

WINTER 2017

IDAHO

THE IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

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VIEWS



VIEWS



**BY JOE ANDERSON
PRESIDENT**

Last week the grain producers' organizations of Idaho, Washington and Oregon held their annual Tri-State Convention in Spokane, WA. Idaho took this opportunity to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Idaho Grain Producers Association. It was originally started by a group of forward thinking growers from throughout Idaho in 1957, as the Idaho State Wheat Growers Association. For a narrative of the history of the organization I refer you to an article in the Fall, 1992 edition of the Idaho Grain Magazine entitled "Looking Back."

I felt the meeting was successful in commemorating the legacy of the organization. We were fortunate to have a number of past presidents and staff with us to share in this celebration to reminisce about our past – it was fun! We had some laughs and a few tears which is entirely fitting when looking back.

But as important as it might be to look back, our vision for the future must build on these past successes. I want to paraphrase a statement that Cathy Wilson, Director of Research Collaboration, Idaho Wheat Commission, made to me a few years ago: "Our eyes are on the future, enlightened with memories of the past."

Serving as President of Idaho Grain Producers has been a very rewarding experience. I wish to thank the staff and my fellow Executive Board members. This will be my final column as President. I am going to take this opportunity to offer a bit of old timer's wisdom - or the lack thereof.

We had speakers for the plenary sessions and also break out sessions that provided insights as to what the future may provide. The sessions ranged from succession planning to gene editing to remote sensing to regulation to marketing to precision agriculture to global economic analysis to weather. Farmers have always had to know about a lot of things but it is even more critical now. There is so much information and to get the most value out of all these new technologies that are coming along, they must, in some way, be integrated – developed into a system.

Universities and private companies can help us to do that but they require our guidance as to what is most critical.

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****Correction:** for Fall 2017 Idaho Grain Magazine Testing for Falling Numbers in Idaho Wheat Commission article:

The Low Falling Number meeting held in Greencreek was sponsored and hosted by the Idaho County Chapter of IGPA, not the Farm Bureau.

Published quarterly by

Idaho Grain Producers Association

821 W. State St. • Boise, Idaho 83702-5832

(208) 345-0706

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To subscribe or unsubscribe to Idaho Grain magazine at any time, visit the IGPA website at www.idahograin.org/Idaho-grain-magazine, click on the appropriate button, and fill out the required information.

Printing Production Coordinated by
Northern Directory Publishing
25 Division Road, Great Falls, Mt. 59404

For Advertising information call:
Leah Anderson **Advertising Sales Representative** • Phone: (406) 475-1856

Printed in the USA





It is we farmers that are going to be the ones, ultimately, to integrate the various technologies from a wide variety of disciplines into systems to address our challenges and take advantage of our opportunities.

And that effort is becoming increasingly complex. Take every opportunity to not only learn about the technologies but, equally important, to give input and guidance to the scientists and educators as to the highest priority areas of study that they should be working on.

In addition, the forces of politics are changing, some think for the better and others, not so much. Ideology has become paramount in the minds of some. We will never agree on every issue with any candidate. We each need to really think through what issues are critical to the future of our industry of agriculture.

Grid lock doesn't serve us well. We live in a democracy. Democracy requires compromise. Without compromise there is no decision. It is rare that no decision solves any of our challenges or allows us to take advantage of opportunities.

A critical piece of the process of integrating new knowledge into a system that will meet our needs is a political system that gets the ideas and information on the table, allows for full debate, and, through compromise, leads to a decision. Anything less means we are developing technology only as an academic exercise. ■



IGPA's New Executive Board for 2018 - left to right Matt Mosman, Vice President; Lucas Spratling, Executive Member; Jamie Kress, Secretary/Treasurer; Joe Anderson, Past President; and Dwight Little, President



EDITOR'S NOTE

BY STACEY KATSEANES SATTERLEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Idaho Grain Producers Association was established in 1957, making our organization 60 years old this year. We had a great time reminiscing and celebrating at the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane in November.

As we've looked back and celebrated the many successes our organization has had over the past six decades (see page 14 for a closer look at the work IGPA has done over the years), we've also had a chance to examine closely where we're headed in the future.

IGPA's mission is to serve the grain producers of Idaho by representing their interests at the county, state, and federal levels to enhance their profitability and long-term viability. With over 600 wheat and barley farm families as members, IGPA is the key policy advocacy organization working on behalf of Idaho's grain industry with local, state, and federal leaders. What does that mean, the key policy advocacy organization? It means we're the only group in the state of Idaho comprised of grain farmers that advocates on their behalf at the statehouse and in Washington, DC. We have two great and influential groups to which we belong in DC, the National Association of Wheat Growers and the National Barley Growers Association. Idaho has two board seats with each group. Along with this, IGPA President Dwight Little began a two-year term last summer as NBGA President, so Idaho is certainly well represented.

What issues do we work on? You can read Rich Garber's legislative outlook piece on page 6 to get a more in-depth analysis of what we expect to see this upcoming session – or you could look through IGPA's policies for the full depth and breadth of the issues we're tracking. But in the last week alone, IGPA has weighed in on the 2018 Farm Bill (which includes crop insurance, ARC and PLC, conservation programs, the Market Access Program and the Foreign Market Development Program, and research funding), tax reform, and international trade issues (specifically in support of NAFTA), in addition to depredation, trespass, commercial truck registration fees, the Wheat Commission rule change, and crop residue burning at the state level. When I say IGPA is busy protecting the interests of Idaho's wheat and barley growers – that's what I mean.

Also, as we look ahead, I'm excited that IGPA recently hired Kellie Kluksdal as our communications manager. We've heard from our membership that we need to do more and better communicating – and Kellie is going to help us do that. So, look for more information from IGPA.

As we look ahead and gear up for 2018 – I hope you'll consider joining IGPA (see the ad on page 17 for more information on membership). I asked a few of our board members what their membership in IGPA provides them – Ty Iverson, State Director from Bonners Ferry, said it well: "When I'm busy taking care of the day-to-day operations of our farm, it gives me great peace of mind to know that the IGPA staff and executive board are working tirelessly every day to protect, promote, and strengthen the wheat and barley industries in our state. To me, an IGPA membership is a no-brainer for any farmer who cares about preserving and advancing the grain industry in Idaho. I have seen firsthand the influence IGPA has on public policy and our elected officials, and I can tell you, it is very effective and impressive." Add your voice to the 600 farm families IGPA is speaking on behalf of, and be heard at the Statehouse and at the U.S. Capitol – join IGPA today! ■



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Legislative Session Outlook

BY RICH GARBER

**DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS,
IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION**

With the end of the year approaching there is an obvious increase in activity among many the legislature's interim committees as well as activity among the commodity associations as we prepare for the 2018 legislative session. At the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in November, IGPA finalized our policy positions for the new year.

As we try to anticipate what the next session may bring with regards to issues and new legislation it is important to note some of the overlying influences that will likely impact the session. First, 2018 is an election year. Like it or not there is always an extra sense of caution among legislators to tackle divisive or controversial issues that could influence how people might vote in November.

Another huge influence on the session will be revenues. Idaho is still ahead of forecasts for state tax receipts for the fiscal year to date. General fund receipts are up 1.8% or \$21.4 million ahead but there was some slowing in all major areas of tax receipts for the month of October. Just another reason for caution in an always fiscally cautious Idaho legislature.

A top priority for IGPA this session will be the Idaho Wheat Commission Rule change that would provide the Commission with the names and addresses of all the wheat growers across the state. This is information that the Commission has not had access to and would be invaluable to them in more effectively carrying out their mission and responsibilities to the growers. The IWC and IGPA have been working with both elevators, growers and legislators in explaining the importance of approving this rule change. Rules review and changes are one of the first items the legislature tackles each session.

While we are not aware of specific legislation being proposed to address Idaho's ongoing transportation challenges there are several issues IGPA has been closely following. First was the work of an interim committee on Commercial Vehicle Annual Registration Fees. IGPA Board members Jamie Kress and Kyle

Wangemann testified in front of the committee as to the complexity and unfairness in the current tiered system. While they pointed out the problems in the system they also proposed some common-sense changes to help simplify and bring a new level of fairness to the system.

In the end we were both mystified and disappointed in the committee's final decision to not recommend any changes saying that "for us to level the playing field between apples and oranges is impossible." It would indeed be a challenging task but kicking it down the road only delays the discussion that needs to happen.

The issue of route approvals for 129,000 lb. trucks is also an issue that IGPA will continue to try to bring some resolution too. It has been two years since the heavier trucks were authorized for Idaho and the cumbersome and extremely slow approval process has resulted in frustratingly few routes being approved for use. IGPA will work with the Idaho Department of Transportation, the Legislature and local jurisdictions to find ways to streamline the route approval process.

Another transportation issue that simply will not go away is the inability of the state to regulate the use of dyed diesel. While no one has been able to accurately document the loss of revenues from the illegal use of dyed fuels the state has suggested that it could be as high as \$13 million annually. From an agricultural perspective our antidotal evidence suggests that actual use is a fraction of that, but the reality is that until the state has some mechanism for regulation it will always be a controversy. Early indications are that we will see some legislation again this year to address the issue.

While Idaho's wheat and barley growers have always been extremely wildlife and sportsman friendly there is ongoing frustration and concern over trespass issues. Lack of enforcement, reluctance to report and slow or no prosecution has all lead to increased interest in some legislative help to address the problem. We are aware of at least one bill being drafted that would



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

significantly increase the fines for trespass. IGPA will look closely at this bill and other options that would help deter trespass.

Wildlife depredation is an ongoing challenge for Idaho's farmers and ranchers. Few issues generate as much tension as this one. The legislature has significantly increased funding for depredation claims and depredation prevention. They have tried to address concerns for simplified reporting and timely settlements but there is still work to be done. IGPA will continue to work with the legislature, Fish and Game and landowners to address ongoing concerns. The legislature will also consider whether to make changes to Idaho's crop residue burning standards.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality held negotiated rulemaking in 2016, and the long-term fix the Department is seeking is to change the state's ozone standard when considering whether burning is allowable from 75 percent of the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) to 90 percent – thereby allowing more high-quality burn days. We will see this change come before the legislature this year, and IGPA will vigorously support this legislation.

As we always say, it will be an interesting and most likely challenging session but we are honored to be able to look out for the best interests of Idaho's wheat and barley growers.

Thank you for this privilege. ■



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Agriculture Census of Agriculture for Idaho's Farmers Coming in December

BY VINCE MATTHEWS - NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Idaho's farmers will soon have the opportunity to represent agriculture in their communities and industry by taking part in the 2017 Census of Agriculture. Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census will be mailed in December and is a complete count of Idaho's and the nation's farms, ranches, and those who operate them.

"The updated online questionnaire is very user-friendly and can now be used on any platform as a producer's schedule allows," said Idaho State Statistician Vince Matthews. "Responding online saves time while employing new data collection features. Better data then means better informed decisions, and that's why it is so important that every producer responds." New time savings of the online questionnaire include automatic calculation of totals, skips of sections that do not pertain to the operation, and drop-down menus with the most frequent responses.

