



EVENT RELEASE

EVENT RELEASE

EVENT RELEASE

AREA FARMERS JOIN OSU AND OREGON TILTH FOR BIOLOGICAL CONTROL FAIRE

**EVENT TITLE: Bugscaping 2003: Practical Conservation Biological Control
for Your Farm**

EVENT DATE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

PLACE: BENTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS AUDITORIUM

TIME: 10:00 – 3:00

PRICE: \$5.00 at the door, refreshments provided

CONTACT: Gwendolyn Ellen 541-373-6272 or gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu

Area organic farmers, OSU's Integrated Plant Protection Center (IPPC) and Oregon Tilth are teaming up to bring you some practical hints on using conservation biological control measures on your farm. If you are interested in inviting beneficial insects to your farm, hosting them over the seasons and the latest news on biological control, then *Bugscaping 2003: Practical Conservation Biological Control for your Farm* is for you! *Bugscaping 2003* is an informational and interactive faire that will be happening at the Benton County Fairgrounds Auditorium from 10:00 – 3:00 on Monday, November 17th. Experienced and novice bugscapers from both the research and farm realms will present booths on all types of methods used to increase natural enemy populations and grow habitat for beneficial organisms on local farms. Types of booths presented include insectary plantings and hedgerows, beetle banks, farm planning for biological control, insect biology, ecology, ID and more. There will be opportunities to exchange information with real "bugscapin" farmers at the farm forum and farm planning sessions and you can try out your own bug identification skills when you enter the bug-ID contest. Come participate in the educational festivities and help us grow a community wide conservation biological control forum.

This is the third BYOB (bring your own bug) event sponsored by OSU's IPPC, and Oregon Tilth's *Community Conservation Biological Control Project*. The project hosted two brief farm walks this summer. We visited three certified organic farms that varied in size from 5 to over 60 acres. The farm walks were a great success in demonstrating to the approximately 30 participants the incredible biodiversity of Oregon's small farms, the insect populations which inhabit them, and the different ways a broad array of crops are produced and marketed. Specific techniques that farmers have implemented to enhance natural enemy populations, how to recognize habitat for beneficial organisms in the existing lay of the land, farm and insect ecology, and farm beneficial insect populations were highlighted. For a schedule of faire events or more information on the project please contact Paul Jepson at 541-737-9082 also at jepsonp@science.oregonstate.edu or Gwendolyn Ellen at gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu