# Weather, climate and adapting to changes

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Northwest Climate Hub U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



### A series of brief talks

- Weather, climate, and climate change
- Seedlot Selection Tool
- Drought & CoCoRHaS
  - <u>Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow Network</u>
- USDA Climate Hubs







#### Weather, climate, and climate change

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## The difference between weather and climate is time



#### Climate: months, years<sup>+</sup>



July is on average the WARMEST month.

December is on average the COOLEST month.

#### **Short-term projections**

## 8-10 day temperature probability outlook

#### 1 month temperature probability outlook



http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

#### **Observations in Global Climate**



## Global temperatures over geological time

"Normal" climate has varied throughout the history of the Earth.



http://gergs.net/2015/06/updating-the-geological-temperature-plot/all\_palaeotemps/

To understand the climate of the Earth, here are some processes often included in models of the Earth's climate system.

Figure source: Karl and Trenberth 2003



#### Modeling the Climate System

#### Global Climate Models



# Projected climate changes = warmer temperatures, but uncertain changes in precipitation

Intermountain West Region (S ID, UT, NV, N AZ, N NM)



Photo: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Tribal Native Plant Nursery

How will this affect your nursery operation?



#### Climate change impacts on nurseries

Warmer temperatures & longer periods without rain

Increase shading or move outdoor production to greenhouses/controlled environments

Water stress so will need to irrigate more & more efficient irrigation systems

Identify drought tolerant species

Identify species adapted to a warmer climate

Different plant hardiness zones

Require less chilling hours

Photo: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Tribal Native Plant Nursery



Climate change impacts on nurseries More intense periods of rain / saturated soils May need to protect hoop houses May need to protect plants Enhance drainage New / Increase in pest and disease pressure Modify integrated pest management practices Identify resistant species

Sea level rise

Monitor salinity of irrigation water

Move operations upland

## Question?

#### Climate change impacts on nurseries

Warmer temperatures & longer periods without rain

- Increasing shading or move outdoor production to hoop houses
- Water stress so will need to irrigate more & more efficient irrigation systems
- Identify drought tolerant species
- Identify species adapted to a warmer climate
  - Different plant hardiness zones
  - Require less chilling hours





# How will the climate change in areas to which I supply native plants?



#### Local adaptation

Within a species populations have evolved differently to be adapted to the local environment and/or biological factors



### Seedlot Selection Tool

- Online <a href="https://seedlotselectiontool.org/sst/">https://seedlotselectiontool.org/sst/</a>
- GIS (geographic information system) tool
- Designed to <u>help</u> forest managers match seedlots with planting sites based on climatic information.
  - To use along with your expertise and ecological knowledge
- Climates of the planting sites can be chosen to represent current climates, or future climates based on selected climate change scenarios.

#### \* Seedlot Selection Tool







San Francisco

Los Angeles

where you can plant it.

You can select historical, current, or future climates for your seedlots of planting sites



#### 5. Select Transfer Limit Method

You can enter your own custom limit or use an existing zone to calculate a transfer limit



You can use a variety of climate variables to match your seedlot and planting site



Leaflet | Tiles © Esri — Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ

Atlanta

Dallas

Houston

Washington















### Questions?



Photo: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Tribal Native Plant Nursery

How will drought affect your nursery operation?



#### Drought impacts on nurseries

Warmer temperatures & longer periods without rain

- Increasing shading or move outdoor production to hoop houses
- Water stress so will need to irrigate more & more efficient irrigation systems
- Identify drought tolerant species
- Identify species adapted to a warmer climate
  - Different plant hardiness zones
  - Require less chilling hours





## Drought

Drought originates from a deficiency of precipitation over an <u>extended period of time</u>

Impacts result from the interplay between the natural event and the demand people place on water supply

Source: drought.gov



#### Insurance

- USDA Farm Service Agency
  - Disaster Assistance Program
    - Non-insured crop disaster assistance program (NAPD)
- USDA Risk Management Agency
  - Nursery Commodity Insurance
  - Whole Farm Insurance

### Information on

NIDIS drought.gov

DEWS: Drought Early Warning System

National Drought Monitor

> Reporting: <u>http://droughtreporter.</u> <u>unl.edu/map/</u>



#### So few weather stations

ArcGIS <> NOAA Weather Stations



![](_page_35_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### CoCoRHaS: Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow Network

