Views
BY WAYNE HURST, IGPA PRESIDENT

Democracy is a wonderful thing

To paraphrase Winston Churchill, it is one of the worst yet the best form of government. We live in an age and society where ideas need to gain support in order to become reality. Within the Idaho Grain Producers Association, concepts, concerns and ideas are presented. After discussion, and sometimes compromise, policies are developed. Then the collective political power of many grain producers from across the state is focused to lobby for those decisions.

At the state and national level, we have to convince legislators and sometimes government agencies that our policies have merit, and would serve society well if they are adopted.

Often, they agree with us wholeheartedly. At other times, agreement can’t be reached. We simply “agree to disagree, without being disagreeable.” In another day, we’ll need each other’s support on future issues, when we can agree and come together.

In these pages you’ll find the names of 47 state legislators. All are thinking, rational people who represent citizens from across the state of Idaho. Many come from urban areas, whose constituents are somewhat removed from production agriculture. Others are our own fellow farmers and neighbors. All these lawmakers, urban and rural, northern and southern, have proven themselves to be our friends and allies. At least 90% of the time, they vote favorably on issues critical to our industry and interests. We appreciate these “Ag All-Star Legislators.” They are our friends. Please note who they are; and as you come in contact with them, thank them for their support.

We are proud of our entire U.S. Congressional delegation and their staffs. They have proven to be strong supporters of grain producers and farmers throughout the years. IGPA also visits often with people in state and federal government agencies, whose support is invaluable.

We work closely with other commodity and agricultural groups on the state level. Food Producers of Idaho brings many of us together on critical issues and amplifies our collective efforts. The Idaho Barley Commission and the Idaho Wheat Commission’s are valued and critical industry partners. Our involvement with the National Association of Wheat Producers and the National Barley Growers Association gives us a stronger voice and presence on national issues. It is important that we are engaged at these various levels to protect and further our growers’ interests in this system of government.

Democracy is good! At times it seems slow, frustrating and inefficient. But self-government is still the best form of government that we have, and the freedom to participate is one of the greatest privileges we enjoy.
Little Things Make You Money

The basis of the Idaho Grain Producers Association’s mission statement is to enhance the profitability and long-term viability of Idaho grain producers. Accomplishing this task requires hard work on IGPA’s part as well a general understanding that memberships are essential for IGPA to work daily on a number of very basic issues that will collectively improve your profitability.

We have heard all our life that it is the little things that make the difference between success and failure. Representing grain grower interest at the state and national level is no different. We would all love to hit a home run every time we come to bat and win the game. Because hitting a home run every time you’re at bat isn’t possible baseball players works every day on the little things that provide success. Like wise IGPA works everyday on the little things that help Idaho grain producers improve profitability.

Because your time is best spent working on both the big and little things on your farming operation. I want to share with you some of the little things IGPA does everyday on your behalf to meet our mission statement.

Presence at the legislature everyday of the session is very important and IGPA delivers that for you. Even more important however are the little things your lobbyists do day-in and day-out. For example, a simple daily conversation with another lobbyist that results in information about an upcoming bill, or an issue a lawmaker is working on that could be good or bad to our mission statement is important. IGPA gets the information and then reacts accordingly on your behalf.

Idaho legislative sessions runs about 90 days each year. The remainder of the year IGPA attends meetings with legislators and state agencies as they prepare for the next session or as they write rules for the laws past in the previous legislative session. IGPA provides your voice in those meetings that often include tax issues with the Tax Commission, transportation issues with the Idaho Dept. of Transportation, regulatory issues at Idaho Dept. of Agriculture or the Dept. of Environmental Quality, and more.

On the federal level IGPA is in regular contact with the Idaho congressional delegation relating your needs to them. Equally importantly however, IGPA is in close contact with the Federal agencies located in Idaho and Washington DC. IGPA is in contact with Farm Service Agency offices in Idaho and Washington DC on a regular basis, insuring that farm programs are deliver properly. IGPA is in contact with EPA on a number of issues including special use permits for chemical applications, fuel containment regulations and air quality regulations. IGPA communicates regularly with the Army Corp. of Engineers on river issues involving barging, lock maintenance, and Salmon issues.

This column is too short to list all the issues IGPA works on for your behalf. Few of these issues are home run issues but providing your voice and finding a solution to each of these issues is critical to your profitability and Long-term viability. The officers and staff of the Idaho Grain Producers Association works everyday on the little things that make a difference for your bottom line. Help IGPA continue to do the little things for your operation by renewing or becoming a member of the association.
Wayne Hurst, a Declo, Idaho grain grower has been elected to lead the Idaho Grain Producers Association in 2006. Hurst and his wife Sherrie operate a diversified grain and dairy operation, they grow 500 acres of irrigated grain each year.

Hurst told association members at the 2005 annual convention that his goal for 2006 is to continue bringing the nations wheat grower organizations together. “We may not accomplish consolidation of the nations three wheat organizations this year but we will see more cooperation and joint meetings” Hurst said. “I also want to continue and build on the tremendous success IGPA has had representing Idaho’s grain producers needs during Idaho’s annual legislative session” he added. “IGPA is recognized by most Idaho legislators as a leader in Idaho’s agriculture community”, Hurst concluded.

During his year as president of IGPA and the grain industries spokesman, Hurst will represent Idaho on the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) Board of Directors, the NAWG Trade Policy committee, the National Association of Wheat Growers Foundation Board, and he will represent IGPA at US Wheat Associates meetings.

Tim Dillin, Port Hill, Idaho serves as the associations Vice President. Tim and his father operate a 1800-acre grain farm just a few miles from the Canadian border. In addition to his IGPA executive board duties, Tim represents Idaho barley growers on the National Barley Growers Association Board of Directors and IGPA at Idaho Barley Commission meetings.

Matt Gellings, Idaho Falls, Idaho will serve as the Secretary-Treasure of the Idaho Grain Producers Association. Matt is a grain and cattle operator, raising irrigated wheat and barley. Matt will attend all National Association of Wheat Growers board meetings as well as the NAWG Foundations meetings for IGPA.

Eric Hasselstrom, Winchester, Idaho is the newest member of the IGPA leadership team. Eric raises grain and cattle on his 1800 acre farm in north central Idaho. Eric has served IGPA the past several years as Chairman of the Conservation, Environment and Crop Protection Committee. Eric will attend NAWG committee meetings as well as wheat and barley commission meeting for IGPA.

Ray Buttars, Weston, Idaho serves on the IGPA executive board as the IGPA past president. Buttars concluded his term as IGPA President following the 2005 convention held in Coeur D’Alene, Idaho. Ray’s contribution to the grain industry isn’t over however. Ray is currently serving as Chairman of the National Association of Wheat Growers Domestic Policy Committee. The Domestic Policy Committee is NAWG’s busiest committee. This committee is charged with developing most government policy for NAWG including the 2007 Farm Bill Policy. Ray will also continue to represent Idaho on the NAWG Board of Directors and the NAWG Foundation Board.

IGPA priorities for 2006 will be.

