

WINTER 2019

IDAHO

THE IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

G R A I N



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VIEWS



**BY MATT MOSMAN
PRESIDENT**

Well it has been one hell of a run as your IGPA President. We have helped tackle many issues facing our state, nation, and world. It's not always easy or fun fighting for our way of life, but it is rewarding in the end looking back and knowing you helped make a difference.

However, the fight is never over. Dam breaching, water rights issues, transportation, depredation, grain quality, environmental issues, trade, weed resistance, endangered species and the Farm Bill are all issues that will need to be constantly dealt with. It is our job as grain producers and Idahoans to pay attention, educate ourselves, and stay involved. This is how we protect what we love and make sure we can pass it down to the ones that we love.

The good news is that we are not alone. Just coming home from the Tri-State convention, we had the opportunity to visit with our neighbors to the west, Oregon and Washington. They face many of these same issues we do and they do it with a lot less "Ag friendly" state capital as well. As many of you know, Idaho is part of National Association of Wheat Growers. The 26-state association helps us stay current and involved with national issues and international trade.

I would like to thank board members that came before me and the ones that are coming in behind me. I've learned so much from each of you, and am proud to call you my friends. Sid, Terry, Potlatch Joe, Dwight, Jamie, Lucas, Ty, and Justin—thank you. And last but certainly not least, thank you Stacey, Christie, Kellie and Rich. Words cannot express my appreciation for everything you do for this association and industry. ■

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*Cover photo by
Jeremy Searle*

Published quarterly by
Idaho Grain Producers Association
821 W. State St. • Boise, Idaho 83702-5832
(208) 345-0706

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Address inquiries regarding editorial policy and writer guidelines to the editor.

For subscription corrections, please call Idaho Grain Producers Association at (208) 345-0706

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:
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Printed in the USA

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EDITOR'S NOTE



BY STACEY KATSEANES SATTERLEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's been a whirlwind of a fall – your staff and board had a period of six weeks where we had meetings and travel every week. We hosted a series of district meetings up north; had a board meeting in Boise; had NAWG's fall meeting in Santa Fe; jointly hosted Tri-State Grain Growers Convention with OR and WA in Spokane; traveled to Eastern Idaho for a series of district meetings; then celebrated Thanksgiving. We wrap up this crazy travel and meeting season by heading to Denver for NAWG's strategic planning session, then home to get ready for Christmas – and the start of the 2020 legislative session in January.

The 2020 Idaho legislative session is going to be unlike any session we've seen. You may recall that Idaho has a unique process, whereby the legislature approves every agency rule at the beginning of every session. What is a rule, you might be wondering? Well, when the legislature passes a law, the agency that has regulatory authority (like the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, the Department of Environmental Quality, or Idaho Fish & Game) promulgates a rule to enact that law – the rule has the force of law, and is often how citizens interact with laws that are passed. After the legislature reviews and accepts or rejects every rule, the entire package of agreed upon rules are then voted on and passed at the end of session. Well, at the end of the last session, the final package of rules was NOT passed – which left a pretty significant mess for the Governor to clean up.

Governor Little took advantage of the mess that was left for him by asking each of his agencies to review all their rules on the books and clean them up. They got rid of old, outdated rules, they consolidated, and they deleted. The outcome of this exercise is that the volume of rules has been decreased by approximately 75%.

So – fast forward to this legislative session. Because all the rules are “new” – the legislature must review ALL the rules. Usually, the legislature reviews only the newly proposed or changed rules, and that exercise typically takes a few weeks. But this year, they are going to review ALL rules and we don't yet know what that process is going to look like or how much time that will take.

Starting January 6, IGPA will be at the Statehouse for all the rules review and all the legislation that moves through the Statehouse, advocating for the interests of Idaho's grain growers. If you'd like to see this rule approval process in person, you're welcome to join us for a day in Boise. Just let your staff or a board member know! IGPA will be busy at the Statehouse, as well as in Washington DC – which is why you need to be a member of IGPA. Scott Brown, Idaho Barley Commission District 3 Commissioner, loves to tell the story that back in 1936, in the U.S. one in two people were farmers. He adds to his anecdote that, “back in 1936 if you were to drive your family to Disneyland, every other car you passed would be a farmer. Today you'd have to pass 50-75 cars before you'd run into another farmer.” He also adds that this is why, now more than ever with less than 2% of the population involved in agriculture, your voice needs to be heard and you need to be a part of IGPA. ■



Status, Trends, and Importance of Wild and Hatchery Salmon and Steelhead in Idaho

BY JIM FREDERICKS, IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Authors Note: This article, is intended to provide a broad overview of anadromous (ocean-going) species in Idaho and summarize their recent population trends. Some of the causes of decline, including habitat, harvest, hatcheries, and hydropower (often referred to as the “4 H’s”) along with predation and ocean conditions will be explored in a future article. Anadromous fishery management and recovery is a tremendously complex issue, and there are many areas of technical and philosophical disagreement regarding anadromous fisheries –both within and between stakeholder groups. For that reason, neither this nor future articles will dive into specific areas of technical debate or address questions related to policy.

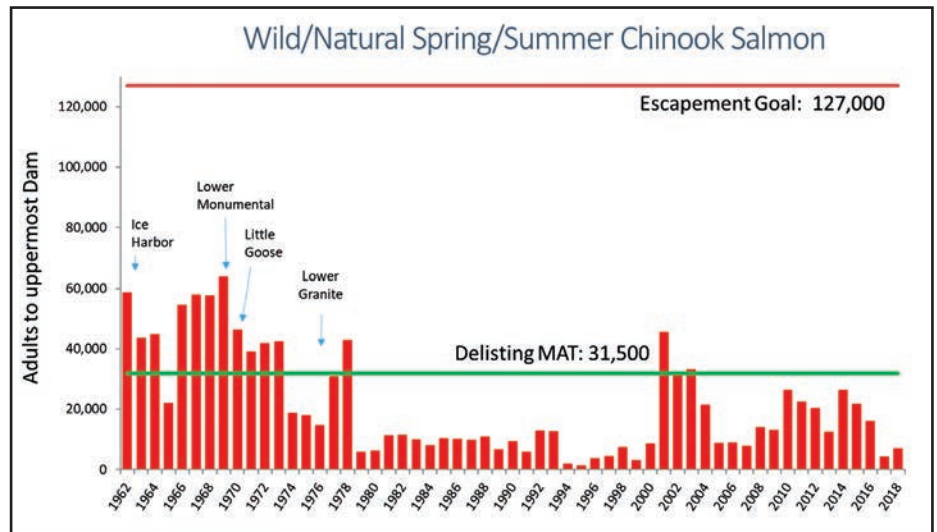


Figure 1. Escapement of wild/natural spring/summer Chinook to the uppermost Snake River dam from 1962 to present relative to minimum abundance threshold and the Idaho escapement objectives.

Multiple species/stocks in Idaho still have an anadromous life history. Anadromous refers to fish which spawn in freshwater and grow and mature in saltwater. Idaho’s anadromous fish include spring and summer Chinook (collectively referred to as spring/summer Chinook), fall Chinook, and summer steelhead. The names are based on when adult fish begin their return from the ocean and enter the Columbia River mouth. Populations in Idaho are comprised of both wild and hatchery stocks. Hatchery and wild populations are subject to very different regulatory structures and management objectives. Generally speaking, Idaho allows no sport fishery harvest of wild salmon or steelhead. In fact, most areas where wild spring/summer chinook and steelhead spawn are closed to fishing for those species. Steelhead and chinook fisheries are instead supported by hatchery programs that were developed to offset the loss of wild populations associated with dams.

Most wild populations of Chinook and steelhead are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Chinook are not listed in the Clearwater drainage, and most hatchery steelhead and hatchery chinook are not listed. Idaho is also home to Sockeye Salmon, listed as Endangered under the ESA, and thanks to the success of the Nez Perce Tribe Coho program, we’ve recently seen

returns of hatchery Coho in numbers sufficient to provide a limited fishery. Finally, Idaho still has anadromous populations of Pacific Lamprey, which are a species of high importance ecologically and culturally to Native Americans. Though lamprey don’t get as much of the attention as other ocean-going species, it’s important to acknowledge they’re part of the whole anadromous picture and recognize they come with their own unique challenges.

Understanding the factors that affect anadromous fish populations first requires a general understanding of their life cycle. While salmon, steelhead and lamprey begin and end their lives in Idaho’s mountain streams, they spend much of the time outside of Idaho. As juveniles, they will leave Idaho and swim 466 miles to the Pacific Ocean, spend one to four years in the Pacific Ocean and then swim 466 miles back to Idaho as adults. During this time they will navigate eight large dams and reservoirs, multiple kinds of predators, and changes in ocean and river conditions.

