

# WSU PUYALLUP HIGHLIGHT

August 18, 2006

## Organic Farm Walks combine research and community outreach



*(Top left: Dave Muehleisen organizes over 170 people for the WSU Small Farms Team and Tilth Producers of WA farm walk; Top center: Sarah Cassidy from Oxbow Farms explains how to protect crops from flea beetle damage; Top right: A vertical greenhouse at Hop to it Organic farm produces strawberries all year long)*

This summer, the WSU Small Farms Program and the Tilth Producers of Washington have teamed up again to host the Summer Organic Farm Walks. Participants have looked at value-added lavender production in Twisp; soft fruit production in Rock Island; certified organic grains in Winthrop and will be traveling to the Giggling Goat Farm in Shelton on September 18 to see and learn about certification processes & livestock integration and the farm's raspberry fruitworm research partnership with WSU.

As consumer interest in organic foods continues to increase, the need for research and training on organic crop production methods is also on the rise. In Washington, certified organic acreage has grown from 11,459 acres in 1993 to approximately 42,872 acres in 2003. \* The WSU Small Farms team members apply the latest research to enhance agricultural production and marketing options for profitable, environmentally-sound farming.

*\*Economic Research Service, USDA, 2003*

### ***WSU Puyallup: Solutions for the Region- Programs for Its People.***

*Weekly Highlights is provided by the people and programs of WSU Puyallup. To include a highlight in an upcoming announcement, please contact either Tanyalee Erwin, [terwin@wsu.edu](mailto:terwin@wsu.edu), 253-445-4504, or Jon Newkirk, [jnewkirk@wsu.edu](mailto:jnewkirk@wsu.edu), 253-445-4568. If your email is set to text messages only and you wish to see the graphical version of this Highlight, please email Tanyalee and she will send this Highlight as an attachment.*