

FALL 2021

IDAHO

THE IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

GRAIN



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821 West State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702-5832



VIEWS



BY JAMIE KRESS
PRESIDENT

2020's harvest was one for the record books. This harvest is breaking records too- although not in a way we would have liked. In just 12 short months the pendulum swung from one extreme record to another.

Last harvest the bushels poured in. Our son, Tyson, hardly stopped his grain cart- hustling as fast as he could from the combine down to the road to fill semis. This harvest is a different record breaking story. The wheat is literally *trickling* into the combine hopper. Tyson spends more time idle than he does moving.

It's ugly. Really ugly. Some fields look as bad as they yielded. Others showed promise with decent stands that didn't reach potential because of the year-long drought and extreme weather during grain fill. By late June this crop's fate was sealed.

I've never really loved the phrase, "misery loves company". I suppose it's because that type of thinking goes against my nature as there is always goodness and hope in life. Well, just this morning as I watched our combine cutting a field yielding eight bushel to the acre, one of our neighbor's combines drove past on the highway. They were headed to cut a crop that was just about as disappointing as ours. I chuckled to myself and thought, "misery loves company". As you might expect, the thought caught me off guard... I wasn't reveling in his misfortune. I wasn't glad to see another farmer join us in this awful harvest. I wasn't hosting a pity party... But I was grateful to see a friend.

Over the hood of a pickup truck, on social media, or in a text message, the sentiment of many grain farmers across Idaho this summer has been the same. My husband summed it up best in an interview with Reuters in July. *"The general mood among farmers in my area is as dire as I've ever seen it," Kress said. "Something about a drought like this just wears on you. You see your blood, sweat and tears just slowly wither away and die."*

It's been a rough summer complete with a rough harvest. In farming, we do all we can to work with what Mother Nature provides (or

CONTENTS

Views: Jamie Kress, IGPA President	2
Editor's Note: Stacey Satterlee	4
Gifts of Grain.....	6
Grain Craft Announces Elevator Addition at Blackfoot Flour Mill.....	7
College, Career Dreams Now More Attainable for Many Idahoans.....	8
Pacific Northwest Waterways Association Columbia Snake River System	10
Executive Board Spotlight: Justin Place	12
Executive Board Spotlight: Ty Iverson.....	17
Women Play Important Role in Idaho Agriculture.....	21
Inspired by Dr. Norman Borlaug, Margaret Krause Becomes Plant Breeding and Genetics Specialist at Utah State University	26
Varsity Idaho Launches New Wheat Varieties	28
From the Field Chats Glyphosate and Other Trade Barriers in Key Markets.....	30
Garrett Dudley Takes Research Reins at IWC.....	32
Amid Pandemic Trade Teams Turn Virtual	33
Idaho Barley Commission Annual Report.....	34
Scouler Announces Barley MVP™ to Encourage Idaho Farmers to Grow Barley.....	36
Fall for Barley Recipe	38



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doesn't) and then have to be content with the outcome. Sometimes we win, sometimes we lose. Years like this one are a unique type of defeat. A defeat that many kind friends and neighbors have genuine sympathy for, but that can't fully be understood unless they've lived it.

When farming gets hard, we turn to family, faith, and our people, our "farming family." It's our fellow farmers who understand the relentless days of frustration, disappointment, and exhaustion. They understand the pain of careful planning and thousands of hours of work that didn't materialize into the crop they hoped it would. They understand the pressure of hundreds of thousands of dollars on the line. They understand the agony of being reminded one acre at a time during harvest of what could have been. And, funny enough, they understand why we are already preparing for next year. Ready to do it again, knowing full well the journey ahead.

Misery might love company, but weary farmers love their "farming family"- an irreplaceable community of camaraderie, understanding, and support. It's a family that we couldn't have survived this year without. While Cory and I don't have as many bushels in the bin as we would have liked, we do have a great crop of friends and fellow grain farmers that no drought can take that away. And for that, I'm grateful. ■

EDITOR'S NOTE



BY STACEY KATSEANES SATTERLEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's been a long, hot, dry summer. Drought is ravaging Idaho and much of the western United States. As of mid-August, over 87% of Idaho is in D2 or worse drought, 57% is in D3 or worse drought and 21.8% of Idaho is in D4, or "Exceptional" drought. My friend Paul Arrington, Executive Director and General Counsel with the Idaho Water Users Association, said:

"This is an exceptionally dry year. In some areas of the state, we are witnessing the worst drought conditions in decades. For some areas, like the Wood River Valley, this is the driest year in the last 40-years – and it isn't even close. Throughout Idaho, our spring was among the driest on record. Add to that, for much of the State, this year saw the hottest June on record. As a result, farmers have been forced to cut back on their water use. Many fields were left fallow. Others were green chopped as farmers hoped to salvage something for their efforts. On normal years, most water supplies will last into October. This year, water supplies for some were shut off in mid-June and most will be shut off by mid-September.

"As bad as the conditions are, for many the conditions would be much worse if they couldn't rely on the extensive reservoirs systems throughout southern Idaho. These reservoirs have provided a safety barrier to soften the impacts of drought conditions. If Idaho does not have an average or above average snow pack this winter, 2022 could be devastating."

Water management and infrastructure has been critical in this dry year – a timely reminder about the importance of dams and water infrastructure. Turn to page 10 to read more about the dams on the Columbia and Snake River.

After seeing many of you in McCall for the Big Dam Meeting, Wyatt and I headed back to McCall to attend the summer meeting of the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry, the group representing Idaho's businesses, of which IGPA is a member. At one of the sessions, I sat next to someone I didn't know, Lyn White, who works for Western Governor's University. We got to chatting, and the more I learned about the University, the more impressed I was – so we invited her to write an article about WGU's offerings, on page 8.

I work closely with IGPA's Executive Board, but even I learned more about Jamie and Lucas in the last magazine – learn more about e-board members Ty Iverson and Justin Place on pages 12 and 17.

My family has been traveling all over the state this summer, trying to squeeze in as much fun as possible. We've spent weeks at my parents' house in Eastern Idaho, usually with my sister's kids for what we've come to call "cousin camp" – we drove to the Oregon coast to escape the heat and the smoke and visit my husband's family – we traveled North to Coeur d'Alene and rode the Hiawatha Trail, maybe our favorite adventure of the summer. My twins just turned 11 (I'm sure I'm not old enough to have two 11-year-olds?!) and I'm feeling very aware of the limited numbers of summers we have with these kiddos. That said – we're all ready for school to start and to get back into a routine. I hope you all have made some fun memories this summer and are having a safe harvest. I hope to see many of you this fall – IGPA's fall board meeting is scheduled for November 1-2 in Boise, then we'll head to Spokane for Tri-State Grain Growers Convention November 30 – December 3. See you there! ■

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Hessian fly	++	-	++
Grasshoppers	++	-	++



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Gifts of Grain

BY BILL LOFTUS, SCIENCE WRITER FOR COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

With harvest underway across Idaho's golden waves of grain, a program founded a dozen years ago allows farmers an unconventional approach to supporting the University of Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

When farmers give commodities to the University of Idaho Foundation, they provide the U of I college with a gift that retains their crop's full value and more.

Rather than selling your grain and donating cash, gifts of grain can reduce the producers' taxable income while providing the University of Idaho with a sizable donation and more. Consult your tax professional to learn more.

The Gifts of Grain program began when Idaho farm families wanted a way to support U of I efforts. Laura and Clay Pickard manage the Flying A Ranch near Ashton and donate wheat through the program.

"It's a very valuable and easy way to give to the university," said Laura Pickard, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural economics from U



of I. "All we have to do is provide a letter of giving to the grain elevator, make a couple of phone calls, and it's done."

She and her family, parents Clen and Emma Atchley and sister Evelyn, know the U of I well because they all earned degrees there. The Atchley clan knows the Gifts of Grain program well, too, because Clen and Emma were instrumental in founding it.

The family donates to Gifts of Grain when their harvests allow. "It depends on how we do," she said.

“Every year is different, but we try to stay around the same amount if we can.”

“It’s an easy way to directly support to programs that help the state, and it works well for us,” she said.

The U of I College of Agricultural and Life Sciences launched the program in 2010 with the advice, and a generous donation from Clen and Emma Atchley. Since then, recurring donors include Joe Anderson of Genesee, Wayne and Jacie Jensen of Genesee, Russ and Kathy Zenner of Genesee and Pat Purdy of Picabo.

The donations helped fund the Cereals Research Enhancement fund, which purchased a Kubota tractor to pull a direct-seed drill for the northern Idaho cereals team and two plot combine scales for the southern Idaho cereals team.

More information about the program is available online at www.uidaho.edu/gifts-of-grain or by contacting Ann Barrington, CALS associate director of development, at abarrington@uidaho.edu or 208-885-8606. ■

Grain Craft Announces Elevator Addition at Blackfoot Flour Mill

Idaho farmers will soon have a direct farm-to-mill option for their wheat crops. Grain Craft, the third largest flour miller in the United States, plans to construct a grain elevator at the company’s Blackfoot, Idaho flour mill. The new elevator will receive local wheat and convey it directly into the mill.

The Blackfoot mill began operations in 1996 when owned by Fisher Mills. In 2001 Pendleton Flour Mills acquired Fisher along with the mill and in 2014 Milner Milling and Pendleton Flour Mills joined together to acquire Cereal Food Processors. The three companies merged to form Grain Craft - which remains a family-owned company still today.

The elevator will be located on the Grain Craft property adjacent to the mill. Ground preparation for the elevator began in early May and the concrete pads are scheduled to begin in August. The elevator is planned to be complete during fourth quarter of 2021.

“We are excited about the opportunity to work directly with the wheat growers in Idaho,” said Alan Koenig, Chief Supply Chain Officer for Grain Craft. “Our Blackfoot mill is a leading provider of our bulk and branded bag flours throughout the west coast and central regions of the United States. This new elevator will allow us to grow our origination of Idaho wheat for our other flour mills and it will help support our ongoing commitment to source quality wheat.”

While ensuring quality during receiving is important, Grain Craft also feels that quality starts with the seed selection; therefore, the company releases an annual Grain Craft Preferred Varieties list. This list includes varieties that have been thoroughly tested and selected based on key milling and baking characteristics. Each



of these varieties have shown successful yield and end use performance. However, local extension experts should be consulted for adaptability to individual growing conditions.

The company stated that they have made wheat quality a focus for more than two decades. “The Preferred Variety program was initially launched in Idaho more than 20 years ago and Grain Craft has expanded through a recent focus on Midwest varieties,” said Koenig. “We have plans for formalizing an enhanced program throughout the Pacific Northwest in the near future.”

Grain Craft is scheduled to begin receiving wheat into the new elevator in late 2021. Producers interested in providing wheat to Grain Craft should contact either Tyler Scifers at tscifers@graincraft.com or Dan Bahr at dbahr@graincraft.com. ■

College, Career Dreams Now More Attainable for Many Idahoans

BY LYN WHITE, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL/GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

Ana Vargas is a paraeducator from Idaho Falls and a first-generation college student with a dream of earning her teaching license and having a classroom of her own. But, like many other rural Idahoans who want to advance in their careers—including 160,000 with some college but no degree—financial constraints and limited options for place-bound adult learners created barriers.



