

IDAHO GRAIN

THE IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE Spring 2008

**Idaho State Wheat
Growers Association**

Idaho Grain Producers Association
821 West State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702-5832

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Views

BY MATT GELLINGS, IGPA PRESIDENT

President's View



It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Everyone remembers this old quote from *A Tale of Two Cities*. I just hope the last part of this saying doesn't materialize anytime soon.

As I travel to meetings as your new president, I hear the same thing from growers around the country: we have never seen a time like this with the commodity prices so high. I have farmed for thirty seven years and have sold my wheat for \$10 per bushel only once when I had a variety of soft white wheat seed that had a low supply.

While writing this article, new crop prices in my area of southeastern Idaho are \$8 (SW), \$9 (HRW), \$10 (HRS) and \$11 Durum. Many growers left money on the table this past year by forward contracting in the spring of 2007 when prices started their surge. A significant amount of farmers I have talked to are afraid to lock in grain for 2008 and 2009 because of what happened last year.

Raleigh Curtis from Mid-Columbia Marketing said that farmers are lucky because they get to do it all over again each year, trying to do a better job each time. We need to forget about last year and stick to our marketing plans we have used in the past. Just remember, we can and should shape our own future. If we don't, someone else will.

Many growers have asked what the goals of the Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA) are for this year. Five top priorities come to mind:

1. Reclaim field burning for Idaho's farmers by Fall 2008;
2. Increase membership in the IGPA;
3. Work toward restoring our Legal Defense Fund in anticipation of new challenges;
4. Complete the new Farm Bill, and;
5. Increase collaboration on policies, priorities, and the Pacific Northwest Grain Conference with our counterparts in Washington and Oregon.

The IGPA will focus on several other areas of work as well. Our executive board is ready and willing to tackle everything that comes our way.

I and four of our IGPA executive board members recently returned from the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) winter conference in Washington, DC. NAWG committee and board meetings discussed topics ranging from greenhouse gas emissions and carbon trading to railroad competitiveness, all issues that affect growers' bottom lines. Our IGPA delegation took those priorities to Capitol Hill where we met with our Idaho representatives and both Senators.

We participated in a unique opportunity to receive an update on the 2008 Farm Bill directly from Representative Collin Peterson (D-MN), the Agriculture Chairman of the House of Representatives. Rep. Peterson conveyed this belief that an agreement between the House and Senate is close at hand. While we were in town, the Senate made a significant step forward formally selecting their group of conference negotiators to work with the House.

Another enlightening meeting was held with The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) where we discussed our concerns over increased fertilizer costs. I wish I could report that forecasts show decreases in 2008 input prices, but I can't. The fertilizer industry is a supply and demand market much like our commodity market. There have been twenty six fertilizer plants close in the United States in the past two years because natural gas prices have skyrocketed from \$2 to \$8 since 2001. Shipping and distribution costs continue to rise and the value of the dollar is lower which makes U.S. imports of fertilizer ingredients more expensive. My shrinking profit margin just passed before my eyes.

We touched base with several other integral decision-makers while in our nation's Capitol and got an excellent feel of the opportunities and challenges facing the grain industry in 2008. Through this and our upcoming meetings, the IGPA continues to follow our mission statement: "To serve the grain producers of Idaho by representing their production interests at the county, state, and federal levels in order to enhance their profitability and long term viability."

Whether we may experience the best of times or the worst of times, I am excited to tackle all of them as your president.

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2007 Idaho Spring Wheat Variety Performance Tests and 2005-2007 Yield Summaries 26



WHEAT



BARLEY



WHEAT & BARLEY

Look for these symbols in headlines throughout the magazine to see at a glance whether an article pertains to wheat issues, barley issues, or both.

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Travis Jones Editor-in-Chief

Sue Megran Assistant Editor

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IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

821 West State Street
Boise, Idaho 83702-5832
(208) 345-0706

e-mail: tjones@idahograin.org
e-mail: smegran@idahograin.org
<http://www.idahograin.org>

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Idaho Falls

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Editor's Note

BY TRAVIS JONES

The Beginning of the End?



Could the end to congressional debate over a new Farm Bill finally be near? We can only hope. Before adjourning for 2007, the U.S. Senate gave farmers a specially-wrapped Christmas present by passing their version of the long-awaited Farm Bill.

Members and staff are now reconciling the differences between the House and Senate bills amidst constant threats by President Bush's Administration that a veto is imminent unless reforms are made during the conference process. Liken this current situation to doing laundry: the dirty clothes are now washed, but they must undergo an aggressive drying cycle before the wrinkles are gone and they are ready for wear.

Other than the slow pace, in my humble opinion Congress has done a decent job to this point in crafting new farm policy. The two bill versions waiting to be "wed" by a select conference committee are each the product of unprecedented pressure from the most diverse mix of interests yet. The old belief that only farm advocacy groups and farm-state congressional delegations are interested in crafting Farm Bill's is now thrown out the window.

Interest groups ranging from Ducks Unlimited to America's Second Harvest (a domestic hunger relief organization) to Environmental Defense have spent significant time advocating for their priorities in the new farm law. And it has paid off. Programs to increase wildlife habitat, provide easier access for food stamps, and to strengthen environmental practices stand to gain enormously in size, scope, and funding.

While these atypical programs have captured a larger portion of the Farm Bill "pie", what about the slice left over for the average farmer? In developing new farm law this past year Congress essentially had the same budget as they did in 2002. With that backdrop, one can easily infer that farmers are taking a funding cut. The irony to this story is thick.

However, the light really is not as dim as it may appear. Regardless of the emergence of new interests and the reality of stagnant funding, I believe wheat and barley farmers have achieved successes. Direct payments, loan rates, and counter-cyclical payments for wheat and barley have mostly gained ground over the 2002 bill. Increasingly popular conservation and renewable energy programs will be streamlined, expanded, and more applicable to real-world production practices.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association has represented your interests throughout this lengthy, often frustrating legislative process. We believe Idaho's grain producers will see tangible results to insure against future threats. And while farmers can no longer enjoy sole ownership in developing new farm law, rest assured that this is not the end, just a new beginning.





2008 IGPA President Matt Gellings

Where did you grow up?

I born in 1957 on a farm in New Sweden, a little community southwest of Idaho Falls. I am the youngest of five children, two brothers and two sisters.

Did you grow up on a farm? What was grown?

My dad farmed 80 acres that he bought from his dad. We raised barley, wheat, potatoes, and alfalfa. We had about twenty milk cows that we milked morning and night. Fortunately for me, the cows were sold by the time I was ten years old.

My wife, Kathy, was born in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, a sibling to two brothers and two sisters. Her dad worked in town at Ma Bell, where Kathy eventually worked as an operator. Later, she moved to Kemmerer, Wyoming where she worked for Utah Power and Light. UP&L transferred her to Shelley, Idaho in the mid 1980's.

I played for a men's league basketball team in Shelley, and a mutual friend introduced us because I needed an overhead power line removed to install a center pivot. We were married a few years later.

Did you go to college? If so, where? What did you major in?

I went to school in Shelley, Idaho where I was very active in our FFA chapter and also in football, basketball, and track. After high school, I attended Boise State University majoring in marketing. The 1970's were good years to farm, and I could not wait to return to the farm. After one year at BSU, I went back to Idaho Falls to join my two brothers on our farm. Later, I had an opportunity to move to a little farmhouse in Oakland Valley just west of Idaho Falls, and that is where I farm today.

How many kids do you have? Do they farm with you?

I have two children – a daughter (Jasmin) and a son (Jon). My daughter works at Washington Mutual Bank and we have two grandchildren with her. Jon lives in Seattle and is a Transportation Engineer there. Kathy has one son, Blaine, and we have another three grandchildren by him. Blaine operates an overnight delivery and also has a trucking business. He has always been helpful around the farm.

Kathy now works for Qwest Communications in their warehouse division based in Idaho Falls. Even with a full time job, Kathy has always worked by my side and supported me in everything I have done. From hay truck driver, tractor operator, watching the cow herd, to moving pipe she has always been there.

How did you acquire your farm land? How many acres?

I was blessed to have good landlords when I began to farm on my own. My first landlord was my dad. He was very helpful in getting my first rented ground. He owned a potato warehouse in Shelley, so I always had a place to store my potatoes after harvest.

My second landlord Robert offered me his farm to rent in 1977. He was looking to retire from farming and I was looking to get in. He gave me the little farmhouse rent-free because I fed his cows through the winter. I fixed up the house and lived in it until 1988.

My dad bought the farm from Robert and I eventually owned it. In 1990, I bought another farm adjacent to mine expanding my home farm to 160 acres. I farm another 145 acres further away. At 81 years old, my dad still helps me farm both plots in the summer.

How did you get involved in the IGPA and when?

In the early 1990's, I met a farmer named

Boyd Schweider because I knew his son Doug. Boyd told me about the local cattle and grain associations that he belonged to. I joined both the Bonneville Cattle and Bonneville County Grain Producers shortly thereafter.

In 2002 and 2003, I served as the President of the Bonneville County cattle association. Then I became President of the Bonneville County Grain Producers from 2004 to the present. After participating in the Idaho Wheat Commission's annual Pacific Northwest wheat marketing tour, I got excited about the grain industry.

At the time, the Idaho Wheat Commission administrator was Dave Sparrow. Several long talks with Dave was all it took to further my involvement. The Idaho Grain Producers Association took notice of my enthusiasm to

be an advocate for the grain industry, and I was selected to the IGPA Executive Board in 2005.

What issues are most important to your farm and business?

I have never seen a year quite like this past one. With commodity prices hitting record highs, one has to wonder when the bubble will burst. I think we all have to be very aware of our production costs going into this growing season.

For my operation, fuel, fertilizer, and power are the biggest challenges. There are great opportunities out there, so let's sell high and buy low!

What do you believe your involvement in the IGPA has done/will do for you?

Because of my involvement in the IGPA, I can see the time each and every one of us put in. The passion for the grain industry shines through and drives us all to be better at what we do. We at the IGPA work for the growers.

Recently, I testified before the Idaho State Legislature in support of legislation regarding the barley assessment. Another group opposed the bill, but was not versed on the issue because they had not involved themselves in the activities of the Idaho Barley Commission and the IGPA.

Once you get involved and read the information available, it is evident to me that Idaho's two grain commissions and the IGPA strongly represents the wheat and barley producers of this state. ♦



JOHN DEERE

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"Congratulations to Matt Gellings the new President of the Idaho Grain Association. Thank you for your hard work and continued effort in strengthening Idaho state agriculture."