1. IGPA is working everyday during the Idaho Legislature to represent Idaho grain producers. Key issues for 2006 are.
   - Insuring that Property taxes aren’t shifted to farmers
   - Expanding Idaho’s right to farm legislation.
   - Preventing more regulations

2. IGPA will continue providing critical input into the development of the 2007 farm bill.

3. IGPA will continue to work for a more efficient transportation system to get product to market. Currently IGPA is working on two major transportation issues.
   - IGPA continues to be a leader in a national effort to improve rail service to shippers
   - IGPA is also a key participant in advocating for the Channel Deepening project on the lower Columbia River as well as dredging the Snake and Clearwater Rivers pools at Lewiston.

Each of these priorities are essential to a profitable grain production system in Idaho.
NBGA President Evan Hayes.
Current National Barley Grower Association President, Evan Hayes is from Soda Springs Idaho and is a Past President of the Idaho Grain Producers Association (2000). Hayes is currently serving a two-year term. Hayes will help advocate the following policies for the National Barley Growers. Hayes will also be barley’s lead spokesman during the 2007 Farm Bill debate.

Marketing Loan Program
USDA should calculate daily loan repayment rates based on legitimate terminal market locations and actual terminal market values for feed barley.

Taxes
NBGA supports the reduction of estate and capital gain taxes and re-establishment of the investment tax credit for farmers and ranchers.

Conservation Payments
NBGA urges USDA to make conservation payments on equal per acre basis across the country. NBGA urges USDA to enact Rules for the Conservation Security Program that reflect the original intent of Congress.

Transportation
1. Railroad Competition Arbitration and Service
The NBGA supports passage of Rail Competition Legislation.
2. Rail
NBGA will continue its activity and support of the Alliance for Rail Competition (ARC).
3. Passage of Shipper Provision Legislation
NBGA urges Congress to pass agricultural shipper provisions that insure competitive rates and access as part of any Surface Transportation Board (STB) reauthorization. Further, we request vigorous oversight of recent and proposed rail mergers to insure improved access, service and rates.
4. Truck
NBGA supports legislation to allow truck weight limits to be set at uncapped Federal Formula B or allow states to set maximum truck weight limits on federal highways. NBGA recommends uniformity in truck regulations on interstate and defense highways.
5. Waterways
Opposes drawdowns and/or breaching of dams on rivers that would restrict barge traffic. Support lock maintenance, appropriate dredging, deepening of river channels, and other river infrastructure improvements that would facilitate the economic shipment of agricultural products from inland ports. NBGA supports reform of the Jones Act, which would authorize reflagging of foreign built ships to allow shipment of U.S. agriculture products.

Crop Insurance
1. Malt Barley Endorsement Options
NBGA supports adjusting the malt barley endorsement to more accurately reflect malt industry quality standards; including accepted varieties, protein grades, germination, injured by sprout, mold damage, thins and DON.
2. Crop Insurance Disaster Reform
NBGA supports the study of a comprehensive risk management plan which centers around whole farm insurance in combination with a joint farmer-government funded disaster relief fund.
3. Modification of Existing Crop Insurance Programs
NBGA supports using an 80% of “T” yield to mitigate multi-year crop losses.
4. Revenue Policies
NBGA supports the expanded availability of the existing revenue policies for barley crops which insure producers for yield, quality and price risk.

Research
NBGA supports the funding priorities established by the National Barley Improvement Committee. NBGA opposes the Administration proposed reduction and eventual elimination of Hatch Act formula funds.

NBGA is firmly committed to the research of GM barley, but opposes the release of GM barley until the world malting, feed, pharmaceuticals and food markets accept their utilization.

FDA Publishes barley health claim
On December 23, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published an interim rule in the Federal Register approving the health claim that soluble dietary fiber from certain barley foods can help reduce cholesterol and the risk of coronary heart disease.

Authorized use of the interim claim in barley food labeling is effective immediately. The FDA noted that allowing manufacturers of qualifying barley food products to use an interim health claim prior to a final ruling may result in a reduction in the risk of heart disease by helping at-risk consumers make healthier food choices now. The FDA identified several sources of barley beta-glucan soluble fiber that are eligible for the health claim. These include whole grain barley, barley bran, barley flakes, barley grits, barley flour, barley meal, sieved barley meal and pearl barley.

FDA will accept public comments for the next 75 days before making this ruling final. Meanwhile, the Idaho Barley Commission and the National Barley Foods Council, based in Spokane, WA, will team up on promotional activities to educate consumers on the health benefits of barley in the diet.
Canada thistle and wild buckwheat are a pain in wheat and barley fields. Count on DuPont™ Affinity® BroadSpec herbicide to provide complete relief by controlling these and a broad spectrum of other tough weeds. Start off next year with a cleaner field and rotation freedom to any crop. Best of all, it’s part of a new generation of herbicides featuring DuPont™ TotalSol™ soluble granules, an advanced formulation that dissolves completely for more-consistent weed control and faster, easier spray-tank cleanout. [affinity.dupont.com](http://affinity.dupont.com).
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Global Biotech Crop Area Continues to Soar in 2005

Farmer demand has driven annual double-digit increases in biotech crop adoption since the crops were commercialized a decade ago. In 2005, four new countries and a quarter million more farmers planted biotech crops as part of an 11 percent increase in global biotech crop area, according to a report released this week, authored by Dr. Clive James, chairman and founder, the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications.

Since initial commercialization in 1996, global planted area of biotech crops has soared by more than fifty-fold from 1.7 million hectares in six countries to 90 million hectares in 21 countries in 2005. The 8.5 million farmers planting biotech crops in 2005 also marked a significant milestone as the 1 billionth cumulative acre, or 400 millionth hectare, was planted.

Herbicide-tolerant soybeans continue to be the most widely adopted trait, accounting for 60 percent of the total global area. Varieties with stacked traits are growing in popularity, accounting for 10 percent of the global area. In 2005, 100 million “trait hectares” were planted, which better quantifies those hectares planted to varieties with multiple biotech enhancements.

“Farmers from the United States to Iran, and five EU countries demonstrate a trust and confidence in biotech crops, as indicated by the unprecedented high adoption rate of these crops,” said James. “The continued expansion of countries growing biotech crops also bears witness to the substantial economical, environmental and social benefits associated with these crops.”

Notably, in 2005, Iran grew its first crop of biotech rice, the first biotech planting of this important food crop globally. The Czech Republic planted Bt maize for the first time, bringing the total number of EU countries growing biotech crops to five with Spain, Germany and the Czech Republic being joined by France and Portugal, which resumed planting biotech maize after four and five year gaps, respectively. This could signal an important trend in the EU.

Two-thirds of growing biotech crops achieved “mega-country” status by planting 50,000 hectares or more in 2005. Their countries include the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Paraguay, India, South Africa, Uruguay, Australia, Mexico, Romania, the Philippines and Spain.

Brazil experienced the most significant growth, increasing its biotech soybean area by 88 percent to reach a provisional 9.4 million hectares in 2005. India displayed the largest proportional growth, nearly three-fold, by planting 1.3 million hectares of Bt cotton in 2005 compared to 500,000 hectares in 2004.