On June 15, Governor Brad Little helped remove common barriers to higher education for many Idahoans by partnering with Western Governors University (WGU) through an administrative action that qualifies the university's students for need-based financial assistance. Idahoans who choose to attend WGU—an online, nonprofit university—are now eligible to apply for the Adult Learner Opportunity Scholarship, the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship, the Idaho Gear UP Scholarship, the Idaho Post-Secondary Credit Scholarship, and the Idaho Advanced Opportunities Grant.

The historic agreement is part of a collaborative effort between the state of Idaho and WGU that seeks to support thousands of Idahoans, like Ana.

“I am so happy WGU and Idaho have formed this partnership,” Ana shared. “It acknowledges the quality of WGU’s degree programs, and means more first-generation, rural students can continue to live and work in their hometowns.”

This isn't the first time Idaho has made a significant investment in its adult learners. In 1997, along with 18 other sitting state governors that compose the Western Governors Association, Idaho Governor Phil Batt and the state legislature committed \$100,000 to support the creation of WGU. As new technology enabled students to learn solely online, Idaho and other states with evolving workforce needs envisioned WGU as an innovative way to earn higher education degrees.

That vision has paid off in ways they likely never imagined. Since its inception, WGU has graduated more than 240,000 students with bachelor's and master's degrees and has become the largest university in the nation with approximately 140,000 full-time students currently enrolled.

Adults Learners are Critical for Idaho's Workforce

WGU serves students in every state, including 2,300 Idahoans who are currently enrolled—many of which are rural residents who work in agriculture and manufacturing. Seventy percent (70%) of its students are women and an equal percent come from historically underserved populations, such as rural, low-income, and first-generation students. The median age of a WGU graduate is 37, and the university is keenly focused on offering in-demand degrees and credentials that fulfill employers' evolving needs—including programs in K-12 teacher education, information technology, business, and healthcare.

Adult learners, as Gov. Little and Idaho leaders recognize, are critical for future success of the state's workforce. Aside from numerous on-the-job skills they've accumulated, a large portion of Idaho learners have already benefitted from state investments in their higher education—including many of the 160,000 residents with

some college but no degree. The investment by the state, while deferred, can be fully realized when learners return to postsecondary programs and finish degrees.

Unlike some students fresh out of high school, adult learners are highly motivated and focused on the next step in their careers. They are typically married with children, work full-time or part-time jobs, and are tax-paying members of local communities. Idaho's rural learners might be the best student investment available—typically, they are not moving out of state after earning degrees, but rather pursuing degrees to advance in their current agriculture industry organizations or to re-skill for other local employment opportunities.

“I am so happy WGU and Idaho have formed this partnership,” Ana shared. “It acknowledges the quality of WGU’s degree programs, and means more first-generation, rural students can continue to live and work in their hometowns.”



“The reality is our employers desperately need skilled workers in many different fields, including health care, education, cybersecurity, and manufacturing,” said Governor Little. “WGU has an important presence in Idaho, particularly in serving adult-learners—many of whom are working full-time while pursuing their education, are first-generation students, and live in rural Idaho. Deepening our state’s collaboration with WGU supports my broader efforts to create opportunity and prosperity across Idaho.”

Education is Idahoans’ surest path to opportunity and prosperity

Adult learners—even more so than their “traditional student” counterparts—quickly benefit economically from earning postsecondary credentials. In fact, national survey results from Harris Poll Online show that WGU graduates increase their salaries by an average of \$12,300 within two years of graduating, and by \$21,800 within four years of graduating. And 89 percent of WGU graduates are employed within their degree fields.

These economic benefits can affect rising generations, making their hopes and dreams attainable, and perhaps even break familial cycles of intergenerational poverty. For instance, statistics show that when the mother of a household holds a postsecondary degree, the children achieve that same goal at a much higher rate.

“Governor Little knows how important education is as a pathway to opportunity, and he knows how many residents across Idaho need access to high-quality education that’s aligned with the workforce and economy the state is developing,” said WGU President, Scott Pulsipher. “WGU is particularly suited to partner with Idaho because so many residents in the state are from rural areas. In fact, 35 percent of WGU students in Idaho are rural residents, which is double the national average for our students.”

Adult learners are different because their circumstances are different. They typically don’t have the flexibility to attend a traditional college that requires seat time. The choice to provide for their family or sit in a classroom is an easy decision for them to make.

“Online education was important before, but is going to be doubly important going forward,” stated Gov. Little

“Online education was important before, but is going to be doubly important going forward,” stated Gov. Little at a ceremonial partnership agreement signing on June 15. “There’s no question that WGU is going to be a big part of the answer to this issue.”



Scott Pulsipher awards Ana Vargas with the scholarship.

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Now, with online learning at WGU, working learners don’t have to make an either-or decision. They can live their busy lives—personal and professional—while earning affordable, respected college degrees. Because WGU evaluates competency, not seat time, learners are free to move at their own pace. They are in control of their education, and for less than \$7,000 a year can complete bachelor’s degrees with little to no student debt—and especially now that they have access to need-based financial assistance from the state.

“It’s really hard to find financial help and until now everything has been out-of-pocket,” remarked Vargas, who was one the WGU students who attended the Idaho-WGU partnership signing ceremony on June 15. Vargas is eligible for need-based assistance and also earned a scholarship from WGU. “It’s really important because it takes that stress away from having to save the money or risk not being able to return the next semester,

or it saves you from having to get loans and take on debt,” she said.

In celebration of the partnership that created the WGU Idaho affiliate, the university has established the WGU-Idaho Partnership Scholarship, which will support 100 students with up to \$4,000 in annual financial aid. Students can learn more and apply at wgu.edu/idaho.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION COLUMBIA SNAKE RIVER SYSTEM

SUSTAINING NORTHWEST COMMUNITIES FOR 80 YEARS

The Columbia Snake River System provides our region with clean power, family-wage jobs, efficient transportation, irrigation, flood control, and more. This complex system of dams, locks, irrigation, and fish passage infrastructure has strengthened the Pacific Northwest communities for more than 80 years. It is even more critical today as we fight climate change while maintaining economic stability and the Northwest way of life.



The Northwest is one of the nation's top export regions thanks to our working waterways. Barging on the Snake River provides jobs and economic activity for our communities and keeps the Northwest competitive with other trade hubs, such as the Canadian West Coast and the U.S. Gulf Coast region.



The system provides us with a clean, reliable source of renewable power: hydroelectricity. Hydroelectricity allows incorporation of intermittent renewables such as wind and solar, providing a stable base of electricity while helping the region and nation reduce carbon emissions. Clean, abundant energy is increasingly important as electrification becomes a key tool in slowing climate change.



Irrigation and municipal water supply from the Columbia and Snake rivers support hundreds of communities and farms across the region. The Northwesterners who live and work in these agricultural communities feed our nation and the world, growing tree fruit, wheat, potatoes, onions, pulse crops, barley, oilseeds, livestock, and much more for U.S. and international markets.



Fuel-efficient barging on the Columbia Snake River System keeps thousands of trucks off the highways. This helps reduce congestion and pollution in a time when addressing climate change is a top priority.

OUR BALANCED RIVER SYSTEM IS AT RISK

Some in our region are advocating for the breaching of the four federal dams on the Lower Snake River. They believe this is the only solution to save salmon, and therefore, save Puget Sound's Southern Resident orcas.

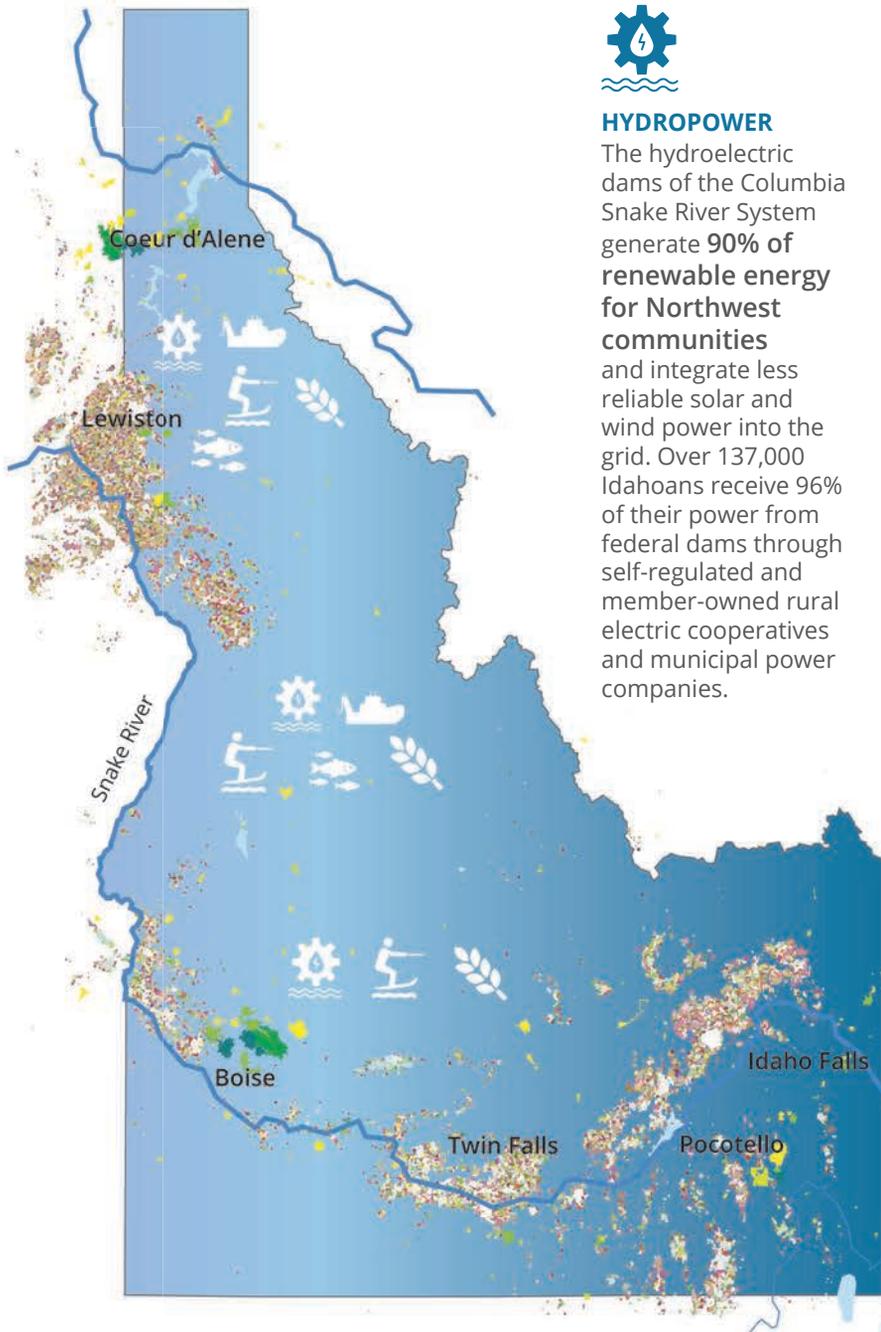
We share their commitment to healthy salmon and orca populations. In fact, **95% of juvenile fish** pass through each of the eight federal dams on the system today, and our region and nation continually improve fish passage, survival, and habitat. But salmon survival just isn't simple; the species faces a variety of challenges, including poor ocean conditions, birds, sea lions, predatory fish, and more.

The Northwest is a global example of maintaining a healthy economy and environment through good management practices and reinvestment in our natural resources.

IDAHO

A STRONG RIVER SYSTEM BENEFITS IDAHO

This map shows where your constituents see benefits from the river system, including low-carbon electricity, agriculture-related commerce, habitat investments, and recreation and related economic benefit.