The Census of Agriculture remains the only source of uniform, comprehensive, and impartial agricultural data for every county in the nation. Census results are relied upon heavily by those who serve farmers and rural communities, including grower organizations, federal, state, and local governments, agribusinesses, extension educators, researchers, and farmers and ranchers themselves.

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1.3 million
Harvested acres of winter wheat in Idaho, 56% from farms with 1,000+ acres.

www.agcensus.usda.gov
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

USDA 2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Source: 2012 Census of Agriculture

The 2012 Census of Agriculture revealed that over 3 million U.S. farmers operated more than 2 million farms, on 914 million acres. This was a 4 percent decrease in the number of farms from the previous census in 2007. However, agriculture sales, income, and expenses increased between 2007 and 2012.

Idaho's 2012 results showed over 40,000 farmers operated nearly 25,000 farms on 11.8 million acres. There was a 2 percent decrease in the number of farms between 2007 and 2012, but agricultural sales increased over 37 percent to \$7.8 billion. Gains were recorded in 9 of the 12 value of sales size categories tabulated. This information and thousands of other agricultural statistics were a direct result of responses to the Census of Agriculture.

"Today, when data are so important, there is strength in numbers," said Matthews. "For farmers and ranchers, participation in the 2017 Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity to shape American agriculture – its policies, services, and assistance programs – for years to come."

For more information and to learn more about how census data are used, visit the website www.nass.usda.gov/census or call Vince at 208-334-1507. ■

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Four of the Top 10 Counties
Idaho had four of the top 10 U.S. counties in barley production.

www.agcensus.usda.gov
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

USDA 2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Source: 2012 Census of Agriculture

Depredation Update

BY ROGER PHILLIPS - IDAHO FISH AND GAME

Idaho Fish and Game is continuing its work to prevent and compensate landowners for depredation caused by the state's abundant big game herds. That work got a big boost in 2017 with the passage of HB230, which added an access/depredation surcharge for hunting, fishing and trapping licenses and will generate about \$2 million annually. Half of it will go to depredation prevention and compensation to landowners.

The money in part helped Fish and Game put more "boots on the ground" in 2017 by hiring seven new depredations technicians, one in each of F&G's seven regions, to respond to landowner concerns about wildlife. In addition, the department hired a seasonal employee in the Salmon Region to coordinate depredation hunts so sportsmen can reduce problem wildlife in cooperation with landowners.

Employees have deployed new technology, such as remote game cameras that transmit real-time photos to show when animals enter fields so they can be more precise with hunting to prevent damage and learn specifically when and where depredation occurs. They even spent muggy, buggy nights in a blind during summer to catch elk in the act and figure out where they go afterward.

Fish and Game is also actively involved with land owners and managers. It spent over \$150,000 this year on public land rehabilitation to improve range and plant lure crops to keep wildlife away from private land.

And in other cases, the agency paid landowners in the Little Lost Valley to leave partial fields of standing alfalfa to attract elk and prevent them from continuing down the valley to other farms.

The department developed continuing use agreements that provide compensation to landowners who allow big game on their lands where the animals have historically caused damage.

Crop damage isn't the only thing affecting landowners, and Fish and Game has assisted them in southern Idaho



to modify fences, improve wildlife passage and reduce damage, and assisted others by installing drop-down livestock fences on a grazing allotment to reduce damage from wintering elk.

While HB 230 provides a big boost in future funding, Fish and Game has been especially active in the last two years by spending more than \$1 million dollars building about 250 stack yards to protect stored forage.

Last winter, F&G spent over \$500,000 feeding nearly 26,000 elk, deer and pronghorn at 156 feeding sites due to harsh weather with frigid temperatures and deep snow. Much of the effort was to prevent animals from entering private land and causing damage. Despite that, F&G employees still responded to 1,399 wildlife damage complaints from private property owners.

In response to winter, Fish and Game reduced many antlerless hunts, but continued or expanded them to reduce growing populations in some areas with depredation problems. That included increasing use of Landowner Permission Hunts and distributing permission slips to landowners in advance so they can address depredating animals when it occurs. ■



Tri-State Convention IGPA Award Winners

BY KELLIE KLUKSDAL



Each year, IGPA members and partners in the industry nominate individuals for three awards (though this year, four awards were given). These awards are voted on by the executive board and presented to distinguished industry members who give to the grain industry in Idaho in significant ways. This year's awards were presented at the annual Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane, WA on November 9.

Member of the Year

This award is given to an IGPA member who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and a high level of involvement and commitment to the mission and goals of the Association over the past year.

Winner: Jamie Kress

Jamie Kress and her husband Cordell, along with their two children Tyson and Hailey, run a medium-sized operation



at the south end of Rockland Valley in Power County where they grow primarily wheat and safflower.

Jamie grew up in Aberdeen where her parents owned two Les Schwab Tire stores. The Kress family began farming in 2004 when Jamie and Cordell returned to the family farm, and also bought one of their own, where she focuses on the administrative and accounting side of the business.

According to Jamie, "It is extremely important for growers to be involved in industry groups. Until you are involved with these groups, you are often unaware of all the people working behind the scenes on your behalf. Becoming more involved brings an awareness of the issues that can affect growers. As a member, you can have a direct line to influence how policy is shaped."

Jamie was surprised to be receiving this award. She is optimistic about the future and has much planned for the next few years.

"I'm honored to receive the IGPA Member of the Year Award. When I was elected to the executive board last fall I was nervous to be moving forward in uncharted territory. Since that time my work has been full of new experiences and opportunities - and it's been great!

I've appreciated the tremendous support, encouragement, and mentorship of our board. I'm hoping to see a good Farm Bill passed in 2018. Through our affiliation with NAWG and NBGA we have the opportunity to provide Farm Bill input. We'll continue working with these organizations, as well as our national delegation, to ensure Idaho growers continue to have an adequate safety net."

Continued on next page

Barley Commissioner Scott Brown had much to say about Jamie. “Since Jamie’s election to the executive board, she has demonstrated extraordinary leadership skills. Her willingness and excitement to serve, her commitment to the grain industry, and her concern for issues facing the grain growers of Idaho made her a clear and unanimous choice for the IGPA Member of the Year Award. Idaho producers are lucky to have Jamie as part of its leadership team.”

Outgoing IGPA President “Potlatch” Joe Anderson said, “I’m very proud of Jamie’s accomplishments. She is the first woman on the Executive Board and is so deserving of this award.”

Idaho Grain Industry Service Award

This is a new award, given to an industry member who has demonstrated exceptional service to the agricultural community in Idaho – given on behalf of the Idaho Grain Producers Association, the Idaho Wheat Commission, and the Idaho Barley Commission.

Winner: Kim O’Neill

Kim is the Associate Vice President of Development in University Advancement at the University of Idaho. She has worked at UI since 2005, and most recently led the development and communications team in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs).

Kim grew up in Western Washington and was very involved with 4-H and FFA. She studied agricultural education at Washington State University and was active in the Ag. Ed. Club and as an ambassador for the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource Sciences. She says, “It was through these experiences that I learned to value higher education and appreciate the agriculture industry.”

When asked what this award signifies to her, Kim said, “It’s about the relationships. People in the agriculture industry and higher education don’t wake up every morning looking for accolades for their work, and neither do I. In my experience, people in this industry do what they love and genuinely care about people and the relationships that come with the nature of our work.”

Kim has worked closely with IGPA, the Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC) and the Idaho Barley Commission (IBC) over the years and says she has developed many friendships along the way.



“In the time that I’ve worked with the Idaho Grain Producers, Idaho Wheat Commission and the Idaho Barley Commission, I’ve developed tremendous relationships, many turning into friendships. I will never forget the first presentation I gave to IGPA on “Gifts of Grain,” or being asked questions related to investments when the IWC contemplated their first two endowed professorships, or the final proposal presented to IBC after almost two years of conversations about an endowed barley agronomy position. To be presented with a service award is a distinct honor, especially from an industry that I hold in such high regard.”

Potlatch Joe Anderson nominated Kim, and had a lot to say about her accomplishments.

“Kim was instrumental in helping to create the two endowments shared by Limagrains, CALS and the Idaho Wheat Commission. She was very supportive in helping to bring the parties together. There were concerns between the Foundation and the IWC and Kim was able to smooth the waters to get things done. Both of those endowments have now been fully funded five years ahead of schedule. She was likewise helpful to the Idaho Barley Commission when they created an endowment. Kim has been promoted out of CALS to Associate Vice President for Development. She is now in higher university administration and it seems only fitting that she be recognized for her contribution to Idaho agriculture as she moves to her new position.”

Continued on next page

“My hope is for Idaho agriculture to continue investing in research and our next generation of agriculturists and scientists. I’ve had the pleasure of seeing the results of the strong partnerships with our land grant institution and I truly believe that we are stronger together,” Kim says.

Kim serves on the Latah County Fair Board, the Moscow Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and on the steering committee for Leadership Moscow. In 2015, Kim was named one of the Top 50 Women-of-the-Year by the Idaho Business Review.

Last year, Kim received the Ray Miller Professional Achievement Award from the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association, where she was recognized by her peers across the nation for her career accomplishments and leadership.

Kim resides in Moscow with her husband, Ryan Anderson, and daughter, Stella Nelson, who turns 10 in January.

Friend of IGPA

This award is given to any individual, industry associate, elected official, member of the media, or other person who has demonstrated exceptional support, value, and work with and for IGPA over the past year.

Winner: Linda Morris

Born and raised in Southern California, Linda Morris has an extensive background which includes time spent in the music industry in Los Angeles, American Falls School District and of course, agriculture.

Linda began her career in agriculture in 1981 with The Pillsbury Company, where she worked for 10 years before it was sold to Grand Metropolitan, a company headquartered in England, who in turn sold to Cargill, who then was bought by General Mills and most recently Thresher Artisan Wheat in 2015.

IGPA Board Member Burt Fehringer nominated Linda because of her outstanding commitment to customer service.

Linda says this award means a lot to her. “I’m very honored to have been chosen for this award. I would first like to thank Burt Fehringer of American Falls for the nomination, the committee members for selecting me and my co-workers who help and support me in all I do. I’ve tried my best over the years to keep informed about wheat issues that might affect our producers, giving them what information I can, finding answers for them if I don’t know, and

hopefully the tools to help them in their decision making whether it’s buying seed or marketing their crops. It doesn’t matter whether a producer is farming 40 acres or 4000 acres, whether they only do business with Thresher or also with other grain companies, I’ve always felt they should be treated with the same courtesy and respect because they are all important to our agricultural industry and I feel this award validates that outlook.”

When asked about her outlook on the future of agriculture in Idaho, Linda said, “Obviously my hope for the future of Idaho agriculture is to continue to grow and I have no doubt we will. As a former boss John Peake once told me, people might have to give up things here and there throughout their lives but the demand for food will never change, people have to eat. I think our Idaho governing body is doing a good job, they are visiting other countries looking to increase our export business for Idaho agricultural products. Locally I think our producers are doing a really good job of growing their crops and supplying quality products to the mills. Idaho is known for our outstanding quality wheat. Research is always being done to create new varieties and make them available, to find ways to improve seed quality, and to make them disease resistant which in turn helps the producer with a better wheat product and better yields and that is a plus for our wheat industry.”