Busch Ag Resources LLC would like to congratulate Matt Gellings on his appointment as President of the Idaho Grain Association.



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**Held at the DoubleTree Hotel
in Spokane, Washington
November 28-30, 2007**

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Idaho Grain Producers Association---Oregon Wheat Growers League---Washington Association of Wheat Growers

What Does Sustainable Mean?

Daren Coppock
National Association of Wheat Growers, CEO

Don't know much about reality

Don't know much sustainability

Don't know much about the food I eat

Don't know much about farmers I meet

But I do know that I love food

And if I tell them how to grow it, dude

What a wonderful world this would be

— with apologies to Sam Cooke



The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) is tracking multiple initiatives intended to define and measure "sustainability" as it pertains to agriculture. There is strong and increasing interest in the food industry in making measurable progress toward sustainability, and farmers will be impacted by how that term is defined, what targets are set and how progress will be measured.

In each of the initiatives, NAWG's focus is to make sure that the definitions and measurements used are achievable and meaningful for farmers and that economic sustainability is considered on equal footing with other aspects of sustainability; after all, a business that can't remain in business is not sustainable.

One initiative that has a positive direction and a good, progressive mix of people involved is an initiative guided by the Keystone Institute based in Keystone, Colo.

The Keystone Initiative is bringing together food companies, environmental groups, farm organizations and technology providers to create a workable definition of sustainability, achievable and meaningful targets for improvement and measurement systems that can be applied across the food chain to evaluate progress. They intend to develop criteria that are open to a diversity of technologies; in other words, there is no bias support-



Farmers will be impacted by how sustainability is defined, what targets are set and how progress will be measured.

ing or opposing technology innovation.

The participants in the group have all agreed that world food demands, grower needs and desirable land use patterns all require intensification of agriculture. Increased production must be accomplished in a manner that does not negatively impact, and actually improves, overall environmental and societal outcomes.

NAWG is also involved in a Council for Sustainable Biomass Production (CBSP), which involves a collection of environmental, agricultural and business groups working to define standards for sustainable production of biomass like crop residues and dedicated energy crops. The project was initiated by NAWG Foundation Development Committee member Ceres (<http://www.ceres.net/>) and is managed by the Meridian Institute.

The effort that has caused the highest level of industry concern is an attempt to create standards for sustainable agriculture within the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

The initial draft of the standards is based on the premise that "sustainable" and "organic" mean the same thing. NAWG and other agricultural interests have been pointing out that these are very different aims and the terms cannot be used interchangeably. NAWG's view is that organic is unquestionably a growing market segment and one that offers attractive profit opportunities for those that choose to

serve it, but organic agriculture will not provide the solutions the world needs to feed an expanding population with affordable, quality food.

This initiative is guided by the Leonardo Academy, and the Draft Standard for Initial Use was created by Certification Services Company (CSC), the company which would be doing most of the certification at the outset. While CSC undoubtedly has expertise in standards development and implementation, there is an apparent conflict of interest with a company creating standards against which they will earn revenue by certifying. The content of the Draft Standard is also problematic - it includes items like these:

- Preferentially employ biological, mechanical and cultural methods to control pest and disease vectors.
- Phase out agrochemicals that pose acute or chronic health risks or ecotoxic risks, moving toward organic practices.
- Yield products of high nutritional value that meet national organic standards for purity.
- Establish a safe, equitable workplace and establish productive engagement with the surrounding community.

For additional information, please reference the Keystone Initiative at <http://www.keystone.org/>; the Meridian Institute at <http://www.merid.org/>; and the Leonardo Academy at <http://www.leonardoacademy.org/> ♦



2007 PNW Grain Conference a Huge Success

By Travis Jones

Spokane, Washington provided the location for the third annual Pacific Northwest Tri-State Grains Conference held November 28-30, 2007. Over 300 farmers, noted speakers, industry representatives, grain researchers, regional government officials, and vendors attended the convention held at the Doubletree Hotel. The Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA) collaborated with their counterparts in Oregon and Washington to host the event.

The three-day conference featured nationally renowned speakers Mike Krueger, President of Money Farm, Inc. and Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh, Agricultural Economics Professor at Kansas State University. Krueger presented an overview of global trends impacting commodities and energy markets and its relevance to



Tim Dillin speaks at a general session honoring the grain industry's national leaders (seated).

U.S. grain producers. Dr. Flinchbaugh's rousing speech centered on the 2007 Farm Bill arguing that current House and Senate bills were more evolutionary than revolutionary.

Break-out educational workshops were extremely popular with conference participants. A major focus of the tri-state conference, educational workshops ranged from risk management, renewable energy, biotech grain varieties, leadership development, marketing, and conservation to the impact of taxes on agriculture operations. All break-out sessions were widely attended with stimulating discussion and questions from attendees.

Throughout the conference, the Idaho Grain Producers Association held business meetings of the committees, full board and executive board to propose, debate, dismiss and adopt policies and resolutions for 2008. The intense work amounted to insightful adoption and confirmation of new and continuing priorities for support and pursuit by the IGPA on behalf of Idaho's barley and

wheat producers in the new year.

On the final day of the conference, the IGPA held their annual awards luncheon to honor those making significant contributions to Idaho's grain industry over the past year. Award categories included "Outstanding Agriculture Journalist", "Outstanding Extension Education", and "Lifetime Achievement". Receiving the journalist award was David Wilkins, agriculture reporter for the Capital Press based in Twin Falls, Idaho. Stan Gortsema, Power County, and Gale Harding, Madison County, both took home the award for outstanding extension educators. Steve Johnson, sixteen-year director for the IGPA, captured the lifetime achievement recognition.

The success of the 2007 conference will move just a few miles east in 2008 to the Coeur d'Alene Resort, December 10-12. The IGPA hopes to expand upon the success of the Spokane conference with an exciting program under development in Coeur d'Alene. Stay tuned for more information throughout the year. ♦



Outgoing IGPA President Tim Dillin (left) receives an award from incoming President Matt Gellings for his service in 2007.



UI wheat researcher Bob Zemetra (left) received the Distinguished Service Award from IWC Chairman Hans Hayden (right) for his contributions to Idaho's wheat industry.



Outgoing Idaho Barley Commissioners Evan Hayes and Steve Balster were recognized for their dedication to Idaho's barley industry.



Matt Gellings honors the ladies who make it all happen: Sue Megran, Andrea Woolf, and Connie Robinson.



A variety of educational workshops were held, including one on conservation hosted by NRCS Western Region head Sara Braasch-Schmidt (standing)



IGPA President Tim Dillin hand NAWG President John Thaeart an award in appreciation of his service to PNW grain producers.



Incoming IGPA President Matt Gellings presented outgoing President Tim Dillin with a replica of a gift for his sevice.



Madison County Extension Educator Gale Harding received one of two Outstanding Extension Educator awards given by the IGPA.



Power County Extension Educator Stan Gortsema was the co-recipient of the Outstanding Extension Educator award presented by the IGPA.



Former IGPA Executive Director Steve Johnson received the Lifetime Achievement award for his sixteen years of service.



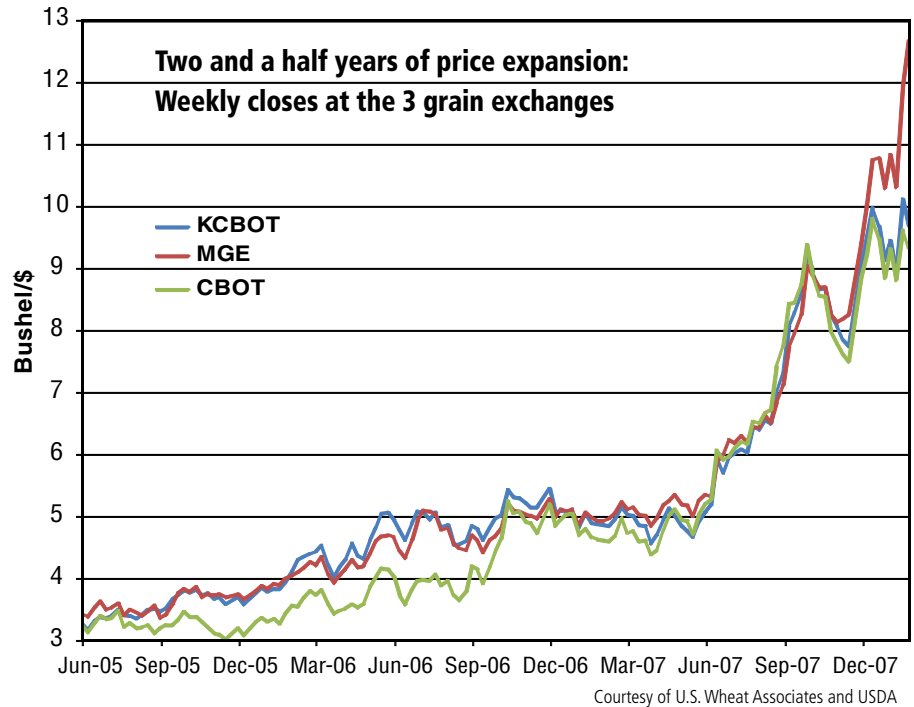
Power County farmer and IGPA state director Burt Fehringer was the lucky raffle winner for use of a John Deere tractor.

World Wheat Supply and Demand Situation and Outlook



The global wheat situation enters the 2008 calendar year in uncharted territory. Global stocks are the lowest in 30 years while U.S. stocks are at a 60-year low, spurring prices to new records. Despite high prices, global demand remains robust as the amount of wheat consumed for food continues to rise, setting a new record this year. While strong wheat prices are expected to spur a global increase in wheat plantings, price strength across commodities will limit expansion of planted area of some classes while causing others to fall. This muted supply response in the face of increased demand will continue to support prices into the next marketing year and likely longer.