Importance of Anadromous Fish

The Snake basin (including those portions of eastern Oregon and southwestern Washington) historically

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provided a large percentage of the spawning and rearing habitat in the Columbia Basin. It's estimated that the Snake basin, the majority of that in Idaho, historically produced about 55% of the summer steelhead and over 40% of the spring/summer Chinook in the entire basin. That's not surprising when one considers that historically Idaho had about 6,000 miles of high quality streams and rivers. Over half of that (about 3,700 miles) is still intact and accessible. Today, the majority of wild salmon and steelhead produced in Idaho come from the Salmon and Clearwater basins.

Clearly Idaho is a very important component of Columbia basin salmon and steelhead populations. It's also fair to say that salmon and steelhead populations are extremely important to Idaho—culturally, economically, and ecologically.

Anadromous fish were and still are at the center of the culture of many Native Americans in the northwest and many of the treaty negotiations focused on fishing rights. Anthropologists estimate the Nez Perce tribe harvested 300 to over 550 pounds of salmon per person per year. So to say salmon were important to them is an understatement. Many Native American Tribes in the Columbia Basin and beyond are very actively involved in, or leading salmon and steelhead hatchery programs, research programs, habitat restoration projects, and management of tribal fisheries.

Economically, salmon and steelhead comprise a very large piece of the fishing industry in Idaho. Based on several different studies, all fishing in Idaho generates about \$450-500 million in spending. Anadromous fisheries are typically 20-25% of that, meaning they annually generate



over \$100 million in spending. That translates to 1,000-2,000 jobs, many of which are located in rural economies. As an example, the 2001 chinook fishery, which was the best return of hatchery fish to date, generated an estimated \$90 million in spending.

It's also worth noting that because spring/summer Chinook salmon enter Idaho in April or May and spawn in late summer, the fisheries occur in a very short period of time from May through July. Consequently, the revenue they generate is a tremendous amount in a very short period. In 2001, economists estimated anglers spent an estimated \$10 million in Riggins from the mid-May through mid-July Chinook fishery. This was about 25% of the total spending in town that year! Years like 2018 and 2019 when Chinook fisheries are extremely limited, represent the loss of several million dollars into those rural economies.

Steelhead enter Idaho in late summer and reside in Idaho rivers until they spawn the following spring. For that reason, steelhead fisheries stretch out over nine months in Idaho, providing a much longer and more reliable contribution to local economies.

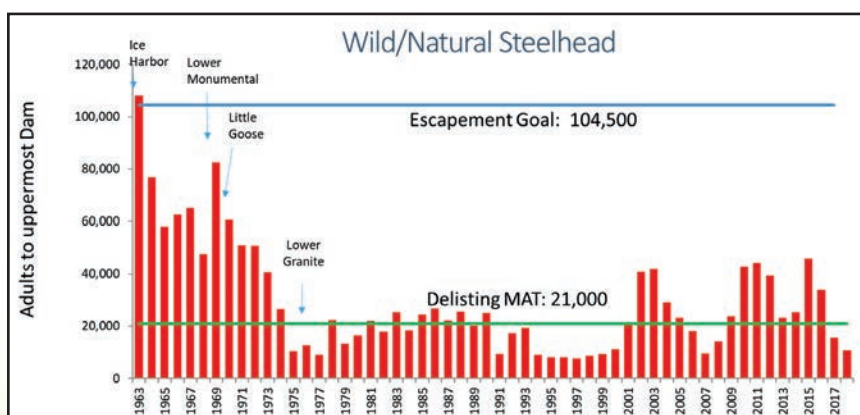


Figure 2. Escapement of wild/natural steelhead to the uppermost Snake River dam since 1963 relative to the minimum abundance threshold and the Idaho escapement objectives.

Finally, anadromous fish are also very important ecologically. Much of central Idaho is characterized by streams with very low levels of nutrients. The central Idaho batholith and its granitic soils are very sterile relative to streams in rich basaltic geologies of southern and eastern Idaho. For that reason, marine derived nutrients from salmon and steelhead are extremely important to those systems. Though it may be hard to imagine that fish alone could transport those kind of nutrients, it makes sense when one considers the numbers. If historically there were 2-6

million salmon (all species) spawning and dying in Idaho every year, and if on average, each fish weighed 5-10 pounds—that’s 10-60 million pounds of fish fertilizer! The vast majority of those fish died and decayed in the streams, providing food for insects and juvenile fish of the next generation, while others were eaten by birds and mammals and were transferred to the uplands.

Population Trends of Wild Chinook and Steelhead

Any look at current and historical numbers of wild salmon and steelhead begs the question of “how many do we want?” Obviously, the answer is more, but how many more? How many is enough? This is, of course, a tremendously value-laden question, but two important numerical objectives have been developed for each of Idaho’s salmon and steelhead runs. The first is the minimum abundance threshold or MAT. This number is related to the Endangered Species Act, and is established by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). MAT reflects the number needed for a population to remain viable and achieve a low risk of extinction. Though it is not the sole criteria, it represents the minimum abundance needed before a population can be considered for delisting.

The second set of numerical objectives are the Idaho escapement goals. These numbers are the product of a region-wide collaboration known as the Columbia Basin Partnership. This process, initiated by NMFS, was a recognition that the region didn’t have objectives beyond the ESA listing criteria, or MAT. The process involved input from a wide range of stakeholders, including tribes, state agencies, water users, hydroelectric industry representatives, utilities, commercial fishermen, and conservation groups. Following development of the basin objectives,

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the Idaho portions were adopted by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, so they now represent Idaho policy objectives.

Wild spring/summer Chinook and steelhead show similar patterns of decline over the past 50 years. Completion of the lower Snake dams in the 1960s and 70s coincides with the pronounced decline in returns in the 1960's and 70's, though populations of both steelhead and Chinook showed notable increases through the 1980's (Figures 1-2). Following historical lows in the mid-1990's, populations of steelhead, and to a lesser degree Chinook, were occasionally achieving MAT levels. Recent years have been characterized by notable downturns of both steelhead and Chinook populations, to nearly historical lows.

Population Trends of Hatchery Chinook and Steelhead

Hatchery programs for steelhead and spring/summer Chinook began in the 1960's. With few exceptions, they were constructed and are operated to offset the loss of habitat and survival related to Hells Canyon Dam complex, Dworshak Dam, and the four lower Snake River dams. The four hatcheries constructed for Hells Canyon Dam mitigation are funded by the Idaho Power Company. The remainder are funded primarily by Bonneville Power Administration through the Lower

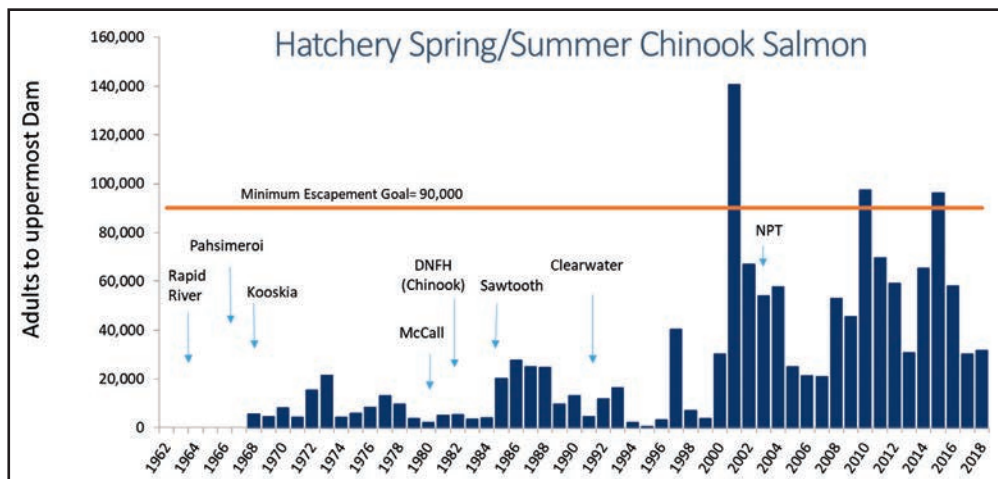


Figure 3. Escapement of hatchery spring/summer Chinook to the uppermost Snake River dam relative to completion of chinook hatcheries and the mitigation objective.

Snake River Compensation Plan. For both steelhead and spring/summer Chinook, hatchery programs have a minimum escapement goal of 90,000 adults. This number is a combination of the Lower Snake River Conservation Plan mitigation goal along with the production from the IPC hatcheries.

As wild steelhead and Chinook runs declined in the 1960's and 70's, due in part to development of the hydrosystem, hatchery returns increased through the 1980's and 90's as the mitigation facilities were developed (Figures 3-4). Because hatcheries depend on returning adults to provide eggs, it often takes several years for a facility to reach full capacity production. Steelhead hatcheries have proven more consistently successful in providing returns, with mitigation goals frequently being met. Chinook returns have been far less consistent, and generally further from the mitigation goal.

