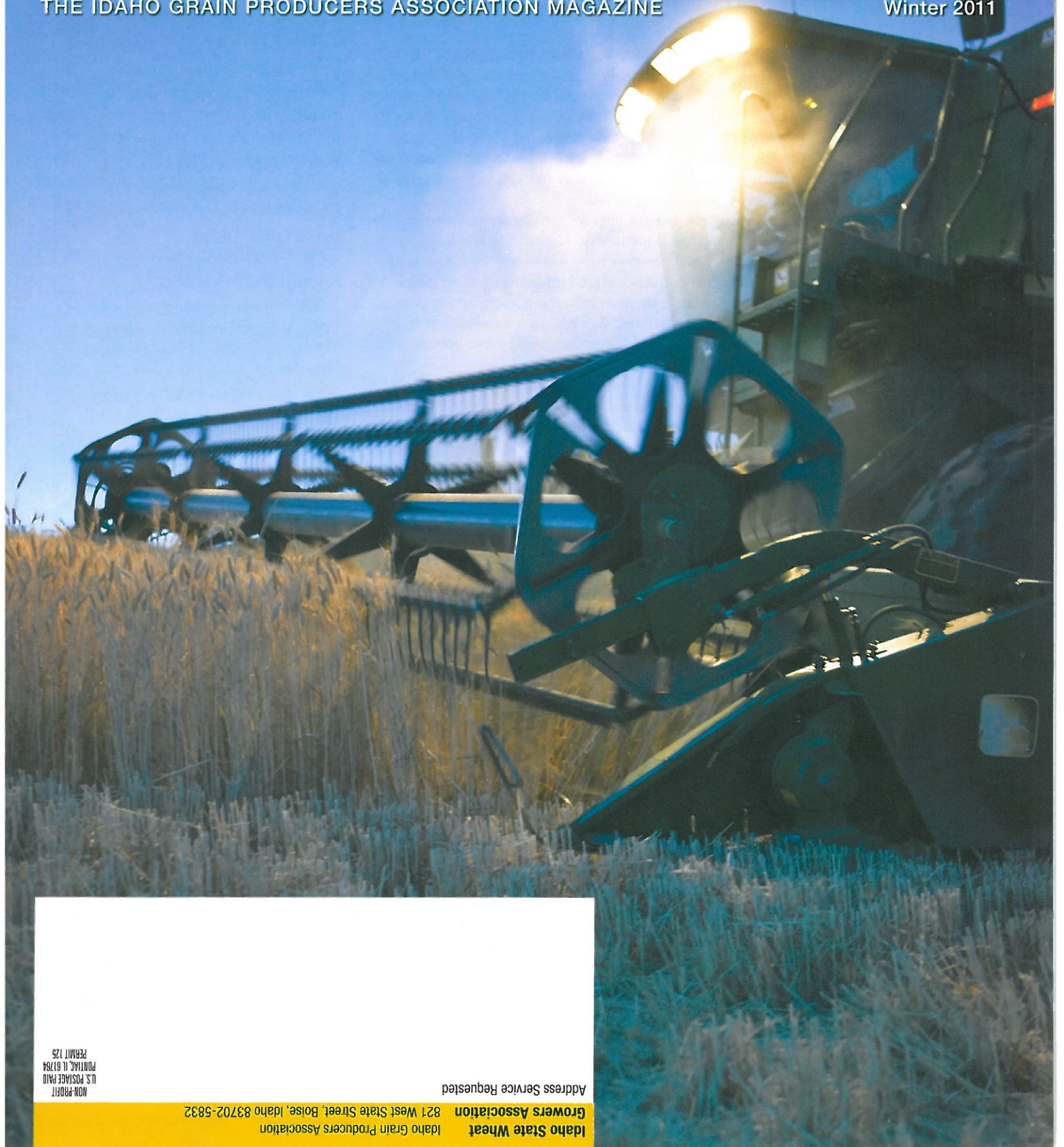


# IDAHO GRAIN

THE IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

Winter 2011



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# What Do 7 Billion People Have in Common? Agriculture!



**W**ith the 7,000,000,000th person due to be born sometime this year we need to consider how they will all be fed. It is said that today's population is 1/3 fed, 1/3 underfed and 1/3 starving. As Congress debates the budget shortfalls and looks for savings, I believe our elected officials should also focus on food security and a safety net to ensure our country — as well as others — continue to be fed.

Ultimately, budget cuts to agriculture must reflect its diversity across the country, respect the challenges producers face and preserve the tools necessary for food production. Our country's abundant and safe food supply is all made possible for less than one-quarter of one percent

of the federal budget and already has contributed \$15 billion toward deficit reduction. We as farmers have a good story that should be understood by everyone regardless of their political affiliation.

By the time this is printed, the presidency of IGPA will have been handed off to the very capable hands of "Genesee" Joe Anderson. Idaho Grain Producers Association's culture of shared leadership keeps the organization dynamic and relevant.

Let me share a story that I read recently that illustrates how important it is to make sure the sources of our information are correct.

Every weekday morning for years at about 11:30 the telephone operator in a small town received a call by a man asking for the exact time. One day she got up the nerve to ask him why he called so often. "I'm the foreman at the local saw mill," he explained. "Every day I have to blow the whistle at exactly noon, so I call you for the correct time."

"That's funny," the operator giggled. "All these years I've been setting our clock by your whistle."

The past decade plus of serving the Idaho grain industry as a barley commissioner, IGPA Board member, Executive Board of IGPA and the past year as IGPA President has been a great experience. It has been a time of learning, meeting great people, being able to represent the Idaho grain growers locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. I have no idea what is ahead, but I look forward to continuing to serve the Idaho grain industry in some way. There is never a shortage of issues.

Once again I encourage all of you to get involved promoting production agriculture through your membership in IGPA. Your Executive Board is always engaged with the State Legislature, the National Association of Wheat Growers and the National Barley Growers Association in forming policy on farm programs, research funding, trade agreements, environmental regulations and transportation issues. We need your ideas, partnership, and enthusiasm in the discussion.

Thanks for the ride! \*

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*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.*



WHEAT



BARLEY



WHEAT & BARLEY

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## Connecting



I regularly attend meetings ranging from specific agriculture industry meetings to speaking to random Boise-based civic groups that mostly have no idea what is happening on the farm just past the view from their back porch.

Invites from these various civic groups have hit my radar screen mainly through random connections with friends, acquaintances and/or the various groups that I donate my time to. Usually it involves my contact having to scramble for a speaker at an upcoming lunch meeting and finding me a willing and easy victim to solicit.

For me, it's a perfect opportunity to enlighten the mostly urban masses to an industry, a lifestyle, and a culture that they see every time they leave Boise, but one that they don't really "see."

Having lived in urban environments ever since leaving the cozy confines of college, I jump at the opportunity to talk with these folks

because a.) I typically know more than they do at least on this one subject, b.) it's a great way to brag about Idaho's grain industry, and c.) I like finding ways to help the everyday citizen understand what agriculture — specifically wheat and barley — means to their life.