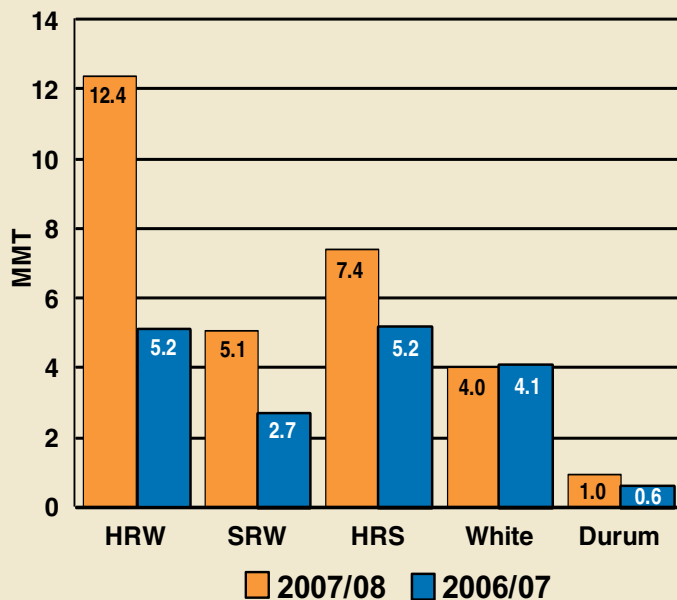
The global wheat situation enters the 2008 calendar year in uncharted territory. Global stocks are the lowest in 30 years while U.S. stocks are at a 60-year low, spurring prices to new records. Despite high prices, global demand remains robust as the amount of wheat consumed for food continues to rise, setting a new record this year. While strong wheat prices are expected to spur a global increase in wheat plantings, price strength across commodities will limit expansion of planted area of some classes while causing others to fall. This muted supply response in the face of increased demand will continue to support prices into the next marketing year and likely longer.



U.S. exports up 77% from last year. With 20 weeks in the marketing year to go, exportable supplies are dwindling. As remaining supplies are booked, prices will respond positively.

Exports of all classes are forecast by USDA to increase by 29% with HRW up 82%, HRS up 10%, SRW up 34%, durum unchanged and SW exports are to fall 19%.

U.S. sales by class – year to date comparison to last year



10 Factors Affecting Global Wheat Markets

- World stocks at 30 year low; export origin holdings down 29%; stocks-to-use at historic low.
- Import demand explodes, despite record prices.
 - Importers remove import restrictions and subsidize consumption.
 - Global food use demand sets a new record.
- U.S. exports up 77% from last year. With 20 weeks in the marketing year to go, exportable supplies are dwindling. As remaining supplies are booked, prices will respond positively.
- Exporters impose export restrictions.
 - Ukraine/Russia/Argentina limit exports.
 - Canada/Australia selling only to "favored" buyers.
- U.S. winter wheat seedings below expectations.
 - Planted area increased for SW and SRW while HRW fell from last year. HRW entered dormancy in very dry conditions.
 - HRS area is also expected to fall, durum to rise. High protein supplies seen limited through 2008/09.
- Global plantings to rise. EU and Black Sea planted area up.
- Biofuel production strengthens competing crop prices globally.
 - Renewable Fuels Standard to increase corn used for ethanol from 86 MMT this year to 136 MMT in 2022: 70% increase.
- Ocean freight rates falling from record highs.
- Dollar exchange rate plummets.
 - Strengthens export position across commodities.
- 2008/09 beginning stocks at "bin bottoms".

U.S. winter wheat seedings below expectations

A tremendous increase in SRW planted area and substantial gain in SW acres is promising for supply rebound of those two classes in the 2008/09 marketing year. On the other hand, a fall in HRW seedings and conditions could lead to further tightening of high protein supplies, supporting already record price premiums for higher protein grain in the new marketing year.

High prices for both wheat and soybeans made double cropping winter wheat followed by soybeans a lucrative crop rotation this year. Excellent planting weather allowed producers in the SRW region to increase seedings by 21 percent over last year to 10.5 million acres. Planted area increases of 200,000 acres or more were estimated for Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Tennessee. Record high planted acreage is expected in Wisconsin, while North Carolina is expected to tie the record high set in 1985. SW wheat seeded area increased by 7 percent to nearly 3.65 million acres from 2006. Planted acreage in Washington and Oregon rose 30,000 acres each, while Idaho planted 150,000 more SW acres.

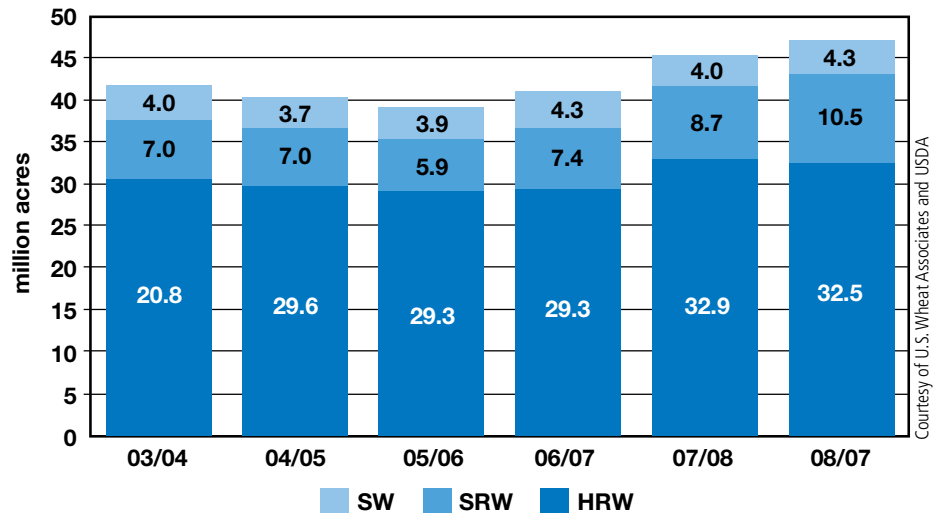
At 32.5 million acres, HRW seeded area fell 1 percent from the fall of 2006. The decline was due to excessively dry conditions during the fall as well as producers maintaining previously planned rotation schemes. Acreage was below last year's level in all States in the HRW growing area except North Dakota and Montana, where acreage increased by 185,000 acres and 460,000 acres, respectively. The increase in winter wheat acres in those states is expected to come at the expense of spring wheat area. Planted area was down in the top three HRW states. Kansas acreage was down 500,000 acres while both Oklahoma and Texas decreased acreage by 200,000 acres.

The dry conditions that limited plantings left the HRW crop in less than optimal conditions as it entered dormancy. After record high yields last year, Texas reports only 88% of the crop emerged compared to 98% last

year and the 94% average. Only 14% of the crop is in good condition and none is rated as excellent, putting the crop condition index at 40 compared to 65 last year. Top producer

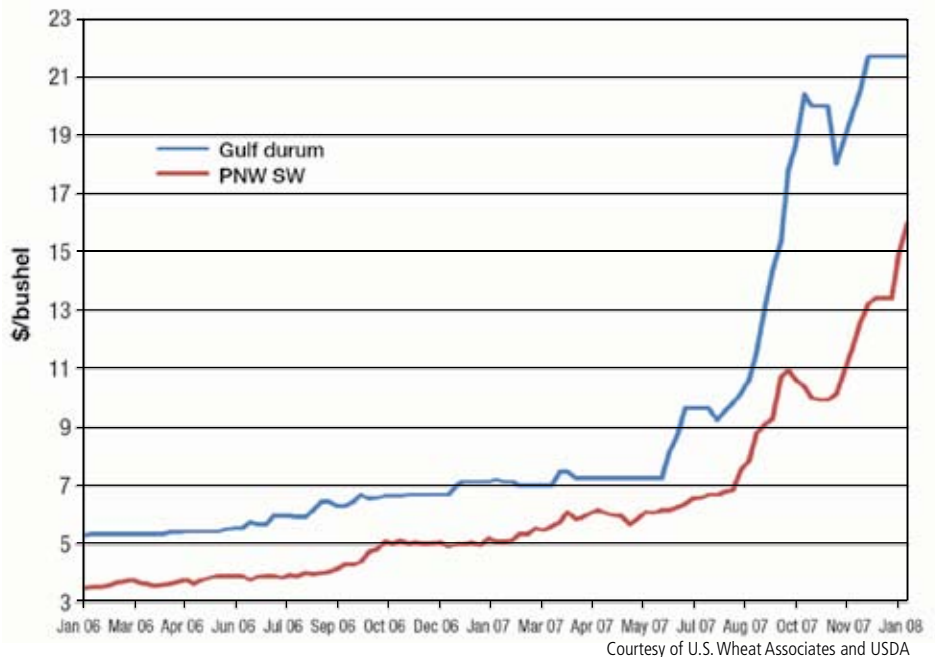
Kansas reports 47% of the crop as good or excellent, down from 57% last year and Oklahoma rates 35% good or excellent compared to 51% a year ago.

U.S. winter wheat planted area



Durum and SW acres up on strong cash prices

Prices for durum and SW increased earlier and higher than other classes on tighter supply conditions. Acreage increases are anticipated in both classes while spring wheat acres are expected to fall.



Looking forward

The global supply response to current high prices will be muted as returns from competing crops are also high. While acreage could expand in the EU with the abolishment of set-aside requirements and the Black Sea region into historic wheat regions, price signals may lead to production expansion in commodities other than wheat

Demand will increase based on rising global population. International biofuels expansion will also increase wheat demand. In the medium to long term, wheat prices are expected to maintain a new range higher than the recent past. ♦

Getting More for Your “Nitrogen” Dollars

by Brad Brown, Extension Soil and Crop Management Specialist



Brad Brown

With nitrogen fertilizer costs at all time highs and wheat market prices also at historic highs, we need to use N as judiciously as possible to maximize economic returns.

While many appreciate the risks of lower yields when inadequate N is provided, yields can also be adversely affected by excessive nitrogen, even in the absence of lodging or disease. There is a limit to what wheat will tolerate in available N.

There may be a tendency for some to assume with high wheat prices that if some fertilizer nitrogen is good, more is better. That assumption can result in lower yields, higher costs, and reduced economic returns.

Optimum N Rate

Experience can be useful in deciding the optimum N rate to use, but there is nothing as helpful as soil testing for residual nitrogen for fine-tuning your nitrogen management and maximizing returns.

Residual N after previous crops can differ widely from one year to the next, even for the same crop. It pays to know the amount of nitrogen in your soil before ordering your fertilizer N for the coming season. There are several University of Idaho fertilizer guides for winter and spring wheat (irrigated or dryland) available to assist growers in the decision of how much N to use. They are available at County Extension offices or on-line for viewing or downloading from the UI Ag Publications catalog at <http://info.ag.uidaho.edu:591/catalog/default.htm>.

