

Oregon POTATOES NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2018

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OPC Mission Statement
We make Oregon Potatoes Vital



INTRODUCING ALAN SAMS OSU'S NEW DEAN OF AG SCIENCES

Alan R. Sams, who has helped expand prominent agricultural programs at both Texas A&M and Clemson universities, has been named the Reub Long Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University.

Sams also will serve as director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station at OSU. He succeeds Dan Arp, who is retiring after six years as dean. Sams will begin his new duties at Oregon State on Oct. 31.

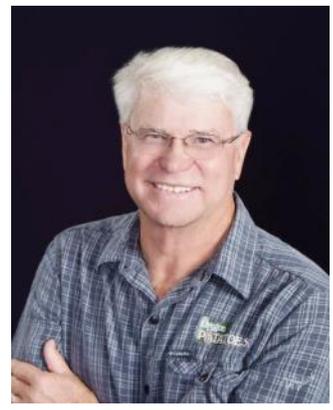
Sams has served as the executive associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M for the past nine years. With 350 faculty, 7,800 students and a budget of more than \$69 million, Texas A&M is one of the largest agricultural colleges in the country. In that position, Sams was responsible for the college's academic programs, personnel and budgeting. He previously was dean of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences at Clemson University from 2007-09.

"Alan Sams understands the complex mission of a comprehensive agricultural college at a 21st-century land grant research university," said Edward Feser, Oregon State provost and executive vice president. "His experience and vision will help OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences further advance its groundbreaking research programs, deliver outstanding undergraduate and graduate education, and collaborate with key partners to serve the needs of the agricultural sector and communities throughout Oregon and beyond."

At Oregon State, Sams will oversee a college that has more than 2,600 students, 250 faculty and \$90 million in research expenditures, and that has been ranked among the top agricultural programs in the world. The college offers 13 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, and works closely with agencies including U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Science Foundation, U.S. Forest Service, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Agency for International Development, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Navy and others. *Continued on page 3*

BILL BREWER IS RETIRING

Bill Brewer, OPC President/CEO announced his retirement after 13 years with the commission. His last day will be June 30, 2019.



"OPC has allowed me to be involved with the potato industry and growers from around the US. I have enjoyed it all and hope I have represented the Oregon Potato Growers well. My time with OPC has allowed me to participate with Oregon State University, the Department of Agriculture as well as legislators and agencies in both Oregon and Washington DC.

I wish to thank all the potato growers of Oregon for this experience, but none more than Tony Amstad, who first asked me to apply for the job and helped introduce me to the program" said Bill Brewer.

The OPC is accepting applications for a new Executive Director until 4:00 pm, November 16, 2018. Applications can be accessed on the commission website www.oregonspuds.com.

BRIAN CHARLTON APPOINTED INTERIM DIRECTOR OF KLAMATH BASIN RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER

Charlton has spent his entire 24-year career at Oregon State University and KBREC working in potato variety development and cultural management. Since 2014, he has served as the Klamath Basin Potato Faculty Scholar.

“I’m excited to take on this new role while still being able to maintain my research/Extension program,” Charlton said. “I’m looking forward to continuing OSU-KBREC’s strong relationships with county commissioners, ag producers, local agribusiness, industry stakeholders, and others.”



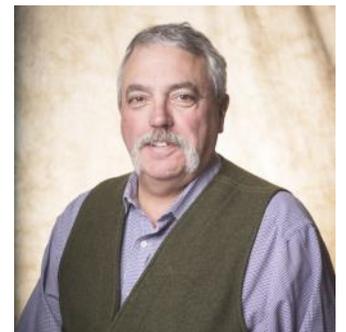
Charlton has held several positions at KBREC, including associate professor, instructor, senior faculty research assistant and faculty assistant. He started his professional career at KBREC as a student employee while he was earning a bachelor’s degree in crop and soil science at OSU. He holds a master’s degree in agronomy from Iowa State University.

“I’d assume there aren’t too many Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station directors who started at their respective centers as a student employee, returned as a research assistant, and were hired as a project leader, then appointed director,” he said. “I’ll be able to bring a unique understanding of branch station operation from bottom to top.”

Charlton succeeds Willie Riggs, who has been appointed regional director for OSU Extension’s southern region after serving as KBREC director since 2007.

Riggs will continue to be based in Klamath Falls. As regional director, Riggs provides leadership, vision, focus, and development for Extension programming in Klamath, Lake, Jackson, Josephine and Douglas counties.

“I enjoyed my time as KBREC director,” Riggs said. “The center has a full complement of faculty and staff that work diligently to meet the needs of our communities.”



Riggs began his professional career in Klamath County as a regional economics agent for OSU Extension during the early 1990s and later as an Extension agent at the Lake County office. He spent 10 years as Extension educator for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Service before returning to Klamath County as KBREC director. He holds both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in agricultural economics and economics from New Mexico State University.

Courtesy of Chris Branam, OSU



A NOTE FROM STUART REITZ - NEW DIRECTOR OF THE OSU MALHEUR EXPERIMENT STATION

I am excited about starting as director of the Malheur Experiment Station on November 1, 2018. The Station has a long history of conducting high quality research to benefit agriculture in the Treasure Valley, and the value the local community has in the Station is reflected in their support of it. Just by way of a couple of examples, in 2012 Malheur County overwhelmingly voted for a tax service district to help support the Station and each year, hundreds of people attend the various fields days held at the Station.