Linda’s family includes husband Ron, son Eric, daughter-in-law Holly, granddaughter Riley and husband Dallen, and granddaughter Alyx and great-granddaughter Gabi.

Continued on next page



Lifetime Achievement Award

This award is given in recognition of achievement to an individual, associate, or otherwise at the discretion of IGPA’s Executive Board.

Winner: Kelly Olson

Kelly has served as administrator of the Idaho Barley Commission since July 1, 1994 where she helps direct research, market development, policy and grower education programs for Idaho’s more than 4,000 barley producers. She plans to retire next June.

“It has been a terrific 23 and a half years, meeting and working with Idaho barley producers and industry,” Kelly says. Kelly is a 4th generation Idahoan and was raised on a diversified irrigated farm in Elmore County. She says, “We had milk and dairy cows and raised multiple crops, including sugar beets, alfalfa, dry beans and wheat. We grew malting barley one year for Coors but the warm nights in that particular part of Idaho were not very friendly to malting barley. It was absolutely the best way to grow up – we had significant work responsibilities but we also had daily opportunities to learn a tremendous amount about soil and water resources, plant and animal health and mechanics. My dad had one hard and fast rule on the farm: if you broke it, you had to help fix it, so learning how to weld was a necessity.”

Kelly received a B.A. in economics from the College of Idaho (Albertson College) and completed graduate studies in resource economics and international relations. She served as legislative assistant for agricultural and trade issues in Washington, D.C. from 1984 – 1987.

Kelly then returned home to develop the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's first domestic and international marketing programs. She spent seven years with ISDA and served as administrator of the Marketing Division from 1990-1994.

Kelly is also an alumni of Leadership Idaho Agriculture (LIA), and was a founding member of the Idaho Minor Crop Alliance (now a committee of Food Producers of Idaho) and the Annual Idaho Ag Summit Policy Forum.

She says there have been many highlights in her agricultural career. “I have had the opportunity to work with some of the finest producers across the state and on the IBC board, from Soda Springs to Bonners Ferry. I am not going to name them all but they have been terrific mentors and leaders and I will never forget their impact on my life and their friendship.



Together we built Idaho into the largest barley producing state in the country, which is a BIG deal.”

Kelly has a good deal planned for her time in retirement. “I plan to do a limited amount of consulting, and spend most of my time volunteering with non-profit organizations. At the top of my list is the Idaho Food Bank.

Also, I know that my beloved spring spaniel dog, Piper, will greatly appreciate if I stay home more often, but there also are a few adventures still on my bucket-list, including the Utah national parks, Grand Canyon and Patagonia.” ■



Idaho Grain Producers Association Celebrates 60 Years



The Idaho Grain Producers Association is proud to be celebrating our 60th anniversary this year. We've been reminiscing about all the accomplishments of the organization over the past six decades – and there are many! So, if you've ever wondered what IGPA has done and continues to do – here's an incomplete list of some of the organization's accomplishments and areas of influence:

- Carried legislation that created the Idaho Wheat Commission, 1959
- Carried legislation that created the Idaho Barley Commission, 1988
- Worked with Food Producers of Idaho – ongoing
- Influence on river system – ongoing
- •Established the Commodity Indemnity fund – 1990
- •Steve Johnson, Administrator 1991 - 2007
- National presidents from Idaho
 - NAWG Presidents from Idaho:
 - Don Howe- Bonners Ferry, ID- 1977
 - Bill Flory- Cudlesac, ID- 1998
 - Wayne Hurst- Burley, ID- 2011
 - NBGA Presidents from Idaho:
 - Craig Corbett, 1995 - 1997
 - Evan Hayes, 2005 - 2007
 - Scott Brown, 2011 - 2013
 - Dwight Little, 2017
- Barley Crop insurance improvements – 1996, 2010 & 2016
- Played a critical role in gaining approval for 129k trucks from the very beginning, 1996
- Worked with Fish and Game to increase depredation dollars, improve process for landowners – ongoing
- Conception and establishment of ANRI PAC (conceived by Steve Johnson and Evan Hayes) – 1999
- Property tax exemption on farm equipment – 2000
- Expanded influence at national level with the National Association of Wheat Growers, National Barley Growers Association – 2002
- Putting three grain groups together in same building, increased synergy between IGPA, IWC, and IBC – 2005
- Field burning reinstated – 2006
- Working together with WA and OR to provide a quality convention for growers – 2006
- Travis Jones, Administrator 2007 – 2015
- Bringing in younger producers which changed the dynamics of IGPA – 2007
- Approval of Monsanto's Blackfoot Bridge Mine – 2008
- Stopped cap and trade legislation – 2009
- Went to legislature to increase assessment from 2 cents to 5 cents – 2012
- Worked with EPA on dust issue – 2012
- IGPA mentor program began – 2013
- Fish & Game trespass law strengthened – 2014
- ID Grain Producers and ID Cattle Association working on resolving open range issue without going to legislature – 2014
- Set up endowment fund at the University of Idaho – 2014
- Idaho truck weights increased – 2015
- Effective transition of Executive Director, Stacey Satterlee hired – 2015
- Hired Rich Garber as lobbyist and increased legislative efforts – 2015
- IGPA's first female Executive Board member, Jamie Kress –2016

There have been many people throughout the years who have helped IGPA get to where we are today – and to all of you, we say THANK YOU. And while these first 60 years have been good, we're all looking forward to what we can get done in the next 60 years! ■



Luke Malek: Candidate for Congressional District 1, U.S. House of Representatives

Rural Idaho and its families are the heart of our state. Agriculture — and our other traditional industries, like timber, mining and manufacturing — are what keeps that heart beating. Idaho’s farmers and ranchers help feed not only Idaho and our nation, but the world. They provide jobs that support many of our families and are essential to our way of life.

The success of Idaho is tied to the success of our farmers. As Idaho’s next Congressman for the First District, that’s something I will never forget.

That is why, once elected, I will immediately request a seat on the House Committee on Agriculture and fight for a Farm Bill that prioritizes strengthening and supporting agriculture first and foremost.

But agriculture isn’t just one issue, it’s at the center of many issues and it will be at the center of my thinking when addressing those issues in Congress.

I’m committed to ensuring our transportation and other infrastructure meet agriculture’s needs, negotiating fair trade deals, and eliminating unnecessary, burdensome regulations that harm our rural communities.

Just as I have in the Idaho Legislature for the past five years, I will consistently vote to protect local control of Idaho’s water, maintain and repair our roads, keep land in production, and preserve our way of life.

I believe strengthening agriculture is key not only to those of us living and working in Idaho today, but also

in ensuring Idaho remains a great place to raise a family for our children, grandchildren, and all of their children to come.

Preserving our state’s way of life will only happen if we have leaders committed to listening to the needs of our families and businesses and then taking action to meet those needs to our nation’s Capitol, insisting that Idaho be heard. That belief in the need for leadership rooted in our communities is what has driven me to run for Congress.

I grew up in a family that firmly believed that our way of life will be preserved if we choose to participate in preserving it. Our future will improve if we are dedicated to improving it. Our fate is in our own hands, and that is what makes our country great.

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CANDIDATE UPDATE

The lesson stuck because those in my family have chosen to live by example. My grandfather was a Marine in the Pacific in World War II. He never spoke of what he endured, but even after he came home, he dedicated his life to service of others by becoming a family physician in a small town. He inspired my mother to do the same, and she still practices to this day, primarily taking care of uninsured, sick patients, encouraging them back to health.

Similarly, my father works as an Emergency Room physician seeing all who come to him for help. They raised my three brothers and I to always be thinking, looking and understanding what you can do to make the world around you a better place. And so, two of their boys, my brothers, are serving our country overseas in the United States Air Force.

While my family is doing their part, as so many are in so many ways all across Idaho and this country, I want to stand up for them and for you. I want to work with and for the current generation of farmers, ranchers and all Idahoans who share in the legacy we've built together to keep the Idaho we love for the next generation.

The future of Idaho is on us and, because of what I learned from my family about service, I know that when we stand together, we can build a better future.

I know because they built that better future for me and I'm committed to building on the foundation they laid down as Idaho's next Congressman. ■





**Idaho
GRAIN**
Producers Association

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!

JOIN TODAY FOR 2018

The mission of the Idaho Grain Producers Association is to serve the grain producers of Idaho by representing their interests at the county, state and federal levels to enhance their profitability and long term viability.

**WHAT DOES IGPA DO
FOR ME?**

*Cory and Jamie Kress
Rockland, ID*

IGPA shapes farm policy that directly effects ALL growers. That means IGPA had a hand in the PLC or ARC payment you received – your crop insurance policy – the state registration fees you pay on your commercial truck – and thousands of other things that impact Idaho’s grain farmers.

*Jake Ozburn
Soda Springs, ID*

The Idaho Grain Producers Association is my political watch dog, with a bite! I need that because I’m busy at home, with my farm and my family. I know IGPA always has my back on policy issues at the state and national level, while I’m taking care of things on the farm.

*Ty Iverson
Bonners Ferry, ID*

To me, an IGPA membership is a no-brainer for any farmer who cares about preserving and advancing the grain industry in Idaho. I have seen firsthand the influence IGPA has on public policy and our elected officials, and I can tell you, it is very effective and impressive.

Grower Memberships

- Individual Membership: \$75
- Farm Family Membership (can list up to three individuals associated with entity): \$200
- Golden Bushel Membership: \$350
- Lifetime Membership: \$1500

Industry Partner Memberships

- Silver Member: \$100
- Gold Member: \$500
- Platinum Member: \$1000

JOIN FOR 2018 ONLINE TODAY!

WWW.IDAHOGRAIN.ORG/MEMBERSHIP



Why Was My Wheat Discounted?

BY BILL SCHAEFER

The elevator community in Idaho occupies the keystone position in the wheat supply chain. They are the mainstay between the wheat grower, who hopes to sell his wheat for a good price, and the domestic miller or export customer, both of who value quality and consistency above all else.

It requires careful balancing to meet the needs of both groups. It is the quality and consistency of Idaho wheat which brings buyers back. Elevators act as guardian to keep Idaho's wheat crop marketable. "We growers don't like it when our wheat has been discounted," said Clark Hamilton, a Ririe wheat grower and chairman of the Idaho Wheat Commission.

"But discounts are necessary to maintain the state's long-term reputation for a quality and consistent harvest. It hurts us all if lower grade wheat gets into commercial channels."

Idaho hosted six overseas trade teams this year. Despite last year's low falling number problems, the foreign buyers were complimentary of Idaho's long-term track record.

On the domestic side, railroad shipping records show that Idaho wheat was shipped to about 26 states last year, another manifest of the desire of buyers to come long distances for quality.

"We're here to help the producer make money," said Don Wille, executive vice-president of merchandising for Thresher Artisan Wheat, a subsidiary of Agspring. "The producer grows grain 24/7. They're the most efficient producers in the world. What they don't do is spend 24/7 marketing, that's what we do. So our job is to help them on the marketing side so they can maximize their profits."

