

## CENTRAL OREGON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER (COAREC)

Central Oregon Agriculture Research and Extension Center is located in Madras, Oregon (Jefferson County). This puts the facility at the center of 60,000 acres of irrigated crop land and in the center of Central Oregon seed production. High value, specialty crops provide the core of this progressive agricultural community.

### Research

COAREC research supports the agricultural industry by providing timely and critical information about crop management, weed control, disease control, and insect control for several industries.

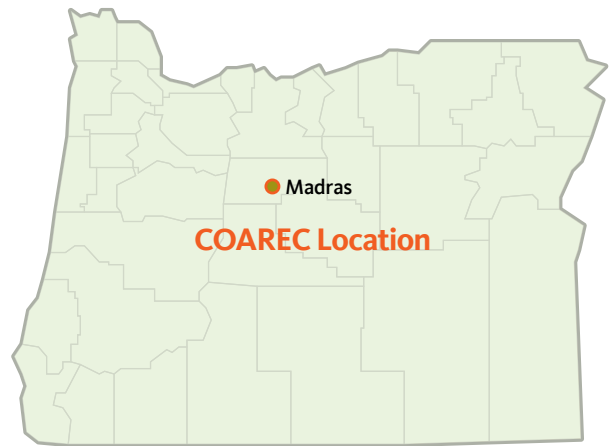
Central Oregon is ideally located for growing carrot for hybrid seed, Kentucky bluegrass seed, peppermint grown for oil and tea leaf, garlic grown for seed, and specialty potatoes. Alfalfa hay, grass hay, and wheat are also widely grown in the region.

Depending on the year, it is estimated that 60 to 85 percent of hybrid carrot seed used in the United States is produced in Jefferson County. Worldwide, it is estimated that 35 to 45 percent of the hybrid carrot seed comes from Jefferson County.

The major grass seed crop is Kentucky bluegrass used for lawns. Jefferson county is also the primary production area for rough bluegrass, used in warm season climates to over-seed turf areas in the winter. This provides a green lawn when the warm season grasses have gone dormant and the lawns would otherwise be brown.

### Economic Impact

Carrot seed is the dominant force in the central Oregon vegetable seed industry, with three fourths of the acreage and near ninety percent of the income. Other vegetable seed crops include garlic, coriander, parsley, and onions.





## Ag Experiment Station History

Oregon is unmatched in the diversity of its agricultural and environmental landscape—from rugged coastlines through lush valleys across high deserts—and the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University is OUT THERE, connecting scientific discovery to communities and industries that rely on those insights. In addition to dozens of research labs and institutes on campus, the College has 14 agricultural experiment station locations across the state.

This statewide system of research stations has a rich history. It began in 1887, when President Grover Cleveland signed the Hatch Act, which provided annual funds for agricultural research stations at land-grant colleges in each state and territory. The first Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station was built in Union, Oregon in 1888. Since then, the system has grown with strategic locations around the state that support industry and communities while addressing environmental issues specific to each region. Together, a network of over 400 scientists in 28 academic disciplines strive to improve quality of life, environmental sustainability, and economic development in rural and urban communities across Oregon and beyond. These stations are the engine of science working every day to make tomorrow better.

**The Central Oregon Agricultural Research and Extension Center (COAREC)** was established in 1991 to serve all of Central Oregon. The Central Oregon Agricultural Research and Extension Center (COAREC) was established.

## Other Programs and Services

Agricultural Literacy: Central Oregon growers and industry partners are **committed to educating students** and the public about all facets of the agriculture industry and in turn, inspiring others to be the **next generation of agriculturalists**.

To make agricultural literacy efforts **easy and accessible** a resource library is available at the Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center, as well as various online resources found on our website. Different education pages are available for the commodities grown locally in central Oregon, and also the different scientific approaches found at the research center.

## Partnerships

Faculty at the Central Oregon Agricultural Research and Extension Center work closely with **advisory boards, local businesses and growers** to identify their production and management needs in the industry, particularly in Central Oregon. Growers and industry partners in the Central Oregon area often contribute money, materials and allow use of their land and facilities for specialized studies.



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