Civic group lunch meetings usually involve some up-front simple business, then food, member razzing and recent storytelling; then it's my turn to take the floor and finish off the session. I prefer to rattle off a few statistics about the Idaho wheat and barley industry...not too much however because numbers tend to bounce off a brain and cause Attention Deficit Disorder.

I then move into the hot-button issues facing Idaho grain farmers and tailor my talking points to the audience with an emphasis on the business element and the broad, diverse nature of the agriculture industry.

Connecting with the audience is key when speaking on a foreign subject, and I have found a pretty simple method that always hits home — I work to keep beer and bread on their tables. That usually garners smiles and maybe a few "hear, hear!" cheers.

I'm guessing that most of you who actually read my article probably don't find yourselves speaking to civic groups much. But maybe you should. I bet dollars to donuts that many farmers are involved in groups ranging from the Boy Scouts, to a co-op, to well-known fraternal organizations such as the Elks, Lions, Eagles, Kiwanis, and maybe even those mysterious Masons.

Farmers need only look in the mirror when wondering why there is such a disconnect between farmers and the consuming public. If it's an issue in Idaho's urban hubs which are surrounded by fertile fields, you know how severe it is elsewhere.

By nature farmers are farmers because they get to be their own boss, they call the shots, they don't have to wear suits and ties, and they can stay far away from crowds and congestion — all fantastic benefits of the world's oldest trade.

And while you enjoy those fringe benefits, have you ever wondered why you seem to be subject to endless attacks on your way of life? Have you ever stopped to think why there seems to be an endless volume of well-funded anti-agriculture groups, government regulations and other efforts than ever before?

I contend most of the monkeys on the backs of today's farmers stem from agriculture's own success. The amazing innovations in agriculture research and technology have allowed the majority of the human population to pursue interests other than searching for its next meal. Cities only exist because food grown outside of their borders sustains them.

As the state executive director of Idaho's sole group representing wheat and barley farmers, it's my job to educate those disconnected from your industry. Speaking to civic groups and others is a small, but critical activity and, truthfully, one I enjoy.

IGPA Vice President "Genesee" Joe Anderson and wife Gayle have embraced their role as farmers and teachers by hosting frequent dinners on the farm. Their guest list includes locally elected officials, business owners, members of the media, and friends. Invitees tour the farm, check out equipment, and learn how wheat, peas, and lentils turn into a hot meal on a plate served up free by the Andersons.

I have no doubt the Andersons are making a significant impact and weaving a vital link between farmers and the public. As your IGPA executive director, I do my best to do the same in my surroundings through speaking engagements and other forums. Imagine what could be achieved if more farmers simply spoke up?

Happy Holidays to you and your families and thanks for your support of the IGPA! ✱



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## IGPA V.P. Testifies in Favor of Lewiston Port Dock Expansion

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) held a public hearing recently to receive community and stakeholder input regarding a proposed project to expand the Port of Lewiston's dock area. The project's purpose is to provide for increased operational efficiencies, allow berthing of multiple barges, and to accommodate loading and unloading of oversized cargo.

The October 19 meeting at Sacajawea Junior High School in Lewiston, Idaho attracted opponents and proponents of the project while receiving local media coverage. IGPA Vice President "Genesee" Joseph Anderson and Idaho Wheat Commission District 2 Commissioner Bill Flory attended providing public testimony favoring the project.

As the West Coast's most inland port, the Port of Lewiston exports mainly agriculture and timber products from Idaho, Montana, Washington, Oregon, the Dakota's and Wyoming. The proposed dock extension projects seeks to lengthen the existing 125-foot dock by an additional 150 feet within the existing berthing basin.

The dock expansion project is intended to increase the operational efficiency of the dock, permit more than one barge to berth, ease congestion and allow long roll-on, roll-off (RORO) cargo to be unloaded. The increased efficiency resulting from the dock extension would enable the Port to remain competitive with other modes of freight transportation and meeting its responsibilities as a generator of local economic activity.



The Port relies on a single crane to unload cargo, but facility size limits crane movements to a relatively small pile-supported apron. This restriction reduces the ability of the crane to "pick" containers and cargo from the barge. Extending the dock will allow the crane to move anywhere and access the entire container barge. In addition, extending the dock will allow the unimpeded offloading of very long roll-on, roll-off cargo.

On August 22, 2011 the IGPA submitted comments to the USCOE supporting the proposed project and its positive impact on Idaho's grain producers:

*"The expansion project will undoubtedly increase the operational efficiencies of the Port thereby allowing improved and timely movement of Idaho sourced grain to the customer. The project would improve the Port's competitiveness and viability which would likewise bolster the State of Idaho's agriculture economy and benefit many more."*



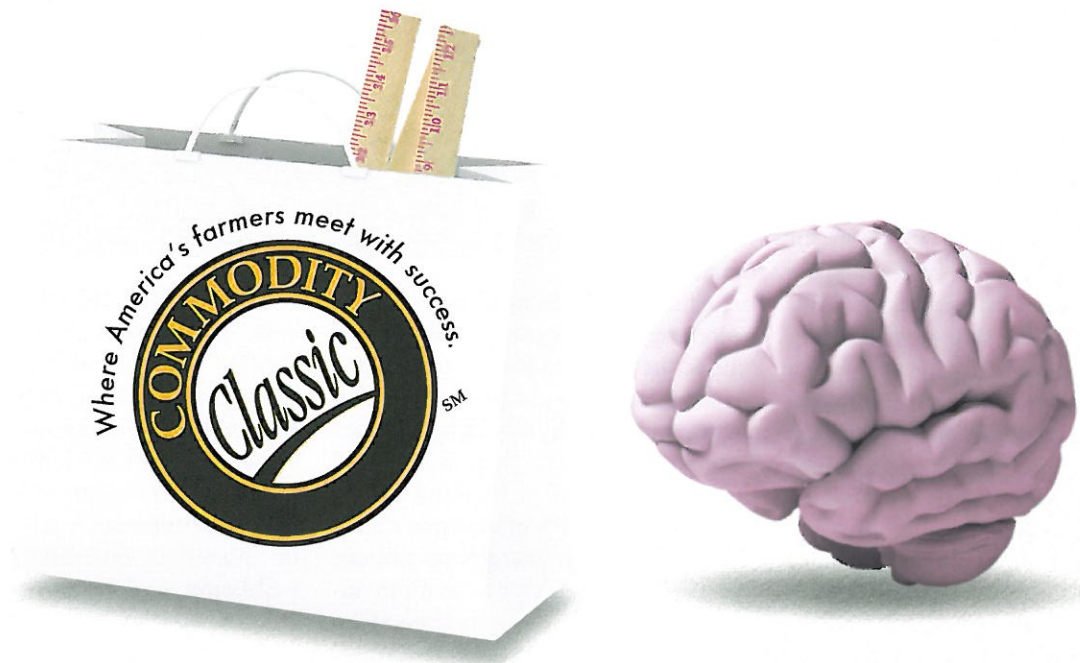
Joseph Anderson

Flory and Anderson spoke to the positive direct and indirect benefits of the project on the agriculture industry and the region's economy.