Even though winter wheat is by now, hopefully, well established, it is not too late to soil sample your winter wheat. Idaho Wheat Commission sponsored research, largely on grower fields, has shown that sampling soils in early spring is as useful as preplant fall sampling for estimating irrigated winter wheat N requirements. In fact, spring

sampling may be very appropriate this year where above average precipitation may have moved available N from the first foot to deeper in the profile.

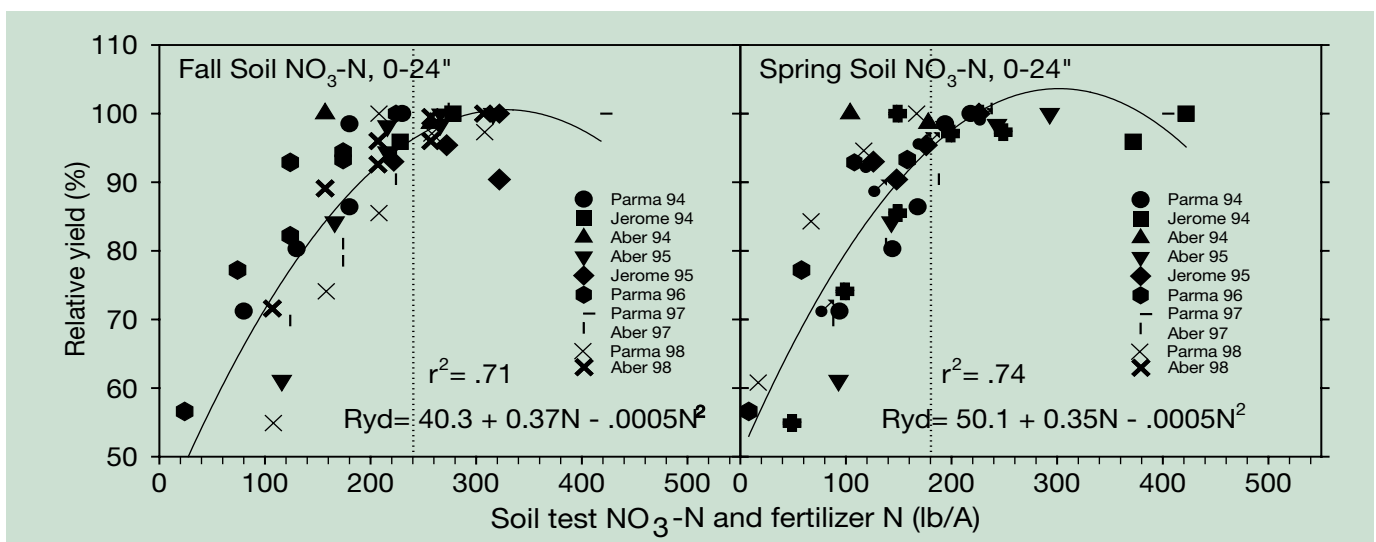
The relationship of relative yield (percent of maximum) to available N (soil test N and fertilizer N) for fall measured soil nitrate (left figure) and spring measured soil nitrate (right figure) is shown in Figure 1. The relative yield response to available nitrogen based on fall or spring measured soil nitrate is nearly identical with one notable exception. The curve for spring measured nitrate is shifted such that the available N related to 95% relative yield is about 50 lb N per acre less for spring measured nitrate than for fall measured N. One reason for this is that some N is already taken up into winter wheat by the time spring testing is done.

N for Hard Wheats

For those producing hard wheat classes, especially DNS, be mindful that more N is required than is necessary for maximizing yield. The additional N for higher protein is more effective in irrigated wheat when effectively incorporated during late vegetative growth. For information on issues related to protein enhancement with nitrogen fertilizer refer to the PNW Extension Bulletin 578 “Nitrogen Management for Hard Wheat Protein Enhancement”.

Many factors affect the response to fertilizer N including, the potential yield for the conditions present, pests, previous crop and residues returned to soil, water management, and variety to name a few. The UI fertilizer guides discuss many of these and provide more detailed recommendations than can be covered here.

Market prices for wheat provide an excellent opportunity to recover from previous low prices and economic returns. Effective nitrogen management is critical for maximizing returns from fertilizer nitrogen. ♦



Fertilizer BMPs

A farmer in Idaho is competing with farmers in India, Australia and Brazil for fertilizer. We increasingly rely on foreign suppliers for many of our raw materials, and the U.S. is now a net importer of fertilizer nutrients.

Research shows that fertilizers account for at least one-third of all crop yields in the world. Increased efficiency in the use of fertilizers has never been more important. The Wheat Commission will continue to focus on research devoted to this area.

Alternative Seed Banded Nitrogen for Wheat

Brad Brown, Extension Soil and Crop Management Specialist



Due to security concerns, major suppliers will no longer manufacture ammonium nitrate (AN) fertilizer. Ammonium nitrate, with only half the ammoniac N content of ammonium sulfate or urea, was historically a favored seed banded N source for crops due to its reduced potential for seed damage or phytotoxicity. Higher N rates could be seed-banded using AN so it facilitated single pass seeding and fertilization. Seed-banded N at seeding is a convenient practice for many growers, effectively reducing field traffic in wetter soils and fuel expenses. Preplant incorporated N also helped distribute the workload, in addition to minimizing volatile N losses from the soil surface.

There is need for N fertilizer that can be applied with the seed without the limitations of conventional dry N sources (immobilization; rapid nitrification and subsequent leaching or denitrification; phytotoxicity). Older slow release N sources were shown to reduce phytotoxicity on germinating wheat and barley but were considerably more expensive.

More recently developed and less expensive controlled release
...continued on page 18

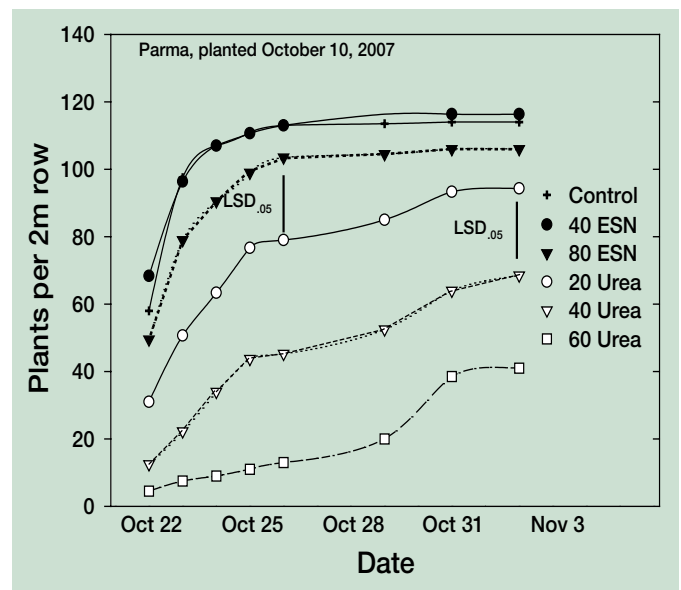


Figure 1. Emerged winter wheat plants as affected by conventional urea and polymer coated urea (ESN) seed-banded at different N rates in 7" spaced rows at the Parma R & E Center.

FERTILIZER FACTS

- World fertilizer demand has grown by nearly 15% since 2001 – nearly equivalent to a new U.S. market. China, India and Brazil are the largest growth markets.
- Fertilizer prices are being driven by many factors including the falling value of the US dollar, world supplies, transportation costs and high natural gas prices and expansion of ethanol production.
- Nitrogen

Although the U.S. is the world's 3rd largest Nitrogen producer, it is a net importer of Nitrogen. Natural gas is the feedstock for producing ammonia, which is the building block for all N fertilizer. The cost of natural gas accounts for 70-90% of the production of ammonia. High natural gas prices have led to 26 U.S. ammonia plants closing their doors since 1999. The US fertilizer industry typically supplied 85% of domestic nitrogen needs during the 1990's but now imports 50% of its nitrogen needs.

According to the USDA ERS, further expansion of ethanol production and continued strong export sales of corn could boost U.S. demand for nitrogen fertilizers. Further increases in natural gas prices may limit U.S. production capacity to produce ammonia. The additional supply of nitrogen needed to meet the increasing demand may have to come from imports and thus make U.S. crop producers even more vulnerable to changes in global nitrogen and natural gas markets.

- Phosphorus (comes from ancient sea life).

The U.S. is the world's largest phosphate producer, annually exporting approximately 55% of phosphate production. The largest importers of our phosphate are China, Brazil, Canada, Australia and India.
- Potash (comes from evaporated oceans).

We import over 90% of our potash, mostly from Canada.

Sources: The Fertilizer Institute and USDA ERS

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nitrogen products such as polymer coated ureas may also have potential for significantly delaying N release and reducing immobilization, nitrification, phytotoxicity and excessive growth.

Seed-banded polymer coated urea may be cost effective for wheat, but there is little data on its performance in PNW wheat systems.

To compare a polymer coated urea, ESN® (Agrium), with conventional urea when seed-banded, an Idaho Wheat Commission sponsored field study was initiated at the Parma R & E Center on October 10 and November 2 seeded winter wheat in fall 2007. Treatments included an untreated control, and both fertilizers at four N rates (20, 40, 60, and 80 lb N/A) seed-banded through double disk openers in 7" spaced rows. Stand counts collected from 2 meters of row were used to determine phytotoxicity relative to the untreated control.

The resulting stands from the treatments in the first wheat planting are shown in Figure 1, on page 17. Using as little as 20 lb N/A as seed-banded conventional urea delayed and significantly reduced emerged wheat counts by over 17%. In contrast, seed-banded ESN appeared to reduce plant counts at the 80 lb N/A rate but the counts did not differ significantly from the control. Slow release polymer coated ESN was considerably safer than conventional urea when seed-banded. The results were similar for the early November winter wheat planting (data not shown).

Using the same seed-banded fertilizer N rates per acre with wider row spacings of 10" or 14" would concentrate the fertilizer in fewer rows and increase the phytotoxicity of seed-banded N. Consequently, with wider row spacings, lower seed-banded N rates will be required to avoid affects on germinating wheat.