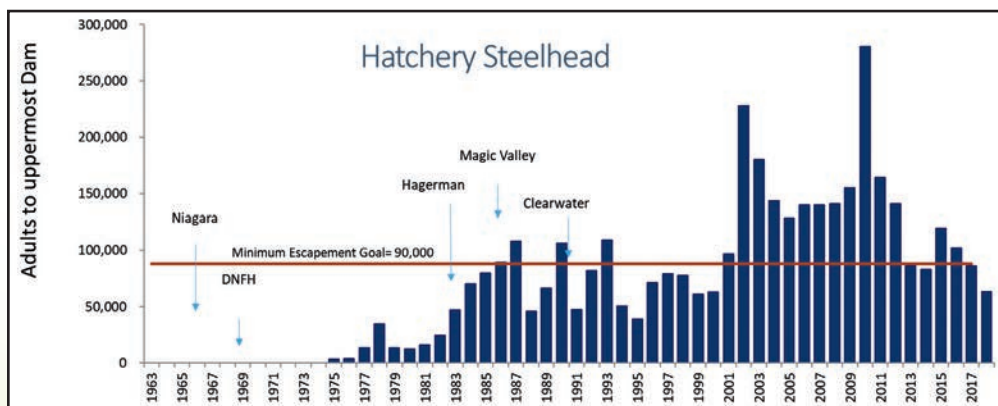


Figure 4. Escapement of hatchery steelhead to the uppermost Snake River dam relative to the completion of steelhead hatcheries and the established mitigation objective.

Summary

It doesn't take more than a quick look at the historical trend graphs of Chinook and steelhead returns, whether it be hatchery or wild, to see how variable numbers can be from year-to-year. Populations decline by half or double in size on a regular basis. The wide swings are a function of many factors that affect survival throughout the life-cycle. They are also a reflection of how resilient populations can be when conditions are favorable. ■



Kids on the Farm



Submitted by Michael Brown.



Submitted by Ashley Ozburn.



Submitted by Dallas Claunch.



Submitted by Alex Reed.



Submitted by Alex Reed.



Submitted by Ashley Ozburn.



Idaho Grain Producers Association

Represents Idaho's grain producers' interests at the county, state and federal levels to enhance their profitability and long-term viability.

Idaho Wheat Commission

Maximizes profitability for Idaho wheat producers by investing funds in market development, research, and education.

The
what make



IGPA is it different?

Idaho Barley Commission

Enhances the profitability of Idaho barley growers through research, market development, promotion, information and education.

If you've ever wondered about the difference between the Idaho Grain Producers Association, the Idaho Wheat Commission, and the Idaho Barley Commission, you're not alone!

Wheat growers pay assessments to the Wheat Commission and barley growers pay assessments to the Barley Commission. This pays for vital research, promotion, and education programs. The Commissions can't influence policy, so that's where IGPA comes in. We are the **ONLY** advocacy group representing the interests of Idaho's wheat and barley farmers with lawmakers at the Statehouse in Boise and in Washington, DC. We need you to be a part of our organization.

Learn more and join today at www.idahograin.org/membership.

Tri-State Convention and IGPA Award Winners

BY KELLIE KLUKSDAL, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER,
IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Each year at convention time, IGPA members and partners in the industry nominate individuals for several awards which convey commitment to service in Idaho's grain industry. These awards are voted on by the IGPA executive board and presented at the annual Tri-State Grain Growers Convention, this year in Spokane, WA on Thursday, November 14.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

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: ADAM YOUNG

Growing up on the farm, Adam has a strong appreciation for the ag way of life and is a great example of an engaged IGPA member. He currently serves as the president of the Bingham County Wheat Growers as well as an active IGPA board member. Adam went to Washington D.C. with IGPA in the Spring of 2017 and says he gained much from that experience. "I learned so much on that trip. It was great meeting with our Idaho delegation and really seeing first-hand how things work in Washington D.C."

Adam and his family farm about 3,000 acres of wheat, barley, and alfalfa in the desert west of Blackfoot which started with his grandfather.

"He moved out to our area and began farming shortly after serving in the Army Air Corps in World War II. The land at that point was undeveloped sagebrush. He, his brother, and brother-in-law cleared the land, put up levees and dikes, and pumped water from the aquifer to ditch-irrigate the farm."

In his words, "I grew up on the farm, so it's been part of my experience since early childhood. The funny thing is, I spent most of my youth planning to do something else. I thought a career in farming would just involve a lot of breakdowns, pipe moving, and rock picking, which didn't sound very appealing. I envisioned myself as a dentist or in some non-descript office job, because



it looked like those people made lots of money, were always comfortable, and didn't have to work too hard. It wasn't until about my sophomore year in college that I began to realize how much I enjoyed the farm and started to think I'd enjoy it as a lifelong career."

It's a family affair for the Young family. "My grandparents, who are in their nineties, still live on the farm, though they are no longer involved. My father and I make most of the decisions for the farm, along with my mother and wife. My brother and his wife recently moved back to the farm and began working with us in January of this year. They have two boys, and my wife and I have four children: one girl (age 6), and three boys (ages 4, 2, and 10 months).

IGPA President Jamie Kress had the following to say about Adam as Member of the Year: "I always appreciate Adams perspective. He is insightful, level-headed, and well spoken. Adam took the initiative to reinvigorate Bingham County, organizing county leadership and building membership. He is genuine and is a great addition to our board."

Adam says, "I farm because I enjoy it and because it provides a good living. I wouldn't farm if we



didn't make money at it, but I also see benefits to farming that go above and beyond the "money" side of things. I enjoy having a career that my kids feel a close connection to. During the spring, summer, and fall months, I put in a lot of hours, but my kids spend a lot of those hours with me. I get to see them and my wife at lunchtime. I also enjoy the way farming develops my talents and abilities; I get to learn and do a variety of things, from agronomy to running a business, to operating and repairing heavy machinery, etc."

He has positive expectations for the grain industry and its' future and even with some bumps along the way, says we "will continue to prosper."

Adam says for fun he enjoys snowmobiling, camping with friends, trap shooting, and choir as well as skiing, weightlifting, reading, jumping on the trampoline with his kids, and watching movies with his wife.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is given in recognition of an individual, associate or otherwise for their achievement and contribution to Idaho's grain industry.



WINNER: REP. CLARK KAUFFMAN

IGPA was thrilled to give the Achievement Award to Rep. Clark Kauffman. While we were disappointed he couldn't be in Spokane to receive the award in person at the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention, we were glad to be able to interview Clark and ask him some questions about his life in Idaho, the agriculture community and his time in the Legislature. He also just celebrated his 70th birthday!

"I'm a first-generation farmer and have lived in Filer most of my life. I grew up here in Filer. My Dad was a farmer but changed to another job, so when I came back I had to start all over. I started working for a guy stacking hay and after that he offered me a job farming and milking cows, so he really helped us get started. I guess you could say I have farm roots."

"My wife Debbie and I met when I was in the Air Force, stationed in Minnesota, we got married, moved here and have been married 47 years and have lived on this place most of that time. Our house is on a farm

we rented, then we eventually bought it years later. We have 160 acres and grow barley, alfalfa, vegetables, make barley soup, and custom feed 400-500 head of cattle."

Rep. Kauffman and Debbie have two adult children (son Andy and his wife Katie and daughter Diana and her husband Robert) along with three active grandsons ages 12, 8 and 6. "We are busy with the grandkids for sure. We are lucky that we get to see all their various activities like sports and school events."



A graduate of Filer High School, Representative Kauffman went straight into the service after graduating and says he is a lifelong learner and self-taught most everything. He was in Leadership Idaho Agriculture Class 13 and says that was a great experience and really broadened his horizons on the various aspects of agriculture in Idaho.

He says he ran for office for a variety of reasons. "It was the year that the redistricting happened. One house member retired and one ran for an open senate seat so it left an open house seat. I could blame the Idaho Barley Commission and IGPA for inspiring me to run for office. Having been on the IGPA board and serving on the barley commission, you work around the legislature and wonder what they're doing over there. I have always heard the saying, 'If you're not at the table, you're on the table,' so I threw my hat in the ring and the rest is history. My first session was in 2012 so I'm going on my 8th year."

Rep. Kauffman serves on several committees and says he enjoys them all for different reasons.

"First go around is always a surprise, over years I have generally been awarded the appointments I have asked for. I like Transportation and Defense a lot. As a former highway district commissioner I know the importance of roads and funding. For my first six years I was on the Revenue and Tax Committee which was very interesting. I learned a lot there. For four years I was on the Business Committee and two years ago I came off Business and went on the Resources and Conservation committee.

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Being an ag guy, I thought that would be a good fit. And last year I moved from Rev and Tax Committee to the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee, or JFAC. Now that's a great education," he says.

Idaho Barley Commissioner Scott Brown had only good things to say about Rep. Kauffman as well.

