

# UI Extension Update

University of Idaho, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Idaho counties cooperating.

Spring/April 2020 Volume 7 Issue 2

## 2020 Workshops

Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic these workshops may be rescheduled, conducted over the internet, or canceled. Please send us your email address so you can stay informed of changes.

### May

**Managing for Forest Resilience**  
May 19 & 21, 2020  
Orofino, ID

### June

**North-Central Idaho Hay Day**  
June 1, 2020  
Fraser, ID

**Wildlife Management for Landowners**  
June 2, 2020  
Orofino, ID

**Dry-land Pasture Management**  
June 4, 2020  
Orofino, ID

**Forest & Canyonland Grazing Workshop & Field Day**  
June 11, 2020  
Orofino, ID

**Forest Landowner Peer Learning Tour**  
June 12, 2020  
Kamiah, ID

## Greetings!

by Bill Warren

I hope all of you are healthy and despite the pandemic restrictions and uncertainty are still enjoying the onset of spring. The green time of year!

I want to assure everyone that we are doing everything possible to maintain our regular service of conducting educational programs and providing clients with information and consultation. However, due to our office closure and during the pandemic restrictions, we will be delivering these services in different ways than we have in the past.

Even though our office in Orofino is closed, we are all working from home and you can continue to reach us by calling our office or sending us an email. Voicemail messages left on our main office phone (208-476-4434) will be retrieved remotely and your calls returned. Our emails are included in this newsletter on page 4, or you can email [clearwater@uidaho.edu](mailto:clearwater@uidaho.edu) and you should get a response in the same timeframe as usual.

**Most important:** If you are NOT currently on our email distribution list (which means you do not receive this newsletter or brochures by email), and you want to remain in contact with our office for updates, programing announcements, attending on-line workshops, and access to Extension information, please send your name and email address to [clearwater@uidaho.edu](mailto:clearwater@uidaho.edu).

As we may not be able to work out of our office for some time, and may not be able to send out further mailings or hold in-person meetings and workshops until restrictions are lifted, we plan to conduct our programing and provide information primarily through email and on-line.

Continued on page 2

## Forest Insect & Disease Field Day

June 18, 2020  
Kamiah, ID

## Grass Identification Workshop & Field Tour

June 20, 2020  
Location & Time: TBA

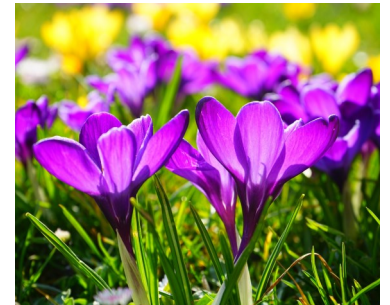
## Forest Measurement Field Day

June 26, 2020  
Orofino, ID

### July

Sixth Grade Forestry Tour  
July 7–9, 2020

4-H Camp  
July 10 - 13, 2020



Continued from page 1

Our plans for delivery of information during the pandemic restrictions include periodic email updates, electronic publications, and notices for upcoming workshops to be held over the internet.

Internet based, and video recorded, workshop capabilities are in preparation. One product that is commonly used and works well for a workshop format is Zoom. The software for attending such a workshop is free for download. Attendees can see each other on their cell phone or computer and carry on conversations and listen to presentations. Power-Point presentations and pictures can be presented and attendees can ask questions and have discussions. Anyone not having the internet capability to use Zoom can still call in to a Zoom meeting and listen and talk to other attendees. I will send out electronic versions of the presentations so call-in participants can still follow the slides. Detailed instructions and scheduling for these on-line workshops will be sent out ahead of time.

So, don't forget to send us your email so you can stay connected to Extension during the pandemic restrictions.

We will get through this together!

