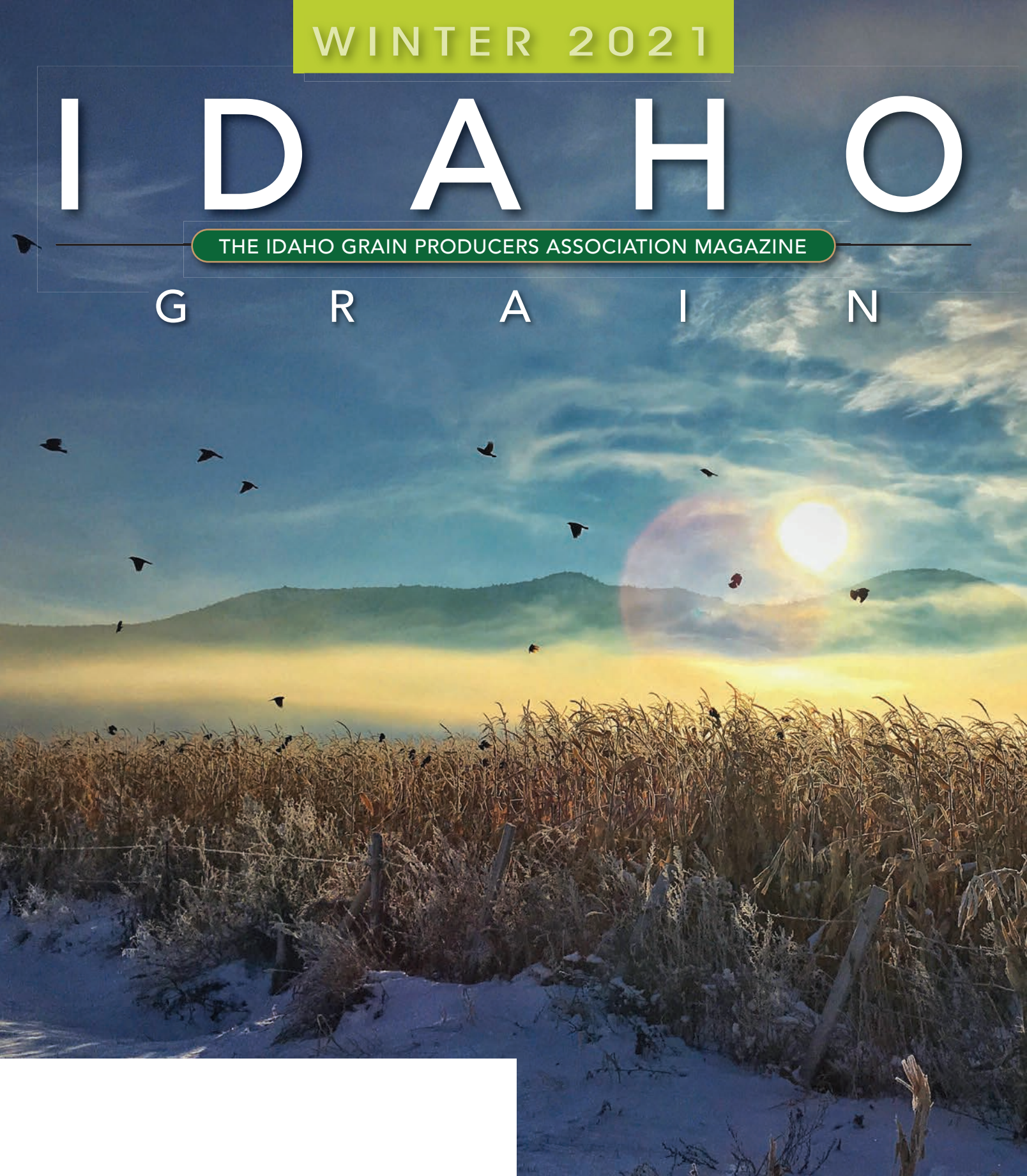


WINTER 2021

# IDAHO

THE IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

# GRAIN



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# VIEWS



BY JAMIE KRESS  
**PRESIDENT**

As my term as President comes to a close, I've been reflecting on the experience of serving on IGPA's Executive Board. It has been simultaneously the longest and shortest five years. It's been full of unique experiences and opportunities. It's been exhausting and fulfilling. It's been an adventure.

I was elected to the e-board in the fall of 2016. My nomination was unexpected (for everyone- including me) but a group of growers from my district thought they were on to something and were willing to take a gamble.

Quite honestly, I was initially paralyzed with fear. Fear that I wouldn't succeed. Fear that I'd be in over my head. Fear of failing the organization. Fear of disappointing those who elected me. Compounding those fears was the fact that I was the first woman to join the ranks of IGPA's executive team. That alone was uncharted territory.

The good news for me, and most importantly for our organization, is that by-in-large this story has been a good one. While I won't say that I got it right every time or couldn't have done some things better, I will say that my worst fears haven't materialized.

There is no question that my success as an e-board member is a *direct result* of the acceptance, encouragement, and mentoring of *many* people in the IGPA Family. This large group of individuals has made all the difference. It's been both humbling and empowering.

A few of the things that I've learned along the way:

- We all possess different life experiences and personal traits. These position us to lead and advocate in a way that is unique to each of us.
- The "comfort zone" is always on the move.
- Politics are tricky. Often times there are no "perfect" solutions.
- Asking questions leads to a better place than making assumptions.
- Mistakes will happen. The real disappointment is not learning from those mistakes and trying again.
- People- our growers and their families- are the "why" for everything we do.
- And, last but not least, Cory and the kids can indeed survive without me. (At least for a few days.)

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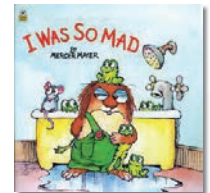
As this chapter in my IGPA story comes to a close I feel a tremendous amount of gratitude. Gratitude for the opportunity to serve- it has been enriching and fulfilling. But most importantly, gratitude for the *people* I've been able to serve, work with, and learn from. Thank you.

Life often takes us down unexpected paths. I'm glad it does. If I have learned anything over the last 25 years, it's that those paths are often times where the best adventures are found. ■



BY STACEY KATSEANES SATTERLEE  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

My youngest is six years old, and one of my favorite times of the day is when we read books at bedtime. Some of our current favorites are Little Critter books by Mercer Mayer, books I too loved when I was young. In the classic *I Was So Mad*, Little Critter documents a series of events that really irritate him. At one point he says, "I was just so mad," which always makes us laugh.



Now, after I've read that book at least 175 times, I find myself thinking throughout the day, "I was just so mad!" And that's a feeling we can all relate to – there's a lot to be mad and sad about, happening in our state, in our country, and in the world. We're (hopefully) on the downhill of a global pandemic – we've made it through a lot over the past two years. But everywhere you look, there's also a lot of good happening. On page 19, read about the Idaho 97 Project and the work they're doing to combat political extremism. On page 6, learn about the National Wheat Foundation and how they're educating decision-makers and the public on behalf of our nation's wheat growers.

There are also so many amazing people doing good things in their communities and for Idaho's grain industry. On pages 8-17, you can read about this year's IGPA award winners. We have a truly amazing group of folks we're honoring this year. What a privilege it is to work with all these people! Both IGPA staff (and former staff) Christie, Kellie, Wyatt, and Rich – and board members, e-board members, and friends of IGPA; I'm so grateful to be surrounded by such good people.

And a final thought as we make our way into the holiday season this year – did you know there are scientifically proven ways to increase your happiness? It's true. The most popular class at Yale University is the Science of Well-Being – all about what really makes people happy and what a person can do to become happier. One scientifically proven method to increase happiness is to practice gratitude. I'm going to take this holiday season to look for the good everywhere and instead of being "just so mad," be just so grateful – I have so much to be grateful for. ■



## 2022 Legislative Outlook

BY WYATT PRESCOTT, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

Based on some of the behavior recently exhibited at the Statehouse, and all around us for that matter, I'm reminded of one of the most basic lessons we teach our kids: treat others how you want to be treated.

My three-year-old son loves a cartoon called Paw Patrol. The villain in the show is Mayor Humdinger; as I was reflecting on this article, an episode was playing where after the Paw Patrol just thwarted an evil scheme of Humdinger's, they turned around and asked him to join them for Thanksgiving. Now, I know that wisdom typically comes from more scholarly sources than Paw Patrol, but that is precisely the point: this elementary message to our children is exactly what all of us need to remember. They went on to say, "just because you do naughty things, doesn't mean we don't still care about you."

I do believe in the good in people, and that it will outweigh the bad in the end, and that we can care about those we disagree with. OK, everybody reading this is thinking I was a little too close to a hemp field – but a man who wishes to be unhappy finds many ways to prove his course and vice versa. If Idaho's legislators choose to disagree respectfully and work together to improve issues important to our state, then they can prove their course.

The noxiousness of politics has seemingly reached new heights throughout the pandemic, but has it really? It's worth looking at our past as we devise a path forward. History tells us that the nastiness is no worse than any other time in history, it only seems that way because it is in our chapter of history. Instead, we need to look at examples of true statesmanship where our leaders possessed the humbleness and humility to not hold grudges and work with everyone to achieve what best services the utilitarian needs of society. Early in Abraham Lincoln's law career, an attorney by the name of Edward Stanton publicly called him a "long-armed ape." Lincoln later appointed Stanton as his Secretary of Defense and he became one of his closest allies.

Every year my outlook of the legislature includes the same basic desire that legislators take care of the necessary functions of Idaho's government, address the immediate needs of their constituents and go home. Foremost, they need to pass a balanced state budget

and address surplus and deficiency budgets. This task has always been challenging; balancing the priorities of industries, agencies, districts, and partisanship, it becomes even more difficult when ideology splinters priorities in an era of critical race theory, urban sprawl, social justice, and pandemics. To compound the challenge even more will be tax relief (a good thing, yes), but it will certainly spawn disagreement as to how to go about it. Idaho is running around a \$1.4 billion budget surplus and leads the nation in economic growth, which is compounded by the exploding state population that grew by an estimated 2% the past year alone. Idaho's performance may be a societal boon, but it makes our leaders' job that much more difficult as to how to arrange those general fund monies and address the state's growth. It will be critical for IGPA and the rest of Idaho's agriculture groups to be at the table to ensure that we continue to invest our windfall back into our infrastructure system, rural connectivity, rural education, and water.

Lastly, the fact that 2022 is an election year should not escape our focus – it certainly will be on the minds of incumbent-candidates and will be reflected in the actions we see in the legislature. Last election cycle, the state legislature had a 40% turnover and this coming season we already know of around 25% legislators who are retiring, running for statewide office, or are matched against previous district incumbents. It may be an understatement to suggest that the next slate of legislators will be 60% freshman. What does this mean for the 2022 legislature? While long-time lobbyists and politicians like to pontificate as to what it means, nobody really knows. Here's my guess: typically, election year sessions get concluded in a reasonable time frame, largely because candidates want to finish their work in Boise to get home with time to knock doors before a fast-approaching May 22 primary. The next thing likely to happen in an election year session is posturing (or moderating) depending on how the politics of these newly minted districts look. This effect can be good or bad depending on how it plays out to one's priorities, but often we see things called "campaign bills," which are designed specifically to add credentials to someone's liberalness or, most often in Idaho, conservativeness. In this vein we see lots of rhetoric and statements about heady

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national policy which seem to play well in ballot boxes but typically cannot be influenced by the state legislative process. This will be nothing outside the norm from the last session amidst the pandemic.

