

# TILTH CONFERENCE

*Growing a Resilient Future: Production & Beyond*

November 8-10 • Yakima, WA



## Join us for a Farm Walk!

Bringing in the Harvest & Fertility Management  
Inaba Produce Farms, Gilbert Orchards, Bale Breaker Brewing  
Friday, Nov. 8 • Yakima, WA



Food Systems  
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

*WSU Food Systems Program and Tilth Alliance have been collaboratively presenting the Farm Walk Series for over 17 years! These farmer-to-farmer or processor-to-processor educational events are hosted by organic, sustainable, and innovative farm and food businesses throughout Washington State.*

*Funding for this special Tilth Conference Farm Walk provided by the Local Food Safety Collaborative.*

# Get on the Farm!

*Check out the AMAZING Farm Walks line-up from 2019!*



## Join us for a Farm Walk!

**Pasture Raised Meat: Pasture Management, Ethics and Slaughter**  
May 20 — Bright Ide Acres, Orting



## Join us for a Farm Walk!

**"Ecological Soil Management for Organic Grain Production"**  
Thu., June 13 — Bluebird Grain Farms, Winthrop



## Join us for a Farm Walk!

**"Loyal to Soil: Regenerative No-Till Practices for Garden & Pasture"**  
Mon., July 8 — Spoon Full Farm, Thorp



## Join us for a Farm Walk!

**Holistic Management for Grazing Animals & Innovative Distribution Models**  
July 29 — Lazy R Ranch & LINC Foods, Spokane & Cheney



## Farm Walk

**Innovaciones en la Producción de Fresas, Moras, y Moras Negras**  
Lunes, 12 de Agosto — Productores de bayas en Viva Farms, Burlington WA

**Innovations in Strawberry, Raspberry and Blackberry Production**  
Mon., Aug. 12 — Berry growers at Viva Farms, Burlington WA



## Join us for a Farm Walk!

**How Not to Start a Goat Dairy: Lessons Learned & Models for Success**  
Mon., Sep. 9 — Lost Peacock Creamery, Olympia WA

*STAY TUNED for the 2020 Farm Walk Schedule, Coming Soon!*



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# *first stop.* **Inaba Produce Farms**

Inaba Produce Farms is a fourth generation family farming operation growing, packing, and shipping a variety of wholesale fresh market vegetables throughout the Pacific Northwest and Canada. The farm was started in the early 1900's by Shukichi and Tomoji Inaba who came to the Valley from Kumamoto, Japan and cleared the land of sagebrush with horses and helped to build the early irrigation canals. All farming practices of the time were organic. They faced much adversity with the Alien Land Laws but persevered as they returned from the forced internment of World War II. Shukichi's son Ken took over the farm in the 1950's and began farming once again.

The farm is currently operated by siblings Lon, Wayne, Norm, and Diane Inaba with 90 year old mom, Shiz, still coming to the office daily to lend her guidance. Sister Terri, her husband, Troy, and Lon's son Kenny are also there for occasional help on the weekends. We have a number of long time employees who are invaluable in the operation of the farm.

We began WSDA certified organic operation in the early 1990's with a small 35 ac block of concord grapes and have expanded the organic operation over the years. We have a large scale composting operation, licensed on farm housing for around 100 farmworkers, drip irrigation, nearly 100 owl, bat and raptor boxes, and multiple implements for minimum tillage and mechanical cultivation. We currently farm 500 acres of organic and 1000 acres of conventional produce on the Yakama Reservation in the Yakima Valley of Washington State. Our harvest season begins in April with asparagus and ends when we ship out the last of the winter squash and onions near the end of the calendar year. We begin once again in February as we begin preparing the ground and seeding new plants into the greenhouses for the coming year.



*flip for resources on back...*

# Online Resources

## Websites:

- Farm Loan Programs, USDA Farm Service Agency: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index>
- Farm Labor Housing Direct Loans & Grants, USDA Rural Development: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/farm-labor-housing-direct-loans-grants>
- Irrigation in US Agriculture-On-farm Technologies and Best Management Practices: <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R44158.pdf>
- Equipment Sharing Map, WSU Extension: <https://extension.wsu.edu/snohomish/agriculture/compost/equipment-sharing-map/>
- Compost Spreading Equipment and Techniques, WSU Extension: <https://extension.wsu.edu/snohomish/spreading-equipment/>
- Rinsing and Packing Produce with Produce Safety in Mind: <https://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/PracticalProduceSafety/RinsingPacking.pdf>
- Reducing Food Safety Risks in the Packhouse, PennState Extension: <https://extension.psu.edu/reducing-food-safety-risks-in-the-packhouse>
- Pest Management Systems to Control Rodents in and around Packing Shed: <https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/FST-34.pdf>