Bill

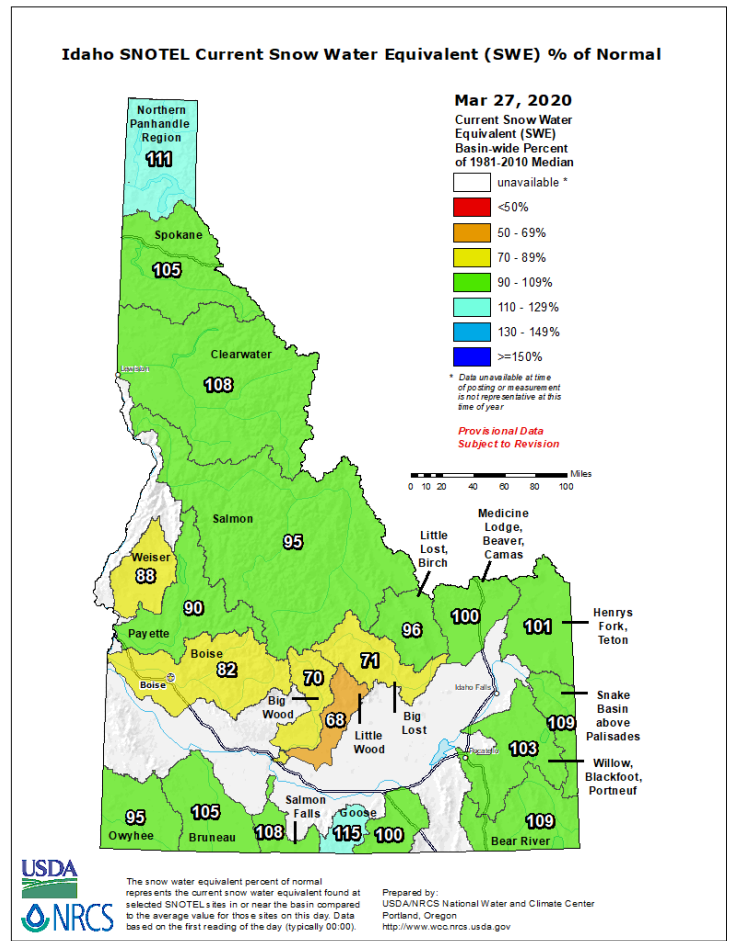
## Spring Snow-Pack Report and Climate Forecast

By Bill Warren

On my property, which ranges from approximately 1400-2400' elevation, it seems dryer, with the season perhaps more advanced (hound's tongue is already several inches high!), than normal. However, the U.S. Drought Monitor is not showing our area as abnormally dry or in drought, although there are areas of drought to our west and south.

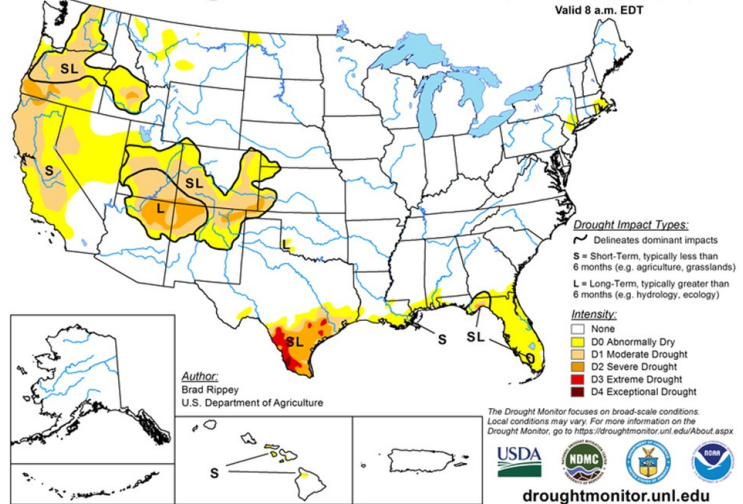
Also, snowpack in our area is slightly above to near normal for this time of year which is good news for summer stream flows, and if it continues through spring, may help mitigate some above normal wildfire risk later in the year.

However, NOAA is predicting a greater chance for a warmer, and dryer, April through June period than normal (see page 3) and is predicting this warm and dry trend to extend through at least August, which could increase wildfire risk in the summer.



