HAREC

The Hermiston Agricultural Research & Extension Center (HAREC) serves nearly 500,000 acres of irrigated agriculture in Oregon and Washington's Columbia Basin. The center concentrates on discovery and implementation of agricultural and horticultural opportunities and provides solutions to production constraints. Remodeled laboratories, state of the art greenhouses, newly built screen houses and new and refurbished equipment provide station and campus scientists with a modern research facility. In 1991 growers, processors, and businesses of the region, through the efforts of the Blue Mountain Potato Growers Association, contributed four center pivot irrigation systems worth more than $150,000 to HAREC. Another one was contributed in 2005. All are computer controlled, making the center one of the few experiment stations in the U.S. with extensive modern irrigation capabilities.

This center boasts greater research acreage under center pivot irrigation than any Experiment Station in the Pacific Northwest, and possibly anywhere in the US. In 2008 and 2009, two large screen houses were built by contributed funds to provide new opportunities to investigate insect transmitted plant diseases.

Currently HAREC has six research sub-units: cereal breeding, potato varietal development, horticultural production and quality, integrated pest management, enhancement of potato nutrition, and riparian and stream ecology. In addition the station has two extension units: plant pathology/diagnostics and commodity crops production and groundwater quality. Faculty cooperate with scientists in the Departments from OSU's main campus in Corvallis, Oregon as well as faculty from other state experiment stations, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, University of Idaho, Washington State University, USDA, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and Ag Canada. Funding to support research efforts originates from a large number of granting agencies, including private, state, and federal sources.

Research at HAREC emphasizes identification of new crops and production practices, plant breeding and varietal evaluation, integrated pest management of insects and insect transmitted diseases, plant disease identification and control and riparian and stream ecology.

Extension at HAREC provides avenues for providing the latest information to the local agricultural community. Field days each summer provide in-season learning opportunities related to wheat, grass seed, potatoes and sweet corn.

One of the newer additions to the research effort is directed toward understanding the ecology of riparian and stream issues, particularly how agriculture interacts with stream health and the subsequent impact on salmonids. A better understanding of these issues will provide important opportunities in the future to improve stream conditions, where needed, not only for the benefit of fish but for all wildlife.

The most recent addition to the Center has been the addition of a molecular biologist with specific interest in helping to increase nutrients essential for human health in existing crops grown in this area.
Research Areas
Aquatic Entomology
Cereal Breeding
Horticulture/Olericulture
IPM - Insect Ecology - Biological Control
Nematode Management
Plant Disease Diagnostics
Plant Disease Management
Plant Secondary Metabolism
Potato Varietal Development
Crop Nutrition
Riparian/Terrestrial Entomology
Ecosystem Ecology

Facilities
Conference Room
Entomology Laboratory & Greenhouse
Horticulture Laboratory & Greenhouse
Main Office
Office Annex
Plant Pathology Laboratory & Greenhouse
Potato Fry Laboratory
Aquatic & Riparian Laboratory
Screen Houses
Potato Storages
Shop & Equipment Storage

Faculty & Staff
Javier Almaguer: Plant Pathology Project Assistant
Peggy Carr: Experiment Station Administrative Assistant
George Clough: Horticulture/Olericulture
Sandy DeBano: Riparian/Terrestrial Ecosystem Ecologist
Jordan Eggers: Plant Pathology Lab Manager
Aymeric Goyer: Plant Biochemistry & Metabolism
Philip Hamm: Extension Plant Pathologist / HAREC Director
Jesika Holcomb: Plant Pathology Assistant
Don Horneck: Extension Agronomist
Chiho Kimoto: Graduate Research Assistant
Mat Kolding: Emeritus – Cereals Specialist
Ruben Marchosky: Entomology Research Assistant
Laura McMullen: Post Doctoral Scholar Riparian Entomology
Alexzandra Murphy: Post Doctoral Scholar Entomology
Philip Rogers: Bio Science Research Tech II
Silvia Rondon: Extension Entomologist
Annette Teraberry: Extension Administrative Assistant
Bruce Sorte: Economist - Eastern Oregon
Tim Weinke: Farm Operations Coordinator
David Wooster: Aquatic Ecologist

Hermiston Agricultural Research & Extension Center
A modern research and extension facility dedicated to providing new research information to assist the regions high valued irrigated agricultural community and understanding stream and riparian health related to salmon