"I can't think of a person more deserving to receive IGPA's Achievement Award than Clark Kauffman. He has selflessly served Idaho agriculture in so many ways. Whether it was as an Idaho Barley Commissioner, as the Idaho Grain Producers President, on the National Wheat Growers or the National Barley Board, he always had Idaho grain producers in mind. And now he continues to serve in Idaho's legislature. His dedication and selfless service inspire me and should be an example we all should follow."

Rep. Kauffman says we face several challenges in the future but we can overcome them by working together.

"Transportation funding—we need to find a funding source. The surplus eliminator was sunset and that was a great program. We need a new program that funds transportation other than just when there are years with a surplus. Especially for ag, where getting our products to market is so critical, we need good roads. Growth is another issue—who pays for that? The residents who have been here or the new guys? Other than that, my goal is to be a good representative and represent the issues my constituents are concerned about."

Rep. Kauffman is busy within his community as well, having served as a highway district commissioner and currently has several roles with the Filer Mutual Telephone Co., Twin Falls County Fair Foundation, American Legion, within his church and on the advisory committee for the Extension Services through UI.

He says the IGPA award means a lot to him. "Recognition is always nice and you wonder if you really deserve it. The grain industry, having served on both barley and IGPA boards, is just an industry that has my heart. I will continue to do everything I can to make sure the grain industry in Idaho is vibrant and well represented. I sure appreciate the award and am certainly humbled to receive it."

In his free time, Rep. Kauffman likes to travel, take the grandkids camping (sometimes just in the backyard), sample good restaurants, and go to the grandkids' activities—sports, schools, music, church.

"What I love most about Idaho is the diversity of climate, north to south. The scenery, desert beauty and

trees and mountains in the north. And, of course the people in Idaho are some of the best."

FRIEND OF IGPA AWARD

This award is given to an 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: SEN. BERT BRACKETT

Senator Bert Brackett is a man of few words but certainly has a big heart. He was thrilled to be named the Friend of IGPA and receive this honor from the grain industry, and says he is very humbled.

The senator grew up on the ranch at Three Creek, south of Twin Falls near the Nevada border, with one brother and four sisters. Now 75 years later and the family has had 4 generations grow up there. The fifth generation are operating the ranch today and the sixth generation are getting started.

He's been married to Paula for 51 years and raised five kids on the ranch. "All are grown and married now and have given us 15 grandkids," he says. "We have a son in Marsing, a daughter in Kuna, one daughter in Meridian and our two youngest sons are on the ranch with me."

"I am a Vandal—I have a B.S. in animal science from the University of Idaho. I did my graduate work at Oklahoma State, which is where I met my wife Paula."

Senator Brackett has ranched his whole life but is also involved in other various organizations including the Idaho Cattle Association (where he served as president for a one-year term), past chairman of Rangeland Resource Commission, University Resource Advisory Council as well as assorted other committees such as the local school board and highway district.

"As to how I got into the legislature, it just kind of happened. I didn't aspire to it. I had a horse fall with me and broke my shoulder and had rotator cuff surgery. While recuperating, there was a vacancy and I was encouraged to throw my name in the hat. I thought it sounded good because it's mainly indoor work," he jokes. "No heavy lifting. I got the appointment and have been re-elected seven times. And now I've been in for 15 years and will retire after this session."



Dwight Little, IGPA’s immediate past-president, had this to say about the senator: “Senator Brackett is a true friend of agriculture. His sincerity and honesty were always present when he decided his opinion on an issue. He followed his conviction and usually it was in line with the grain producers of Idaho. We will miss this true friend in the Idaho legislature.”

The senator serves as Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee and Vice Chairman of Resource and Conservation and says we have some big challenges ahead in Idaho.

He says what he loves most about Idaho is the open spaces. “It’s a good place to raise a family.” In his free time, Senator Brackett and his wife travel and love spending time with their grandkids at all their school activities, birthdays, etc.

He says “If you enjoy your vocation, it’s not a job. It’s a joy going to work each day.”

IDAHO ICON AWARD



WINNERS: DWIGHT LITTLE & SCOTT BROWN

This year the Idaho Grain Producers Association and the Idaho Barley Commission joined forces to celebrate two outstanding leaders in the grain industry in Idaho in a new collaborative award called the Idaho Icon Award.

In their final year of leadership service, the two truly extraordinary individuals honored have not only had an impressive run of leadership positions on state and national levels, but have made a permanent mark on the Idaho grain industry and beyond. IGPA and the IBC were thrilled to honor Dwight Little and Scott Brown as the first winners of the Idaho Icon Award.

Dwight is the owner and operator of Little Farms in Newdale. He runs a diversified operation with his son that includes malt barley, hard red spring wheat, potatoes, alfalfa, and black angus cattle. Dwight has served the industry well in several positions including as an Idaho Barley Commissioner, through the leadership chairs of the Idaho Grain Producers Association, and as President of the National Barley Growers Association. Dwight has been farming since he was a freshman in high school and is proud that Little Farms is still a family-run operation.

Scott operates a 10,000-acre family wheat and barley farm in Soda Springs, Idaho where he and his family have been actively farming for over 35 years. He and his wife Diane and have children who are in the Armed Services and others who are involved in the family farm. Scott currently serves as an Idaho Barley Commissioner, and also served as President of IGPA as well as President of the National Barley Growers Association, on the Budget Committee for the National Association of Wheat Growers, and as a U.S. Grains Council Board of Delegates member.

Both gentlemen put Idaho barley first and are servants of the industry in many ways. Dwight and Scott both made a trip to Washington D.C. the last week of May to express their support for barley being part of the Market Facilitation Program. Both participated in meetings with USDA officials including two deputy secretaries, the chief economist, and the undersecretary for farm production and conservation. They each made the case that barley needed to receive a payment because the price of barley is tied to the price of wheat. “We just argued that we wanted to be treated fairly based on the price of wheat,” Brown said. “We don’t want a random number used for barley.”

The awards were a surprise to both guys, who have built a friendship over the years working together, and when asked had equally complementary things to say about each other.

Dwight said: “More so than anyone else in Idaho, Scott has left his mark as an ambassador for barley. He has heartfelt connections to barley, and always keeps barley

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in the forefront. He is truly an amazing man when it comes to barley.”

Scott had similar sentiments when asked about Dwight: “Having gotten to know Dwight, he always has agriculture and barley interests in mind. He’s done an excellent job representing barley in Boise and DC. He’s got street smarts, a common-sense approach, and the wisdom and knowledge that make him an effective leader. He’s been a real role model for me.”

IGPA Executive Director Stacey Satterlee and Idaho Barley Commission Executive Director Laura Wilder both expressed gratitude to these fine gentlemen. “Both Dwight and Scott are the epitome of servant leadership and we will be forever grateful for the time, energy, and passion they have invested in making our organizations better and in building the Idaho grain industry through providing better opportunities for growers and developing the next generation of leaders. We are very proud to award the Idaho Icon Award to them both.” ■



Evaluating Wheat Varieties

BY AMY CALABRETTA, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES

Grain producers in Idaho are faced with an increasing number of varieties to choose from each year. There are various tools and publications available to help producers determine each variety’s strengths and weaknesses, but none may be as valuable as the variety trials that are conducted by University of Idaho Extension across the state each season.

UI Extension plant pathologist Juliet Marshall leads efforts in south central and southeast Idaho and is pleased with this year’s winter wheat trials where she is seeing over 200 bushels per acre in some cases.

“Even though it’s small plot trial results and that’s not necessarily completely reflective of what goes on in a grower’s field, it does show that the genetic potential of some of these varieties are quite capable of hitting that 200 bushel mark,” Marshall said.

Marshall has been championing the 200-bushel club for the past few years, promoting best management practices and convincing growers to focus on the

profitability of small grains in their rotations.

“In a lot of cases, the main focus happens to be sugar beets and potatoes in this area and not just small grains,” she said. “We are trying to promote to the growers that, on a yield per acre basis, there are varieties that will yield greater than the minimum that they need to break even. But it’s not just maximum yield that we’re promoting. We’re promoting sustainable practices and profitability because it’s the economics that is the most important for our growers.”

Falling number tests associated with all UI Extension variety trials from 2013-18 are also available for growers to review. This data helps them determine which locations and varieties are more susceptible to issues associated with starch quality.

“The variety trials, in my opinion, are extremely important for getting good information to the growers on what wheat and barley varieties work best for their areas,” Marshall said. ■



A New Threat

BY AMY CALABRETTA, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES

In northern Idaho, preliminary results for this year’s wheat trials appear to be average to slightly above average for yields, with one exception. A dry fall in 2018 followed by heavy snows in February and March had UI Extension cropping systems agronomist Kurt Schroeder concerned initially.

“The wheat looked really ratty coming out of winter,” Schroeder said. “There was a lot of unevenness across the fields, but with the cool weather we had throughout May, June and moderate weather in July and timely rains, it really saved the winter wheat and yields are better than expected. We had very good test weights this year. The one exception is Bonners Ferry.”

