



April 17, 2019

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education  
Oregon State Capital  
900 Court Street NE, Room H-178  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: OSU Fermentation Science Program

Dear Education Subcommittee on Ways & Means co-chairs Sen. Lew Frederick and Rep. Susan McLain,

As a 6<sup>th</sup> generation Oregon Farmer, I am providing testimony encouraging your support of the Oregon State University Fermentation Science program. As a hop grower, we benefit greatly from the work of the OSU Fermentation Science.

1. This program improves Oregon hops, barley and beer resulting in increased brewery and consumer demand. This directly translates into increased demand and profitability of Oregon Hops. The Oregon Farming community is a direct beneficiary of this work.
2. Coleman agriculture has a practice of reinventing profits in people, equipment and sustainable practices.
3. To reciprocate, Coleman Agriculture gives back to the University. We hire Oregon State University interns and graduates. We give back to the University with financial donations. We also support the academic programs by participating in educational opportunities and the Austin Family Business Program.

Our Coleman Agriculture hop team is working closely with OSU and the Fermentation Science program on a hop terroir study. This project aims to study the Willamette Valley's soil and climate its effect on hop quality and their brewing characteristics. This study would not be possible without the help of the OSU Fermentation Science.

1. The findings of this study will benefit all hop growers in their pursuit of unique, high-quality hops that in turn further enriches and benefits brewers in crafting their best beers.

2. By being a valuable asset in this study, the OSU Fermentation Science will bring positive recognition to the University and the entire state of Oregon.
3. Terroir of Willamette Valley grape has benefited the wine industry and has aided in the increase of tourism to the state, something we hope our hop terroir study will accomplish.

As an innovative and modern farm, we value every opportunity we are presented with to further educate our employees and interns. OSU Fermentation Science has gone above and beyond to support us, keep us up-to-date on emerging technologies, and aid in the connection of seasoned hop growers, passionate brewers, and brilliant scientists.

1. OSU Fermentation Science has furthered our knowledge of the brewing world by allowing us to participate in multiple sensory classes and joined in collaboration brewing which has been a vital resource in selling our product to our end user, the brewer.
2. Every year the OSU Fermentation Program has invited our summer interns to their facilities for private tours. This allows our internship program at Coleman Agriculture to set our students up for success by further advancing their education in the industry so they can understand every step needed from farm-to-table to create an amazing brew.
3. We believe the interface between farms and brewers is top notch thanks to the success of the brewing alumni in the Fermentation Program.

As a proud Oregon Farmer and an Oregon State Alumni, I am pleased to submit my testimony in support of this program and wholeheartedly support the highest level of funding available. Please feel free to reach out to me personally if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

**John Coleman**

Owner, Coleman Agriculture

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