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## Growers asked for help in ergot monitoring

OSU Extension hopes citizen-science approach helps overcome limitations

By MITCH LIES  
For the Capital Press

Oregon State University Extension plant pathologist Jeremiah Dung hopes to engage growers in a citizen-science approach to monitor for ergot in grass seed crops.

Dung told Eastern Oregon grass seed growers during the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center's Grass Seed Field Day that he hopes the approach will help researchers overcome logistical limitations that hinder their ability to expand spore trapping.

Currently, the team of researchers involved in monitoring ergot spores are utilizing three traps, Dung said: One in La Grande, one at the Central Oregon Agricultural Research and Extension Center and one at the Hermiston center.

The citizen-science approach is made possible by the fact researchers have discovered a spore trap that costs a fraction to build compared to the trap they are using. Growers can purchase materials to build the rotating arm trap for around \$100, Dung said. Materials are easily accessible online, and, he said, the trap is simple to construct.

Conversely, it costs \$5,000 to purchase the spore trap researchers are employing, Dung said. Parts are proprietary and custom-made, so can be difficult to obtain, and getting the traps serviced can be difficult.

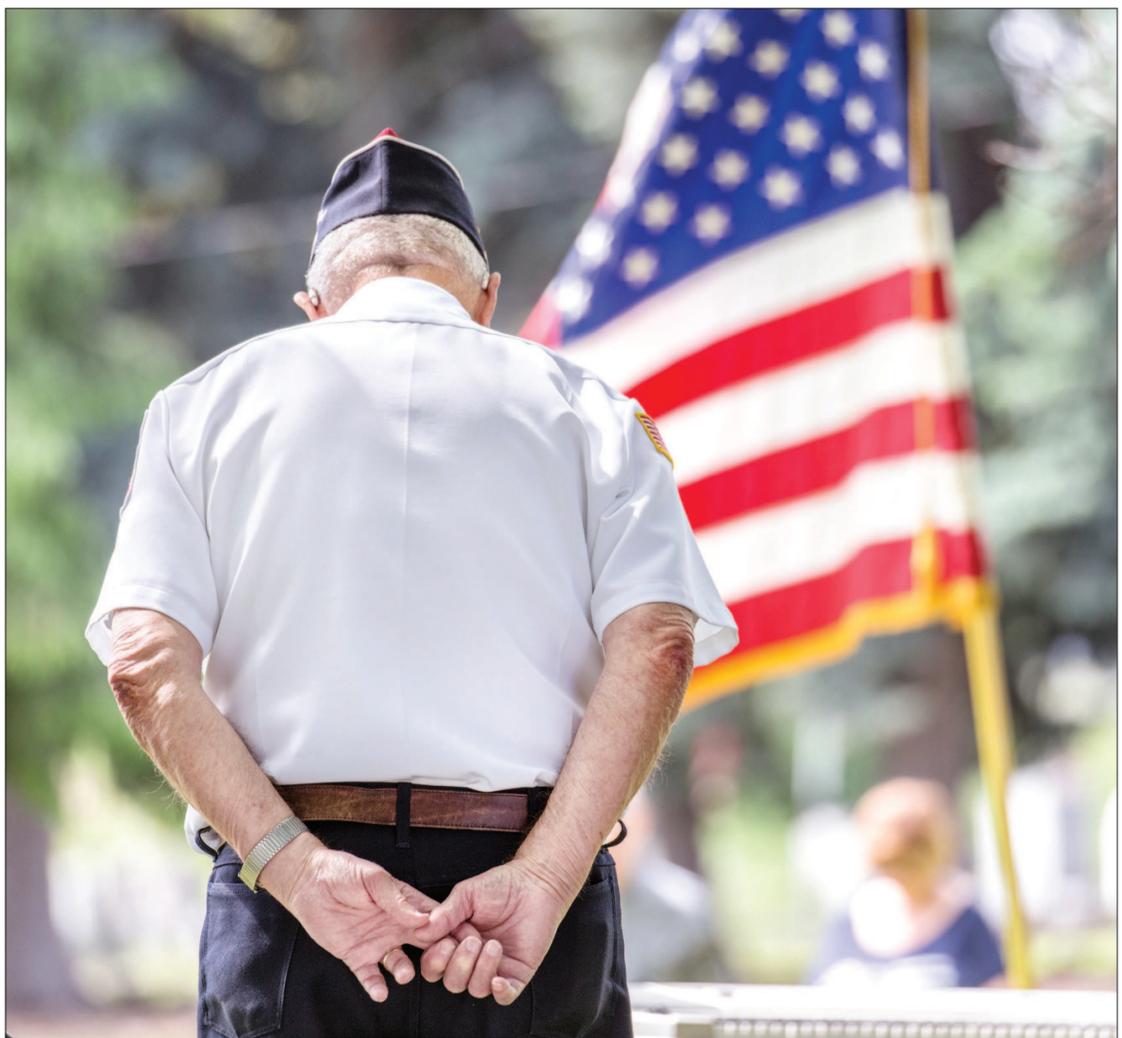
Dung said that grower involvement in scouting will help producers pinpoint when spore counts are high enough to warrant treatment. "This way, we can scout for pressure before infection occurs," he said.