Winter wheat has the capacity to compensate for reduced stands by tillering more. Grain yields will likely not differ as much as did the number of emerged plants. Grain yield will be measured in summer 2008 with a small plot combine and grain protein, test weight, and 200 kernel weight determined from harvest subsamples. ♦

More Middle-Class Consumers Drive Demand for American Agriculture



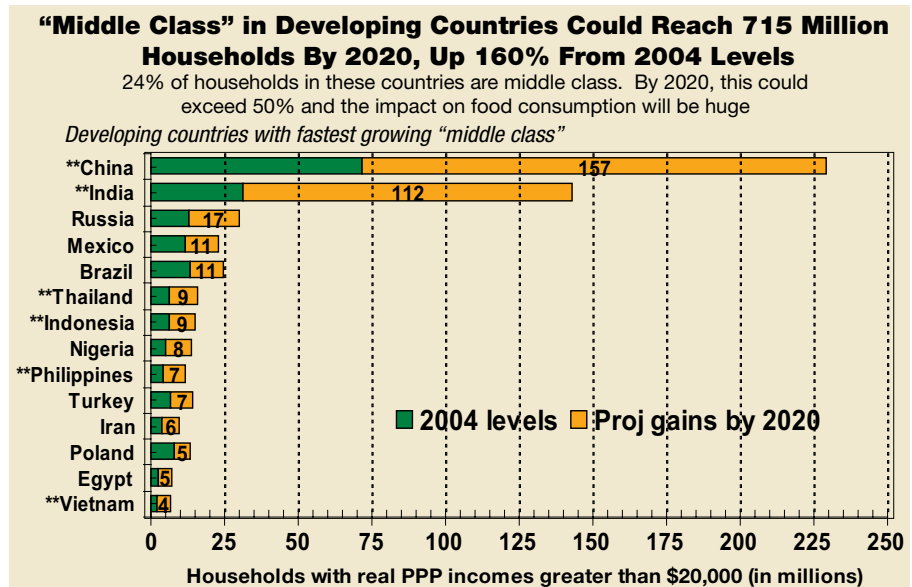
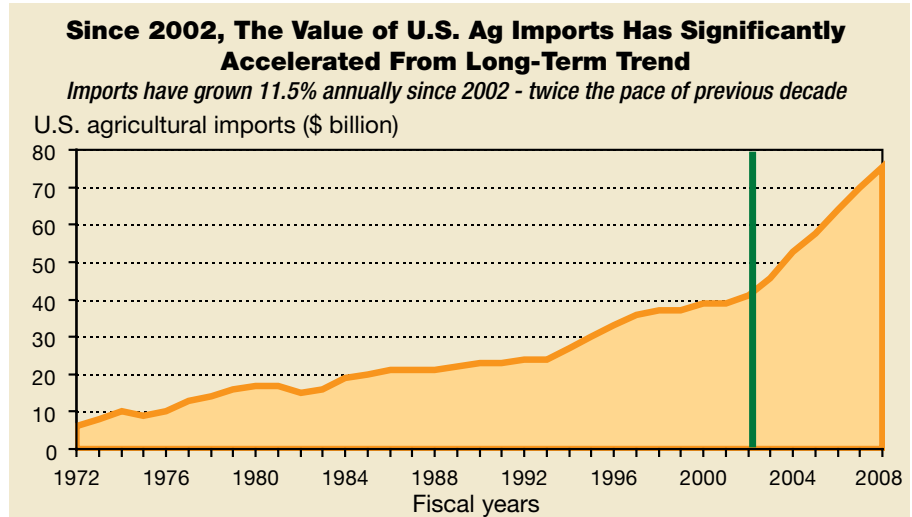
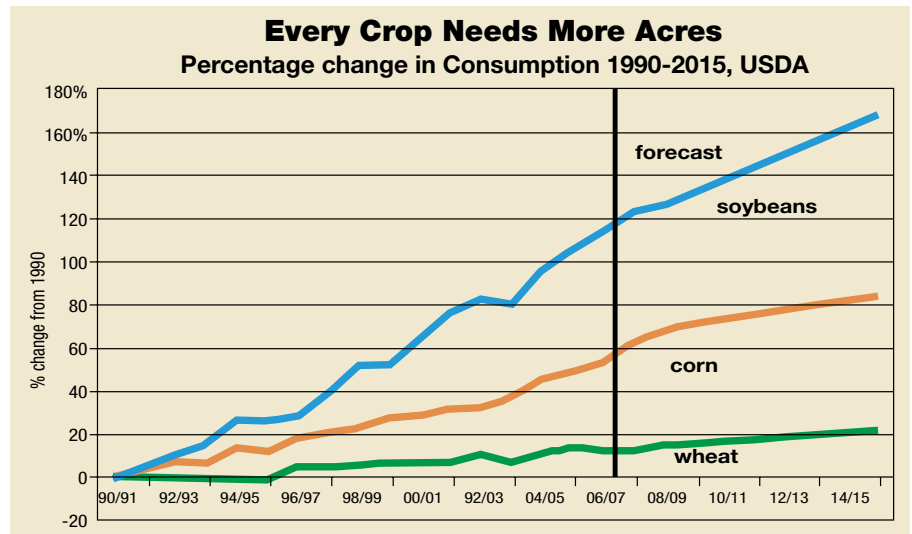
Increasing numbers of middle-class consumers in emerging economies around the world are driving demand for U.S. agricultural exports, including wheat, to record levels. New middle-class consumers outside of the United States are expected to double within the next twelve years, to nearly one billion people, according to USDA estimates and also an analysis by Global Insights. Much of this increase will occur in India and China.

As standards of living increase, the newly affluent middle-class want a middle-class diet. This means more products made from wheat are consumed, and more protein is added to the diet, putting higher demand on all grain products.

Exports have historically accounted for 20-25% of all agricultural production in the U.S. and for approximately 50% of American wheat production. Now, with accelerating overseas market demand combined with more U.S. acreage devoted to production of biofuels, U.S. farmers are racing to keep pace with the increased need for wheat and other grain crops.

Wheat prices during 2007 and early-2008 surged to historic levels, reflecting global demand for wheat, reduced acreage due to competing crops, and crops shortfalls in critical wheat-exporting countries. Global demand for wheat and competition from other crops for acreage will continue into the foreseeable future.

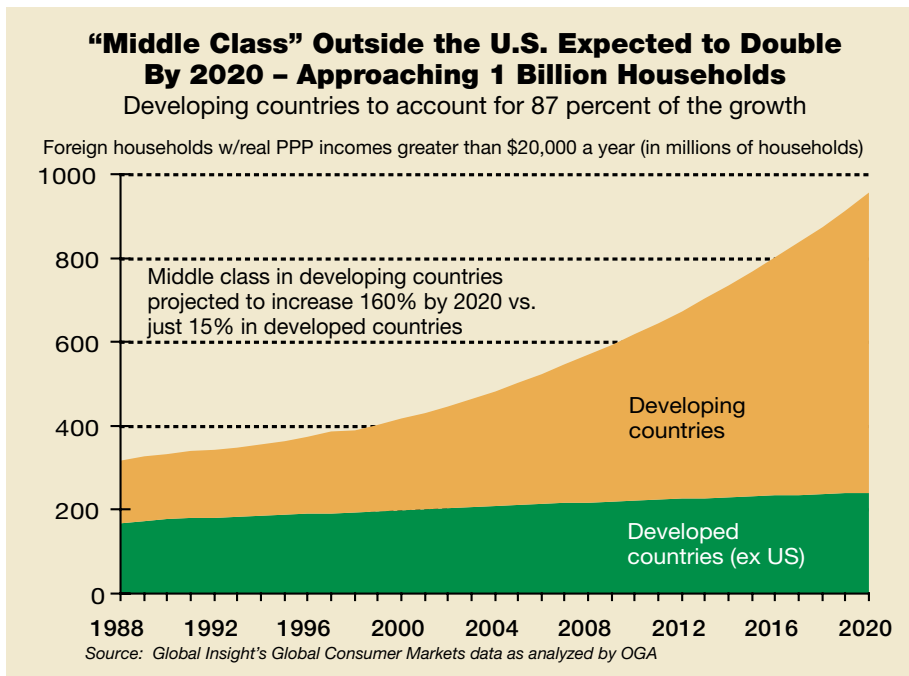
Another factor supporting export growth is the decline in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the currency of major importing customers. The dollar has declined by 20% against major trading partner currencies since 2002. Global Insights project that the dollar will continue to decline, although at a slower rate, for the



Charts Courtesy of U.S. Wheat Associates and USDA

next three years. This will continue to make wheat from Idaho more competitive in the world marketplace.

The lofty prices enjoyed by Soft White wheat during the early months of 2008 will gradually settle down as millers meet their immediate needs and wait for the new crop to be harvested. If weather problems occur again in other wheat exporting countries prices will take off again. If global production is good wheat will settle down, but will still be at attractive prices. Wheat has enjoyed a historical pricing relationship with corn and soybeans. With corn and soybeans reaching market equilibrium at higher levels wheat should also set a new trading range for the foreseeable future. ♦



World Wheat Market is Closer to Open Competition

By Steve Mercer, US Wheat Associates



In the wake of a wheat trading scandal involving AWB Limited, formerly known as the Australian Wheat Board, Australia's new Labor Party government has promised to end more than 60 years of wheat export monopoly control.

Assuming a new plan to open the market put forward by the new Labor government is implemented, producers and exporters will be the prime managers of Australia's wheat supplies in the future.

The U.S. wheat industry believes "single-desk" sellers like AWB (and the Canadian Wheat Board) inherently distort world wheat trade, and has been working for many years to remove these free trade barriers. By setting different prices in different markets it distorts the true value of wheat and gives the monopoly exporter

an artificial advantage. Sometimes buyers pay the price. More often it takes money out of the pockets of wheat producers in Australia – and in Idaho.

The AWB also famously abused its power by paying \$220 million in kickbacks to the Saddam Hussein regime under the United

Nations Oil-for-Food Program before Operation Iraqi Freedom. It tried to hide this illicit activity, got caught and has paid a high price: the loss of its reputation and soon its control of Australian bulk wheat exports.

AWB Limited is scheduled to lose its monopoly veto power over wheat exports in June 2008 and has been taking steps to diversify

its business in anticipation of that change. The country has already opened the market for container shipments of wheat. The Labor government is working toward a new model for bulk wheat, which, it says, "increases choice to growers. Rather than forcing growers to sell their export wheat through a monopoly exporter, under Labor's plan there will be multiple accredited exporters."

There are a lot of political, legal, logistical and emotional minefields

to cross before Australia completes its transition to an open wheat export market, but that should happen within the next year.