## Publications:

- Factors to Consider in Selecting a Farm Irrigation System, UGA Extension: [https://secure.caes.uga.edu/extension/publications/files/pdf/B%20882\\_4.PDF](https://secure.caes.uga.edu/extension/publications/files/pdf/B%20882_4.PDF)
- On-Farm Composting Methods, FAO: <http://www.fao.org/3/y5104e/y5104e00.htm>

## Videos:

- Compost Science Webinar, Rodale Institute: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYODbBRhZRO>

## *second stop.* **Gilbert Orchards**

Gilbert Orchards is a fifth-generation family-owned business that has been growing in the Yakima Valley since 1897. Gilbert Orchards grows a variety of stone and pome fruit, both organic and conventional, which they sell wholesale through Starr Ranch Growers to domestic and international markets. They also have branched off into wine grapes, running Gilbert Cellars Winery in Yakima. Today, the business is owned by Sean Gilbert who is the great-great grandson of founders H.M. and Marion Gilbert. Learn from Sean and other members from the Gilbert Orchards team as we learn about their harvesting techniques, their on-farm food safety plan, and their fertility management systems.



*flip for resources on back...*

# Online Resources

## Websites:

- WSU Tree Fruit: <http://treefruit.wsu.edu/>
- Tools and Resources, WSU Tree Fruit: <http://treefruit.wsu.edu/tools-resources/>
- Organic Production, WSU Tree Fruit: <http://treefruit.wsu.edu/orchard-management/organic-production/>
- WSU Food & Produce Safety: <http://foodsafety.wsu.edu/>
- Washington State Tree Fruit Association: <https://wstfa.org/?>
- Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission: <https://www.treefruitresearch.com/>
- Western Cascade Fruit Society: <https://wcfs.org/resources/>
- Decision Aid System-Science for Crop Management: <https://decisionaid.systems/>

## Publications:

- Good Fruit Grower Magazine: <https://www.goodfruit.com/>
- Fruit Matters, Tree Fruit News, WSU: <http://treefruit.wsu.edu/newsletter/>
- Recent Trends in Certified Organic Tree Fruit in Washington State: [http://tfrec.cahnr.wsu.edu/organicag/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2018/04/WA\\_OrgtreeFruit\\_ann\\_rev\\_2017.pdf](http://tfrec.cahnr.wsu.edu/organicag/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2018/04/WA_OrgtreeFruit_ann_rev_2017.pdf)
- Traceability, National GAP Program: <https://gaps.cornell.edu/educational-materials/decision-trees/traceability/>
- Transportation, National GAP Program: <https://gaps.cornell.edu/educational-materials/decision-trees/transportation/>
- Bridging the GAPS-Farm Guide, WSDA: [https://agr.wa.gov/getmedia/20289160-dd28-47e8-92d9-9d5f2c55e671/gap\\_2018gapwebenglish.pdf](https://agr.wa.gov/getmedia/20289160-dd28-47e8-92d9-9d5f2c55e671/gap_2018gapwebenglish.pdf)
- FAQ on the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA): <https://cms.agr.wa.gov/getmedia/0d220f2f-25f7-435d-9a48-3b187cf17c2f/22.pdf>
- Guide to Identifying Hazards in Packinghouse Environments, Virginia Cooperative Extension: [https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs\\_ext\\_vt\\_edu/FST/fst-279/FST-279.pdf](https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/FST/fst-279/FST-279.pdf)

# *third stop.* **Bale Breaker Brewing**

B.T. Loftus Ranches is one of Yakima Valley's longest running hop farms. Established in 1932, it is a fourth-generation family farm now managed by Patrick Smith, with his parents Mike and Cheryl. The farm grows nine different varieties of hops including Citra and Mosaic. They value quality, sustainability, and innovation in their farming practices.

Bale Breaker Brewing Company is located on hop field #41 of B.T. Loftus Ranches and is operated separately from the farming operations. With a thirty-barrel brewhouse and 27,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility, it is the fourth largest independent craft brewery in the state of Washington. They craft four year-round canned beers that are sold throughout Washington, as well as Idaho and Oregon. They have more diverse and seasonal beers on draft at their tap room. They use hops from the land they reside on, but also purchase from Yakima Chief Hops.