*"The Port of Lewiston is not only critical to Idaho, it's really a link from the Midwest to the rest of the world,"* said Anderson.

The Port of Lewiston is requesting construction to begin on December 1, 2011 and be completed by February 15, 2012. If granted, the permit would authorize construction for a period of 2 years.

The USCOE will consider comments received to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors.



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# What Megaloads of Controversy Could Mean for Idaho's Agriculture Future

By Alex LaBeau

There's been a lot of coverage and chatter about oversize load permits for oil production equipment shipments across the state of Idaho. The debate has been ongoing for nearly three and a half years now, with opponents of these shipments utilizing every legal and administrative process available to delay and/or stop them. But there's been relatively little discussion about how unnecessary controversy could impact Idaho's agriculture industry and community.

Opponents of the shipments initially protested the use of Highway 12 from the Port of Lewiston, through Orofino, Kamiah, and Kooskia to the Montana border at Lolo Pass, claiming there would be disruption to the scenic river corridor and byway along the Clearwater River. Legal battles were fought all the way to the Idaho Supreme Court before being dismissed. Next, the same opponents took their fight to the Idaho Transportation Department, where they lost an exhaustive appeal process presided over by an impartial independent judge. Despite being defeated in both court and a state appeal process, the remaining legal uncertainty surrounding the use of Highway 12 in Montana forced shipments to move along new additional routes — setting a dangerous precedent for future shipments and dealing a setback to local businesses that were looking forward to a much needed boost in business.

The opposition to the use of Highway 12 was the beginning of this story — not the end. More recently, protestors have been lining the streets of Moscow in attempts to disrupt shipments along one of the alternative routes on Highway 95, this time exposing their real agenda — to disrupt the development of the Canadian Oil Sands. It turns out that no matter where you go, allow-

ing commercial truck traffic to travel on our roads appears too dangerous for Idaho to handle according to the extremists camped out in Moscow.

While it's easy to make light of protestors up in arms over some oversize trucks, the threat to Idaho's economy is no laughing matter. Already the delay tactics employed by opposition groups have cost taxpayers a great deal in legal costs, the residents of Highway 12, the Port and community of Lewiston a great deal more in lost economic opportunity. The damage done in terms of future investments now shying away from Idaho as a result of the controversy is impossible to calculate. And all of this is the cost of the protestors failing.

Imagine then the damage if activists successfully establish transportation permitting as a new tool for environmental stonewalling. The Idaho Transportation Department issued over 65,000 oversize load permits last year alone. These are loads we see every day, and many subscribers of this publication utilize. How many jobs will we lose when activists turn their sites on timber product shipments? Mining equipment? How about grain silos and farm equipment? Or they decide that tankers of fuel en route to remote communities pose a threat to the "values" of a Historic and Scenic Byway designated road?

This summer, the same organizations created by the environmental groups to oppose oversize shipping turned their sights on the Port of Lewiston's dock expansion project. They were successful at getting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers public comment period extended, submitted public comments opposing the project, and protested at hearings held in Lewiston. And while their public comments talk about the well-being of Lewiston, the true goal is to end the



commercial use of rivers and waterways — severely threatening the use of the Port as a main shipping center for agricultural products from our region. Many of the opposition comments came from well outside the Lewiston community, fueled by messages supplied by national environmental groups that have no interest in our state or economic well-being.

This noncontroversial dock extension is important — not only for expanding the Port of Lewiston's operations, but also for creating economic activity in the Lewiston area. Planned for decades to support grain shipping out of the Port, the opposition has been dishonest and opportunistic in doing whatever they can to undermine the long-term health of this important Port facility.

We thank the Idaho Grain Producers Association for being an early member of the Drive Our Economy Coalition. This is an issue that could set a precedent affecting commerce and transportation in all corners of the state. Idaho's farmers and grain producers know well that the free flow of commerce is critical to our state's economy. Our industry, and our state, cannot afford business being kept away by this activist opposition any longer.

*Alex LaBeau is President of the Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry and co-chairman of the Drive Our Economy Coalition, a task force of community, business, and agricultural leaders who have joined together to promote economic strategies that benefit Idaho, Montana, and Washington. For additional information, visit: [www.DriveOurEconomy.org](http://www.DriveOurEconomy.org).*

## NAWG, NBGA Staking Out Positions as Farm Bill Debate Heats Up

**T**he debate over farm policy amidst heavy political rancor has National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) President Wayne Hurst (Declo, Idaho) and National Barley Growers Association (NBGA) President Scott Brown (Soda Springs, Idaho) working closely together to protect the nation's wheat and barley farmers.

The Idaho farmers know each other well and share many things in common including service as past presidents of the IGPA, a passion for farming, and a friendship that makes their current jobs leading the country's wheat and barley grower associations a little easier.

"It's a big responsibility and a privilege to represent U.S. barley farmers at a critical time like this," said Brown. "It's fantastic to have the opportunity to work with Wayne to ensure that we're doing what's best for the grain industry as a whole. Our relationship and friendship brings a unique aspect to this Farm Bill debate."

Passed in 2008, the current Farm Bill authorizes most programs through September 30, 2012. However, deficit problems afflicting the federal budget motivated Congress this summer to pass a law setting up a process to find \$1.2 - \$1.5 trillion in savings.

The law established a "Super Committee" composed of 12 members, evenly split between the House and Senate chambers, with the goal of providing a detailed savings proposal by November 23, 2011 that Congress must consider before Christmas.

The joint Super Committee's mission has lit a fire in the halls of Congress to proactively scan their respective areas of legislative jurisdiction to find more palatable program savings than the Super Committee might generate on its own.

The chance to sway the Super Committee's work is not lost on the leadership of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees as well. Ag leaders' desire to best avoid difficult cuts to farm programs and concurrently develop a new five-year Farm Bill in a non-election year is running high.

Recently, Senate Agriculture Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), Senate Ranking Member Pat Roberts (R-Kan.), House Agriculture Committee Chairman Frank Lucas (R-Okla.) and House Ranking Member Collin Peterson (D-Minn.) wrote the 12 committee members, saying agriculture-area programs should take no more than \$23 billion in cuts through the ongoing debt-reduction process. Those cuts would come on top of more than \$40 billion in cuts in recent years to crop insurance, nutrition and other programs.

In an October 25 letter, NAWG President Hurst wrote leaders of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees outlining wheat growers' farm policy priorities in the context of the Super Committee's work. Hurst highlighted NAWG's



**NBGA President Scott Brown (L) and NAWG President Wayne Hurst**

focus on crop insurance stating that:

Our highest priority for federal investment in agriculture programs is the portion of crop insurance premiums subsidized by the federal government, the public part of one of the most well-functioning public-private partnerships undertaken by our government.

