



Sierra Dawn McClain/Capital Press File

Washington state has proposed new rules for farms and ranches with livestock.

## Washington farms fret over Ecology's potential to regulate

By DON JENKINS  
Capital Press

Washington farm groups and some Republican legislators continue to push for written guarantees that the state Department of Ecology won't force small farms to have CAFO permits.

Ecology is revising the permit and says it remains focused on regulating large farms that let manure reach water. Only 24 livestock operations in the state have CAFO permits.

Nevertheless, Ecology proposes to require any livestock operation, no matter how small, to get a permit if the department judges it a "significant contributor of pollutants."

Ecology has that power now and has used it once. The potential to regulate any farm has raised concerns that were absent when Ecology revised the permit more than five years ago.

Distrust in expanding government authority underlies the new concerns, said John Stuhlmiller, ex-CEO of the Washington Farm Bureau, who recently submitted comments to Ecology on behalf of Farm Bureau chapters as a consultant.

"We've seen other agencies do things we never believed they would," he said.

A CAFO — concentrated animal feeding operation — confines and feeds livestock for at least 45 days a year. If a large CAFO releases pollutants into water, it must get a permit and follow rules to prevent another discharge.

Ecology gives small farms, such as dairies with fewer than 200 mature cows or a poultry farm with fewer than 9,000 chickens, more leeway, but can still require a permit if the department decides the discharges are too much or too frequent.

Environmental groups, hostile to dairies, continually push for stricter rules on what they call "factory farms." The Washington State Dairy Federation pushes back on behalf of commercial dairies.

When Ecology recently solicited public comments on a new CAFO permit, many

small farms and ranches said they were worried about getting caught up in the battle.

Since Ecology can designate any farm a significant contributor of pollutants, it could crush small ones with fees, expensive rules and potential fines, according to the comments.

Five Republican senators asked Ecology to "clarify who is responsible to comply with this permit in order to prevent subjective enforcement actions."

"We were very pleased at the number of comments and the passion," said Mark Herke, president of the Farm Bureau chapter in Yakima and Klickitat counties.

"People are a lot more engaged than five years ago," he said. "Ecology will say, 'Oh, you don't have anything to worry about.' Well, then don't leave this hair-trigger over our heads."

An Ecology spokeswoman pointed to a statement on the department's website. According to the statement, CAFO permits are for farms with a large number of animals.

"If we see a manure problem (at a smaller farm), we will refer you to our local partners, such as conservation districts, to advise you on how to protect water quality," Ecology states.

Stuhlmiller said Ecology could ease some concerns by writing such assurances into the permit.

"It doesn't say that," Stuhlmiller said. "Ecology's authority needs to be constrained by rigorous legal protections for landowners, and we don't see that."

Farm Bureau chapters in Benton, Grant, Klickitat, Okanogan, Thurston and Yakima counties signed comments from Stuhlmiller to Ecology asking the department to exclude small farms or at least further define what makes a small farm a significant polluter.

Okanogan County Farm Bureau President Dick Ewing said he's concerned the CAFO regulations will become a tool to cut greenhouse gases by reducing livestock agriculture.

# Onion trials boosted by ample water at OSU Malheur station

By BRAD CARLSON  
Capital Press

ONTARIO, Ore. — Brandon Leon liked what he saw on the Oregon State University onion research plots — and during the hour's drive from Boise.

"I see water everywhere," he said, referring to Treasure Valley irrigation canals visible from Interstate 84.

In contrast, California's onion growers are impacted by that state's tight supply of water, said Leon, based in Tipton, Calif., with seed company Hazera.

The water supply to the southeastern Oregon-southwestern Idaho crop was unexpectedly good following an unusually wet spring. The region supplies about a quarter of the country's fall storage onions.

But the crop faced its share of challenges such as early cold, high winds that forced some replanting and a quick transition from cold to hot. The number of 100-degree days broke the 2003 record.

"It has been stressful on the onions," Erik Feibert, a senior faculty research



Brad Carlson/Capital Press

**Mike Hansen of Sakata Seed America, OSU Malheur Experiment Station's Kyle Wieland and Erik Feibert talk Aug. 24 at the onion variety day..**

assistant at OSU's Malheur Experiment Station, said at the annual Onion Variety Day Aug. 24.

Kyle Wieland, farm manager at OSU-Malheur, said this year had more hot nights than usual, giving onions less of a reprieve from the hot days.

Feibert said this year has been good for putting varieties to the test. Some have shorter or longer maturation periods. Harvest technique, bulb size and color, and market usage also vary.