Dung added that growers should be keeping a close watch on their crops at this point in the growing season and keeping abreast of spore counts in the university traps.

"When your crops are

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# PAYING TRIBUTE



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Tom Tangney, a member of the Pendleton Veterans of Foreign Wars Let'er Buck Post 922, bows his head during the benediction at a Memorial Day observance at Olney Cemetery. For more photos, turn to page A8.

## Memorial Day ceremonies in Pendleton, Hermiston recognize fallen veterans

By PHIL WRIGHT AND TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

For Tom Tangney of Pendleton, honoring the United States of America's war dead matters. Tangney fought in the Korean war, along with his brother, who died there on Heartbreak Ridge. Tangney, a long-serving member of the Pendleton's Veteran of Foreign Wars Let'er Buck Post No. 922, drove home the need to recognize Memorial Day during the annual ceremony at Olney Cemetery.

"We remember because sacrifice is meaningless

without remembrance," Tangney told the 50 or so gathering at Pendleton's burial ground. Most of the crowd was older and included several white-haired veterans. "America's conscience demands that all citizens be aware of and recall on special occasions the deaths of their fellow countrymen during wartime."

While veterans hold Memorial Day sacred, he said, he questioned if the general public and, more importantly, future generations value the day. The freedoms Americans enjoy came at the cost of lives, he said, few of whom we knew.

"This should be regarded as a civic obligation," Tangney stated. "For this is a national debt that can only be repaid by individual Americans. By honoring the nation's veterans, we preserve their memory, their service and sacrifice."

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## Sister Monica goes home

Nun was a fixture at St. Anthony Hospital

By KATHY ANEY  
East Oregonian

On the medical/surgical floor at St. Anthony Hospital, a man was in the final stage of dying.

Registered nurse Emily Smith remembers that day several years ago with clarity.

"He didn't have any family members," Smith recalled. "We were really sad, but it was just way too busy for us to sit with him."

So, they called Sister Marie Monica Borden — or Sister Monica — who worked in pastoral services at the Catholic hospital. The Franciscan nun entered the room. As if the man was the luckiest guy on earth, she said, "Oh, you're

just about ready to go home, aren't you?"

"She sat there and held his hand through the whole process," Smith said.

Last Wednesday, it was Sister Monica's time to go home after 84 years on Earth. Many at the hospital were taken by surprise. Except for recent eye surgery, the nun hadn't skipped a

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Photo courtesy of Kim Fetrow Photography

Sister Monica Borden was a fixture at St. Anthony Hospital, where she provided spiritual guidance for patients and staff.

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