When the playing field is level, U.S. and Australian wheat producers will finally be able to compete fairly, based primarily on the quality and functional characteristics of their crop. ♦



U.S. Wheat Customers Are Hearing About Transgenic Wheat



US Wheat Associates (USW) is working in cooperation with the National Association of Wheat Growers through a Joint Biotechnology Committee to develop the potential for transgenic wheat (GM wheat) production in the U.S.

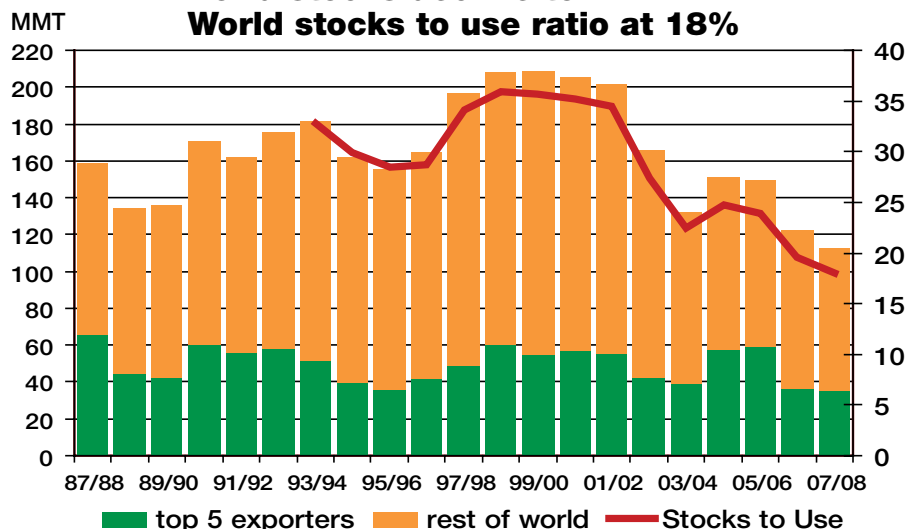
As part of that cooperative endeavor, USW is ramping up efforts to help our international customers understand that transgenic wheat is on its way to market – and why. More than 250 million acres of transgenic crops are being grown in 22 countries on six continents.

“At the same time, that the world wheat harvested area continues to decline,” says Mark Darrington, an Idaho wheat grower from Declo who serves on the Biotech Committee, “wheat consumption has exceeded production in eight of the last ten years. Wheat acres are being replaced by crops that offer more profit to producers, often because of their transgenic traits.”

In the last six months, John Oades, Vice President and Director West Coast Office USW has made a presentation called “Transgenic Wheat – Outlook for the Future” to hundreds of private and public wheat buyers, millers, processors and government officials at public meetings in more than 20 countries, including Asian and European nations where public resistance to genetically modified food remains strong.

*“You better cut the pizza in four pieces because I’m not hungry enough to eat six.”
–Yogi Berra, American baseball player*

World stocks decline to 112 MMT World stocks to use ratio at 18%



“The presentation helps customers understand that transgenic crop production is expanding rapidly around the world,” says Oades. “USW is making the point that something has to change to make wheat more competitive – and one of the leading options is transgenic technology.”

Ultimately, transgenic wheat must deliver benefits to everyone in the supply chain and customers must be able to choose between transgenic and non-transgenic wheat. Be-

fore that happens, we have to work toward science-based standards for acceptable tolerances for incidental or trace amounts of biotechnology-enhanced events in raw and processed grains and oilseeds, as well as food and feed.

To learn more about industry positions on transgenic wheat, visit the Web at <http://www.uswheat.org>, <http://www.wheatworld.org> or <http://www.growersforbiotechnology.org>. ♦

Website of Interest www.weedscience.org

This site provides an International Survey of Herbicide Resistant Weeds, including a state-by-state listing of specific weeds and information on how to manage them. The purpose of the survey is to monitor the evolution of herbicide-resistant weeds and assess their impact throughout the world.

There are currently 14 different types of herbicide resistant weeds in Idaho. Growers can use

this site to find:

- A listing of the resistant weeds in Idaho and neighboring states, including photos.
- The situation / crop where the weed is found.
- The herbicide Mode of Action.
- Fact sheets and additional literature on specific weeds.
- Resistant experts in Idaho to contact for more information.





Flat Breads: a Market on the Rise



Flat breads are the original breads and remain the most widely consumed breads in the world. Flat breads aren't flat because of an absence of leavening. Many contain yeast. They are flat because the dough is rolled, stretched, or prodded to make it thin. Over millennia, bakers have devised ways to season and shape the breads to suit a wide variety of cultural tastes from Mexico to India to Afghanistan.

PNW Wheat Exports 2006/07

	Bushels
Afghanistan	1,587,000
Egypt	30,089,000
Iraq	16,254,000
United Arab Emirates	829,000
Yemen	26,063,000

2007/08 sales to date are significantly higher.

With the range of wheat qualities and prices available in the world, the question of wheat value is critical for our customers. Millers keep looking for ways to differentiate products and increase their bottom line. Since flat breads are so widely used and serve as a steady market for our wheat, the Idaho Wheat Commission helped fund a flat bread project at the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland.

Flat breads can be made using a blend



Super Size - Yemeni Style, Bon Lee (L) and Gary Hou, (R), from the WMC in Portland share bread with a friend in Yemen. This type of flat bread serves as a 'super size pizza' for a group of diners. While discussing business people tear pieces of bread and eat them with other dishes and sauces.



Learning the centuries-old techniques, still used today, for making flatbread. Gary Hou, WMC, provided a demonstration on flat breads to Idaho Marketing Tour participants. Shown L to R: Ryan Cranney, Oakley, Steve Mercer, USW, Greg Branson, Nezperce and Doug McIntosh, Lewiston.

of wheat classes. Finding out the best blends for the different breads was the focus of recent evaluations done on flat breads made in North Africa and the Middle East. Protocols for different breads were developed with the help of collaborators in Egypt, Jordan, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Yemen.

Tests were conducted using blends of our soft white wheat and hard red winter (50/50) and soft white and hard white. All made good products. Flatbreads don't need as much strength or structure as regular loaves. Flour blends that incorporate soft wheats can make successful breads. ♦

IWC Wheat Marketing Tour 2008



Each year the Wheat Commission provides an opportunity for growers and industry leaders to gain a broader perspective of the world wheat market through meetings with exporters and domestic end users in Portland.

Participants in this year's tour are shown left to right: Dallan Jeppesen, Rexburg, Jay Hansen, Malad City, Doug McIntosh, Lewiston, Wayne Palmer, American Falls, Ryan Cranney, Oakley, Steve Mercer, US Wheat Associates, Joshua Nelson, Malta, Jim Rooney, Idaho Falls, Hans Hayden, Arbon, Jay Anderson, Genesee, Armando Orellana, Idaho-Mexico Trade Office, Steve Reinertsen, Viola, Greg Branson, Nezperce.



Sampling a new culture – steam buns made with wheat and filled with BBQ pork and sesame seed paste.



"This experience has changed my outlook on wheat. I learned a lot about the many uses of our wheat overseas." Dallan Jeppesen, Rexburg

"It's difficult to imagine the size of an export ship just by seeing a picture. Standing beside one puts perspective on the importance of moving quality wheat overseas."
Joshua Nelson, Malta.



"Transportation costs play a major role in our competitiveness. This was one of the most valuable and educational experiences I've had related to my career in the grain industry." Jim Rooney, Idaho Falls





2007 Idaho Spring Barley Variety Performance Tests and 2005-2007 Yield Summaries

Stephen Guy, Juliet Windes, and Brad Brown Extension Specialists, Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences, University of Idaho

Variety Testing

Idaho spring barley varieties are evaluated each year to provide performance information to help growers select superior varieties for their growing conditions. The tests are done using farmer fields or experiment stations and the varieties are grown under conditions typical for crop production in the area. Varieties are included in these tests based on their potential adaptation in an area and commercial use of a variety. The number of entries is limited due to resource availability. Individual plots were planted as 7 rows spaced 7" apart for 20' to 25' in length and replicated 3 or 4 times in a randomized complete block design.

Information Summarization

Agronomic performance data for 2007 spring barley tests are summarized by Idaho districts in Tables 1-4. District I is northern, District II is southwest, District III is southcentral, and District IV is southeast Idaho. District III and IV results are presented for 2-row barley in Table 3 and for 6-row barley in Table 4. Yield data are given for individual sites while other agronomic data are averaged over all the sites of each table. Bushel/acre yield results are based on 48 lb/bu at 11% moisture. Lodging ratings are the percent of a plot area lodged. Plump percentage is based on cleaned grain retained on a 6/64" screen. Thin grain percentage is clean grain passing through a 5.5/64" screen. Average values are presented at the bottom of listings and are followed by a least significant difference (LSD) statistic at the 10% level.

Average yield data from variety performance trials in 2005, 2006, and 2007 are presented in Table 5 for all districts. These data represent results of 3-12 site/years and can be a good indication of long term performance of a variety.

Information Interpretation

Average past performance of a variety is the best indicator available to predict future performance potential. Variety performance can vary from location to location and year to year. The results reported in this article are for 2007 trials; previous results can be found in the spring 1992 to 2007 issues of Idaho Grain. Average performance over locations and years more accurately indicates varieties' relative performance. Try to evaluate as much information as you can when selecting varieties. Yield is a primary characteristic used to select varieties, but disease resistance, maturity, lodging tendency, and quality characteristics such as test weight and plumpness are also important variety selection considerations.

Reported small differences among varieties in yield and other characteristics are usually of little importance due to chance differences in tests. An aid in determining true differences is the LSD statistic. If differences between varieties are greater than the 10% LSD value, the varieties are considered "significantly

Table 1. Dryland spring barley performance in District 1 at Greencreek, Genesee, Moscow, and Bonners Ferry, 2007.

