

WHEAT LIFE

The official publication of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers

JANUARY | 2022

INDUSTRY GATHERS TO CELEBRATE PNW SMALL GRAINS

It was a full house at the Davenport Grand Hotel in Spokane at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

What's on WAWG's radar for 2022?

2022 Legislative Pullout

Talking about (river) transportation

2021 spring wheat variety testing results



Address Service Requested

Washington Association of Wheat Growers
109 East First Avenue, Ritzville, WA 99169

WHEAT LIFE

Volume 65 • Number 01
www.wheatlife.org

The official publication of



**WASHINGTON
ASSOCIATION OF
WHEAT GROWERS**

109 East First Avenue
Ritzville, WA 99169-2394
(509) 659-0610 • (877) 740-2666

WAWG MEMBERSHIP

(509) 659-0610 • (877) 740-2666
\$125 per year

EDITOR

Trista Crossley • editor@wawg.org
(435) 260-8888

AD SALES MANAGER

Lance Marshall • lance@wawg.org
(253) 221-7000

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Devin Taylor • Trista Crossley

AD BILLING

Michelle Hennings • michelle@wawg.org
(509) 659-0610 • (877) 740-2666

CIRCULATION

Address changes, extra copies, subscriptions
Katie Teachout • katie@wawg.org
(509) 659-0610 • (877) 740-2666
Subscriptions are \$50 per year

WAWG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michelle Hennings

WAWG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Howard McDonald • Coulee City

VICE PRESIDENT

Andy Juris • Bickleton

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Anthony Smith • Richland

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Ryan Poe • Hartline

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Ben Adams • Coulee City

Marci Green • Fairfield

Wheat Life (ISSN 0043-4701) is published by the
Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG):
109 E. First Avenue • Ritzville, WA 99169-2394

Eleven issues per year with a combined August/
September issue. Standard (A) postage paid at
Ritzville, Wash., and additional entry offices.

Contents of this publication may not be re-
printed without permission.

Advertising in *Wheat Life* does not indicate en-
dorsement of an organization, product or political
candidate by WAWG.

President's Perspective



Some big shoes to fill at Lind

By Howard McDonald

Every new year brings changes and challenges, and this year is shaping up to be no different. In December, we learned that Bill Schillinger, director of Washington State University's (WSU) Lind Dryland Research Station, will be retiring this month. Bill has spent nearly three decades at the station, dedicating his studies and research helping farmers thrive in one of the lowest precipitation zones in Eastern Washington. I don't know Bill personally, but I am personally acquainted with the results of his work.

Even though my farm is 80 miles away from the research station, we have similar average rain fall, temperatures and types of soil. The variety of wheats that are tested in Lind are a really great match for us, like "Eltan," as it was developed to tolerate snow mold, which can be an issue in our area. A lot of future generations of wheat varieties have some of this type of snow mold resistance gene bred into them. Needless to say, wheat growers throughout the region are grateful for all the work Bill has done, and we wish him well on his retirement.

However, there is now a very big vacancy in WSU's research program for dryland cropping systems. The Washington Association of Wheat Growers recently sent a letter to members of WSU's College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences administration urging them to fill the position as expediently as possible with an individual that has expertise in soil health, cropping systems and precision agriculture. The letter goes on to say, "Historically, Extension agents have made substantial contributions to this region, not only by increasing yields in desert-like conditions, but made alternate crops such as winter peas possible, which in turn, improve our wheat and barley crops. Decades-long projects are still in process and must be continued. In today's world, there is a core of innovative farmers anxiously seeking to continue collaborations with Extension in the adaptive research that has transformed Eastern Washington into one of the most productive and diverse agricultural regions in the world. Simply put, the collaboration between Extension and growers has advanced the small grains industry and, in turn, increased dollars generated for WSU research."

We need to continue to support funding for the Lind Dryland Research Station and the research that happens there, because farming practices and wheat varieties are always evolving. Without Lind, we wouldn't have the varieties of wheat that are a good fit for the Northwest.

You can read the entire letter on our website at wawg.org.

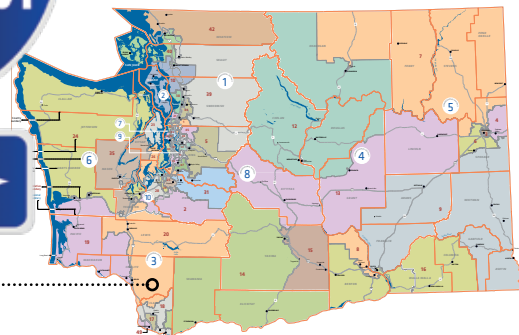
I hope you were able to join us in December for convention. It was a resounding success, thanks mainly to the hard work put in by the staff at the Idaho, Oregon and Washington wheat organizations. The level of detail and planning that goes into pulling off such a huge event is mind boggling. Couldn't make it this year? We've got you covered in this issue of *Wheat Life*. See pages 24-35 for our convention recap and pictures.

I hope you've been fortunate enough to get some of this moisture we've been enjoying. That's one change I'll gladly take this year—less drought! ■

Cover photo: Wheat growers welcomed winter in style—Tri-State Grain Growers Convention style. Coverage begins on page 24. All photos are Shutterstock images or taken by *Wheat Life* staff unless otherwise noted.

Inside This Issue

WAWG President's Perspective	2
Membership Form	4
Dialogue	6
WAWG at Work	8
Policy Matters	16
Washington Wheat Foundation	22
Wheat and Greet	24
Celebrating the PNW small grains industry	
Avenues to advocacy	36
Old issues become new again in 2022	
2022 Legislative Pullout	40
Who's representing you?	
WGC Chairman's Column	43
Talking (river) transportation	44
A conversation on the future of our waterways	
Convention coverage	46
Break-out sessions on variety research, markets	
Variety testing results	48
2021 WSU spring wheat, barley	
Wheat Watch	54
Profiles	56
Shelley Quigley, Roam Roasters	
On Lease	60
The Bottom Line	62
Your Wheat Life	64
Advertiser Index	66



Contributors

Howard McDonald, president, Washington Association of Wheat Growers

Mike Carstensen, chairman, Washington Grain Commission

Lori Maricle, communications director, Washington Grain Commission

Diana Carlen, lobbyist, Washington Association of Wheat Growers

Lacey Miller, writer, Ritzville, Wash.

Clark Neely, Extension agronomist and Cereal Variety Testing lead, Washington State University

T. Randall Fortenbery, Thomas B. Mick Endowed Chair in Grain Economics, Washington State University

Curtis Evandenko, McGregor Risk Management Services

WAWG MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please check level of membership

- ☐ Student \$75 ☐ Family \$200 (up to 2 members)
☐ Grower \$125 ☐ Partnership \$500 (up to 5 partners)
☐ Landlord \$125 ☐ Convention \$600
☐ Industry Associate \$150 ☐ Lifetime \$2,500

Name _____

Farm or Business _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

County Affiliation (if none, write state) _____

Circle all that apply:

☐ Producer ☐ Landlord ☐ Individual ☐ Industry Rep. ☐ Business Owner ☐ Student ☐ Other

Return this form with your check to:

WAWG • 109 East First Ave. • Ritzville, WA 99169.

Or call 509-659-0610 and use your credit card to enroll by phone.

Thank you to our current members

We fight every day to ensure that life on the family farm continues to prosper and grow.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

If you are not a member, please consider joining today.

LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP

	Greensheet Newsletter	Wheat Life Magazine	National Wheat Grower Newsletter	Annual Harvest Prints	WAWG Convention Free Registration	One Vote per Member
Producer/Landowners (Voting Membership)						
Grower or Landlord \$125	X	X	X			X
Family \$200 (2 family members)	X	X	X			X
Partnership \$500 (1-5 family members)	X	X	X	X		X
Convention \$600 (2 individuals)	X	X	X		X	X
Lifetime \$2,500 (1 individual)	X	X	X	X		X
Non-Voting Membership						
Student \$75	X	X	X			
Industry Associate \$150	X	X	X			

WAWG's current top priorities are:

- ✓ Preserving the lower Snake River dams.
- ✓ Fighting mandatory climate/carbon regulations.
- ✓ Lobbying the state Legislature for a seasonal overtime exemption.
- ✓ Maintaining a strong, reliable safety net by preserving crop insurance and making sure farm commodity programs work.
- ✓ Maintaining a safe, sound transportation system that includes rail, river and roads.

If these priorities are important to you, your family and your farm operation, join WAWG today and help us fight.

More member benefits:

- Greensheet ALERTS • WAWG updates
- Voice to WAWG through opinion surveys
- National Wheat Grower updates
- State and national legislative updates



**Washington Association
of Wheat Growers**

109 East First Ave. • Ritzville, WA 99169

509-659-0610 • 877-740-2666 • 509-659-4302 (fax)

www.wawg.org

Call 877-740-2666 or visit www.wawg.org

OPEN SEASON ON WIREWORMS

TERAXXA

For wireworms, it's
GAME OVER.
For plant health, it's
GAME ON.

Teraxxa™ F4 Seed Treatment eliminates wireworms so they can't damage crops. Others only repel.

It also knocks out fungus disease and boosts plant health so your crop grows strong. Find out more at [TeraxxaF4.com](https://www.teraxxa.com).

Teraxxa™ F4
Seed Treatment

BASF
We create chemistry

Always read and follow label directions. Teraxxa is a trademark of BASF. ©2022 BASF Corporation. All rights reserved. Not registered in all states.

Dialogue

Hats off (in more ways than one)

To the Editor,

Hats off to WAWG. Attending the recent Tri-State Convention, I was heartened by the number of impressive new members in attendance at both the Past Presidents/New Leaders dinner and WAWG banquet. One element of this group, however, concerned me: the number of men, particularly young men, who chose to wear their hats indoors throughout. This is a trend that is growing everywhere. Here is my admonishment.

A man does not wear a hat in church. He takes it off as a symbol of respect and humility. That's a given. Traditionally, a man also doffs his hat in the presence of a lady and in nearly all other professional circumstances.

Soon, WAWG delegations will be traveling to both Olympia and D.C., figuratively "hat-in-hand" to ask for special treatment, be it for funding, regulatory relief or beneficial legislation. Literally, guys, TAKE YOUR HATS OFF. You will be meeting with elected officials and/or with impressionable staff members, many of them women. As the old saying goes, "When in Rome, do as the Romans." Show some deference to them. Meet them well dressed, speak articulately and TAKE YOUR HAT OFF.

