

November 7, 2011 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Source Contact:

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Beginning Farming Webinar Series

When: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Ecological Soil Management: November 15;

Integrated Pest Management: November 22;

Equipment for Small Farms: November 29th

Where: Webinars will be available through your computer browser. A high-speed internet connection is required.

Registration:

Ecological Soil Management: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/211075>

Integrated Pest Management: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/211077>

Equipment for Small Farms: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/211079>

Webinars are \$20 each or \$40 for all 3. Webinars are free to *past and current* Cultivating Success Students. Cultivating Success students should contact Michel Wiman to register: mbrockington@wsu.edu

Puyallup, WA

Do you want to improve your farm's bottom line? Could farming be in your future? The Washington State University Small Farms Program has educational opportunities that meet you on-line and in the field. We offer unique educational formats combining research and professional expertise to give you the tools you need to run a farm business today.

For 10 years, our Cultivating Success program partners have helped 3000 people develop or expand their farming enterprise through 12-week community education courses. Three sections of our popular Sustainable Small Farming and Ranching course are being provided in an on-line format to those not able to attend a semester-long class this year.

Three webinars will be made available covering soil management, integrated pest management, and equipment for small farms. There is a fee to join the webinar. Past and present cultivating success students can join the program for free. Scholarships are available.

November 15th, 2011: Ecological Soil Management with Doug Collins and Adam McCurdy

Soil scientist and Small Farms Educator Doug Collins will cover an introduction to soil management for small farmers. Doug will describe soil quality, soil fertility, nitrogen mineralization, organic amendments, soil test interpretation, and pH management.

Snoqualmie Valley Farmer Adam McCurdy will discuss how he works to build soil at Oxbow Center for Sustainable Agriculture & the Environment. Adam is in his 13th season of farming. He has been at Oxbow since 2007 where he co-manages 25 acres. Adam will discuss soil preparation, fertility management, equipment, and cover cropping.

November 15th, 2011: Integrated Pest Management with Chris Benedict, Todd Murray, and Doug Collins.

Whatcom County Extension Educator and weed scientist Chris Benedict, Skamania County Extension Director and entomologist Todd Murray, and Small Farms Educator and soil scientist Doug Collins will describe how to integrate physical, biological, and chemical strategies to control weeds, insects, and pathogens on your farm.

November 29, 2011: Equipment for Small Farmers with Andy Bary and Holly Foster

Soil Scientist and Puyallup Experimental Organic Farm Manager Andy Bary will cover selecting equipment for field preparation, fertilizing, planting, and weeding.

Holly Foster operates Zestful Gardens, a CSA vegetable farm in the Puyallup Valley. Holly is a small farm equipment aficionado and will share what pieces she finds invaluable for farm operation.