Main focus is to provide quality precipitation data and educational opportunities to help the public better understand weather and climate

Volunteers report their DAILY observations on interactive website or using CoCoRaHS mobile app

• Data are immediately viewable

www.cocorahs.org

![](_page_36_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### CoCoRHaS: Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow Network

oCoRaHS

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Brief training in CoCoRHaS

Setting up your equipment and measuring precipitation

Location is very important

![](_page_38_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Where NOT to put your gauge

![](_page_39_Picture_1.jpeg)

# Avoid locations with structures that can affect rain collection into gauge

Solid fence can affect wind movement during strong wind events, which may reduce rain caught in the gauge.

![](_page_40_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Distances

- Open area
  - Twice as far from obstacles as they are high
  - Place gauge top about 2 feet off the ground
- Developed area
  - Strive to be as far from obstacles as they are high
  - Pace gauge top about 5 feed off the ground
- Ideally be equidistant from the nearest trees

![](_page_41_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_9.jpeg)

### Gauge set up

- Make sure that your gauge is level
- Bevel the top of the post (cut at an angle away from the gauge) to limit rain splashing into your gauge

![](_page_42_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_0.jpeg)

One inch of rain in the inner tube looks different than one inch of rain in the outer tube

#### Measuring rainfall

![](_page_43_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Gauges hold up to 11" of rain!

![](_page_43_Picture_5.jpeg)

## Reading the gauge: ZERO

- ZERO 0.00"
- Really important to know when it did not rain
  - Super important to understand for DROUGHT
- Record Zeros when observed and don't leave blank if you saw there was no rain

![](_page_44_Picture_5.jpeg)

## Reading the gauge: Trace "T"

- Record trace if:
  - Sprinkle of rain
  - Few flakes of snow
  - as a Trace for your next observation, even if it does not fall in the rain gauge.
- A few drops in the gauge

![](_page_45_Picture_6.jpeg)

## Reading the gauge

• Tenths

• 0.50"

Record as accurately to the nearest hundredth of an inch

![](_page_46_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_0.jpeg)

Please be careful when recording your measurement. Getting the decimal point correct is <u>essential</u> !

0.40"

There is a large water difference between 0.40 inches and 4.00 inches Don't round up Note you received 0.98" of rain and do not write just 1" of rain

- 1. Record first inch in inner tube
- 2. Empty inner tube
- 3. Pour remaining water in funnel into the tube
- 4. Record that measurement
- 5. Repeat until all rain in funnel is measured and recorded
- 6. Add up all measurements and enter data to CoCoRHaS

![](_page_48_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_7.jpeg)

#### Other important information

Observation are preferred at 7am, but ok between 4:30-9:30 am. All other times accepted, but won't appear on CoCoRHaS maps.

Report when you are able. If gone for multiple days can report a multi-day total of rain upon your return.

Commitment is ideally one-season, but longer is better.

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### CoCoRHaS: Community Collaborative Rain Hail Snow Network

Other measurements Snow Hail Significant weather events Heavy rain or snow events Condition monitoring Drought impact reporter

![](_page_50_Picture_3.jpeg)

### Questions?

Do you want to join CoCoRHaS and take home a gauge today?

![](_page_51_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### **USDA** Climate Hubs

#### **Collaboration across**

- Forest Service (FS)
- Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

#### Contributions from

- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Risk Management Agency (RMA)
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

#### **USDA** Climate Hub Mission

Develop and deliver science-based, region-specific information and technologies, with USDA agencies and partners, to agricultural and natural resource managers that enable climate-informed decision-making, and to provide access to assistance to implement those decisions.

https://www.climatehubs.oce.usda.gov/

![](_page_54_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Compilation of USDA Programs and Resources to Assist Tribes with Adapting to Climate Change

National product Excel table (online soon)

150 Programs/Resources with descriptions & website links from 13 agencies Grants and financial support Insurance and loans Informational resources Services and training Technical support