HYDROPOWER

The hydroelectric dams of the Columbia Snake River System generate **90% of renewable energy for Northwest communities** and integrate less reliable solar and wind power into the grid. Over 137,000 Idahoans receive 96% of their power from federal dams through self-regulated and member-owned rural electric cooperatives and municipal power companies.



TRANSPORTATION

The Columbia Snake River System provides a **vital connection between U.S. growers and manufacturers with global markets**. It is the top wheat export gateway in the nation, second for soy and corn exports, and tops on the West Coast for autos, wood, and mineral bulk exports. The Port of Lewiston is a key shipping hub for the state, linking Idaho residents with efficient,



FISH HABITAT

Federal, state, tribal, and other partners work together to balance the river system by **protecting and restoring thousands of miles of salmon habitat**. Projects include increasing water volume in streams, installing screens to keep fish out of irrigation canals and removing barriers to fish passage. The fish habitat program in the Columbia Basin includes hundreds of projects in Idaho and is among the largest and most comprehensive programs in the nation.



RECREATION

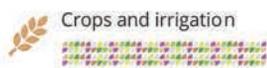
The river system supports local economies through many types of recreation, including kayaking, paddle boarding, jet boats, and more. The burgeoning cruise industry brings thousands of passengers up the Columbia and Snake rivers, with day trips, meals, shopping, and other services generating **\$3.4 million in economic activity** for the Lewis Clark Valley each year.



AGRICULTURE

Water from the river system and its tributaries irrigates more than **5 million acres of farmland, supporting crops like potatoes, cherries, grapes, hops, and more**. About 6% of the Columbia River's flow is used for irrigation, some of which returns to the river. Idaho is also home to significant wheat production, with both dryland and irrigated wheat acres yielding high-quality grain for overseas and domestic markets.

LEGEND



Hydropower



Transportation



Fish Habitat



Recreation



Agriculture

EXECUTIVE BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Justin Place

EXECUTIVE MEMBER, IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tell us about your hometown, where you grew up and where you live now? I was born and raised in Hamer, Idaho. Hamer is a tiny town 30 miles north of Idaho Falls. We have one church, an elementary school—and the post office of course. I went to the same church and school my whole life.

When I was growing up, we attended K-8 in Hamer Elementary, then we went to the high school. Today, the kids go K-3 at the Hamer elementary school, then over to the middle school in Terreton and then to West Jefferson High School.

All 4 houses I've lived in are within a 3 mile radius. Tara and I recently purchased and moved into my childhood home, which sets in the yard of the farm.

Tell us about your operation. We farm 1,250 acres of irrigated land with pivots. In 1970 Dad bought his first desert entry farm ground for \$1.35 per acre. It was nothing more than sage brush, so we cleared the land and put pivots on. We continued to clear sage brush as our acreage expanded. We raise barley, wheat, alfalfa hay and mustard. We've contracted barley with Anheuser-Busch for many years. We lease potato ground out to another farm family nearby.

Who had the greatest influence on you during your childhood? I would definitely have to give credit to my parents. They both had a strong work ethic and installed that in me and my siblings. Mom probably softened the edges on us more than Dad but they both believed in hard work and we learned that from an early age.

Is there a happy memory from your childhood that stands out? Wow, there are probably too many to count. I had a great childhood so I have a lot of really great memories. We used to raise cattle so I have a lot of fun memories involving the cattle drives—we would drive them from Dubois to Island Park and the kids would play cards at the cabin up there using matchsticks as money.

We would skinny dip in water troughs, float down the creek in inner tubes—we did lots of fun silly kid things. I spent a lot of time with my parents, especially my Dad,

working alongside him baling hay and probably doing some dumb stuff he had to deal with me on. I miss those times and realize just how quickly it all goes by. I've tried to spend a lot of time with my boys through the years and have some of the same memories and traditions, like baling hay together with them as well.



One of my most adventurous childhood memories was my Christmas break in Yuma, Arizona. I was 15 years old when two friends and I headed out, the day after Christmas. We were three teenage boys, unaccompanied, life before cell phones. We did spend a few nights with my friend's relatives in Yuma. We went to Vegas, Mexico, San Diego's Sea World, Played in the ocean, saw the "London Bridge" where it currently sits in Arizona, drove across the Hoover Dam, went to the Grand Canyon, and had a grand whirlwind adventure! At each town we would check the gas and fill the oil; we used a case of oil on our way home. As a father of teenage boys, I can't believe my parents consented!

What's your educational background? I went to West Jefferson High School and really wanted to enlist in the military but my Dad was not excited about it. This was just after Vietnam so the last thing you wanted to do was to send your kid off to some foreign place they may not come back from. So from there, I took some college courses for a certifications as an electronics technician. I took a farm business management class from Idaho State University, which was a great experience because it's really tailored for farmers and ranchers. The session runs during the winter months when you're not farming so you start in October and you're done by the first of March. It really was a great course! I learned about economics, business law, and a variety of other topics I use to run my own operation.

Continued on next page

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Armyworm



Cutworm



Wireworm



Continued from previous page

Was there a teacher or educator during your early years that had an impact on your life? My ag teacher in high school, Don Bird. We have kept in contact over the years and I just really learned a lot from him during my high school days. I learned how to weld, basic carpentry, basic electrical wiring—all skills I use on the farm every day. Don still teaches out at West Jefferson High School and three of my four boys had him as an ag teacher, too.

What did you want to be when you grew up and is that what you currently do for work? I was going to go into electronics or be a sheep herder. But here I am, doing what I love - farming.

Tell us about your family. My wife Tara and I have been married for 25 years—we just celebrated that big milestone. We have four boys; two from my previous marriage and Tara and I have two together. She's an amazing lady and of course counts them all as hers.

Our older two are married -Kyler and his wife Sylvia gave us our first grandbaby this spring— his name is Beckett and he is the best! Kyler works in St. Anthony as an Assistant Manager at a hardware store and Sylvia

works at a counseling center. They live in Idaho Falls so we are able to see them quite a bit.

Our son, Alex is married to Amy and they also live in Idaho Falls. Alex is a receptionist at a doctor's office and Amy works at Western Governor's University and is a coordinator for Field Placement. She sets up a school placement when a student needs to do student teaching.

Daniel is attending college at ISU majoring in industrial physical cyber security. He wants to eventually work for a power or water plant putting things in place to make sure they don't get cyber attacked.

Truman is our youngest (I call him Peanut) and he is going to ISU this fall for his second year studying accounting.

How did you meet your spouse? Where did you go on your first date? Well, I'll tell you this, we did not meet in a bar! We actually met at a church singles dance. I had been divorced and Tara had never been married so on our first date we took Kyler and Alex along and went to the sand dunes. We packed all four of us into a tiny Toyota Tacoma pick-up, single seat, so it was tight but we had a lot of fun. Tara is a real family person and my



priority at that point in life, besides farming, was raising my boys so our dating life really involved my kids. She understood that we were a package deal. I asked her, “Does it scare you to be dating a divorced guy from Hamer, where all the sand and wind blows, with two kids?” She said no so I knew she was a keeper.

What do you do in your free time and other things you do in your community? Honestly, I probably think about farming even when I am not farming. I do sit on a local telephone co-op board where I serve as the vice-chairman and most of my Sunday is dedicated to my responsibilities at our church.

I also sit on a grower advisory committee for Anheuser Busch. That committee is a grower-based group so our whole goal is really just trying to get the voice of the grower out there—so we can feel like we have some say as far as sustainability and other big issues. The great thing about an advisory committee is that it brings in more people and more voices. I work with guys that grow barley, hops, rice, and we are all working to figure out how the farmers can move in the same direction as AB going forwards. We really push the sustainability piece with regards to water, wind, power. It’s a great group to be a part of and makes me feel like I am making a difference.

What one word would you use to describe yourself? Tara would probably say loyal. I like to think of myself as a problem- solver and listener, too.

If you could have dinner with one famous person, living or not, who would it be and why? Well, this is just my theory. You’re really only famous if somebody knows you. If I don’t know them, they’re not that famous to me. But if I had to answer I would

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say three people: Mike Rowe (Dirty Jobs guy) would be one. I think he would be an interesting guy; he's been around and seen a lot of things, so he could appreciate the common person. Next I would say Harrison Ford because he strikes me as a common person. He actually got his start in Hollywood as a carpenter on movie sets. Finally, I would say Morgan Freeman because I think he's kind of cool and he could narrate my story with his cool voice.

If you could be or do anything else – what would it be?

I think I would be an accountant. Everything has an order and that works well with my mind.

Thing you love most about farming? Probably what I love the most about farming is the same thing that I hate—all the challenges that come up daily. I love the challenge of trying to get the best crop I can with conditions I have. However, when those conditions don't work out it's pretty frustrating. It's also the day-to-day change I love—I couldn't do the same thing day after day. In our fast-paced society, we're always



changing and that's probably a good thing. Some days I am a farmer, some days I am a mechanic, a welder, an accountant. Some days I wear all the hats at the same time!

Why did you decide to serve on IGPA? I got involved in IGPA as a push from my Dad. My first experience with the group was when I went to Tri-State Grain Growers Convention back in 2014 or so when Clark Hamilton was the outgoing president and Sid Cellan was moving into the president spot.

I really didn't know what to expect. My Dad thought it was going to be a group that taught you how to grow better grain. What I found was it was all about the politics of things, networking and having your voice be heard—really working on policy that makes a difference for Idaho growers. Dwight Little was on the Barley Commission at that time and he led me around and introduced me to all the movers and shakers in the industry. I was glad I didn't get tested on names back then!

Over time, I began to realize how important the work of IGPA is and being a part of it has been extremely rewarding and time well spent for me. The networking opportunities and meeting new people in our industry across the state and the nation—it's given me a lot of good contacts and good people I would not have known. If I have a question I can talk to my buddy in North Dakota on supply chain or anything else. We can discuss our different areas where we live and how we each do things a little differently, what worked for each of us—it's like a sounding board of sorts.

Some of my favorite times have been after our board meetings when we are in Boise or wherever we happen to be—after dinner and we all have the “campfire session”, as I call it. Everyone sitting around, catching up on each other's lives—be it work or family. Sitting around visiting about each of our operations, how we're doing and working through things with different ideas, information, what works and all that. I really enjoy that time together of sharing and really getting to know each other as friends.

How do you interact with the staff? What is that process like? We are all a team and I use the cliché “we're all in this together.” I feel like we have a good, solid team between the executive board and the staff. Everyone is diverse in what they do and with that diversity you get different experience and ideas to



bring to the table and move the group along. With the craziness of the last year, Zoom meetings have worked out well for those of us on the farm. We can hop on a meeting and be done in an hour and back to work.

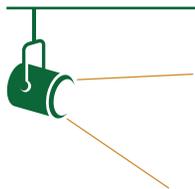
What national boards are you involved in? I sit on the National Barley Growers Association (NBGA) board so Lucas and I share the barley spotlight. With the last year and all the cancelled meetings, I am really hoping this next year is better and I am able to attend more of the national meetings in person.

Biggest goals during your time on the e-board? Well, I joke that I'm the old guy on the board but also the new guy on the board. I hope I can pick up some good information from all the members who have been there longer but also contribute what I know and my own ideas. My goal would be to listen to the growers and farmers and try to do my best to represent them. I am proud to be a part of the leadership team for such a great, grassroots organization that is the farming community of Idaho.

