



## NORTH WILLAMETTE RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER (NWREC)

The North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC) serves growers in the North Willamette Valley area with research and educational programs that focus on the region's most important crop systems.

### Oregon's Most Diverse Agricultural Region

Nearly 40% of the \$5.7 billion farmgate value of Oregon Agriculture is produced within a 50 mile radius of NWREC.

NWREC combines the research and outreach activities of Oregon State University to serve the needs of the region's agricultural industries. NWREC researchers and Extension faculty focus their work and programming on our most important local agricultural crops including: greenhouses and nurseries, hazelnuts, berries, vegetables and specialty seed production, Christmas trees, orchard crops, and field and grass crops. In addition, four other programs cut across these crop systems—small farms production, organic production, pesticide research, and agrivoltaics.

### Economic Impact of Major Agricultural Industries

**Nurseries and Greenhouses** – Oregon's first billion dollar ag industry, among top 3 production states in nation

**Berries** – \$140M to local economies each year

**Christmas Trees** – Oregon is the #1 producer of Christmas trees in the nation with 45,000 acres valued at \$120M

**Orchard Crops** – Oregon grows 99% of U.S. hazelnuts.

**Grass Seed** – Willamette Valley is largest producer of grass seed in the world



NWREC's unique geographic location and proximity to Portland makes it a critical interface between rural and urban communities.



## Experiment Station History

Oregon is unmatched in the diversity of its agricultural and environmental landscape—from rugged coastlines through lush valleys across high deserts—and the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University is OUT THERE, connecting scientific discovery to communities and industries that rely on those insights. In addition to dozens of research labs and institutes on campus, the College has 14 agricultural experiment station locations across the state.

This statewide system of research stations has a rich history. It began in 1887, when President Grover Cleveland signed the Hatch Act, which provided annual funds for agricultural research stations at land-grant colleges in each state and territory. The first Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station was built in Union, Oregon in 1888. Since then, the system has grown with strategic locations around the state that support industry and communities while addressing environmental issues specific to each region. Together, a network of over 400 scientists in 28 academic disciplines strive to improve quality of life, environmental sustainability, and economic development in rural and urban communities across Oregon and beyond. These stations are the engine of science working every day to make tomorrow better.

**The North Willamette Research and Extension Center** was made possible by a \$50,000 appropriation by the 1957 Legislature and became a reality when Clackamas County leased 52 acres of fertile Willamette Valley farmland to the University. In 1965, the county purchased an adjacent 107 acres. In 1987, the legislature provided \$310,000 for additional office and laboratory space. At that time, OSU Extension Service district horticulture agents were transferred to the Center, to work alongside their research counterparts to improve communication and technology transfer with farmers and considerably expand service to the agricultural community.

Funding for NWREC comes from a combination of federal, state, and county sources, plus grants, contracts, and private gifts including contributions to the Friends of the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. The current NWREC budget is approximately \$3,000,000 annually.

## Research Program Areas

Greenhouse and Nursery	Field Crops
Berry Crops	Vegetable & Specialty Seed Crops
Christmas Trees	Pesticide Registration Research
Small Farms	Organic Production
Orchard Crops	Agrivoltaics

## Other Programs and Services

Youth and Adult Tractor Safety and Certification Training	BEE Friendly Pollinator Program
BEAV Plant Health Scouting Program (Drone Technology)	Bilingual Education for farm workers

## OSU Faculty and Staff at NWREC

Thirty-six OSU faculty and staff are located at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. For more information, contact the office at 503-678-1264 or visit [agsci.oregonstate.edu/nwrec](http://agsci.oregonstate.edu/nwrec).

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OSU College of Agricultural Sciences prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials.



Oregon State University  
College of Agricultural  
Sciences