

2010 LOAFA Class Descriptions

Session A (9-10:20am)

A1 Simple Season Extension -- Plant based crop protection from weather extremes

Jim Fields of Fields Farm will share information on tunnels, greenhouses and other structures that can be used to extend the growing season in Central Oregon.

(Jim Fields, Fields Farm, Bend, OR)

A2 Growing Poultry; Urban or rural, some tips for keeping a successful flock

The discussion will focus on producing poultry in small flocks with information presented on chick selection, management, common diseases, feeding, costs, and other topics.

(Dr. James C. Hermes, OSU Extension Poultry Specialist)

A3 Managing Rodents, Deer and other Mammals on your Acreage

Learn identification and management techniques of common problem species, including mammals and birds. Management options will include pesticide and non-pesticide management techniques.

(Jeff Amaral, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services)

A4 Irrigation Management

Want some tips on making “you” a better irrigator? Flood, hand line and wheel line sprinkler systems will be covered. Learn about tools and strategies for improving irrigation practices on your farm.

(Mylene Bohle, OSU Extension Service)

Session B (10:30-11:50am)

B1 Alternative value added crops for Central Oregon and planning for financial Success

Sean will share his experiences of producing & selling value added alternative crops. Discussion will include simple production & financial planning tools he has used to calculate the financial success potential of small farm based products.

(Sean Dodson, Dancing Cow Farm, Prineville, OR)

B2 Optimize Pasture & Grazing Management

Are you a livestock producer or a grass farmer? Learn how to “properly” manage your pasture or establish a new pasture, and use proper grazing management. Bring your questions.

(Mylene Bohle, OSU Extension Service)

B3 Aquatic Weed and Algae Management for Ponds

The management of aquatic weeds in ponds should be part of a site specific management plan, taking into consideration the pond's function and size as well as the composition of weeds and timing considerations. We will cover identification of some of the more common weedy pond species; various treatment options including preventive methods; and the pros/cons of various mechanical, manual, biological and chemical treatments.

(Vanessa Howard Morgan, Center for Lakes & Reservoirs, Portland State University)

B4 Tractor and Small Equipment: Maintenance, Repair and Safety

Preventative maintenance can save you time and money. A few minutes of making minor adjustments can save you big bucks and keep your equipment working for you. And don't forget about safety! Learn some important rules that could prevent a tragic accident on your farm.

(Reed Grote and Colin Ohgren, Deschutes Valley Equipment; Rich Affeldt, OSU Extension Service)

Noon: Trade Show and Lunch Concession Available

12:30pm: “Now is the Time”

Sean Dodson, Featured Speaker

Sean Dodson of Dancing Cow Farm will share why now is a good time for small acreage value added enterprises. Plan to be inspired as Sean explains how local small farms and acreages are using value added techniques to be successful. This farmer will outline planning steps, considerations and pitfalls to avoid when considering the potential profitability of a small acreage enterprise.

Sean and his wife, Jerre, operate their Dancing Cow Farm east of Prineville. Here they grow and market grass fed beef, lamb and poultry. They also produce vegetables for a small CSA, restaurants, buying clubs and farmers markets in Bend, Redmond and Prineville.

Session C (1:30-2:50pm)

C1 Raspberries and Blueberries for Central Oregon – Opportunities and Challenges

This class will cover the growing requirements and best cultivar choices for raspberries and blueberries in this region. Key topics will include important cultural considerations for success.

(Dr. Bernadine Strik, OSU Extension Berry Crops Research Leader)

C2 Whole Oats or Fancy Feed?

Confused by all of the advertisements, hear-say and information on all of the new horse feeds and supplements? This presentation will try to shed some light on some of the new trends in horse feed and supplements and how you could apply them to your own horses.

(Dr. Dawn M. Sherwood, OSU Extension Equine Specialist)

C3 Marketing Your Farm Product in 2010

You have the land, the water, the air, the seed or breed, and the labor to raise something beyond your own needs. Now you have a surplus, a product you would like to sell. What kinds of opportunities are open to you as a producer to get your product sold? Co-ops, Buying Clubs, Internet, Direct Marketing, Farmers Markets, Farm stands, Grocery Stores, Restaurants and Schools are all possibilities to consider. Join Jerre in learning how Dancing Cow Farm successfully sells beef, lamb, chicken, eggs, turkey, ducks, guinea fowl, compost, hay, starter plants, wool, eggs, animal fleeces and hides, and trophy ram skulls.

(Jerre Kosta Dodson, Dancing Cow Farm, Prineville, Oregon)

C4 Tractor Driving, Implement Options and Safety

Here is your chance to operate and learn about equipment used on small acreages. Learn safety rules that are essential when working with equipment. This is a hands-on class where you can practice hooking up implements and driving tractors through an obstacle course. This class will be outside so dress appropriately.

(Thanks to Deschutes Valley Equipment and Superior Tractor & Equipment for their donation)

Session D (3:00-4:20pm)

D1 What berry crops might you grow in central Oregon?

Dr. Strik will introduce some berry crops that you might consider for small farms in this region, including blackberries, kiwifruit, gooseberries, currants, strawberries, and table grapes. Raspberries and blueberries will be covered in a separate class and will not be included here. Come prepared with questions as discussion is encouraged.

(Dr. Bernadine Strik, OSU Extension Berry Crops Research Leader)

D2 First Aid for Livestock

Learn how to monitor vital signs, dress and treat wounds and common illnesses of your livestock. This class will take you outside where you will see hands-on demonstrations by a veterinarian and other professionals.

(Dr. Jacob Crawford, Powell Butte Veterinary Service and Barbi Riggs, OSU Extension Service)

D3 Wildlife Habitat

Has life become a little too predictable? Are you looking for surprise, action and suspense showing up on your property from time to time? Fish, wildlife and habitat may be just what you need. Let me show you how to accommodate the wilder side of life throughout the seasons.

(Larry Pecenka, ODFW Habitat Biologist)

D4 Quality Hay – What is it?

Bring a flake of hay and your lab test (if available). Whether you are in the market to buy or sell, learn how to determine if it is good hay. We will talk about “sensory” quality as well as doing some hands-on examinations.

(Mylen Bohle, OSU Extension Service)