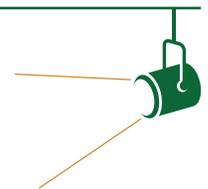


Tell us about the award you recently received.

Well I was just awarded the 2021 Jefferson County Conservation Farmer of the Year Award by Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation. I feel pretty honored to receive this award. Guess I must be doing something right with all changes in my farming practices. ■



EXECUTIVE BOARD SPOTLIGHT



Ty Iverson

SECRETARY/TREASURER, IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tell us a little bit about your hometown, where you grew up and where you live now? I live in Boundary County, the northernmost county in Idaho. The county seat is Bonners Ferry, the only real “town” in the county. It’s beautiful country – the fertile Kootenai River Valley flows through the middle and is surrounded by mountains. Timber is a huge industry up here, as well as grain farms like ours and many tree farms.

Tell us about your operation. We run a small family farm, it’s mostly dryland with a couple hundred irrigated acres of grass seed production. We grow wheat, barley, canola, grass seed, and a little bit of alfalfa and timothy grass for hay. Our ground is very productive, but it comes with many unique challenges as well. We have a lot of pest and disease issues,

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and we are so far from any sort of market that our transportation costs are very high.

Who had the greatest influence on you during your childhood? My parents and grandparents. They all worked hard, but also valued family. It's a tough balancing act to try to be successful at both, but they were great role models for me.

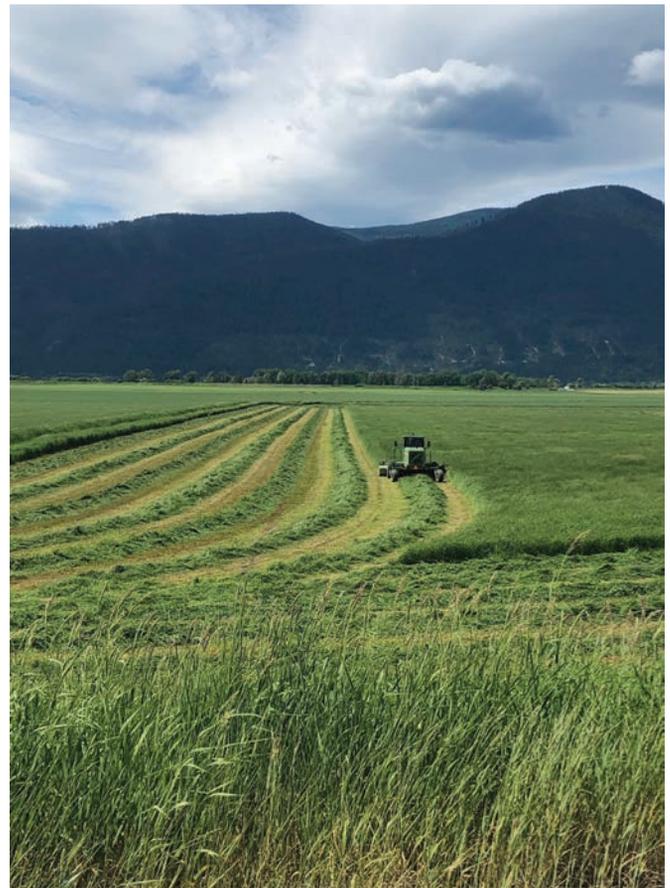
Do you have happy memories from your childhood? As a family, we did a lot of fun activities outside, like sports, hiking, camping, and boating. I also have a ton of great memories from working on the farm and hanging out with my dad and our crew.

What is your educational background? I graduated from Bonners Ferry High School in 1999 and then went on to attend the University of Idaho, where I obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics. While at U of I, I was a member of FarmHouse Fraternity and took two semesters off to do internships – one with Food Producers of Idaho in Boise, and one with U.S. Senator Larry Craig in Washington, DC.

Was there a teacher or educator during your early years that had an impact on your life? There have been many, but two that stand out to me are Dan Butler in high school and Dr. Joe Guenther in college. Both shared my interests in politics and sports, and both pushed me to work harder to reach my goals.

What did you want to be when you grew up and is that what you currently do for work? I wanted to be a farmer, of course! Honestly, I probably would have started farming right out of high school if my parents would have let me. But they encouraged me to leave for a while and get some 'real world' experience outside the farm. And I'm glad they did. The few years I was gone really helped shape me, and also gave me a better appreciation for what we have here at home.

Tell us about your family. My wife Lisa and I just celebrated our 10th anniversary this summer. We have two children together – our daughter Cody, who was born in 2012 and passed away two days after birth, and our son Colton, who just turned 7 and will be in the 1st grade this year. Lisa started her career as a teacher, and then became an elementary school principal. Most recently, she was hired to be the Principal at Bonners Ferry High School.



How did you meet your spouse? Where did you go on your first date? Lisa, who is from Priest River, just happened to get her first teaching job out of college at Bonners Ferry High School. I had heard about her, but the first time we actually met in person was at a demolition derby here in town (very romantic). She wasn't very impressed with me at first, but I'm pretty persistent and I won her over eventually. The rest is history.

What do you do in your free time and other things you do in your community? We like to go to the lake in the summer and watch/attend sporting events most of the rest of the year. I enjoy hunting in the fall when I can find the time to. As far as community goes, I serve on the local Weed Board and Ambulance Board.

What one word would you use to describe yourself? Grateful.

If you could have dinner with one famous person, living or not, who would it be and why? Anyone who's served as U.S. President. Preferably Reagan or one of

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the Bushes. I'm fascinated by what it must take to keep this country running, and I'd love to hear some 'behind the scenes' stories of what happens in the White House.

If you could be or do anything else – what would it be?

Probably a High School ag teacher and football coach. I love farming, but the one thing missing is that I don't get to be around kids. I think kids are pretty inspiring and bring out the best in all of us. Luckily, I get to spend quite a bit of time at Lisa & Colton's schools, and I really enjoy that.

What do you love most about farming? I like that no two days are ever the same, and that we get to be outside a lot. I also like that you get rewarded for your hard work. Usually in farming (not always), the harder you work, the more successful you are. I also really enjoy the people you get to work with in the ag industry. For the most part, they seem to be more honest and straight-forward than other industries.

Why did you decide to serve on IGPA? How has the experience been? What has been your favorite part?

My dad served as president of IGPA many years ago, so it's something I always wanted to do. The hardest part was just trying to figure out the best time to do it. It's a huge time commitment, so I kept thinking I was too busy to do it. I finally conceded that life is just



always going to be busy, so might as well just do it now! I've really enjoyed it so far – I've gotten to meet some amazing people, and it's very fulfilling to know that I am serving for the betterment of grain growers in our state.

How are decisions made? How do you interact with the staff? What is that process like?

I think structure of IGPA is perfect for representing growers throughout the state. Our board members come from all areas of the state, so it's a great blend. Those of us on E-Board communicate constantly, which keeps things running, and any major decisions we hold off and present to the full board for discussion. It's truly a grass-roots organization.

Our staff is incredible. I hear stories about other organizations where board members feel that the staff doesn't do much or isn't active enough. IGPA is the opposite – our staff is relentless! They work tirelessly to keep things moving forward for the organization. If anything, I think they get frustrated with us board members for being too busy farming to keep up with them sometimes. We are really fortunate to have the people working for us in Boise that we do right now, I couldn't ask for more.

What national boards do you sit on? Jamie Kress and I serve as the two representatives for Idaho on the board for the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG). I also serve on two committees on NAWG – the Environment & Research Committee (ERC), and the Special Committee on Sustainability and Climate

What are your biggest goals during your time on the e-board? I'm pretty fortunate to have come in at good time for IGPA – I think the people who served in this role before me did a great job, so there isn't really anything major that needs fixing. My biggest goal is just to make sure every grower in Idaho is heard and represented. It's challenging trying to reach everyone in the rural areas, but we are constantly updating mailing lists, contact info, etc... to try to make sure we do. Every growers' thoughts and opinions matter – and I want to make sure we hear them. ■





Women are at the helm of Idaho's grain organizations with left to right: Laura Wilder, Idaho Barley Commission; Casey Chumrau, Idaho Wheat Commission; Stacey Satterlee, Idaho Grain Producers Association

Women Play Important Role in Idaho Agriculture

BY SEAN ELLIS, IDAHO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE AUGUST IDAHO FARM BUREAU QUARTERLY

POCATELLO – The 2017 Census of Agriculture showed that about a third more women were involved as principal operators on farms and ranches in the United States compared with the 2012 census year.

Without understanding the census reporting criteria, that statistic is misleading.

In reality, there wasn't a sudden jump in the number of women involved in agriculture in the United States between 2012 and 2017.

What happened is that USDA, which carries out the ag census, expanded its reporting requirements and did a better job capturing how many women are involved as main decision-makers on the farm and ranch.

That women are heavily involved in running the family farm or ranch is no big shocker to people who are involved in agriculture.

The role that women play on the family farm has been underestimated and undercounted over the years, says Laura Wilder, who is now the fifth-generation owner of her family ranch and also serves as Executive Director of the Idaho Barley Commission.

“Women have always been involved in agriculture as an equal and supporting partner,” she says.

The Census of Agriculture is conducted every five years and attempts to count all the farms and ranches in the country.

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The 2017 census data showed 32 percent more women involved as principal operators on farms and ranches in Idaho compared with 2012. That increase was a result of a change in how USDA collected data in 2017.

The department expanded its reporting requirements during the 2017 census to include more primary decision makers on a farm. That change allowed USDA to better capture the involvement of women as main decision makers on farms and ranches.

“Women have always played as much of a role on the farm as their husbands have, maybe just in different ways,” says Britany Hurst Marchant, who serves as Communications and Grower Education Manager for the Idaho Wheat Commission.

Idaho Grain Producers Association Executive Director Stacey Katseanes Satterlee says men and women have long been equal partners on the farm, although their roles have differed depending on their skills. Some are better on the financial and bookkeeping side while others are better suited to handle the operations and logistics side.

“This has long been the arrangement on the family farm,” she says. “It’s just now that the census is picking that up.”



Laura Wilder, Idaho Barley Commission Executive Director, says that women have always been equal and supporting partners on the farm but have been undercounted over the years.

Idaho Wheat Commission Executive Director Casey Chumrau says she believes a lot of women farmers have underestimated the role they play on the farm and in agriculture. They shouldn’t, she adds.

“They are involved in the farm on a daily basis, doing things like driving trucks or doing the books,” Chumrau says. “These are critical roles that aren’t secondary. They are co-main operators and critical pieces to the success of the farm.”

The most recent census showed there were 17,230 female producers in Idaho in 2017 and 27,125 male producers.

When Jamie Kress and her husband, Cory, bought their farm in 2004, she came to the operation with a degree in accounting and a background helping operate her father’s tire business.

On the Kress farm, Cory handles most of the operations side while Jamie handles most of the financial and bookkeeping duties and tracks equipment repairs.

“I grew up in accounting and with a business background and have a natural affinity for it,” Jamie Kress says. “I stepped in doing the things I was good at, and Cory did the same.”

Every farm is unique in how it’s operated but women have long been heavily involved in the operation of the family farm and ranch, she says.

If you are a farmer’s wife, “You can’t avoid being involved in one way or another,” Jamie Kress says. “It’s such a way of life for all of us.”

According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, 75 percent of female producers in Idaho are involved in record keeping or financial management on the farm and ranch, compared with 74 percent of men.