To some young men, I suspect the hat wearing is a form of a statement. My response is, "It's not about you!" You have one opportunity to make a first impression. Do not make it one that comes across as disrespectful, arrogant or just plain bush league. You are representing WAWG. TAKE YOUR HAT OFF.

Officers and committee chairpersons: if you can't get your troops to take their hats off, at least, prevent them from wearing hats with political statements. WAWG is a nonpartisan organization. Wheat doesn't care. TAKE YOUR HATS OFF.

WAWG has a long history of effectively and professionally representing the interests of our growers. Thank you all for your selfless commitment and effort. Godspeed.

Chris Laney
1990 WAWG President
Sprague, Wash.

How are we doing?

Like something you read in *Wheat Life*? Disagree with something you read in *Wheat Life*? Let us know by emailing your comments and suggestions to editor@wawg.org or mail them to 109 East First Avenue, Ritzville, Wash., 99169-2394. Please keep submissions less than 350 words. Submissions may be edited for length. ■

Are you receiving your ALERT?

With their annual membership, Washington Association of Wheat Growers members can receive industry updates through the weekly digital Greensheet ALERT via email. If you are not receiving this ALERT, either we don't have your current email address, or our ALERT is going into your spam folder. Call our office at (509) 659-0610 to make sure we have your current email address. ■

WEED CONTROL BEGINS AT HARVEST

SEED CONTROL UNIT (SCU)

Absolutely Ideal for Grass Seed
and Cereal Grain Producers.

The Redekop Seed Control Unit provides John Deere and Case IH combines with a flexible and cost-efficient solution to destroy 98% of the harvestable weeds in a single pass operation. Fully integrated into the residue management, drive and display systems, its optimized design is easy and safe to use, with low power requirements and running costs, and excellent residue distribution over the whole cutting width.

In markets where weed resistance is an issue, the Redekop Seed Control Unit (SCU) gives farmers a flexible and cost-efficient tool to control weeds in their farming operation without the use of chemicals or tillage.

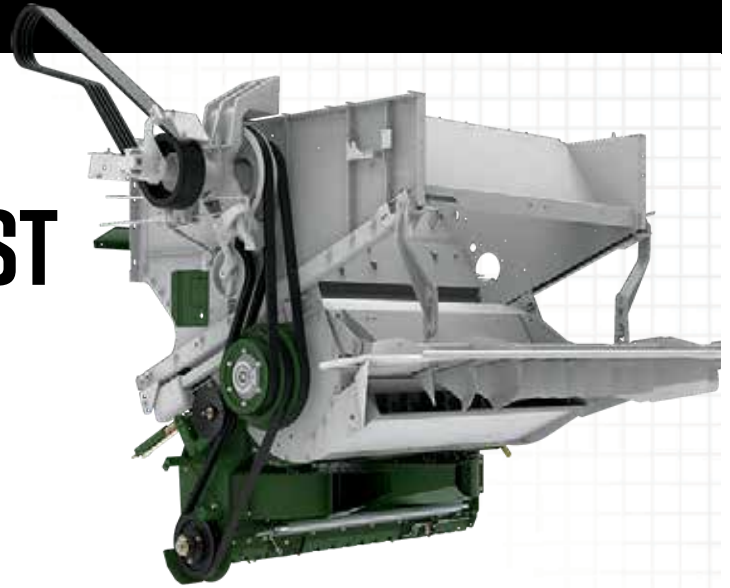
This SCU solution does not only deliver economic benefits by controlling weeds, but also provides the following important environmental, ease-of-use and work safety benefits:

- Destroys greater than 98% of harvestable weeds and volunteer grain.
- Integrated into the combine for single pass operations.

**Available for John Deere S Series
and Case IH 20, 30, 40 & 50 Series.**

**EARLY ORDER PROGRAM IN EFFECT!
FINANCING AVAILABLE!**

The Actual Unit will be on display at our booths at the Spokane Ag Expo & the Pacific NW Direct Seed Conference.



- By mechanically killing the weed seeds and volunteer grain, the SCU helps reduce chemical usage.
- Provides a solution to controlling weeds that are resistant to chemicals.
- Can be easily switched off in field when not needed to increase harvest productivity (saves up to 35hp).
- Drive system allows power redistribution to chopper and SCU as needed to cover tough spots in the field.
- Ensures that both straw and chaff are evenly distributed over the entire cutting width.
- Reversible mills double lifetime and reduce operating costs.
- Easy and safe access to the combine for maintenance and adjustments.
- Electric actuators move chopper and SCU into safe transport position.
- Leverages the existing display for controlling, leaving the cab uncluttered and the visibility unrestricted.

NORTH PINE AG EQUIPMENT, INC.

cschmidt@att.net E. 2110 Babb Road, Rosalia WA

CALL (509) 994-2133

County, past president honored at 2021 convention

This year's holiday season got a festive kickoff for Idaho, Oregon and Washington wheat growers with the return of the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention. Held Nov. 30-Dec. 3 in Spokane at the Davenport Grand Hotel, several hundred growers, agency representatives and industry supporters attended.

"It was great to see everybody back in person and have the chance to celebrate our industry," said Michelle Hennings, executive director of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG). "Our staff, plus the staff from Oregon and Idaho wheat associations, have put in a great deal of time and effort over the past year planning this year's event, and they did a great job bringing everything and everyone together."

Keynote sessions included a national organizations update, global marketing trends with Matt Roberts,



WAWG leaders for the coming year are (from left) Anthony Smith from Benton County, secretary/treasurer; Michelle Hennings, executive director; Ryan Poe from Grant County, past president; Andy Juris from Klickitat County, vice president; and Howard McDonald from Douglas County, president.

trends in the global food supply chain with Jack Bobo, staying healthy mentally with Mark Mayfield and a long-term weather forecast by Eric Snodgrass. Ag Secretary Tom Vilsack was unable to attend, sending a video message instead. For more convention coverage, see page 24. Convention pictures are on page 34.

In between listening to keynote speakers and attending educational break-out sessions, Washington wheat growers took care of association business, welcoming a new president, updating resolutions (see page 14) and recognizing the contributions of growers and county organizations.

After two years holding down the fort as president, Grant County grower Ryan Poe passed the baton to Douglas County grower Howard McDonald. Andy Juris from Klickitat County moved into the vice president's chair, and growers approved the nomination of Benton County grower Anthony Smith as the association's new secretary/treasurer.

"Ryan went above and beyond his normal duties as president, agreeing to lead the organization for an extra year and providing stability and experience as we dealt with unfamiliar ground due to COVID-19," Hennings said. "Howard and the rest of our leadership team have the knowledge and



This year's Wheat Ambassadors, Cadence Zellmer and Tate Nonnemacher, both from Davenport, Wash., gave presentations at the annual awards banquet. Zellmer was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship, while \$4,500 went to Nonnemacher.

passion to continue our mission of advocating for Washington wheat growers."

Growers also recognized Alex McGregor as WAWG member of the year. McGregor, who was WAWG president in 1997/98, has been extremely active in the fight to protect the lower Snake River dams. Columbia County was recognized as WAWG county of the year.

WAWG's newest wheat ambassadors, Cadence Zellmer and Tate Nonnemacher, both from Davenport, Wash., gave presentations at the awards banquet. Zellmer was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship, while \$4,500 went to Nonnemacher. Both ambassadors will represent Washington wheat growers at various civic and community events and will participate in WAWG advocacy meetings with state agencies and legislators this year.

WAWG is a member-driven, volunteer-led organization that depends on membership dues and contributions to help fund its advocacy efforts. The Legislative Action Fund is one way members can donate to WAWG. As a thank-you, members that contribute to the fund were entered into a drawing for prizes donated by county associations, including Adams, Benton, Columbia, Douglas, Grant, Walla Walla and Whitman counties. This year's Legislative Action Fund drawing winners were:

- Jake Klein, Omaha Steaks package.
- Jason Echelbarger, Cougar Pride package.
- Roy Dube, WAWG gift basket.
- Randy Kiesz, \$100 Visa card.
- Wynonna Bennett, Pendleton Comfort set.
- Joe Schmitz, security system.
- James & Ann Moore, \$250 North 40 gift card (donated by Leonard Van Buren and Franklin County Wheat Growers). ▶

YOUR ONE-STOP AG SOURCE!

- Sales & Superior Service -



Tractors
Combines
Tillage
Drills
Sprayers
Precision Ag

"JTI, Your Agricultural Hub of the Inland Empire."



2018 Case IH 9240 Hillco Hillside, 4wd 1483 sep hours, w/FD145 header...\$450,000



2011 Case IH 7088 Hillco Hillside, 4wd 1937 sep hours, w/ 2010 30ft...\$125,000



2015 Case IH 580 Quad, Jake, PTO, 36", twin pump, 4 valve, 5081 hours...\$240,000



2014 Case IH 8230 Hillco Hillside, 4wd 2008 sep hours, w/FD140 header...\$320,000



**JONES TRUCK
& IMPLEMENT**

Evenings:

Dan Hebling 509-336-1346
Rena Olson 509-956-3110
Nic Mayer 509-385-3895
Tyler Elstad 509-540-9009

www.jtii.com
jti@colfax.com

Colfax, WA
Located on Hwy 26
509-397-4371
1-800-831-0896

Walla Walla, WA
304 N 9th Street
509-525-6620
1-800-525-6620

CASE IH
AGRICULTURE
RETHINK PRODUCTIVITY



Washington Association of Wheat Growers' (WAWG) board member Jim Moyer (right) accepts the WAWG County of the Year award for Columbia County from outgoing WAWG President Ryan Poe.



Outgoing Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) President Ryan Poe (right), from Grant County, hands the baton over to incoming WAWG President Howard McDonald of Douglas County.

- Bill Baldwin, Blackstone Grill.

WAWG would like to thank all the members and industry supporters who attended this year's convention. Feedback is always welcome. Contact the WAWG office at (509) 659-0610. The 2022 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention is scheduled for Nov. 29-Dec. 2 at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. ■

WAWG authors letter defending river system

More than 100 national agricultural organizations, regional/state organizations and companies have signed onto a letter to Pres. Joe Biden, authored by the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG), expressing support for the Columbia-Snake River System. ►

Sponsors, exhibitors make convention possible

The wheat organizations of Idaho, Oregon and Washington want to thank everybody who made the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention possible, especially our sponsors, industry supporters and exhibitors. Please join us next year in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Nov. 29-Dec. 2 for the 2022 convention.

