



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2018 Farwest Show speakers Steve Black and Hannah Mathers to talk about organic trees and impact of gene crop spraying

Wilsonville, Oregon (June 27, 2018) – At the 2018 Farwest Show, August 22-24, in Portland, Oregon, nursery growers will hear from two industry experts on topics with environmental implications. Steve Black of Raemelton Farm will speak about his experience as owner and operator of the first U.S. nursery to sell USDA Certified Organic trees. In a separate talk, Dr. Hannah Mathers of Environmental Science Services LLC will examine the issues with stacked gene crop spraying in nurseries.

Black's seminar, "USDA Certified ORGANIC Landscape Trees: The How and Why of Being the First," will detail his experience and production with his pioneering organic tree farm, certified in 2015. He'll share his cutting edge science and technology and explain the marketing value of, and financial rationale for, organic trees. His seminar is scheduled for Wednesday, August 22, 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., in Room B115. Black started Raemelton Farm in 2004 in Adamstown, Maryland. He uses the latest techniques and innovations in tree production.

In her seminar, "Let's Drift Apart: The Issue of Stacked Gene Crop Spraying for Nursery", Dr. Mathers will speak about how genetically modified crops (GMCs) are being used in agriculture, with stacked glyphosate- and dicamba-resistant soybeans such as Xtend™ seed being some of the most recent players. A severe escalation in herbicide drift and carry-over injury on "non-target" nursery/landscape trees has resulted. Her talk sheds light on a subject not widely understood today. The seminar is scheduled Thursday, August 23, 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., in Room B119. With more than 28 years of experience, Dr. Mathers is an independent researcher/consultant in nursery/landscape weed science, nutrition and cold stress and a renowned weed scientist for ornamental crops.

Registration is required for the seminars and available online at <https://farwestshow.com/register/>

Complete details on Farwest 2018 are found at www.FarwestShow.com

###

The Oregon Association of Nurseries (OAN), based in Wilsonville, represents more than 800 wholesale growers, retailers, landscapers and suppliers. Oregon's ornamental horticulture industry is one of the state's largest agricultural commodities, with annual sales of \$909 million. Oregon's nursery industry is a traded sector; nearly 80 percent of the nursery plants grown in Oregon are shipped out of state. For information, visit www.oan.org or call 503-682-5089.

The Farwest Show, the largest green industry show in the West, is produced by the OAN, a trade organization that represents and serves the interests of the ornamental horticulture industry. Any revenue realized by the OAN is reinvested into the industry through education, research, marketing support and government relations. For more information about the 2018 Farwest Show, visit www.FarwestShow.com or call 503-682-5089.

CONTACTS:

Allan Niemi, Director of Events, Oregon Association of Nurseries, aniemi@oan.org, 503-582-2005

Tom Kegley, Tom Kegley Communications, tkegley@rev.net, 843-991-4366