When it comes to falling numbers due to germinated seed, vomitoxin or alpha amylase Wille cautions growers to let the elevators take care of this.

"Farmers should not blend sprouted grain with good grain," he said. "If you blend low falling numbers with high falling numbers all you're going to get is low falling numbers. If there is too much sprouted grain in the elevators, the industry can't work with it. It needs to be brought in so that the industry can figure out how to do the proper blends for the mills and for the end user.

We're the ones who work with grain to insure the consistency; the producer does not."

Wille said that because the elevators handle more bushels than producers, the elevators can blend better than producers can at the farm level.

"Worst thing the producer can do is to try and blend poor grain with good grain and think that it's going to come out as good grain.

It's not and he's going to get hurt because he's going to get discounted on everything," he said.

Quality discounts are the bane of every wheat grower. When U.S. wheat producers were receiving more than \$7.00 per bushel between 2011 and 2013 quality discounts were somewhat easier to tolerate but with the current market fluctuating at \$4.26 per bushel, discounts can mean the difference between covering your return on investment or taking a loss.

There are five grades of U.S. wheat and then a U.S. Sample grade, a classification of wheat that does not meet the requirements for the five grades. U.S. No. 2 is the minimum grade acceptable for both domestic and export markets.



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The two general areas where discounts can be imposed are for 1). dockage and 2). quality control for falling numbers, protein and moisture.

“Dockage is everything in wheat that is not wheat,” said Jim Rooney, the Eastern Idaho Merchandiser for the Lansing Trade Group.

If the percentage of dockage rises above .2 percent of the gross bushels harvested financial discounts can be imposed on the net bushels resulting after the dockage has been removed.

Dockage includes weed seeds, chaff, unthreshed heads, wild oats and shrunken and broken kernels.



The number one dockage factor is to be found in unthreshed heads and unthreshed kernels, commonly called white caps, Rooney said. His advice to producers is to slow down your combine for maximum yield.

“Wheat is sold to both domestic end users and exporters at a number two minimum,” Rooney said. “Therefore if we cannot ship at least a number two, that wheat can be rejected.”

Rooney said that elevators will accept lower graded wheat, by applying a discount, and will blend that grain, with a number one grade thereby bringing the lower grade up to an acceptable number two grade but the blending comes at the price of discounts.

Quality control discounts can be for falling numbers due to untimely weather events such as heat or cold shock 25 to 30 days after flowering or sprouting grain due to late season irrigation or rain on a mature crop.

“Falling numbers can mean the difference between milling wheat and feed wheat,” Rooney said. “We sell Number Two milling wheat. If you can’t meet that grade you don’t get to ship to the mill.”

Rooney said that discounts and schedules are set up to protect the producers’ markets by assuring to the exporters and end users that they will be receiving a quality product within accepted metrics.

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“Low falling numbers mean that the minimum standards for flour performance can not be met,” he said. “Domestic users as well as exporters simply reject wheat that is below their minimum specifications, typically below 300 falling number.”

However, Rooney said, there are times when the miller and the exporter will lower that minimum standard from 300 to 275 and apply monetary discount but still allow the wheat to be delivered.

“The grower’s actually a benefactor, that the elevator will blend that grain and take a discount versus the price possibly being cut in half to where his only options are to sell it to a feed market,” he said.

“As a buyer we’re only applying the discounts and the schedules that are being applied to us when we sell,” he said. “So it’s hard to say that something such as a discount can be a positive but the fact that it does allow for the grain to be dumped at the elevator rather than sending the grower away looking for anyone that might dump his wheat or cattle to eat it.”

It all boils down to the laws of supply and demand when it comes to quality discounts according to Russ Braun, the grain division director and merchandising manager for CHS Primeland in Lewiston.

“If there’s more of this material than the market can use, absorb and blend off then the market discounts get more severe and the reason that happens is the market place is trying to send

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How to Reduce Discounts

By Bill Schaefer

What are the pro-active measures can growers take to keep their grain as high quality as possible to avoid monetary discounts?

Juliet Marshall, a research professor, plant pathologist and cereals and small grains specialist at the University of Idaho’s Idaho Falls Research and Extension office, said that there are a number of steps growers can take to minimize discounts and financial penalties. The primary one is fertilization for the correct yield and protein through soil testing.

She said that growers should not assume that past standard programs they have used will always work. Test your soil every year to determine the nitrogen levels.

“A lot of times growers skip the very critical step of soil testing in advance of planting to know what is exactly in the soil,” she said. “A good example of that was 2016 was a super bumper crop and there was a lot of high yielding grain and that wasn’t just for grain, it was for potatoes and sugar beets. We had a phenomenal year last year across the board. So when you have those excellent conditions for crop growth that means that there was soil fertility that was pretty well scoured prior to planting this year.”

Marshall said that she cannot emphasize strongly enough how important it is to soil test for nitrogen levels prior to planting to ensure proper amounts of fertilization for yield and protein.

“It’s absolutely critical that you know what your soil residual levels are so you don’t overshoot your protein for your soft whites,” she said. “It’s absolutely critical so that you know how much nitrogen to add for your hards so you make sure you get plenty of nitrogen for the protein goals.”

Marshall said that in addition to nitrogen growers also should add sulfate fertilizer to boost protein. Growers should add sulfate in a 10 percent to 20 percent ratio to the nitrogen in their pre-plant fertilization program.

Marshall said that growers should also monitor their flag leaf nitrogen just before the plants start heading.

“If you are in the range of 4.2 to 4.5 percent flag leaf nitrogen for your hard reds then you should be adequate for the amount of nitrogen needed to make grain protein,” she said.

Marshall is a vigorous proponent for using certified seed. She said that when growers use seed taken from their harvest they end up planting more weed seed and wild oats with the wheat seed the following year, resulting in a larger percentage of dockage at harvest time.

“It’s kind of complicated,” Juliet Marshall said about various factors that play a role in calculating falling numbers.

The falling numbers test is used to gauge both starch damage from the induction of sprouting due to late irrigation or rains at a mature stage of the grain or the stimulation of alpha-amylase production due to a cold or hot temperature shock occurring 25-30 days after flowering causing creation of late maturity alpha-amylase resulting in a falling numbers below 300 seconds.

Marshall advises growers not to try and blend bins with low falling numbers with grain bins of good falling numbers. She said that just one starch-damaged grain blended with 2,500 grains of good wheat will result in a decrease of the falling numbers value by up to 100 seconds – resulting in a value below 300.

a message that they don't want that material right now or they don't want it at all," Braun said. "It all boils down to economics. If they can take a lesser grade product, buy it at a discount, blend it off and make it go away then it has its margins at the export."

The schedule of wheat discounts are available from elevator operators. However, all discounts are subject to change without notice.

A sample discount schedule from Portland, Oregon for soft white wheat includes financial discounts for falling numbers of \$0.25 for each 25 under 300 to 250. Below 250 is applicable at buyer's option.

"Without discounts I could envision an exporter would say 'okay I'm going to buy number two or better soft white wheat, period,'" Braun said. "I mean that's worst case scenario. If you did not have a market situation where the end user or the export market were going to allow for certain amount of discounts they would require that you ship this quality or better."

Working from Lewiston, the most inland barge facility in the PNW, Braun said that discounts enable the marketplace to utilize more grain than what is available through blending.

"It enables the market place in its competitive nature to be able to collect various qualities and in the end buy that at some economic discount and ultimately to deliver to export buyer what he purchased," Braun said.

Denis Capson, merchandiser for Scoular in Preston, said that they have to institute discounts because the mills impose discounts on the elevators.

"We're just kind of the middleman so we have to (discount) or you can lose money very, very quickly," he said.

The end user requires a certain type and condition of wheat. If it doesn't meet their standards they will either not accept it or assess a discount.

When it comes to falling numbers Capson said that it is so difficult to blend that it is sometimes better to just sell it as feed.

"If you get down to 200 or below it would be very difficult to blend," he said. "It's actually better for the farmer if we market it as feed wheat. For example if the feed wheat price is \$3.50 and number one price is \$4.00 and they bring in sprouted wheat that is below 200 (falling number).

It would discount down to well below \$3 because of the falling number but we don't go past \$3.50 so they're just discounted 50 cents instead of a dollar. So really bad wheat, like that, is better to go as feed wheat

Lee Andersen, manager of Ririe Grain & Feed Cooperative, said that he understands producers desire to blend their grains to get a better overall price but he counsels against blending to improve a bin's falling numbers.

"When it comes to falling numbers, that's one where probably don't try to blend that," he said. "If you know you've got a bin with a problem keep that

one segregated so it can be managed accordingly and appropriately because if you dump a load of low falling number in the middle of a 150,000 or 500,000 bushel bin that can cause you a lot bigger problem than that one load was."

Low-falling number wheat is less of a problem in south central Idaho that it is in northern or eastern Idaho. So AgriSource is concerned more with dockage. "The marketplace is telling the producer to leave the dockage in the field or you will be discounted for the time and effort it takes to remove it from the wheat," says Scott Mallory, merchandiser for AgriSource.

"At harvest time we receive some deliveries of wheat so clean there are is no dockage and some deliveries where dockage becomes a significant issue. The marketplace is asking for a more consistent and higher quality product than in years past." ■





Numbers Tell the Story of Wheat Varieties



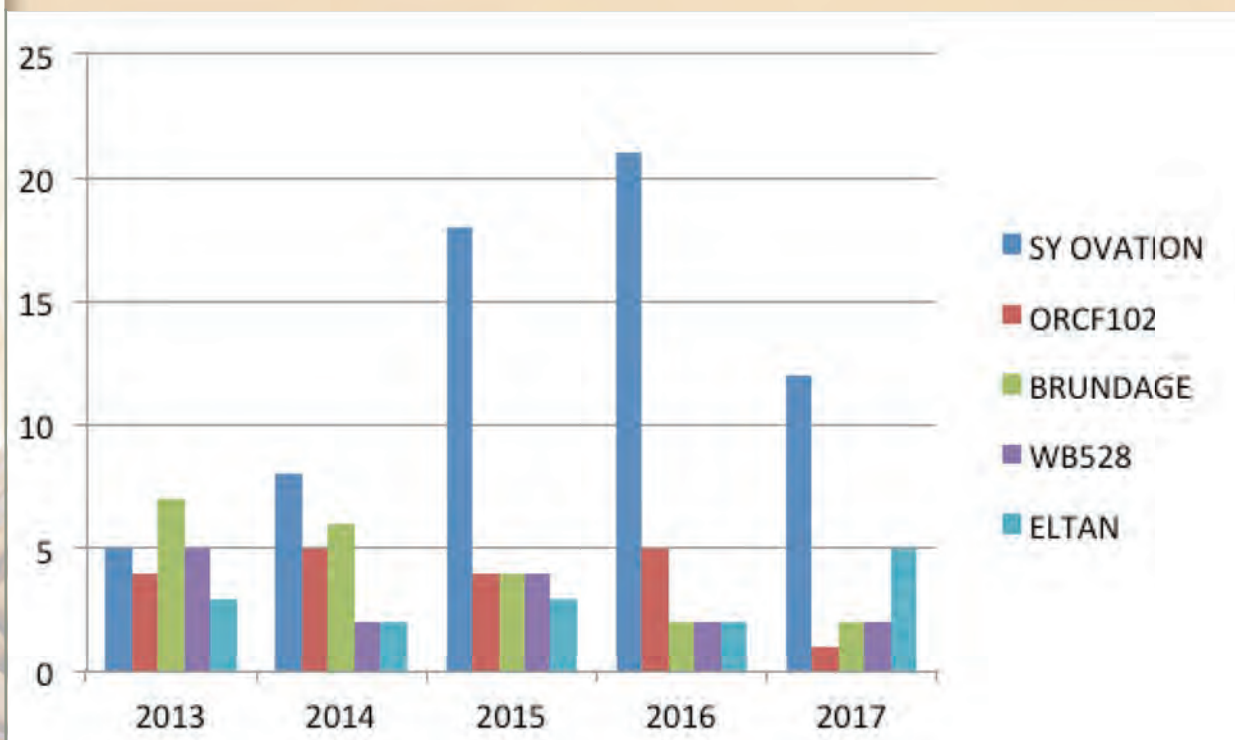
New wheat varieties are hitting the grower’s fields every year. Last Week at the joint Washington Crop Improvement Association and the Washington-North Idaho Seed Association’s annual meeting, breeders from seven organizations introduced 15 new wheat varieties.