When biotech crops were first commercialized, critics suggested the technology would never be valuable in the developing world. Now, resource-poor farmers in developing countries account for 90 percent of the 8.5 million growers who benefit from biotechnology, while developing nations represent more than one-third of 2005 global biotech area.

“Biotech crops have increased the income of 7.7 million resource-poor farmers in China, India, South Africa, the Philippines and seven other developing countries, helping alleviate them from abject poverty,” James said. “The broader commercialization of biotech rice, the most important food crop of the world’s 1.3 billion poor and the 850 million hungry and malnourished, can further this effort. Biotech rice could make a substantial contribution to the formidable U.N. Millennium development goal of reducing poverty, hunger and malnutrition by 50 percent by 2015.”

James indicated the future looks promising for continued increases in adoption levels in the next decade.

“I am cautiously optimistic the stellar growth experienced during the first decade of commercialization will not only continue, but will be surpassed in the second decade,” he said.

“The number of countries and farmers growing biotech crops is expected to grow, particularly in developing countries, while second-generation input and output traits are expected to become available.”

According to the report, other indicators of continued growth include China’s expected near-term adoption of biotech rice, more nutritional biotech food and feed, products and the anticipated introduction of novel crop products used as renewable resources for more sustainable and affordable production of biofuels. ISAAA projects the global value of the biotech crop market to increase from $5.25 billion in 2005 to $5.5 billion in 2006.


NAWG Calls for Early Conservation Security Program Sign-Up

In a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns, NAWG joined with several other agricultural organizations urging the Secretary to move quickly in beginning a 2006 sign-up for the Conservation Security Program.

“We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to issue the 2006 Sign-up Notice for the Conservation Security Program (CSP) and start the 2006 enrollment period by the end of this month. It is critical to the ultimate success of the program for enrollment to be open during the winter months when many farmers and ranchers have more time to work through the planning process.”
Count on DuPont to blend in better

When it comes to tank mixing, a standout product must blend in. TotalSol™ soluble granule technology from DuPont is an advanced new formulation that dissolves completely for improved performance and easier tank cleanout, protecting the next crop you treat from harmful residues. DuPont™ Affinity® TankMix and new DuPont™ Affinity® BroadSpec wheat herbicides feature TotalSol™ soluble granules. For the difference you can truly see, look for TotalSol™.

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NAWG Calls Attention to New NRCS Internet Based Soil Survey Data

Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight has asked that all producers be aware of a new internet based system that allows secure public access to the national soils information system. The site is a powerful way to access and analyze soils data that contributes to every aspect of public and private land use and development.

The Web Soil Survey may be accessed at www.soils.usda.gov and then clicking on the Web Soil Survey link.

NAWG Calls for Suspension of Fuel Tank Containment (SPCC) Rule

In a letter to be sent to EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson, NAWG along with other agriculture associations, cooperatives, agribusiness’s and many of our state wheat associations, is calling for a suspension of compliance with the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) regulations. The SPCC regulations would require costly secondary containment and other spill prevention measures on any above ground oil storage in excess of 1,320 gallons. Many farms have, on average, storage capacity of 5,000 gallons or more. It is estimated that compliance with the rules as currently written could cost U.S. agriculture $4.5 billion or more.

The letter states, “The Agriculture Coalition on the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC), which includes organizations representing farmers, cooperatives, and related agribusiness’s, requests that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issue a formal statement suspending compliance with the SPCC rule given the uncertainty that surrounds the applicability of the 1973 rule. Also, the coalition strongly urges that all agricultural facilities - farms, ranches, cooperatives and other agribusiness’s - be granted an indefinite extension of compliance until more information can be gathered by the EPA on the unique nature of our industries, our needs, our history of spills and how those spills were addressed.”

The letter concludes, “We reiterate our request that EPA alleviate the uncertainty surrounding this rule by formally suspending enforcement of all agricultural facilities and by extending indefinitely compliance deadlines for those facilities.”
The Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA) is dedicated to working with all legislators in the State of Idaho and recognizing those legislators who support our issues. One way the IGPA accomplishes this goal is by joining with Food Producers of Idaho to recognize those Idaho legislators that support the issues important to Idaho’s grain producers.

Each year Food Producers of Idaho, and its member organizations tracks legislation that is important to Idaho agriculture. Following each legislative session Food Producers of Idaho creates a scorecard for each member of the Idaho legislator. Those legislators who have a voting record of 90% or better are then recognized by Food Producers of Idaho as an Idaho Agriculture All-Star.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association would like to acknowledge those legislators from the 2005 legislative session who are Idaho AG All-Stars. The awards dinner took place on January 9, 2006.

Representatives

Ken Andrus* © District 29, McCammon
Frances Field © District 23, Grand View
Jack Barraclough © District 33, Idaho View
Kathie Garrett © District 17, Boise
Stan Bastian* © District 14, Boise
Frank Henderson* © District 5, Post Falls
Scott Bedke © District 27, Oakley
Doug Jones © District 23, Filer
Maxine Bell © District 26, Jerome
Jana Kemp* © District 16, Boise
Carlos Bilbao* © District 11, Emmett
Janet Miller © District 17, Boise
Max Black © District 15, Boise
Bruce Newcomb © District 27 Burley
Sharon Block © District 24, Twin Falls
Peter Nielsen © District 22, Mountain Home
Darrell Bolz © District 10, Caldwell
Bob Nonini* © District 5, Coeur D’ Alene
Joe Cannon © District 28, Blackfoot
Dell Raybould © District 34, Rexburg
Marge Chadderdon* © District 4, Coeur D’ Alene
Robert Ring © District 10, Caldwell
Gary Collins © District 12, Nampa
Mack Shirley © District 24, Rexburg
Dolores Crow © District 13, Nampa
Kathy Skippen © District 11, Emmett
Bill Deal © District 13, Nampa
Steve Smylie © District 15, Boise
Lawrence Denney © District 9, Midvale
Mark Snodgrass © District 20, Meridian
Clete Edmunson © District 9, Council
Bert Stevenson © District 26, Rupert
Debbie Field © District 18, Boise
Richard Wills © District 22, Glenns Ferry

* first-time honoree

Senators

Don Burtenshaw © District 35, Terreton
Dean Carmer © District 26, Rupert
Tim Corder* © District 22, Mountain Home
Denton Darrington © District 27, Declo
Bart Davis © District 33, Idaho Falls
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Patti Anne Lodge © District 13, Huston
John McGee* © District 10, Caldwell
Mel Richardson © District 32, Idaho Falls
Stan Williams © District 28, Pingree

* first-time honoree

Photo of the Idaho AG All Star plaque that is awarded to Idaho legislators with a 90% voting record on Idaho Agriculture issues.

Lobbyist Darwin Olberding congratulating Representative Francis Field on her sixth AG All-Star award. Representative Field is Food Producers of Idaho’s only six-time recipient of the Idaho AG All Star award.
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Idaho Grain Producers Association---Oregon Wheat Growers League---Washington Association of Wheat Growers
Far-GO® and Buckle®—Oldies but Goodies

Now Far-GO and Buckle are playing a more important role than ever before because they control wild oats resistant to POST emergent herbicides. Spring is a busy time and spraying conditions are never certain. By using these PRE-emergent herbicides, you can avoid the worry of having to properly time your POST application.