In the end, my hope for the session is that it will be civil and respectful. That we can have fervent

disagreement, yet mutual respect and strong professional relationships. We have some close family friends who we disagree with categorically on current affairs including vaccination, education, and organic and GMO-free food, yet we socialize with them weekly with no tension. Even though we don't see eye to eye on many things, they are some of our best friends and we love them like family. ■



## National Wheat Foundation at a Glance

BY ANNE OSBORNE, PROJECT MANAGER, NATIONAL WHEAT FOUNDATION

In 1977 the National Wheat Foundation (NWF), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, was established to serve as the national center of wheat education, research, and outreach. Now, with full-time employee Anne Osborne, project manager, many of the strategically developed programs are taking shape.

The National Wheat Yield Contest is one of the larger projects the NWF's 9-member board of directors decided to develop in 2016. This contest has approximately 380 wheat growers from 25 states competing for the highest yields. However, wheat growers know that our customers desire high-quality wheat, so the contest also requires entries to meet quality standards. Entries must have Grade 1 or 2 wheat (by Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) standards) to be eligible to compete. New in 2022, there will be an extra \$500 cash award for any winners whose wheat makes "industry desired" quality standards, including dough tests such as farinograph or alveograph and finished product tests: bread loaf, sugar cookie or sponge cake, depending on the class of wheat. Wheat must still grade 1 or 2 to be eligible to compete.

In past years, growers from Idaho and the Pacific Northwest have done well in the contest with irrigated winter wheat, irrigated spring wheat and dryland winter wheat. There are twenty-four national winners. In 2021, two out of the twenty-four winners were from Idaho. Rylee Reynolds placed first in Winter Wheat Irrigated with his 190.06 bushels/acre of SY Ovation and Dallin Wilcox was second in Spring Wheat Irrigated with his 147.64 bushels/acre of WestBred 7589. Both Rylee

and Dallin also placed as national winners in 2020. Congratulations to all the contestants and winners! We also must thank our sponsors; without them, the contest would not be possible. Yields in 2021 are down slightly but pleasantly surprising considering the drought and heat the crop went through. Growers interested in the National Wheat Yield contest are encouraged to discuss their interest with their seed supplier and enter online at [www.yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org](http://www.yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org).



Spring Wheat Tour 2021 ND, MN, SD. From left, Reid Christopherson, Executive Director SD Wheat Commission, Taylor Williamson, Government Relations Representative, National Association of Wheat Growers, Nathan Blume, Miller Milling and Anne Osborne, Project Manager, National Wheat Foundation.

Uniting key partners across the wheat value chain is one of the priorities identified in a strategic wheat action plan developed in 2016. Based on this plan and a strategy session held by the NWF in January 2021, projects and programs emerged that have engaged new partners and sponsors. A research project to prove that high yield can also equal high quality was launched in hard red winter wheat with sponsor U.S. Wheat and partners Kansas State University, Winfield® United,

and Northern Crops Institute. This project will look at a couple of winter wheat varieties with varying levels of management inputs and varying yields. Wheat samples will be tested for quality parameters, including dough tests and finished product (bread loaf) characteristics. This project aims to prove that high yield can also be high quality and to identify practices that lead to higher yield, higher quality, and higher profit. We would like to expand this project into hard red spring wheat, soft white, and other classes and geographies. Yield results and results from the baking/lab tests will be presented to the board in January.

Nutrition Through Wheat is a new project the NWF is working on based on the strategic plan. There is a task force that meets to discuss what research is currently being done regarding the nutrition of wheat and what new research might be undertaken. The task force includes seed breeder, chemist, food scientist, nutritionist, dietician, Ph.D. candidate, Grain Foods Foundation, farmers, and a board member from the milling industry. New sponsors and interested collaborators will be sought to help fund the research that the task force recommends. Grain Foods Foundation and NWF are co-funding a Zinc biofortification study that is being done at North Dakota State University. These projects also help to unite partners in the wheat value chain and are considered to be long-term projects that have the potential to improve human health and the importance of wheat in feeding the world and solving the problem of hunger.

The NWF fulfills the mission of education and targets several different audiences. Farmer leaders of state and national wheat grower organizations can be selected to participate in the Bayer Leadership Program or Syngenta Leadership at Its Best. NWF plans and implements the Bayer Leadership Program, and we thank Bayer for their generous support so growers can improve their skills in public speaking, media training, speaking to Congress, leading meetings, and personal leadership.

Educating Congress and congressional staff is very important and NWF has several activities throughout the year to help policymakers become more educated about wheat. Wheat 106 is an event held in Washington, DC that brings the wheat value chain together to showcase the important role wheat plays in the economy. In October, a briefing was held on

2021-2022 Sponsors of the Wheat Yield Contest are: AgriMaxx®, Ardent Mills®, BASF, Croplan®, Dyna-Gro®, Elevate AG, Grain Craft, GrainSense, Grow Pro® Genetics, John Deere, Mennel, Michigan Wheat, Miller Milling, North Dakota Mill, Northern Crops Institute, Ohio Corn&Wheat, U.S. Wheat Associates, WestBred®.



Bayer Leadership Program Phase I in Nov. 2021 Kansas City.

crop insurance, to cover the basics such as why wheat farmers need crop insurance, how it is paid for, how it works, and what perils crop insurance does or does not cover. Congressional staff are also invited to a farm tour in late June where they can see wheat being harvested and learn more about wheat production.

The NWF also offers college scholarships, with our partner BASF. The Minore scholarships are open for applications now until Dec. 31st and we encourage all college students studying agriculture with ties to the wheat industry to apply. Please direct your student to Education and Scholarships | National Wheat Foundation and encourage them to apply.

And finally, Gifts of Grain is a fundraiser we are holding this year, we would like to be able to fund more research opportunities

as they develop and continue to expand our current projects. Donations of wheat (or other grain) are easy to give. Interested partners should go to our website [www.wheatfoundation.org](http://www.wheatfoundation.org) or contact Anne Osborne at [aosborne@wheatworld.org](mailto:aosborne@wheatworld.org). We are always looking for interested partners to help us promote wheat research, education, and outreach. ■

# Tri-State Convention and IGPA Award Winners

*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, which was held this year on Wednesday, Dec. 2 in Spokane, WA.*

## 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.



**WINNERS: JAKE OZBURN  
AND SCOTT FUHRIMAN**

This year the IGPA executive board was in a pickle—we had more than one great nominee for “Member of the Year” award. So, the board made the unprecedented decision to award Member of the Year to two grower members—Jake Ozburn and Scott Fuhriman.

These two friends are quite the dynamic duo and have a special bond. One story Jake tells is that for each IGPA meeting, the guys ride together—Jake driving Scott's truck. Scott insists on using his gas and giving the reimbursement to Jake to put in a college account for his kids from Scott.

According to IGPA President Jamie Kress “This friendship goes deeper than road-trips. When pandemic



Jake Ozburn and family.



Jake Ozburn, left, and Scott Fuhriman.

disruptions required IGPA to meet virtually, Jake invited Scott to his home in Soda Springs where Jake helped Scott learn the ropes of virtual meetings. With Jake's help, Scott successfully chaired his first ever committee meeting over Zoom.”

IGPA Executive board member, Ty Iverson, has great things to say about these guys as well.

“Members like Jake and Scott are the engines that keep the IGPA machine running. They work tirelessly behind the scenes to get things done for the organization. I always appreciate the input and knowledge they bring to the full board. They probably aren't comfortable receiving this award for their efforts because they don't do it for the recognition; but in my opinion no one is more deserving of this award. IGPA is very fortunate to have members like Jake and Scott.”

Jake is well-known within the Idaho Grain family. A likeable guy, he always shows up to meetings with ideas, thoughts and a funny story or two (just ask him about his Christmas ice sculpture experiment). His heart and passion for the grain community in Idaho is obvious and IGPA is thrilled to give him this award.

“Jake is such a fun guy. He always brightens up the room when we are at meetings. He is thoughtful, funny, charismatic and willing to jump in and get the job done,” says Stacey Satterlee, IGPA Executive Director.





“Jake is a leader. He works hard to spread the word about Caribou County Grain Growers and IGPA and works to bring new members into our organization. He’s also incredibly supportive. We are proud to have Jake on the team.”

Jamie echoed Stacey’s thoughts. “This is the kind of guy Jake is- he’s always available and easily sees where he can be of use. It seems like helping others is never an inconvenience to him. Service is just his nature. He is also an excellent example of how the grassroots process should work.”

Jake and his wife Ashley farm near Soda Springs and grow barley and wheat where they are constantly on the go with three kids.

Kinley (16) is a sophomore and plays varsity volleyball and basketball and also finds time to serve on the student council; she’s a good leader, like her Dad. Preston (14) is in 8th grade and they had an undefeated football season and is now doing traveling basketball. And their youngest, Ally (10) is in 5th grade and likes being coached in basketball by her Dad.

“I grew up on the family farm helping my dad, uncles and grandpa.

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Scott Fuhriman with Jamie Kress.





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I left after high school in 1999 to go to college. After working in other fields, I was finally able to come back to the farm full time in 2010,” says Jake of the path that led him to the family farm.

Jake’s great-grandpa Aaron started the farm in 1915 in Ten Mile Pass near Soda Springs

“I grew up on the portion of our farm that is north of Lava Hot Springs with my parents and sisters. My parents were all about farming my entire life. My dad was always doing something on the farm, and my mom was always there for support,” Jake says.

Jake’s friend Kyle Wangemann had similar sentiments. “Jake is deserving of this award in many ways! He is committed to the mission of IGPA, especially our long-term viability. He wants to make sure we can continue to farm now and for future generations to do the same.”

Scott Fuhriman is our other deserving recipient. A quiet guy, Scott always has a kind word and a great idea when we hear from him.

“Scott is like a second Dad and Grandpa for our family,” says Jake’s wife, Ashley. “He goes to our kids’ sports games and is very involved in their lives. Even being about an hour and a half away, he still makes time for our family and we love him for that.”

Scott grew up in the Pocatello Valley, attending high school at Skyview High in Smithfield (where he was



Scott Fuhriman.

FFA president his senior year) and then on to Utah State University, studying agriculture. “During my third year we had a chance (my two brothers and I) to rent some farm ground next to my Dad so I decided to go to work,” Scott says.

The Fuhriman farm has been in the family for 118 years, when Scott’s great-grandfather homesteaded the area in 1903. “My great-grandfather’s father immigrated from Switzerland 1860 so they were part of the Utah pioneers that came across the plains to get here. They settled in Cache Valley by Logan and they settled in and developed farms there. Then, my great-grandfather came out here to Idaho in 1903 and started the farm in the Pocatello Valley so I’ve been here my whole life.” Scott says his family had two houses growing up--the farmhouse and the one in town. “They didn’t maintain the roads out there so we had to go into town to go to school.”

He says his membership in IGPA is important to him because we need groups like ours to be a voice in ag.

“Being involved in a grassroots organization like IGPA is important because it gives us, the growers, someone to go to for information and help on things that may occur in our area or county and be able to have a voice in those situations at state and local levels,” Scott says. “It’s also great to see what the wheat and barley commission is doing and their efforts on our behalf.”

Jamie shared her insight on Scott as well and his work with Utah State University.