The economic value in a new variety can be more about solving a specific regional problem than covering large swaths of acreage.

Breeding for niche markets naturally results in more variety choices which prove their value when they are in a grower’s field. “It takes about three years for new introductions to demonstrate adaptation, consistent yield and end-use quality. A variety can fall out of favor just that fast, too. SY Ovation is a very good variety, widely adapted across the PNW, but in 2016 it had issues as most wheat did, with low Falling Numbers, this is reflected by a significant reduction in acres planted in 2017”, explained Cathy Wilson, Director of Research Collaboration for the Idaho Wheat Commission (Chart 1).

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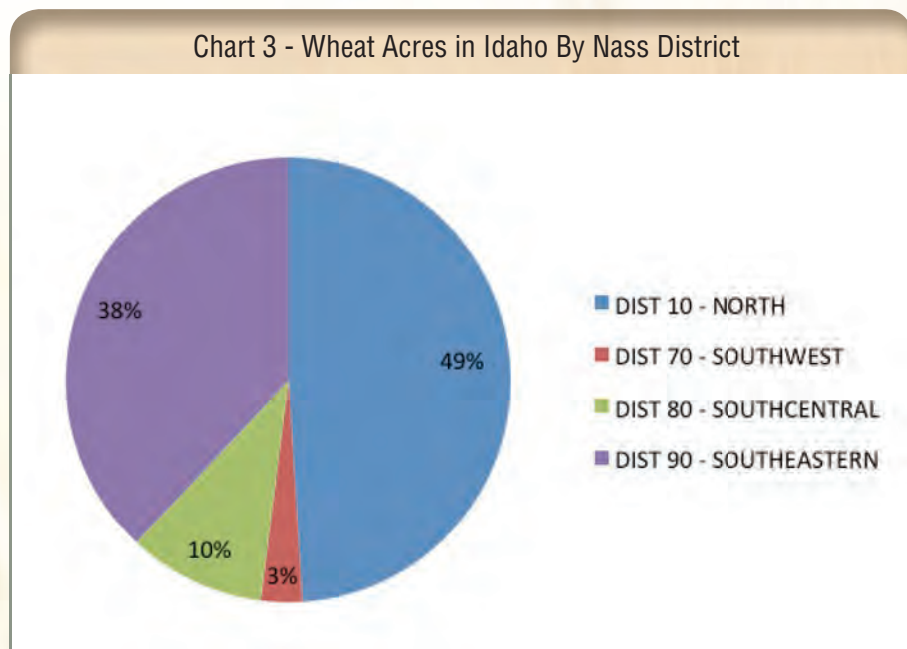
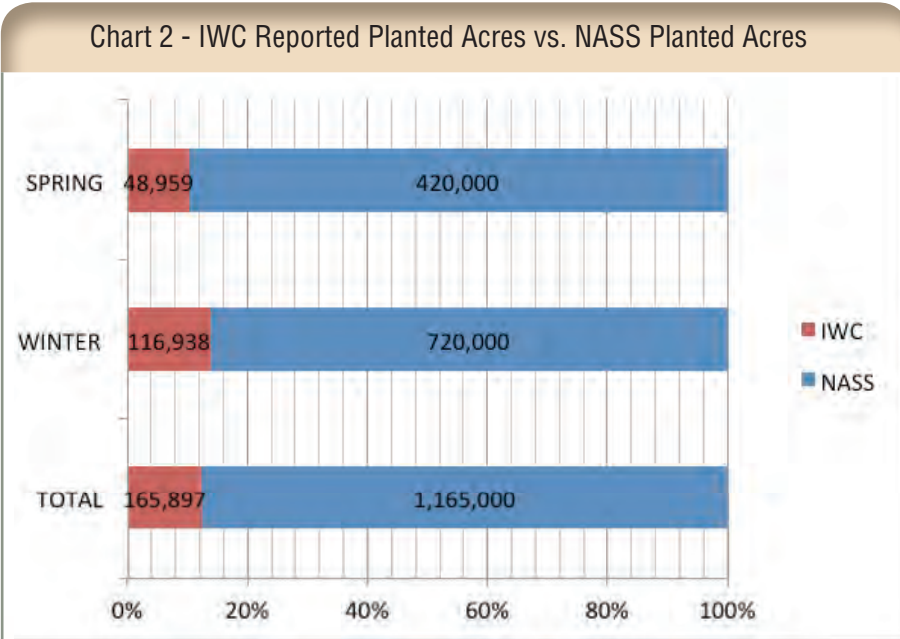
Chart 1 - Change in % Acres of Varieties from 2013-2017



The Idaho Wheat Commission monitors trends in variety usage with an annual survey of planted acres for the winter and spring wheat crop. “It’s pretty simple, just three questions: “What did you plant, how much did you plant, and where did you plant it?” Grower participation in the survey is voluntary.

Wilson related that the survey captures about 12% of the spring acres and 16% of the winter acres reported to NASS by Idaho wheat producers. Idaho wheat production is split 49% and 51%, respectively, between the panhandle of north Idaho (NASS district 10) and the three southern Idaho NASS reporting districts 70, 80 and 90 (Chart 2 and 3).

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The wheat stories in Idaho are summarized in the map below showing the top four varieties reported from each NASS district. (Fig. 1). A "Top Ten" list provides a snap shot of the varieties making up Idaho's grain shed in 2017, accounting for 45-50% of the grain being produced in state.

Trends begin to show up when numbers go into charts. The numbers tell a story of premiums on hard red wheat luring growers to shift away from soft white wheat (Chart 4).

"There are some good new hard red varieties that yield well, make the necessary protein millers need, making hard red a profitable choice", noted Wilson.

A new chapter in the 2017 play book is the rise of the 2-gene imadazole varieties. For the first time, in Idaho, ORCF102, a single gene Clearfield™ variety

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Figure 1 - IWC Wheat Variety Survey Map

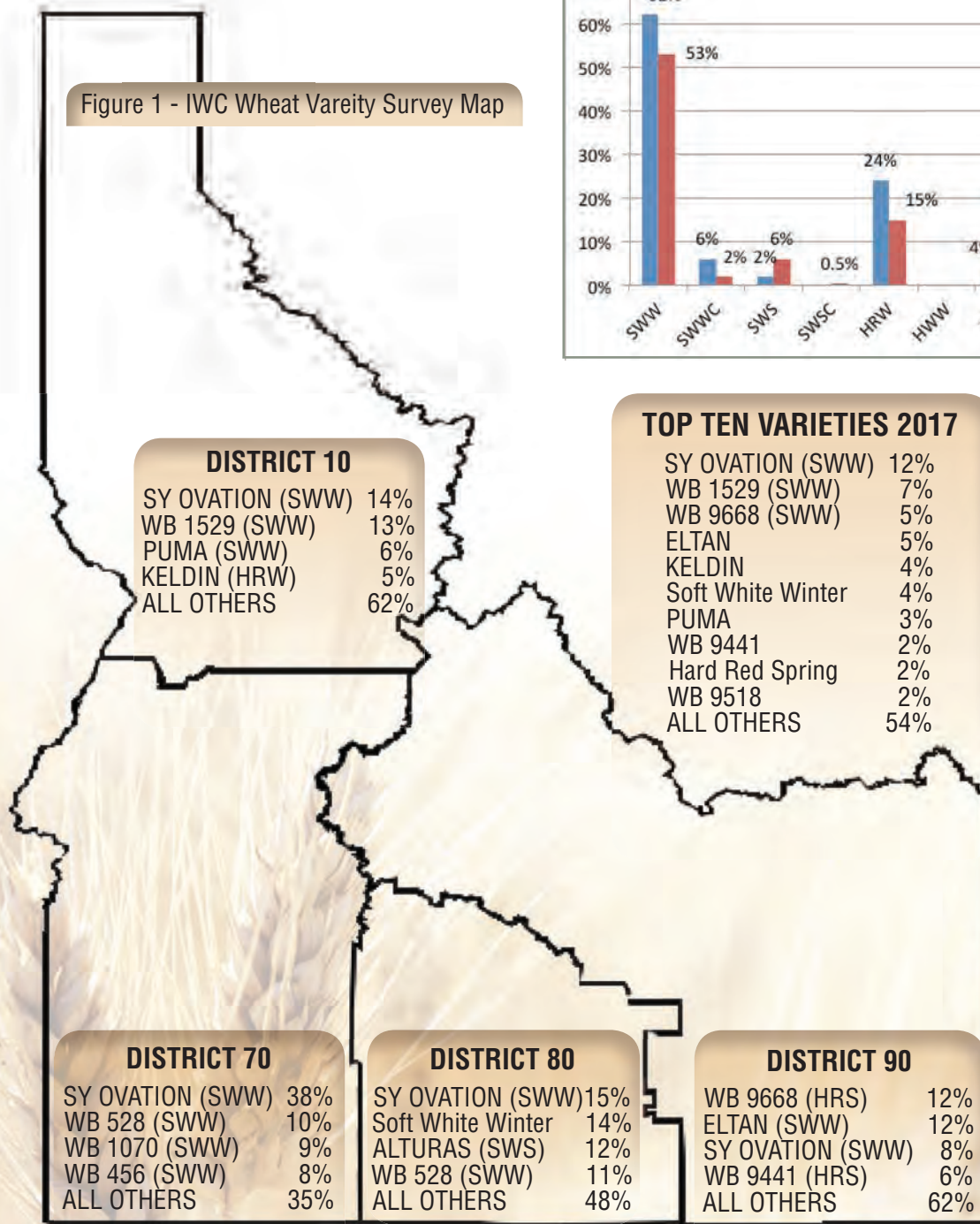
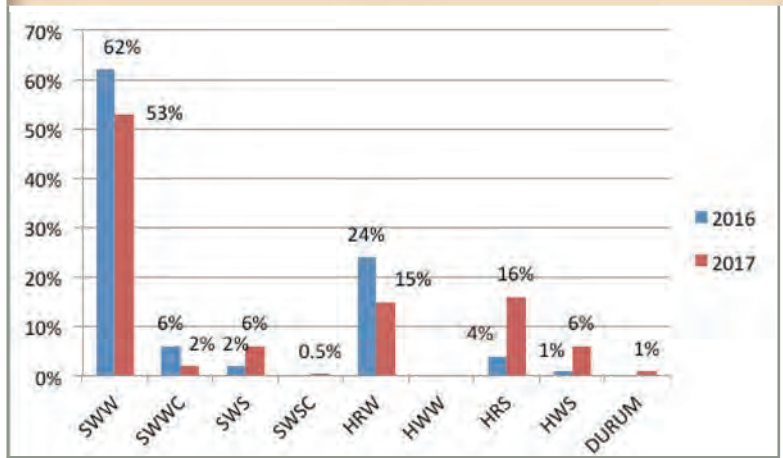
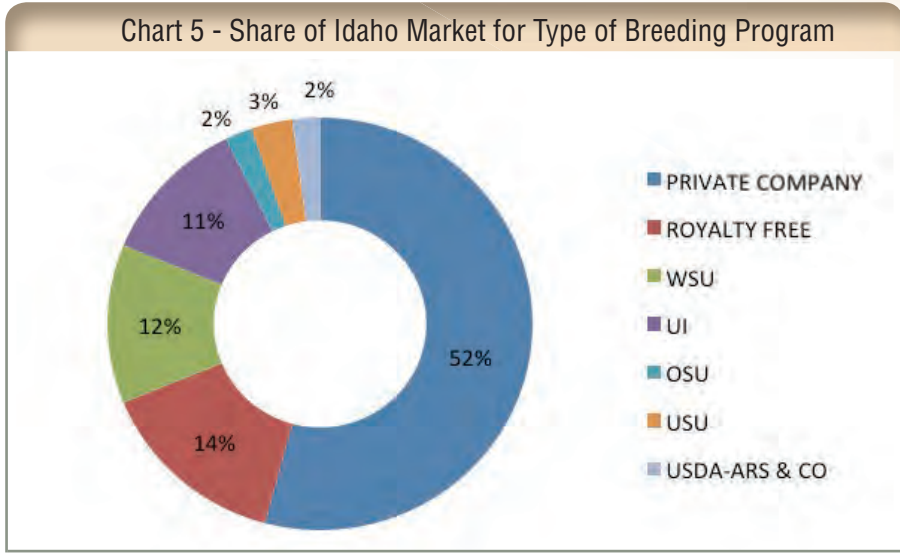