Far-GO and Buckle help you maximize yields by controlling wild oats before they rob your crop of valuable moisture and expensive fertilizer. These classics are also known for their residual control and crop rotation flexibility. A fall or spring application of Far-GO or Buckle should be the foundation of your resistance management strategy.

Give these oldies another spin.
Christmas light cruise was one high-light of the 2005 PNW Grains Conference in Coeur d’Alene

Fun and food on the Christmas lights cruise

Idaho attendee’s relaxing at trade show

IGPA board member Chad Denny (left) visiting with Washington grower’s Karl Felgenhour and Tony Viebrock
US Wheat Associates, John Oades delivering a workshop on hard white wheat

IGPA President Ray Buttars welcoming attendee’s to the conference with Jeff Emtman, WAWG President (left) and Brad Anderson, OWGL President (center) looking on.

IWC Chairman Jim McDonald presents Bill Crea the 2005 Distinguished Service award

IGPA President Ray Buttars introducing Evan Hayes, National Barley Growers Association President

Boyd and Jean Schwieder receiving the IGPA’s Lifetime Achievement award for 2005

Reed Findlay receives IGPA’s Excellence in Extension award for 2005

Risk Management workshop with Dave Paul

Ice sculpture provided by Coeur d’Alene resort

PNW Grains Conference 2005 in Coeur d’Alene

IGPA President Ray Buttars welcoming attendee’s to the conference with Jeff Emtman, WAWG President (left) and Brad Anderson, OWGL President (center) looking on.

Dr. Barry Flinchbauh talking 2007 Farm Bill with attendee’s

Wheat quality workshop with Dave Shelton from the Wheat Marketing Center

Reed Findlay receives IGPA’s Excellence in Extension award for 2005

SPRING 2006

IDAHO GRAIN
Fight winter wheat yield robbers with new herbicides

Wheat generates nearly $1 billion in annual revenue for Pacific Northwest growers. Yet yield and quality losses caused by winter annual grasses keep holding back the potential return at a time when growers desperately need to maximize profits.

According to weed scientists at Washington State University, most of the winter wheat growing today will have infestations of mixed winter annual grass weeds that are difficult to control because they have a similar growth cycle to winter wheat.

Downy brome and other Bromus grass species are common when winter wheat is grown every other year. It is not unusual to have a dual problem with downy brome and wild oats, particularly in areas that receive higher rainfall. However, many growers are starting to see a ‘triple threat’ from downy brome, wild oats and Italian (annual) ryegrass.

In the face of grass problems and the need to increase profit margins, crop rotation strategies hold out some promise. While crop rotation can help improve overall control, grasses have established such a strong foothold that rotation alone most often isn’t enough to stop them. Adding to the complexity is the fact that some effective grass herbicides have label restrictions that prevent growers from rotating to potentially profitable crops like lentils and dry peas.

Stop criminals in their tracks

Successfully, Pacific Northwest growers now have additional options to help manage their wheat-based operations with more potential return. Three new herbicides introduced since 2003 by Bayer CropScience offer effective performance against winter annual grasses and more rotational flexibility.

One of those products, OSPREY® Herbicide, was developed for postemergence control of a broad spectrum of difficult weeds, such as Italian ryegrass and wild oats — including ACC-ase susceptible and ACC-ase resistant species — Persian darnel, bluegrass, blackgrass, windgrass, canarygrass and certain broadleaf weeds.

OSPREY also allows plant-back-to-a wide variety of crops that offer profit opportunity. Lentils, dry beans, peas and other crops may be planted just 90 days after OSPREY is applied. Barley and sunflowers may be planted 30 days after application.

After learning about OSPREY at a grower meeting, Doug Bruce of Pigeon Hollow Farms in Farmington, Wash., decided to incorporate it into his weed control program.

“There was an obvious difference where we sprayed it, compared to the fields where it wasn’t applied,” Bruce says. “We had better control with OSPREY than with any other product we have ever used in our winter wheat system. It did what they said it would do.”

More effective choices

OLYMPUS® Herbicide is registered for postemergence control of cheatgrass, downy brome, Japanese brome, wild oats and many other grass and broadleaf weeds, plus partial control of jointed goatgrass.

“OLYMPUS allows growers the opportunity to reduce jointed goatgrass pressure without being restricted to a certain special wheat types,” says Dave Feist, Cereal Crops Team Lead with Bayer CropScience. OLYMPUS may be applied in spring or fall, alone or with liquid fertilizer.

The latest herbicide option from Bayer CropScience, OLYMPUS Flex, puts it all together so growers can manage just about any tough grass problem while keeping their cropping options open.

OLYMPUS Flex is registered for postemergence control of 19 grasses, a host of broadleaf weeds and partial control of jointed goatgrass.

“Excellent control is great as long as it doesn’t compromise other critical management decisions,” Feist says. “OLYMPUS Flex provides the flexibility to rotate to most crops under normal conditions. It is very easy to use because it’s effective at one recommended rate in the fall or spring with a wide window of application. There’s no reason to get locked into a special winter wheat variety because OLYMPUS Flex may also be applied with good crop safety on any variety that fits your farm and market opportunities.”

Ideally, growers want to plant winter wheat as often as possible, and they appreciate any tool that helps them do that. Newer products like OSPREY, OLYMPUS and OLYMPUS Flex offer more valuable solutions for those growers dealing with weed pressures. In addition, these grass herbicides can be tankmixed with broadleaf products like BRONATE® Advanced® Herbicide.

BRONATE Advanced is a selective, postemergence herbicide for fast acting control of more than 40 tough broadleaf weeds infesting cereal crops. BRONATE Advanced provides excellent crop safety and is 20 percent more concentrated, so you can treat more acres with every jug.

“We are one of the few remaining manufacturers investing in new products to help provide growers with solutions,” Feist says. “With a strong commitment to working with local crop protection retailers, supported by our Cereal Expert resources, Bayer CropScience will be helping growers produce profitable cereal crops for years to come.”

For additional information contact your local Bayer CropScience Cereal Experts or crop protection retailer. You may also call toll-free 1-866-99-BAYER (1-866-992-2937) or visit our Web site at www.cerealexperts.com.
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When western explorer Captain Benjamin Bonneville passed through Idaho in 1833 he described it as “A land where no man can survive. It will remain uninhabited”. Captain Bonneville, today, would be astonished at the abundance of high-quality wheat grown in the Idaho county named after him.

The great explorer, John Fremont, who also gave his name to one of Idaho’s wheat-growing counties, passed through Idaho in 1843. He reported there was nothing but sagebrush and the group survived only by catching fish from the Snake River. Their horses went without feed until they had passed through the area. Western explorer and missionary Father DeSmet called southern Idaho “The most barren of all mountain deserts”.

Today, however, traveling through the verdant fields of southern Idaho, gazing at trees, gardens, flowers, and crops as far as the eye can see, it is difficult to imagine this was once arid sagebrush covered desert. No contemporary Extreme Makeover project compares to Idaho’s miracle in the desert.