Brad Watson, production manager with J.C. Watson Co. in nearby Parma, Idaho, said he looks for onion qual-

ities including shape, size, consistency and disease resistance.

He said the selection of desired characteristics increased in recent years, and "not everybody wants the same thing."

Wieland said benchmark, highest-quality plants and bulbs often are found at field's edge, where competition comes from one side only.

Feibert said the control of thrips, a major insect pest for onions, has been effective this year. Factors include fine-tuned chemical mixtures, and optimizing how and when they are applied.

Stuart Reitz, who directs the experiment station, said this is the third year a tall tractor sprayer has been used. It allows precise insecticide and fungicide applications through the season.

Previously, staff could only do a couple of sprays. Subsequent applications were done by aircraft, which "on our little field were never effective," he said. The new sprayer "really helps out."

Reitz said the field day showcased 58 varieties.

Growing-degree days, or heat units, are ahead of the 30-year average by a few days but remain behind 2021, he said. Prolonged high heat arrived about a month early last year.

Onion plants do not grow well in temperatures below 50 or above 86 degrees, Reitz said.

Leon said all of a season's variables will influence onions' growth and quality.

Lyndon Johnson of Caldwell, Idaho, seed producer Crookham Co. said that while the number of big bulbs likely will fall below long-term averages in the region, "the quality is there."

# USAID purchases \$68M of Ukraine wheat

By MATTHEW WEAVER  
Capital Press

The U.S. will provide more than \$68 million to the United Nations World Food Program to purchase, move and store up to 150,000 metric tons of Ukrainian wheat to help respond to the food crisis gripping parts of Africa.

Speaking on background, a U.S. Agency for International Development spokesperson said the purchase does not replace any purchases from U.S. farmers.

"By purchasing food in countries closer to those in greatest need, USAID is making the best possible use of taxpayer dollars by ensuring shipping costs are lower," the spokesperson said. "In addition, grain procured in Ukraine can more quickly reach the areas in need given proximity and shorter transport routes."

Twenty million tons of grain in Ukraine's Black Sea ports are ready to go, and they have been stuck there due to Russia's blockade of the Black Sea, the spokesperson said.

"In order to save lives, humanitarians need access to all available grain stores to deliver to the populations that need it most," the spokesperson said. "As we hope Putin will continue to uphold his end of the deal and let the grains out, we are working in partnership with the Ukrainians to explore all options to help more grains get onto the market."

The 150,000 metric tons of grain will move in a series of shipments in the coming weeks from Black Sea ports. The first humanitarian shipment of 23,000 metric tons of Ukrainian grain out of the Black Sea was Aug. 16. It will be distributed as part of emergency food rations by the end of the year.

The purchase likely won't have



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**Grain silos in the port of Odesa, Ukraine. Ukraine and Russia have resumed grain shipments.**

much impact on the global market, Northwest market analysts said.

"I think it's more just (public relations) than anything," said Byron Behne, senior merchant at Northwest Grain Growers in Walla Walla, Wash. "This is just another way of giving (Ukraine) some money, it just looks a little better than a pure giveaway of money. I don't know that it's all that different in the end."

U.S. wheat farmers might question the use of taxpayer funds to buy Ukrainian wheat for donation, said Dan Steiner, grains merchant for Morrow County Grain Growers in Oregon, but Russia and Ukraine have a logistical freight advantage over the U.S.

The U.S. wheat industry needs demand, Steiner said. Ideally, about 15 million bushels to 16 million bushels need to be exported from the U.S. per week.

"We're already behind. ... We need something other than the traditional core business," he said. "Right now we think the price is low enough, we should be making some sales. On a world level, we're still too high."

In April, USAID and USDA

announced a rare full drawdown of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust (BEHT), \$282 million, as part of a \$670 million effort to purchase U.S. wheat and other American food commodities as food aid. USDA provided \$388 million in additional funding through the Commodity Credit Corporation to cover ocean freight transportation, inland transport, internal transport, shipping and handling, and other associated costs.

Recent purchases by the CCC of U.S. white wheat for donation are expected to be a big part of demand for the fall, Behne said.

The U.S. has provided nearly \$7.6 billion in assistance to respond to the global food security crisis since the beginning of Russia's war against Ukraine.

"We will continue to work to meet the needs of the people made even more vulnerable due to Russia's war against Ukraine," a USAID press release states. "U.S. grown commodities play an important role in meeting global grain needs and will continue to be a critical component of U.S. food assistance programs around the world," the USAID spokeswoman said.

