

Forget kale, Oregon scientists patent bacon-flavored seaweed

The Associated Press

PORTLAND — What grows quickly, is packed with protein, has twice the nutritional value of kale and tastes like bacon?

The answer, according to scientists at Oregon State University, is a new strain of seaweed they recently patented.

Dulse is a form of edible seaweed that grows wild along the Pacific and Atlantic coastlines. It's harvested and commonly used by people in dried form as a cooking ingredient or nutritional supplement.

But OSU researchers say the variety they've developed can be farmed and eaten fresh, with the potential for a new industry for Oregon.

Scientists have been trying to develop a new strain of the seaweed for more than 15 years. Their original goal was to create a super food for commercially grown abalone, a mollusk prized in Asia.

The strain of dulse they came up with, which looks like translucent red lettuce, is a great source of minerals, vitamins and antioxidants, not to mention protein. The abalone grew exceedingly quick-



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Chris Langdon has been growing and studying dulse at Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport Oregon for decades and is now working with the Food Innovation Center in Portland on creating healthy and appealing dishes.

ly when fed the dulse and an abalone operation in Hawaii is now using the seaweed on a commercial scale.

But after a product development team at OSU's Food Innovation Center created new foods with the dulse, researchers began to think humans might benefit a lot more.

Among the most promising

foods created were a dulse-based rice cracker and salad dressing. And bacon-tasting strips, which are fried like regular bacon to bring out the flavor.

The research team received a grant from the Oregon Department of Agriculture to explore dulse as a "specialty crop" — the first time sea-

weed had made the list, officials said. The team brought on a culinary research chef to further refine recipes and products.

Several Portland-area chefs are now testing the sea "vegetable" in its raw or cooked form. And MBA students at OSU are preparing a marketing plan for a new line



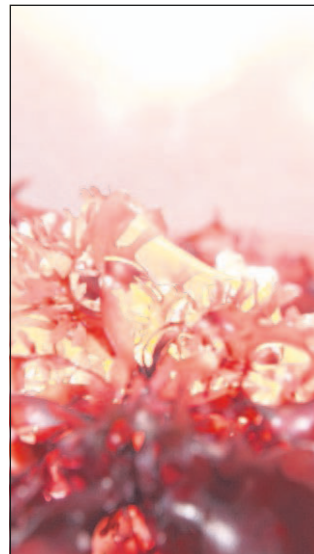
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Dulse prepared in a dish.

of dulse-based specialty foods and exploring the potential for a new aquaculture industry.

There are no commercial operations that grow dulse for human consumption in the U.S. and chefs say fresh, high-quality seaweed is hard to come by.

"The dulse grows using a water recirculation system," said OSU researcher Chris Langdon, who developed the strain. "Theoretically, you could create an industry in eastern Oregon almost as easily as you could along the coast with a bit of supplementation. You just need a modest amount of seawater and some sunshine."



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Dulse in its seaweed form.

Timber harvest tops 4 billion board feet

The Associated Press

PORTLAND — Oregon's timber harvest decreased slightly last year, ending a four-year run of gains that began after the Great Recession, the state Department of Forestry said Wednesday.

The 4.13 billion board feet harvested in 2014 represents a 1.7 percent decline from the year before. It was, however, the second consecutive year of more than 4 billion board feet, a total Oregon had not seen since 2006.

The state hit a recession low of 2.7 billion board feet in 2009. It takes 10,000 board feet to build a roughly 1,800-square-foot house.

The Forestry Department said in its annual harvest report it doesn't expect a big change in 2015. Brandon Kaetzel, a top economist at the department, said several issues will likely keep the harvest from rising, including reduced port access, a challenging export market and housing starts not reaching the levels some expected.

Sixty percent of Oregon's forest land is federal. Industrial and family owned lands comprise another 34 percent and the rest is divided between

entities such as the state, counties and tribes.

Percentage-wise, the largest harvest spikes in 2014 were on U.S. Bureau of Land Management lands west of the Cascades, boosted by salvage logging from the Douglas Complex fire, and on U.S. Forest Service lands east of the Cascades.

The private industry harvest declined 5 percent, the report states, and the harvest on Native American forestland dropped 14 percent — from 66 million board feet to 57 million board feet.

Douglas County, in the southwestern part of the state, replaced neighboring Lane County as the state's top producer in timber volume. Both topped more than 600 million board feet.

Klamath County harvested the most timber east of the Cascade Range, with 103 million board feet.

Though Oregon's harvest has increased since the recession, it's far less than what it was before environmental issues such as the spotted owl prompted sharp cutbacks in logging on federal lands.

Oregon's largest timber harvest was 9.74 billion board feet in 1972. It has not exceeded 5 billion since 1993.

Astoria grad on Navy tour

By MCKINLEY SMITH
The Daily Astorian

Astoria native Kari Wilson is making her way around the world on her first tour of duty in her four years in the Navy. The petty officer 2nd Class is aboard the USS Rushmore, which is on its way to Arabian Gulf for a routine deployment, according to a Navy news release.

Kari Wilson graduated from Astoria High School in 2006. She received the "Best of the Best" award after going through the Navy's electronics technician training.

"Once she made her decision to get into the military, she just rocked," said her father, Tom Wilson.

Tom Wilson's father was also in the Navy: He was at Omaha Beach on D-Day.

Kari Wilson and her grandfather would talk about his experiences; now she's following in his footsteps.

"The best part of being in the Navy has been finding my true potential," said Kari Wilson in a Navy news release. She was promoted to work center supervisor in April. "Before I joined, nothing would push me the way I push myself here. Before the Navy, the most I'd done with electronics was screw in a light bulb. I never thought I could do the things I do in my job. It makes me believe in myself a lot more."

Kari Wilson's ship rescued



Submitted Photo

Kari Wilson, an Astoria High School graduate, serves on the USS Rushmore.

65 people on bamboo rafts in the waters between two Indonesian islands. The Navy reported the rafts had no means of propulsion, food or water.

"It makes you proud, not only as a parent, but as a citi-

zen," Tom Wilson said of the positive things his daughter and the military are doing.

Kari Wilson's tour is a seven-month minimum, so she may return as soon as November or December.

Stub Stewart State Park to host overnight camping trip

The Daily Astorian

BUXTON — L.L. Stub Stewart State Park welcomes beginning campers to join in an overnight guided camping excursion July 31 to Aug. 2, part of the statewide Let's Go Camping program hosted by Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Stub Stewart is just 34 miles west of Portland, and is home to an 18-hole disc golf course and 25 miles of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails that highlight its 1,800 acres

of forest glades, streams and wildflowers.

For \$30 per family, the parks department provides tents, sleeping bags and other gear for those interested in learning more about camping. Volunteers will help campers set up tents, build campfires, prepare meals in the campsite and more. Activities could include ranger-led hikes, introduction to disc golf, and plenty of s'mores.

Let's Go Camping programs are scheduled through-

out the state through Labor Day weekend. Participating campgrounds are listed at <http://oregonstateparks.org>

(Click on "Things to Do"). Registration is required. Register online or by calling 888-953-7677.

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