More than 70 cash crops are grown in Idaho. Last year, Idaho ranked in the top five nationally in production of spring wheat, peas, barley, sugar beets, beans, potatoes, mint, onions, plums, lentils, alfalfa hay, sweet cherries, and hops. Idaho claims first or second spot in many of these crops.

Idaho’s bountiful harvest is due to rich soils and a well-developed irrigation infrastructure. In addition, Idaho’s high desert environment provides a more controlled growing environment with less disease and fewer pests. These agronomic advantages enable Idaho to grow more than 95% of all seed sweet corn grown in the nation. The dry environment makes possible the growing of high-quality hard white wheat with less risk of sprout damage late in the season.

Some of the world’s largest beer makers, Budweiser, Coors, and Corona, grow their malting barley under contract in southern Idaho for the same reasons. “Modelo chose Idaho because of the stability, quality and availability of its irrigated barley and the commitment of Idaho’s farmers to producing top quality agricultural products,” said Grupo Modelo, maker of Corona beer.

A volcanic past is responsible for Idaho’s rich soil. The loose ash easily accommodates many crops. Rich sediment from the bottom of Lake Bonneville also contributed. Lake Bonneville, once as large as Lake Michigan, created a river as great as the Amazon for a period of time as it drained. It also left sediment, which mixed with the volcanic ash to create fertile soil conditions.

All that was needed was water. The Snake River is to Idaho what the Nile is to Egypt. There is abundant water flow, but it needed to be harnessed to enable the desert to bloom. The Snake River begins in Yellowstone Park and winds its way across the state to empty into the Columbia River near the Oregon border.

Missionaries at Nez Perce, the Lemhi Valley and in Franklin dug small ditches to irrigate gardens. The first large-scale irrigation in Idaho began on the river islands and lowlands near Rigby through cooperative action by pioneers. Canal companies and irrigation districts were later organized in Boise to raise crops to feed Idaho’s early gold miners. Today many canals and ditches, reservoirs and lat-

Thousands of miles of canals and ditches bring southern Idaho crops to life.
erals criss-cross Idaho, and Idaho has one of the largest and most innovative flood-irrigated systems in the world. Many thousands of miles of Idaho’s canals and ditches are more than 100 years old.

Irrigation acreage surged with the development of pumping technology and the discovery of a large aquifer under Idaho’s lava landscape, the Snake River Aquifer. Today 3.5 million acres of crop in Idaho is irrigated and 88% of the Idaho’s water usage goes into the production of crops. Water reaching the arid desert south of the Snake River caused farms in Twin Falls, Burley, and other parts of Minidoka, Cassia, and Jerome to sprout out of nothing as if “by magic.” This part of Idaho has become known as the Magic Valley.

Wheat Buyers Attracted to Idaho

Nearly two-thirds of Idaho’s wheat is grown under irrigation and Idaho boasts one of the largest amount of irrigated wheat acreage of any state. The consistent availability of water makes Idaho’s wheat crop less susceptible to drought damage. Idaho is also fortunate to have a high level of on-farm storage and grain handlers who have a long history of storing and shipping specific identity wheat.

Wheat customers are increasingly anxious to contract for the exact type of wheat needed. “The old days of selling wheat are over, said Dan Maltby, buyer for General Mills. “Today, wheat buyers are buying a specification.” The tightly controlled growing conditions in southern Idaho’s high desert and an ability to keep the grain segregated are catching the attention of wheat buyers looking for the right functional qualities.

“We have purchased white wheat from Idaho for many years”, said Bob Fesler, Technical Service Representative at Cargill’s Horizon Milling in Ogden, Utah. “The crop is consistent year-in and out. Don’t change anything.”

Wheat millers from Utah, California, Arizona, Mexico and other places have announced plans to contract for more than five million bushels of specific identity Idaho spring wheat in 2006. Idaho wheat officials believe contracted acres can be doubled to ten million next year. The side bar at right shows the varieties of wheat being contracted and which grain handlers are offering contracts.

Durum wheat is one of the classes being contracted. Contracted durum acreage will triple this spring versus last year. “Desert durum acreage in Arizona and California is being lost to development”, said one Idaho elevator operator who is offering spring contracts. “Idaho’s durum crop is comparable in quality and we are picking up some of those acres.”

Contracted hard white wheat will also triple this spring versus prior year. Millers like hard white because it gives them a better yield and has improved gluten characteristics. Bakers like flour made from hard white wheat because it allows them to make a whole-wheat product with a better flavor.

With buyers increasingly wanting to buy wheat as an ingredient instead of as a bulk commodity, Idaho growers and shippers have all the right resources to capture significant new markets. Some wheat-growing states in close proximity to domestic markets contract more than one-quarter of their annual crop. The Idaho Wheat Commission believes this is the start of a significant new chapter in Idaho wheat production.

Varieties Being Contracted:
- Klasic or Blanca Grande, $0.10 premium to market, 11.5% protein
- Kronos, $4.00 per bushel, 13% protein
- WB 470, $0.10 premium to market
- Snowcrest, $0.15 premium to market
- Jefferson, contract price based on futures
- WB 936, contract price based on futures

Grain handlers offering contracts:
- AgriSource, Burley
- General Mills, Idaho Falls
- Ririe Feed & Grain, Ririe
- Trost Feed & Seed, St. Anthony
- AgriSource, Newdale
- Osgood Grain, Osgood
- General Mills, Blackfoot
- Pasley Grain, Idaho Falls

Modern irrigation systems opened thousands of new crop acres in southern Idaho’s high desert.

Barilla, Italy’s largest food company and the top-selling pasta brand in the U.S. contracts durum wheat from southern Idaho for their pasta.
The Man Behind the Varieties

By Cindy Snyder

Dr. Ed Souza, University of Idaho Wheat Breeder at Aberdeen

- Raised on a dairy farm in California; Masters degree from UC-Davis, Ph.D. in plant breeding from Cornell
- Along with collaborator and wife, Mary Guttieri, joined U of I at Aberdeen in 1988.
- Produces cultivars across market classes to benefit wheat growers in Idaho.

NOTE: In March, Dr. Souza will become the new Director of the USDA/ARS Soft Wheat Quality Lab, Wooster, Ohio. Idaho wheat growers have benefited greatly from Dr. Souza’s work over the past 18 years. We wish him well in his new endeavor.

Boyd Schwieder, past chairman Idaho Wheat Commission, remembers the first time he met Ed Souza. It was at a grower meeting Souza was holding to gather input about what producers wanted in varieties.

“1 gave him specific instructions,” Schwieder recounts. “We didn’t have a good dryland hard red spring wheat. My challenge to him was to provide us with one.”

The answer to that challenge was Jefferson, just one of the many varieties Souza developed during his 18-year tenure as the University of Idaho wheat breeder at Aberdeen.

Developing new varieties that meet the needs of both the end user and producer has been one of Souza’s greater challenges and one of the most rewarding aspects of his work. During the 7 to 15 years it can take to release a new variety, the reason why he began to work on a variety may have changed.