## U.S. Drought Monitor

March 24, 2020  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 26, 2020)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



### Idaho Hay Report

Idaho Hay and Forage Association

Alfalfa—Mid Square	
Fair/Good	\$152.00
Utility/Fair	\$135.00
Wheat Straw—Mid Square	
Fair/Good	\$ 60.00

Friday, March 20, 2020

## Clearwater County

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION UPDATE

Published quarterly by University of Idaho Extension, Clearwater County.  
**Clearwater County Extension Staff**  
2200 Michigan Avenue, Orofino, ID 83544  
clearwater@uidaho.edu (208) 476-4434



# Fruity French Toast Casserole

Download this book with extra content at: <https://foodhero.org/cookbook>. (Oregon State University)

## Ingredients:

- 8 cups bread cubes; try whole-grain bread
- 2 cups fruit, sliced or chopped—fresh, frozen or canned
- 4 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 cup nonfat or 1% milk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/4 cup sugar

## Topping:

- 1/4 cup margarine or butter, softened
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup flour, all purpose or whole wheat

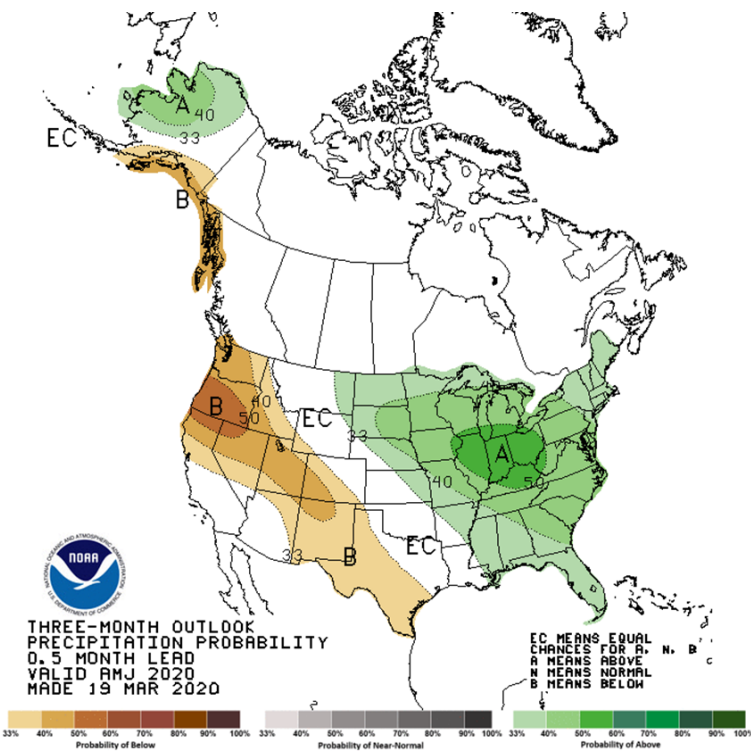
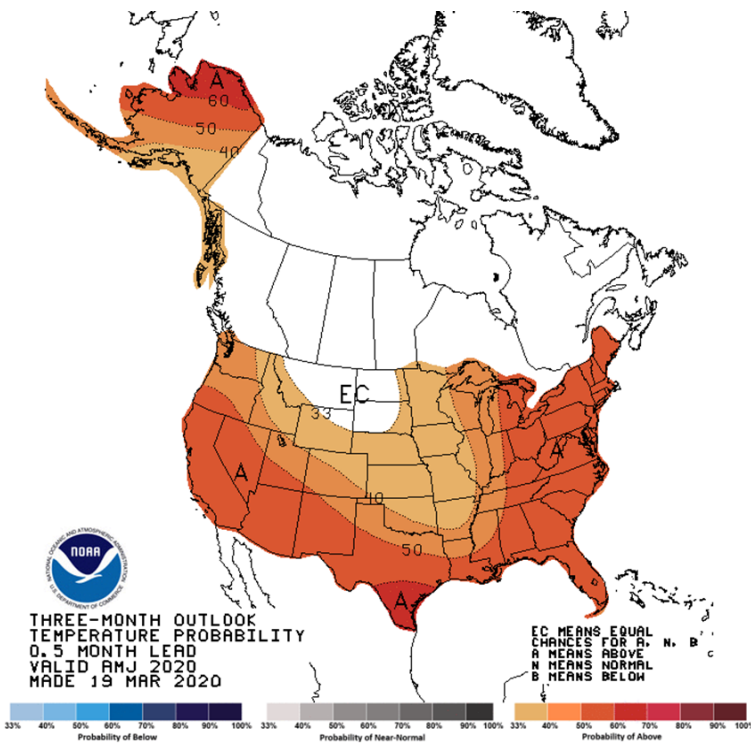
## Directions:

