



Seminar: Orchards and vineyards as soil carbon hotspots in the Okanagan Valley

Speaker: Kirsten Hannam, AAFC Summerland

Date & Time: Friday Jan 15, 3:00-4:00 pm (Vancouver time)

Abstract:

Orchards and vineyards as soil carbon hotspots in the Okanagan Valley

The four words most commonly associated with the Okanagan Valley are probably 'fruit', 'wine', 'sunshine' and 'water'. From an agricultural perspective, these words are inter-linked: tree fruits and wine grapes can only thrive in the Valley's sunny, semi-arid climate if they receive sufficient irrigation water. By accelerating plant productivity and increasing soil moisture, applications of irrigation water have the potential to alter soil carbon storage in orchards and vineyard. Changes in soil carbon storage have implications for soil quality and for efforts to mitigation climate change through carbon capture. I will present the results of some recent work looking at soil carbon storage in irrigated orchards and vineyards in the Okanagan Valley, and what these results might mean for climate change mitigation.

Bio:

Kirsten Hannam, AAFC Summerland

I am an agro-ecologist working with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada at the Summerland Research and Development Centre, in the Okanagan Valley, BC. This was not my original plan... I obtained an MSc in Forest Science from UBC, and a PhD in Soil Science from the University of Alberta, and had anticipated a research career in forest ecology. But Science is a fickle beast and skills are transferrable! After working as a policy analyst with Natural Resources Canada, I landed my current job in 2018. My research program is focussed on understanding how we can better manage resources (especially water, nutrients, land) to promote healthy, resilient agri-ecological systems while, hopefully, also contributing to climate change mitigation.

ALL WELCOME

Pre-register for this seminar series @

<https://ubc.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5codeiqqzksGNdAwk5PH3y9cDt4b2IrCrBM>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Note the zoom meeting ID and password is the same as last term!