“The problems seem to move faster than the solutions,” Souza says. “By the time we get the research done, the problem may be solved or may not be relevant anymore.”

Jefferson is a good example. By the time it was released, many of those traditional dryland spring wheat acres in eastern Idaho had been enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program. Fortunately, Jefferson found a niche in northern Idaho, as well as in irrigated production.

Although Jefferson is probably Souza’s biggest success in terms of acreage -- nearly 48,000 acres planted in 2005 -- he admits he nearly threw the line away three or four times. During development, Jefferson wasn’t a top performer in his trials; however, several growers really liked how it performed on their farms, so Souza stuck with it.

“Jefferson is a well-balanced wheat,” Souza says today. “And it does better on farms than in trials.”

Trying to develop varieties with resistance to Russian wheat aphid provides another example of the challenges breeders face. While Souza was busy making crosses to identify new lines with resistance, a UI entomologist introduced predatory parasites in Idaho. The parasites took hold and brought the aphid under control before the varieties could be released.

At times, Souza says he worked for years trying to create a variety with specific traits … and sometimes the varieties just seemed to appear.

After producers told Souza, at a 1993 field day, they needed a soft white spring wheat that had the same agronomic traits as Penawawa but with better milling qualities, Souza went to work. Nearly a decade later, Alturas was released. Four years after its release, Alturas is now reaching its peak acreage and Souza is using it to develop new varieties such as UI Cataldo (proposed release 2007), a variety for north Idaho.

Boundary, on the other hand, appeared in a field. Souza still remembers the day and time he found that hard red winter. He was in Preston checking his winter wheat trials, which had been essentially wiped out by winterkill.

From the top of the field, Souza could identify all three replicated plots of the line that went on to become Boundary.

“If was the only thing left,” he says.

Souza’s honesty and his
willingness to be up front with growers is one thing Schwieder has appreciated over the years. “If you ask him, he’ll tell you the truth.”

Lynn Carlquist echoes that same sentiment. Souza had trials on Carlquist’s Hazelton farm for about a decade. “We were always happy to see Ed when he came to the farm to inspect his trials,” Carlquist says. “He’s given us good information over the years.”

Trial results have prompted Carlquist to switch varieties from the old standbys to new ones that have performed well on his farm. When he was thinking about changing his irrigation or fertilization practices, he often called Souza to get input.

“We’re getting the same price for wheat we got thirty years ago. Soft white is $2.80 to $2.90 a bushel,” Carlquist says. “If you’re getting 100 bushels to the acre, you’re out of business. You’ve got to get 130 bushels to 150 bushels, and you can only do that with the newer varieties.”

**Hard White Remains a Challenge**

One area where Souza is not entirely happy is with hard white wheat. Nearly 69,000 acres were planted to hard white in 2000, however, in 2004 that dropped to approximately 40,000 acres.

Hard white wheat in Idaho began with the release of Idaho 377S, the only variety Souza has released with a number instead of a name. That was simply because Asian noodle makers had already been experimenting with the variety and had become familiar with the number designation.

Although Souza developed the variety, the Idaho Wheat Commission managed the release to ensure it would be identity preserved.

Schwieder was one of the first growers to test Idaho 377S on his Idaho Falls farm.

He was so impressed with hard white that he continues to plant about 90% of his winter wheat acres to Gary, another hard white wheat developed at Aberdeen.

Although initial results were positive from 377S, it soon became apparent that more work was needed. Numerous research tests showed that hard white wheat varieties that produced the best noodle texture also were the best bread wheats.

“For noodles, you want a strong bread wheat, but with two to three points lower protein,” Souza explains. That means breeders can select a variety for multiple purposes. How the grower fertilizes the crop determines the actual end use. “For us, as breeders, it’s been a very liberating thing.”

That finding led to new hard white winter wheat varieties like UI Lochsa and UI Darwin.

“The Idaho Wheat Commission has been an integral part of taking what we’re learning about hard whites and seeing how it fits into the market,” Souza says.

Bridging the gap between what the end user needs and what the farmer wants to grow has been a critical role for the UI wheat breeding program at Aberdeen.

“Ed understands markets and marketing. He has a good relationship with the trade and people who are using our wheat. That has been beneficial to producers,” Schwieder says.

**Releases Ed Souza is particularly pleased with include Alturas (SWS), UI Cataldo (SWS), Brundage (SWW), Idaho 377S (HWW), Gary (HWW), DW (HRW), Boundary (HRW) and Jefferson (HRS).**

---

**...discussing protein management during a Wheat Quality Workshop.**

**...testing how varieties work in end products at the IWC/UI Wheat Quality lab.**

**...showing wheat breeding trials at Aberdeen to a trade team from the Philippines.**
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To serve the grain producers of Idaho by representing their production interests at the county, state and federal levels in order to enhance their profitability and long term viability.

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- CROP QUALITY LOSS PAYMENT...
  IGPA secured several million dollars through FSA for crop quality loss payments for HVW and HRW growers who suffered from low protein wheat in 2003/2004.

- RAIL COMPETITION...
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- CHANNEL DEEPENING & DREDGING...
  IGPA was a regional leader in efforts to deepen the Columbia River Channel and the pool behind lower Granite Dam to improve shipping efficiency.

- PROTECT IDAHO WATER...
  IGPA is a proactive leader in the state to protect Idaho water for irrigation and transportation.

2006 GOALS

- PROPERTY TAXES...
  IGPA will work to prevent a tax shift of property taxes from homeowners to agricultural lands.

- FARM BILL...
  IGPA's officers and staff will focus their efforts on development of the 2007 Farm Bill.

- LEGAL RE COURSE FOR FARMERS...
  IGPA will seek legislation that provides farmers an opportunity to recover expenses when they successfully defend themselves in a nuisance lawsuit.

- ENERGY LEGISLATION...
  IGPA will continue working for tax incentives to promote the use of renewable fuels.

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Research a Key Component

There’s a fine line between research and plant breeding.

According to Ed Souza, “Research allows us to make good breeding decisions and a lot of the breeding work tells us what the research needs are.” The University of Idaho spends about equal money on wheat breeding and research at Aberdeen.

Low phytic acid wheat is one research area UI and the Idaho Wheat Commission are investing in for the future. Phosphorus naturally found in wheat is bound as phytic acid, which is difficult for livestock to digest. By lowering the phytic acid, phosphorus is made more available to livestock, which can help reduce phosphorus loads in animal manure.

The UI has developed a low phytic acid wheat and commercial germ plasm is available. The next step is to develop a market for that wheat.

Low phytic acid wheat genotypes also seem to have different lignin components that may affect straw strength. UI researchers are evaluating changes in straw strength, which may make the wheat straw more valuable in straw-to-ethanol conversions.

Other research has focused on finding better testing methods to evaluate potential variety releases. UI researchers took technology developed by Nabisco to measure flour quality called solvent retention capacity (SRC) and simplified that technique to use in the breeding program.

Where Nabisco did eight tests a day, UI technicians can run 160 tests a day. That test helped streamline the process for screening soft white wheat varieties to improve milling and baking qualities for the end users.