Hurst reiterated NAWG's long-standing support for the direct payment program even while acknowledging it has lost public support. He said NAWG believes a phase-down of the direct payment, perhaps over as few as three years, would allow farmers, their landlords and lenders and rural economies to adjust.

While the Super Committee's report to Congress is not due until November 23, the House and Senate Agriculture Committee and its stakeholders are scrambling to refine the details of a budget saving package that will ultimately impact the 2012 Farm Bill.

"I think that the NBGA and our wheat counterparts are hopeful that this process will yield a strong safety net for barley and wheat farmers," NBGA President Brown said. "We agree more than we disagree on priorities and we know that agriculture must be united during this critical debate."

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## Good News for Indemnity Funds

By Dave Ogden, Idaho State Department of Agriculture

**I**ncreased investment earnings, new licensees, and new additional storage are all good news for Idaho indemnity funds.

At 9-30-11 the Commodity Indemnity Fund (CIF) had a balance of \$8.5 million. Interest earnings continue to run at \$12,000 a month, about double of that a year ago due to moving funds from the State Treasurer's LGIP (Local Government Investment Pool) to the DBF (Diversified Bond Fund). The Seed Indemnity Fund (SIF) had a balance of \$4.5 million. Interest earnings also improved to \$6,000 per month, also about double of that a year ago.

New licensees include 2 warehouses, 1 commodity dealer, and 1 seed buyer. Storage capacity has also increased about one million bushels over last year in order to accommodate increased volume of grain crops, particularly for wheat and corn. Current licensees are listed at [www.agri.idaho.gov](http://www.agri.idaho.gov), un-

der the Warehouse link.

Unfortunately, the SIF has declared a financial failure, its first since formation in 2001. Staff is in the process of settling about \$200,000 in producer claims. The good news is that all concerned worked together to stave off the failure for over 2 years, and as a result the payout was reduced considerably. The fund is functioning as it was intended: To protect producers when licensees cannot pay them due to financial limitations.

Producers are encouraged to sell to licensed buyers in order to have the protection of the indemnity funds. Staff has a lot of confidence in our current licensees' integrity and ability to pay. Time has shown that even the most credit worthy buyer can sometimes fail financially due to outside circumstances beyond their control. That is when the indemnity fund coverage is important to have.



## Obama Signs Long-Awaited Free Trade Agreements

**O**n Friday, October 21, President Barack Obama signed three historic free trade agreements that will have a significant positive impact on U.S. grain farmers.

The agreements were passed on a bipartisan basis in both chambers of Congress after years of delay for political, logistical and policy reasons. Along with the FTAs, Obama also

Chairman Randy Sues, a wheat farmer from Colfax, Wash., attended the Rose Garden ceremony to represent wheat growers, who have strongly supported the agreements since they were penned in 2006 and 2007.

Now signed by the President, the agreements must go through an implementation process to activate them, known as "entering into force". This process can take a number of months because it requires all parties to certify that they consider one another to be abiding by the agreements' terms and legal conditions.

NAWG and the NBGA are urging this process to come to a conclusion as quickly as possible so the U.S. wheat industry can begin benefiting from the FTAs' preferences. The delay in Congressional consideration of the agreements has significantly hurt wheat exports, especially to Colombia.

As recently as 2007/2008, 70 percent of Colombia's total annual wheat imports came from U.S. farmers. U.S. sales have fallen since then to a low of 46 percent of total imports. At the same time, Canada negotiated and ratified an FTA with Colombia that entered into force in August, allowing Canadian wheat to enter Colombia duty free. Since June, Canadian wheat exports to Colombia have doubled versus last year while U.S. wheat exports have fallen 20 percent.

The FTAs with Panama and South Korea also eliminate duties on U.S. wheat and barley. While current tariffs do not significantly affect wheat exports to those countries, research commissioned by U.S. Wheat Associates in 2010 showed that lowering barriers to trade increases the value and volume of all U.S. agricultural exports, an industry that already supports more than 800,000 U.S. jobs.



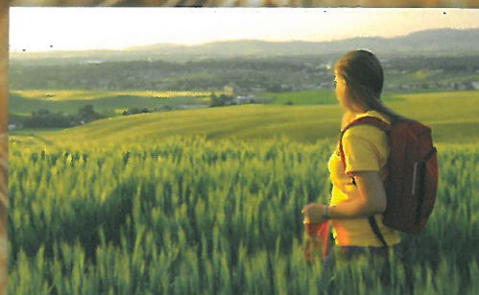
OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

signed provisions renewing the generalized system of preferences (GSP) and trade adjustment assistance (TAA), which were key to gaining his support for finalizing the free trade pacts.

Following the signing ceremony held at the White House, President Obama spoke at a Rose Garden Ceremony marking their completion. NAWG President Wayne Hurst, a wheat farmer from Burley, Idaho, and U.S. Wheat Associates



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# Update from the Idaho Barley Commission

## IBC spearheads 10th year of Grain Marketing & Risk Management Education

The IBC has been awarded another competitive grant from the Western Center for Risk Management Education at Washington State University to conduct grain marketing and risk management education across Idaho in 2011/12. This year's activities include:

- **Sept. 7 webinar** was conducted by Kelly Olson on “**Grain Market Outlook and Strategies for 2012 Malting Barley Contract Pricing.**” Recorded webinar can be downloaded at <https://connect.cals.uidaho.edu/p53192408/>
- **Nov. 9 webinar** was conducted by Craig Corbett on “**How to Fine-Tune Malting Barley / Wheat Marketing Strategies in Volatile Grain Markets.**” Recorded webinar can be downloaded at <https://connect.cals.uidaho.edu/p27789333/>
- **Nov. 28 webinar** on “**How to Hedge your Farm Energy Inputs**” was conducted by Bryce Knorr, senior editor of *Farm Futures* and a link to the recorded session can be found at the IBC website [www.idahobarley.org](http://www.idahobarley.org).
- **Dec. 6 Workshop** on **Risk Assessed Marketing: Integrating Grain Marketing & Crop Insurance into a Comprehensive Risk Management Strategy** presented by Dr. Art Barnaby, Kansas State University, at the Pocatello Red Lion Hotel. Pre-registration is required. For more information see our IBC website at [www.idahobarley.org](http://www.idahobarley.org).

## Southern/Eastern Idaho Extension

- Series of Six Farm & Ranch Management Classes in Burley, Jerome, Pocatello, American Falls, Rexburg.
- Additional training in Burley and Idaho Falls on farm business management tools (computerized tools), estate planning, beginning grain marketing, managing production costs, precision agriculture and irrigation management.

## North Idaho Extension

- Business/Succession Planning Short Courses in minimum of two North Idaho locations.