“Last year, Scott arranged a meeting between Utah State and the Idaho Wheat Commission with the goal to establish a relationship and explore areas for collaboration. Thanks to Scott’s vision and effort, our state’s wheat industry will benefit from this relationship with Utah State University for years to come.”



(L-R) Stacey Satterlee, Cordell Kress, Jake Ozburn, Scott Fuhriman and Jamie Kress.

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Scott has had his share of heartache with the loss of his son, Dusty, in 2005. But with tragedy comes amazing opportunities to spread goodness and Scott has taken advantage of many. He established an endowment scholarship in his son’s name at Utah State and is still actively involved in the ag program there. Later, Scott was involved in naming a lab in honor of Dusty at the Stan L. Albrecht Agricultural Sciences Building—the Dusty Fuhrman Soil Science Student Laboratory. His family also donated a piece of land once belonging to his grandmother’s family to the university for research purposes.

“We couldn’t stand to think of the land being developed, so we donated it to the university for dryland research,” Scott says.

Scott says he feels that his career of farming is one that has never felt like a job. “I haven’t had a job for most of my adult life—I just get up in the morning and do what I want. Do the paperwork or maintenance on the equipment; I never feel like it’s a job but more of a lifestyle and I love that it doesn’t feel like work.”

“We’re so lucky to have Scott on our board,” says Stacey. “Scott always shows up. He is a quiet leader. He brings folks along and works to make things better for everyone. And, as a fellow Aggie, I’m pretty sure he’s achieved celebrity status at Utah State University. He’s opened doors for collaboration between the Idaho



Idaho State Representative Laurie Lickley.

Wheat Commission and Utah State that will benefit growers in the Eastern and Southern parts of Idaho.”

“This last year in particular Scott showed up when we met over Zoom – the technology was new and a little bit uncomfortable, but Scott went out of his way to learn Zoom and participate in our meetings. I’m very impressed with Scott – he understands the importance of having a voice in IGPA,” she says.

Idaho Wheat Commissioner Cory Kress spoke highly of both Jake and Scott and we couldn’t agree more with his sentiments.

“These two men are among the most genuine, thoughtful, and good people that I have ever met.”

## **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: REP. LAURIE LICKLEY**

Representative Laurie Lickley is no stranger to the grain industry in Idaho. A true friend of agriculture, Rep. Lickley is a native Idahoan and a 30+ year resident to Jerome, Idaho where she and her husband Bill own a cattle ranch operation.

“Bill and I reside on the century farm/ranch that his family homesteaded in 1908. Both sides of our families homesteaded in Idaho.”

Growing up on the banks of the Salmon River, and upon graduating from Salmon High School, Rep. Lickley attended the University of Idaho and obtained a degree in agricultural economics.

In the early years of her career, Rep. Lickley says, “I read meters and worked a bit on irrigation and conservation planning for Idaho Power in the early nineties and then came back to the ranch after Bill’s mom was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 1993. I love anything cattle.”

IGPA executive board member, Lucas Spratling, had this to say about the Congresswoman: “Representative Laurie Lickley has always been a friend of Idaho agriculture and in particular, a friend of Idaho Grain Producers. Rep. Lickley is a solid voice of logic in the



Idaho State Representative Laurie Lickley.

legislature. It is always refreshing to sit down and talk issues with Rep. Lickley – she comes from Idaho ag, so has a first-hand understanding of issues that impact our state’s farmers and ranchers.”

Rep. Lickley and husband Bill have been married for 31 years and have two children, Valene and Cole and a new daughter-in-law, Anna Pratt-Lickley.

Always one to be involved in her community, Rep. Lickley is also a Rotarian and “still committed to the Idaho Foodbank, Beef Counts, and making certain that no-one goes hungry. We fully support our FFA and 4-H programs in the Magic Valley and are still members of the Magic Valley Cattle Association.”

“I wish the Idaho Legislature had more members like Representative Lickley. She is the true definition of a ‘Citizen Legislator’ – she doesn’t make a career out of politics, doesn’t engage in political theatrics, and she doesn’t waste citizens’ time or dollars,” says IGPA executive board member Ty Iverson. “She shows up to Boise, works hard for the people of her state and district, and then goes back home to her farm. I think her deep roots in agriculture are what help keep her grounded in the real world. She’s intelligent, thoughtful, and deliberate in her actions – exactly what you hope for in an elected official.”

When asked why she ran for office, her answer was

easy. “Idaho is an amazing place to call home and one I want my children and grandchildren to also call home. After years of being involved in industry policy from a local to a national level, I knew my next step of service was the Idaho Legislature. It was imperative that we have a seat at the table for collaborative solutions to Idaho’s future.”

IGPA Executive Director Stacey Satterlee praised Rep. Lickley for her work ethic and commitment to ag.

“There are a few folks at the Idaho Statehouse that really stand out as being smart, pragmatic, and courageous, and Rep. Laurie Lickley is one of them. She is a farmer and rancher and is from a largely agricultural district, and she works hard every day on behalf of her constituents. While there is a general lack of political courage, she is brave. She is often unfairly attacked because of the principled approach she takes to legislating – but she is the exact kind of person we want in the legislature and has proven herself to be a true Friend of IGPA.”

Rep. Lickley says growth will be a big challenge for Ag in the coming years. “Growth will be one of our bigger challenges. How do we protect and preserve our agriculture and natural resource industries, along with our water, and a blossoming population?”

IGPA Director of Government Affairs Wyatt Prescott summed it up nicely: “I have never met a better representative than Rep. Lickley. She always votes her conscience and stands up for what she believes is right no matter how uncomfortable it may be. I am so genuinely proud of her.”

## 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: RICH GARBER**

Long-time friend of IGPA, Rich Garber is known and loved by many.

A native Idahoan, Rich was born and raised in Canyon County where he was the third-generation owner and operator of his family’s farm outside Nampa for more than 20 years where he also served as a director and president of IGPA after moving up the ranks through

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Rich Garber with IGPA staff.

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the IGPA executive board.

After this, a career change came in the form of agricultural management and policy and Rich started his firm Garber Associates providing association management, consulting and lobbying services to many Idaho commodity associations.

In later years, Rich served the University of Idaho CALS for 15 years doing policy work for them and then began his career with IGPA in the winter of 2015.

IGPA Executive board member Ty Iverson has nothing but praise and admiration for Rich and the work he does for agriculture in Idaho. “Rich Garber has been an inspiration to me both professionally and personally. A true gentleman, I’ve always admired how he conducts himself in all facets of life. He has earned the respect of friends and colleagues throughout the state not just from his effective lobbying skills (which he is quite skilled at), but more importantly from his honesty and integrity. He has been the perfect advisor and role model for this organization and its members.”

“Garber has been a role model of mine since I started lobbying. In a business that has some negative connotations naturally associated with it, his level of class, honesty, and integrity is something that I strive for everyday,” says Wyatt Prescott, IGPA director of government affairs.

Rich retired a year ago to spend more time with his family...his son and daughter-in-law as well as two granddaughters. McCall is a special place for Rich and you can find him either hanging by the water or up on the ski lift.

IGPA Executive Director Stacey Satterlee shared her heartfelt sentiments about Rich.

“What can I say about Rich? Except that I am so lucky to have had the chance to work with him. He’s smart, pragmatic, steady, and supportive. Rich gives the best advice – people all over town seek out his council and value his opinion. He’s just an all-around good person and friend. We had so much fun during our years working together, and I learned so much from him. While I selfishly miss seeing Rich every day, I’m really happy he’s been able to spend more time with his family and doing the things he loves like rafting the beautiful rivers of Idaho. It has been a true delight to know and work with Rich and to be able to call him a friend.”

## PRESIDENT AWARD



WINNER: JAMIE KRESS

In its 64-year history, IGPA had never had a woman of the executive board. Until Jamie Kress came along. She and her quick wit and ag smarts have been a gift to the members of the association.

“We, as grain producers from the state of Idaho, have been blessed to have had Jamie as the president of the

Continued on next page



Rich Garber.



# 2022

## THE FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS

MARCH 10-12, 2022  
**NEW ORLEANS**



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EVERYONE'S BEEN  
WAITING FOR

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*Established in 1996, Commodity Classic is presented annually by these associations:*



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organization for the past two years. It has been amazing sitting on the sidelines watching her fulfill her duties. Her knowledge of the issues, her concern for Idaho’s producers, her selflessness when it comes to her service will all be missed. Thank you, Jamie, for a job well done,” says former IGPA president and Idaho Barley Commissioner Scott Brown.

Jamie has served the grain producers well in her five years on the executive board. She has spent countless hours discussing issues, reviewing budgets, proposing changes and thoughtfully thinking through all points of view.

A country girl at heart, Jamie grew up in Aberdeen, a small farming community in Southeastern Idaho with about 2,000 people. “Aberdeen was a great place to grow up. I remember thinking to myself, ‘life won’t get any smaller than Aberdeen, ID.’ Well, I was wrong. For the last 19 years I’ve happily lived on our farm south of Rockland,” Jamie says.

Jamie and her husband, Idaho Wheat Commissioner Cory Kress, farm in Rockland where they grow winter wheat with a variety of rotational crops that include safflower, mustard, dry peas, and canola and are busy with kids Tyson (16) and Hailey (13) and their various sports and activities including baseball and basketball for Tyson and dance, volleyball, basketball, and track for Hailey. The family loves spending time together mountain biking and traveling to Hawaii.

Beyond her role on the IGPA executive board, Jamie also serves on the National Association of Wheat Growers Board as Chair of the Domestic and Trade Policy Committee, as well as on the Budget Committee.

“I’ve had the privilege of spending quite a bit of time with Jamie over the past five years. It’s been fun getting to know her, working and traveling together, and becoming friends,” says IGPA executive director Stacey Satterlee. “Jamie is an extraordinary leader. She may have come into this role a little unsure of herself – I hope she leaves with all the confidence she deserves. She has given so much of her time and talent. She really digs into issues and wants to understand them fully. She asks hard questions that demand answers. She has developed relationships within NAWG, with elected officials, and with Idaho’s grain growers that show just how much of an impact she’s had. We have been so lucky to have her on the executive board, and as President for these past two tumultuous years. Good thing we’ve got her as Past President for one more



Cordell and Jamie Kress.

year, and that friendships go on well beyond years of service.”

## SERVICE AWARD



WINNER: CHRISTIE PRESCOTT,  
10 YEARS WITH IGPA

IGPA is thrilled to award our own Christie Prescott with her 10 Years of Service award. Christie is an integral part of the IGPA team—a spoke in the wheel that wouldn’t turn without her.

Christie grew up between the Gooding and the Camas Prairie (the dry one) where her parents ranched and grew hay and wheat. They would spend their summers in the high country of the prairie and winter in the warmer climate to the south for wintering cows. Christie’s grandpa Big Al Bauscher was a legendary man on the prairie having moved there to farm, ranch, and raise his family after WWII. He told Christie’s then boyfriend, Wyatt, that the only thing he ever had dependable enough to mortgage was a wheat crop and advised him to never mortgage a cow (Christie may wish he would have taken this advice). The Bauscher’s were known on the prairie for buying grain with rail terminals at both the east and west end of the prairie back when the railroad still operated through Camas County.

After high school, Christie went to college at Boise State University where she majored in both Horticulture





and Political Science, while fighting fire for the BLM during seasonal periods. After receiving her Bachelor's degree she worked for the Bank of the Cascades in Boise always keeping a close eye and interest in Idaho politics. She helped her Mom run for Gooding County Assessor on a number of occasions and stayed active in the Young Republican events, regularly attending party functions. On May 25, 2010 Christie met Wyatt at the Republican Primary party from which the couple's relationship eventually evolved into what they have today, a marriage and family.