PLATINUM

BASF Corporation
Idaho Grain Producers Assoc.
Northwest Farm Credit Services
Oregon Wheat Growers League
Ritzville Warehouse Company
The McGregor Company
Washington Grain Commission

GOLD

Anheuser Busch
Bayer CropScience
BNSF Railway
Corteva Agriscience
Molson Coors
Nutrien Ag Solutions
Valley Wide Cooperative/Valley Agronomics

SILVER

Agricultural Marketing and Management Organization
HighLine Grain Growers
Itafos Conda LLC
Leffel, Otis & Warwick, P.S.
Les Schwab
Mid Columbia Producers
RDO Equipment
Rural Community Insurance Services
State Bank
Syngenta
United Grain Corp.
WSU Small Grains/Washington Genetics
Wilbur-Ellis

INDUSTRY SUPPORTERS

Albaugh LLC
Big Bend Electric Coop
CoBank
Columbia Bank
Great Western Malting
Mid-Columbia Insurance
Morrow Co. Grain Growers
Mountain States Insurance
Northwest Grain Growers
PNW Farmers Cooperative
Papé Machinery
SAIF Corporation
Shaver Transportation Company
Simplot
Washington State Crop Improvement Association
Wheatland Bank

EXHIBITORS

Agoro Carbon Alliance
AgProud Idaho
AGPRO Marketing & Manufacturing Inc.
Barr-Tech Compost
BASF Corporation
Byrnes Oil Company
Central Life Sciences
Class 8 Trucks
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
Coleman Oil Company
Community First Bank
Eastman
Farm Equipment Headquarters
FEI Inc.
Fluid Roofing
Grange Insurance
Harvest Capital Company
Heartland Ag Systems
Innovia Foundation
Itafos Conda LLC
KD Investors
Kralman Steel Structures
Limagrains Cereal Seeds
Mascott Equipment Co.
Medius Ag LLC
Miller Chemical & Fertilizer
North Pine Ag Equipment
Northwest Farm Credit Services
OSU Wheat
R&H Machine
RDO Equipment
Ritzville Warehouse Company
Soulcraft LLC/Chief Agri
Spokane Ag Show
Spray Center Electronics
St. John Hardware
T&S Sales
The McGregor Company
Title One
University of Idaho
Valley Wide Cooperative/Valley Agronomics
Washington State Department of Labor & Industries
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Washington Wheat Foundation
Western Insurance Associates
Western Trailer Sales Company
WSU Small Grains/Washington Genetics ■

Lumivia® CPL

INSECTICIDE SEED TREATMENT

BROAD ACRE, BROAD PROTECTION

A revolutionary insecticide seed treatment that protects beyond just the seed.

This unique translocation approach doesn't just protect the seed, but also moves within the roots and the seedling above ground to protect against damaging insects.



Armyworm



Cutworm



Wireworm



Add an EPA-approved dye or colorant to treat the seeds per 40 CFR 153.155(b)(1) during the seed treatment process. Ensure that all treated seed are dyed an unnatural color.
™ & ® Trademarks of Corteva Agriscience and its affiliated companies. Lumivia® CPL insecticide seed treatment is registered in select states with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for sale in wheat. All information being transferred is technical in nature and subject to change. Always read and follow label directions. © 2021 Corteva.

1221_0019

“On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing farmers and businesses across the agricultural value chain, we write to express our strong support for preserving the integrity of the Columbia-Snake River System, which provides tremendous value in the current operation of the river, including locks and dams, clean power generation, barging navigation, water storage and irrigation—all of which are crucial to long-term viability of the agriculture sector in the Pacific Northwest. While we support collaborative efforts to address salmon recovery in the region, we write today to voice our serious concerns with recent calls on the Biden Administration and U.S. Congress to consider avenues for breaching the lower Snake River dams, which would devastate farmers in the region, decrease the competitiveness of home-grown agricultural products, and irreversibly eliminate a critical river system for the U.S. agriculture industry,” the letter begins.

Over the past year, calls to breach the lower Snake River dams have increased, including a proposal by Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho) that would remove the dams and spend \$33 billion to address the impacts, as well as a joint effort by Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) to explore whether or not the benefits the dams provide can be replaced.

The letter highlights many of the benefits that the river system provides, including the fact that disrupting the river system would impact farmers from as far away as the Midwest.

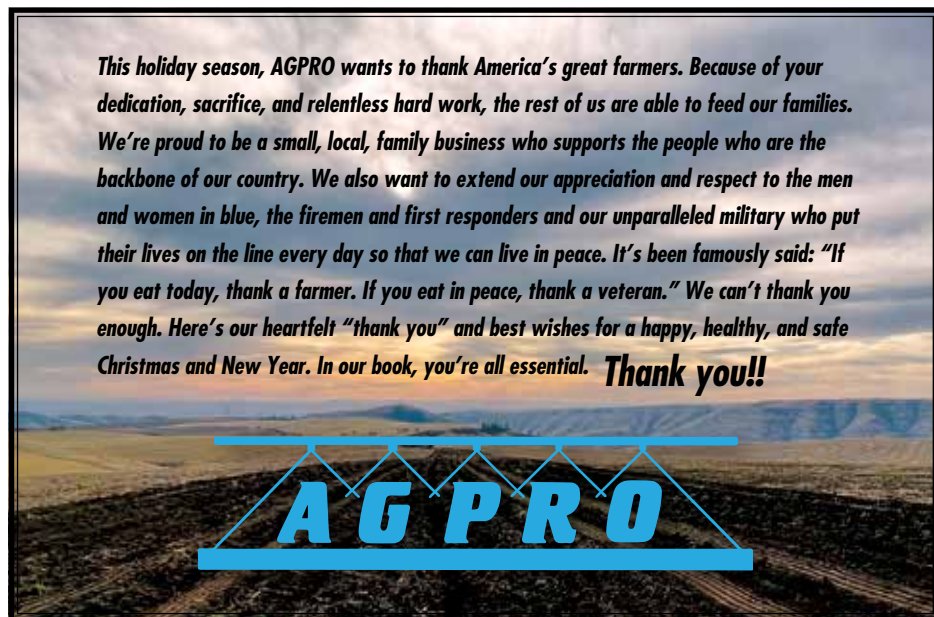
“The Columbia-Snake River System is the third-largest grain export corridor in the world, transporting nearly 30 percent of U.S. grain and oilseed exports through a sophisticated navigation system,

which includes seven grain export terminals, 26 up-country grain barge-loading terminals, and eight dams that lift vessels a combined 735 feet, to deliver high value farm products safely and efficiently to West Coast ports and consumers worldwide.”

National organizations, such as the Agricultural Retailers Association and the National Grain and Feed Association, joined with state organizations from across the Midwest, including Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska and Illinois, to support the letter. ■

NASS statistics document drought damage

That last year’s drought seriously impacted Washington’s small grains yields was obvious, but numbers published recently by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) show just how badly crops were hurt.



*This holiday season, AGPRO wants to thank America's great farmers. Because of your dedication, sacrifice, and relentless hard work, the rest of us are able to feed our families. We're proud to be a small, local, family business who supports the people who are the backbone of our country. We also want to extend our appreciation and respect to the men and women in blue, the firemen and first responders and our unparalleled military who put their lives on the line every day so that we can live in peace. It's been famously said: "If you eat today, thank a farmer. If you eat in peace, thank a veteran." We can't thank you enough. Here's our heartfelt "thank you" and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and safe Christmas and New Year. In our book, you're all essential. **Thank you!!***

AGPRO



Byrnes Oil

BULK FUEL & LUBRICANTS
STORAGE TANKS
FREIGHT HAULING

Convenient locations to serve you:

Pendleton, OR 513 S.W. 6th 514-276-3361	Walla Walla, WA 1205 N. 11th 509-527-3400
LaGrande, OR 804 21st Street 541-963-4932	Baker City, OR 2885 13th Street 541-523-4779

1st SOURCE
Chevron Lubrication Marketer

www.byrnesoil.com

Average spring wheat yields in Washington were down by half at 30 bushels per acre in 2021 compared to 2020's average of 61 bushels. Total production for the state fell to 16.2 million bushels compared to 33.2 million bushels in 2020.

Winter wheat fared a little better. Average yield was 42 bushels per acre in 2021 vs. 76 bushels in 2020. Average production came in at 70.9 million bushels compared to 133 million bushels in 2020.

Barley seemed to take the worst of the damage. Average yield was 38 bushels per acre compared to 2020's 90 bushels per acre. Average production was 2.6 million bushels compared to 6.3 million bushels in 2020. ■

Volunteers needed for WAWG booth at Spokane Expo

The Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) is looking for volunteers to work in the Ag Expo booth in Spokane on Feb. 1-3, 2022. We would like to have at least two people per shift, with four shifts per day. As a volunteer, you will receive a pass good for free admission to the show (for the duration of the show). Visit greaterspokane.org/ag-expo/ for the show schedule.

If you are interested in helping, please contact the WAWG office (509-659-0610 or lori@wawg.org) by Jan. 20 so that we can finalize the schedule. ■

Like our Facebook page (@WAWheat) and follow us on Twitter (@WAWheatGrowers) for the latest industry and association news.



\$100 MILLION FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

AGRICULTURAL
COMMERCIAL
PERSONAL

*If successful businesses have learned anything lately, it's how to pluck the good from a bad situation. And through it all, Wheatland Bank has been here, delivering in ways even we couldn't have anticipated. **Today, we've earmarked more than \$100 million for agricultural loans at historically low rates.** So you've got the cash to stop waiting for normal, and start redefining it.*



**Best
rates
ever!**

Get started today by calling
Roxann at (509) 647-5518
or Greg (509) 725-0211.

