

MARKETING, GRAIN QUALITY, AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

SUBSECTIONS:

M=Marketing

GQ=Grain Quality

En=Energy

MARKETING

Marketing Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- the concepts of the Pacific Northwest Targeted Marketing proposal,
- increased federal funding to the U.S. Wheat Associates and the U.S. Grains Council to continue their efforts to develop markets,
- efforts to promote wheat and barley whole grain health benefits,
- the development of new agricultural based industries and technologies that will benefit rural economies,
- review of AWB actions in light of US laws and that if infractions have occurred, action be taken to ban access to US wheat futures market.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association encourages

- the Secretary of Agriculture to continue food aid with AG commodities, GSM credits, Sec. 416 and PL 480 federal aid programs.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association opposes

- all trade embargo or sanctions, which inhibit the free, export of all US agricultural products.

Resolution No. M-1 - World Trade Organization

The Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA) supports the concepts of the US negotiating objectives in the WTO agricultural trade negotiations. The IGPA supports the US negotiators pursuing a comprehensive trade reform package that addresses market access, export subsidies, state trading and equalization of domestic subsidies, but opposes the level of proposed cuts to domestic support. IGPA further requests that US trade negotiators continue to support all domestic support programs included in the 2002 Farm Bill.

Supporting Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association generally supports the US Administration's agricultural trade negotiating goals in the Doha Round, but we are skeptical of deep cuts proposed by the Administration in the area of trade-distorting domestic subsidies. IGPA will continue to support the commodity loan program, the LDP program, and crop insurance subsidies. We urge Congress to conduct thorough economic analyses of the impact of such cuts on current US farm legislation and projected US farm income.

Resolution No. M-2 - Transgenic Wheat

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the commercialization of transgenic wheat by the US wheat industry upon customer approval of acceptable tolerance levels.

Supporting Statement

Implementation: Encourage research and customer/grower education of the benefits of transgenic wheat. We encourage US wheat hosted trade teams to visit research facilities and to be educated on the benefits of transgenic wheat.

Resolution No. M-3 - Trade Harmonization

The Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA) recognizes the inequity of border access between the United States and Canada for grain commodities and related production inputs. The IGPA will focus on driving policy to move equal access to the borders and the harmonization of production inputs. IGPA will also focus on setting policy regarding appropriate grading and phytosanitary standards.

Resolution No. M-4 - Developing Markets For Idaho Wheat

The Idaho Grain Producers Association urges the Idaho Wheat Commission to continue to investigate and promote regional and variety specific wheat classes and quality parameters for the purpose of targeting domestic and overseas markets.

Supporting Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports funding and developing markets for Idaho wheat varieties for use in domestic and foreign markets.

Resolution No. M-5 - Hard White Wheat Classification

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports creating a separate market classification for hard white wheat.

Supporting Statement

Hard White Wheat (HWW) is currently priced according to the hard red winter wheat market. Demand for identity preserved HW justifies class distinction.

Resolution No. M-6 - GSM Credit Program

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports continued availability and expansion of GSM Credit program and urges USDA punitive action against any entity including the AWB for illegal actions.

GRAIN QUALITY**Grain Quality Policy Statement**

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) rules that require grain samples be maintained for a minimum of 10 days,
- improvements to the CUSUM loading system and the development of technology to identify different wheat classes,
- the licensing by FGIS of facilities that can provide official samples for the grain industry,
- regulations that require end-use testing for all future new grain releases,
- funding for wheat and barley quality workshops in the Pacific Northwest,

- the efforts of the IWC & IBC in encouraging on-farm storage through the interest buy-down program,
- FGIS establishing a federal grading standard for hulless barley that will allow it to qualify for marketing loans,
- TCK testing and continue funding of the Wheat Marketing Center TCK program,
- the Idaho Wheat Commission continuing research, identification and promotion of wheat varieties that best suit the needs of end users.

The Idaho Grain producers Association opposes

- the use of oils as dust suppressants,
- the use of outside storage for Idaho grain.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association will monitor

- FGIS rule changes and notify growers of proposed changes.
- Dockage charges by exporters.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association requests that the Idaho Wheat Commission and the Idaho Barley Commission continue the crop quality survey.

Resolution No. GQ-1 - Functionality Test

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports timely end use functionality tests for wheat & barley.

Supporting Statement

Customers are starting to demand functionality tests. A timely functionality test will provide the customers the desired specifications.

ENERGY

Energy Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- hydroelectric power and wind power as renewable power sources,
- and promotes utilization of Idaho's agricultural biomass for industrial uses,
- NAWG's advocacy efforts for cellulosic ethanol and bio diesel in Idaho,
- The development of cellulosic ethanol in Idaho,
- The national effort calling for 25% renewable fuels by the year 2025. (25x25).

Resolution No En-1 - Utilization Of Biomass

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports federal and state incentives for the production and the utilization of Idaho's agricultural biomass in industrial products.

Supporting Statement

Such utilization would reduce dependence on foreign oil imports, revitalize rural economies and provide new markets and revenue streams for grain producers.

Resolution No. En-2 - New Renewable Energy

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports establishing a new renewable energy portfolio for utilities within the state. Such a portfolio should include a goal of at least 15% of the states electricity consumption to be produced by new renewable generation by the year 2015.

Supporting Statement

The state's electric utilities need direction on acquiring and purchasing power produced by independent power generators in the state. The recent utilization of wind-generated power has created opportunities for landowners throughout the state.

Resolution No. En-3 - Energy Incentives

The Idaho Grain Producers Association will support the Interim Energy Committee recommendation for legislation providing incentives for development of wind power, geothermal power, low head hydro, and the construction of transmission lines.