While the couple was still dating, the IGPA position came available, and Wyatt encouraged Christie to apply due to her large interest in Idaho politics and family roots in agriculture. The rest is history as Christie quickly became an imperative part of the team and knows more about the association than probably anyone else. She has she has been a devoted employee of IGPA frequently saying that she "loves working for farmers, they are the best people."

In addition to working for IGPA both remotely and in the office back in Boise, she is super Mom of three (Gus, Agnes and Virgil) and helps in the family cattle business back in Fairfield. As Wyatt is constantly traveling for both cattle business and governmental affairs she is charged with keeping everything else afloat including feeding cattle and horses daily and making sure the cowboy crews are well fed and paid. Additionally, she loves to garden and keeps a large,



Christie Prescott, left, with Stacey Satterlee.

short growing season garden and is always willing to take on here kids' agricultural pursuits which includes bottle calves, pigs, chickens, and turkeys.

All the business of life aside, Christie is a master of enjoying life and having a good time. This can be witnessed through her many close relationships that she has forged with grain growers across Idaho throughout her 10 years of service.

Christie's good friend Potlatch Joe Anderson summed it up nicely: "Ever since Christie came on board, it has amazed me how things just happen, appear. There have been many times that she has just done good stuff that nobody asked her to do."

Christie is also a board member of the Idaho Cattlewomen and helps in the group's annual events.

As important as the work is, the friendships formed through IGPA are just as important and Christie has several amazing friends including Idaho Wheat Commissioner Clark Hamilton.

"I have really enjoyed getting to know Christie over the years. One thing about Christie is she never seems to have a bad day. She is always happy, has a great understanding of agriculture and does a great job. Christie is a rock-solid asset to our industry and a great friend."

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Christie Prescott with her family.



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Stacey Satterlee has known Christie since she began with the association as executive director in 2014 and says she really couldn't do it without her.

"I rely tremendously on Christie – much of the work she does is behind the scenes, so whether they know it or not, she does so much for IGPA's members. Christie really makes things happen and takes amazing care of all of us. She's in charge of all the things, from details of meetings, to arranging travel, to making sure we have delicious food (a priority!), to coordinating mailings, to formatting emails, to running Instagram, to keeping our database lined out – she does it all. It is such a blessing to work with smart, driven people who

are also your friends – that's how I feel about Christie. I'm so grateful she's stuck with IGPA for 10 years!"

"Christie has been a friend to me since day one. I started four years ago with IGPA and Christie took me under her wing, teaching me about the mission of IGPA, who we are and introducing me to members. She is always willing to help on any project and never hesitates to step in when needed. I have loved spending time with Christie and getting to know her as a colleague and as a friend," says Kellie Kluksdal, IGPA Communications Manager.

We are so fortunate to have Christie on staff - Cheers to 10 years, and we are looking forward to many more. ■

## Columbia Basin Collaborative

BY MIKE EDMONDSON, DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF SPECIES CONSERVATION

The States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana recognize the uniqueness and complexity of the Columbia River Basin. We have committed to developing a collaborative framework that strives for abundant and harvestable salmon and steelhead in a manner that appreciates and addresses the needs of the regional economy, including but not limited to agriculture, transportation, fishing, recreation, port operations, and state and tribal fisheries. The Columbia Basin Collaborative (CBC) is being convened on November 30, 2021. This group recognizes the importance of a future regional power system that is reliable, affordable, and that furthers decarbonization. In addition, efforts to improve salmon and steelhead runs must acknowledge, respect, and protect tribal cultural values, be consistent with treaty rights, and promote the trust responsibilities of the federal government to tribes. The framework for the CBC has been developed cooperatively and collaboratively. This framework will be the starting point for the actual members of the CBC to mold, finalize, and adopt as their charter. The sovereigns (federal entities, states, and tribes)



have engaged and involved regional stakeholders in meaningful ways to create the CBC. Moving forward the CBC will strive for consensus agreement

Paul Arrington, Executive Director of the Idaho Water Users Association and Idaho water representative on the CBC, said: "The CBC provides a unique opportunity for the region to work together to craft meaningful, long-term solutions to restore salmon and steelhead populations, while recognizing the communities that rely on the river system."

on proposals that collectively advance the quantitative and qualitative goals for salmon and steelhead developed by the Columbia Basin Partnership Task Force. The objective is to seek consensus agreement on action-oriented proposals, and promote them to the appropriate federal, state, tribal, and other decision-makers for authorization, funding and implementation. All documentation and materials are available at <https://species.idaho.gov/planning/columbia-basin-collaborative/>. Video recordings of the public meetings can be

viewed here: <https://youtu.be/EHWfXyLhiYk> and here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbHH6aQeOSs> ■



# Join The Idaho 97 Project to Fight Extremism and Disinformation in the Great State of Idaho

BY MIKE SATZ, THE IDAHO 97 PROJECT

What makes Idaho such a great state are the people who call it their home. From their can-do attitudes, honesty and openness, entrepreneurial spirit, and live-and-let-live approach, it is Idahoans that really make this the great state that it is. But over the past decade, and even more, we've seen a change in Idaho politics, a change that is pulling our many elected and appointed public servants away from the needs and desires of Idaho's citizens and businesses, and towards more extreme and divisive politics and policies that are not supported by most of Idaho's citizens. We aren't talking about discreet, single-issue politics either – those issues are being used as wedges to divide Idahoans over what we really care about: public education, educational opportunity, economic opportunity for our youth, business opportunity, housing availability and affordability, access to public lands, and more. These issues are important to both rural and urban Idahoans alike, and it is time that we come together as a state to address them in a way that benefits Idaho's people and not a few politicians, or the extreme organizations that support them. The Idaho 97 Project exists to focus Idaho's leaders back on the issues that affect Idahoans the most and are our commonly held values.



The Idaho 97 was born out of the political tumult that resulted from COVID-19 disinformation and protests, in the wake of the 2020 election and the hostility that these events caused to rise from a minority of our fellow citizens, spurred by the outsized influence that extremist organizations exert over our governmental bodies. The group itself originated in Ada County, though we now boast 17,000 members and supporters from across Idaho. The name came about because of a demonstration at the Central District Health offices where a crowd, with members who claimed to be 3 Percenters, tried to storm the building, shouted outside commissioners' homes and pushed public employees and police officers alike around. A person, describing how unfair it was that such a small minority of people was able to shut down such an important meeting,



Mike Satz of the Idaho 97 Project speaks at the State Capitol.

exclaimed that “97 percent of us are staying home!” And from that, we found our name.

We developed at first as simply a grassroots organization focused on health and safety in Idaho, but we soon observed that the rhetoric, division, and misinformation about health issues was coming primarily from one source in Idaho: the extreme right. We also observed how groups from all sides were starting to go to elected officials' houses and neighborhoods, where families and children lived, to demonstrate for whatever their personal desires were. At that point we decided to bring together Idahoans instead of dividing them, and to focus on the issues that we most agree upon and, most importantly, to get our elected officials to start doing the same. As a result, on March 1, 2020, The Idaho 97 Project officially launched as a political advocacy organization in Idaho.

Our Mission is narrowly tailored to achieve these goals:

1. COVID and health safety advocacy and countering health misinformation.

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2. Countering extremism and disinformation in politics.
3. Open and accessible democratic process for ALL Idahoans and holding Idaho’s elected and governmental officials accountable.

The Idaho 97 Project focuses on a uniting effort, bringing together Idahoans, organizations, businesses, and institutions to work together on issues of joint concern. For example, every single one of these groups is interested in a robust public education system in Idaho. Idahoans support education for themselves and their children (80% of likely Republican voters STATEWIDE in the last poll we saw), and businesses know education is the economic driver for our future and future business growth. Yet, despite this overwhelming support, Idaho’s Legislature repeatedly fails to adequately fund education and even holds education funding hostage to satisfy an overt lie told by the Idaho Freedom Foundation that Critical Race Theory was being taught in Idaho schools when it wasn’t. This Boise group, the IFF, does not want public education to continue in our state — CRT is just one more way they are attacking Idaho teachers and schools, and we can’t let this attack stand. This issue is just one example of the many failures of our leaders to hear true Idaho interests in favor of a loud and well-funded minority. We believe that it is time for that to stop.

One thing that separates The Idaho 97 Project from every other advocacy group in Idaho is that we are not concerned with getting things from the Legislature. While that may sound counter-intuitive, we have observed how legislators treat organizations that lobby them for bills – if the organization doesn’t behave the way the Legislature thinks it should, there is a sort of “pay back” extracted from that organization later. This holds true for all organizations, whether they are focused on the interests of most Idahoans or not. Therefore, we focus on the citizens of Idaho – empowering their voices, teaching them how to engage in the civic process by voting, testifying, or writing to the Legislature and other government officials. In this way, Idaho’s leaders are accountable to the people of Idaho, not to a special interest group. The Idaho 97 is you.

The Idaho 97 Project spotlights disinformation as part of our mission by providing accurate and true information through newsletters, website blog posts, and social media.



A group of Idaho 97 Project supporters hold a discussion at the Idaho State Capitol.

However, what is perhaps most important about this approach is that most industry organizations, corporations, and citizens share the same core values enumerated earlier in this article. And that is what makes it all work: all sectors of Idaho uniting and insisting upon good, accountable governance. The extremist organizations in this state don’t have nearly the same numbers of supporters or partners and The Idaho 97 Project believes that if we all stand up together and insist that our leaders stop listening to them and start listening to us, that they will change their tune, once they see the united front we can achieve.

To this end, The Idaho 97 Project has focused heavily on email campaigns to elected leaders at first. There are several reasons for this. First, many citizens were uncomfortable going to the Capitol during the early stages of COVID. Second, voice needs to be given to all Idahoans, not just those



who live in the Boise Valley or who have the time to go to the building and speak or protest. Idaho is a big state, and every single citizen should have the opportunity to engage her elected representative. Finally, it is an easy way for followers and supporters to engage and learn about the issues.

Doing this, the Idaho 97 Project was instrumental in holding former Representative von Ehlinger accountable for assaulting a 19-year-old intern, and he is now charged with rape in Ada County. The same device was used to support the overwhelming vote by the House of Representatives to censure Representative Giddings for publicly identifying and shaming the 19-year-old survivor. In many ways, we really provided an avenue for Idaho's citizens to support our leaders in making the right choice without fear of retribution from more extreme interests in Idaho politics. We are working to expand these communications tools to include phone, text, and social media avenues for citizens to engage with their elected representatives.

We were also highly engaged in the Kootenai County elections this past November 2. The Idaho Freedom Foundation's board chair Brent Regan declared that his organization was going to sweep all the elected seats in that county with extremists. We worked with Republicans and Democrats across the county and were able to both double the turnout for that election and not only deny a complete sweep of seats to the IFF, but completely stop them from taking over many government bodies in the county.

The Idaho 97 Project spotlights disinformation as part of our mission by providing accurate and true information through newsletters, website blog posts, and social media. We also ensure press and media organizations inside of Idaho and out are aware of stories originating in the state. We have learned through research and experience that the truth prevails over disinformation and lies, but the difficulty is finding a way to get the truth to the intended audience.