## Current Global Grain Market Outlook

- World barley production up 7% (U.S. crop down 14%), usage up 1% (U.S. down 9%) and carryover down 13% (U.S. down 38%). Consumption will outpace production for the second consecutive year.
- World wheat production up 5% (U.S. crop down 10%), usage up 4% (U.S. up 4%) and carryover up 3% (U.S. down 4%).
- World corn production up 4% (U.S. crop down 1%), usage up 3% (U.S. down 2%) and carryover down 6% (U.S. down 25%).

## Key Drivers to Watch

- **U.S. beer demand remains stagnant** (down 1.5% overall in 2010 and down 1.1% in first half of 2011, but craft beer segment was up 9% in 2010 and up 14% in 1H2011).
- **How much corn will China need to import to meet its expanding livestock feed demand?** China purchased at 1.2 MMT of U.S. corn in MY 2010 and an estimated 3.2 MMT so far in MY 2011, although only 1.9 MMT has been confirmed. Many analysts believe China may need to **import as much as 5 MMT of new crop corn to replenish depleted government stocks.** USDA is projecting China will draw down its corn ending stocks another 5% in MY 2011/12 due to record livestock consumption.
- **Future of U.S. ethanol subsidies** — it now appears that current ethanol excise tax incentive and import tariffs will sunset at the end of this year, while the RFS2 blending mandate is expected to remain in place, although some legislative proposals are lurking in the wings to make adjustments when U.S. corn stocks to use levels fall below a certain trigger level.
- **Outside market influences / investor attitudes** — investment money flow continues to be highly erratic due to prolonged uncertainties about Europe's worsening debt crisis and faltering economic growth in the U.S., Europe and other developed markets. Volatility is likely to remain high as a result.

**MY 2011-12 U.S. Grain Supply & Demand** USDA, Nov. 9, 2011 (million bu)

	BARLEY		CORN		WHEAT	
	2010-11	2011-12	2010-11	2011-12	2010-11	2011-12
Harvested Acres (mln)	2.5	2.2	81.4	83.9	47.6	45.7
Carryin	115	89	1,708	1,128	976	862
Production	180	156	12,447	12,310	2,207	1,999
Imports	9	10	28	15	97	120
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>14,182</b>	<b>13,453</b>	<b>3,279</b>	<b>2,982</b>
Food, seed & industrial	159	160	6,428	6,410	997	1,018
Ethanol			5,021	5,000		
Feed	50	30	4,792	4,600	132	160
Exports	8	10	1,835	1,600	1,289	975
<b>Total usage</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>13,054</b>	<b>12,610</b>	<b>2,417</b>	<b>2,153</b>
Ending stocks	89	55	1,128	843	862	828
Stocks-to-use	41%	27%	8.6%	6.7%	35.7%	38.5%

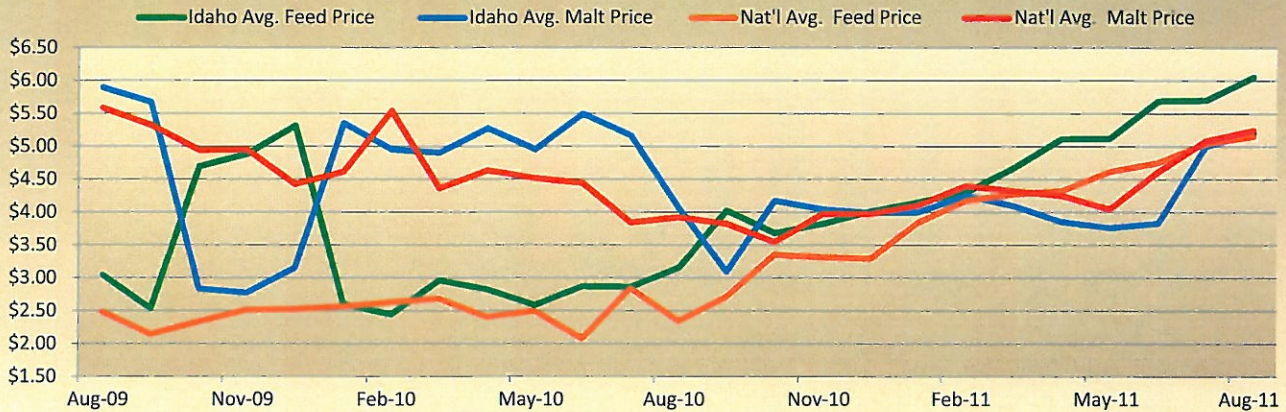


# IDAHO BARLEY STATISTICS

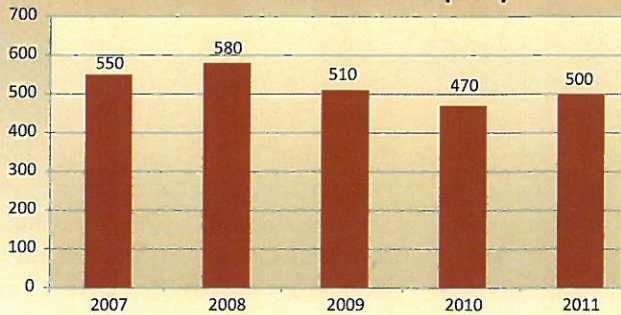
**MY 2011/12 World Grain Supply & Demand** USDA, Nov. 9, 2011 (million metric tons, MMT)

	BARLEY		CORN		WHEAT	
	2010-11	2011-12	2010-11	2011-12	2010-11	2011-12
Carryin	37.4	26.2	144.0	129.0	200.9	196.1
Production	124.1	133.2	828.7	859.0	648.7	683.3
Total Supply	161.5	160.4	972.7	988.0	849.6	879.4
Export Trade	15.2	15.9	91.2	94.4	132.3	136.6
Total Usage	135.2	136.5	843.7	866.5	653.5	676.8
Carryout	26.2	22.9	129.0	121.6	196.1	202.6
Stocks / Use	19.4%	16.8%	15.2%	14.0%	30%	29.9%

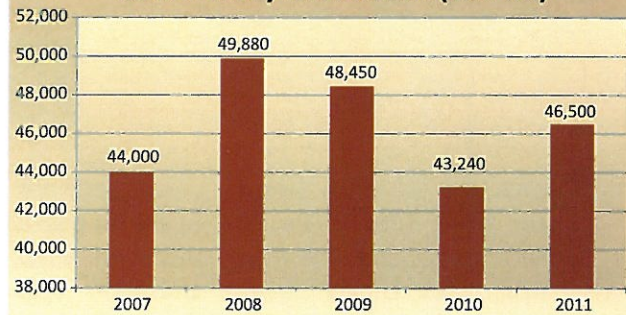
**Monthly Average Price for Idaho & U.S. Barley (bu.)**



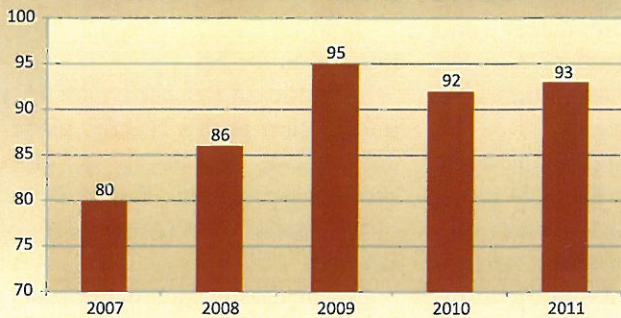
**Idaho Harvested Acres (000)**



**Idaho Barley Production (000 bu)**



**Idaho Yield Per Harvested Acre**

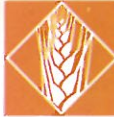


**U.S. Barley Exports (000 bu)**





# Ag Pilot Challenge

 **TAKING** off in his yellow and black Turbine Thrush with orange and blue wing tips, Bruce Hubler circles the Gooding Airport before beginning a pass down the runway at over 100 mph.