Variety	Yield					Test Weight	Average			
	Green-creek	Genesee	Moscow	Bonners Ferry	Average		Plant Height	Plant Lodging	Plant Plumps	Plant Thins
2 Row Barley	bu/acre					lb/bu	Inches	%	%	%
Baronesse	39	80	98	79	74	48.2	26	0	58	22
Bear (hulless)	37	69	88	63	64	51.4	28	1	29	37
Bob	47	84	100	72	75	49.8	28	1	65	16
Boulder	42	82	95	84	76	50.4	27	0	67	17
Burton	42	80	93	76	73	48.5	29	0	64	16
Camas	47	84	96	73	75	50.4	28	0	59	22
Champion	55	92	104	89	85	51.0	28	0	60	19
Conrad	41	77	93	68	69	48.1	26	0	66	15
Criton	45	85	90	76	74	48.3	28	1	70	14
Harrington	40	74	92	79	71	48.1	28	0	48	26
Lenetah*	51	--	101	--	76	--	--	--	--	--
Merit	32	74	91	83	70	46.8	27	0	59	17
Meresse (hulless)	38	70	70	43	55	52.7	25	0	31	30
AC Metcalfe	38	79	92	71	70	48.8	28	0	68	15
Spaulding	46	85	100	73	76	51.0	27	0	62	24
Radiant*	--	83	--	82	83	--	--	--	--	--
Average	43	80	93	74	73	49.4	27	0	58	20
6 Row Barley										
Colter	40	77	92	75	71	46.8	29	1	46	25
Excel	40	80	94	59	68	46.6	31	2	47	25
Legacy	37	75	93	56	65	46.7	30	2	48	24
Morex	42	69	87	55	63	47.5	33	11	48	24
Steptoe	46	78	97	76	74	46.2	29	4	66	16
Tradition	43	74	91	69	69	48.8	31	2	58	20
Average	41	75	92	65	68	47.1	31	4	52	22
Overall Average	42	78	93	72	71	48.8	28	1	56	21
LSD .10	9	5	5	8	3	0.5	1	1	3	2

*Lenetah and Radiant were planted at only two of four locations

TABLE 2. Irrigated Spring Barley Variety Performance in District II at Parma and Weiser, 2007

Variety	Yield			Test Weight	Plant Height	Lodging	Plumps	Thins
	Parma	Weiser	Average					
2 Row Barley	bu/acre			lb/bu	inches	%	%	%
Burton	137	134	136	53.2	40	43	99	1
Clearwater	107	75	91	54.0	40	74	94	4
Idagold	173	123	148	51.5	31	21	97	3
Merit	131	80	105	48.9	37	69	95	5
Merlin	158	128	143	61.5	32	5	99	1
Radiant	139	123	131	52.5	38	72	97	3
Salute	123	94	109	51.9	40	57	98	2
Average	137	111	124	53.1	37	51	97	3
6 Row Barley								
Aquina	160	133	147	53.9	38	6	99	1
Creel	131	135	133	49.9	40	63	97	3
Goldeneye	139	145	142	51.7	38	57	99	1
Herald	154	130	142	50.5	42	18	98	2
Legacy	140	121	130	50.6	39	65	98	2
Millennium	174	154	164	50.7	39	20	98	2
Nebula	178	146	162	50.1	31	0	99	1
Steptoe	147	137	142	50.8	41	70	99	1
Average	152	138	145	50.8	37	34	98	2
LSD .10	23	26	17	1.3	2	21	1	1

TABLE 3. Irrigated and Dryland Two-Row Spring Barley Performance in Districts III and IV at Rupert, Aberdeen, Idaho Falls, Ashton, and Soda Springs, 2007.

Variety	Yield					Average					
	Irrigated				Dryland	Yield	Test Weight	Plant Height	Lodging	Plumps	Thins
	Rupert	Aberdeen	Idaho Falls	Ashton	Soda Springs						
	bu/acre					lb/bu	inches	%	%	%	
AC Metcalfe	130	108	118	63	8	105	51.2	31	50	95	5
Busch B1202	131	112	126	77	8	111	50.4	29	53	95	6
Baronesse	140	139	136	84	8	125	51.2	28	56	94	8
Boulder	143	141	148	80	10	128	53.8	28	45	97	4
Burton	140	143	143	78	8	126	52.3	31	35	97	4
Calgary	142	155	147	78	1	130	52.8	25	28	97	4
Camas	140	130	139	72	11	120	52.0	29	53	93	7
CDC Bold	140	171	146	73	11	132	52.0	27	33	93	7
CDC McGwire	123	105	119	58	13	101	58.8	30	48	73	28
CDC Stratus	129	118	132	54	9	109	51.3	29	55	96	5
Champion	142	149	143	108	10	136	52.0	29	53	92	8
Clearwater	113	103	120	72	11	102	56.6	28	56	83	18
Conrad	108	127	136	97	12	117	50.9	29	48	94	6
Craft	125	133	137	70	12	116	52.5	31	44	94	6
Eslick	118	123	119	77	5	109	51.3	29	61	90	11
Geraldine	135	123	122	67	7	112	50.9	29	57	89	11
Harrington	118	116	105	75	10	103	49.6	31	65	86	14
Haxby	144	134	133	64	12	119	53.0	28	46	95	5
Hayes	125	110	117	68	13	105	48.4	30	60	84	16
Hockett	122	119	126	77	6	111	51.4	29	47	94	6
Idagold II	146	133	140	80	8	125	50.0	24	29	91	9
Merit	125	107	126	67	9	106	49.4	30	49	89	11
Moravian 37	140	121	141	77	13	118	51.7	25	55	94	5
Moravian 69	139	125	131	65	5	115	49.0	26	48	89	11
Pinnacle	135	143	137	73	17	122	53.2	30	34	97	3
Radiant	134	120	125	89	3	117	50.9	29	61	88	12
Spaulding	145	137	145	82	3	127	52.7	29	42	93	8
Tetonia	148	131	138	93	5	127	51.1	28	40	89	11
Valier	140	128	130	70	4	117	52.2	29	45	93	7
Xena	144	142	134	87	11	127	50.8	29	54	91	9
Average	134	128	132	76	9	118	51.6	29	50	91	9
LSD 0.10	18	17	12	10	8	7	0.7	1	11	4	3

TABLE 4. Irrigated and Dryland Six-Row Spring Barley Performance in Districts III and IV at Rupert, Aberdeen, Ashton, Idaho Falls, and Soda Springs, 2007.

Variety	Yield					Average					
	Irrigated				Dryland	Yield	Test Weight	Plant Height	Lodging	Plumps	Thins
	Rupert	Aberdeen	Idaho Falls	Ashton	Soda Springs						
	bu/acre					lb/bu	inches	%	%	%	
Aquila	158	171	132	80	14	135	50.3	30	21	91	10
Colter	151	142	131	63	12	122	48.0	30	32	86	14
Creel	157	156	138	73	12	131	49.3	30	44	86	14
Drummond	153	138	118	70	12	120	50.6	32	44	93	7
Foster	140	134	115	59	7	112	50.2	33	36	94	6
Goldeneye	155	172	153	71	10	138	50.5	30	24	91	9
Herald	153	153	137	54	9	124	47.2	32	25	91	9
Lacey	163	150	115	72	10	125	51.6	31	41	94	7
Legacy	147	150	119	73	11	122	50.6	33	60	91	10
Millennium	177	172	144	83	14	144	48.9	32	14	87	14
Morex	153	115	88	63	8	105	49.5	32	58	85	16
Steptoe	166	127	130	72	13	124	48.0	30	34	92	8
Tradition	148	158	118	79	11	126	51.3	33	37	95	6
Average	155	149	126	70	11	125	49.7	31	36	90	10
LSD 0.10	13	18	11	10	6	7	0.5	1	10	4	5

different.” This means that there is a 9 in 10 chance that the reported difference between varieties is a true difference and not due to other experimental factors. If no significant differences are determined for a trial, n.s. is used in place of the LSD.

Further Information

Variety characteristic information can be found in Extension publications: “2006 Certified Seed Selection Guide for Spring Barley and Oats” (Progress Report 328) and “2006 Certified Seed Selection Guide for Spring

TABLE 5. Spring Barley Yield Average for 2005-2007 in Idaho.

Site/Years—	District				
	12	6	3	9	3
2-Row Varieties	bu/acre				
AC Metcalf	79	--	109	94	40
Busch B1202	--	--	117	95	40
Baronesse	84	--	135	111	42
Bear	69	--	--	--	--
Bob	79	--	--	--	--
Boulder	--	--	123	111	39
Burton	79	--	125	107	37
Calgary	--	--	130	112	40
Camas	82	--	125	106	40
CDC Bold	--	--	131	111	32
CDC Stratus	--	--	109	91	44
Conrad	--	--	121	107	41
Criton	82	--	--	--	--
Harrington	77	--	99	90	40
Idagold II	--	136	130	103	34
Merit	79	122	114	97	30
Moravian 37	--	--	135	103	39
Moravian 69	--	--	126	105	29
Radiant	--	136	118	106	37
Tetonia	--	--	136	112	--
Valier	--	--	119	102	40
Xena	--	--	142	109	42

6-Row Varieties

Aquila	--	--	132	108	36
Colter	81	--	132	109	35
Creel	--	145	131	117	39
Drummond	--	--	118	98	34
Excel	76	--	--	--	--
Foster	--	--	107	93	32
Goldeneye	--	--	135	118	37
Herald	--	131	137	107	32
Lacey	--	--	132	103	34
Legacy	76	133	119	103	33
Millennium	--	157	151	120	34
Morex	68	--	113	85	34
Nebula	--	148	--	--	--
Steptoe	83	133	128	106	38
Tradition	79	--	116	102	32

Wheat” (Progress Report 327). Variety performance information for winter wheat has been published in the fall issues of Idaho Grain. An excellent Extension publication for barley producers is “Idaho Spring Barley Production Guide” (Bulletin No. 742) that was updated for 2003, and for spring wheat producers there is “Irrigated Spring Wheat Production Guide for Southern Idaho” (Bulletin No. 697). All these publications are free through the University of Idaho Agricultural Publications (ph. 208-885-7982) or contact your county Extension office. Additional Idaho small grain variety performance information is available on the web at <http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/cereals/>. ♦



2007 Idaho Spring Wheat Variety Performance Tests and 2005-2007 Yield Summaries

Stephen Guy, Juliet Windes, and Brad Brown, Extension Specialists, Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences, University of Idaho

Idaho spring wheat varieties are evaluated each year to provide performance information to help growers select superior varieties for their growing conditions. Because of similarities among spring wheat and spring barley tests, details about spring wheat test design and interpretation of the information presented in this article can be found in the preceding article '2007 Idaho Spring Barley Variety Performance Tests and 2005-2007 Yield Summaries.' Agronomic performance data for spring wheat are summarized by state districts in Tables 1-4. District III and IV results are presented for soft white spring wheat in Tables 3 and for hard spring wheat in Tables 4. Yield data are given for individual sites while other agronomic data are averaged over all the sites of each table. Tables include quality ratings of varieties, categorized as Quality Plus wheat varieties (Q+), Acceptable Quality of wheat (AQ) and "Limited Markets" wheat (LM) as defined by the Idaho Wheat Commission (www.idahowheat.org). Q+ varieties are of excellent quality, and usually above average milling and baking characteristics. AQ varieties are acceptable, but still just average in milling and baking characteristics. LM varieties are inferior, and it is suggested they should be grown only if a buyer is confirmed before the seed is planted. Bushel/acre yield results are based on 60 lb/bu at 11% moisture. Lodging ratings are the percent of a plot area lodged. Average values are presented at the bottom of listings and are followed by a least significant difference (LSD) statistic at the 10% level. Average yield results from variety performance trials in 2005, 2006, and 2007 are presented in Table 5 for all districts, with 3-9 site/years of data summarized for each district. ♦

TABLE 1. Dryland Spring Wheat Performance in District I at Greencreek, Genesee, and Bonners Ferry, 2006.