Souza used to throw out half of the soft white wheat lines in advanced trials because bake tests at the UI Wheat Quality Lab would show unacceptable quality characteristics.

With use of the SRC test and genetic markers, early in the breeding process, only about 10% of the lines are tossed.

Mark Your Calendars for the 2007 Photo Contest!

USW will be producing a calendar in 2007, celebrating the reliability and value of U.S. wheat. We encourage photographers — both amateur and professional — to submit their best photos of Idaho wheat fields, foods made from U.S. wheat or other scenes depicting the shipping, milling or use of U.S. wheat.

The deadline for entries is June 1, 2006.

Twelve photos will be selected for the 2007 calendar. The winning photographers will receive $100 for each photo that is selected.

USW will own all rights to the winning photographs, including the right to publish the photographs and all associated copyrights. If people are featured in the photo, the photographer must obtain consent from the people before submitting their photos. By submitting such photos, the photographer confirms and represents he or she has received that consent. Materials will not be returned.

When stripe rust hit hard in southeastern wheat fields in the spring of 2005, growers may have been surprised by the disease’s virulence. But not those who had spent a career studying it.

Ed Souza, University of Idaho wheat breeder at Aberdeen, calls it one of the most frustrating problems he’s dealt with over the years. “We’ve always had stripe rust as a top research priority,” he explained. “The races change so fast.”

As fast as plant breeders introduce new forms of resistance to cereal grains, stripe rust mutates to attack plants through a different form of vulnerability. That’s why screening all varieties against the most common races of stripe rust is so important, even though stripe rust may only be an economic problem in southern Idaho once every 10 or 20 years.

In 2005, Souza was able to actually calculate the value to growers of stripe rust research. In his yield trials, Penawawa took a 50 percent yield hit compared to Alturas, a soft white spring wheat developed by the UI. That works out to be a $10 million savings for the growers who planted Alturas and didn’t have to spray for stripe rust.

“That difference,” Souza said, “pretty much paid for all the dollars the Wheat Commission has put into stripe rust research over the past 50 years.”

Souza is able to take advantage of nurseries in California to test stripe rust resistance. As soon as he harvests breeding lines at Aberdeen, the material is shipped to California for evaluation, then shipped back to Aberdeen the following April to be evaluated again in Idaho.

Genetic markers helped Souza develop a Hessian fly resistant Alturas for north Idaho. The markers help locate a specific gene in a population. By using genetic markers, breeding lines with potential Hessian fly resistance were identified and sent to an entomologist for advanced screening. That shortens the time frame for getting varieties with new resistance out to growers’ fields.

All of the Hessian fly resistant varieties grown in Idaho and Washington have the same resistant gene. That is a potential problem.

Plant breeders have an adversarial relationship with pests such as Hessian fly and stripe rust. In both cases, the resistance works because genes in the plant recognize when a Hessian fly is nibbling on the leaves or stripe rust is smothering the plant. Once the genes recognize the threat, the genes trigger a chain reaction to help defend the plant.

At the same time, the pest continues to evolve and mutate until it becomes unrecognizable to those genes. Once that happens the pest is able to graze at will, until breeders are able to find a new ‘tripline’ or gene package that recognizes the new threat.

◆

**Photo Contest continued**

**Requirements for prints:**

- Slides or 4 x 5 transparencies are preferred, with a hard copy print for judging purposes. If you submit an original print, please include the negative.

**Requirements for digital photos:**

- You must use a four mega-pixel (or higher) digital camera, set to the highest-quality resolution setting. They must be saved as eps, tiff or jpeg.
- Digital photo entries must be burned to a CD accessible by a PC. E-mail entries will not be accepted.

**Take care of your entries:** All entries must include your name, phone number and mailing address. Do not use paper clips to fasten anything to the photos or negatives (they could be permanently damaged). Protect your photos from bending in the mail, and use a padded envelope for mailing CDs.
### SPRING VARIETIES

**Hard Red Spring Min 13% Protein**
- Q+ Hollis
- Q+ Jefferson
- Q+ Jerome
- Q+ Tara 2002
- AQ Hank
- AQ Iona
- AQ Scarlet
- AQ Sunstar King
- LM Express
- LM Rick

**Soft White Spring**
- Q+ Alturas
- Q+ Challis
- Q+ Jubilee
- Q+ Louise
- Q+ Nick
- Q+ Treasure
- Q+ Zak
- AQ Eden
- AQ Wakanz
- AQ Wawawai
- LM Alpowa
- LM Penawawa

**Hard White Spring Min 13% Protein**
- Q+ Klastic
- Q+ Lochsa
- Q+ Macon
- Q+ Snow Crest
- LM Winsome
- Clubs
  - Q+ Chukar
  - Q+ Edwin
  - Q+ Hiller
  - Q+ Rely
  - Q+ Tres
  - AQ Coda
  - AQ LM
  - AQ Bruehl
  - AQ Rhode

### WINTER VARIETIES

**Hard Red Winter Min 12% Protein**
- Q+ Bonneville
- Q+ Delores
- Q+ DW
- Q+ Moreland
- AQ Boundary
- AQ Falcon
- AQ Finley
- AQ Promontory
- LM Utah 100
- LM Declo
- LM Estica
- LM Garland
- LM Hatton
- LM Q542
- LM Weston

**Soft White Winter**
- Q+ Brundage 96
- Q+ Brundage
- Q+ Hubbard
- Q+ ID587
- Q+ Lewjain
- Q+ Simon
- Q+ Stephens
- WBN528
- AQ Beamer
- AQ Cashup
- AQ Eltan
- AQ Finch
- AQ Hill 81
- AQ Lambert
- AQ Madsen
- AQ Malcolm
- AQ Mohler
- AQ ORCF 101
- AQ Rod
- AQ Sprague
- AQ Weatherford
- LM Moreland
- LM Declo
- LM Estica
- LM Boundary
- LM Dakota
- LM Lam
- LM McVicar
- LM Tubbs
- LM WB470

### Meeting Market Demand

**Idaho Preferred Mix**

Use of the varieties listed could increase the overall functionality and consistency of Idaho wheat. This listing is not all-inclusive. It is provided as a guide for producers to consider when making planting decisions. Growers are encouraged to contact extension agents and other industry representatives for local agronomic characteristics.

*Due to the large number of varieties available, the list includes only (a) varieties that are being grown in Idaho as identified by the latest USDA, NASS survey and/or (b) varieties recently available that meet end user needs.

### Quality Plus (Q+)

Varieties in this group usually have above average milling and baking quality.

### Acceptable Quality (AQ)

Most milling and baking attributes of these varieties are acceptable, but they are not above average for all properties.

### Limited Markets (LM)

It is suggested that these varieties be grown only if a buyer is confirmed before the seed is planted. Putting these varieties into the general distribution channel erodes the overall quality and/or consistency of Idaho's wheat.