When it comes to estate or succession planning, 54 percent of women are involved, compared with 56 percent of men.

When it comes to livestock decisions, 59 percent of women are involved and 66 percent of men.



Idaho Wheat Commission Executive Director Casey Chumrau, shown here with Lewis County wheat grower Christopher Riggers, believes a lot of women have underestimated the role they play on the farm and in agriculture. They shouldn't, she adds.

When it comes to crop or other land-use decisions, 63 percent of women are involved and 86 percent of men.

The census shows that 79 percent of female producers in Idaho are involved in day-to-day decisions about the farm or ranch, compared with 92 percent of male producers.

What the census data doesn't show is that a very high percentage of women run the state's various farm and ranch commissions and associations.

Most of Idaho's farm commissions and associations have female directors, including the Idaho Wheat Commission, Idaho Barley Commission, Idaho Bean Commission, Idaho Wine Commission, Dairy West, Idaho Beef Council, Idaho Grain Producers Association, Idaho Wool Growers Association, Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission, Idaho Apple Commission and Idaho Cherry Commission.

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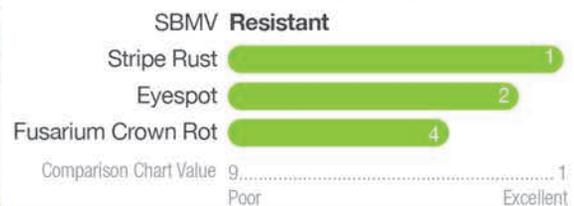
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Jamie Kress recently became the IGPA’s first-ever female president.

The director of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture is also a woman. In fact, Celia Gould is the longest-serving ISDA director ever.

That’s only a partial list.

That most of Idaho’s farm organizations are run by women might come as a surprise to many people but it probably shouldn’t.

According to the 2017 Census of Ag, female producers in Idaho make up 39 percent of the state’s total ag producers. Nationwide, that percentage is 27 percent.

Satterlee, who also serves as president of Food Producers of Idaho in addition to executive director of IGPA, says it’s unique that Idaho farm organizations are dominated by women leaders but not surprising.

“All of these women are really smart, hard-working, driven, savvy and really good at what they do,” she says. “You can see that by how well all of our ag commissions and organizations are doing. They’re thriving.”

Wilder says a lot of the women in Idaho who lead farm organizations grew up with a background in agriculture and “we understand all the things that need to be done to promote the industry. We love working with growers to make the industry better.”

She says her love for the farming way of life and a strong desire to help tell positive stories about food production, farmers and ranchers led her to study agricultural journalism and ag education in college.

“My personal experiences and education have helped me develop a wide range of skills well-suited to commission work,” Wilder says.

She says most of Idaho’s ag commissions have a very small staff and their leaders have to be willing and able to handle diverse duties, from business and accounting to marketing and public relations, and they

Most of Idaho’s farm commissions and associations have female directors, including the Idaho Wheat Commission, Idaho Barley Commission, Idaho Bean Commission, Idaho Wine Commission, Dairy West, Idaho Beef Council, Idaho Grain Producers Association, Idaho Wool Growers Association, Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission, Idaho Apple Commission and Idaho Cherry Commission.



Rockland farmer Jamie Kress is shown here with former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. Kress, the first female president of Idaho Grain Producers Association, says women who live on a farm “can’t avoid being involved in one way or another. It’s such a way of life for all of us.”

also have to have a strong understanding of science and agriculture, coupled with the ability to work with all types of people, from farmers to industry professionals to scientists, dietitians and consumers.

“As women, we are inherently good at multi-tasking, versatile, and very capable of the demands and needs of commission business,” Wilder says.

While women dominate the leadership positions in Idaho’s agricultural commissions and organizations, that’s not the case when it comes to the actual commissioners and board members.

“I think there’s something to be said for the men who serve on the boards of these commissions and associations who allow women a seat at the table,” Marchant says.

Chumrau says the next step beyond women serving in leadership roles in Idaho’s ag industry is getting more women to serve as

commissioners and on boards.

“Most of the commissioners are still mainly men, which is fine, but it would be nice to have a larger representation of women on those boards,” she says. ■

2020/2021 Budget Review

A glance at how Idaho's grower dollars were allocated during FY2021, which ended June 30. Record yields in 2020 resulted in record revenues for IWC of \$4,056,744 in 2020/2021. Actual expenses were just 87% of budgeted expenses -- leaving a nice surplus to make up for what will likely be a low revenue year in 2021/2022.



\$200,000 contributed to the IWC Endowed Chair for Risk Management at University of Idaho. IWC has now contributed \$1,600,000 of a \$2,000,000 pledge.



Licensed UI Cookie, a soft white spring wheat variety. UI Cookie will be available commercially in 2023 -- royalty free.



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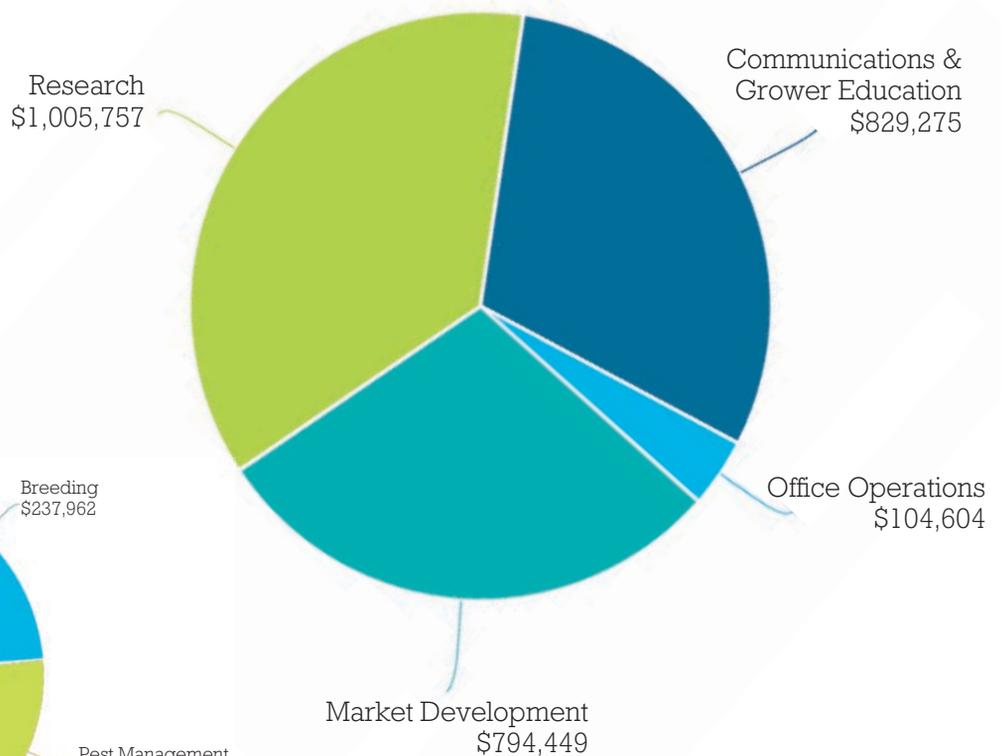
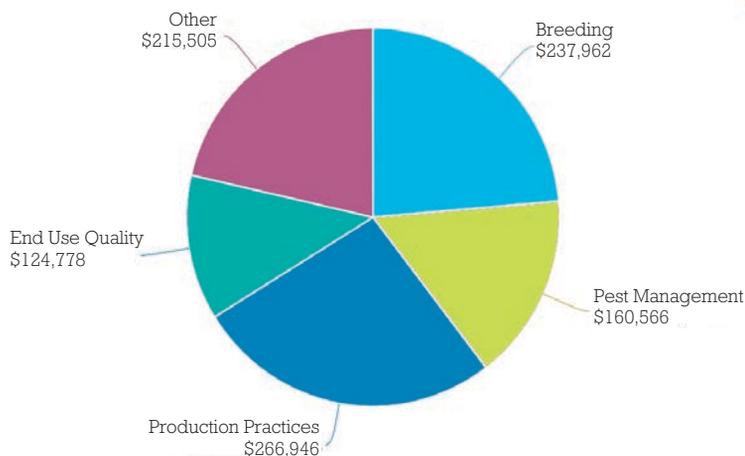
Reached 7,000 Idaho fourth graders through the Bread in a Bag program.



Supported 27 research projects at UI, USDA ARS, OSU, WSU, and Wheat Marketing Center.

Grower Investment

Research Budget





Inspired by Dr. Norman Borlaug, Margaret Krause Becomes Plant Breeding and Genetics Specialist at Utah State University

Dr. Margaret Krause has joined the Department of Plant, Soils, and Climate at Utah State University (USU) in Logan, Utah, as an Assistant Professor whose area of expertise is plant breeding and genetics. We sat down with Dr. Krause for an introduction in her own words.

Dr. Margaret Krause: I grew up in the Twin Cities area in Minnesota and attended the University of Minnesota for undergraduate. Like many students, I didn't have a clear idea of what I wanted to study when I first arrived on campus. A few weeks into the semester, Dr. Norman Borlaug, who was an alumnus of the university, passed away. There was some press around campus regarding his contributions to wheat and the Green Revolution, and that's how I first learned about plant breeding as a career option. Inspired by his story, I began working in the wheat breeding and genetics laboratory on campus, led by Dr. Jim Anderson, and declared a major in Applied Plant Science, graduating in 2014. I then earned a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding from Cornell University in 2019 with Dr. Michael Gore and small grains breeder Dr. Mark Sorrells.

Explain to us your previous work. I just wrapped up a postdoc at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in Mexico, where I worked with the Global Wheat Program and Dr. Matthew Reynolds on two projects. In the first, we used genetics to understand why some varieties perform consistently well in most environments while others are highly variable. The second project aimed to increase yield under heat and drought by combining "source" (e.g. high biomass) and "sink" (e.g. high kernel weight) traits.

In 2013, some growers from the New York Corn and Soybean Growers Association initiated a research project to build optimal planting density prescriptions based on their own on-farm data. They turned to the university for support in data analysis just as I was getting started at Cornell and looking for a project. I didn't expect to work on precision agriculture as part of a plant breeding graduate program, but the project turned out to be one of the most fruitful, educational, and fulfilling experiences of my graduate studies. I worked directly with



growers, traveling to their farms to take measurements, and presenting updates at their annual crop tour. Every time I met with a grower, I felt like I learned something new about production agriculture. Most graduate students in plant breeding have little to no direct contact with growers, so it was a unique opportunity. The methods we developed were tested on growers' farms and were also communicated in an Agronomy Journal article. I'm proud of what we were able to accomplish, and I think the experience set me up well to begin working with growers from my new role at USU.

Why Utah State University? While CIMMYT provides an outstanding environment for those interested in breeding and research in wheat, there aren't as many opportunities to work with growers or connect with students through teaching and advising. The position at Utah State University (USU) seemed to encompass those aspects in addition to providing an opportunity to work on wheat, so I was excited about the possibility of continuing my career here.

Tell us a little about your current position at Utah State. I am building on one hundred years of wheat research and breeding at USU. Wade Dewey and David Hole put USU on the map for their work on resistance to dwarf bunt, which has been a major challenge in the

region historically. They initiated a screening nursery in Logan where breeders from around the world can send material to be evaluated against the disease. It's a top priority for me to continue this important work and perhaps approach it from some new angles.

How will your previous work integrate into your new position?