The Bonners Ferry trial saw a significant decrease in yield this year, likely as the result of an infestation of Hessian fly — a pest that is typically found in spring wheat, not winter wheat.

“We’ve had Hessian fly up there for the last two years now,” Schroeder said. “This year we had severe Hessian fly in our winter wheat. We had an average of 30 percent lodging in our soft white wheat plots and that was a direct result of the Hessian fly because the larvae feed at the base of the stems, weakening the straw which are then prone to lodging.”

The Hessian fly typically lays eggs in the spring. The larvae feeds on the base of the plant as it’s developing, greatly reducing its ability to produce seed. Because of this, wheat breeders have developed several Hessian fly tolerant or resistant varieties — for spring wheat. Hardly any varieties of winter wheat have been developed to address this issue.

“Prior to last year I hadn’t seen Hessian fly in the winter wheat and historically it hasn’t been a problem,” Schroeder said. “It’s becoming a greater problem in spring wheat as well. It’s risky to not plant a variety with Hessian fly resistance.”

Variety trials in Bonners Ferry typically see an average of about 110 bushels per acre. This year the yields were in the 30-40 bushels per acre range.

“I talked to growers after harvest and they had a lot more damage because of Hessian fly,” Schroeder said. “They are at a loss for what to do about it because there is almost no tolerance in our winter wheat for Hessian fly.”

Schroeder alerted Arash Rashed, an entomologist in the U of I College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to the issue. Rashed oversees the Host Plant Resistance program at U of I, which screens wheat germplasm from U of I and Washington State University breeding programs. Rashed suspects that climate variability and/or shifts in the pest genotype(s) are contributing factors to the appearance of the pest in winter wheat fields.

“These variables may also explain the first-time appearance of the pest in southern Idaho in 2015,” Rashed said.

Rashed suspects that climate variability and/or shifts in the pest genotype(s) are contributing factors to the appearance of the pest in winter wheat fields.

Rashed is working with Jianli Chen, who holds the D. Blaine Jacobson Wheat Breeding Professorship at U of I, and Mike Pumphrey, O.A. Vogel Endowed Chair of Spring Wheat Breeding and Genetics at WSU, to examine the possible reasons for the infestation and, more importantly, identify sources of resistance in Pacific Northwest

winter wheat cultivars.

“Until resistant winter wheat varieties become available, proper crop rotation, plowing under stubble of the harvested spring wheat, management of volunteer plants and delayed fall planting are recommended approaches that can assist with reducing fall infestations by the Hessian flies,” Rashed said.

Schroeder will continue his trials in Bonners Ferry and at five other sites in northern Idaho as he works to provide growers with the best information to make informed decisions.

“I don’t have any stake in any of these varieties,” Schroeder said. “Our trials give producers an objective view of all these varieties at one location and puts them on an equal footing.” ■

Idaho Wheat Commission Scholarship Recipients

The Idaho Wheat Commission and the state's wheat growers fund scholarships to Idaho students attending the University of Idaho and Utah State University each academic year. The six scholarships, three at each school, are intended to support future generations of agricultural leadership. Each scholarship is for \$2,000. The scholarships are awarded to distinguished students who are committed to working in agriculture after graduation.



Camilla Ditton

I'm studying Horticulture and Urban Agriculture at the University of Idaho. I decided U of I was my dream school when visiting campus for the first time the summer before my senior year of high school. I ultimately came to the university because

of its rich history in agriculture, incredible programs, opportunities, and wonderful professors.

I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the Idaho Wheat Commissioners, as you have given me the opportunity to comfortably study my life's passion; plants and agriculture. While they say money can't buy happiness, this scholarship has given me the room to focus on my studies, which has given me immense joy. I'm so honored for the opportunity to pursue a higher education, and I hope to contribute my life to improving agriculture, and give back to all the people who have helped me on this journey. Thank you!



Hannah Barnes

Agriculture has been a part of my life since day one. I came home from the hospital on the same day my dad brought home lambs to start our sheep flock. I have grown up on the Palouse, surrounded by agriculture. In high school, I participated in

many extracurricular activities, but agriculture was always my priority. Through FFA and 4-H, I gained additional knowledge and experience in animal husbandry and range management. My high school experiences solidified my interest in plant science. My most memorable experiences include management of the FFA greenhouses and employment at a wetland plant nursery. For my senior project, I developed a five-year plan and started restoration of ten acres of grassland. It was during the completion of this restoration project that I realized I was interested in crop production and management as a career direction.

I am currently a sophomore in the crop management major within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Idaho. I am very excited to continue my education within agriculture and I am thankful for the support of the Idaho Wheat Commission.



Annika Norton

I grew up in the heart of Boise, although I visited my grandparents and family members on the farm often. I have always loved working and living on my family's farm in Othello, Washington. I never really knew what I wanted to be,

I still don't, but I remember the exact moment I fell in love with plants. I was in a class called Environmental Systems and Societies as a junior in high school and we were listening to a podcast about the Mycorrhizae or the symbiotic relationship between fungus and plants. I was so amazed by the way many different aspects of science came together to form one giant system that connected the ecosystem. From there, I started out in forestry, but quickly realized I didn't like the large-scale application, but instead looking at the individual systems and plants. After taking a few classes, such as soil science, I became enchanted with how natural and our own artificial systems work. I developed a love for understanding and creating systems that not only keep agricultural production what it is, but also incorporate natural systems to aid in production of crops.

I would also like to thank the Idaho Wheat commissioners for giving me an opportunity to extend my understanding of what agriculture is and how it can be developed and improved, and for helping me learn so I can improve agriculture and keep the Earth clean.



Azdyn Bartschi

I am from Montpelier, Idaho. I grew up working on our family farm that is located near Georgetown, Idaho where I learned the value of honesty, work, and discipline.

With the continued help from the Idaho Wheat Commission, I plan to graduate in December 2019 with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business from Utah State University. I have really enjoyed my experience at Utah State University because of the emphasis they give the College of Agriculture and Applied Science. The programs, seminars, and conferences they offer and facilitate, allow students access to a variety of opportunities in Agriculture. I have been the beneficiary of some of these great opportunities.

I like to think of the people in Agriculture as one big community. I have been helped in a variety of ways by the generous and wholesome people in this community. After college, my wife and I hope to find a place working closely with high quality individuals found within the profession of Agriculture. I am motivated by my passion for agriculture and whether I end up working as a producer or working in an industry that supports producers, this passion will drive me to do my best and give back to a community that has given me so much.

Thank you again to the Idaho Wheat Commission for the generous support!



Dexon Lake

I was born and raised on a farm and beef ranch operation in Blackfoot, Idaho. I enjoyed ranching, particularly the cattle auctions. I began learning how to auctioneer and eventually went to school and graduated

from the Western College of Auctioneering in Billings, Montana. I love any opportunity to call or spot at an

auction or even just going to them. I can regularly be found in his office listening to online video auctions. Growing up, I always looked for opportunities to serve and lead people and have served in various leadership positions including Academic Senator for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences of Utah State University and currently serve as Student Body Vice President of Utah State University. I met my sweet wife as we were running against each other in an election at the university. I am studying Agribusiness and Plant Science with an emphasis in horticulture and cropping systems.



Kolton Hanson

I am from Pocatello, Idaho. I grew up on a small farm where we raised racehorses and several cow-calf pairs. When I was about 10 years old, my parents decided my brothers and I should rodeo and we all

started riding calves and steers. I stuck with rough stock and continued to rodeo throughout junior high, high school and college, riding steers, mini bulls and eventually full-size bulls. I am currently a senior at Utah State University studying Ag Education, and I plan to teach Agriculture in the high school setting. I love this program so much because I get to interact and learn from passionate people in all areas of Ag and someday I'll pass on my passion for Ag to my students. My wife and I share a love for agriculture. She is currently in vet school at USU, making agriculture a huge part of my life. Because of the Idaho Wheat Commission and their generosity, I am able to complete my final year of school without worrying about finances, and for that I am so very thankful. ■





Cereal Residue as Part of a Cropping System

BY DR. CHRISTOPHER W. ROGERS¹, DR. BISWANATH DARI² AND GARRETT THURGOOD³

Cropping systems in Idaho are as diverse as the landscape across the state. Growers in the state produce many different broadleaf (potato, sugar beet, dry beans, lentils, etc.) and cereal (wheat, barley, corn, oats, etc.) crops in rotation in both irrigated and dryland production. Cereal crops produce large amounts of residue that must be considered when it is returned to the field on the surface (no-tillage) or plowed (tilled) into the soil. It is important to always consider the cropping system as a whole as opposed to the single crop you are planting. Previous management decisions can have long-lasting impacts on future crops. This is not only important from a crop residue standpoint but in terms of residual nutrients from fertilizer or manure sources and residual herbicides that can impact the upcoming growing season. As scientists, we are always looking for ways to improve our agronomic management practices. These come not only from other scientists but from growers who are always innovating to keep their production efficient and profitable.