1. grease an 8 x 8 baking dish or 2-quart casserole dish. Add bread cubes and fruit.
2. In a medium bowl, blend the eggs, milk, vanilla and sugar. Pour over the bread cubes and fruit. Stir gently to wet all of the bread with the egg mixture.
3. Cover and refrigerate until all of the liquid is absorbed (30 minutes), or overnight.
4. Just before baking remove the casserole from the refrigerator. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
5. Make the topping in a small bowl, combine the margarine or butter, sugar and flour with a fork until crumbly.
6. Uncover the casserole and sprinkle the topping over the fruit. Bake until completely set and starting to brown (160 degrees F in the center), about 35 to 40 minutes. A longer baking time is needed with the dish is chilled overnight. Serve warm.

Note: This is a great recipe for using up extra bread.

## Variations:

1. For the fruit, try peaches, pears, berries, or diced apples.
2. Lightly sprinkle with cinnamon or other spices such as nutmeg, ground cloves, allspice, or cardamom at the end of step 2.
3. Try topping with a spoonful of yogurt.



## A Sampling of Current Log Prices from Local Mills — March 2020

Per thousand board feet (mbf) (Preferred lengths)

	Douglas Fir Larch	Grand Fir White Fir	Ponderosa Pine	Cedar	Spruce, Lodgepole	White Pine	Blued Pine
Empire Lumber 208-435-4703	\$300-400	\$300-350	\$100	\$700-900	\$275-325	\$275-325	\$80
Idaho Forest Group 208-507-0783	\$420-450	\$420-450	\$240-340	\$750-900	\$400-430	Other \$150	\$125

## Designing an Edible Landscape in Idaho

<https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/publications>



### Introduction:

For too long, fruits and vegetables have been hidden away in the backyard, while manicured lawns and carefully trimmed roses are chosen for curb appeal. But times have changed, and edible plants are often being incorporated as a feature of landscape design. One in three households now grows fruits and vegetables at home, for reasons that include food safety concerns, economy, environmental sustainability, healthy eating, or a simple desire to get back to life's basics.

Gardeners are turning to "edible landscaping" to grown more of their own food, especially in cities and towns where space is a t a premium. In an edible landscape, trees, shrubs, flowers, and vines work double duty, create an attractive, unique yard bursting with functional, food producing plants.

Edible landscaping is practical and possible in all of Idaho's growing regions, if careful thought is given to plant choices, design, and timing. Fore some gardeners maintaining traditional landscape aesthetics may be equal or more important then producing an abundant supply of food. In these cases, edible plants must be highly attractive and remain that way throughout the growing season. Luckily, many common edible plants offer surprising beauty, form, or fragrance to the landscape. Consider blushing pink cherry blossoms, ruffled lettuces in shades of green and bronze, blue-green rosettes of young cabbages, rainbow hues of Swiss chard, distinguished stalks of corn, scented pathways of lemon thyme, spiky, bold artichokes, or an array of edible flowers. Even those roses, it turns out, can be edible!

A successful edible landscape results from good planning, thoughtful design, and regular maintenance. Edible yards can be eye-catching while expanding the capacity for home food production. However, when poorly planned, such landscapes may create extra work and require more inputs of time and attention than a conventional landscape. This publication will provide ideas and suggestions for creating a beautiful, yet productive, edible landscape.

Written by: Ariel Agenbroad, Stephen L. Love, Tony McCammon, Isabelle Taylor

Obtain your copy at the website above or contact our office.

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## Contact Us!

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## Lawn Moss: Friend or Foe?

