



THE NORTHWEST NUTGROWER

2018 Winter Meeting

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Oregon State University

The LaSells Stewart Center

Corvallis, OR 8 am to 4 pm

On Tap for the 2018 Winter Meeting:

The latest Research, Marketing and Industry Practices impacting Oregon's Hazelnut industry, plus more! We look forward to seeing you there!

Win \$200 Cabelas Gift Card By Renewing Online!

For First Time On-Line Membership Users:

1. Go to www.oregonhazelnuts.org and click on the "Growers Corner" (upper right hand corner).
2. On the Growers Corner page go to the upper right hand corner and click on "Sign-In".
3. This takes you to the "Member Log-In" page. Your "User Name" is the Number to the top right of your newsletter mailing label. Your "Password" is "Nutgrower1". ***
4. This takes you to your profile page where you may "Securely Renew Membership Now"
5. On the "Membership Dues" page, complete billing information and "Submit".

***If you have used the site previously and are familiar, follow all steps above using your unique User Name and Password if you made any changes.

If you are a Brand New Member, go to www.oregonhazelnuts.org and click on the "Growers Corner" (upper right hand corner). Then the bottom right of the page to "Haven't Registered Yet?", this will take you through sign up process. For all, please feel free to print your membership card!



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- Full Page ad in 2018 Growers Handbook (\$500 each) Quantity _____
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Please note that sponsorship of each meeting includes vendor space and advertising space in the handbook. For More information or questions please contact Geoff Horning at (503) 678-6823 or geoff@oregonhazelnuts.org

- Please invoice me at the address above
- Check is included. **Please make the check out to Associated Oregon Hazelnut Industries.**

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Hazelnut Growers Bargaining Association - Office phone/fax (503) 692-5932

For more information contact:

Terry Ross: (503) 278-2912

Beth Parsons: (503) 932-9133

Doug Olsen, President: (503) 720-4347

Hazelnut Industry Office – 21595-A Dolores Way NE, Aurora, OR 97002

Ph: (503) 678-6823 Fax: (503) 678-6825 website: www.oregonhazelnuts.org

Geoff Horning: geoff@oregonhazelnuts.org Meredith Nagely: meredith@oregonhazelnuts.org



Nik's Notes - Mulching: News from OSU Extension

Nik Wiman, Assistant Professor and Extension Orchard Specialist

Aaron Heinrich, Senior Faculty Research Assistant

Establishment is a critical period in the life of your orchard because getting your trees off to a good start is key to ensuring your future orchard is healthy and productive. Mulching trees is a cultural practice that has a number of proven benefits for trees. When establishing hazelnut orchards, most growers mulch their bare root trees for increased soil moisture retention. Those using composts and manures are also potentially banking on gaining some fertility for their trees.

Historically, OSU has not recommended nitrogen (N) addition for bare root trees until after two growing seasons. The exception was for slow-release urea formulations, which slowly release the N similar to a compost. The slow-release is important to prevent burning of the sparse young roots. A quality bare root tree will have a good supply of nutrients from the mother tree. The goal is to get new trees into production sooner to start recouping investment in orchard establishment. Naturally, this goal can lead to an urge to push the tree as much as possible and it is not uncommon to see young trees that have been killed by fertilizer burn.

We have been evaluating several mulches in our research plots at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center. Last year was our first season evaluating the effects of mulches on tree growth (cv. "Jefferson") on our plots. From using our pressure chamber, an instrument that measures water stress of plants, we determined that trees mulched with sawdust had significantly lower water stress

compared to trees mulched with mint or municipal yard debris compost. This finding

supported the hypothesis that sawdust would be better for soil moisture retention. When we looked at the effect of the mulches on tree growth, which we measure by taking caliper measurements of the trunk at the beginning and the end of the growing season, we found that trees that had compost mulch grew significantly better than trees that were grown with sawdust mulch. This was in spite of the fact that little of the compost was left on the trees by the end of the season.