Coming in high, the plane suddenly drops so low the wheels barely clear 6 feet off the ground. Hubler, of Valley Air Service, in Caldwell, releases a liquid red tracer dye before zooming back up and breaking off to the left for another go around. While he circles the airport a ground crew retrieves water sensitive “spot cards” that indicate the plane’s spray swath and droplet size.

This year will probably go down as

one of the worst years for strip rust in Idaho. To help combat the disease, demand for aerial applicators increased and pilots logged extra hours to save thousands of acres of wheat. Beyond the increase in strip rust, growers had to deal with a wet spring, late plantings and surge in several other diseases and aerial applicators were called on to disperse a variety of fertilizers, fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides.

“Being able to disperse the right amount of product, in the right place, at the right time is an art in itself,” says Hubler. “The cost of a plane can run over a million dollars. From the farmers’ perspective there are also millions of dollars in crop value at stake. Any

mistake can be costly for either party.”

Calibration and pattern testing are paramount to successful spraying. Ag pilots from across the state recently descended on Gooding Municipal Airport to attend a clinic and hone their craft.

## Education for All

“The clinic allows each pilot to gain information on his specific plane under specific conditions at different speeds,” says George Parker, President of the Idaho Ag Aviation Association (IAAA).

By analyzing the pattern deposition on the exposed papers that were laid out to collect the spray, a computer



To help students learn more about the role crop protection plays in food production, nearby elementary students came to the Gooding Airport to watch planes flying overhead, met the pilots and learn about pesticides and other inputs.



generated chart shows the efficacy of the run. Pilots can then make adjustments to nozzles or spray angle to control drift and increase accuracy. Each pass is a valuable diagnostic tool. Every drop counts.

“Controlling droplet size and spray pattern are key components to keeping pesticides on target,” says Parker. “To spray crops effectively using an airplane requires bringing a lot of things together. Accuracy is a must and decisions are made in a fraction of a second.”

Although there are many challenges facing the industry, one of the biggest is public relations. “We need to increase consumer trust and knowledge about

how food is produced,” says Parker. “Fields are now closer to town and the urban population is unfamiliar with agriculture and what is needed to grow the food they purchase at the store.”

“Often rural kids see the planes flying over but aren’t sure what is going on,” says Parker. “The more people understand the technology and what we are doing, the better.”

There has been moderate increase

in aerial spraying as the price for commodities increases. It is one tool in the tool box that can meet demands on short notice.

Beyond regular farm crop work, spray planes are used to control grasshoppers for BLM, fire rehabilitation seeding of native grasses, fighting noxious weeds on rangelands, and even mosquito abatement in light of the spread of West Nile Virus. ♦

# Educating Kids About Idaho's Wheat Industry



THE Idaho Wheat Commission is once again sponsoring the educational "Bread in a Bag" program. This free, hands-on program allows students to make their own wheat food product (bread, pizza, pretzels, tortillas) from scratch. The wheat food product can be baked in the

school's cafeteria or a home while students learn the history of wheat, its nutritional importance, and the economic benefits of Idaho's wheat industry to the state of Idaho.

The Bread in a Bag program provides fourth grade teachers a Teacher's Guide with detailed instructions on how to conduct the activity, a Student Guide for each child, which includes 7 recipes and fun facts about wheat, and an educational poster.

If you would like a teacher in your home town to learn about the Bread in a Bag program, contact Tereasa Waterman at the Idaho Wheat Commission (208) 334-2353 or [ts@idahowheat.org](mailto:ts@idahowheat.org).



Dear Idaho Wheat Commission,  
 Thank you for sponsoring Bread in the Bag. The day before Bread in the Bag we went to Jim Collins farm. I learned that one bushel contains one million individual kernels. One bushel of wheat weighs sixty pounds. Did you know there are twenty-two thousand farms in Idaho? I also learned that combines don't suck up people, only grain.

Sincerely,  
 Tyler



## Bookmark the New [Idahowheat.org](http://idahowheat.org)

Here you'll find up-to-the minute information on everything concerning wheat production in Idaho, including the latest news from inside the Idaho Wheat Commission. Be sure to check out new additions to the website:

- Media feature including webinar library, YouTube, and the latest wheat news
- Monthly pricing charts from Portland and Ogden
- Research Projects
- DTN Prices and Market
- Marketing Opportunities

[www.idahowheat.org](http://www.idahowheat.org)

**Welcome to the Idaho Wheat Commission**  
 Idaho is one of the few places in the world where buyers can find several different classes of wheat in one place. Wheat class is determined by kernel hardness and color, and by its planting time. Each class of wheat has its own characteristics related to milling, baking and agronomic needs.

**Soft White Wheat** (winter and spring): pastries, pancakes, cakes, cookies, crackers, flat breads, snack foods and cereals.  
**Hard Red Wheat** (winter and spring): yeast breads, hard rolls and bagels, Asian noodles, flat breads  
**Hard White Wheat** (winter and spring): blended flours, Asian noodles, steam breads, domestic foods made with whole wheat.  
 Durum: pasta

Idaho wheat production is usually about 100 million bushels/year. Wheat production plays an important role in Idaho's economy. Wheat production creates jobs and income, not only in the production process, but also in transportation, storage, milling and export supply industries. The value of wheat production is close to \$500 million and contributes over 2,500 jobs.

**Quote Ticker**  
 HARD RED SPRING WHEAT (Dec 11) 93:  
 ○ - Move over for last update  
 All quotes are delayed snapshots  
 Click here for info on exchange delays

**FEATURE**  
**Educational Seminar on Snow Mold Offered to Idaho Wheat Growers**  
 Snow mold diseases of wheat are some of the most dramatic and devastating diseases of plants. In the Pacific Northwest, the snow molds are important in areas where snow falls on unfrozen or lightly frozen soil and persists for 100 days or more.  
 Snow mold diseases destroy the leaves and crowns of host grasses under snow. Following snowmelt, the leaves of plants with specified snow mold are matted to the soils, and covered with a whitish gray fungal growth. Growing resistant varieties is the most effective and affordable control measure for snow mold.  
 The Idaho Wheat Commission will be presenting a web-based grower education seminar (webinar) to help educate Idaho wheat growers about Snow Mold diseases. The webinar will be approximately one hour. Participation is simple and free! Log onto the website at <http://onlinedata.idahowheat.org/webinar> (requires Adobe Flash Player which is installed on most computers) and enter your name as a participant.