[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

### Why mosses occur

It is important to understand that mosses occur when some underlying condition allows them to out compete turfgrasses and other plants. These conditions most frequently are some combination of:

- 1) poor drained, persistently wet soils.
- 2) Acidic soil conditions.
- 3) Medium to dense shade.
- 4) Repeated "scalping" of turf on uneven terrain.
- 5) Compacted soils.

### Steps you can take to reduce the competition from moss

If the problems that are limiting the turf or other plant growth are not corrected, any moss elimination or control efforts will be futile. First, identify which of the above factors are likely contributing to the occurrence of the moss. What is your soil pH? If you do not know, then a soil test is required. You can learn more about soil testing in *A Home Gardener's Guide to Soils and Fertilizers* (<https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/extension-publications>). A soil test is simple to perform and very affordable for the amount of information you will receive regarding lie and nutrient requirements.

Next, is the site poorly drained. If so, install drainage or regrade the area to promote water removal. Mosses thrive in these conditions, whereas all turfgrasses struggle.

The third factor that likely is limiting the turf is lack of sunlight. Many species of moss are tolerant of dense shade and prefer moist soil in the shaded areas. Removing trees from the lawn would fix the shade problem but this practice is almost never acceptable to the average homeowner. However, simply pruning trees to remove lower limbs or thin the canopy fosters much improvement of turfgrass growing conditions.

If moss occurs in sunny spots, mover "scalp" may be the culprit. Wide mower decks reduce time on the mower but may contribute to scalping on uneven slopes. Scalping severely weakens turfgrass and allows moss to thrive. Smooth uneven places in the lawn by topdressing with soil, regrade the area, or use a smaller mower in uneven areas.

Compacted soils also give moss a competitive advantage. Use a core aeration machine to alleviate compaction and improve turfgrass growing conditions.

Obtain your copy at the website above or contact our office.



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# The Weedy Side



## Yellow Toadflax

Yellow toadflax is a perennial escaped ornamental plant that is native to the Mediterranean region. The leaves are narrow, linear, and 1 to 2 inches long. The stems are woody at the base and smooth toward the top. Sparingly branched and 1 to 3 feet tall. The showy snapdragon-like flowers are bright yellow with a deep orange center and have spur as long as the entire flow.

It develops an extensive root system, making control options varied. Yellow toad flax displaces desirable plant communities reducing ecological diversity and rangeland value. Decreases forage for domestic livestock, some big game species and decreases habitat for associated animal communities. The plant is known to be mildly poisonous to cattle. Goats and sheep have been known to graze the plants with little effect.

Habitats for Yellow toadflax include roadside, vacant lots, gravel pits, field, waste areas, other distributed sites and rangeland. It has adapted to a variety of site conditions, from moist to dry and does well in all types of soil. The plant can even establish in areas of excellent condition in natural disturbance or small openings.

The key to effective control of Yellow toadflax is prevention and integrating as many management strategies as possible. Early detection and eradication can keep populations from exploding, making more management options available. With the plants varying genetically using many different approaches is important such as: herbicide, mechanical, cultural, and biological.

Chemical control for noncrop and rangeland sites: refer to Idaho's Noxious Weeds 2011 Control Guidelines.

Taken from Colorado Department of Agriculture - [www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds).



## Buffalobur

Buffalobur is an annual that reproduces solely by seed. Buffalobur is drought tolerant and can be found in meadows, dry rangeland, pastures, lawns, cultivated fields, roadsides, and waste areas and survives in disturbed, dry areas. A single plant can produce 8,500 seeds. Since Buffalobur can self-fertilize, a single plant can start an infestation. It flowers throughout the summer and into the fall. The stems, leaves and even flowers sport many sharp spines. Leaves are deeply lobed and from up to 5 inches long. Yellow flowers are one inch across with five petals. A dry berry covered with sharp spines contains numerous black seeds. Seeds mature shortly after flowering. It has fibrous roots with erect heavily branched stems. Mature plants can grow 1 to 2 feet tall and are covered by straight yellow spines.