In terms of potatoes research, I think the Station has a bright future. Potatoes remain an important crop in Malheur County and across the Treasure Valley. I look forward to the Station continuing to be heavily involved in various state and regional variety trials, especially since it recently became one of the sites for the National Fry Processors Trial. Clint Shock has initiated other exciting research on irrigation practices for potatoes and I am happy that he is interested in remaining active in that research. Joel Felix also will be leading efforts to improve weed management practices. Personally, I have had the pleasure to collaborate with a number of the other entomologists in the Northwest on pest management projects that have been funded through the OPC, the Northwest Potato Research Consortium, or other grant programs, and I look forward expanding that research on insect pest management through my position at the Station.

Of course, research does depends on the people conducting it. I am fortunate to be coming into the director’s position with an incredible faculty and staff to work with. I don’t think you could find a more dedicated, professional, and talented group anywhere. That will make my job as director that much easier and more importantly, ensures that the Station remains the valuable resource for growers it has always been.

Alan Sams continued

“I am excited to become part of Oregon State University and its commitment to the land grant mission,” Sams said. “It has a student-centered environment combined with an excellent faculty at the forefront of their fields and a commitment to serve all the citizens and industry of Oregon.

“The breadth and economic importance of agriculture in Oregon and the interest in environmental sustainability are factors which drew me to Oregon State University. There is a tremendous innovative spirit here, whether it is in production agriculture or food entrepreneurship. Agriculture’s role in health, energy and national security is expanding and we need to lead that growth.”



The College of Agricultural Sciences is Oregon's principal source of knowledge relating to agricultural and food systems, and a major source of knowledge regarding environmental quality, natural resources, life sciences, and rural economies and communities worldwide.

Throughout his career, Sams has emphasized partnerships with industry and government partners and within higher education. Interdisciplinary teaching and research is a hallmark of Oregon State, which was another factor that attracted him to OSU.

“Something that gives Oregon State an important strategic edge is its marine sciences component,” Sams said. “Producing food and energy from the ocean, as well as protecting its biodiversity, is a unique part of our goal to feed a sustainable world.”

Sams has a background in poultry science and received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in that discipline from the University of Florida. He also has a Ph.D. from Florida in food science and human nutrition.

He began his academic career as a graduate research assistant at the University of Florida, and also worked in private industry as a quality assurance analyst with Gold Kist Poultry, Inc. He joined the Texas A&M faculty in 1984 in the Department of Poultry Science and Food Science and remained there until he was named dean at Clemson in 2007. He returned to A&M in 2009 as executive associate dean.

Sams helped the college expand research partnerships and international programs, increase enrollment by 25 percent, and increase its budget by 30 percent. Texas A&M is ranked No. 1 in annual research expenditures for agriculture and natural resources by the National Science Foundation.

Bill Boggess, executive associate dean of OSU’s College of Agricultural Sciences, will serve as interim dean from Sept. 1 through Oct. 30, following Arp’s retirement.

Courtesy of Mark Floyd, OSU

SOUTH KOREA TRADE MISSION

The Oregon Potato Commission International Trade Committee is cooperating on WUSATA Trade Mission to South Korea in the Fall of 2018 following the re-opening of the Table Stock market access.

The United States and Korea signed new market access agreements for table stock and fresh potatoes in late 2017 to re-open the market, which for table stock had been closed since 2012. The market is open for potatoes grown in Oregon, Washington or Idaho for facilities that met new guidelines registered with USDA/APHIS. The 2018 crop has a quota of 3,583 MT with Korean Importers who won bids. A detailed list of requirements and importers can be obtained by contacting the OPC Office.

In addition to working on Korean Fresh Market Access, OPC has also been involved with Potatoes USA and National Potato Council who contract with Bryant Christie to help establish new Maximum Residue Levels (MRL) for Korea. January 1, 2019 all MRL’s in Korea will have new tolerances. The potato industry has been very involved the past couple of years since the Korean government announced they would require all products to be re-registered. If any of your product is exported to Korea make sure you have reviewed the MRL list and only use products on the list.

The OPC Trade Committee believes South Korea has great potential for expansion in the next few years.

By Bill Brewer

NATIONAL FRY PROCESSOR TRIALS

The Oregon Potato Commission is a member of the National Fry Processor Trials (NFPT) along with five other state potato commissions, Potatoes USA, National Potato Council, Lamb Weston, McCains, Simplot and Cavendish. NFPT is managed by the Potatoes USA Research Committee and each member contributes funding for operations.

NFPT accepts process potato clones being developed by breeders to be tested at six locations around the US as potential French fry varieties. There are three tiers of trials with each tier adds additional criteria and expectations. All of the process qualities must be met with any variety graduating from the program. The goal of the program is to develop new French fry varieties that will be accepted by the end users faster with all the qualities needed.

Representatives from each of the partner organizations meet a few times during the year to keep the process on track and evaluate the results. There are hundreds of entries to manage. The program has developed an information tool that allows data to be accessed for any or all of the criteria in the data base very quickly. By setting a desired set of criteria, the user can easily and quickly find a list of clones that meet that criteria.

The data can be accessed by contacting Potatoes USA to receive a password.

By Bill Brewer

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