Crop residue breakdown is controlled largely by soil microorganisms. An important factor in residue breakdown is the carbon to nitrogen (C:N) ratio of the residue being added into the system. Differences in residue and associated breakdown occur as a result of differences in crop C:N ratios. These C:N ratios are determined by chemical analyses and the ratio equals the parts of carbon divided by the parts of nitrogen in the residue. Soil microorganisms must have an optimal amount of both carbon and nitrogen to decompose residue. Microorganisms are like Goldilocks and want their food just right! The optimal ratio is 24:1 where a higher amount of nitrogen to carbon favors rapid residue breakdown. An elevated amount of carbon to nitrogen results in reduced residue breakdown rates. For example, wood chips C:N ratio can be upwards of 400:1 where breakdown can take very long periods of time and additions of very high C:N materials can effectively tie-up nitrogen for plant growth. Low C:N ratio residues would include broadleaf crops, for example alfalfa where the C:N ratio is around 25:1, which will result in rapid breakdown of residue. The C:N ratios of barley, wheat, and corn vary between areas but estimates from across the United States put barley at about 60:1, corn at approximately 65:1 and wheat at 80:1. University of Idaho extension fertilizer nitrogen recommendations for cereal production include an adjustment of an additional 15 lb N/ton of cereal

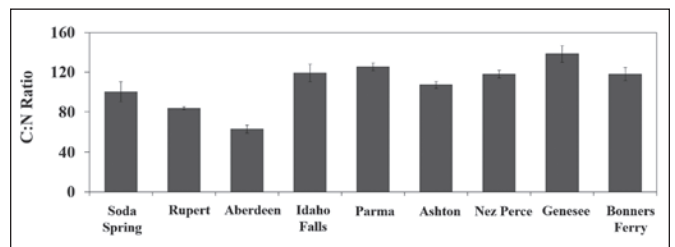


Figure 1: Carbon: Nitrogen ratios of soft white wheat plant residue collected from University of Idaho variety trials in Idaho in 2018.

residue up to 50 lb N/acre to avoid microbial tie-up and ensure sufficient N for the upcoming crop.

A recent project led by Dr. Rogers funded by the Idaho Wheat and Barley Commissions in collaboration with the USDA-ARS and University of Idaho is assessing both the C:N ratios of a range of wheat and barley residues across the state. Preliminary results from 2018 indicated there can be wide variation between varieties and locations in C:N ratios. For example, soft white wheat ranged from a C:N ratio of 50:1 to nearly 140:1 from several varieties across the state (Figure 1). In addition to C:N ratios, moisture amount and timing is another major factor where microorganisms need optimal amounts. Irrigation halts over the winter in Idaho. Natural precipitation plays a key role during this time where reduced moisture can slow residue

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² Post-doctoral Fellow, University of Idaho, Aberdeen RE Center

³ Graduate Student, University of Idaho, Aberdeen RE Center



breakdown and microbial activity, particularly over winter if temperatures stay cold. Dryland production can also have reduced rates of breakdown in the upcoming season if enough moisture is not available for microorganisms.

In addition to an assessment of the range of C:N ratios across a wide-range of cereals in Idaho, we are currently investigating residue breakdown among different cereal crops (wheat, barley, corn), tillage practices, and fertilizer nitrogen management strategies. This work is based on questions from growers and recent research from Iowa State University that questioned whether tillage actually increased rates of residue breakdown. Research from Iowa State indicated the rate of corn residue breakdown was not affected by tillage (tilled vs. no-till) and that fertilizer nitrogen additions did not increase the rate of N breakdown. It is widely assumed that incorporation of residue via tillage increases the rate of residue breakdown; however, an initial study in our laboratory indicated that incorporation of barley residue, simulating tillage, did not increase the amount of residue breakdown as compared to retaining the residue on the surface (Figure 2). A field study investigating residue breakdown on cereal type, tillage/no-tillage, and fertilizer-nitrogen

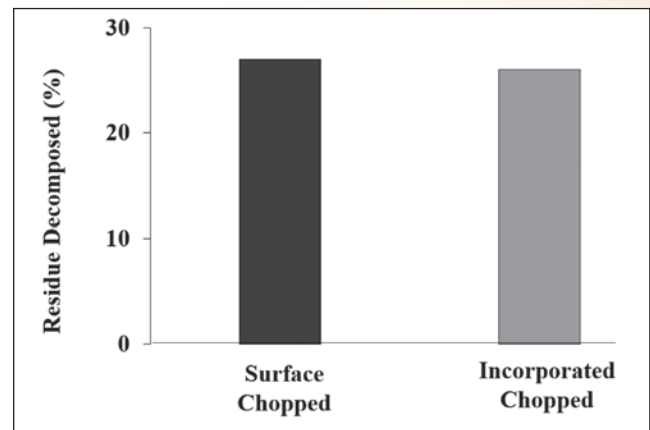


Figure 2: Percentage of barley residue decomposed over a 2-month laboratory experiment.

applications is currently entering its second year (photo). In this study, we are determining if adjustments in the fertilizer N application rate can be made resulting in improved agronomic and economic returns. Despite the interesting findings, further research is needed to obtain sufficient data to make changes to current recommendations. ■

Taiwan Flour Mills Association Visits Lewiston and Boise to Affirm Strong Relationship with Idaho Wheat Growers

In September, not one but two trade teams from Taiwan came to Idaho. The first visited the Lewiston area during the Lewiston Roundup (“She’s Wild!”) starting on September 6.

In addition to attending the Roundup (thanks to Idaho Wheat commissioner Bill Flory, Scott Zuger from the Lewiston Terminal and the rest of the directors), the Taiwan Flour Mills Association (TFMA) team went to Uniontown Cooperative to learn about the growing, testing and storage of wheat in northern Idaho. The TFMA team also toured the Lewiston Terminal.

At the terminal, the team members saw a truck carrying 100,000 pounds of wheat have its front end lifted into the air to unload the cargo for testing, storing and transporting. The visitors also saw a barge on the Snake River as it was loaded with wheat for carriage to Portland, Oregon.

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Presentation of plaque to TFMA in Taiwan by Gov. Little, Clark Hamilton and Garrett Egland.



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Following the trip to Lewiston, the TFMA team went to Portland, Seattle, Pierre (the capital of South Dakota), Washington, D.C. and Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Taiwan Goodwill Mission, which included some of the TFMA visitors who were in Lewiston, arrived in Boise on September 24 to sign a letter of intent to purchase 1.8 million metric tons (equivalent to 66.1 million bushels) of wheat from the United States between 2020 and 2021.

“Taiwan is our second-largest export market overall and an important trade partner for Idaho,” Idaho Governor Brad Little said during the press conference at the signing ceremony. “Taiwan is a loyal customer for our Idaho wheat growers, who proudly produce a high-quality, consistent product.”

“The Taiwan flour millers choose Idaho wheat because of the high-quality we produce and the identity preservation of the wheat available from our state,” Idaho Wheat Commission Chairman Ned Moon said. “We are also able to consistently deliver within the shipment timelines, thanks to the Columbia-Snake River system.”

“This two-year agreement highlights the strong relationship between Idaho wheat growers and their customers in Taiwan,” Idaho Wheat Commission Executive Director Blaine Jacobson said. “It is a pleasure to host our international friends around the state and here in Boise and visit their countries to see how Idaho wheat is used in various food products.”

“The Taiwan Flour Millers Association has been doing business with Idaho’s wheat growers for more than 40 years,” Idaho State Department of Agriculture



Bill Flory with Taiwan trade team.

Director Celia Gould said. “We are proud of this trade partnership and our long-term friendship with Taiwan.”

Taiwan imported nearly \$4.3 billion worth of U.S. farm products in 2018. The country is the fifth-largest market for U.S. wheat.

Idaho Wheat Commissioner Clark Hamilton and Uniontown Cooperative Association General Manager Garrett Eglad joined Governor Little’s trade mission to Taiwan in October.

“It was my honor and privilege to assist in this trade mission on behalf of the Idaho Wheat Commission, to help ensure continued exports for Idaho producers. The Taiwanese flour millers that we met with are great folks and loyal, long-term customers of high-quality Idaho wheat. It was a genuine pleasure getting to know them better and continuing to strengthen our relationships into the future. Governor and First Lady Little struck me as good, down-to-earth folks who are working hard for Idaho farmers, ranchers and businesses. It was a tremendous pleasure working with them,” said Eglad. 🇩🇪



Gov. Little, Dir. Gould, Dir. Kealey, IWC commissioners and Taiwan Goodwill Mission post-signing.



Idaho Wheat Commission Receives First-Ever Higher Education Corporate Partner Award

On June 13, 2019, the Idaho Wheat Commission won the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association's inaugural Corporate Partner Award in Baton Rouge, LA.

IWC was nominated by the University of Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (UICALS). Ned Moon, the chairman of IWC, was presented with the award during the Idaho banquet at the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane, WA on November 14.

