






2024 WASHINGTON STATE AGRICULTURAL VIABILITY CONFERENCE

Conference dates	May 29-30, 2024
Location	Three Rivers Convention Center 7016 W. Grandridge Blvd. Kennewick, WA 99336
Wifi	Three Rivers Convention Center Password: 3Revents!
Event facilitator	Dr. Scott Linklater, <i>CEO & Principal consultant, Trust Builder</i>

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

Beginning Farmer Competitiveness and Viability Event	
1:30 pm	Registration and Check-in
2:00 pm	Welcome & Introductions Katie Rains, <i>Director of Food System Initiatives, Washington State Department of Agriculture</i> Leslie D. Edgar, Ph.D., <i>Associate Dean for Research & Director of the Agricultural Research Center, Washington State University</i>
	Introduction to the Agricultural Competitiveness Study Dr. Katelin Swanson, <i>Washington State University IMPACT Center</i>
	Facilitated discussion: Challenges and Opportunities for Beginning Producers
4:30 pm	Closing & Thank you
5:00 pm	Social Hour & All Conference-Welcome <i>We welcome all conference attendees to join us for an evening of networking.</i> <i>A special thank you to our reception sponsors!</i>      
7:30 pm	Social Hour Concludes

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THURSDAY, MAY 30

7:30 am	Registration and check-in
8:15 am	Welcome Derek Sandison, <i>Director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture</i> Dr. Wendy Powers, <i>Cashup Davis Family Endowed Dean, Washington State University</i>
8:50 am	Keynote Remarks Kris Johnson, <i>President & CEO, Association of Washington Business</i>
9:30 am	Introduction to the Agricultural Competitiveness Study Tim Nadreau, Ph.D., <i>Assistant Director, WSU IMPACT Center</i>
10:00 am	Networking Break & Refreshments
10:20 am	Agricultural Competitiveness Panel & Discussion: Regulatory Burden & Cost of Production Moderated by Jon Wyss, <i>Executive Director, Washington State Farm Service Agency</i> Panel participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maggie Elliot, Science & Communications Director, Washington Hop Commission Andy Juris, Diamond J Farms Inc, Bickleton WA Karen Sheehan, J&K Dairy LLC, Sunnyside WA Matthew Cox, Green Bow Farm LLC, Ellensburg WA
	Agricultural Competitiveness Panel & Discussion: Water Moderated by Tom Tebb, <i>Director, Office of Columbia River, Washington State Department of Ecology</i> Panel participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chad Kruger, <i>Director of the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources (CSANR), Washington State University</i> Patrice Barrentine, <i>Agriculture Policy & Economic Development, King County</i> Chris Voigt, <i>Executive Director, Washington State Potato Commission</i> Scott Revell, <i>District Manager, Roza Irrigation District</i>
12:15 pm	Lunch <i>A special thank you to our lunch sponsors!</i> 
12:45 pm	Keynote Remarks Denny Heck, <i>Washington State Lieutenant Governor</i> Introduced by Alex McGregor, <i>Chairman, The McGregor Company</i>

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1:30 pm	Fireside Chat with Congressman Dan Newhouse <i>with remarks from Congresswoman Kim Schrier</i> Moderated by Matt Harris, <i>Director of Governmental Affairs, Washington State Potato Commission</i>
2:15 pm	Agricultural Competitiveness Panel & Discussion: Labor & Workforce Development Moderated by Ignacio Marquez, Regional Assistant to the Director, Washington State Department of Agriculture Panel Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jon DeVaney, <i>President, Washington State Tree Fruit Association</i>• Lindsey Williams, <i>Director, Agriculture & Natural Resource Center of Excellence (ANR)</i>• Enrique Gastelum, <i>CEO, Wafla</i>• Claire Lichtenfels, <i>Whitestone Mountain Orchard, Tonasket WA</i>
3:20 pm	Agricultural Competitiveness and Viability Across the State Dani Madrone, <i>Pacific Northwest Senior Policy and Planning Manager, American Farmland Trust</i> Tim Nadreau, Ph.D., <i>Assistant Director, Washington State University IMPACT Center</i>
3:45 pm	Agricultural Competitiveness Wrap-up & Next Steps
4:15 pm	Thank you & Conclusion