 **wheatland bank**

 EQUAL HOUSING LENDER | Member FDIC

wheatland.bank

WAWG membership expands carbon, cover crop resolutions

During the annual meeting at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention, the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) membership updated and approved the 2022 resolutions that direct policy for the next 12 months. New resolutions are listed here. For the complete set of revised resolutions, visit wawg.org.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

- WAWG supports Posted County Prices (PCP) that are based on how wheat is marketed. Examples include 14% protein for DNS, 12% protein for Hard White, 11.5% protein for Hard Red Winter wheat, and 10.5% protein for Soft White wheat.
- WAWG supports the Growing Climate Solutions Act as a means to provide credible information to growers about voluntary ecosystem service markets and increase farmer engagement in USDA oversight.
- WAWG supports a role for Extension and/or other agencies in assisting farmers in making educated decisions on carbon markets, including but not limited to contract review and related information.
- WAWG supports the inclusion of wheat in all production systems including when used as a cover crop.
- As carbon markets are expanded and growers consider voluntary participation, there may be roles for federal government involvement. WAWG believes any government involvement should:
 - Incentivize farming and ranching practices that benefit the environment including but not limited to carbon sequestration and avoided emissions.
 - Provide options for farmers and beginning farmers that may not be able to participate in carbon markets but are undertaking practices that provide carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas reductions and other environmental benefits, such as producers in certain geographical locations and early adopters of those practices, through new and existing conservation programs or other USDA initiatives.
 - Complement and enhance but not take away resources – financial and technical – from existing USDA conservation, crop and insurance programs.
- WAWG recommends that USDA NASS in their ending stock surveys, add an additional question on how much is available for sale by the elevator and/or the grower.

TRADE

- WAWG supports maintaining the FGIS grading requirements for contrasting classes of wheat.

RESEARCH

- WAWG supports research to develop uniform, replicable measures of carbon sequestration.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

- WAWG supports tax benefits for farmers to encourage ongoing management of conservation practices and options for producers to begin or expand conservation/carbon sequestration and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction efforts.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

- WAWG supports a review of the technical aspects of the CRP program.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

- WAWG supports working with NRCS to identify potential practices that benefit the environment by agronomic zones.

WATER

- WAWG opposes an expansive interpretation of US Army Corps "Waters of the U.S." (WOTUS).
- WAWG supports a legislative fix to the Washington State Supreme Court Foster decision to allow out-of-kind mitigation to offset environmental impact for water permits.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

- WAWG supports the mission and focus of WSU, Washington's land-grant university. Essential to fulfilling that mission is fostering the research preeminence of WSU faculty that is fundamental to the future success of Washington's agriculture.

RESEARCH FUNDING

- WAWG encourages WSU to fully fund and replace open county Extension positions.

STATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION

- WAWG supports legislation to provide seasonal flexibility from paying overtime for agriculture workers.

TAXES

- WAWG supports repealing or making the mandatory long term care tax voluntary. ■

SPOTLIGHT ON PERFORMANCE.

Anchor 3L ST seed treatment fungicide.

Developed specifically to deliver enhanced handling, stability and performance when combined in Custom Blend seed treatment offers and when added as

a tank-mix partner with other seed treatment formulations. Call your dealer today and see how Albaugh can bring you performance that will bring down the house.



Anchor 3L ST™



For more information on Anchor 3L ST contact a member of the Albaugh Seed Treatment Technology Team. Jay Stroh (Jays@albaughllc.com), David Winston (Davidw@albaughllc.com), Lee Stewart (Lees@albaughllc.com) or Ed Driskill (Driskill@albaughllc.com).

Refer to the product label for complete directions and instructions.

POLICY MATTERS

State's 2022 Legislative Session looks to be fast-paced

By Diana Carlen
WAWG Lobbyist

On Jan. 10, the Washington State Legislature will be back for a 60-day session. It is the second year of the legislative biennium and a “short” legislative session. Legislators will meet in a “hybrid” format, conducting some activities virtually and some in-person. All committee work will be completed again through Zoom and aired on TVW, with the public testifying remotely.

While legislators attempted to lower expectations for the forthcoming short session, the lengthy list of emerging legislative proposals suggests the 2022 session will once again be fast-paced and filled with robust policy discussions. Developing discussion topics include changes to the Long-Term Care Act; transportation funding; policing and public safety; climate and decarbonizing efforts; salmon recovery and culvert replacement; amendments to the Growth Management Act; COVID-19 restrictions; and more.

Politically, Democrats continue to hold the majority in both the state House of Representatives and the Senate. However, the Senate is leaning more to the left after moderate Sen. Steve Hobbs was recently appointed as the secretary of state and replaced with a more progressive member, Rep. John Lovick (D-Mill Creek), in the Senate.

To kick off the budget development process this session, the governor released a proposed \$62 billion supplemental operating budget that would increase spending on efforts related to homelessness (\$800 million), climate change (\$626 million) and salmon recovery (\$187 million). No new tax increases are included in the proposal due to robust state revenue collections.

In addition to releasing his proposed supplemental budget, the governor released his policy priorities for the 2022 session, including climate change and salmon recovery. Fossil fuel use in buildings looks to be the next frontier on climate change at the state level. Gov. Inslee is proposing a package of measures whose end goal is to require all-electric



tric appliances for space and water heating. The statewide phase-out of natural gas energy would apply to all new construction beginning in 2034. The governor is also proposing legislation to allow utilities to expand incentives to entice property owners to switch from fossil fuel heating to cleaner electric heating.

The Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) is opposed to policies that eliminate the use of natural gas because they limit the ability of farmers to choose the energy source that best meets their needs and will increase costs and force farmers to rely entirely on the electric system.

Natural gas is used in the agriculture industry from every stage of food cultivation, harvesting and delivery. Natural gas is also used to fuel the heating systems in the homes of families that live on farms. With natural gas, families enjoy reliable supplies of heat throughout the colder months.

WAWG will also be actively engaged in discussions regarding the governor's proposed salmon recovery efforts. The governor has announced a proposal to set new standards for salmon habitat protection, including riparian buffers, but has not released specific details and, unfortunately, has not engaged with agricultural stakeholders in developing these proposals. In addition, the governor has proposed \$1.5 million in the budget to

identify whether there are reasonable means for replacing the benefits of the four lower Snake River dams. WAWG is disappointed in the focus of studying breaching the dams. The issue has been thoroughly studied, and dam breaching has been repeatedly rejected. The removal of the four lower Snake River dams would cost the U.S. more than \$2.3 billion over the next 30 years, lead to significant additional carbon emissions that contribute to climate change, and jeopardize health, safety and livelihoods in already economically fragile local and regional economies.

WAWG will be supporting legislation sponsored by Rep. Larry Hoff to provide seasonal flexibility from paying overtime for agricultural workers. Last session, the legislature passed legislation to phase in overtime for agriculture workers, but did not offer any seasonal flexibility for harvest. Rep. Hoff's proposed legislation would allow an agricultural employer to select 12 weeks a year where a farm worker would work up to 50 hours a week without the employer having to pay overtime. ■

Crop insurance discussed at convention session

By Lacey Miller
Special to Wheat Life

Last month at the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention, Nicole Berg, a farm industry appointee to the board of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC); Randy Fortenbery, Washington State University economics professor; Ben Thiel, director of the Risk Management Agency's (RMA) Spokane Regional Office; and Andy Juris, a wheat farmer from Klickitat County, participated in a crop insurance panel to discuss updates and field questions. ▶

Include a Premium Spring Canola in your 2022 Rotation:
Contact your Local Retailer for Early Ordering Discounts



**New Hybrid
NCC1825/8-S
coming in 2022!**

NCC101S:
**#1 Revenue
Generating Spring
Canola Hybrid
in the PNW
for 7 Years**



INQUIRIES + AGRONOMY SUPPORT:
info@photosyntech.com



PHOTOSYNTech
RESEARCHING TOMORROW'S CROPS

Hybrid Spring Canola

NCC101S is a very early maturity conventional non GM spring canola hybrid with exceptional yield potential in shorter season spring canola environments as evidenced by its consistency in yield trials in targeted growing regions since 2013. Suitable for both direct harvesting and swathing.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS:

- Vigorous early season establishment
- High yield potential, Good oil content
- Very early maturity, Short stature, Excellent standability
- Defensive hybrid for short season environments
- Responsive to fungicides in humid environments
- High germination and purity
- Rated moderately resistant to Blackleg
- All NCC101S seed lots are certified Blackleg free
- Excellent resistance to shattering
- Eligible for Non GMO Premiums

Multiple Year Yield Data and Agronomic Production Programs Available Upon Request

ROBERT AMSTRUP, SALES MANAGER
(701) 226 8958



(From left) Nicole Berg, a farm industry appointee to the board of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation; Andy Juris, a wheat farmer from Klickitat County; and Randy Fortenbery, Washington State University economics professor, answered growers' questions about crop insurance during a break-out session at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention. Not shown is Ben Thiel, director of the Risk Management Agency's (RMA) Spokane Regional Office, who participated remotely.

Heading into 2022, producers will be able to elect enterprise units by type (spring vs. winter). This benefit has also been extended to peas.

"Units are where the loss structure is determined, and the ability to have more units reduces the offsetting loss," explained Thiel.

Another change that will benefit producers concerns prevented planting restrictions. As of July 2021, producers will be able to hay, graze or chop the cover crop for silage at any time and still receive 100 percent of their prevented planting payment. Previously, producers weren't able to touch their cover crop before Nov. 1 without getting their prevented planting payment reduced by 65 percent.

Thiel told producers to keep an eye on the "One in Four Rule," which was primarily used in the Midwest, but is now being applied nationwide. The purpose is to address preventive planting payments made repeatedly on acreage not physically available for planting. To be considered physically available, acreage must have been planted, harvested and insured in at least one of the previous four years.

Climate Smart Agriculture has become a U.S. Department of Agriculture priority to help build climate change resilience and provide risk management against climate and weather-related losses. Some of the actions RMA is taking include:

- Evaluating and moderating climate risk while looking at early and final planting dates and encouraging cover crop planting.

- Looking at shifting insurance coverage to accommodate climate-driven shifts in production areas. As climate change is shifting more frequently, the premium rating methodology has been adjusted from 35 plus years to 20 years to more quickly reflect changes in risk.
- Wheat is undergoing an in-depth review, Thiel said, so there will be a number of evaluations and analyzations in the coming year.

Fortenbery addressed questions on planting dates as well as discussing how prices are predicted, and how wheat could be marketed in the future. As part of her FCIC duties, Berg is responsible for reviewing and tweaking crop insurance, specifically for specialty crops. She reviewed how the FCIC board operates. Juris provided a producer's perspective on crop insurance, and how one's personal situation is more important than ever when making crop insurance decisions. He also emphasized the necessity of finding a crop insurance agent that understands RMA's changing policies. ■

Wheat industry getting ready for 2023 Farm Bill process

By Trista Crossley
Editor, Wheat Life

Although the current farm bill doesn't expire until Sept. 30, 2023, Congress is already six to 12 months behind in preparing for the next one, said Chandler Goule, CEO of the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG).

