

VEGETABLE AND SPECIALTY SEED CROPS PROGRAM

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Our work encompasses 100+ crops in the Willamette Valley:

Fresh Market Vegetables

- Diverse farms including leafy green crops, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, radish, beets, turnip, and snap beans

Processed Vegetables

- Bean, beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, and sweet corn frozen or canned before sale

Specialty Seed

- Garlic, squash, cabbage, sugar beet, herbs, flowers, and so much more!
- Estimated 20,000+ acres in the Willamette Valley each year

Program Focus Areas:



New Crop Options for Farm Sustainability

- Identify potential crops and barriers to adoption, then growing on-farm trials in quinoa, medicinal herbs, and Asian vegetable crops
- Increase farm revenue and meet market demands with regionally sourced produce and herbs
- New crops have 10-20 X greater market value than current crops



Aerial Images for Crop Protection

- Disease detection and variety selection for vegetable and seed crops
- Goal is earlier disease detection to minimize crop loss (19,000 susceptible acres/year)
- Podcast series on using Unmanned Aircraft Systems in Agriculture: <https://blogs.oregonstate.edu/flyyourfarm/>



Integrated Management of Cabbage Maggot

- Developing innovative control methods to interrupt pest lifecycle with baited feeding attractants, field application of barrier technology, pesticide timing and new products, and field-scale population management with crop arrangements
- Reduced pesticide applications limit exposures and save money
- Increased crop quality and yields

Photos from top:

Red sage in medicinal herb demonstration garden,
aerial view of quinoa variety trial,
cabbage root fly (adult form of cabbage maggot)



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