At CIMMYT I also had the opportunity to work with some emerging technologies within plant breeding, namely genomics and remote sensing (e.g. drones, satellites). These tools can help us identify promising breeding material more accurately and earlier in the breeding cycle, allowing us to deliver better varieties to growers more quickly. I plan to continue experimenting with these tools and begin to incrementally integrate them into the breeding program if we find something promising. I hope that this work with newer technologies may attract students to the program as well.

What are you most excited about with this career change?

As far as what I'm most excited about, I'm eager to get to know growers in the region and find out what the main challenges are. I view the breeding program as a service to the region with the breeding objectives informed by growers. When it comes to growing wheat, the growers are the experts, and, being new to the area, I have plenty to learn from them about production under the conditions out west.

What challenges do you see in this role and how can growers assist and benefit from your work?

One thing I can share that I came to appreciate about wheat while at CIMMYT is the immense broad adaptation of the species. I worked with a yield dataset collected at hundreds of locations worldwide ranging

from Norway to New Zealand and from below sea level in Jordan to above 3,000 meters in the Peruvian Andes. This adaptation to diverse climates is the result of thousands of years of selection, but the growers

likely know all too well that "to survive" under these conditions isn't necessarily "to thrive" and that there can be considerable differences between how one variety might perform in Pocatello versus Monticello. That's a challenge for us as breeders – to develop varieties that yield well under the conditions of the growing environment – but this is one area where the growers can help us out. I know David Hole worked with some growers in the region to test breeding material on their land. Armed with more data on how our material performs under

varying conditions around the region, we can make better decisions about which breeding lines might show promise for release as varieties. I really look forward to working with the wheat community here and seeing what we can accomplish in the years ahead. ■

"The Idaho Wheat Commission had the opportunity to participate in the interview process that ultimately hired Dr Krause. I was very impressed with her breeding knowledge in the interview process and believe she will excel with grower communication and input throughout the variety development process. There was a time when USU varieties were widely grown throughout southeastern Idaho and I think we can anticipate new top-performing varieties from her program."

Cory Kress, Idaho Wheat Commission Chair

Dr. Norman Borlaug was an agronomist and the father of the Green Revolution, a movement in the 1950s and 1960s that increased agricultural production through technology in plant breeding, irrigation, chemical application, and cultivation. Borlaug's research position at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in Mexico allowed him to develop semi-dwarf, high-yield, disease-resistant wheat varieties.



Borlaug received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his research, for which he was credited with saving more than a billion people from starvation by increasing production on farming operations and thereby increasing the global food supply. Borlaug's research in genetics, plant pathology, plant breeding, agronomy, entomology, soil science, and cereal technology are still relied upon widely around the world as scientists and farmers strive to produce the highest quality, high-yielding wheat using the fewest natural resources in the most sustainable way. Dr. Borlaug became the director of the International Wheat Improvement Program hosted at CIMMYT and funded by the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations where he continued his research and trained young scientists in research and production methods.

Norman Borlaug in field photo credit: Britannica



Varsity Idaho Launches New Wheat Varieties

Novel genetics pave the way for bigger yields and the future of wheat

When joint wheat breeding program Varsity Idaho was created in 2014, it was a divide-and-conquer affair. The University of Idaho (UI) bred and released varieties, and Limagrain Cereal Seeds (LCS) marketed them. Now, Varsity Idaho has blossomed into a true collaboration, with both partners co-breeding, co-selecting and co-releasing new Varsity Idaho varieties.

The power of partnership

Local growers reap the benefits of Varsity Idaho advanced wheat genetics both now and in the years ahead. Today, farmers have a suite of proven wheat varieties that have been bred to thrive on Idaho, Washington, and Oregon fields. These varieties generate royalties that are reinvested in the wheat research program at the UI College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, ensuring continued research advances for years to come.

“The Varsity Idaho lines advance our highly successful wheat varieties and expand the opportunities for wheat growers across the Pacific Northwest, showing the strength of our breeding program and the benefit of our partnership with Limagrain Cereal Seeds,” explains Mark McGuire, UI associate dean of research. “We invest the royalties strategically into further wheat research and variety development focused on growers’ needs.”

This fruitful partnership has led to exceptional varieties and a robust pipeline of wheat genetics, including three exciting new releases for this season: VI Voodoo CL+, VI Presto CL+ and VI Shock.

“It’s a really exciting time — we’re beginning to see dividends from the next phase of a long-term collaborative project,” enthuses Zach Gaines, LCS national sales and marketing manager. “The evolution of the Varsity Idaho brand and pipeline of genetics is following in the footsteps of a huge win for our partnership with UI Magic CL+. These new varieties are important steps forward, and they are right on time.”

Continuing a Magic streak

UI Magic CL+ is the most widely grown Clearfield variety in the Tri-State area, and for good reason — it’s a proven, in-demand performer. Varsity Idaho’s new CL+ varieties build on the successful Magic genetics



A production field of VI Shock in southeast Idaho.

and represent the next wave of two-gene Clearfield lines for the Pacific Northwest.

“The two new Clearfields were bred to provide farmers with more tailored agronomics based on production region,” says Hannah Kammeyer, LCS PNW regional commercial manager. “We expect VI Voodoo CL+ and VI Presto CL+ to work together to advance the wheat performance sorcery UI Magic CL+ started.”

VI Voodoo CL+

“Voodoo has the potential to be a better fit and possibly even expand outside of the growing environment where Magic has been so successful,” asserts Mike Klicker, seed division manager for Northwest Grain Growers in Walla Walla, Wash., who serves customers across the Pacific Northwest. “The plant type is very similar, but the improvements in stripe rust tolerance and top-end yield potential with VI Voodoo CL+ appear to be significant.”

This season will primarily be a registered seed year for VI Voodoo CL+, with limited quantities available preparing for a larger certified launch in 2022.

VI Voodoo CL+ characteristics:

- Similar plant type to UI Magic CL+
- Short stature with strong straw
- Improved yield over UI Magic CL+
- Improved stripe rust over UI Magic CL+
- Desirable end-use quality

VI Presto CL+

VI Presto CL+ hasn't been on fields long, but Geoff Schulz, manager of seed operations for Highline Grain Growers in Reardan, Wash., likes what he sees so far.

“Presto’s plot performance along Highway 2 is very encouraging, and it fills a significant hole among Clearfield varieties. The Norwest Duet background gives growers a variety they can be confident in, with an improvement in yield, straw strength, disease package and falling numbers over Curiosity CL+ and Mela CL+. VI Presto CL+ is also more suited to dryland and harsh winter conditions than Resilience CL+, Stingray CL+, UI Magic CL+ and UI Castle CL+,” says Schulz, adding that limited certified seed stocks will be available this year, with significant stocks available in 2022.

VI Presto CL+ characteristics:

- Taller plant type
- Ideal for intermediate and low rainfall acres
- Exceptional yield performance in the WSU low rainfall trials
- Consistently heavy test weight
- Improved winter-hardiness and tolerance to stripe rust and C-stripe

Charging up southern Idaho yield

Until now, Varsity Idaho varieties have primarily served the needs of growers in northern areas of the PNW. VI Shock is an exciting new release that expands the pipeline and VI’s portfolio, having topped southern Idaho wheat yield trials for three years running — even besting SY Ovation.

VI Shock

“Looking at how VI Shock performed against SY Ovation and knowing how well SY Ovation has performed for us over the years, we knew it was something we had to try,” says Lee Andersen, manager of Ririe Grain & Feed Cooperative in Ririe, Idaho. “The consistently good test weight was also an attractive feature.”

Andy Hooley, owner of Hooley Seed Company in Filer, Idaho, agrees: “VI Shock seems like a variety with good yield potential, and we will continue to evaluate it under a sprinkler. One production field went over 160 bu/ac, which for this year is pretty good. Both our growers doing seed production have been happy with the performance.”

VI Shock characteristics:

- Exceptional yield potential
- Good straw strength
- Consistently high test weight
- Excellent stripe rust resistance
- Excellent end-use quality

Providing a diverse portfolio for the PNW

“As excited as we are for the new genetics, Varsity Idaho is thrilled to offer a range of elite varieties with plentiful certified seed this growing season,” says Kammeyer.

Varsity Idaho varieties with certified seed available now include:

- **UI Magic CL+**, the current Clearfield soft white winter standard with proven performance across the Pacific Northwest and excellent test weight.
- **VI Frost**, soft white winter wheat adapted for low rainfall acres in northern Idaho and eastern Washington with excellent winter-hardiness and end-use quality.
- **VI Bulldog**, soft white winter wheat for high-production, high-input PNW producers with extremely strong straw, excellent stripe rust tolerance and superior quality.
- **UI Platinum**, hard white spring wheat, and **UI Stone**, soft white spring wheat, both adapted for southern Idaho with very good straw strength and most desirable quality.

About Varsity Idaho

Varsity Idaho is a collaborative partnership between the University of Idaho (UI) and Limagrains Cereal Seeds (LCS). Launched in 2014, the alliance is a joint wheat breeding program where each partner co-breeds, co-selects and co-releases new VI varieties. Farmers benefit from advanced wheat genetics both today and in the future — royalty payments from VI varieties are invested in the UI College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to further wheat research.

Please visit LimagrainsCerealSeeds.com/PNW 



From the Field Chats Glyphosate and Other Trade Barriers in Key Markets

BY MATTHEW WEAVER, ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED BY CAPITAL PRESS JULY 15, 2021

The agriculture industry is watching the European Union to determine the fate of glyphosate as a tool for farmers.

Glyphosate, known by the trade name Roundup, has been used as an herbicide for 40 years to rid farm fields of weeds.

More recently, it has also been used in conjunction with a handful of genetically modified “Roundup Ready” crops that are resistant to it. This allows farmers to kill weeds without killing the crops.

Use of the chemical will be up for renewal in the EU in the next few years.

Many food companies will follow the EU, said Dalton Henry, vice president of policy for U.S. Wheat Associates, the overseas marketing arm of the industry. They want to be able to export finished products to those countries.

The EU would need to consider an import tolerance, allowing for a small amount of residue, under World Trade Organization rules.

“They can’t just ban it because they don’t like it, they’re going to have to provide sound science as to why that action would need to be taken,” Henry said.

Chemical weed control, especially the use of glyphosate, is critical to minimum-tillage or no-till wheat farming and is used to kill weeds or cover crops. No glyphosate-resistant wheat is commercially available.

U.S. Wheat advocates for the safety and benefits of allowing farmers to use the chemicals, he said.

Henry spoke July 14 in the online From the Field: Farm Chat with Idaho Wheat hosted by the Idaho Wheat Commission. The topic was tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, which impact farmers’ ability to get their wheat to customers around the world.



Retaliatory tariffs make the headlines, Henry said. Tariffs are government-to-government matters, and the industry asks U.S. farmers and overseas customers to lobby their respective governments. Non-tariff barriers require a whole-industry approach, Henry said. They include pesticide maximum residue limits called MRLs, weed seeds, smuts or spores and mycotoxins.

Wheat is shipped in 50,000-60,000 ton vessels. Individual farmers are a small part of that, but if a chemical is ever misused or misapplied, it can create problems, Henry said.

“Making sure we’re staying within label instructions is particularly key,” he said.

The industry relies on science indicating expected residues down the line when applied according to label rates.

“If we go to argue with other countries about where an MRL may be too restrictive, that’s the science we have to point to,” Henry said.

While it’s never been easy to ship wheat overseas, Henry doesn’t believe it’s going to get “dramatically” harder either, pointing to projections for global population growth.