This is also, not coincidentally, why extremist organizations use such inflammatory language to sow the seeds of doubt in the minds of their audience regarding traditional news sources and sources of information and instead try to turn audiences on to media sources they exclusively control. Examples of these far-right, biased sources in Idaho are Redoubt News and Idaho Dispatch, among others. In this way, they can keep the truth from their followers and tell them what they want them to hear. We have had some degree of success countering disinformation in this way, but more work and resources are needed to continue this effort. It is not just an Idaho problem, but a national and international problem of enormous magnitude.

The truth of the matter is we all, as Americans and Idahoans, have much more in common than where we differ. Further, our systems of governance are predicated on compromise and learning to find the middle, rather than forcing one belief on everyone – no matter the origin of belief. A hallmark of extremist views – from both sides – is refusing to compromise and insisting that everyone do things one way. The Idaho 97 Project stands for finding that common ground and empowering Idahoans to engage in the democratic process to ensure our leaders are on the same page. Join us at [theidaho97.org](http://theidaho97.org)!

*Mike Satz is an attorney, former University of Idaho professor and executive director of The Idaho 97 Project.* ■

Advertorial

## EVALUATE WHEAT FOR WINTER INJURY

*Evaluating wheat for winterkill damage is important for making timely management decisions in early spring.*

By Trenton Stanger, WestBred® Regional Business Manager, Northwest South Region

Snow and adequate moisture are important for plants surviving winter temperatures. However, winter weather is rarely ideal. Plan now to make plant stand evaluations after winter to make appropriate decisions once the crop is growing again.

**Plant Health – Plants with a strong crown and roots can develop new growth early in the season.**

- Dig up several plants and dissect crowns to observe crown and root strength.
- Healthy roots should be white, without any dark or soft spots.
- Healthy crowns should be white to light green.

**Stand Evaluations – Focus on plant populations and plant strength.**

- Conduct stand counts after wheat is green and growing.
- Count plants in a 3-foot distance, and repeat in several locations throughout the field.
- Determine the average number of plants for 3 feet of row.
- Multiply number by 4 and divide by the row width inches to determine average number of plants/ft<sup>2</sup>.
- Optimum plant stands for optimal yield potential = 23 to 30-plus plants/ft<sup>2</sup>.
- Terminating a winter wheat crop and replanting to spring wheat or another crop could be warranted if plant health is poor (dead crowns) and plant stands are fewer than five to 10 plants per square foot.

Making these assessments about the crop after winter can help with the next management steps needed to get your wheat crop off to a good start.

**For additional information, contact Trenton Stanger, WestBred® Regional Business Manager, Northwest South Region, at 530-681-8288 or [trenton.stanger@bayer.com](mailto:trenton.stanger@bayer.com).**



Performance may vary, from location to location and from year to year, as local growing, soil and weather conditions may vary. Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible and should consider the impacts of these conditions on the grower's fields. Bayer, Bayer Cross, WestBred and Design® and WestBred® are registered trademarks of Bayer Group. ©2021 Bayer Group. All Rights Reserved.





# Endowed Chair of Grain Marketing and Risk Management Filled by Dr. Xiaoli Etienne

In 2018, the Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC) signed an agreement with the University of Idaho (UI) to fund the Endowed Chair of Grain Marketing and Risk Management. Part of the Barker Trading Program, the Chair is shared between the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Business and Economics. The \$2 million investment, made with the checkoff dollars of Idaho’s wheat farmers, will give students real-life experience in trading, hedging, and investing in commodity markets. This specific set of knowledge, understanding, and skills will increase profit and decrease loss in agricultural operations across Idaho as those students return to the farm. In addition, the findings from this position will be shared with Idaho wheat growers through publications, seminars, and county extension.



“We feel strongly about the importance of marketing and risk management for our agricultural businesses. This endowment is a bridge between agriculture and business that hasn’t existed before, and fills the gap in the supply chain,” said Clark Hamilton, IWC Vice Chair.

This year, Dr. Xiaoli Etienne was recruited and hired by the University to fill the endowed chair position. “Xiaoli was selected to fill the first Idaho Wheat Commission endowed chair after an extensive nationwide search,” explained Bill Flory, IWC commissioner. “Her previous experience and commodity research are highly regarded by students, growers, and industry.” Dr. Etienne will begin teaching in January. IWC is pleased to take this opportunity to introduce Idaho’s grain growers to Dr. Xiaoli Etienne.

**Tell us about yourself. Where did you grow up, where did you go to college, and what did you study?** I grew up in the southeastern part of China, about four and half hours south of Shanghai by car. With a population of about half a million, Lishui, my hometown, is considered a small city by Chinese standards. My parents both worked for the agricultural division of my hometown’s local government office. As part of his job, my dad visited rural farms to conduct field surveys, and

would occasionally let me tag along. These trips with my dad taught me that these poor farmers are often taking life-or-death financial risks on an annual basis. Coming to grips with this fact led me to study rural and Regional Development at Renmin (People’s) University of China in Beijing, where I earned a bachelor’s degree in 2007.

**What did you do after your graduation in 2007 and before you accepted the IWC Endowed Chair position?** I went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for graduate school in 2007. After graduating with a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics in 2013, I moved to Washington, D.C. and worked as a short-term consultant at the World Bank group, where I had the opportunity to work with many internationally renowned experts on agricultural economics. A year later, I moved to West Virginia University (WVU) and joined the Division of Resource Economics and Management as an assistant professor. I was later promoted to associate professor with tenure.

**What led you to apply for the IWC Endowed Chair position and the prospect of moving across the country?** I first saw the IWC Endowed Chair position flyer in 2019 but was hesitant to apply for the position.





After all, moving the whole family across the country to an unfamiliar area would be a daunting task. The pandemic really changed my mindset. Pre-pandemic, I lived a busy, non-stop life, constantly yearning for more free time. Working from home during the pandemic allowed me to pause and take a step back to reflect on my career. I started asking myself what I really wanted to achieve in my professional life and how I could make my work more meaningful. Although I was perfectly happy at WVU, I realized that it's perhaps time to take on new challenges and see how my work might make a larger impact and contribute more to society at large. So, I decided to give it a try and applied for the IWC endowed chair position.

**You are the first person to hold this position at UI. Do you have any goals for the future? What are you most excited about in this new position?** I am very excited and feel humbled to have been selected for this position out of many talented candidates. Although I have been working on commodity price analysis for more than a decade, I consider myself still relatively new to the profession, especially in the context of agriculture in the Pacific Northwest. In the short term, I hope to learn more about the agricultural sector in the area, as well as the emerging issues faced by farmers and the wheat industry. In the longer-term, I hope to establish a research portfolio that addresses these emerging problems, to benefit farmers and agribusinesses in Idaho. Further, I would like to integrate my research with teaching and extension activities, so that I can help train the next generation of farmers with well-rounded risk management skills, which will enable them to adapt and thrive in today's ever-changing world. Ultimately, I hope my work can help make the agricultural sector in Idaho more competitive in both domestic and international markets and become more resilient to external shocks.

**What do you bring to the program at UI?** I believe the Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology program at UI, as well as UI Extension, can benefit from my multicultural experience in agriculture. Coming to the U.S. as an international scholar, I have the natural tendency to look at questions from more of a global perspective. This international lens has driven my past research—I often work on problems with broad implications for the agricultural sector. My experience, however, is not limited to agriculture. Over the past decade, I have conducted research on various other commodities, such as crude oil, natural gas, lumber, and iron ore, all of which are keenly linked to the agricultural sector. Knowledge of these fields would come in handy for future research and outreach work



given the increasing complexity of the agricultural supply chain.

**What is an accomplishment you're proud of so far?**

I am very proud of the work I have done with my students so far. In my six years at WVU, I had served as the major advisor for eight graduate students, all of whom landed amazing jobs either in academia or industry right out of graduate school. In fact, most of my recent work was coauthored with graduate students. As an educator in higher-education institutions, I always go the extra mile when working with students, all for the satisfaction I get when learning that I played a role in shaping students' careers.

I am also proud of how quickly I was able to adapt to new environments and take on new challenges. The economy in West Virginia is dominated by the energy sector, with agriculture only taking on a small share. Although most of my pre-WVU work focuses on

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

agricultural commodities, I swiftly shifted my research focus to the energy sector, and later expanded to multidisciplinary work, to make my work more relevant to the stakeholders in West Virginia. In the beginning, I actually doubted if I could successfully make the transition, but years of hard work led me to receive multiple research awards at WVU. Words cannot express how proud I am of the great work I have done at my previous institution. I am confident that I can make a similar impact at the University of Idaho.

**What is something you wish every farmer understood about risk management, and why is risk management important to daily operations on the farm?** Agriculture is one of the riskiest professions in the world. From weather, input/output prices, to government policies and consumer preferences, agricultural production is subject to risks from every facet of the supply chain. Uncertainties in any of these factors are likely to result in wide swings in farm income. For instance, the severe drought this past summer in the Pacific Northwest destroyed the wheat crops in the region. For farmers that did not have crop insurance, these losses could lead to negative cash flows, and sometimes even force them to exit the farming sector. Indeed, data shows that there is a significant link between crop failures and farm bankruptcies in the U.S. Since 2013, the number of farms filing for Chapter 12 bankruptcy in the U.S. has been rising. Given increasing climate risks and changing domestic/trade policies, it is important for farmers to incorporate risk management strategies into daily operations.

Beyond understanding the importance of risk management, farmers are encouraged to take a holistic



approach when it comes to risk management because of the large number of uncertainties involved in the farming sector. Farmers should carefully identify and classify the risks, measure and assess the potential outcomes under various scenarios, evaluate their risk-bearing capacity and risk tolerance levels, and design risk management strategies that fit their goals with the assistance from professionals. Additionally, it is important to understand that there is always a tradeoff between risk and return—activities/investment with a higher (lower) expected return often comes with a higher (lower) risk. A successful risk management strategy would maximize the expected return given the maximum risk level desired.

*We welcome Dr. Xiaoli Etienne and her husband, along with their two children, to Idaho! 🇺🇸*

## Idaho Wheat Commission Welcomes New Commissioner

Wayne Hurst, Burley, has been appointed by Governor Brad Little to serve as a commissioner with the Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC) representing district three. Hurst replaces Ned Moon, Heyburn, who was appointed to the Commission in 2011.

“The Idaho Wheat Commission is honored to welcome Wayne as the newest addition to the Commission,” said Cory Kress, IWC Commission Chair, Rockland.

“Wayne comes with a distinguished history of service in the wheat industry, and we are confident he will represent Idaho farmers well.”

Prior to his appointment to the Idaho Wheat Commission, Hurst was actively involved in







Wayne Hurst, right, pictured with National Association of Wheat Growers CEO Chandler Goule, left.

state and national grain organizational leadership for nearly two decades as president of the Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA) and National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG), chairman of the National Wheat Foundation (NAWG-NFW), and the vice chair of the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council.

Hurst grew up in Declo in Cassia County on a multigenerational family farm. He and his wife, Sherrie, own and operate a diversified row crop operation in the Declo/Albion area where they grow wheat, sugar beets, dry beans, and alfalfa on the same land Hurst's grandparents cultivated nearly a century ago.

“I appreciate the commissioners, including Ned [Moon], for the service they extend to Idaho’s wheat-growing families to keep wheat profitable,” Hurst said. “We need markets, we need research, we need to be able to survive long-term and continue to feed the world. I’m grateful to be a wheat farmer who feeds families around the world, and I’m glad to be able to serve the industry



as a commissioner. I’m here to learn and fill my responsibility to the best of my ability.”

