HQG Visit Date:	8/15/19
Farm/Facility:	Weilmunster Farms
Picker Name & Grower #s	Greenleaf Picker
Grower Name & Phone:	Jon Weilmunster, 208-880-0862 Kevin Weilmunster, 208-989-9624
Physical Address of Farm/Facility:	20086 Tucker Road, Greenleaf, ID 83626
Email Address:	weilmunsterfarmsinc@hotmail.com, weil2031@gmail.com
Picker Type(s) & Description:	Dauenhauer
Merchant Partners/Direct/Both?	Steiner

HQG Attendee & Brewery	
Alec Mull – Founders	Tim Matthews – Oskar Blues
Patrick Chavanelle – Allagash	Adam Conway – 3 Floyds
Steven Pauwels - Boulevard	Matt Gallagher – Half Acre
Tom Tweedy – Stone	Chris Devan, Sara Laurienti- OB



# **Operations Description:**

Dauenhauer picker (two lanes), picking one shift. Some netting on front end of the picker, gravel lot around facility. Two Weilmunster facilities; one bought in 2001 and second facility acquired in 2008.

4 kiln beds, natural gas. New Reith baler, on load cells that are calibrated with hand weights. Adjacent older conditioning space.

Kiln samples are taken by walking onto the hop bed (wearing wood planks) and getting a hand-feel. No instrumentation. Kiln temperature is constant 140F for all varieties, full on with no VFD or practical way to change fan speeds or temperature. Galvanized steel dividers between kilns planned for 2020.

Employees wear different shoes inside the operation, can't wear the same ones they wear outside.

Some shatterproof lights, switching to LEDs. Oils are all food grade. Good signage in facility (hops a food products). Breaks are taken in their car, no dedicated rest area.

Someone in the kiln full time picking sticks and debris. Magnet directly prior to the baler.

3<sup>rd</sup> party sanitation company brought in during harvest to supply trash cans with lids. Stated to use only food grade lubes (but spotted a WD40 can).

## Areas of Concern:

Open front end of the picker, bird egress area.

The kiln ceiling has a yellow-orange popcorn spray insulation that no one has seen before, according to John it's always been there. Bubbling, parts are hanging off I-beams where someone tried to scrape it off. Should see what this is because it'll get into the hops soon enough.

Water bottle with a bunch of cigarette butts in the pass-through between kiln and cooling floor.

Duct tape and loose nails in the kiln-off fabric roll area. Looks like it's underneath the fabric but the weighted fabric will drag the tape off with it, probably into the bales.

Kiln beds 1 and 4 have some zones that don't dry consistently. Not sure how to fix that, just worth a mention that there's some expected cone variation.

Lots of pest ingress points in the cooling room; rolling doors not flush and holes in the wall leading outside. No bait stations.

Baler: at the point the hops pass the hopper into the baler chute – after the magnet there's some chains hanging down into the chute. Should remove metals that are after the magnet/ in the hop stream. Some unguarded chains.

## Improvements since last HQG visit (if applicable):

Installed light bulbs that are shatterproof; standard light bulbs with a plastic coating.

## Recommendations:

Update all light in facility to shatterproof lights, replace all glass jars that still exist.

Amend any areas that are points of egress for birds and pests throughout whole facility.

As possible, enclose the front end of the picker.

Stretch goal – create an area for employee to eat meal and for breaks.

Install kick plates on the catwalks that are above cone-zones.

# Additional Comments:

## What hop varieties are grown? Acreage?

• 550 acres. Chinook, Cascade, Apollo, Calypso, Zeus, Eureka.

Does Grower plan any major upgrades in the near future?

- Planning to cap the kiln bed dividers in galvanized as the concrete was chipping off.
- Plan to upgrade truck dock area that picks up bales.

## Does Grower operate multiple facilities? If yes, how many? Facility names and locations (grower numbers)?

Two picking facilities, Greenleaf and Jim Hop

Does Grower custom pick for anyone else? If yes, who?

• No contract, only to be helpful to neighbors as needed.

What certifications does the grower possess, if any?

• No current certifications but seeking Global Gap.

#### Additional comments about the operation?

- HQG greatly appreciates your continued willingness to host HQG!
- HQG would like to formal ask to see the other Weilmunster facility, Jim Hop in 2020. Per Jon, Jim Hop was under construction in 2019.
- John was very receptive to suggestions, encouraged HQG to visit in 2020 to review progress and continue to
  offer suggestions and guidance.

Comment from the 2016 visit to Green Leaf – "Keep working to seal off potential entry points for birds. Continue installing the shatter proof bulbs and remove the glass jars that are covering lights now."