One reason that tree performance with sawdust alone is low compared to compost, is that sawdust has a high ratio of carbon to nitrogen (C:N). Soil microbes immobilize N in the soil and make it unavailable to trees during the growing season because they are consuming the C-rich sawdust. The microbes become N-limited and they need the soil N for cell survival and growth. They immobilize N in the soil, which can result in a deficiency in the tree. This was apparent from 2017 trials where we fertilized some trees before we added the sawdust. Trees that received no fertilizer were visibly paler and less vigorous. The trees receiving fertilizer and sawdust together grew better than sawdust mulch alone, compost mulch, or un-mulched trees did. There was also a corresponding increase in foliar N in the trees that were fertilized and mulched with sawdust (see Figure). To summarize, sawdust mulch has some great qualities (some not discussed) as a mulch including high soil moisture retention, high persistence and low cost. Our results suggest sawdust is best used in combination with a low rate of slow-release fertilizer. Composts can give excellent tree growth in the first year but they broke down rapidly in our plots and would require reapplication if used as a source of fertility for organic production.

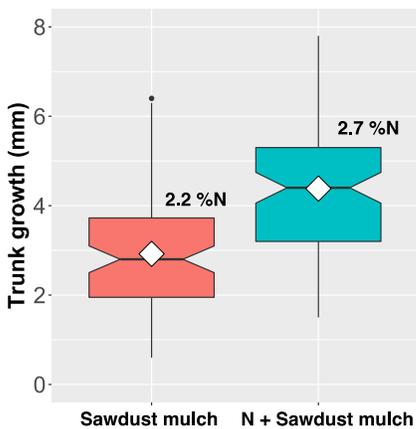


Fig. 1 Growth in one season (trunk caliper) of hazelnut trees planted with 5 gal sawdust mulch compared to trees that were planted with 2 oz fertilizer (27-6-6 polymer coated urea) before sawdust mulch. Leaf tissue nitrogen (N) taken on August 7 is shown above the boxplot.

Membership Renewal

Win a Free 2018 Nut Growers Society Membership by renewing online!

www.oregonhazelnuts.org

One lucky member will win a \$200 Cabelas Gift Card via drawing of those who renew online.

What are the benefits of being an NGS Member?

- ✓ Annual Summer Tour of Orchards, Free Lunch and Equipment Show
- ✓ Free Admission to the Annual Winter Meeting, including lunch
- ✓ Four Newsletters per year keeping you up to date on industry happenings
- ✓ Free copy of Proceedings Handbook detailing the annual meeting and summer tour.
- ✓ Free inclusion in the Hazelnut Roster in the Proceedings Handbook

Renew online or return this page with a check for \$100 made out to:

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About your Membership Renewal Invoice

Because of escalating costs the price of membership has increased to ensure our programs can continue. Thank you for understanding. The NGS attempts to save postage by including your invoice in this newsletter. Your address label includes your current membership year. If it reads 2018 (or above), "Honor" or "Comp," then you are paid in full. If not, please **RENEW ONLINE** or use the invoice below and submit your check for your 2018 dues. Your dues support the education arm of the hazelnut industry allowing us to keep you informed and the industry strong. Thank you!

2018 MEMBERSHIP

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Number of Acres in Hazelnuts _____ Walnuts _____ Other Nuts _____

Would you like your contact information included in the Proceedings Roster? Yes No

Would you like to receive email updates and newsletters from NGS? Yes No

Annual Dues (Calendar Year): \$100 US & Canada (Canadian members, please state US funds) \$110 International

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SAVE THE DATE

2018 NGS WINTER MEETING

THURSDAY - JANUARY 18, 2018

Oregon State University

INDUSTRY CALENDAR

November 29: Oregon Hazelnut Commission Meeting, OSU

December 2 & 3: Mt. Angel Hazelnut Fest

Jan. 30 & Feb 1: Northwest Ag Show, Portland Expo Center