Goule spoke at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention. He was joined by Jake Westlin, NAWG vice president of policy and communications, and Mariah Wollweber, NAWG's director of communications and partnerships, in a break-out session focused on preparations for the 2023 Farm Bill.

Goule said he expects Congress to begin holding farm bill implementation hearings this spring or summer, but if the House or Senate flips as a result of the 2022 midterm elections, work will likely end up starting over.

"I am concerned about the timeline we are currently on. This session of Congress has clearly been focused on the pandemic and supply chain issues," he said. "Both chambers, I think, are behind on where we need to be currently as we look towards the farm bill."

One of the priorities that the Washington wheat industry would like to see in the next farm bill is an update to the wheat reference price, which is at \$5.50. Goule said for every nickel increase in the reference price, the price of

CORRELL'S SCALE SERVICE

INSTALLATIONS • SERVICE • REPAIR • RENTAL • LEASE • SALES



Specializing In Truck Scales!

509-765-7754
800-572-0426

4300 Rd. K NE, Moses Lake
www.correllsscale.com

Proudly Serving The Inland Northwest Farm Community For More Than 70 Years



- Farm Corporations • Real Estate
- Water Rights • Farm Estate Planning
- Elder Law • Probate
- Agribusiness Planning



**McGuire,
DeWulf,
Kragt &
Johnson, P.S.**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION

Davenport, WA
509-725-4100

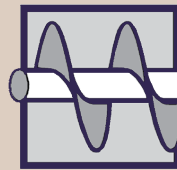
Odessa, WA
509-982-2672

Ritzville, WA
509-659-0425

Rosalia, WA
509-523-5809

St. John, WA
509-684-3683

Colfax, WA
509-397-4345



(509) 534-4460

Accucon inc.



WE MAKE PARTS FOR
**MATHEWS
COMPANY
AG PRODUCTS!**

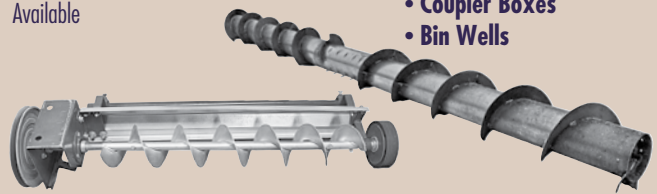


REPLACEMENT HELICAL & SECTIONAL FLIGHTING

Available

BIN SYSTEMS To Order

- Sweeps
- Coupler Boxes
- Bin Wells



REPAIR - REBUILD - HARDFACE
Custom Augers & Reflight Platform Augers

904 N Dyer Road
Spokane, WA 99212

Email: accucon@hotmail.com

Fax: (509) 534-4337

accuconofspokane.com



'72 Dodge LNC1000

Cummins 903 300hp, Allison 6 speed automatic, 20k original miles, new tires on aluminum wheels, new Grainmaster 750bu bed, 30T power/down hoist, hydraulics to rear, 20k front axle, 46k rears **\$48,000**



'21 Neville

48" hopper trailer, 3 hopper, 3 axle, rollover tarp, 2 stage landing gear, Gator Hide on bottoms..... **\$42,500**

Mike's Auto

37502 Mayberry Rd. E.
Davenport WA 99122

(509) 725-1765

the farm bill increases by about \$1 billion because the Congressional Budget Office has to budget for the worst case scenario.

“The only way I can really think that we will be able to, as the wheat growers, go to the Hill and ask for an increase in reference price with a straight face, we are going to also have to come with a solution of how to pay for it,” he said. “The only way I can think we do that without additional money coming into the farm bill is to look at an update in bases.”

While that works pretty well in the Pacific Northwest, Goule said farmers in the Midwest, from Texas to South Dakota, won’t like that solution.

“It’s our job, as NAWG, to make sure that each of your states, when you are debating your resolutions, and all three states had something in there about an increase in the reference price...there is a trade off for that. Somewhere, we have to come up with additional money,” he said.

Some of the other things NAWG will be considering in the run-up to the 2023 Farm Bill include:

- Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) election choice. Allowing producers to change their election each year is more expensive.
- Should WHIP+ be turned into a permanent disaster program?
- An increase in the CBO baseline. If the 2023 Farm Bill has the same baseline as the 2018 bill, programs, which are more expensive now, will have to get cut.
- Separating the nutrition title from the farm bill. “I’m telling you right now, no matter what your personal opinion is about the nutrition title or SNAP...you cannot get a farm bill through the United States Senate if you



Chandler Goule, CEO of the National Association of Wheat Growers, talks to growers about the farm bill’s path through Congress during an educational break-out session at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention.

separate the nutrition title from it,” Goule said.

- More conservation title money will likely be earmarked for climate-friendly programs.
- There will be external threats from both the far left and the far right.

NAWG will be launching a national survey looking for feedback on farm bill programs and issues and will gather state input on how well previous policies worked. The organization will also be looking at potential studies to bolster its farm bill positions and will coordinate with other agriculture groups. ■

Senators request WTO action on India

Last month, 18 U.S. senators sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai requesting that the administration pursue a World Trade Organization (WTO) case against India’s domestic support for rice and wheat production.

“American rice and wheat producers are operating at a clear disadvantage compared to their competitors, primarily from India, where the government is subsidizing more than half of the value of production for rice and wheat, instead of the 10 percent allowable under [WTO] rules,” the letter reads.

“Wheat and rice farmers rely on open markets and fair trade to facilitate trade, which plays a vital role in supporting our growers and jobs in rural America. The National Association of Wheat Growers appreciates Sen. Boozman (R-Ark.) for leading this letter in the U.S. Senate,” said NAWG CEO Chandler Goule. “It is important that as a WTO member, India adhere to international commitments and not continue to create unfair advantages for its domestic production and distort world trade. We appreciate these senators bringing the issue to the attention of the administration.” ■



Your trusted source.

We support agriculture and rural communities with reliable, consistent credit and financial services, today and tomorrow.

- Real Estate Financing
- Operating Lines of Credit
- Country Home & Lot Loans
- Crop Insurance*

800.743.2125 | northwestfcs.com

Equal Housing Lender

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

*Serviced through Northwest Farm Credit Services Insurance Agency.

Here to Help You Grow®

BARBER

ENGINEERING COMPANY

DRY FERTILIZER EQUIPMENT

- Nurse Boxes
- Belt Loaders
- Truck Spreaders
- Hydraulic Drill Fills
- C-200 Cleaners/Treaters
- Brush Augers



509-535-3051
1404 N. Regal Spokane, WA
barberengineering.com

CLASS 8 TRUCKS

521 N. EASTERN RD. • SPOKANE, WA
(509) 534-9088 • class8trucks@aol.com



Thanks, Dad.
Lots of rings
around the
tree, and you
had a great
run.



"Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"
1 Corinthians 15:55



Call us...
you know why.
Class 8.

Marc B. Lange (509) 991-9088
Scott Lund (509) 995-5024
Jeff Miller (509) 599-9926

**NOT JUST TRUCKS,
TRAILERS TOO!**

www.class8trucksales.com

Petty Farm, established in 1877 near Cloverland

Hubbard and Dollie Petty moved from Arkansas to Asotin County in the late 1860s with their six children and all the belongings they could fit in a single wagon. The Civil War had destroyed their home and property in Arkansas, so they joined a wagon train going west along the Oregon Trail. When they began homesteading in 1876, the

land hadn't been surveyed yet, so local law required them to make improvements to the land before the government would give them the titles to the land. Early the following year, they paid \$4 for a down payment to secure 160 acres near Cloverland.



In the early years, the family raised hogs and grew grain to feed the hogs. In the years since, the farm has grown to nearly 3,000 acres, and virtually all of the land is used to grow dryland wheat.

In 1892, their son, John Marble Petty, took over the homestead. The next year, he married Sara Jane Johnson, and they began building a family home on the property. The lumber for the house had to be hauled by an ox team from Dayton, more than 60 miles away. The house was built, and they raised their five children there. John is recorded to have said he didn't want his children seeing the hardships and the struggles he went through. He helped his children by

gifting them parcels of land and a 20-dollar gold piece when they settled in an area. John Marble farmed the homestead until he had a stroke in 1935. Their youngest son, Robert, took on the task of caring for the land and for his elderly parents.

Today, Robert's descendants own and operate the farm. This is an amazing family story of grit and grace. Learn more about the Petty Farm at wawheat.org/centennial-farm-project-1/petty. ■



(Above) Hubbard and Dollie Petty moved from Arkansas to Asotin County in the late 1860s. (Below) John Marble Petty running the combine at harvest.



Resting the horses at the bottom of Cloverland Grade before crossing Asotin Creek.

WAWHEATFOUNDATION
@WAWHEATFOUNDATION
@WHEATFOUNDATION



WAWHEAT.ORG

Create a lasting legacy and remember the Washington Wheat Foundation in your estate planning. Visit wawheat.org.

Washington Wheat Foundation Meetings are scheduled for **Feb. 7, June 5 and Oct. 3, 2022**, at the Wheat Foundation Building in Ritzville, Wash.



FAY RANCHES^{Inc.}

Blaine Bickelhaupt
Accredited Land Consultant

Licensed in WA, ID

bbickelhaupt@fayranches.com

509.520.5280

254 East Main Street

Dayton WA 99328



CLASS 8 TRUCKS

509-534-9088 class8trucks@aol.com

NOT JUST TRUCKS, TRAILERS TOO!

New & used DEMCO grain trailers in stock. Available for purchase or rental.



PLEASE CALL for additional details on pricing.

521 N. Eastern Spokane WA

www.class8trucksales.com

BigIRON **HEAVY EQUIPMENT and AG REPAIRS**

COMPLETE MOBILE REPAIR SERVICE

-We Also Do Portable Line Boring-
Serving The Greater Eastern Washington Area

Scott & Eddy Carroll

509-770-5560

BigIronRepair@odessaoffice.com



BATTERY SYSTEMS

The Single Source Solution!

Thank you to all the farmers, big and small, that produce our food and provide thousands of jobs in our region.