### LEGAL PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 09/12/2022. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

COPART OF WASHINGTON INC  
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2008 TOYT TUNDRA PK  
VIN = 5TFDV54168X067188  
Amount due on lien \$1415.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
MARTIN MACIEL HERRERA

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2019 CHEV EXP VN  
VIN = 1GCWVGAFG1K1242275  
Amount due on lien \$1415.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
LAI TRUST  
WILMINGTON TRUST CO

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC  
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2012 TOYT HIGH LL  
VIN = 5TDBK3EHZCS129250  
Amount due on lien \$1435.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
TRUDY JO PING  
UNITUS COMMUNITY C.U

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2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2015 HYUNDAI SON 4D  
VIN = 5NPE24AF7FH005556  
Amount due on lien \$1515.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
CHRISTIAN TY PHILLIPS  
PACIFIC NW FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

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2016 JEEP PAT 4W  
VIN = 1C4NJPB7GD634555  
Amount due on lien \$1515.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
JOANNA TAYLOR & NANCY HEPFNER  
CHRYSLER CAPITAL

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2018 NISSAN MUR 4D  
VIN = 5N1AZ2MH2JN158992  
Amount due on lien \$1515.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
ERIC STOCKTON LOYER  
OREGON COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

### PUBLIC LIEN SALE U-STORE SELF STORAGE

Auction Starts Sept. 13, 2022  
storageauctions.com  
Ends Friday, Sept. 23, 2022 10am

1668 Industrial Way SW  
Albany, Oregon  
Nathaniel Allen, H021; Katrina Briones, A008; John Henry Crawford, J050; Amber Dermates, E005; Nathan Downey, J049; Alyssa Duran, H031; Insight Technology, H034; Meka Tompkins, G035

1501 Hawthorne Ave NE  
Salem, Oregon  
Sarah Beskow, 1G02; Kristen Blyeth, 2C03; Daniel Denton, RD07; Maksim Dvorskiy, Y1-4; James Garcia, 1F21;

Brian Ireland, 1C34; Randall Jordan, 2A77; Vermita M Knell, 2B69; Cailah Lloyd, 2D52; Marcia Lopez-Orejuel, 1B05; Sarah Richel, 2D56; Alex Rivera, 1I02; Ricardo Jose Ruiz, 2D18 2D21; Dara Schafer, RC05 RC06; Heidi Shipp, 1C13; Ashley Smaw, 1F35; Megan Sterling, 2A40; Troy Vancator, Y4-5; Lori Wells, 2C38; Kristine Westling, 2A16; St Jon Wilson, 1A01 5281706-1

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2017 MERZ CLA250 4D  
VIN = WDDSJ4GB5HN491853  
Amount due on lien \$1695.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
PRESTON SCOTT LUOTO  
OREGON COMMUNITY C.U

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2014 JEEP CHEROKEE UT  
VIN = 1C4RJFCG4EC182436  
Amount due on lien \$1435.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
VICTORIE SUE KNIGHT

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC  
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2011 NISSAN LEAF 4D VIN = JN1AZ0CP5BT000616  
Amount due on lien \$1435.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
LORINDA DUNNING

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2015 TOYT RAV LL  
VIN = JTMRFREV8FD146324  
Amount due on lien \$1435.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
JULIO A ZEPEDA DE LA TORRE  
OREGON COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

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2017 FORD ECP LL  
VIN = 1FMCUG0D3HUA68965  
Amount due on lien \$1415.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
LINDA & MARK NYE

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC  
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2017 SUBARU FOR UT  
VIN = JFJSJABC0HH419872  
Amount due on lien \$1555.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
SWICKARD HONDA

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC  
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2015 POLS RZR  
VIN = 4XAVDK999FB316718  
Amount due on lien \$1695.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
COPART

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC  
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2018 TOYT PRI 4D  
VIN = JTDKARFU2J3068465  
Amount due on lien \$1675.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
CAROLYN J & BOB STEWART  
TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORP

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC  
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2016 VOLK GTI 4D  
VIN = 3WV4T7AUXGM108030  
Amount due on lien \$1675.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
KATRINA R & JACOB L EMERSON  
OREGON COMMUNITY C.U

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2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR  
2017 HOND ACC 4D  
VIN = 1HGCR2F15HA151857  
Amount due on lien \$1695.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
GRANT EVERETT HOLLEN  
AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE CORP