“It’s still a hungry world,” he said. “Many of our customers are still countries where ‘calories’ is the largest demand beyond anything.”



The biggest trade barrier growers face is lack of understanding of science among consuming populations and importing agencies, he said.

“At some point, we’re going to have to square all of the things consumers are demanding from U.S. growers and corporate food companies with the reality of how products are traded and handled,” he said. “If you want to make demands about sustainability of production, you’ve got to allow farmers access to the best technology that’s out there.”

From the Field: Farm Chat with Idaho Wheat is a monthly webinar series hosted by the Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC) that brings experts and growers together for a conversation about topics that benefit Idaho’s wheat producers. One of the three pillars of the mission of IWC is grower education, and From the Field is a vehicle by which IWC aims to fulfill their mission.

“We wanted something useful and informal,” said Britany Hurst Marchant, who is tasked with communications and grower outreach and education for IWC. “Knowing what has and hasn’t worked for certain growers in certain areas of the state can help other growers make adjustments for their own operation.”



Register for From the Field: Farm Chat with Idaho Wheat



Watch on YouTube

as the common farm practices that affect how Idaho and PNW wheat is marketed to or received by our trading partners around the world.

“We’re going to cover a broad range of topics in short but thorough episodes,” Casey Chumrau, IWC Executive Director said.

Each episode is about 20 minutes in length and is intended to be an informal conversation, like one you’d have with your neighbor over coffee or when you bump into them in town. Topics are chosen based on requests from growers in conversations around the state.

“We know life gets busy and joining live isn’t always convenient, so each farm chat is recorded and made available to watch or listen to at any time,” explained Marchant. “The video recording of the conversation can be watched on YouTube or listened to on Spotify or wherever you listen to podcasts.”

The From the Field series is always free, but for security reasons growers must register to get the online link to participate in the live conversation. You can access the YouTube channel, Spotify podcast, or register for upcoming From the Field episodes by holding your smartphone camera over the QR codes provided.

Our next From the Field: Farm Chat with Idaho Wheat

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

9:30am MDT

Registered, Certified, and Title V: Understanding the PVPA with Jeremy Tamsen, Director of Office of Technology Transfer, University of Idaho

Do you have a topic you’d like us to cover in an upcoming episode? Let us know! Use the QR code above to email britany@idahowheat.org with your suggestions. ■



Listen on Spotify

The first of these farm chats was held in May, and covered how to control prickly lettuce (also commonly referred to as horse or milk thistle, wild opium and compass plant). Other topics have included grain marketing strategies as well



Garrett Dudley Takes Research Reins at IWC

BY BRITANY HURST MARCHANT

The Idaho Wheat Commission (IWC) would like to introduce Garrett Dudley as the new Manager of Research. Garrett joined the IWC team in July, filling the vacancy left by the retirement of Cathy Wilson.

“Every member of the IWC team brings a unique set of significant skills to the table,” said Casey Chumrau, IWC Executive Director. “Garrett brings a breadth of knowledge that will benefit Idaho wheat growers. He has an interesting mix of research, agronomic, and marketing experience that will allow IWC to expand its programing and tools available to assist growers. We are thrilled that Garrett has joined the team and know he will be a great resource for Idaho growers.”

Garrett was born and raised in Portville, New York, a small town in the snow belt outside of Buffalo. Garrett grew up knee-deep in agriculture by his own admission. With both sets of grandparents owning small dairies in Western New York, much of Garrett’s free time was spent on the farms and a tradition of agriculture remains in the family. “Four of my mother’s seven siblings went on to start dairies of their own, all of which are still in the Western New York region,” he explained. “Some of my best childhood memories are riding to the farm with my uncle for the morning milking – then hunting, fishing, and trapping with my cousins for the rest of the day.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from Empire State College before attending State University of New York College of Agriculture and Technology in Cobleskill (SUNY Cobleskill) where he earned a second bachelor’s degree, this time a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Business. “After some time working as a crop scout for Western New York Crop Management, I decided to pursue agricultural business as a professional career path,” Garrett said. Immediately upon graduating from SUNY Cobleskill, Garrett found an opportunity with FFR Cooperative, where he managed small plot seed research sites of corn, wheat, and soybeans along the east coast from New York to South Carolina. “Our research focus was primarily variety development, but we were often trialing fertilizers, pesticides, and fungicides as well.”

Since moving west in 2015, Garrett’s work has shifted to procurement in the supply chain. “As a Brewing Materials Agronomist for MillerCoors, I purchased contracted malt barley in Northern Montana and the Gallatin Valley, coordinated rail logistics, and managed seed production for their grower base. In a similar capacity,

my most recent position with John I. Haas taught me all about different hop varieties grown in the PNW.”

Garrett is currently halfway through an M.S. in Agricultural Business and Risk Management through the University of Tennessee Martin, an online program. “I found myself with some down time during the pandemic and realized it was a great opportunity to tackle a master’s program,” said Garrett. He plans to focus his research on consumer willingness to pay for value-added products, part of a project funded by Pick Tennessee, which will measure the marketing benefit of adding the Pick Tennessee label to qualifying products.



When asked what he found appealing about this position with the Idaho Wheat Commission, Garrett replied, “My passion is research. I love the short-term problem solving a single year trial can accomplish as well as the long-term rewards that can be achieved through an ongoing variety development program. Research combines my agronomic knowledge with my inquisitive nature – and to be involved in all the projects the Idaho Wheat Commission is funding just seemed like a perfect fit. I’m excited to get acquainted with research already underway this season and to guide future direction on behalf of growers.”

Garrett’s goals for the future are simple: provide a seamless transition so the Commission can continue supporting researchers in their projects and add some value to Idaho growers by applying some of his previous experience and expertise to the research position, such as publishing regional crop reports and modeling crop yield estimates. “And I believe my ability to translate research to decision-making at the farm level will be a great asset to growers looking to make impactful changes on their operation.”

Garrett followed up with, “[I’m excited to work with] the people! Casey has put together a great team and I’m thrilled to be part of that,” he said without hesitation. He continued, “Since I’m new to Idaho, I’m eager to start meeting growers and getting to know what makes Idaho special. A lofty goal – but I’d like to meet every wheat grower in the state!”

Garrett also has big plans for when he's out of the office. "I'm an avid fly-fisherman and I'll take any opportunity to learn some new water," he said. "I recently took a trip to the Tongass National Forest – an area of the country that features some of the highest densities of brown bears and bald eagles. More than once I had a salmon on my fly line with eagles soaring overhead and a grizzly keeping an eye out for a free meal. Now that's America! Naturally, my goal in Idaho is to put a

few Kokanees on the smoker." Garrett is also a devoted trail runner, a hobby he has taken up since moving to the Pacific Northwest. He has competed in seven trail races so far in 2021 and still has a few more on the schedule. "Of course, with [his racing schedule] comes a high-calorie diet featuring, but not limited to, pastries, cereal, cookies, cakes, and lots of pastas," he quipped. "I'm never far from my next gluten fix!" 🇺🇸

Amid Pandemic Trade Teams Turn Virtual

BY CASEY CHUMRAU, IWC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To Idaho wheat growers, summer months mean long days, warm temperatures, and harvest. Normally, summer also brings teams of international customers to visit fields that produce wheat they might purchase. Unfortunately, for the second consecutive year, the coronavirus pandemic will prevent trade teams from visiting and leaves the U.S. wheat industry searching for meaningful ways to connect with overseas buyers.

Idaho usually hosts three to five trade teams each year, helping show foreign customers the complete marketing chain from field to port. U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) is the industry's international market development organization and the group that coordinates the trade team visits. In 2020, USW and its state partners had to quickly find a way to keep customers informed and engaged without being able to meet in person. Like with everything else, that meant meeting online.

"Despite the pandemic from March 2020, USW has reached over 13,200 customers through virtual crop updates, short courses, technical trainings, crop quality seminars and trade servicing," said Catherine Miller, USW Programs and Planning Coordinator. "USW effectively pivoted their strategy from in-person programs to virtual programs in the start of the pandemic and the customer outreach has more than doubled over the past year and a half."

With a year of virtual programming now under the belt, the U.S. wheat industry is increasing and improving the virtual offerings. Regular webinars provide crop condition updates and harvest progress reports. Ten crop and harvest updates have been conducted thus far in 2021 and new ones are continually being added at the request of customers.

Typically, the seminars consist of crop updates for three or four classes of wheat, depending on the needs of the target market. In addition, a supply and demand



presentation provides insight into possible purchasing opportunities or challenges that could arise in the coming year. The updates are provided by a rotating group of state wheat commissions and USW staff. Idaho Wheat Commission Executive Director Casey Chumrau has presented to customers in China, Colombia, and Chile.

Later this year, the virtual events will shift to crop quality seminars, providing important end-use quality data for the 2021 wheat harvest to millers and bakers around the world. When in person, the crop quality seminars are a whirlwind style, multi-country trip spanning seven to 14 days. At least one wheat grower generally participates in the trips to provide a personal connection between the field and the end customer. This year, state wheat commissions are preparing videos to share during the webinars that showcase grower stories, highlight the uniqueness of each state, and help cultivate that important relationship between producer and buyer.

Trade team visits are a critical tool in marketing development efforts and Idaho wheat growers look forward to the day we can once again host our friends and customers.

"While in person programs are irreplaceable, the value of virtual programs remains high," Miller added. 🇺🇸



Idaho Barley Commission Annual Report

July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021 Fiscal Year

Your Grower Dollars at Work

The Idaho Barley Commission serves to enhance the profitability of Idaho barley growers through research, market development, promotion, information and education programs which are funded through the \$0.03 per hundredweight grower assessment. This is equivalent to \$0.0144 per bushel—a great investment for growers!



Wes Hubbard,
2020-2021
IBC Chairman

The commission is governed by a board of 4 commissioners—3 growers and 1 industry representative. There are two full time staff members and the commission works with additional partners and contractors as needed to develop and carryout IBC programs.

Challenging times spawn opportunities, creativity, resilience and growth!

Every sector of the Idaho barley industry was impacted by COVID-19 over the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

During this challenging time, the commission worked hard to meet people where they were—mostly online, and not only continue programs and developing relationships to benefit growers and advance the industry, but find new pathways to ensure the best return on investment for grower dollars.

2020-2021 IBC total revenue was three percent above projections at \$733,586, however total expenses were seventeen percent below budget at \$658,295. Reduced expenses were mostly related to COVID-19 impacts and meetings and events that were held virtually rather than in person. With a higher than normal carryover due to this situation, the commission was able to invest more in research and market development for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

IBC commissioners and staff welcome grower comments and input throughout the year. Please reach out if you have questions or ideas on ways the commission can better serve grower interests.

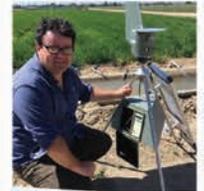
In 2020, Idaho ranked 1st among states, growing 33 percent of the nation's barley crop—producing 55 million bushels of barley on 500,000 harvested acres at a record average yield of 110 bushels per acre.

The 2020 Idaho barley crop value was estimated at **\$276 million** with the average price per bushel at \$5.02 according to USDA NASS data.