Batteries - Alternators - Starters - Accessories

If you can't visit our booth this year, you're welcome to come by any one of our branch locations

SPOKANE - 601 N NAPA - (509) 534-7879

MOSES LAKE - 400 E BROADWAY - (509) 765-8246

WENATCHEE - 921 N MILLER ST - (509) 886-9033

KENNEWICK - 1922 N COLUMBIA CTR BLVD - (509) 248-4874

Visit us and get **10% OFF**. Mention discount code:

*****wheat2022****

www.batterysystems.net



CELEBRATING 60+ YEARS
EST. 1959
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
CELEBRATING 60+ YEARS

Local and Family Owned, Eljay Oil is Greater Spokane's Only Authorized Chevron Marketer.

DELO HEAVY DUTY MOTOR OILS & TRACTOR HYDRAULIC FLUID

BULK FUELS



509-926-9595 • ELJAYOIL.COM

WHEAT AND GREET

2021 EVENT BRINGS STAKEHOLDERS TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE SMALL GRAINS INDUSTRY

By Trista Crossley
Editor, *Wheat Life*

After having to cancel last year due to COVID-19, this year's Tri-State Grain Growers Convention had a lot of ground to cover. Producers gathered at the Davenport Grand Hotel in Spokane, Wash., Nov. 30 to Dec. 3, to listen to noted national speakers discuss the way consumers view food production; the importance of mental, not just physical, health; smart marketing in the face of high input costs; and long-term weather projections. U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack addressed producers in a video, and the major industry organizations took part in a national issues panel hosted by Sara Wyant, a veteran farm policy reporter.

Educational break-out sessions ran the gamut, from crop insurance updates (see page 17) to estate planning, river transportation, carbon markets, variety research, management plans and the upcoming 2023 Farm Bill (see page 18).

Like Oregon and Idaho, the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) held an annual meeting followed by an awards banquet (see page 8). Drawings were held throughout the convention. Dolly Blankenship of Ritzville, Wash., won a free night's stay at the Coeur d'Alene Resort for the 2022 convention in the early bird drawing. Marlene Poe of Hartline, Wash., and Lindsay Murdock of Oregon both won a free registration

to the 2022 convention as co-winners of the photo contest. As the overall survey winner, Sara Carlson of Oregon also won a free registration to the 2022 convention, as well as a gift package from Dry Fly Distillery. In the exhibitor blackout game, Rich Remington of Oregon won a gift basket from AgPro Marketing and Manufacturing.

The wheat organizations of Idaho, Oregon and Washington want to thank everybody who made the convention possible, especially our sponsors, industry supporters and exhibitors (see list on page 10). Please join us next year in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Nov. 29-Dec. 2 for the 2022 convention.

National issues update

Kicking off convention proper was an overview of national issues, including a panel of national organization representatives. Sara Wyant, a veteran farm policy reporter and president of Agri-Pulse Communications, moderated the panel. Agri-Pulse covers the latest on national farm policy, commodity and conservation programs, trade, and environmental and regulatory issues.

Wyant started the conversation by summarizing some of the ag impacts of Pres. Biden's Build Back Better legislation, which has passed the House and, as of early December, was being debated by the Senate:



Sara Wyant (middle), a veteran farm policy reporter and president of Agri-Pulse Communications, moderated a panel of national wheat organization representatives. From left are Casey Chumrau, representing the Wheat Foods Council; Kevin Klein, representing the National Barley Growers Association; Nicole Berg, representing the National Association of Wheat Growers; and Doug Goyings, representing U.S. Wheat Associates.

2021 TRI-STATE GRAIN GROWERS CONVENTION COVERAGE



Battalion Pro

NEW BIOHERBICIDE FOR THE SUPPRESSION
OF CHEATGRASS/DOWNY BROME,
MEDUSAHEAD, AND JOINTED GRASS

The only bioherbicide of its kind on the market,
Battalion Pro targets these invasive annual weeds
at the seed bank level.

Timing is NOW for fall and winter applications.

Contact a BioWest Certified Crop Consultant for
detailed product information. Or contact your local
agricultural retailer to purchase Battalion Pro.

● BioWest.ag • MicrobialSolutions@BioWest.ag



Northwest FIRST REALTORS

Licensed in WA, OR & ID

WE SPECIALIZE IN MOUNTAIN PROPERTIES,
FARMS & RANCHES!

FARMS ARE SELLING FAST - JUST SOLD:

Minnick Hill Farm - 223.51 Acres
Mud Creek Farm - 177.73 Acres

OUR *Roots*
RUN DEEP

509-524-9055

NorthwestFirstRealtors.com

320 N. COLVILLE, WALLA WALLA, WA
INFO@NORTHWESTFIRSTREALTORS.COM



MIRIAM GRANT
Owner /
Designated Broker
509-520-5220



MARK GRANT
ALC, Owner /
Designated Broker
509-520-1906



MICHAEL GRANT
Broker
509-520-0895



MARK KLICKER
Broker
509-520-7370



TALEN LARSEN
Agent
509-540-9939

- \$27 billion in new conservation funding.
- A \$5 billion program that would pay farmers \$25 per acre for five years to plant up to 1,000 acres of cover crops.
- \$9 billion earmarked for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- \$7.5 billion for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program.
- \$4.1 billion for the Conservation Stewardship Program.
- \$600 million for a new U.S. Department of Agriculture program to measure the impact of conservation practices on greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration.
- \$2 billion for agricultural research.

Importantly, if the legislation is passed by the Senate, Wyant said it could build on the farm bill's baseline, in-



THE SECRET SAUCE OF WEATHER PREDICTION.

The 2021 convention wrapped up with some good news delivered by Eric Snodgrass, principal atmospheric scientist for Nutrien Ag Solutions. He said current weather patterns indicate that the region is set for a wetter-than-average winter. The key will be the jet stream. "The secret sauce of predicting long-range weather is to figure out what the jet stream is doing or will be doing," he said. Snodgrass also talked about the heat dome that

hit the Pacific Northwest last year, the drought and whether or not we can expect more extreme weather events. There is a trend along the West Coast, based on 70 years of data, that shows an increased frequency of ridging events in the summer. And, as Snodgrass said, ridging usually means hotter and dryer weather. That data also shows that the April to October precipitation trend is flat, but the average temperature has risen by just more than 2 degrees F. However, the wintertime trend shows a slight increase in average winter precipitation. Growers can sign up for daily weather updates from Snodgrass at info.nutrien.com/snodgrass_weather.



USDA UPDATE. Although he couldn't attend the convention in person, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack addressed convention attendees via prerecorded video to talk about what the agency is currently working on. No surprise, but drought and other natural disasters have been a major focus of the agency this year. He said Congress has allocated \$10 billion to help producers recover from eligible disaster events in 2020 and 2021. USDA is also investigating how to make agriculture more drought resilient through conservation programs and voluntary adoption of smart climate practices. The video can be viewed online at <https://youtu.be/r3S3zVVyi3o>.

creasing the available funding for the 2023 Farm Bill.

Like farmers, Wyant is closely watching the federal government's actions concerning cover crops and a proposed program that would pay farmers \$25 per acre to plant them.

"We feel it is important to understand what could happen with an incentive like this. What are the unintended consequences that might result from this kind of incentive?" she asked. "Obviously, if everybody could plant cover crops right now and it worked, that would be one thing. But it doesn't work in arid parts of the county. And if you harvest your cover crop...than it's not considered a cover crop because you are getting a revenue from it. There's a lot of different issues that we need to explore."

Agri-Pulse recently conducted a poll of farmers. The top issue was protecting the country against acts of terrorism, followed by the need to increase overseas sales of ag products and stopping illegal immigration. Farmers also reported the need for more education and understanding on reducing ag's carbon footprint. According to the poll, more than a quarter (29 percent) of farmers are actively implementing practices that reduce their carbon footprint with 32 percent wanting to better understand the issue. Nearly a quarter, 22 percent, said they didn't think there

2021 TRI-STATE GRAIN GROWERS CONVENTION COVERAGE

SPOKANE AGSHOW

CULTIVATED BY GSI

We're Back!

MEET. LEARN. GROW.



FEB 1-3, 2022
SPOKANE CONVENTION CENTER
AgShow.org

FARM & HOME SUPPLY

888-643-3395 • 509-843-3395

www.fhsupply.com Pomeroy, WA

2022 Case IH 580 Quadtrac.....**NEW****JUST IN!**

Trails West Baron II 18' cattle/stock trailer, sprayed-in

liner, front walk-in door, LIKE NEW.....\$12,500/OBO

2000 CASE IH 2388, Hillco Leveler, 4,492 sep. hrs/

Case IH 1010 30' header/cart..... \$59,500/OBO

2020 Schulte 5026 Rotary Cutter, 26'..... \$52,500

1989 John Deere 8760 wheel tractor,

6 newer tires.....**ON SALE** \$23,000/OBO

THE TANKER Field Service Tender 990 gal. fuel

tank, 100 gal. DEF Tank..... \$25,000

NEW Great Plains Turbo Max, 30 ft..... **CALL**

NEW Kioti PX1153 Tractor, Power Shuttle, cab &

self-leveling loader, 110-hp \$73,500

NO INTEREST FOR 60 MONTHS,

ZERO DOWN POSSIBLE



FOR RENT

WASHINGTON WHEAT FOUNDATION ANNEX

Rental Includes:

Seats 100 • Full service kitchen • Wi-Fi
Free coffee and tea • Pull out wall divider

2 large screens • Free parking

18 x 22 lobby to gather or serve buffet

Separate board meeting room (seats 12)

\$50 (0-4 HOURS) OR

\$100 (4+ HOURS)

Contact Katie Teachout at the Washington
Wheat Foundation rental line

(509) 659-0610



Frank's Boot Company

*Continuing the family tradition of quality, handmade boots
on N. Market Street (formerly Nick's Boots building)*

Front Range

Versatile for farm, industrial or office use,
it fits all needs. 6-12" heights.

- Fully resoleable and rebuildable
- High heel and arch support
- Built for maximum comfort



Type 1 Commander

Well-suited for outdoor use,
including wildland firefighting. 6-16" heights.

- 7.5 to 8 oz. full grain water resistant leather and a one-inch thick sole
- Durable rough-out toe
- Comfortable high heel and arch support
- Available in 6-16" heights



We Rebuild and Resole The Competitors' Handmade Boots, Too!

3805 N. Market Street • Spokane, Wash. • 509-309-2903 • franksboots.com

was a need to address greenhouse gas emissions. When it comes to cover crops, farmers said soil integrity was the key benefit to cover crops, but cost is the main barrier preventing them from investing in the practice. Sixty-one percent of farmers said they'd need at least \$40 an acre to make planting cover crops worthwhile.