Chart 4 - Planted Acres by Wheat Class 2016 vs 2017



TOP TEN VARIETIES 2017

SY OVATION (SWW)	12%
WB 1529 (SWW)	7%
WB 9668 (SWW)	5%
ELTAN	5%
KELDIN	4%
Soft White Winter	4%
PUMA	3%
WB 9441	2%
Hard Red Spring	2%
WB 9518	2%
ALL OTHERS	54%



is being displaced by University of Idaho’s UI Magic CLP, carrying two genes for imadazole tolerance. Idaho grower’s have UI Magic CLP on 3% of their Clearfield™ acres in 2017. Idaho has far fewer wheat acres where the patented technology has a niche compared to Washington and Oregon. In Washington, UI Magic CLP was on 4% of soft white winter acres and in Oregon it was on 10% of those acres.

Variety usage in the last five years shows movement away from the public varieties. Over 50% of the wheat acres in Idaho are being sown with private company varieties (Chart 5). Public breeding programs are scrambling to find ways to do what the private companies do best--production and marketing.

“The partnership between the University of Idaho and Limagrain Cereal Seeds (LCS) has shown its value in how quickly UI Magic CLP has been commercialized by Limagrain,” noted Wilson. The UI-CLP varieties were developed by the university program but licensed to LCS for commercialization with a royalty back to the UI wheat research programs.

“We capture a lot of information through the survey, and people in the industry value the results.” The high quality of our data is directly related to the participation of Idaho’s wheat growers,” observed Wilson. “We encourage growers to take a few minutes, like 2-3, to take the survey.” The crop 2018 winter planting survey will be in the mail the end of November 2017. 🇺🇸


It’s a Survey!
Let Your Voice Be Heard!

- 3 questions
- Which variety?
- How many acres?
- County planted in?
- 2000 postcards (11% respond)
- 500 emails (25% respond)



It’s Your Choice!

- Opt-out 😞 and save grower dollars 😊
- Opt-In to respond on line 😊 ; and save grower dollars
- Postcard and return postage \$1.33 each vs. \$0.13 per email
- Postcard has a QR code and link to online survey



Mark Your Calendars for Canyon County Wheat School & Idaho Falls Direct Seed Workshop

CANYON COUNTY WHEAT SCHOOL

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Caldwell Events Center – 2207 Blaine Street, Caldwell

10:30 AM-12:00 PM

- **Guest Speaker: Dr. Juliet Marshall, University of Idaho**
- **Topics: Chemical pest control**
- **Barley Yellow Dwarf**
- **Seeding Rates**
- **Cost: Free**
- **Pesticide Credits are available for this workshop**



DIRECT SEED WORKSHOP

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

Shilo Inn – 780 Lindsay Blvd, Idaho Falls

9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Workshop Highlights:

- **Crop rotations for use with direct seed wheat**
- **Cropping systems incorporating food peas, chick peas in no-till wheat rotations**
- **Marketing food peas**
- **Cleaning and handling food peas to prevent damage**
- **Cover crops in direct seed wheat cropping systems**
- **Grower panel – trying new things**



Governor Otter Re-appoints "Genesee" Joe Anderson

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter recently announced his re-appointment of "Genesee" Joe Anderson, to the Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC).

Joe will continue to represent the wheat producers of district one, which includes Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah, Latah, and Shoshone counties.

Anderson has been operating the family farm with his brother Jay since 1983. The Anderson brothers farm about 4400 acres owned and rented land in Latah and Nez Perce counties.

They raise winter wheat, spring wheat and barley, pulse and oilseed crops.



AgriSource Relies on Integrated Strategies to Compete



With just seven grain elevators in southern Idaho, AgriSource, Inc. prides itself on being large enough to market the world and small enough to care about home.

Headquartered in Burley, Idaho, the company handles an average of 12 million bushels of grain a year. Total grain capacity at its seven elevators is approximately 7 million bushels, with 25 railcar sidings at six of the elevators.

Small but mighty, the company successfully markets 90 percent of its grain to the Pacific Northwest, California, Utah, Arizona and the eastern U.S. The other 10 percent is shipped to foreign ports.

The company's integrated strategies give AgriSource a "sustainable competitive advantage against larger companies," said Kirk Carpenter, AgriSource president.

This advantage is due in part to a unique production-risk-management tool based on a complex, intensive wheat-management program that creates time management, cash flow and risk-sharing upside for the producer, he said.



"AgriSource utilizes an integrated business system with the expertise and up-to-date facilities in agronomics, wheat origination, organics and handling and trading," he said.

Contracting risk-management production allows the selection of specific wheat varieties for production in a stable growth-cycle environment that provides a downstream boost to processing efficiencies.

In addition, efficient identity-preserved handling systems and higher processing values create additional per-bushel value for producers, he said.

Identity preservation

There is a market need for identity-preserved distribution systems, and AgriSource's goal for each harvest is to identify and preserve all wheat based on quality specifications. That allows the company to offer millers a choice of grain that fits their specific product needs, he said.

Bakers, cereal processors and other users of value-added, wheat-based products are willing to pay a premium for differentiated and consistent wheat, flour and baked goods when needed, he said.

AgriSource's integrated, asset-based, wheat-origination capabilities allow for identity preserving wheat supply for downstream consumption.

The identity-preservation process separates wheat based on color, size, weight, variety, falling numbers and protein content.

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In addition, AgriSource has utilized a sampling system for farm-stored grain so the quality is known before the farmer sells.

“This has enabled AgriSource to find customers for each farmer’s specific grain and increase the farmer’s return,” he said.

AgriSource is committed to the concept of “cradle to grave” -- meaning seed to flour, he said.

The company starts with cleaned, registered or certified treated seed for production of soft white, hard white, hard red and durum wheat, as well as feed and malt barley. All grain has a class and each class has a specific variety that is planted, harvested and stored in a producer’s identity-preserved bin.

Customers can visit one of AgriSource’s 140 bins – ranging from 5,000 bushels to 200,000 bushels -- at its seven elevators in the Magic Valley. From there, trucks or railcars are loaded and the grain shipped to flour mills throughout the United States.

World demand for wheat and wheat-based products produced in the U.S. will continue to grow, and AgriSource wants to play a vital role in its production and delivery, he said.

Expertise

AgriSource has six elevators within a 20-mile radius of its corporate office in Burley. The seventh elevator is in Mountain Home.

The Burley office houses general management and accounting, as well as its operations headquarters for seed and grain origination, grain marketing and local accounting.

The company’s management group has, on average, more than 30 years of experience in the grain and seed industry.

AgriSource employs 24 individuals that work hard each day. They have built a successful team, Carpenter said.

Scott Mallory is vice president of merchandising, and Mike Allen is seed manager. Other significant business strengths include long-term relationships between AgriSource’s origination and marketing departments and its 1,000+ valued customers and growers.

“The company’s well-trained employees understand the grain and flour-milling industry,” he said.

And AgriSource’s primary and secondary markets know the importance of high-quality seed that is provided for producers and customers, he said.

AgriSource operates as a lean organization with prime storage and elevators and a focus on the importance of logistics, both truck and rail.

Looking ahead, producers are key to AgriSource’s future.

“We need and appreciate them,” he said, adding a “Thank You!” to growers.

AgriSource will continue to work with seed breeders to provide quality certified seed and is committed to treat seed to control fusarium, smut, rhizoctonia, pythium, phytophthora and other diseases, he said.

The future lies in growers and flour millers, who are planting, harvesting and processing high-quality wheat that increases marketability, he said. ■

2017-2018 Idaho Wheat Producer Scholarship Recipients

The Idaho Wheat Commission is proud to introduce Idaho wheat growers to the 2017/18 Idaho Wheat Producer scholarship recipients. Three students from across the state received scholarships to the University of Idaho and three students from eastern Idaho received scholarships to Utah State University.

Each scholarship recipient received \$2000.00 for the 2017/18 school year. The Idaho Wheat Producer scholarships were instituted five years ago to help support a future generation of agricultural leadership.

All of the scholarship recipients are distinguished individuals who are committed to work in all aspects of agriculture.



Utah State University Scholarship Recipients



Jordan Beutler

Beutler Farms, located in the beautiful countryside of Dayton, Idaho, raises wheat, seed potatoes, dry beans and other rotational crops, the farm also plays an integral role in the raising of children. Jordan is the youngest of six children of Wes

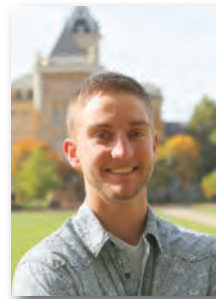
and Roxane Beutler, to whom he owes a full and happy childhood. Learning principles of hard work, honesty and responsibility at a young age, he wouldn't trade his upbringing for anything.

