KBREC Faculty & Staff
Biographical Sketch

Name: Richard J. Roseberg, Ph.D.
Job Title: Associate Professor, Research Agronomist

Professional Background:

Faculty member in the Crop & Soil Science Dept. at Oregon State Univ. since 1990. Research agronomist at the Southern Oregon Research & Extension Center (SOREC) near Medford from 1990-2004. Transferred to KBREC in 2004 in a similar position. Ph.D in Agronomy (applied soil physics) from Ohio State Univ. (1990). M.S. in Soil Science (soil fertility) from Oregon State Univ. (1985). B.S. in Soil Science from Oregon State Univ. (1980).

Research & Educational Expertise:

Research and educational expertise focuses on conducting and disseminating results from applied research in soil science, agronomic crops, forages, new crops, water quality, and environmental/land use issues. Educational expertise mainly in non-traditional settings such as public field days, testimony before elected officials and other public testimony, member of issue-specific agricultural, environmental, and natural resource committees and panels.

Current Program Assignments:

Current applied research and extension activities continue the themes listed above, but with different local emphasis at KBREC compared to SOREC. Issues of water use and alternative crop development are key to the Klamath Basin due to unreliable water supply and limited traditional crop choice due to climatic limitations in this region as well as distance to most markets. In addition to individual initiatives, I also cooperate with researchers in Oregon, the PNW, and elsewhere in variety development and crop management efforts in barley, wheat, oilseeds, forages, and alternative crops. I cooperate with extension faculty to conduct several topic-specific seminars and training events each year.

Emerging Areas of Interest:

Co-chair of new annual KBREC public outreach effort (AugustFest, begun in 2007). Increased investigation of alternative forages (teff), as well as new sources of industrial materials (Russian dandelion for rubber). Also interested in alternative energy sources and applications, including development of agriculture-based fuels from traditional sources (oilseeds), new energy sources (cellulosic ethanol, algae-based oil), and ways to integrate solar, wind, and geothermal energy into both agricultural and urban applications.

Professional Principles:

Be responsive to local needs and questions.
Maintain integrity and politeness in relationships with colleagues and the public.
Don’t be afraid to try something new.
Keep asking, “why?”, and “what if?”.
Hire and hang around people who are smarter and/or more skilled than I am.