**NEWS**  
 11/14/2011  
 New N-ment Management Website Available  
 10/27/2011  
 Web Prices Signal Wheat Growers Time to Quick Implementations  
 10/19/2011  
 U.S. 2012 wheat crop seen to top last September

# Wheat Exports to Mexico Climb



MEXICO is one of the fastest-growing markets for wheat exported from the United States, and Idaho is sharing in the good fortune. During a September visit to Idaho, Grupo Altex, buyer and miller of wheat for Mexico's largest bakery, Grupo Bimbo, placed orders for several trains of Soft White Wheat. In the days after their visit to Idaho, Grupo Altex followed-up with orders for a couple of trains of Hard Red Spring Wheat and placed additional orders of Soft White Wheat both by train and by vessel from Portland to the Mexican port of Manzanillo.



Blaine Jacobson, IWC Executive Director (left), Martha Beatriz, Grupo Altex, Armando Rosales, Grupo Altex, Gordon Gallup, IWC Chairman and Armando Orellano, ISDA Trade Office, Mexico.

Since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) went into effect on January 1, 1994, trade with Mexico has surged. NAFTA has become the largest trading block in the world when measured by the commerce generated. NAFTA's impact on industries has varied, but the wheat industry has seen some of the biggest shifts. The two largest Mexican wheat-growing states of Sonora and Baja California have partially shifted to other crops, often higher-value fruits and vegetables, while Mexican millers and users of wheat have turned to imports of wheat from the U.S. and Canada.



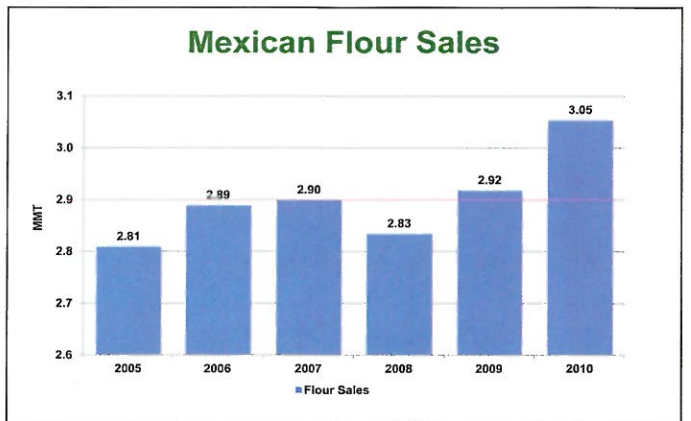
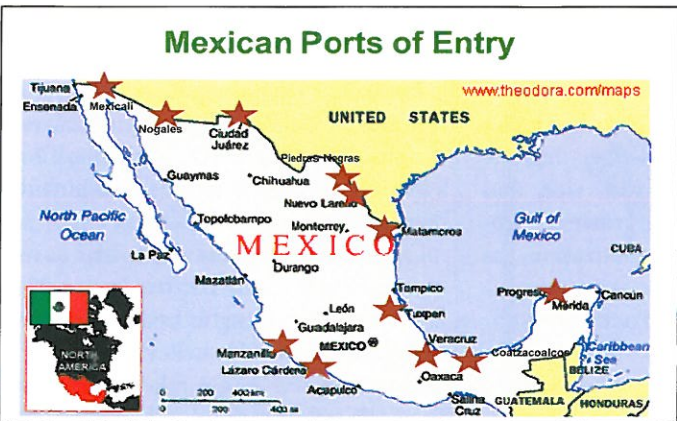
NAFTA allows wheat from the United States and Canada to enter Mexico without any tariff. Wheat imported from non-NAFTA countries is

assessed a tariff of 67%. The U.S. supplies more than 80% of the wheat imported into Mexico each year.

Hard Red Winter Wheat from Texas and Oklahoma has made the fastest inroads due to transportation advantages. However, regular cycles of drought in those wheat-growing areas lead to inconsistent supplies. Idaho grows 70% of its wheat under irrigation and the consistency of its supplies is attractive for many buyers. While Idaho may never be the largest supplier to global users like Grupo Altex and Grupo Bimbo, the companies like Idaho as part of their sourcing as insurance against short crops elsewhere.

Wheat in Mexico is used for flour tortillas, bread and rolls, pastries, noodles, cookies, and biscuits. The market for pastas and artisan breads is growing as well. Grupo Bimbo ranks as the 4th largest food company in the world, behind Unilever, Kraft Foods, and Nestle. Grupo Bimbo brands familiar to many Americans include Sara Lee, Rainbo, Arnold, Boboli (pizza crust), Entenmann's (pastries), Stroehmann (pastries), Thomas (English muffins), Mrs. Bairds, Oroweat (whole-wheat breads). Grupo Bimbo owns the rights to Wonder Bread in Mexico.

Idaho's initial contact with Grupo Altex occurred during a 2008 Governor's Trade Mission to Mexico. The Idaho Wheat Commission and Idaho Farm Bureau were part of that delegation. The September visit to Idaho by Grupo Altex was hosted by both organizations. ♦



SLIDES COURTESY OF U.S. WHEAT ASSOCIATES

# Idaho Wheat Commission Hosts Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission



**THE** Taiwan Flour Mills Association (TFMA) signed a letter of intent to purchase up to 62.5 million bushels (1.7 million metric tons) of U.S. wheat over two years between 2012 and 2013 in Boise, Idaho, September 30. The signing ceremony was held at the Idaho State Capitol Building with Lt. Governor Brad Little. This was Taiwan's eighth Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission to the United States since 1998.

Idaho Wheat Commission Vice-Chairman Bill Flory and TFMA Executive Director I-Tsung Chen co-signed the letter. Flory said the U.S. wheat industry is very pleased that TFMA is willing to once again sign a letter of intent to purchase U.S. wheat.

"The importance of personal contact in building relationships with customers can't be overestimated," Flory said. "The Taiwan Flour Millers Trade Mission to Idaho this year is both a symbol and expression of that conviction. We value



Taiwan trade delegation with Commissioners Bill Flory, Ned Moon and Executive Director Blaine Jacobson.

their friendship and continue to commit ourselves to fulfilling the trust that both countries have invested in this relationship."

TFMA imports wheat on behalf of all 26 Taiwanese flour mills and has purchased about 450 million bushels of U.S. wheat worth more than \$2.5 billion since 1998. That represents about 80 percent of its imported wheat needs. On average over the past five years, Taiwan has im-

ported about 33 million bushels (910,000 metric tons) of U.S. wheat each year. This includes an average of about 20.1 million bushels of hard red spring (HRS), 8.8 million bushels of hard red winter (HRW) and 3.9 million bushels of soft white (SW). Heavy use of HRS reflects a need for strong gluten flour for breads, rolls and frozen dough products, and for blending with HRW flour to make traditional Chinese flour foods and noodles. Soft white imports, including western white, help meet growing demand for cake, cookie and pastry flours.