Switching over to a more regional issue, Wyant said there's a need to educate the "other" Washington about what's at risk if the Columbia-Snake River System isn't preserved. She said this administration is one of the most tribal-friendly administrations she's seen with a lot of recognition of tribal concerns. Setting aside the nation's history with Native Americans, she said there are ways to have win-wins with the salmon, with the tribes and with the farm community. She pointed to California rice farmers who have collaborated with environmental groups to set up practices that help both the salmon and the farmers.

"We are sometimes kind of shy about telling our story and engaging folks who are on the total opposite side of our position. There ought to be some things you can do if you think outside the box. Put your marketing hats on and try to overcome this really negative narrative that some of the tribal spokespersons have used," she said. "It's almost like you are trying to kill their culture and everything. I've got to think that there are a lot of those who could sit down, break bread, drink beer, eat salmon and find a win-win in this, but it's going to take more money, more time."

Wyant then invited the four panelists to introduce themselves and give a short update.

Nicole Berg represented the **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WHEAT GROWERS** (NAWG). Over the past year, NAWG has been working to make sure that wheat growers were fairly represented when Congress doled out federal ad hoc disaster funding, especially through the WHIP+ program, and addressing quality losses caused by natural disasters. She said Oregon has received approximately \$52 million, Idaho \$102 million and Washington \$174 million.

Berg said Washington, D.C., is very hard to get into with many federal offices still closed, which has made advocating for the wheat industry harder.

"Over the last year, we have been zooming all of the time," she said. "Zoom has become the modus operandi. But we have new legislative aides coming in, new people coming in, so we've got to get up there and educate folks."

Berg said the next farm bill is rapidly approaching. She expects NAWG to start deciding what the industry will

PRIORITIZING MENTAL HEALTH.

Using humor, keynote speaker Mark Mayfield addressed the darker side of farming, specifically the recognition that one's mental health is as important as one's physical health. Suicide rates in agriculture are almost double the national rate for males. "It's something we've kicked down the road for a long time.

We can't do that anymore," Mayfield said. He encouraged producers to recognize the signs of stress, anxiety and depression and to talk to someone, whether that's a spouse, a friend or getting professional help. There are crisis resources available to farmers. The Farm Aid Hotline is at 800-FARM-AID (327-6243) and is staffed Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST, while the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is at 800-273-TALK (8255) and is staffed 24/7.



and will not support and encouraged producers to figure out how to make the next farm bill better fit the wheat industry. NAWG also has a new grassroots campaign email tool that helps wheat farmers more easily express their concerns to members of Congress.

"Policy is not driven by one person. No one person can drive policy, but with all your help, we sure can," she said.

Doug Goyings, past chairman of **U.S. WHEAT ASSOCIATES** (USW), said COVID-19 has dramatically changed how USW operates. Like NAWG, USW has also been participating in lots of Zoom meetings, which has had an unexpected benefit of allowing U.S. farmers to talk to more people without having to travel.

"It has helped us reach more of our buyers and millers to educate them more on U.S. wheat," he said.

Representing the **NATIONAL BARLEY GROWERS ASSOCIATION** (NBGA) was Washington Grain Commissioner Kevin Klein, a NBGA board member from Edwall, Wash. Klein said 2021 barley production nation-

2021 TRI-STATE GRAIN GROWERS CONVENTION COVERAGE

We've been

BUILDING THE BEST SINCE '76

THE NEW BD7600 BOX DRILL

Introducing the new BD7600 Series Box Drills – with legendary durability and performance.

- NEW feeder cups allow large seed, small seeds, and fertilizer to be metered through the main seed box
- NEW box design and structure demonstrate superior durability and flexibility
- Disc blades are offset with alternating leading edges
- Optional hydraulic drive reduces maintenance and simplifies operation

Great Plains
"Harvest Starts Here."



VERTICAL TILLAGE TOOLS



CONVENTIONAL TILLAGE TOOLS



HYBRID TILLAGE TOOLS



5'-10' COMPACT DRILLS



HEAVY-DUTY NO-TILL DRILLS



FULL LINE OF PLANTERS



FINISHING TOOLS



COVER CROP TOOLS

VISIT ONE OF THESE GREAT PLAINS DEALERS OR GET MORE INFORMATION AT: www.GreatPlainsAg.com

FARM & HOME SUPPLY
Pomeroy, WA – 509-843-3395

CENTRAL MACHINERY SALES
Moses Lake, WA – 509-765-1257

MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS
Lexington, OR – 800-452-7396

WALTER IMPLEMENT, INC.
Odessa, WA – 509-982-2644

FARM EQUIPMENT HEADQUARTERS
Pendleton, OR – 541-276-6222

MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS
Wasco, OR – 800-824-7185

CENTRAL MACHINERY SALES
Pasco, WA – 509-547-8920

CENTRAL MACHINERY SALES
Sunnyside, WA – 509-837-3833

ST. JOHN HARDWARE & IMPLEMENT
Fairfield, WA – 509-283-2111

©Great Plains Mfg., Inc. 2237-GPM

wide was down by 31 percent from 2020. The lower supplies are resulting in increased cash prices for feed barley, malt barley and pet food barley. In the Pacific Northwest, 2021 barley production was down 21 percent in Idaho, 72 percent in Oregon and 58 percent in Washington.

"For the past year, China has had a little tiff with Australia, and the imports from Australia have been going down. That's where Canada has been stepping in, and a lot of our barley from Washington has been going to Canada to cover that," he said.

Casey Chumrau, executive director of the Idaho Wheat Commission, represented the **WHEAT FOODS COUNCIL** (WFC). The WFC is made up of 11 state wheat commissions plus millers, bakers, ingredient suppliers and others concerned and interested in promoting the quality and consumption of wheat. In the last few years, the WFC has been focusing on educating what Chumrau called "the multipliers." The organization has been reaching out to influencers in different industries, especially fitness trainers, chefs and registered dietitians, to educate them on the nutritional benefits of wheat, the idea being that those influencers will share that information across their networks and clients.

"There's still a lot of misinformation surrounding gluten, in particular," Chumrau said.

The WFC has successfully switched from live events to videos and webinars, and the organization publishes two magazines: *Kernels*, which targets nutritionists and the general wheat foods industry, and *FoodFit*, which targets personal trainers.

'Inputs are producers' biggest risk'

Matt Roberts, a former commodity broker and professor, tackled one of farmers' favorite subjects—marketing. The good news, he said, is prices for the major commodities—corn, beans, wheat—are solid. The bad news is labor markets and inflation rates. Most grains, he said, have been tightening for about six years, but there isn't a fundamental shortage of grains. The exception is U.S. wheat.

"We've seen a massive drawdown in production over the past four years. We got to a point four years ago where we had nearly two-thirds of the entire year's (wheat) consumption in storage at the start of harvest," he explained. "We have started to see those inventories taken down, but it's largely a reduction in production, not an increase in usage."

Roberts made the point that nobody knows where the markets are going, so trying to predict them is useless.

"What you instead have to do is build your marketing plans from a basis of ignorance," he said. "You don't know where prices are going. The question becomes, what do you do with that knowledge? Marketing plans need to start from a place of what your balance sheet looks like because that tells you what risks you can afford to take. That's where the rest of your marketing plans start."

Inputs right now are most producers' biggest risk. While wheat prices across the board are high, so are inputs. That's where Roberts recommends producers start assessing risks.



Matt Roberts, former commodity broker and professor, told convention attendees that they need to start marketing plans from a basis of ignorance, that nobody knows what the markets will do.

"You've got to match your margins," he said. "As you're either pricing inputs or outputs, you have to be locking the other leg. If you are buying inputs, sell stock. You don't have to sell a lot, but if you are going to make large crop sells for 2022/23, you have to be working somehow to control your input price risk. Other than prepurchase, there aren't really good ways to do that. That is a big constraint but it's a source of huge risk. It becomes a margin game. Is your margin there?"

Fortunately, Roberts said even though input costs are at record levels, current prices are good enough to keep most producers solidly profitable. He said that's not an excuse to

RELIABLE, DURABLE

BOURGAULT

AND BUILT TO LAST

3320



The 3320 Paralink Hoe Drill comes in 3 configurations. One just right for your farm.

3720



The 3720 Disk Drill has 7.5", 10" or 12" spacings available with 30 ft. to 70 ft. widths.

5810



The 5810 Air Hoe Drill-A Floating Hitch Drill with a range of packer options.

Bourgault Drills have many options, including automatic lift controls and packing pressure, precise seed depth adjustment and nutrient placement.

Match Bourgault Drills with a 6000 Series Air Seeder Cart for maximum efficiency various models available, with up to 4 product carry configurations.

www.odessatrading.com

Don Strebeck 509-988-0433

Jason Thomas 509-988-0342

Sam Whitman 509-660-3210

Odessa WA 509-982-2661

Coulee City WA 509-632-5413

Ritzville WA 509-659-0269

WEED-IT

THE NEW GENERATION
WEED-IT QUADRO



Robb Soliday

(509) 988-7018 Ritzville

Jason Emerson

(509) 681-0466 Coulee City

info@agritechamerica.com

**WEED-IT
QUADRO
FEATURES**

SAVE UPTO
90%
CHEMICALS



**40" Sensor
Spacing**

Improved detection
on small plant
increased power
efficiency.



Blue Light

Improved detection
on small plant
increased power
efficiency.



**50% Less
Weight**

1.5lbs per sensor
places less stress
on your sprayer.



**Full PWM
Application
Control**

Controlled dosage
per weed - speed and
turn compensating.



**In-Crop
PWM**

Control Rate &
Droplet size for all
applications.



**AGRITECH
AMERICA**

sell everything, but it is an excuse to start selling.

Roberts also touched on a couple of other points, including:

- **Inflation.** The massive growth in debt, deficit and money supply has been going on since the mid-1980s. He said the reason many people have been pretty relaxed about increasing inflation over the past year is because this isn't a new thing; we just haven't seen much evidence of it because of how inflation is calculated and tracked (inflation doesn't include the stock market and certain assets, such as land and house prices).
- **Energy prices.** Roberts said the energy crisis has nothing to do with the current administration or canceling pipelines. It's a supply chain-type disruption in energy. It's a rapid growth in demand post-COVID. It's reduced U.S. oil output. "Any time we have a big change in the markets, it's never one thing. It's a factor of things that all contribute. We need a faster return to fracking. That's how we break OPEC, and that's how we will ultimately bring prices down," he said.
- **Supply chain.** Like energy prices, Roberts said there are multiple contributing factors causing problems. He described commerce as a "finely tuned machine" where everything is lined up, able to deliver products where they were needed, when they were needed. Even during COVID, at the consumer level, people didn't go hungry for a lack of food. "The system didn't fundamentally collapse, but we did see the stresses on it," he explained. "The system just doesn't have much slack, because slack—or resilience—is expensive."