Filter by keywords, eligibility and geography

Climate Change Component\*

#### Examples resources / programs for nurseries

Agency	Title	Keywords	Programs /	Description	Eligibility	Eligible	Climate change component	Category
			Resources					
Agricultural	Grants &	Commodity,	Specialty Crop	The purpose of the Specialty Crop Block Grant	Applications for specialty crop projects must be	Individuals,	This program enhances competitiveness	Grant:
Marketing	Opportunities	Specialty	<u>Block Grant</u>	Program (SCBGP) is to solely enhance the	submitted to the appropriate State Department of	non-federal	of specialty crops and supports	Block
Service		crops	<u>Program</u>	competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops	Agriculture to be considered for funding. State	entity	investing in specialty crop research,	Grants
(AMS)				are defined as "fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried	Departments of Agriculture are encouraged to partner		which includes conservation,	
				fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including	with specialty crop stakeholders, including socially		environmental outcomes, sustainability,	
				floriculture)."	disadvantaged and beginning farmers, in order to fulfill		seed varieties / cultivars that will need	
					State specialty crop priorities. Individual or other non-		to be resilient to changes in climate and	
Farm Service	Disaster	Emergency	Tree Assistance	The Tree Assistance Program (TAP) provides financial	Open, contact your local FSA office.	Many	As extreme weather event impact farm	Financial
Agency	Assistance	recovery	Program_	assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree			productivity, FSA programs such as	Support
(FSA)	Programs			growers to replant or, where applicable, rehabilitate			disaster assistance can help farms be	
				eligible trees, bushes and vines lost by natural			more viable.	
				disasters. A qualifying mortality loss in excess of 15				
				percent (in excess of normal mortality) must be				
				sustained to trigger assistance.				
Risk	Whole-Farm	Commodity	Whole-Farm	Whole-Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) provides a	Be eligible to receive Federal benefits; Be a U.S. citizen	Individuals	With climate change more extreme	Insurance
Management	Revenue		Revenue	risk management safety net for all commodities on the	or resident; File either a Schedule F tax form or other		weather is expected. Crop insurance	
Agency	Protection		Protection	farm under one insurance policy and is available in all	farm tax form that can be converted to a Substitute		can help provide financial stability so	
(RMA)				counties nationwide. This insurance plan is tailored for	Schedule F for a specified number of years; Have no		that farmers and ranchers are better	
				any farm with up to \$8.5 million in insured revenue,	more than \$8.5 million in insured revenue, which is the		able to make the long-term investments	
				including farms with specialty or organic commodities	farm revenue allowed to be insured under the policy		needed to adapt to a changing climate.	
Farm Service	Disaster	Conservation	Emergency	Farm Service Agency's ECP provides emergence	Open, contact your local FSA office.	Many	As extreme weather event impact farm	Financial
Agency	Assistance		Conservation	financial and technical assistance to farmers and			productivity, FSA programs such as	and
(FSA)	Programs		Program	ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural			disaster assistance can help farms be	Technical
				disasters and to implement emergency water			more viable.	Support
				conservation measures in periods of severe drought.				
Farm Service	Conservation	Emergency	Emergency	The Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)	Owners of non-industrial private forests. Contact your	Private	As extreme weather event impact farm	Financial
Agency	Programs	recovery	Forest	helps the owners of non-industrial private forests	local FSA office.	forests	productivity, FSA programs such as	Support
(FSA)			<u>Restoration</u>	restore forest health damaged by natural disasters.			disaster assistance can help farms be	
			Program	The EFRP does this by authorizing payments to			more viable.	
				owners of private forests to restore disaster damaged				
				forests. The local FSA County Committee implements				
				EFRP for all disasters with the exceptions of drought				
Farm Service	Farm Loan	Emergency	Emergency	Emergency Loans (EL) help farmers and ranchers	For production losses, a 30% reduction in a primary crop	Individuals,	More extreme weather events are	Loan
Agency	Programs	recovery	Loans	recover from production and physical losses due to	in a designated or contiguous county is required. Losses	Business	expected to occur with changing	
(FSA)	5			drought, flooding, other natural disasters or	to quality, such as receiving a reduced price for flood		climates. This program will provide	
				quarantine. The Emergency loan program is triggered	damaged crops, may be eligible for assistance. In		farmers and ranchers with a loan to	
				when a natural disaster is designated by the	addition to the general eligibility requirements all loan		rebuild after sustained losses due to a	
				Secretary of Agriculture or a natural disaster or	applicants must meet, there are some additional criteria		disaster.	
				emergency is declared by the President under the	unique to the Emergency Loan program see website.			
				Stafford Act.				

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## Thank you