After graduating as salutatorian from West Side High School, and spending time on a service mission in Ukraine, Jordan will complete his undergraduate studies in May 2018.

Majoring in Plant Science with minors in the Russian language and agribusiness, Jordan intends to be involved with production agriculture. The help of the

Idaho Wheat Scholarship has been a financial support and has motivated Jordan. Receiving the assistance encouraged Jordan to work hard in the classroom and take opportunities on campus. It permitted Jordan to have a balanced life as he completed internships with Ag. Reserves (2015) and Valley Wide Agronomics (2017), all while competing in cross country, and track & field, as he studied at Utah State University.

Jordan appreciates the help he has received from the Idaho Wheat Scholarship. Jordan said, "Receiving such help is humbling, but incubates a strong desire to pay it forward in my future."



Azdyn Bartschi

Azdyn was raised in Montpelier, Idaho where he grew up working on the family farm located near Georgetown, Idaho. He is thankful for his upbringing where he learned the value of honesty, work and discipline.

Bartschi enjoys many aspects of the farming lifestyle which includes mechanic work, moving pipe in the cool crisp summer mornings, and working with animals. He also enjoys hunting, shooting, riding horses, riding dirt bikes, fishing, camping, skiing, and cooking.

With the help he is receiving from the Idaho Wheat Commission, and a small herd of beef cattle owned by Azdyn, he is able to make his way through school at Utah State, where he is focused on Agricultural Business.

Azdyn really enjoys Utah State University and the emphasis they give to the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. The programs, seminars, and conferences they offer and facilitate, has allowed Azdyn to access a variety of opportunities in agriculture.

He has been the beneficiary of some great opportunities, and he hopes to take advantage of many more while he finishes school.

Azdyn would like to thank the Idaho wheat growers for their generous support!

Continued on next page



Jake Stolworthy

Jake is from Shelley, Idaho where he grew up on a potato, wheat, canola, and alfalfa farm. He is currently a senior at Utah State University majoring in Agriculture Systems Technology.

Jake's passion for farming has always driven him to push to achieve the very best for his life. After graduation, he plans to become the 5th generation of Stolworthy's to farm.

His goal is to expand and build upon the business's reputation of being one of the top agriculture commodity producers in the state of Idaho.

Jake plans to focus on sustainability, and the conservation of our natural resources to leave the land in better condition. Doing this is not going to be an easy task, but through the help of the Idaho Wheat Commission's generous donation, it has provided him with further leverage towards reaching his goals.

University of Idaho

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

University of Idaho Scholarship Recipients



Jessica Kohntopp

Jessica is a sophomore at the University of Idaho majoring in Biotechnology and Plant Genomics. Her freshman year she began working in the UI biotechnology lab processing tomato DNA and protein. She has also been selected for three

internships through the World Food Prize, which has kept her busy the past two summers.

Kohntopp has worked with wheat at the Wheat Quality, Physiology, and Disease Research Lab at Washington State University, hybrid rice in Changsha, China, and alfalfa leaf cutting bees in Fargo, North Dakota.

During her years with FFA, she participated in the agronomy and floriculture CDE, but it was her internship at WSU that truly solidified her love for plants. She was able to experience every aspect of their program through working in the field, greenhouse, and lab.

Jessica is appreciative to Idaho wheat grower's for the scholarship which helps her focus and dedicate time to working on achieving her degree.

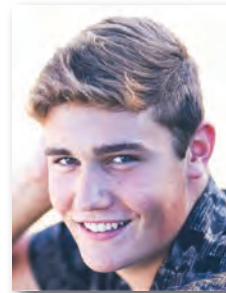


Erica Wood

Erica Wood is a sophomore at the University of Idaho majoring in Agricultural Education, with a minor in Spanish. In addition to being a fulltime student, she currently works as an Academic Peer Mentor (APM) for UI Housing and Residence Life.

Wood grew up on the family's cattle ranch in Naples, Idaho and graduated as a valedictorian from Bonners Ferry High School, where she participated in many organizations including FFA. It is because of her agricultural background and participation in FFA that led Erica to pursue an Agricultural Education degree.

Erica would like to thank Idaho wheat growers for helping her pursue her dream of becoming a teacher one day. Each day she eagerly learns everything she can in order to be a successful teacher and advisor.



Kent Youngdahl

Kent was quite literally born on the family farm! He has fond memories of riding with his father on the tractor as he plowed the fields, and helping his mother tend to the vegetable garden.

Although his family no longer owns the farm, he still returns from time to time. It is a reminder that he made the correct career choice to pursue a degree in the agricultural field...Sustainable Food Systems.

Kent's freshman year he made the Dean's list, demonstrating his ambition and desire to protect and conserve the land we live on. His focus is on restoring and maintaining fertile soil through sustainable farming practices.

His studies at the UI include, but are not limited to: Sustainable Food Systems and Soil and Land Resources. Becoming an agronomist and soil conservationist requires an in-depth understanding of our complex soils.

Words cannot express Kent's appreciation as he acknowledges Idaho's wheat growers continued financial support for his education. ■



Managing Fertilizer Nitrogen Applications for Spring Barley & Wheat

BY DRS. CHRISTOPHER W. ROGERS, BISWANATH DARI AND OLGA S. WALSH

Soil-nitrogen (N) is often insufficient to maximize agronomic yield and economic return in cereal production systems. Fertilizer-nitrogen (N) applications play an important role in obtaining optimal yield and quality for Idaho growers.

Available soil N and crop yield potential determine a crop's N requirements, where both are key factors for prescribing optimum N applications rates. As such, N fertilizer should be managed in a way that improves plant availability and minimizes losses to the environment.

Nitrogen fertilizer is primarily composed of ammonium, nitrate, and urea or their combination. However, plants take up N from the soil as inorganic-N (i.e., ammonium and nitrate); thus, applied fertilizer N must undergo chemical and biological transformations in the soil to convert it into plant-available forms.

Fertilizer N use efficiency (FNUE, amount of grain per unit of applied N fertilizer) for cereal crops is typically around 50% where fertilizer management play a key role in the system's efficiency. The FNUE of a crop is decreased due to N losses via various pathways (Fig. 1).

Major mechanisms of N loss include denitrification of nitrate, leaching of nitrate, and ammonia volatilization. Denitrification occurs when oxygen is reduced in soils; preventing waterlogged conditions in the field is key to reducing this process.

Leaching occurs when nitrate moves with water deeper in the profile where the plant roots are unable to reach and take up N, and thus, avoiding excessive irrigation is key to minimizing leaching losses.

Finally, ammonia volatilization occurs when ammonia is lost as a gas either directly, or through the conversion of ammonium to ammonia and moves into the

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Figure 1 - Nitrogen Pathways in the soil-plant-atmosphere

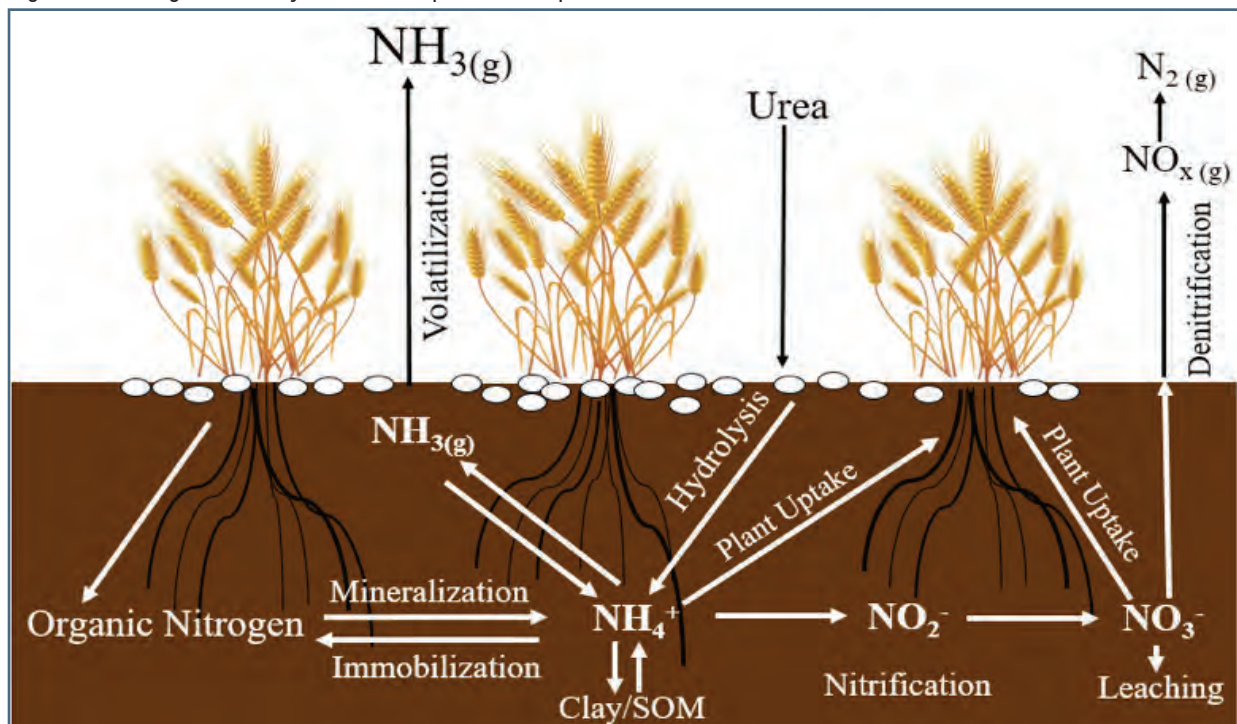


Table 1 - Best Management Practices for Fertilizer Nitrogen Application

Avoid over-application of irrigation water, as waterlogged conditions are conducive to denitrification and leaching of nitrate through the soil can occur
Delay application under high-risk conditions (i.e., moist soil, high-soil temperature or frozen soil, as loss can still be substantial at low temperatures
For surface applications incorporate within one to two days following application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tillage (> 2 in) • Irrigation (>0.5 in) • Rainfall (>0.5 in single event)
Subsurface band (>2 in)
For urea, consider a urease inhibitor (i.e., NBPT) for surface applications particularly when conditions are sub-optimal
Consider an alternate N source to urea, particularly when conditions are sub-optimal

Adapted from Jones et al. 2013 Montana State University Ext. EBO209

atmosphere. Under sub-optimal conditions, losses due to ammonia volatilization from urea can approach 50% of applied N.

Fertilizers should be managed based on the 4Rs approach of nutrient management: Right Source, Right Rate, Right Timing, and Right Placement.

Fertilizer-N sources have different potential for loss. For example, surface-applied urea is the most susceptible to ammonia volatilization. Table 1 summarizes practices that can help minimize N losses from urea and other ammonium-forming fertilizers.