*Listings change as new information becomes available.*
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Variety Testing

Idaho spring barley varieties are evaluated each year to provide performance information to help growers select superior varieties for their growing conditions. The tests are done using farmer fields or experiment stations and the varieties are grown under conditions typical for crop production in the area. Varieties are included in these tests based on their potential adaptation in an area and commercial use of a variety. The number of entries is limited due to resource availability. Individual plots were planted as 7 rows spaced 20’ to 25’ in length and replicated 3 or 4 times in a randomized complete block design.

Information Summarization

Agronomic performance data for 2005 spring barley tests are summarized by Idaho districts in Tables 1-4. District I is northern, District II is southwest, District III is southcentral, and District IV is southeast Idaho. District III and IV results are presented for 2-row barley in Table 3 and for 6-row barley in Table 4. Yield data are given for individual sites while other agronomic data are averaged over all the sites of each table. Bushel/acre yield results are based on 48 lb/bu at 11% moisture. Lodging ratings are the percent of a plot area lodged. Plump percentage is based on cleaned grain passing through a 5.5/64” screen. Thin grain percentage is clean grain retained on a 6/64” screen. Average values are presented at the bottom of listings and are followed by a least significant difference (LSD) statistic at the 10% level.

Average yield data from variety performance trials in 2003, 2004, and 2005 are presented in Table 5 for all districts. These data represent results of 3-12 site/years and can be a good indication of long term performance of a variety.

Information Interpretation

Average past performance of a variety is the best indicator available to predict future performance potential. Variety performance can vary from location to location and year to year. The results reported in this article are for 2005 trials; previous results can be found in the spring 1992 to 2005 issues of Idaho Grain. Average performance over locations and years more accurately indicates varieties’ relative performance. Try to evaluate as much information as you can when selecting varieties. Yield is a primary characteristic used to select varieties, but disease resistance, maturity, lodging tendency, and quality characteristics such as test weight and plumpness are also important variety selection considerations.

Reported small differences among varieties in yield and other characteristics are usually of little importance due to chance differences in tests. An aid in determining true differences is the LSD statistic. If differences between varieties are greater than the 10% LSD value, the varieties are considered “significantly different.”
This means that there is a 9 in 10 chance that the reported difference between varieties is a true difference and not due to other experimental factors. If no significant differences are determined for a trial, n.s. is used in place of the LSD.

**Further Information**

Variety characteristic information can be found in Extension publications: “2006 Certified Seed Selection Guide for Spring Barley and Oats” (Progress Report 328) and “2006 Certified Seed Selection Guide for Spring Wheat” (Progress Report 327). Variety performance information for winter wheat has been published in the fall issues of Idaho Grain. An excellent Extension publication for barley producers is “Idaho Spring Barley Production Guide” (Bulletin No. 742) that was updated for 2003, and for spring wheat producers there is “Irrigated Spring Wheat Production Guide for Southern Idaho” (Bulletin No. 697). All these publications are free through the University of Idaho Agricultural Publications (ph. 208-885-7982) or contact your county Extension office. Additional Idaho small grain variety performance information is available on the web at http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/cereals/.

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This means that there is a 9 in 10 chance that the reported difference between varieties is a true difference and not due to other experimental factors. If no significant differences are determined for a trial, n.s. is used in place of the LSD.

**Further Information**

Variety characteristic information can be found in Extension publications: “2006 Certified Seed Selection Guide for Spring Barley and Oats” (Progress Report 328) and “2006 Certified Seed Selection Guide for Spring Wheat” (Progress Report 327). Variety performance information for winter wheat has been published in the fall issues of Idaho Grain. An excellent Extension publication for barley producers is “Idaho Spring Barley Production Guide” (Bulletin No. 742) that was updated for 2003, and for spring wheat producers there is “Irrigated Spring Wheat Production Guide for Southern Idaho” (Bulletin No. 697). All these publications are free through the University of Idaho Agricultural Publications (ph. 208-885-7982) or contact your county Extension office. Additional Idaho small grain variety performance information is available on the web at http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/cereals/.
Idaho spring wheat varieties are evaluated each year to provide performance information to help growers select superior varieties for their growing conditions. Because of similarities among spring wheat and spring barley tests, details about spring wheat test design and interpretation of the information presented in this article can be found in the preceding article ‘2005 Idaho Spring Barley Variety Performance Tests and 2003-2005 Yield Summaries.’

Agronomic performance data for spring wheat are summarized by state districts in Tables 1-5. District II, III and IV results are presented for soft white spring wheat in Tables 2 and 4 and for hard spring wheat in Tables 3 and 5. Yield data are given for individual sites while other agronomic data are averaged over all the sites of each table. Tables include quality ratings of varieties, categorized as Quality Plus wheat varieties (Q+), Acceptable Quality of wheat (AQ) and “Limited Markets” wheat (LM) as defined by the Idaho Wheat Commission (www.idahowheat.org). Q+ varieties are of excellent quality, and usually above average milling and baking characteristics. AQ varieties are acceptable, but still just average in milling and baking characteristics. LM varieties are inferior, and it is suggested they should be grown only if a buyer is confirmed before the seed is planted. Bushel/acre yield results are based on 60 lb/bu at 11% moisture. Lodging ratings are the percent of a plot area lodged. Average values are presented at the bottom of listings and are followed by a least significant difference (LSD) statistic at the 10% level. Average yield results from variety performance trials in 2003, 2004, and 2005 are presented in Table 6 for all districts, with 3-9 site/years of data summarized for each district.

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<td></td>
<td>Macon Q+</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>71</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Otis</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Pristine AQ</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Winsome LM</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Hard Red | Alpowa LM | 124 | 114 | 120 | 61 | 42 |
|          | Alturas Q+ | 119 | 130 | 123 | 74 | 43 |
|          | Challis Q+ | 115 | 90 | 114 | 76 | 45 |
|          | Edel AQ | 109 | 113 | 112 | 77 | 40 |
|          | Jubilee Q+ | 107 | 73 | 109 | 67 | 41 |
|          | Louise Q+ | 92 | 131 | 112 | 69 | 40 |
|          | Nick Q+ | 107 | 114 | 122 | 78 | 40 |
|          | Penawawa LM | 108 | 85 | 108 | 67 | 42 |
|          | Skookum | 115 | 91 | 127 | 72 | 44 |
|          | Treasure Q+ | 111 | 111 | 125 | 71 | 42 |
|          | Whitebird Q+ | 100 | 59 | 91 | 61 | 43 |
| Average | 110 | 102 | 116 | 71 | 42 | 88 |

| LSD 0.10 | 12 | 6 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 4 |

**Notes:**
- LSD = Least Significant Difference
- Table values are averages of four years
- For varieties with no LSD value, differences are not significant at the 0.10 level.
Equip your 60 Series STS Combine with the new PowerCast powered tailboard, and you’ll spread a thin, uniform residue layer, adjustable from the cab to widths from 35 to 50 feet ... more than enough to accommodate even the widest draper or row-crop platforms. You’ll also see improved performance from your tillage and seeding equipment, as well as more consistent emergence in the spring.

Learn more about PowerCast powered tailboard and the 60 Series STS Bullet Rotor Combines from your local John Deere dealer, or by visiting www.JohnDeere.com/60Series.