



HERMISTON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER (HAREC)

The Hermiston Agricultural Research & Extension Center serves nearly 500,000 acres of irrigated agriculture in Oregon and Washington's Columbia Basin. Its mission is to advance scientific knowledge in agriculture, natural resources and biofortified crops, and support and educate its diverse local clientele and community.

Research Areas

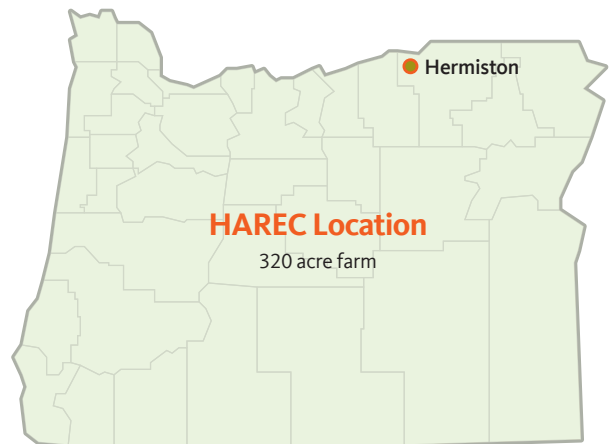
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| Agronomy | Plant Pathology |
| Enhancement of Potato Nutrition | Pollinators and Other Beneficial Invertebrates |
| Grassland, Riparian, and Stream Ecology | Potato Varietal Development |
| Horticultural Production and Quality | Water and Nutrient Management |
| Irrigated Agricultural Entomology | |

Other Programs / Services

- Plant Pathology Diagnostic Laboratory Services
- SNAP-Ed
- Umatilla County 4-H & Latino Outreach
- Umatilla County Master Gardeners

Economic Impact

Over 200 different crops are grown in the Irrigated Columbia Basin. The Oregon Potato industry alone is valued at over \$200 million.



- 15 center pivot irrigation systems
- 6 mini-pivots
- 6 greenhouses
- 2 screenhouses



Ag 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.

Second Oldest Ag Experiment Station in Oregon

Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center (HAREC) started as The Umatilla Experiment Farm. About 100 years ago an irrigation system was nearly ready for settlers to work this dry, dusty region of northwestern Umatilla County. The land was surveyed, ditches prepared, legal services were ready, railroads and roads were in place. Towns were mapped. Some businesses were already up and running.

Amidst all this was the Umatilla Experiment Farm, a forty acre piece of land ready with buildings to house people prepared to advise, teach and demonstrate how to extract a living from the land.

Unique Ecology with Diverse Agriculture

Five factors make the Irrigated Columbia Basin region unique:

Well-drained soil

Long growing season

Great light intensity because of few pollutants

Hot days and cool nights - which means plants can store more sugar because they use less at night

In addition to the unique and diverse ecology of the region, it is also home to steelhead and other salmonoids, as well as wildlife species that live in the shrub steppe and grasslands.

Corresponding Partnerships

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Global Hemp Innovation Center

Grass Seed Industry

Northwest Potato Research

Oregon Department of Forestry

Oregon Potato Commission

Oregon Potato Information Exchange

Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association

Potato Variety Management Institute

The Nature Conservancy

The US Forest Service

The Wheat Commission



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