Hurst is actively involved in his church and both civically and culturally in his community. He has played the trombone in the Magic Philharmonic Orchestra since 1984, playing alongside many family members over the years. He studied music and agriculture, respectively, at Brigham Young University and Idaho State University and maintains fluency in Spanish. Wayne and Sherrie have five children and 12 grandchildren.

The Idaho Wheat Commission is a self-governing, quasi-state agency led by five commissioners appointed from around the state by the sitting Governor to serve up to two five-year terms. ■



# Bread in a Bag Brings Wheat to Classrooms

BY BRITANY HURST MARCHANT

For more than 30 years, the Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC) has brought wheat into the classroom through the Bread in a Bag program. The Bread in a Bag program was started in the 1980s and has been enjoyed by elementary school students throughout the state ever since. Designed for fourth graders but distributed to other grades as well, Bread in a Bag is a hands-on experience in which thousands of students have participated. In the past five years alone, nearly 40,000 students have learned the nutritional benefits of wheat in a fun, engaging way.

Partnering with the Superintendent’s Office of Public Instruction and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Program allows IWC to provide the Bread in a Bag program at no cost to Idaho elementary schools. “Part of the success of this program has been the low cost of participation to the teachers and/or schools,” Colleen Fillmore, Child Nutrition Programs Director in the Idaho Superintendent’s Office of Public Instruction said in a memorandum to school commodity lunch programs.

Wheat flour, vegetable oil, and other necessary ingredients are provided through the USDA Foods Program, ordered by the kitchen personnel of each



school. IWC provides teacher and student guides and other materials necessary for program logistics. Each student guide has agricultural and nutritional facts about Idaho wheat, baking instructions, and several wheat food recipes from pretzels and pizza crust to loaf bread and baguettes.

Teachers choose the recipe(s) their class will learn to make and walk through the steps and instructions while the students combine and mix the ingredients in a large zip-top bag. The dough is then baked in the school kitchen facilities and the students can taste their handiwork. The goal is to create a fun, positive, hands-on experience for the kids, send them home with more recipes to make at home with their families, and teach them the nutritional value of wheat. If successful, the result is life-long consumers of wheat food products.

“One of the three pillars of the IWC mission is market development,” explained Casey Chumrau, IWC Executive Director. “Often, we think of overseas buyers or domestic flour mills, but it is as much a part of our mission to promote wheat foods to consumers in our own state and communities. When kids get excited about something they take that project and excitement home to talk about what they learned with their families. It’s a





great way to share the health benefits of wheat with the moms and dads who decide what to feed their families.”

IWC has seen impressive growth in the Bread in a Bag program over the past several years. Approximately 10,000 students participated in the program in both 2018 and 2019. This year registrations were down to just over 7,000 new students, but several teachers also had materials from last year left over when pandemic restrictions and virtual and hybrid class structures prevented execution of the program. “Between the



new registrants and the classes that rolled over from last year, we have between 9,000 and 10,000 students taking part in Bread in a Bag this year,” said Chumrau. “We are looking forward to seeing continued growth of the program in the future.”

If you have an elementary student or elementary teacher in your family,



ask them if they have participated in the Bread in a Bag program or contact [britany@idahowheat.org](mailto:britany@idahowheat.org) to find out how your local elementary school can be part of Bread in a Bag. 🇺🇸

## Grower Input Directs Check-off Dollar Investment

BY CASEY CHUMRAU, IWC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Do you want more input into how your wheat check-off dollars are used? The Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC) invites you to participate in its annual research proposal review process in February. It is now easier than ever to take part in this important activity.

Each year, IWC invests more than \$1 million in research by supporting projects with potential benefits for Idaho growers. During the February review process, researchers from around the region present project proposals for the consideration of IWC Commissioners and wheat growers. Research topics include breeding, disease resistance, pest management and production practices. For the second year in a row, researchers will submit both a written proposal and a three-to-five-minute video presentation that will be available prior to the February review date. On February 24, Commissioners and interested growers will gather in-person to review the new proposals. Researchers will be available via video conference for any follow-up questions or discussion.

“Historically, the in-person event lasted one or two days,” explained IWC Chairman Cory Kress. “A silver lining from the pandemic is a new, streamlined format for the research review that takes less time and allows for greater grower participation.”

Growers who would like to participate have several options. First, they could join IWC in person on February 24 at the Hyatt Place Hotel in downtown Boise. Second, they could join live via Zoom. Finally, they could review all the video proposals at home and submit written comments to IWC prior to February 24.

“We want to invest these dollars into projects that will have the most impact for growers,” said Garrett Dudley, IWC Research Manager. “Input from additional growers is critical and appreciated.”

If you would like to help direct your check-off dollars by participating in the research review process, please contact [wheat@idahowheat.org](mailto:wheat@idahowheat.org) for more information. 🇺🇸

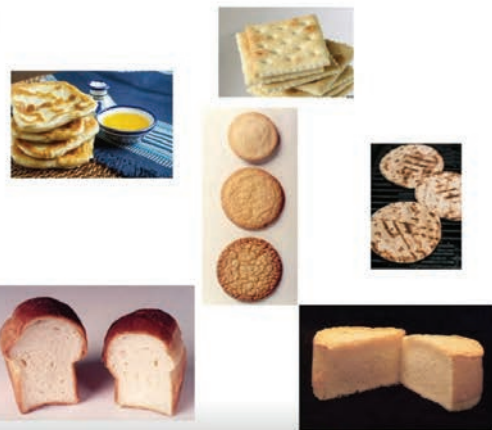


### Solvent Retention Capacity (SRC)

#### SRC

- Originated from Nabisco scientists Slade and Levine and was approved as AACC Method 56-11.01 in 2000
- Loosely based on Alkaline Water Retention Capacity (AWRC) 56-10.01 from 1953
- Tests needed that show functional contributions of individual components

SRC provides individual, functional information



Solvent Retention Capacity (SRC): Utilization and Interpretation



Noted cereal chemist Dr. Art Bettge, ADB Wheat Consulting, described SRC use and interpretation in-depth in a video lecture for USW's 2020 Crop Quality Seminars.

# Protein Alone Does Not Predict Soft White Wheat End-Quality Performance

ADAPTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE U.S. WHEAT ASSOCIATES WHEAT LETTER BLOG

*Editor's note: Idaho wheat checkoff dollars support the work of U.S. Wheat Associates (USW), the export market development organization for the U.S. wheat industry. USW promotes the reliability, quality, and value of all six U.S. wheat classes to wheat buyers, millers, bakers, food processors and government officials in more than 100 countries around the world.*

There is an easily understood expression in English that “you cannot judge a book by its cover.” Applied to the recently harvested 2021/22 U.S. soft white wheat crop that is good advice for the world’s flour millers and wheat food producers.

The persistent Pacific Northwest (PNW) drought resulted in significantly lower yields and pushed 2021/22 average SW protein levels to 11.3 percent, compared to the five-year average of 9.7 percent. As a rule, low protein SW is desirable for many end-use products. As USW Bakery Consultant Roy Chung says, however, protein level alone does not say everything about soft white end-quality performance.

Instead, USW is helping flour millers learn that testing for Solvent Retention Capacity (SRC) is the most effective and valuable method for predicting the true performance characteristics of flour for biscuits (cookies) and crackers.

The SRC method, approved by the American Association of Cereal Chemists, examines the characteristics of glutenin, gliadin and arabinoxylan and the level of starch damage in flour. These values describe the flour’s ability to absorb water during the mixing process and its ability to retain or release that water during and after the baking process, among several other performance characteristics.

The combined pattern of the four component SRC values establishes a practical flour quality profile useful for predicting functionality, giving the miller and baker a ‘fingerprint’ of U.S. soft white (SW) and soft red winter (SRW) wheat flour end-quality performance.

“While [traditional] rheological analysis tools measure the combined effect of the components in flour,



individual component functionality, measured by SRC, gives a better picture of whether you are going to get the desirable performance from the flour for the product you want to make,” Chung told a large audience of millers and bakers in a USW webinar on SRC in June 2021.

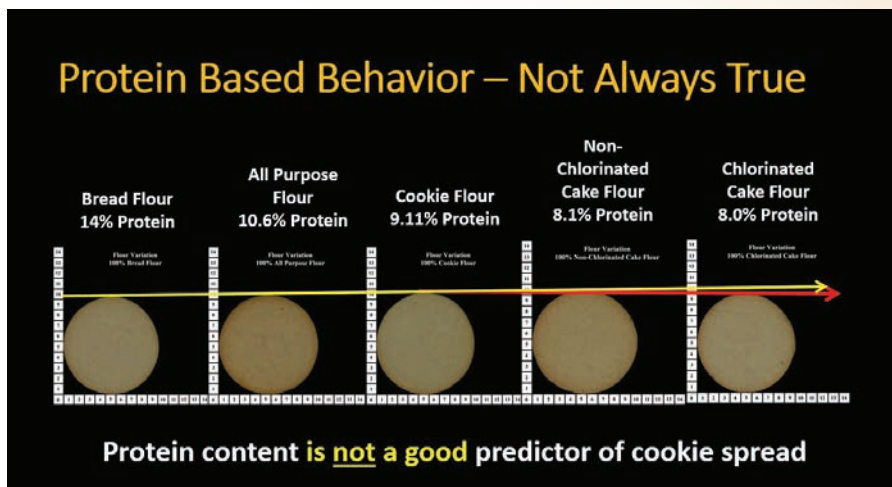
With a more complete understanding of the functional value of wheat proteins, carbohydrates and other properties, flour milling quality control managers will have additional information to evaluate the characteristics more accurately of U.S. soft white wheat and Western White (a blend of SW and a minimum 10% white club) this year compared to competing supplies.

### Clean Label Input

“In addition, more wheat food manufacturers are looking for ways to ‘clean up’ their ingredient labels,” said USW Regional Technical Director Peter Lloyd. “USW can show SRC results to millers and bakers that prove flours from U.S. soft white wheat and SRW wheat can make beautiful end products without adding any ‘magic powder’ like enzymes that have to be added to medium protein wheat flour to make weak gluten products.”

USW has helped flour mills understand the advantages of SW by introducing SRC analysis and training mills to use the tool to expand their business. Vietnam is one example, where several flour mills use SRC analysis of flour products milled from SW to demonstrate how end-product performance is improved compared to flour milled from alternative wheat supplies.

“Our baking experts have already had several sessions with flour millers across South and North Asia about



These test results, provided by USW Bakery Consultant Roy Chung, show cookie spread increases and then declines as the flour protein percentage lowers, demonstrating that protein percentage alone is not an accurate predictor of performance.

the benefits of evaluating flour from SW with SRC over protein levels alone,” said former USW Regional Vice President Matt Weimar. “We were also pleased with the number of millers who participated in the June webinar on SRC, in which Roy Chung and Tarik Gahi, our Milling and Baking Technologist, demonstrated the SRC method. We also had a well-attended second session in July featuring Peter Lloyd discussing how to use SRC data to blend flour streams for better performance and profit.”