"Thank you to the University of Idaho (U of I) for this award. Idaho wheat growers across the state are proud of the innovation derived from research at the university," said Moon. "By supporting research in Moscow, at the extensions and at experiment stations, we can ensure that growers ward off diseases, pests and continue to increase yields and quality of the wheat grown here in Idaho."

"The Idaho Wheat Commission and the growers they represent are an example of what a strong and healthy partnership between commodity groups and a land grant institution can look like," said Mark McGuire, who is the UICALS associate dean of research and director of Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station. "They have raised the bar for philanthropy at the University



IWC past and present commissioners with Jianli Chen from U of I in Spokane.

of Idaho, and their support will impact research and education at U of I for generations to come."

Idaho wheat growers, via the commission, have contributed more than \$13 million to U of I. In 2012, IWC committed \$2 million to establish two endowments – the "Potlach Joe" Anderson cereal agronomics professorship and the D. Blaine Jacobson wheat breeding professorship.

The commission has provided student scholarships, research support and funding for a wheat geneticist position.

In 2018, the commission created the endowed chair of risk management. That \$2 million investment established the first interdisciplinary endowed position at U of I to benefit the Barker trading program and the agriculture commodity risk management program between the College of Business and Economics and UICALS.

"I speak on behalf of the college, in sharing our appreciation for the innovation of Idaho what growers in identifying a need for industry and thinking creatively about how to address that need by investing in this interdisciplinary partnership," said McGuire. 🇺🇸



IWC past and present commissioners pose with U of I's Barbara Petty and the Corporate Partner Award in Spokane.



Richard Durrant Receives 2019 Distinguished Service Award

The Idaho Wheat Commission annually recognizes an individual for his or her leadership, dedication and service to Idaho wheat growers. Richard Durrant received the distinguished service award at the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane, WA on November 14, 2019.

Richard and his family manage Big D Ranch in Meridian. When Richard grew up on his family’s farm, they were raising 80,000 laying hens, milking 300 dairy cows and farming 500 acres.



The chickens and cows are now gone and the Durrants farm about 1,500 acres of wheat, corn, sugar beets, mint and other seed crops under irrigation. Big D also has a two-million bushel country elevator and a feed store to serve the needs of local farmers.

the state,” said Durrant. “I am always talking to other growers and listening to their concerns and ideas about wheat prices, marketing and opportunities for dollars and return on investment.”

The Durrants were the Leadership Idaho Agriculture Farm Legacy Family in 2018 and the Western Idaho Fair Farm Family in 2016.

As time passed and his children desired to be a part of the farming legacy, Richard recognized the need to evaluate and evolve our farming operation to provide additional opportunities for his children to return. Through planning and hard work, Durrant says his family has been fortunate to make this a reality.

“I recognized a long time ago that I had a duty to stand up and work at providing a stable agricultural environment that would allow my family and other farmers and ranchers the ability to prosper and live an American dream.”




“Allowing my children and grandchildren the opportunity to be a part of our farming heritage and engaged in agriculture brings a great deal of satisfaction to me as a father,” said Durrant. “My family is the greatest blessing in my life and I’m grateful for the opportunity to have raised them on a family farm in Idaho.”

Richard is a lifetime member of the Idaho Grain Producers Association and an active supporter of state and local FFA.

Richard was on the Department of Agriculture Pesticide Licensing Committee from 1988 to 2006. He serves as the chairman of the Department of Agriculture Seed Indemnity Fund and as president of the Ada County Farm Bureau.

Richard is currently a candidate for vice president of the Idaho Farm Bureau.

“I recognized a long time ago that I had a duty to stand up and work at providing a stable agricultural environment that would allow my family and other farmers and ranchers

the ability to prosper and live an American dream,” said Durrant. 

Idaho Barley Leads the Nation!

32%

Idaho's share of the 2019 U.S. Barley Crop

Idaho produced **54.6 million bushels** of barley in 2019—up 2% over 2018, with **520,000 harvested acres** at an **average yield of 105 bushels per acre**.

USDA NASS Small Grains 2019 Annual Summary, September 30, 2019

The 2019 Idaho barley crop value is estimated at **\$274 million** with the average price per bushel at \$5.02 according to USDA NASS data.

About 75% of Idaho's barley goes to make malt—and that's a lot of BEER!

54,600,000 bushels of barley produced in Idaho in 2019
(75% Malt Barley)

=

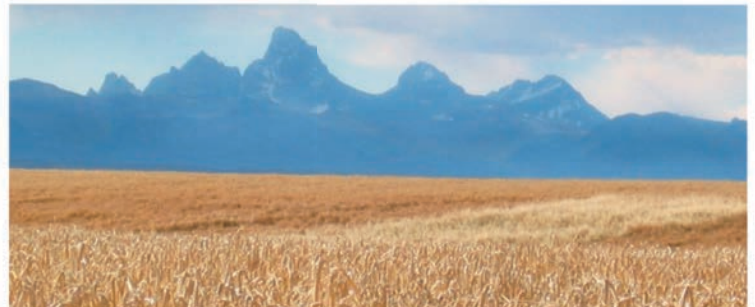
12,297,123 Barrels
381,210,813 Gallons
4.1 Billion 12oz Bottles
of BEER



What Makes Idaho Special?

Idaho's **altitude, high desert climate** and **agronomic conditions** including **abundant irrigation water**, make it an ideal location to grow a **consistent, reliable supply of premium-quality barley**, highly sought after by the malting industry, as well as for livestock feed and food barley products.

About 75% of Idaho's barley acres are irrigated giving Idaho growers the ability to manage production and deliver a crop that meets contract specs nearly 95% of the time—customers can rely on getting excellent quality from year to year.



With its **high beta-glucan fiber**, food barley has **impressive health benefits** including lowering total cholesterol and LDL cholesterol, reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease, slowing carbohydrate digestion and reducing the rise in glucose and insulin, promoting friendly bacteria in the gut for a healthier digestive system.

For more information, go to:

www.EatBarley.com



Heart Healthy
Low Glycemic Index
High Fiber
Whole Grain
Improves Gut Health



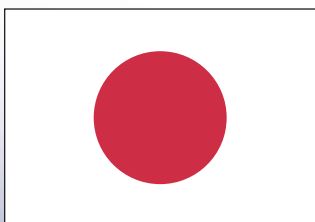
Mexican Barley Malt Team touring Great Western Malting facility in Pocatello.

Showcasing Idaho Barley to the World

Not only is Idaho blessed with the ideal altitude, climate and agronomic conditions to grow “world class” barley, but there is great strength in the Idaho barley industry due to the large malting capacity here, excellent scientists working on barley production research and new barley varieties, as well as the commitment and collaboration across sectors to build and sustain the industry long into the future. It’s that combination that brings potential customers calling to the nation’s top barley producing state. During September and October, the Idaho Barley Commission (IBC) helped host potential Idaho barley customers from Mexico, China, South Korea and Japan

with the hope of increasing marketing opportunities for Idaho growers, according to IBC Executive Director Laura Wilder.

IBC welcomed a U.S. Grains Council malt barley team from Constellation Brands in Mexico during September. Mexico is now the world’s largest beer exporter in terms of both value and volume - and that growth is good news for U.S. barley farmers and malt producers who supply their main ingredient. To capture this demand growth, the U.S. Grains Council (USGC), an IBC market development partner, is strengthening existing supply-





chain relationships and introducing new buying strategies through focused trade servicing activities, including the trade team mission to Idaho.

Mexican breweries rely on U.S. barley producers to be their main suppliers for imported barley. Mexico imported 269,000 metric tons (12.4 million bushels) of U.S. malted barley in the 2017/2018 marketing year, representing the single largest market, and one that continues to grow. Total Mexican beer sales are now worth more than \$20 billion annually, with value rising sharply year-over-year. All of the major breweries are making substantial investments in new brewing, malting and bottle manufacturing plants. This growth and investment represents additional demand for malted barley as well as barley for malt.

“Although Mexico is expanding local barley production, the malting industry cannot keep up with the demand from brewing plants,” said Javier Chavez, USGC marketing specialist in Mexico, who accompanied the team to Idaho. “With several new plants coming online in the next few years, the Council has the opportunity to promote U.S. malted barley for the brewing process through our established connections with the people responsible for procuring both barley for malt and malted barley.”

Because Mexican barley production cannot fully meet growing demand, the Council is keeping companies well-informed on production, supply and demand, research on new barley varieties and options for contracting



Japanese Food Barley Team tours USDA-ARS Aberdeen Barley Breeding program.



South Korean MBN-TV visit to Idaho Barley Commission for food barley story.

production. The trade team visited barley research trials at the University of Idaho in collaboration with the USDA-ARS Aberdeen Barley Breeding program, the Great Western Malting facility in Pocatello and Idaho barley farms.

