

HRC Summer Meeting – The HRC Summer meeting was held July 24&25 at the IAREC center in Prosser, Washington where we enjoyed researcher presentations, a tour of the IAREC facilities, and a dinner hosted by the Washington Hop Commission. Our business meetings included discussions of the research proposals submitted for consideration for 2019, approval of a new full member, and the approval of two new HRC membership categories.

New HRC Full Member – We'd like to welcome CLS Farms of Moxee, WA, who was voted in as our newest full member in the dealer membership category, with Cherie Steinmetz as their HRC member representative. As a full member, CLS Farms will be able to participate in all aspects of HRC membership, including holding officer posts, determining the direction of research funded by the HRC, voting rights on all HRC matters, and participation on committees. ***Welcome CLS Farms!***

New HRC Membership Categories – During our Summer meetings the HRC full members voted to create two new membership categories, *Associate* and *Sponsor*. In brief, here are the new categories and benefits:

Associate Membership and Benefits

- Access to membership-only reports, research, and data
- Participation in beer tasting of experimental varieties (one ticket per member)
- Access to elite experimental lines for regional grow-outs/brewing trials
- Attendance to business, technical meetings and poster sessions
- Monthly newsletters and news blasts from the HRC outlining current developments and industry challenges

Sponsors and Benefits

- Quarterly advertisements in newsletters and/or website
- Annual advertisements in HRC Annual Reports
- First priority for other sponsorship opportunities
- Attendance (two people per sponsor) to HRC sponsored luncheons at Winter and Summer meetings

If you're interested in joining the HRC as either a full or associate member, or as a sponsor, please visit our website to download our membership application form.

Upcoming Events – During harvest this year, the Brewer's Association will be conducting a hop sensory assessment on experimental public hop lines. All HRC members are welcome and encouraged to attend to help set the path of public hop varieties. The Public Hop Sensory Assessment will happen September 24-28, 9:00AM-5:00PM at Yakima Valley Hops, 702 North First Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902.

Membership Benefit – Our HRC members can now find the research updates from our 2018 summer meeting in the 'Members Only' section, found under *Research/Research Reports and Presentations*.

Interesting Facts – I've been gathering some information for a project I'm working on, and as a former Washington winemaker I was very surprised at what I found. Here are some facts about Washington state and its wine grape industry and hop production industry:

1. Washington hop production in 2017 was 39,347 tons. Average price per pound was \$6.22, or \$12,440/ton, resulting in the value of the crop at \$489,476,680 (information from Hop Growers of America 2017 statistical report.)
2. Washington wine grape production in 2017 was 227,000 tons. Average price per ton was \$1,198, resulting in the value of the wine grape crop at \$271,946,000 (Wine Industry Network Advisor, March 1, 2018)
3. In the state of Washington, hops rank #6 in terms of farmgate value for agricultural production. WA grapes (wine and juice) rank #8 (WSDA, 2017 state agriculture overview).
4. The Washington wine industry funds public research projects (viticulture and winemaking) *within* WA state currently at \$1,009,000, or a research investment rate of 0.37% basis the farmgate value of the 2017 wine grape crop (WA).
5. Funding provided to public hop research projects (WA/OR) by both the HRC (Hop Research Council) and the WHC (Washington Hop Commission) in 2018 is \$538,026, or a research investment rate of 0.09% basis the farmgate value of the 2017 crop (WA/OR/ID).

Makers of farm machinery, pesticides, seeds and other 'inputs' invest around 3–11% of their revenue in R&D. (Nature, April 30, 2014)

If you're interested in learning more about the need for industry to fund public university research, and how public research funding has changed in the past 20+ years, please visit this website:

<http://issues.org/30-1/the-new-normal-in-funding-university-science/>

If you have any suggestions for content for our monthly newsletter, please contact your Co-Technical Directors, Bryan and Judy Thoet (bryan@bjagriculturalconsulting.com) (judith@bjagriculturalconsulting.com) (503) 400-9147