This noxious weed may be found as a contaminant in birdseed. These plants often break off at the soil and tumble in the wind, scattering seed. It can be found in some row crops, however, it is not a great competitor.

Small infestations or solitary plants can be hand dug or pulled (wear sturdy gloves). Frequent mowing can also be used to prevent flowering.

2,4-d plus Banvel, can control buffalobur. Buffalobur is moderately susceptible to 2,4D when seedlings are immature. It becomes very resistant to 2,4D after flowering. A combination of 2,4D plus Banvel usually provides more complete control than either herbicide alone.

Chemical control for noncrop and rangeland sites: Refer to Idaho's Noxious Weed Control Guidelines.

Taken from Lincoln County Noxious Weed Control - [www.co.lincoln.wa.us/weedboard](http://www.co.lincoln.wa.us/weedboard)



## Blueweed (Common Viper's Bugloss)

Blueweed is a biennial or short-lived perennial growing from a long, woody taproot to over 36 inches tall. Leaves are lance shaped, alternating and becoming small and stalk-less moving up the stem. Each

plant will produce from one to many flowering stalks. Both stems and leaves are covered with stiff, bristly hairs that have swollen, red, purple, or black bases, giving the stems a spotted appearance. The stems terminate in cymes, or helicoids clusters (curled like a scorpion), uncoiling and straightening out as the flowers open. There can be as many as 50 cymes per stem, and each cyme bears up to 20 flowers. The showy, funnel-shaped flowers are typically bright blue, but may also be purple, pink, or rarely white. Plants bloom from June through August, seeds maturing about a month after bloom. Each plant may produce up to 2,800 seeds that can remain viable for several years.

Blueweed reduces forage production and wildlife habitat. It causes spoilage in baled hay because the succulent leaves and stems become moldy.

Small, isolated infestation can be dug out if the soil is moist and plants are not well established. Large, woody tap roots make Blueweed difficult to remove manually. Be careful to collect and dispose of all pieces of roots and crown to prevent them from re-establishing.

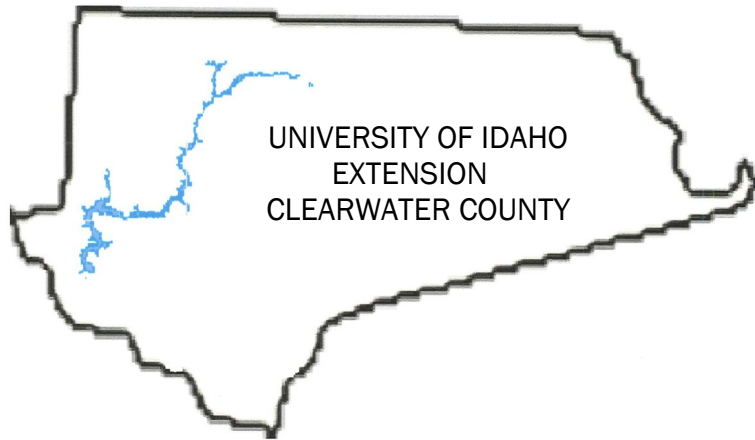
Spot spraying with an herbicide containing the active ingredient glyphosate can be effective in controlling Blueweed. Currently, herbicides containing glyphosate are the only products for the control of blueweed that are considered to be effective and also appropriate for homeowner use. Thurston County has observed that most ready-to-use, pre-mixed products do not contain sufficient active ingredients to be as effective as concentrated products that are then mixed with water to create a specific finished concentration.

Using a spot application, spray each plant thoroughly on the stems and leaves, enough to be wet but not dripping. A 2% glyphosate solution (after mixing) is necessary to control blueweed. Spot applications should be applied at bud stage, prior to blooming. Blueweed blooms from June to September. For most effective treatments, apply before plants produce seed.

Chemical control for noncrop and rangeland sites: Refer to Idaho's Noxious Weed Control Guidelines.

Taken from Thurston County Noxious Weed Control—[www.co.thurston.wa.us/tcweeds](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/tcweeds)

# UI Extension Update



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**Special Spring Edition: How to stay in contact with Extension and participate in workshops during the pandemic restrictions. See inside.**