

# The Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research

2023 Spring Newsletter

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Update from the USDA
- Update from The Northwest Berry Foundation
- 2023 NCSFR Annual Conference
- Funding Recap
- Spring Fact sheets
- Spotlight on Stakeholders



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# Update from the USDA

#### Written by Inga Zasada & Jungmin Lee

Another cycle of NCSFR funding activities has passed and we hope to have decisions announced in the near future. Thanks to the Northwest Berry Foundation for supporting administration of the grant process and our grant panel facilitators and reviewers for the hours of work they put into evaluating and ranking proposals.

On the USDA-ARS hiring front, there are three positions in the Hort Crops Production and Genetic Improvement Research Unit that are vacant.





- The blueberry breeding position was advertised and a
  list of candidates have been made available to us.
  Over the next month or so the interview process will
  occur. We encourage anyone interested in
  participating to do so information for in-person and
  virtual interviews will be distributed to our stakeholders.
  We thank Paul Schreiner for facilitating this effort.
- The precision viticulture position located in Prosser,
   WA is with USDA HR and we hope that this position is posted for hiring within the next 6 months.
- The weed scientist position focused on small fruits located in Prosser, WA is still on hold. We have made significant progress on our modular laboratory project at IAREC and hope to see that come online by the end of the calendar year.

There are many pieces of the NCSFR puzzle that we continue to work on and push forward. We appreciate the support of the PNW small fruit community in our ongoing effort to increase research capacity in the region.

# Update from the Northwest Berry Foundation

#### Written by Elisa Ford

Spring is...taking its time this year. It should be well underway, but the cold is just starting to break in the Pacific Northwest. There are still a few Commission meetings before the rush back to the fields. These meetings are open to the public, so check commission calendars for any schedules and updates.

Save the date! The 2023 NCSFR Conference will be held November 13th-15th at the Alumni Center in Corvallis, OR

If you are already subscribed to our mailing list, tune in for more details about tickets and room blocks. This is an amazing opportunity to share in the latest small fruits research and have your priorities heard.

Thanks for reading!



#### Spotlight on Stakeholders: Oregon Raspberry Blackberry Commission

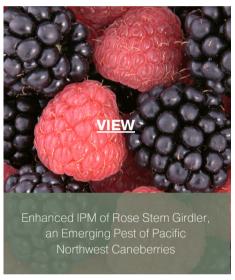
This issue's Spotlight on Stakeholders features the Oregon Raspberry Blackberry Commission. Check out their five fast facts about their organization and a future article with more details to come. Interested in having your organization in the spotlight?

Contact us at info@nwberries.org

LEARN MORE

## **Spring Fact Sheets**

The following NCSFR research factsheets are geared towards applicable winter seasonality of industry work. Click on them to view content. Other seasonal fact sheets are available on our website





# Calling all <u>Strawberry Growers</u> in Washington!

Your ideas are needed to help determine the future of strawberry research in the state. <u>Deadline: May 15,</u> 2023

**LEARN MORE** 

# 2023 NCSFR Request for Applications:

Stay tuned for decisions to be released in the very near future! Massive thank you to everyone that reviewed and facilitated this process.

## NCSFR Annual Conference

November 13-15, 2023 NCSFR Conference location: Alumni Center in Corvallis, OR. Check back or sign up for our mailing list for room block and more details to come.





