 74180048</p>	<p>JD L340 baler, 2014, 3x4' bales, tandem axles, roller chute, auto lube, 15,000 bales, acid system..... \$125,000 Madras FF410222</p>	<p>MF 2170 baler, 2008, 3x4' bales, single axle, hay boss kit, roller chute..... \$67,000 Merrill HT74465</p>
<p>MF 2270XD baler, 2015, 3x4' LSB, single axle, roller chute, auto controls, knotter fan..... \$115,000 Harrisburg FHB07228</p>	<p>MF 2170 baler, 2012, low bale count, single axle, roller chute \$85,000 Madras CHB04296</p>	<p>MF 2170 baler, 2009, 3x4' bales, single axle, roller chute, double knotter, 50,000 bales..... \$51,000 McMinnville HU74242</p>
WINDROWERS	WINDROWERS	WINDROWERS
<p>MacDon 9352 windrower, 2001, 3914 hours, cab, hydrostatic, 972 14.5" draper platform, button tires..... \$24,500 Tangent 142662-01</p>	<p>JD 4995, 2007, 2553 hours, cab, hydrostatic, 16' JD 995 platform, steel conditioner..... \$64,900 Madras 5X330695</p>	<p>MF 260, 2015, 320 hours, cab, hydrostatic, 16' rotary platform, rubber conditioning rolls. \$118,000 Fall River Mills YFG675493</p>
<p>NH H8040, 2008, 3578 hours, cab, hydrostatic, 14' sickle bar platform, rubber roller conditioner..... \$39,900 Merrill 7G660270</p>	<p>JD 5670, 2014, 464 hours, small grain, A/T ready, Pro Drive, JD 615P belt pickup platform..... \$290,400 Merrill 765545</p>	<p>JD 1670, 2009, 1148 hours, small grain, conventional separator, grass seed combine..... \$178,000 Donald OA084501</p>
COMBINES	COMBINES	COMBINES
<p>MF 8780XP combine, 2000, 2470 hours, small grain, Hillco Leveler, rotary, 25' cutting platform, chaff spreader, duals..... \$55,000 Walla Walla OMJ87146</p>	<p>JD 5680, 2012, 664 hours, small grain, 35% Rahco leveler, 635F platform and cart., A/T ready..... \$347,600 Walla Walla 747035</p>	<p>JD 5680, 2013, 1002 hours, small grain, 35% Rahco leveler, no platform..... \$360,400 Colfax 755718</p>
<p>JD 9600, 1995, 4821 hours, small grain, grass seed combine, 914W BPU, platform, straw chopper. \$42,500 Tangent OX665740</p>	<p>JD 5680, 2013, 881 hours, small grain, 35% Rahco Leveler, 635F platform and cart., A/T ready..... \$388,700 Four Lakes 755668</p>	

HONORED

to be a part of the communities we serve

EO Media Group newspapers are proud to have won 18 first-place awards at this year's Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association Summer Convention

We would like to thank the readers and businesses in each of the communities that we serve for their loyalty and support

- **The East Oregonian** won General Excellence for the sixth time in the past seven years
- **The Daily Astorian** won Best Overall Website and placed second in General Excellence
- **Capital Press** won the Sweepstakes award as best associate member publication

East Oregonian
EastOregonian.com

The Daily Astorian
DailyAstorian.com

Capital Press
CapitalPress.com

Hermiston Herald
HermistonHerald.com

Blue Mountain Eagle
MyEagleNews.com

Wallowa County Chieftain
Wallowa.com

Chinook Observer
ChinookObserver.com

Oregon Coast TODAY
OregonCoastToday.com

Seaside Signal
SeasideSignal.com

Cannon Beach Gazette
CannonBeachGazette.com

Coast River Business Journal
crbjournal.com

Our Coast Magazine
DiscoverOurCoast.com

19 Ag & Turf locations in Oregon, Washington, Idaho & Northern California.

541-681-5363 papemachinery.com

Papé Machinery is a proud partner with A&I products and offer aftermarket parts for all makes and models of agriculture equipment.

30-2/#13