### Excellent SW Will Be Available

USW is carrying the message on behalf of Idaho wheat growers to buyers, millers and end-users that excellent quality SW is available even with a short 2021/22 crop. USW’s relationships with international buyers are particularly important in a year when quality and protein vary from average, ensuring there is a market for Idaho’s crop somewhere in the world. 🇺🇸

## We Need Your Help!

The Idaho Wheat Commission strives to keep Idaho’s wheat growers advised of pertinent industry news and events. Please use the QR code here by opening the camera app on your smartphone and holding it over the QR image – click the link to open a form. Then provide us with your name and email address so we can more effectively keep you informed. Your information will

not be used for any other purpose and will not be shared outside of the Idaho Wheat Commission. 🇺🇸





# Idaho’s First Intermodal Rail Terminal, in Pocatello, Improves Access to Export Markets

BY JEFF HYMAS, SAVAGE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

The new Savage Railport at Union Pacific’s rail yard in Pocatello began operations this past summer. This transportation infrastructure benefits Idaho growers and shippers by improving the economics of exporting dry bulk containerized products to Asia and other world markets.



Before having a nearby on-ramp to Union Pacific’s rail lines, Idaho businesses either trucked their ag products across multiple states or drove to Salt Lake City to connect to rail lines. Now, they can load non-refrigerated products into containers and deliver them a shorter distance to the Pocatello railport. Savage teams place loaded containers of hay and other dry-bulk commodities onto railcars that are then transported by Union Pacific to the Northwest Seaport Alliance ports in Tacoma and Seattle, Washington.

According to Savage, having a direct rail connection in Pocatello provides a more efficient, cost-effective and environmentally friendly option than trucking ag products long distances. The new railport plays an important role in connecting supply chains and opening the door to new markets for Idaho’s ag products.

“Idaho’s agricultural and business communities need

dependable transportation to get product into global markets,” said Idaho Governor Brad Little. “Transportation infrastructure projects like this rail terminal in Pocatello can create opportunities for Idaho businesses to grow and can help support export prospects for more agriculture producers.”

“We’re excited to serve Idaho producers and shippers with intermodal export service,” said Kirk Aubry, Savage President and CEO. “The ability to ship containers out of Idaho directly to the Pacific Northwest by rail will open up supply chains and allow more Idaho businesses to access global markets.”

“This new business is uniquely focused on Idaho shippers’ needs and the global economic impact Pacific Northwest exports have around the world,” said Kari Kirchhoefer, Union Pacific Vice President – Marketing and Sales Premium. “Union Pacific’s unique collaboration with Savage uses intermodal containers heading to the Northwest ports. This partnership makes the most of the container’s round trip and saves truck drayage costs for Idaho shippers by providing a direct rail option.”

“We’re excited that Savage chose Pocatello for their intermodal facility,” said Mayor Brian Blad. “With the new facility, goods from businesses across



Idaho will have an easier time getting to markets overseas.”

“As one of the top agricultural export gateways in North America, the Northwest Seaport Alliance congratulates Savage, Union Pacific Railroad, the city of Pocatello and the State of Idaho for partnering on this innovative project to support U.S. farmers and agricultural exports,” said Commissioner Dick Marzano, Northwest Seaport Alliance Co-Chair. “The new service will help lower export costs and increase volumes through our gateway. The Northwest Seaport Alliance looks forward to the successful launch of this new initiative.”

Savage is a family-owned company started in 1946 by a WWII veteran, Kenneth Savage, after he returned home to American Fork, Utah following his service in the



U.S. Navy. Together with his father, C.A. Savage, Kenneth purchased a truck and began hauling coal, timber, cinder block and other materials. In time, Kenneth’s younger brothers Neal and Luke joined the family business. The Savage brothers built strong relationships with customers through their hard work, integrity and innovation.

This year, Savage is celebrating its 75th anniversary and a lot has changed. The company has grown from operating a single truck to being a global provider of industry infrastructure and supply chain services, with nearly 4,500 Team Members in over 200 locations. Today, Savage moves and manages materials using trains, trucks, marine vessels, and material handling systems. The company operates about 50 transload facilities as part of its Savage Transload Network across North America. In many cases, Savage provides engineering and construction services for the facilities and systems they operate.

“While there have been many changes since 1946, one thing that remains the same is our commitment to always do the right thing, find a better way, and make a difference,” said Brig Skoy, Savage Director of Business Development. “That’s how we’ve been successful and grown over 75 years, and that’s how we’ll continue to enable our customers and partners to feed the world, power our lives, and sustain the planet.”

For more information about Savage’s Pocatello railport, contact Brig Skoy at [brigs koy@savageservices.com](mailto:brigs koy@savageservices.com) or 801-944-6535. To learn more about Savage and the services they provide, visit the company’s website at [www.savageservices.com](http://www.savageservices.com). ■



# Blaine Jacobson Recognized for Service to Wheat Industry

Blaine Jacobson was recognized for his service to the Idaho wheat industry and awarded the 2020 Distinguished Service Award in Spokane in December. His recognition was delayed until Idaho wheat growers could meet at Tri-State Convention, which was cancelled last year due to the pandemic. Blaine was at the helm of the Idaho Wheat Commission as Executive Director from 2002 to 2020.

Upon his retirement in June 2020, Jacobson said, “The Idaho wheat industry is a state asset and many people have built it over the past 60 years. I take pleasure in turning it over to my successors in as strong a position as it was when I received it. I feel that is my best accomplishment.”

In 2018, Jacobson successfully renegotiated the royalty structure on sale of wheat varieties developed with Idaho wheat grower dollars, a move that redirected a larger portion of proceeds from those sales back into wheat research programs. One of his early projects was the purchase of the Idaho Wheat Commission building that has become a center for grain and agriculture groups to hold office space and conduct business meetings. Jacobson also undertook a multi-year project that led to changes in legislative rules that would make the Wheat Commission more effective in their mission.

“Blaine had a very broad sense of knowledge in so many areas that he brought to the table from his prior experiences and work in the food industry,” said IWC Vice Chair Clark Hamilton. “He had a passion for wheat that really showed in the work he did on behalf of Idaho’s wheat farmers and the Commission.”

Jacobson grew up on a wheat farm in Swan Valley in Bonneville County. Before settling in at the Idaho



Clark Hamilton presents the 2020 Distinguished Service Award to Blaine Jacobson.

Wheat Commission he held positions as brand manager for Minute Maid, marketing director for Simplot, and was responsible for the Asia Pacific sales and marketing at Chiquita. While he and his wife, Cindy, are enjoying traveling, hiking, and spending time with their children and grandchildren, Jacobson remains fond of his nearly two decades at the Idaho Wheat Commission. “It is a privilege to work with Idaho wheat growers. Idaho growers are among the best people I have associated with,” said Jacobson. 🇺🇸

**SAVE *the*  
DATE!**

## DIRECT SEED WORKSHOP

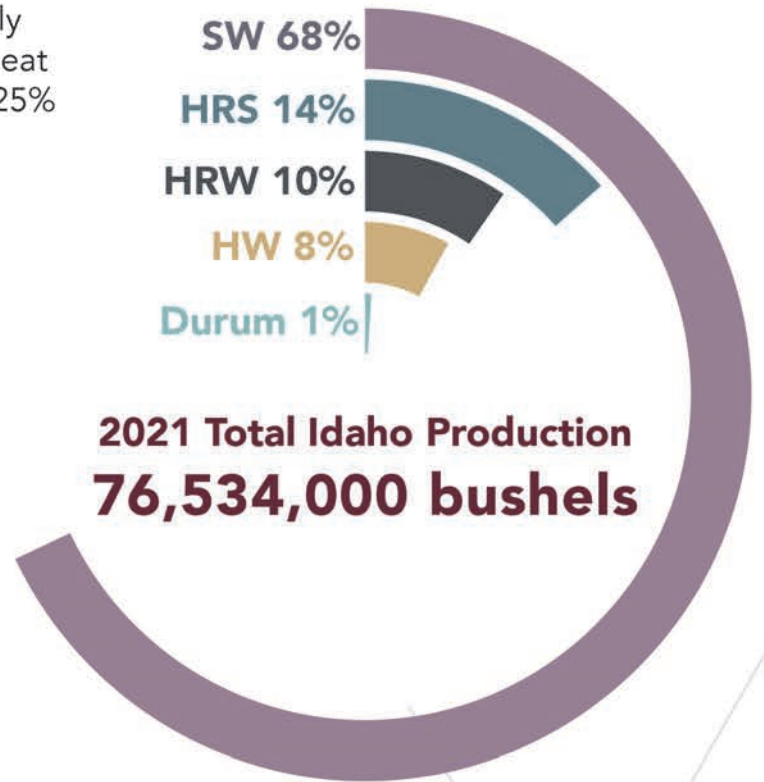
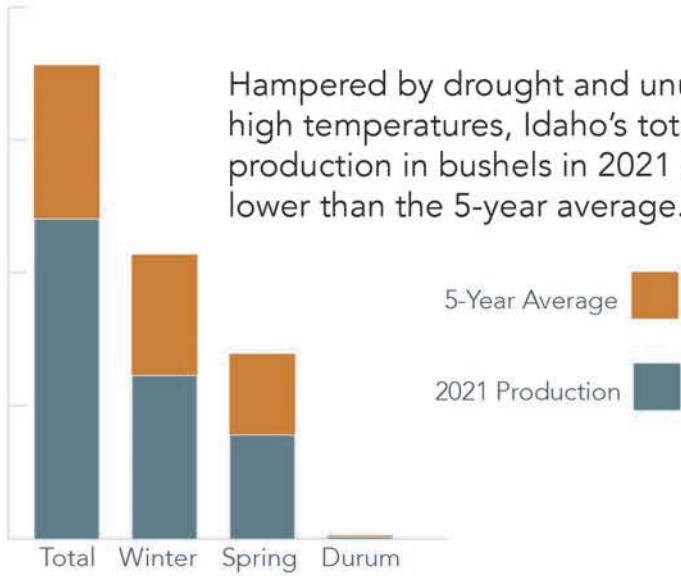
Tuesday, March 1, 2022 • Hilton Garden Inn, Idaho Falls

**Watch your email and follow us on social media for more information.**



# 2021 Idaho Wheat Crop

# BY THE NUMBERS



## Soft White



SWS: 19%    SWW: 49%

## Hard Red



HRW: 10%    HRS: 14%

## Hard White



HWW: 1%    HWS: 7%



# 2021 Idaho Barley Crop Stats

## IDAHO BARLEY LEADS U.S. PRODUCTION

# 37%

Idaho's share  
of the 2021  
U.S. Barley  
Crop

**43,610,000 bushels**  
harvested in 2021 on **490,000 acres** at an **average yield of 89 bushels per acre**, compared to record yields of 110 bushels per acre and 55,000,000 bushels harvested in 2020.



Lowest average yield in 10 years during the extreme drought conditions of 2021 across the entire state and region but Idaho kept and increased the #1 spot.

### 2021 Idaho & U.S. Barley Crop

	2021	2020	% Change
Idaho Barley Acres Planted	520,000	530,000	-2%
Idaho Acres Harvested	490,000	500,000	-2%
Idaho Average Bushels/Acre	89	110	-19%
Idaho Total Bushels	43,610,000	55,000,000	-21%
U.S. Acres Harvested	1,948,000	2,214,000	-22%
U.S. Total Bushels	117,673,000	170,813,000	-31%
Idaho % of U.S. Total	37%	33.3%	+3.7%
Idaho Rank in Total U.S. Barley Production	1	1	No Change

5-Year Average Total Idaho Production:  
5-Year Average Idaho Yield/Acre:

51,142,000 Bu  
99.8 Bu/Acre



# Ned Moon Honored with IWC Distinguished Service Award

The Idaho Wheat Commission awarded former commissioner Ned Moon with the 2021 Distinguished Service Award at the Tri-State Grain Convention in Spokane, Wash. in December. Moon was recognized for his commitment, contributions, and decade of service as the District 3 Commissioner. Ned was first appointed to the Idaho Wheat Commission by Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter in 2011, replacing Mark Darrington, Declo, and was reappointed to another term five years later in 2016.