To determine the right fertilizer N application rate, growers should test their soils annually and consult University of Idaho Extension guides (i.e., Southern Idaho Spring Barley – UI BUL742; North Idaho Spring Barley – UI CIS 920, Southern Idaho Spring Wheat – UI CIS 828, and North Idaho Soft Spring Wheat – UI CIS 1101). Fertilizer guides have been developed based on Idaho growing conditions and typical response of Idaho varieties to applied N.

Fertilizer recommendations rely on accurate inorganic-N values determined by soil testing and specific factors for N mineralization based on the individual fertilizer guide. Soil sampling should be conducted as close to fertilization timing as possible where proper sampling protocols (UI BUL 915) must be followed to ensure sample accuracy.

Right timing is crop specific where fertilizer N for malt barley is not recommended after tillering as grain protein can increase above contract specifications. Similarly, application of N close to harvest time in wheat can result in deceptively high grain protein measurements.

Right placement for fertilizer N should facilitate maximum movement of the applied N into the soil. For example, broadcast urea or ammonium-forming fertilizers should be followed by incorporation either through tillage (> 2 in), irrigation (> 0.5 in), or sufficient rainfall (> 0.5 in) shortly after application. Additionally, urea and ammonium forming fertilizers should not be applied under high-risk conditions (i.e., moist soil, high-soil temperature, or onto frozen soils).

If fertilizer N is banded at seeding, it should be done to a depth of 2 in or greater where a 2 in offset is common in many areas in Idaho as fertilizer N applied in the seed row can damage seeds/seedlings, particularly at higher N-application rates.

Two new University of Idaho Extension Bulletins that specifically address issues associated with ammonia volatilization from Idaho soils will be available at <http://www.uidaho/extension/publications> in the near future. ■

2017 Comparison of LESA and Conventional Irrigation Systems

BY DR. HOWARD NEIBLING, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION IRRIGATION ENGINEER

A full-pivot LESA – conventional center pivot sprinkler package comparison was conducted on adjacent 180 acre center pivots of Voyager malting barley south of Dubois, ID this summer. Soil water content was monitored using watermark sensors and AgSense data loggers on both pivots. The soil was shallow and rocky, with sensors unable to be installed below 24 inches. Applied water was measured using rain gages.

Results: Crop yield and quality were essentially the same (135 control vs 130 LESA) with plumps and test weight the same. However, 2.5 inches less water from 3 fewer irrigations was applied to the LESA pivot.

Although the control yield was 5 bu/ac more, the farmer said that the LESA pivot suffered more stand loss due to wind, so the two field yields were essentially equal. Nozzle height on the conventional pivot was 72 inches above the ground, and 42 inches above the ground on the LESA pivot.

Soil moisture measurements over the course of the summer (Figure 1) showed that the crop root zone water content under the LESA pivot was consistently higher water than under the conventional pivot. LESA water content at 18 inches increased over the season while the control decreased.

The greater soil water content in LESA allowed irrigation to be cut off earlier than on the conventional (7/12 vs 7/15).

The irrigation energy savings due to 3 less irrigations for a 150 foot pumping lift is about \$2000 on this 180 acre pivot, or \$11/ac. Until June 1, applied irrigation was the same for the two pivots.

Irrigation management after June 1 resulted in 3 less irrigations on the LESA pivot, or a water application reduction of 17%.

17 percent water savings achieved under LESA center pivot in 2017

Previous Idaho research has shown that irrigation could be reduced by 15% or more with nozzles 12-18 inches above the soil. This height put the nozzles in-canopy by early June on malting barley.

However, no direct comparisons had been done with nozzles as high as 42 inches. This height was used to clear potato vines last year and was then used on the barley this year.

One of the previously uncertain factors in LESA design was the height above which evaporation and wind drift loss reduction dropped to near zero.

This comparison fills in some missing information and is essential in designing pivots that will have potatoes in the rotation.

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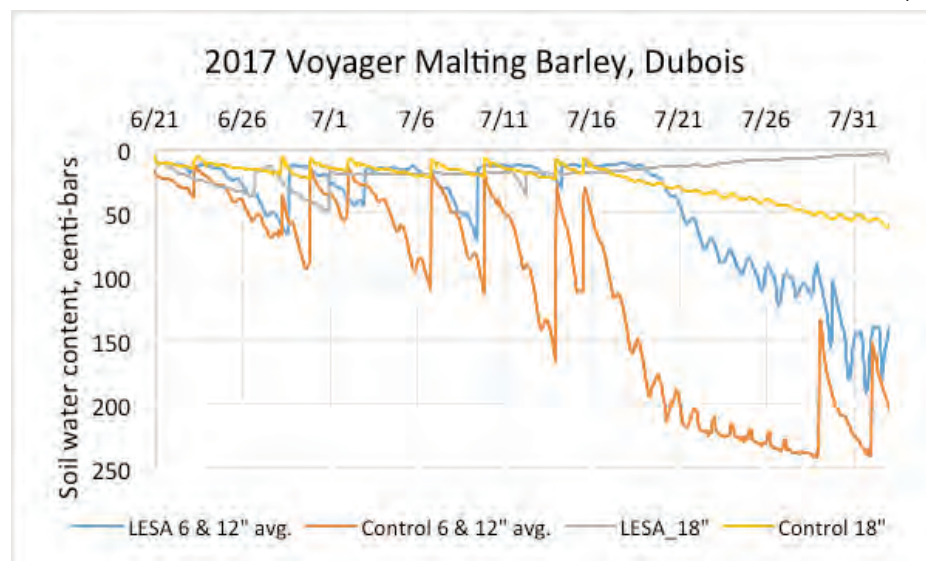


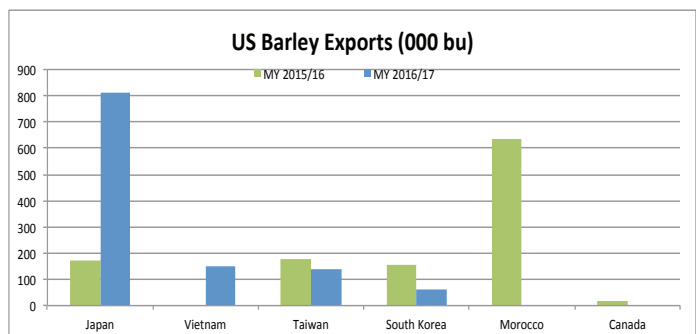
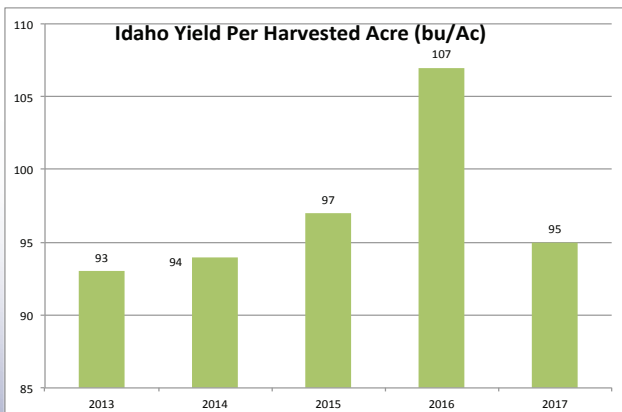
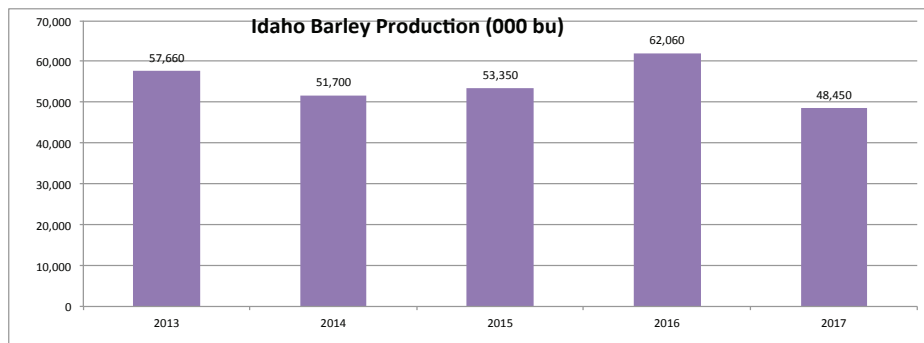
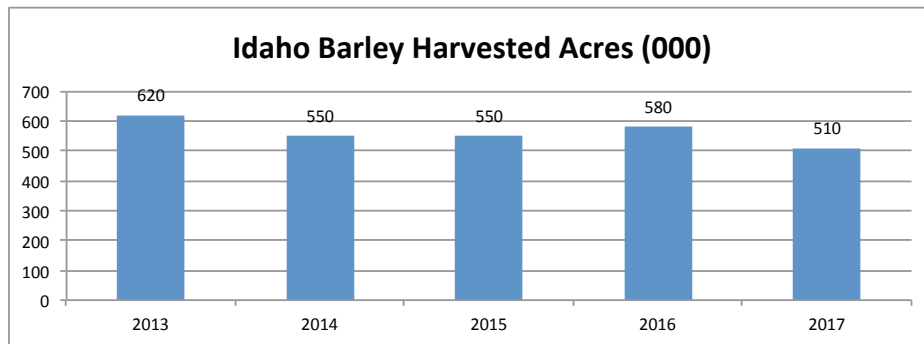
Figure 1. Change in soil water content over time and soil depth as indicated by watermark soil moisture sensors and AgSense data loggers. Centi-bar values are zero at saturation and rise as the soil dries. The two upward rises in water content in late July are from precipitation events and show in 6 and 12 inch readings in control and 6 inch readings in LESA.

Several other locations had LESA sprinklers in the potato canopy this year with statistically equal LESA and conventional yield and quality. However, nozzle height may need to be higher under certain conditions: 1) more rolling topography where nozzle height needs to be higher to avoid dragging (although this does not seem to be a problem in other crops), and 2) if growers are concerned about potential spread of disease by sprinkler heads dragging in canopy.

Results of this comparison indicate that significant water savings can occur with the 42 inch height because during the high water use period, the sprinklers are within a foot of the canopy, or were in canopy during the last part of the growing season.

The UI greatly appreciates funding support from Anheuser Busch InBev for the ongoing LESA irrigation studies. ■

US Barley Stats

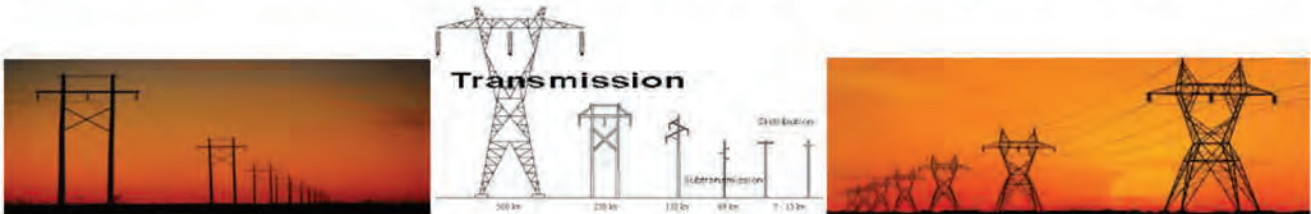




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