*flip for resources on back...*

# Online Resources

## Websites:

- Brewers Association for Small and Independent Craft Brewers: <https://www.brewersassociation.org/>
- Washington Brewers Guild: <https://www.washingtonbrewersguild.org/>
- Washington Beer: <https://washingtonbeer.com/>
- CraftBeer.com: <https://www.craftbeer.com/>
- BeerAdvocate: <https://www.beeradvocate.com/>
- South Puget Sound Community College-Craft Brewing and Distilling: <https://spscc.edu/food-beverage-hospitality/craft-brewing-distilling>
- City of Tumwater-Craft Brewing and Distilling Center: <https://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/doing-business/craft-brewing-and-distilling-center>
- Cascadia Grains Conference: <https://www.cascadiagrains.com>

## Podcasts:

- Microbrewr: <https://microbrewr.com/podcasts/>

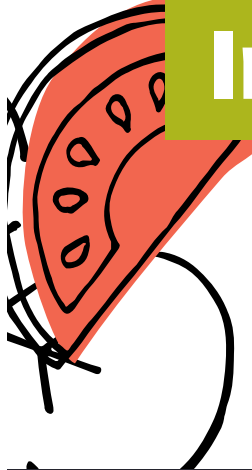
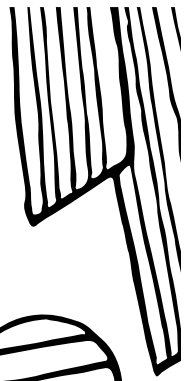
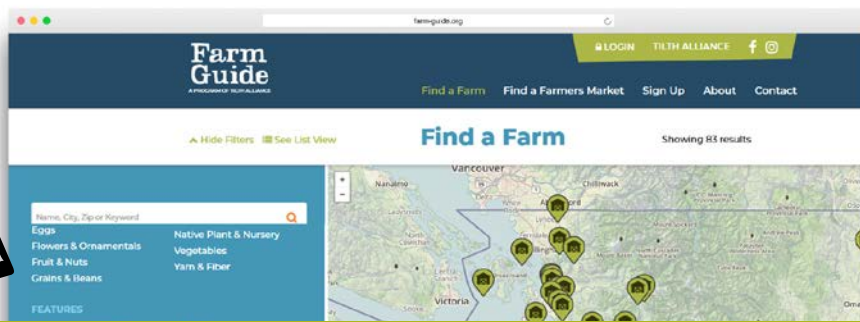
## Hop Growing Resources

### Websites:

- American Organic Hop Grower Association: <http://www.usorganichops.com/AOHGA/>
- Hop Growers of America: <https://www.usahops.org/>
- WSU Hops Economics Working Group: <http://ses.wsu.edu/hop-economics-working-group/>
- Hop Research Council: <https://www.hopresearchcouncil.org/>

### Publications:

- Field Guide for Integrated Pest Management in Hops: <https://www.usahops.org/cabinet/data/Field-Guide.pdf>
- Cover Crops for Crop Production in Semi-Arid Yakima Valley, Washington: [https://www.hopresearchcouncil.org/page/\\_ccLib/attachments/about/Sarah+Del+Moro+SARE+Cover+Crops.pdf](https://www.hopresearchcouncil.org/page/_ccLib/attachments/about/Sarah+Del+Moro+SARE+Cover+Crops.pdf)
- Hop Management in Water-Short Periods: [https://www.hopresearchcouncil.org/page/\\_ccLib/attachments/about/Hop+Irrigation+for+Drought+Conditions.pdf](https://www.hopresearchcouncil.org/page/_ccLib/attachments/about/Hop+Irrigation+for+Drought+Conditions.pdf)
- 2015 Estimated Costs of Establishing and Producing Hops in the Pacific Northwest: <http://pubs.cahnrs.wsu.edu/publications/pubs/tb38/>



# Introducing the New Farm Guide Website!

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[erinmurphy@tilthalliance.org](mailto:erinmurphy@tilthalliance.org).



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**Learn more about the Cascadia Grains Conference...**

Working to bring together farmers, bakers, brewers, distillers, brokers, investors, researchers and others in an effort to enhance the local food economy by sharing the latest science, techniques, and developments for niche-grains in the Cascadia region. Holding a space for new business, policy, and research relationships to form and existing ones to be strengthened.

**Revitalizing a local grain economy in the Cascadia Region**



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**JAN. 17-18, 2020**  
**OLYMPIA, WA**

This conference wouldn't be possible without the support of donors like you.

**BECOME A DONOR!**

Contact: Aba Kiser,  
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# Food Systems

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



## FOOD SYSTEMS

The WSU Food Systems Program supports thriving Washington farms, ecosystems, and food economies to provide communities with equitable access to healthy, sustainable, and regionally produced foods.

### THE FOOD SYSTEMS TEAM

Is a committed group of WSU faculty, staff, and partners. Together we promote research, implement change, and provide unparalleled educational opportunities for farmers, communities, and consumers.



**Systems Focused:**

 **SUSTAINABLE FARMING PRACTICES**

 **EQUITABLE ACCESS**

 **ENERGY & WASTE REDUCTION**

 **PROCESSING & DISTRIBUTION**

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[www.foodsystems.wsu.edu](http://www.foodsystems.wsu.edu)