Research Highlights

15 University of Idaho Projects and Initiatives Funded:

- Barley Extension Nurseries
- Small Grains Research Report
- Evaluation of Elite Barley Lines in Northern Idaho
- Support Scientist Funding for North Idaho Cereal Extension
- Wireworm Survey and Control
- Fungal and Oomycete Soil-Borne Disease in Idaho Cereals, and Disease Management Tools
- Evaluating Freeze Tolerance of Winter Barley Genotypes with Diverse Genetic Backgrounds
- Investigating Nitrogen Translocation and Grain Protein Accumulation in Spring Barley Genotypes of High and Low Grain Protein
- Screening for Resistance to Cereal Cyst Nematode in Current Barley Varieties
- Evaluating Impact of Invasive Cereal Aphid
- Biochemical Characterization of High Beta Glucan Barley Mutant
- Pathology Diagnostic Support
- Contrasting Barley Varieties' Yield and Protein Responses to Nitrogen and Sulfur Fertilizer Rates and Application Timing
- UI Barley Agronomy Endowment
- UI Idaho Center for Plant and Soil Health in Parma



2 ARS Programs Supported:

- Aberdeen Barley Breeding Program
- Assessing Residue Source and Management Practices for Improving Fertilizer Recommendations in Cereal-based Cropping Systems



Market Development Highlights

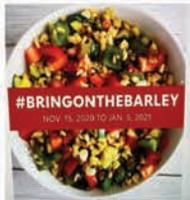
Foreign Market Development:

- Partnered with U.S. Grains Council on export market development
- Five virtual trade team meetings featuring Idaho growers
- Participated in China Craft Beer Expo



Food Barley Market Development:

- Initiatives with American Heart Association:
 - Bring on the Barley Recipe Challenge
 - Back-to-School with Barley Webinar
 - Virtual Go Red For Women
 - Virtual Heart Walk



Food Barley Communications and Social Media:

- Monthly Food Barley Email Newsletter
- EatBarley.com website, and barley consumer focused pages on Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram and YouTube
- Barley recipe development and educational materials



Information / Education

- Published weekly Idaho Grain Market Report, distributed via email.
- Supported virtual UI Extension Field Days and Cereal Schools
- IBC website development to provide grower and industry information and resources



Industry Partnerships / Grower Services

- Partnered with Idaho Grain Producers Association and National Barley Growers Association to ensure the concerns and priorities of Idaho barley growers are considered and represented on state and national levels



Follow the Idaho Barley Commission at:

Websites

www.idahobarleycommission.org
www.eatbarley.com

Social Media

Facebook—Idaho Barley Commission, and, Barley: Nature's Hearty Grain
Pinterest—EatBarley **Instagram**—EatBarley
YouTube—Barley: Nature's Hearty Grain
Twitter—@idahobarleycom

Financials: July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021*

REVENUE:

Barley Assessment Revenue	\$731,630.68
Interest and Other Revenue	\$ 1,955.96
Carryover used from prior years	\$ 0.00
Total Revenue	\$733,586.64

EXPENSES:

Research	\$237,154.67
Market Development	\$140,910.45
Industry Partnerships/Grower Services	\$117,622.94
Information / Education	\$ 45,925.77
Office and Administrative Costs	\$116,448.20
Capital Outlay	\$ 233.14
Total Expenses	\$658,295.17

Carryover/Reserve Funds \$609,380.47

* FY2021 audit not yet complete as of magazine deadline.



2020-21 IBC Commissioners, from left to right: Allen Young, Blackfoot, District III Commissioner and Vice Chairman; Wes Hubbard, Bonners Ferry, District I Commissioner and Chairman; Mike Wilkins, Rupert, District II Commissioner; and Jason Boose, Industry Representative.

IBC Staff:
 Laura Wilder, Executive Director
 Wren Hernandez, Office Manager





New Scoular Barley Protein Concentrate Facility in Jerome slated to open in mid-October. Photo taken August 3.

Scoular Announces Barley MVP™ to Encourage Idaho Farmers to Grow Barley

COMPILED BY LAURA WILDER, IDAHO BARLEY COMMISSION

Scoular is putting a big 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.

“This first-of-its-kind program provides a variety of risk management tools and high-yielding seed varieties for farmers seeking alternative rotation crops,” said Andy Hohwieler, Scoular Trade Unit Manager. This program will support the company’s growing feed barley and food barley initiatives, plus their new facility in Jerome set to open in mid-October where their new sustainable and innovative barley-based protein called Emerge™ will



be produced. Emerge™ is source for aquaculture and pet food and is both traceable and non-GMO. It is the only barley-based protein for feed customers.



“As the demand for clean-label protein grows, both the aquaculture and pet food industries are seeking alternative and sustainable plant-based protein sources,” said JC Olson, Scoular Product Group Manager. “Emerge is a high-quality ingredient to meet this demand for the feed ingredient supply chain.”

In aquaculture, Emerge™ is highly digestible, helping to reduce phosphate discharge and water pollution. For pet 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. Olson said Emerge is created through a patented process that concentrates the protein naturally found in whole barley kernels, creating a nutrient-dense product.

While Idaho is the top-producing barley state, only a small percentage of the barley grown in Idaho finds its way into the fast-growing feed, food, and processing sectors, compared to barley grown for the malting industry. By participating in Barley MVP, farmers can help to meet this demand by incorporating barley into their crop rotation. Additionally, barley is more sustainable than some traditional rotation crops in Idaho because it requires less water and fertilizer to grow.

“Barley MVP is a win for local farmers and a win for the state of Idaho,” said Hohwieler. “Farmers can have confidence knowing that Scoular will connect them to new markets worldwide for their barley and that they are planting a sustainable, drought-tolerant crop.”



JC Olson checks construction progress at Scoular's new Barley Protein Concentrate Facility on August 3.



Andy Hohwieler, left, and JC Olson of Scoular.

Hohwieler said that in 2021, local farmers recognized the benefit of growing barley, converting more than 12,000 acres to barley production for those growing sectors. Hohwieler added that the demand could exceed 50,000 acres of production in the next five years.

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. Farmers interested in Barley MVP should go to Scoular.com/barleymvp or call the Twin Falls office at (208) 324-0147. To learn more about Emerge™, go to Emergeprotein.com. ■



New Scoular Barley Protein Concentrate Facility in Jerome slated to open in mid-October. Photo taken August 3.



Fall for Barley

Featuring winning recipe from 2021 Bring on the Barley Recipe Challenge

As the season's change, there's never been a better time to add new recipes to your repertoire and up your nutrition game – and barley fits the bill perfectly! For delicious flavor to savor the season, try this Harvest Barley Salad recipe which was the overall prize winner in the Idaho Barley Commission's 2021 Bring on the Barley Recipe Challenge held in partnership with the American Heart Association. For more barley recipes and inspiration from the Idaho Barley Commission, go to: www.eatbarley.com.



Harvest Barley Salad

Recipe by Jamie Parchman

Ingredients:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1 acorn squash | 5 tbsps red wine vinegar | 3/4 tsp smoked paprika | 1 cup pomegranate seeds |
| 1 cup barley, hullless or pearl | 1 1/2 tps molasses | 1/4 tsp black pepper | 1/2 cup parsley, chopped |
| 3 cups no salt vegetable broth | 1 tbsp garlic, finely minced | 8 cups baby spinach | 1/2 cup raw pumpkin seeds |
| 3 tbsps extra virgin olive oil | 3/4 tsp chili powder | 1/2 cup green onion, chopped | 1/2 cup fat free feta cheese, crumbled |

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Line the baking sheet with nonstick foil.
2. Cut acorn squash in half and remove seeds. Place squash cut side up on the prepared baking sheet. Cover lightly with another sheet of nonstick foil. Roast 25-30 minutes or until tender. Set aside to cool.
3. While squash is cooking, place barley and broth in a medium size saucepan, bring to boil. Reduce heat to simmer and simmer for 30 minutes or until all liquid is absorbed. Rinse barley in cold water and set aside.
4. While barley and squash cool, whisk together olive oil, vinegar, molasses, garlic, chili powder, smoked paprika and black pepper. Set aside.
5. Peel and cut squash into one-inch pieces. Place in a large salad bowl.
6. Add baby spinach, green onion, pomegranate seed, barley and parsley to bowl. Pour vinegar mixture over and toss.
7. Top with pumpkin seeds and feta, toss again.

HEART HEALTH

Barley may reduce the risk of heart disease by lowering low density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol and total cholesterol levels. Whole grain barley as well as dry milled barley products, such as pearled barley kernels, flakes, grits and flour can make a difference in your heart's overall health!

DIGESTIVE HEALTH

Barley contains the most fiber of all grains, with most varieties clocking in around 17% fiber. There are two main types of dietary fiber – soluble and insoluble, and barley is a good source of both. Processed barley products such as flour, flakes or pearl barley, retain at least 50% of their original fiber content even after the bran or outer layer of the barley kernel is removed.

BODY-WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

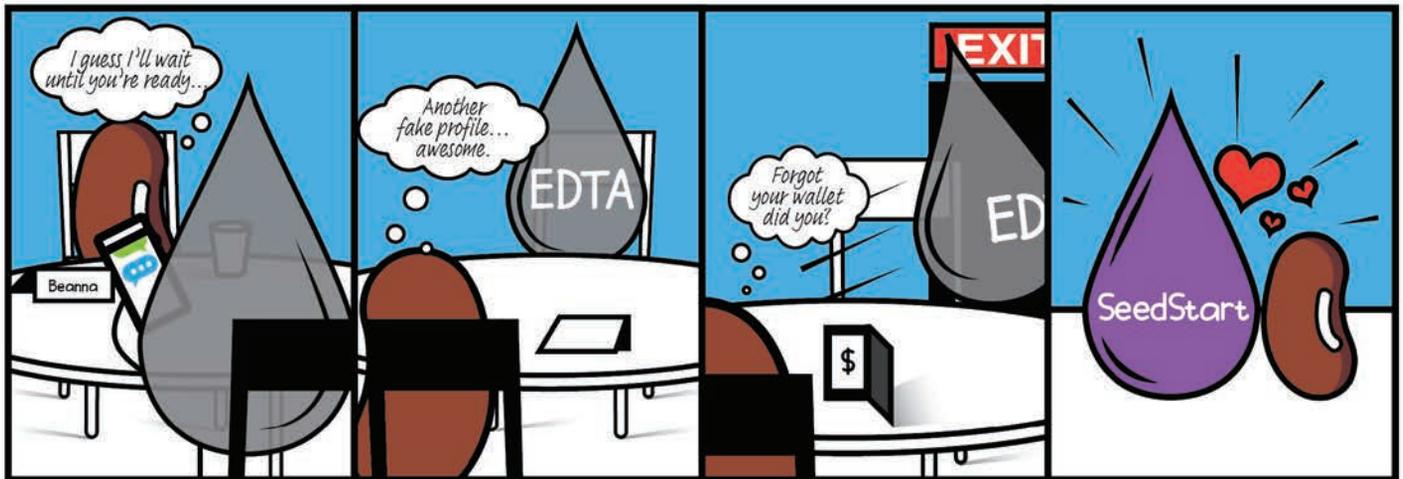
Eating fiber-rich foods helps increase satiety which is important in maintaining a healthy weight. Soluble beta glucan fiber mixes with liquid and binds to fatty substances to help remove them from the body. Barley is a complex carbohydrate, which takes longer to break down, providing a longer lasting energy and reducing post-meal "crashes".

BLOOD SUGAR MANAGEMENT

Barley has the lowest Glycemic Index of all the grains at 28. The carbohydrates in barley are slowly digested, absorbed and metabolized causing a lower and slower rise in blood glucose and insulin levels.

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