

Introduction

The Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center (COARC) faculty and staff are pleased to present a summary of research activities conducted during 2009. The nineteen reports in this publication focus on grass seed (8), vegetable seed (3), potatoes and peppermint (2), forages and cereals (2), and rangeland and non-crop areas (4). We welcome you to peruse through the report, read a few abstract and perhaps read the entire report on topics of particular interest.

Over the last year we have met with a significant number of industry representatives and growers to get your input on how we can best meet the needs of the agricultural community. We would like to thank each of you for your interest in what we do, and for taking time to discuss issues that affect you. In addition, the COARC Advisory Council annually rates proposed research projects for relevance to the local agricultural industry. This provides information helpful to faculty in make appropriate adjustments in focus and time commitment.

Some projects are conducted at the COARC Madras and Powell Butte locations, while others are more appropriately conducted with grower cooperators in commercial fields. A number of projects are joint efforts between local researchers and researchers on campus, other branch stations, or other agencies. An example is the bunchgrass plots with National Forest Service (NFS) researchers.

In addition, COARC has established a landscape, fruit and vegetable demonstration garden and student learning center to broaden our impact with the local community. This will increase relevance, support from local citizens, and provide an interface where they will become familiar with agriculture-related issues. We are excited about the possibilities this opportunity provides.

We completely redesigned our website this year. Feel free to check out the new layout and design at <http://www.oregonstate.edu/dept/coarc/>. You will find this research report on the website, along with previous reports and other helpful information. We have a searchable database of all research reports published by the COARC. It is our pleasure to work with you and generate relevant research-based information to meet local needs.

Marvin Butler, Superintendent
Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center

Note: Any reference to a product or company is for specific information only and does not endorse or recommend that product or company to the exclusion of others that may be suitable. Nor should information and interpretation thereof be considered as recommendations for application of any pesticide. Pesticide labels should always be consulted before any pesticide use.