Ned grew up on a wheat farm in Heyburn, Idaho, a small town nestled along the Snake River in the Mini-Cassia area. After graduating from Minico High School, Ned continued his education at Brigham Young University in Provo. Upon completion, Ned joined the United States Air Force and flew jets for more than 12 years. Following his service in the military, Ned ran his own business and was operations manager for a chemical production company before Jentzsch-Kearl Farms. Ned has been the marketing manager for Jentzsch-Kearl Farms – a partnership that produces wheat, hay, potatoes, sugar beets, and seed beans – since 2002.

During his ten years on the Wheat Commission, Ned served as chairman twice. He traveled extensively in Asia, South America, and Central America meeting with buyers of Idaho wheat in global markets and touring mills and end-use facilities promoting Idaho wheat. Ned and his wife, Mary, have three grown children. Ned will enjoy chasing grandchildren and pursuing his hobbies of woodworking, golf, and other outdoor sports.



Cory Kress presents the 2021 Distinguished Service Award to Ned Moon.

“Ned was truly a pleasure to work with on the Commission. Not only did he show dedication for and represent well, the farmers across Idaho, he did it with a cheerful demeanor and sense of humor that would turn otherwise long days of meetings into an enjoyable experience,” said Cory Kress, IWC Chairman. “Ned will be missed, but we wish him well in his future endeavors.”

Ned is looking forward to spending more time cycling, kayaking, camping, and traveling with his wife, Mary, and visiting their children and grandchildren around the country. Ned is an avid woodworker and will be spending more of his free time in his wood shop. 🇺🇸

# Winter Wheat Variety Survey Launched

BY GARRETT DUDLEY

The Idaho Wheat Commission conducts planting surveys in November and July to understand which varieties have been planted throughout the state. Survey questions ask for three pieces of data: name of the varieties, acres planted by variety, and county of plantings. The information shared is confidential and data is aggregated across counties in each production region. Production is reported as a percentage of the total acres reported on the survey.

Many industry stakeholders use data collected in the wheat survey. Breeders judge the acceptance of their varieties, seed dealers judge the amount of seed they

need to produce, grain buyers see which districts are growing desired varieties, and growers are informed of new varieties being grown in their area.

If you are growing winter wheat in Idaho, we need your participation! Use this QR code by opening the camera app on your smartphone and holding the camera over the code to open the survey.

Thank you to all who participate! Results of prior year surveys can be found at the IWC Website [www.idahowheat.org](http://www.idahowheat.org). 🇺🇸



## Idaho Barley Service Award – Wes Hubbard

The Idaho Barley Commission recognized District 1 Idaho Barley Commissioner Wes Hubbard with the Idaho Barley Service Award on December 1 during the Tri-State Grain Convention in Spokane. Hubbard was acknowledged for his outstanding service to the Commission and Idaho barley growers as he wraps up his sixth and final year of service to the commission.

Hubbard currently farms 1,500 acres near Bonners Ferry where he grows barley, wheat, and oilseed crops. Besides his service to the commission, Hubbard previously served on the board for Idaho Grain Producers Association, as well as the Idaho Canola and Oilseed Commission, and his USDA Farm Service Agency County Committee.

As a Barley Commissioner, Hubbard serves as a Delegate to the U.S. Grains Council where he is an active member of the Asia A-Team. He has been a champion for food barley production and marketing and participates in the Food Barley Marketing Collaborative Group coordinated by the Idaho Barley Commission. Hubbard has also helped host food barley inbound trade teams from Japan, Korea, and Taiwan, and he served as IBC Chairman for two years and IBC Vice Chairman for two years.

Hubbard has made significant contributions to the Commission’s mission of enhancing the profitability of Idaho barley growers through research, market develop-



Idaho Barley Commissioner Wes Hubbard, Bonners Ferry (left), receives the Idaho Barley Service Award from Idaho Barley Commission Chairman, Allen Young of Blackfoot.

ment, promotion, information and education programs through his active engagement on the IBC board and working to best utilize available resources to promote and further develop the Idaho barley industry. ■

## Idaho Barley Service Award – Dr. Christopher W. Rogers

The Idaho Barley Commission selected Dr. Christopher W. Rogers, Ph.D., Research Soil Scientist at the USDA-ARS Northwest Irrigation and Soils Research Lab in Kimberly, as their 2020 Idaho Barley Service Award recipient. With event cancellations due to Covid-19 in 2020, the Commission presented the award to Dr. Rogers in 2021.

Dr. Rogers came to Idaho in 2014 when he was hired as Assistant Professor and the first Idaho Barley Commission Endowed Barley Research Agronomist at the University of Idaho. He was based at the UI Aberdeen Research and Extension Center where his program there focused on the development of soil fertility, plant

nutrition, and irrigation management practices for cereal-based cropping systems.

Rogers joined USDA-ARS in 2019 where he is working primarily on nutrient cycling in the soil, plant, atmosphere system as well as in freshwater systems.

His earlier work was at the University of Arkansas and was focused on management practices that impact greenhouse gas emissions including previous crop, cultivar, soil texture, and fertilizer nitrogen source. He also conducted research on fertilizer nitrogen management to reduce ammonia volatilization in drill-seeded, delayed-flood rice production in the Mississippi Delta. Additionally, he studied edge-of-field and in-stream



transport/cycling of phosphorus from poultry litter sources in NW Arkansas.

While in Idaho, Rogers has made significant contributions to the Idaho barley industry through his research and outreach with growers and industry partners, working to find solutions and best practices to advance Idaho barley production. Rogers has 30 research journal publications to date related to his work.

The announcement of his selection for this special award was made at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Convention in Spokane. Since Rogers was unable to be there in person, IBC presented his award in Twin Falls on December 7. The Idaho Barley Commission salutes Dr. Christopher Rogers for his dedication and outstanding work in presenting him with the Idaho Barley Service Award. ■



Idaho Barley Service Award presentation to Dr. Christopher W. Rogers (L to R): Wes Hubbard, Idaho Barley Commissioner, Bonners Ferry; Dr. Christopher W. Rogers, USDA-ARS, Kimberly; Allen Young, Idaho Barley Commission Chairman, Blackfoot; Mike Wilkins, Idaho Barley Commission Vice Chairman, Rupert; and Jason Boose, Idaho Barley Commission Industry Representative, MolsonCoors, Burley.

## Idaho Barley Service Award – SCoular™

Scoular was honored as the Idaho Barley Commission's 2021 Idaho Barley Service Award recipient earlier this month during the 2021 Tri-State Grain Convention in Spokane. The Commission applauds Scoular's bold leadership in multiple recent barley program initiatives and their contributions to expanding opportunities for Idaho barley growers.

In 2020, Scoular broke ground on a new facility near Jerome that will produce Emerge™, an innovative, a first-of-its-kind concentrated barley protein. The company celebrated the opening of the facility with a ribbon cutting ceremony on December 7, and commercial production is expected to begin in January.

Emerge™, both traceable and non-GMO, is the only barley protein for feed customers. It is created through a patented process that concentrates the protein naturally found in whole barley kernels, creating a nutrient-dense ingredient for use in pet food and aqua feed. Emerge™ is a high-quality ingredient to help meet the demand for clean-label protein for both the aquaculture and pet food industries that are seeking



Idaho Barley Service Award presentation to Scoular. (L to R): Wes Hubbard, Idaho Barley Commissioner, Bonners Ferry; JC Olson, Scoular Senior Program Manager, Twin Falls; Brett Wilken, Scoular Merchant, Twin Falls; Evan Jerke, Scoular Merchant, Twin Falls; Andy Hohwieler, Scoular Trade Unit Manager, Twin Falls; Allen Young, Idaho Barley Commission Chairman, Blackfoot; and Mike Wilkins, Idaho Barley Commission Vice Chairman, Rupert.

alternative and sustainable plant-based protein sources.

In aquaculture, Emerge™ is highly digestible, helping to reduce phosphate discharge and water pollution. For pet

Continued on next page



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food, Emerge™ delivers a neutral flavor and natural color. In dog feeding trials measuring palatability, it was equal or superior to both animal and vegetable protein sources.

In addition, as a company Scoular is putting a major emphasis on barley and partnering with Idaho farmers to expand the production of barley as an economically viable and sustainable rotation crop through their new Barley MVP™ program launched in August 2021.



This is another first-of-its-kind program that provides a variety of risk management tools and high-yielding seed varieties for farmers seeking alternative rotation crops. The program supports the company's fast-growing feed



barley and food barley initiatives, plus their new barley protein concentrate facility. The company

is adding new barley production acres to the state beyond Idaho's barley production for the malting industry.

Scoular seeks to find the best markets for barley worldwide, and with these new initiatives, the company is set to continue expanding Idaho barley production for these growing sectors.

Scoular, headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, operates a trading team in Twin Falls, Idaho, and a feed blending facility in nearby Jerome, along with grain elevators in southeast and eastern Idaho. The Idaho team has been integral in the development of the company's barley initiatives with the Western Feed Co-Products Unit based in Idaho now managing these barley programs. ■

## Allen Young Elected Idaho Barley Commission Chairman, Mike Wilkins Appointed for Second Term

Allen Young, District 3 Idaho Barley Commissioner from Blackfoot, was elected IBC Chairman at the fall meeting of the commission held November 1-2 in Boise. District 2 Commissioner Mike Wilkins from Blackfoot was elected as Vice Chairman.



Allen Young

Young has farmed in the Blackfoot area since 1982, first with his wife Jackie, and then in partnership with his sons as Young Family Farms since 2016, currently growing barley, wheat, and alfalfa on 3,000 irrigated acres.

In addition, Young earned a degree in Agricultural Economics from Brigham Young University in 1981. He has served as a board member of the CHS Bingham cooperative for 21 years and has been involved with the Idaho Grain Producers Association for many years, as well as local church and volunteer activities. Besides serving as IBC Chairman, Young represents the commission on the National Barley Growers Association board.

Wilkins was also recently appointed to serve a second term on the commission through June of 2024.

He is a third-generation barley producer in Minidoka County, where he grows barley, sugar beets and alfalfa with his son. Wilkins has been a long-time leader in Magic Valley water issues, serving on the Minidoka Irrigation District Board and Committee of Nine when the historic water agreement was crafted between surface and groundwater users on the Snake River Plain Aquifer. Wilkins also represents the commission on the National Barley Improvement Committee.



Mike Wilkins

IBC is a self-governing agency of the state of Idaho, established to enhance grower profitability through research, market development, promotion, information, and education programs and is funded by a \$0.03 per hundred weight barley checkoff tax collected on all Idaho barley at the first point of sale. The commission is governed by a four-member board of commissioner – three barley growers appointed by the Governor and one barley industry representative selected by the grower commissioners. The third grower commissioner besides Young and Wilkins is Wes Hubbard, District 1 Commissioner from Bonners Ferry. The IBC Industry Representative is Jason Boose of MolsonCoors in Burley. ■

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