In October, IBC hosted a U.S. Grains Council barley malt team from China. “This team was the first from China to look at U.S. barley malt and it was a great success,” said Bryan Lohmar, USGC director in China. “The team members left very interested in procuring and using U.S. barley malt.”

The team visited Mountain Malt in Idaho Falls, a small, on-farm malting operation and Great Western Malting in Pocatello, as well as the USDA-ARS Barley Breeding

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Chinese Barley Malt Team tours Stoddard Farms in Grace.



Continued from previous page

program in Kimberly and several barley farms. At each stop, the team learned about the quality characteristics and marketing practices for Idaho barley, as well as the intricacies of U.S. malt production.

China is the world’s largest beer producer with a small but rapidly growing craft beer industry. A significant share of China’s barley malt used to brew that beer is produced from imported barley from Australia, Canada and Europe, but this extended pipeline makes it more difficult to control the quality of the barley and negatively affects the resulting malt quality. Therefore, Chinese brewers are increasing demand for imported malt that has more consistent quality - something the U.S. barley industry can provide.

U.S. barley producers currently supply barley for malt under a production contract, but individual craft brewers or importers from China are not well-positioned to offer these types of contracts. U.S. malt producers can, however, contract with farmers and then sell the malt to China importers directly or through beer ingredient supply companies that already import to China. Even better, U.S. malt does not require an export protocol to the country.



Japanese food barley team learns about new varieties in the pipeline at USDA-ARS Aberdeen Barley Breeding Program.

“The team members were very impressed with the work and dedication that goes into producing barley and barley malt and the wide variety of malt options available to the craft brewing industry in China,” Lohmar said. “Focusing on malt exports makes sense for Chinese brewers because malters in China cannot effectively contract with U.S. producers, but U.S. malters can and do so regularly.”



Idaho Barley Commissioner Scott Brown hosted Chinese Barley Malt Team at his farm in Soda Springs.



Chinese Barley Malt Team at Mountain Malt in Idaho Falls.

Also during October, IBC hosted MBN, a South Korean Television station at our Boise office for interviews on Idaho food barley production and helped the crew by facilitating connections and introductions for additional interviews with industry partners. According to the MBN team, there is growing interest in the nutritional benefits of high beta glucan barley in the human diet and South Korean consumers want to learn more. MBN was putting together a Docu-News story all about food barley – variety development, production, marketing and how food barley is used in the U.S. A highlight for the crew was sampling ten barley dishes prepared by IBC staff showcasing the use of wholegrain hullless barley, barley flour and barley flakes. The TV special ran in South Korea in mid-October.

Immediately following the South Korean team visit, IBC provided Idaho barley production information to a team from Japan that was visiting the USDA-ARS Barley Breeding Program in Aberdeen. Dr. Gongshe Hu and Kathy Satterfield spoke about new food barley varieties in the pipeline for rice extender products to add higher nutritional value, and varieties for barley teas, besides showing the group the research facilities at the station.



Mexican Barley Malt Team tours UI Teton Research Station.

“All of these visits are exciting for Idaho barley growers and demonstrate strong interest in the consistent, high-quality barley produced here,” said Wilder. With a little help on improved trade policies and tariff reductions, Idaho is well-positioned to take advantage of growing export market opportunities for both barley malt and high beta glucan food barley. Developing and strengthening relationships with potential partners now should bode well for Idaho barley growers into the future.” ■



2019 Idaho Barley Service Award Presented to Doug Peck

The Idaho Barley Commission is very pleased to present the 2019 Idaho Barley Service Award to Doug Peck, Idaho Regional Agronomy Manager for Anheuser-Busch. Doug, who is based in Idaho Falls, is well known to Eastern Idaho barley growers through his 30 years of service to Anheuser-Busch, and he has made significant contributions to the Idaho barley industry through his work. The announcement of his selection for this special award was made November 14 at the Tri-State Grain Convention in Spokane. Since Doug was unable to be there in person, IBC will present his award at a grower event in Eastern Idaho as soon as possible.

Doug started with Busch Agricultural Resources as a Field Coordinator in 1990 where he was responsible for contracting and purchasing malting barley from growers in Eastern Idaho and was the Supervisor of the barley quality lab, responsible for all quality control of incoming and outgoing barley. In 2006, he was promoted to Manager of Idaho Seed for Busch Agricultural Resources and was responsible for contracting, purchasing and manufacturing seed for the Idaho barley contracting program, besides budgeting, sales, inventory, and plant operations.

Since July 2016, Doug has served as the Idaho Regional Ag Manager for Busch Agricultural Resources.

He is currently responsible for all of the malt barley and seed contracting and purchasing in Idaho, along with all agriculture related projects and grower support, in addition to managing five agronomists who support AB growers from planting to harvest and from contracting to deliveries.



Through Doug's many years working for Busch Agricultural Resources, he has developed a deep knowledge of the Idaho barley industry and has been a tremendous partner to many Idaho barley growers. In addition, Doug is well respected for being calm and level-headed during difficult times, and fair in working with growers.

The Idaho Barley Commission salutes Doug for his dedication and vast contributions to the Idaho Barley Industry in naming him as the 2019 Idaho Barley Service Award recipient. ■

Mike Wilkins Elected Idaho Barley Commission Chairman

Idaho Barley Commissioner Mike Wilkins from Rupert was elected as the new Chairman for the Commission at their October 30 meeting in Boise. Wilkins replaced Scott Brown of Soda Springs. Wes Hubbard of Bonners Ferry was elected Vice Chairman. There are three grower commissioners and one industry representative on the IBC board. Jason Boose, Idaho Regional Manager for MillerCoors based in Burley is the current IBC Industry Representative.

Wilkins has been a career farmer growing barley, alfalfa hay and sugar beets with his son near Rupert. He is a

member of Leadership Idaho Agriculture Class 40, and has been involved in Idaho Water District 1 leadership positions and served on the Committee of Nine where he worked on managing water for Southern Idaho water from the Snake River. Mike also represents IBC on the National Barley Improvement Committee. ■



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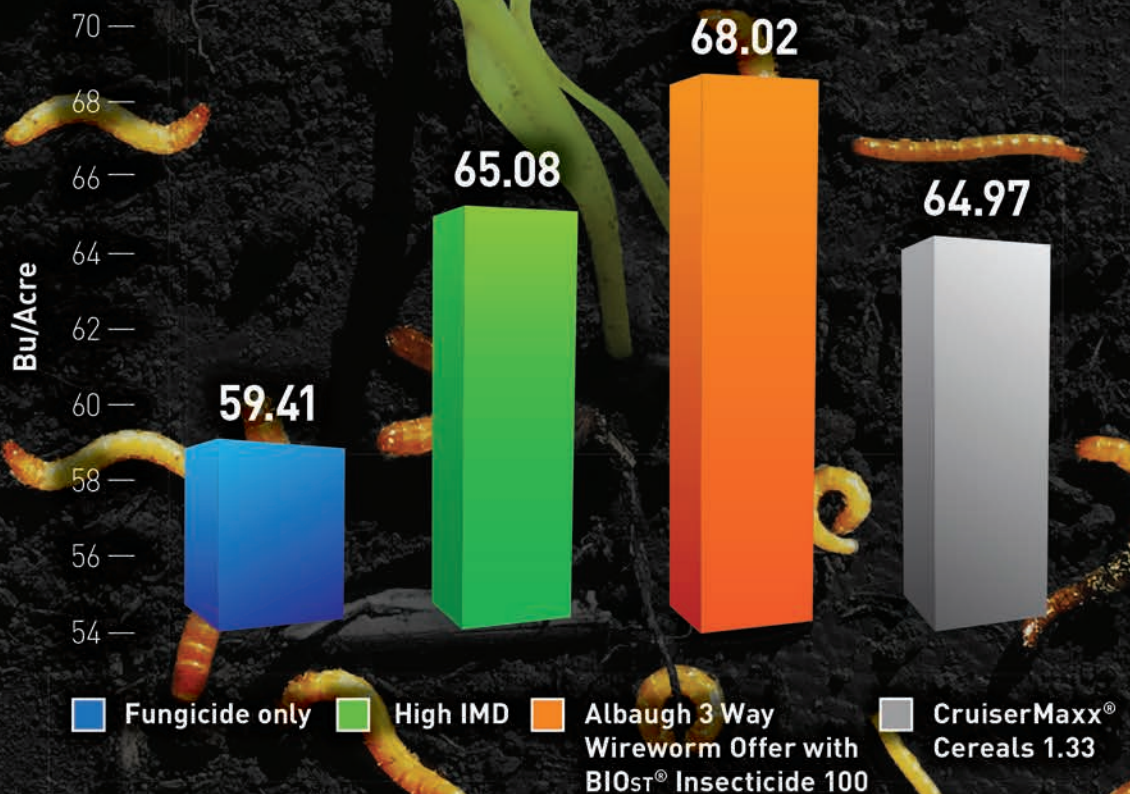
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