Variety	Quality Rating	Yield				Average			Plant Height
		Greencreek	Genesee	B. Ferry	Average	Protein	Grain Hardness	Test Weight	
Soft White		bu/acre				%	1-100	lb/bu	inches
Alturas	Q+	38	47	41	42	12.9	25	56.6	28
Cataldo	Q+	34	43	43	40	13.5	21	55.5	27
Eden (club)	AQ	43	53	49	48	12.7	31	59.4	29
Louise	Q+	36	50	54	47	12.9	25	56.1	31
Nick	Q+	45	53	31	43	14.1	26	56.8	27
Penawawa	LM	35	45	45	42	14.1	25	56.4	28
Average		38	48	44	44	13.4	25	57.0	28
Hard White									
ID0377s	AQ	34	45	44	41	14.6	61	56.7	30
Lochsa	Q+	34	48	36	39	14.8	69	55.1	29
Lolo	AQ	34	46	51	44	14.4	67	57.5	30
Otis		36	47	54	46	14.1	66	58.6	33
Average		35	47	46	43	14.5	66	57.0	30
Hard Red									
Cabernet		38	46	41	42	14.9	55	56.7	25
Hank	AQ	40	48	42	43	14.7	60	56.2	28
Hollis	Q+	37	45	33	38	15.6	62	56.8	35
Jefferson	Q+	40	53	46	46	14.5	67	58.0	29
Jerome	Q+	36	43	45	41	14.2	56	56.5	29
Tara 2002	Q+	37	49	29	38	15.3	57	57.6	30
Westbred 926	AQ	37	53	40	43	15.2	61	56.4	28
Average		38	48	39	42	14.9	60	56.9	29
Overall Average		37	48	42	43	14.3	49	57.0	29
LSD .10		4	4	6	3	--	--	0.6	1

Table 2. Irrigated Spring Wheat Variety Performance in District II at Parma, Weiser, and Kuna, 2007.

Variety	Quality Rating	Yield				Protein	Test Weight	Plant Height	Lodging
		Parma	Weiser	Kuna	Average				
Soft White		bu/acre				%	lb/bu	inches	%
Alturas	Q+	137	139	111	129	10.5	61.5	36	0
Cataldo	Q+	129	130	91	117	11.7	60.9	34	0
Jubilee	Q+	127	128	105	120	11.0	61.3	37	0
Nick	Q+	139	131	106	125	11.0	62.3	36	0
Penawawa	LM	124	126	101	117	11.1	62.0	34	0
PenawawaX*		125	133	100	119	11.4	61.8	34	0
Pettit	Q+	140	133	103	125	10.4	61.1	30	0
Average (SW)		133	131	104	123	11.1	61.6	35	0
LSD .10 (SW)		6	8	11	6	0.5	0.6	1	0
Hard Red									
Jefferson	Q+	120	109	90	106	14.0	62.3	35	7
Jerome	Q+	135	141	90	122	13.6	62.8	34	0
Sagittario		116	119	88	108	13.4	61.0	26	0
Winchester		124	113	81	106	13.6	62.8	34	1
WestBred 936	Q+	131	133	80	115	14.0	62.0	31	0
Hard White									
Lochsa	Q+	129	130	93	117	13.9	61.3	35	0
Lolo	AQ	134	126	100	120	12.7	63.9	36	0
Otis		127	120	107	118	12.6	62.4	40	2
Vaioret		93	103	80	92	13.5	59.5	23	1
Average (Hard)		123	122	90	112	13.5	62.0	33	1
LSD .10 (Hard)		4	13	12	6	0.7	0.7	1	4

*Waxy Penawawa

TABLE 3. Irrigated and Dryland Soft White Spring Wheat Performance in Districts III and IV at Rupert, Aberdeen, Ashton, Idaho Falls, and Soda Springs, 2007.

Variety	Quality Rating	Yield					Yield	Average		
		Rupert	Aberdeen	Idaho Falls	Ashton	Soda Springs		Test Weight	Height	Lodging
		bu/acre					lb/bu	inches	%	
Alpowa	LM	109	116	106	79	14	103	59.7	34	12
Alturas	Q+	108	132	109	81	14	108	59.9	32	6
Cataldo	Q+	96	123	103	83	19	101	59.2	30	0
Challis	Q+	108	120	94	77	12	100	58.5	32	8
Eden (club)	AQ	94	116	95	71	17	94	60.3	32	6
Jubilee	Q+	100	119	99	88	8	102	59.8	35	3
Louise	Q+	94	106	90	81	11	93	58.5	34	27
Nick	Q+	99	127	113	71	22	103	60.2	31	4
Penawawa	LM	108	119	89	70	11	97	59.3	32	7
PeanawawaX*		107	124	92	65	10	97	58.5	30	2
Skookum		96	126	114	94	14	108	59.0	35	4
Treasure	Q+	109	93	96	95	16	98	57.4	32	24
UI Pettit	Q+	106	128	118	95	17	112	60.2	28	1
Whitebird		98	118	89	96	8	100	59.6	34	0
Average		102	119	100	81	14	101	59.3	32	7
LSD 0.10		11	10	12	13	10	6	0.6	1	8

*Waxy Penawawa

Table 4. Irrigated and Dryland Hard Spring Wheat Performance in Districts III and IV at Rupert, Aberdeen, Ashton, Idaho Falls, and Soda Springs, 2007.

Variety	Quality Rating	Yield					Yield	Average		
		Rupert	Aberdeen	Idaho Falls	Ashton	Soda Springs		Test Weight	Plant Height	Lodging
		bu/acre					lb/bu	inches	%	
Hard Red										
Buck Pronto		102	114	103	66	12	96	59.8	29	1
Cabernet		98	123	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choteau		103	118	104	82	13	102	60.2	32	5
Hollis	Q+	58	108	92	76	12	84	59.3	39	11
Iona	AQ	109	107	98	72	8	96	59.7	33	21
Jefferson	Q+	104	123	103	82	14	103	60.5	33	5
Jerome	Q+	104	123	100	74	13	100	59.6	30	4
Saxon		104	125	93	72	7	99	58.8	34	0
Scarlet	AQ	95	105	102	94	10	99	57.5	34	21
Summit		97	114	99	73	9	96	57.8	26	0
Tara 2002	Q+	95	117	103	65	14	95	59.9	32	4
WestBred 936	Q+	99	120	100	70	11	97	59.0	29	0
Winchester		--	--	--	--	14	--	--	--	--
Hard White										
Blanca Grande	AQ	102	135	104	63	16	101	61.5	27	0
Idaho 377s	AQ	97	104	101	91	8	98	59.1	31	27
Klasic	Q+	96	119	102	49	13	92	61.1	23	0
Lochsa	Q+	108	121	108	77	7	102	59.0	33	0
Lolo	AQ	103	122	106	95	7	107	58.3	34	11
Otis		99	122	103	85	10	102	59.9	36	10
Pristine	AQ	100	126	102	63	10	98	62.1	32	4
Snowcrest	Q+	94	117	106	55	13	93	60.4	26	0
Durum										
Alzada		100	119	105	69	13	98	60.3	29	4
Kronos		101	126	106	65	7	99	60.2	27	2
Matt		87	112	96	52	8	87	60.4	28	7
Topper		92	112	94	56	4	89	59.3	28	0
Utopia		100	108	95	59	9	91	58.2	27	7
Average		97	118	101	71	10	98	59.6	31	7
LSD 0.10		11	9	11	14	7	6	0.6	1	7



TABLE 5. Spring Wheat Yield Average for 2005-2007 in Idaho.

Variety	Site/Years	District				
		I 9	II 8	III 3	IV 9	IV(Dry) 3
		Yield (bu/acre)				
Soft White						
Alpowa	LM	--	--	108	94	33
Alturas	Q+	52	119	104	101	33
Cataldo	Q+	55	--	--	--	--
Challis	Q+	--	--	105	90	32
Eden (club)	AQ	50	--	97	90	31
Jubilee	Q+	--	99	102	88	32
Louise	Q+	55	--	89	90	32
Nick	Q+	57	117	102	98	35
Penawawa	LM	42	102	103	86	31
Skookum		--	--	102	97	31
Treasure	Q+	--	--	102	93	34
UI Petit	Q+	--	--	95	100	31
Whitebird		--	--	95	83	31
Hard Red						
Buck Pronto		--	--	93	87	27
Choteau		--	--	90	88	26
Hank	AQ	54	--	--	--	--
Hollis	Q+	48	--	73	83	29
Iona	AQ	--	--	103	87	26
Jefferson	Q+	54	100	99	92	31
Jerome	Q+	53	113	101	94	29
Saxon		--	--	102	90	28
Scarlet	AQ	--	--	96	90	29
Summit		--	--	89	89	26
Tara 2002	Q+	51	--	94	86	27
Westbred 926	AQ	53	--	--	--	--
Westbred 936	Q+	--	106	94	88	29
Hard White						
Blanca Grande	AQ	--	--	96	87	27
IDO377s	AQ	48	--	101	95	29
Klasic	Q+	--	--	88	80	26
Lochsa	Q+	53	107	98	94	29
Lolo	AQ	51	107	104	98	31
Otis		54	108	105	100	34
Pristine	AQ	--	--	94	88	25
Durum						
Kronos		--	--	98	89	25
Matt		--	--	90	80	24
Topper		--	--	88	81	18
Utopia		--	--	99	86	24