USW Country Director Ron Lu and his Taipei-based staff have an excellent working relationship with TFMA and the Taiwan baking industry. For example, together with other U.S. agricultural export development organizations, USW is conducting a healthy bread promotion there through the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service's Global Broad-Based Initiative program. Interest in whole wheat products is also growing in Taiwan. USW is providing technical assistance and education to millers and bakers to help them produce better quality, better tasting whole wheat products. In fact, Taiwan's government is relying on USW to help establish national standards for whole wheat flour and baked goods, and asked TFMA and USW to help design a program encouraging Taiwan consumers to eat whole wheat products daily. ♦



Lt. Governor Brad Little watches as Commissioner Bill Flory, Mr. I-Tsung Chen, Executive Director, Taiwan Flour Mills Association, Director General Daniel Liao, TECO (Taipei Economic and Cultural Office) Seattle, sign the letter of intent.



Lt. Governor Brad Little welcomes the Taiwan trade delegation to Idaho.





# 2010 Idaho Winter Wheat Variety Performance Tests and 2008-2010 Yield Summaries

By Juliet Marshall and Brad Brown, Extension Specialists, Bob Zemetra, Soft White Winter Wheat Breeder, and Doug Finkelburg, Extension Support Scientist, Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences, University of Idaho

## Variety Testing

Idaho winter wheat varieties are evaluated each year to provide performance information to help growers select superior varieties for their growing conditions. The tests are conducted using farmer fields or university 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 extent of commercial use. The number of entries is limited due to resource constraints. Individual plots were planted as 7 rows spaced 7" apart for 14' to 25' in length and replicated 3 or 4 times in a randomized complete block design. Agronomic performance data for winter wheat are summarized by districts in Tables 1-5. Yield data are given for individual sites while other agronomic data are averaged over all the sites of each table.

## Information Summarization

The state is divided into the Northern, the Southern, and the Eastern Districts. Bushel/acre yield results are based on 60 lbs/bu at 11% moisture. Lodging ratings are the percent of a plot area lodged, and in some tables not reported due to minimal or no lodging. Average values are presented at the bottom of listings and are followed by a least sig-

nificant difference (LSD) statistic at the 5% level.

Average yield data from variety performance trials in 2008 through 2010 are presented in Table 6 for all districts. These data represent results of 3-9 site/years and can be a good indication of long-term performance of a variety. More detailed lodging information is available on the UI cereals website <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/cereals/>.

## 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 2010 trials; previous results can be found in the 1992 to 2011 issues of Idaho Grain Magazine. Average performance over locations and years more accurately indicates varieties' relative performance. Try to evaluate as much information as you can before 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. Also consider that plots are managed according to the average expected yield, latest varietal maturity, and / or performance

of the surrounding crop in a grower's field, whether it be wheat or barley. Varietal performance may not reflect actual performance in your field when a specific variety is managed for optimal economic performance.

Reported small differences among varieties in yield and other characteristics are usually of little importance due to chance differences in tests. Utilize the LSD statistic to determine the true difference between varieties. If differences between varieties are greater than the 5% LSD value, the varieties are considered "significantly different." This means that there is a 9.5 in 10 chance that the reported difference between varieties is a true difference and not due to other experimental factors or chance variation. If no significant differences are determined for a trial, n.s. is used in place of the LSD.

## Further Information

Variety performance information for winter wheat and winter barley has been published in the fall issues of Idaho Grain. Additional Idaho small grain variety performance information is available on the web at <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/cereals/>. Click on your area to get to the extension websites in your District. ♦

**Table 1. Dryland Winter Wheat Variety Performance in the Northern District near Lewiston, Genesee, Moscow, Bonners Ferry, and Craigmont, 2010.**

Variety	Seed Yield					Average	Test Weight	Grain Protein	Plant Height
	Lewiston	Genesee	Moscow	B. Ferry	Craigmont				
<b>SOFT WHITE</b>									
Bitterroot	109	44	115	130	42	88	57	12	41
Brundage 96	100	51	116	107	29	81	56	13	37
UICF-Brundage	118	45	117	103	33	83	55	13	36
Bruneau	114	46	131	131	32	91	58	12	38
IDO 587	112	50	116	106	23	81	56	13	37
Lambert	107	58	102	108	33	82	56	12	40
UICF-Lambert	107	59	107	109	27	82	56	12	41
Madsen	109	56	125	126	36	91	56	13	38
ORCF-101	106	49	116	116	37	85	55	13	38
ORCF-102	113	55	118	121	46	91	57	13	40
ORCF-103	97	40	115	121	38	82	56	13	38
Simon	105	58	121	130	35	90	56	12	38
Stephens	105	66	122	115	30	88	57	12	37
Tubbs 06	117	59	109	131	33	90	55	12	40
Xerpha	115	54	111	127	37	89	56	12	39
Skiles	107	51	117	114	38	85	57	13	36
WB 528	118	48	116	118	36	88	58	13	37
AP Legacy	109	64	99	116	31	84	57	12	40
AP Badger	123	54	106	122	37	88	56	12	34
<b>SWW Average</b>	110	52	115	119	35	86	57	12	38
<b>HARD WHEAT</b>									
MDM	100	37	118	124	25	81	57	13	40
Boundary	102	54	106	108	18	78	58	12	38
Bauermeister	96	44	116	127	31	83	56	12	41
Esperia	100	47	84	82	19	67	59	13	32
IDO 621	114	60	109	91	27	80	59	12	37
Norwest 553	103	39	113	110	33	80	59	13	34
<b>HWW Average</b>	103	47	108	107	25	73	58	12	37
<b>CLUB</b>									
Cara	109	51	109	122	37	85	56	12	38
Chukar	102	55	109	112	34	82	56	12	40
Coda	104	45	117	116	39	84	59	13	40
<b>Club Average</b>	105	50	112	116	37	84	57	12	39
<b>Overall Average</b>	108	51	113	116	33	84	57	12	38
<b>LSD (0.05)</b>	11	16	8	18	19	6	0	--	1
<b>CV (%)</b>	7	22	5	11	9	--	--	--	--







## Rise of the Smart Machines

**The 2012 8R/8RT Series Tractors – the most intelligent tractors in the world.** With intuitive controls, integrated GreenStar™ 3 technology, and the new JDLink™ information-management system, these tractors make it easy for you to turn your farm into a more efficient and productive operation. What's more, the advanced PowerTech™ PSX 9.0 L Engine offers up to 360 engine hp\* plus an additional 30 engine hp† during mobile and rear PTO operations – all with outstanding performance and efficiency. These aren't just tractors ... they're smart machines.

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†Through Intelligent Power Management.