



# *Opportunities for Research and Extension at* **Intermountain REC**

Located next to the town of Tulelake, four miles from the Oregon border, Intermountain REC (IREC) is well equipped to support small-plot research in field and row crops, resource conservation and to support the community of growers in the Klamath Basin.

## **Center Focus**

IREC research is focused on irrigated field and vegetable crops; the development of new crop varieties; weed, insect, and disease control; water management; and plant nutrition. Crops grown in the Klamath Basin include barley, wheat, potatoes, alfalfa, onions, forage grasses, peppermint, horseradish, and berry nursery stocks.

## **The IREC Commitment**

IREC commits to the viability of long-term research projects. The constraints that might be imposed by a commercial grower or landowner are not present. UC ANR underwrites a significant portion of the cost of conducting research at the Center. On-site staff and conference facilities simplify hosting outreach and extension activities.

## **Support for Research, Extension and Education**

IREC provides the following to researchers:

- A resident farm advisor
- Experienced field research technicians
- Field superintendents
- Administrative assistants
- Mechanics
- Seasonal farm employees

## **Facilities and Services**

Farm machinery; potato planters, harvesters, gradeline, and storage facility; onion planter and harvester; small-plot forage harvester, cereal combine and grain drill; peppermint oil mini still; greenhouse; seed cleaning and handling room; seed storage room; mechanic's shop; CIMIS weather station; high-speed connectivity, 20-seat meeting room.

Research requests for land, labor and facilities are screened by a research advisory committee. For more information about conducting research at IREC, visit <http://irec.ucanr.edu/Research/> or call (530) 667-5117.



**University of California**

**Agriculture and Natural Resources** ■ **Research and Extension Center System**



## Recent research topics from the Intermountain REC:

### Management of new potato cultivars ideally suited to growing conditions in the Klamath Basin

IREC researchers are evaluating experimental and new potato cultivars for suitability to local soil, climate, and market conditions. Field trials look at varietal response to fertilization, seed-spacing, irrigation, and other cultural practices, including how management practices influence tuber yield, quality and storability.

### Development of alfalfa and small grain varieties

A number of investigators across California have continued years of research to help growers choose superior varieties of alfalfa, wheat and other small grains for profitability and to meet industry needs.

### Managing a long-lived fungal disease of onions, a specialty crop of local economic significance

The lack of any known effective genetic resistance or biological control helps make white rot the most serious disease of onions and garlic worldwide. A UC Davis team has been working to find optimal fungicide application rates and determine whether control increases if germination is encouraged before fungicide application.

### Intermountain RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER

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Director: Rob Wilson  
Superintendent: Darrin Culp  
Business Officer: Laurie Askew

<http://irec.ucanr.edu>

### IREC at a glance

140 acres

Flat, rich, reclaimed lake-bottom soil,  
5% organic matter content;  
4,040 feet above sea level

#### Climate

High mountain interior valley climate  
zone

Annual Mean Precipitation: 12.88"

Annual Mean Temperature

Summer maximum mean 73°F

Winter minimum mean 29.1°F

#### Soil series

Tulebasin mucky silty clay loam

*"We use the Intermountain REC for our seed increases and to gain one generation in our common wheat breeding program. The staff at IREC have the expertise we need with small plot experiments and take good care of the plants. They are very independent in doing the job."*  
—Jorge Dubcovsky, Plant Sciences, UC Davis

*"I've been doing alfalfa research at the RECs for 20 years in all the major alfalfa-growing areas, including the Intermountain REC. Rob Wilson knows all about plot work, agronomy and weed science, and he and his crew are very professional and get the job done... my experience at the RECs has been very positive."*  
—Dan Putnam, Plant Sciences, UC Davis

*"The California Garlic and Onion Research Board assesses our growers an annual fee. The purpose is to generate funds to deal with the problems associated with growing garlic and onions. IREC researchers are extremely important for growers in the Klamath Basin to continue to be competitive."*  
—Bob Ehn, CEO and Technical Manager, California Garlic and Onion Research Advisory Board