WORDS MATTER.

Keynote speaker Jack Bobo explored the idea that how we talk about food matters. He pointed out that consumers often have competing views of how food should be produced, the slow food movement vs. technical advances. "Consumers need to see them (technical advances) not in opposition, but in balance," Bobo said. "That's hard. People love innovation almost as much as they despise change, and there's no place people despise change more than in food."

Today, consumers want their purchases to be an extension of their values. "Consumers have never cared more, or known less, about how their food was produced," Bobo said. He gave farmers three tips when talking about agriculture: intellectual curiosity and humility are critical; if people don't trust you, science doesn't matter; and how we communicate matters.



- **Labor shortages.** Shortages in the labor market existed before COVID, and Roberts believes they aren't going away. Some of the reasons for the labor shortage include an increasing amount of baby boomers retiring and fewer immigrants coming to the country in the last few years. He expects to see wages adjust to the demand and more mechanization will fill holes. ■





SEED

Winter & Spring Wheat, Forages, Corn, and Grass



SERVICE

Seed Tenders (Rentals or Delivery), Fertilizer & Seed Blending, Custom Seed Treating, and Bulk Totes & Bagging



SOLUTIONS

Variety Recommendations, Agronomic Expertise, and Extensive Seed Portfolio



509-234-2500
TriStateSeed.com

Mason Douglass
509-380-4425

Kevin Starring
509-650-7226

John Mancini
509-380-1695

**Your ad
could be here**

*getting read by
thousands of Pacific
Northwest farmers and
growers. What are you
waiting for?*

**Call Lance Marshall
at (253) 221-7000**

Your Rural Property Specialist



realtordad@aol.com

Farmland, timberland, recreational properties, Lake Roosevelt and homes on acreage!

I work all over Eastern Washington. I am a farm land owner in Lincoln and Whitman counties; I know the markets! To BUY or SELL property, call me!

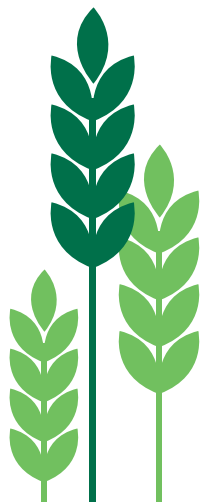
Contact Greg Schuster, Broker
Rural Property Sales
Coldwell Banker Tomlinson



509-993-2545

Insurance for Whatever You Grow

Whether you raise cattle or grow nursery stock, row crops, grain, hay or fruit, COUNTRY Financial® has got you covered. Your local financial representative can help balance your need to protect what you have with your desire to build for the future. We offer great coverage for farm vehicles, too. Grow your own way with COUNTRY Financial.



Paul Koethke LUTCF

Moses Lake

(800) 689.9259



AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT

Policies issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, Bloomington, IL.

1114-511HO

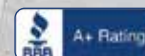


Your One Stop Commercial Roofing Solution

Roof coatings, metal roofs, TPO, PVC and EPDM. From grain silos to barns, whatever your roofing needs **WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!**

fluidroofing.net

509-244-1001



J&M Fabrication

Our shop can do the job for you!



Clean Grain & Return Elevators

12 gauge construction, 2.5 times stronger than EOM.
For newer model Case IH machines.

- Custom Welding • Fuel Tanks • Equipment Repairs
- Tool Boxes • On-Site Millwright work
- All types of Custom Design Work
- Custom Truck Bodies & Flatbeds
- Custom-made Combine Parts

J&M Fabrication

Call Justin Miller Today!

509-235-5711 or 509-993-2890 (cell)

Cheney, WA



2021 TRI-STATE GRAIN GROW



Join us next year
in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho,
Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 2022



Commitment strong despite challenging times

OLD ISSUES HAVE BECOME NEW AGAIN AS WAWG HEADS INTO ANOTHER YEAR OF ADVOCATING UNDER PANDEMIC CONDITIONS

Last year, COVID-19 challenged how the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) advocated for the wheat industry, with most of the organization's efforts happening virtually. While many of those same challenges remain in 2022, so does the organization's commitment to

advocating for wheat growers.

At the state level, the House and Senate have approved a hybrid in-person/virtual format with limited public access. Committee testimony by the public will remain remote. Legislators will be allowed to attend floor action, although the House is limiting participation to vaccinated members, while the Senate will require onsite daily testing. During floor action, there will be limited public access to the gallery. Senators will be allowed to hold meetings in their offices, but meeting size will be limited to three people. The public will not be allowed into House members' offices.

"We are disappointed that, once again, all hearings will be held virtually. While we appreciate being able to participate without the necessity of traveling to Olympia, we feel there are some serious drawbacks to remote testimony," said Michelle Hennings, WAWG's executive director. "This format makes it too easy to dismiss the public's concerns, and it limits the interactions between the committee members and the person testifying. Last year, the amount of time allotted to each person was short, and the speaker was unceremoniously cut off if they exceeded that time. In addition, the committee chair has the power to decide who will testify."

Like the Legislature, WAWG is working on a hybrid advocacy plan that will likely include smaller group visits to Olympia mixed in with Zoom meetings.

In Washington, D.C., public access to lawmakers' offices and federal agencies is variable, with some offices accept-

ing in-person meetings and others still taking the virtual route. Because entry to federal offices was curtailed just as a new administration took office, WAWG will be focusing on networking and developing relationships when leaders travel back to D.C. this month.

One of the biggest issues WAWG will be working on this year, both at the state and federal level, is protecting the **LOWER SNAKE RIVER DAMS** and rebutting misleading information released by breaching advocates. While the dam removal proposal by Idaho Rep. Mike Simpson has (so far) not been included in any federal legislation, the conversation has been picked up by other members of Congress. WAWG will be monitoring the efforts of Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee as they explore whether or not the benefits the dams provide can be replaced. WAWG is proactively advocating for the dams through a federal letter-writing campaign that highlights the importance of the dams to farmers beyond the Pacific Northwest. WAWG will be working through a number of coalitions to educate lawmakers and the public that dams and the salmon can co-exist and that the dams play a key role in carbon mitigation efforts.

Beyond the river system, roads and railways are also a critical part of the state's transportation network, and WAWG will be lobbying for the funding necessary to maintain them.

Another issue that hits close to home for Washington wheat growers is the new **STATE AGRICULTURAL OVERTIME RULES** that went into effect on Jan. 1, 2022. Last year, WAWG supported a compromise bill that made all of agriculture subject to overtime, despite the fact the wheat industry is far less labor intensive than other sectors. Although the bill phases in the new rules, it doesn't include a seasonal exemption, one of WAWG's priorities for supporting the bill. WAWG will be working with the rest of the state's agriculture industry to introduce legislation that would amend the overtime rule to allow for a seasonal exemption to overtime pay.

CARBON AND CLIMATE-RELATED REGULATIONS are likely to take up much of WAWG's advocacy efforts in Olympia and Washington, D.C. At the federal level, climate-smart programs are being rolled out by sev-



These dollars will be used to support candidates that understand what is critical to our industry and the livelihood of our members

Political advocacy is something many of us think we can never get involved in; the Washington Wheat PAC is out to change that.

The Washington Wheat PAC is a nonpartisan political action committee that is dedicated to supporting ag-friendly candidates.

The Washington Wheat PAC pledges to promote and support elected officials from all parts of the state that positively influence agriculture.

Why Support the Washington Wheat PAC?

Washington farmers are losing ground politically! The ability to protect our interests is slowly dwindling. Washington wheat producers need elected officials who know and understand the industry. Without these relationships our ability to remain competitive is at risk. During the legislative session, thousands of bills are introduced; many not favorable to farming. Now is the time for the industry to join together and proactively influence legislation that directly impacts the Washington wheat producer.

Please join our efforts by financially supporting the Washington Wheat PAC. Your contribution will strengthen the network of elected officials who understand the wheat industry's goals and objectives by fighting for what is critical to the livelihood of our members.

Protect your interests by supporting farm-friendly candidates who can make a difference in Olympia.

DONATION PROMISE

Yes, I would like to join with the Washington Wheat PAC's vision and support their actions with my donation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Donation amount: _____

When you make a donation to the Washington Wheat PAC, you are investing in the future of agriculture in Washington State.

Please send form along with payment to PO Box 184, Ritzville, WA 99169. Checks should be made out to the Washington Wheat PAC.

eral U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies, and conversations around cover crops are sprouting up everywhere. WAWG, working through the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG), will be working to make sure that these programs remain voluntary, can be tailored to local growing conditions and take into account early adopters.

In Olympia, WAWG will be monitoring efforts to **BAN NATURAL GAS** in new commercial construction and the implementation of the Climate Commitment Act that was passed last year to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and establish a cap and trade program.

FEDERAL DISASTER FUNDING is a critical component in helping farmers recover from a natural disaster, whether it's due to drought, fire or, conversely, quality issues brought on by too much moisture.

Unfortunately, the process of applying for and approving such funds can often be cumbersome and confusing for farmers and on-the-ground USDA officials. WAWG will be lobbying agency leaders to simplify and improve the application process and making sure definitions in the appropriate handbook are interpreted correctly.

We're Here To Keep You Running!

Repair, Mfg, Shop

PALOUSE WELDING DESIGN & MFG

509-878-1551

605 E Main
Palouse, WA 99161
www.palousewelding.com
email:
sales@palousewelding.com

FLAME CUT FOR THICK METAL TOO

CNC PLASMA TABLE CUTS UP TO 1.5"

25,000# & 15,000# Hubs In Spindles In Stock!

STOCK STEEL

AGRI-COVER DISTRIBUTOR

SIGN UP EARLY FOR SPRING SEEDING!

35' or 25'. All 7 1/2" Seed Spacing with 15" Midrow Deep Bander.

S273102-1

BOOST YOUR BOTTOM LINE

EXPAND HERBICIDE OPTIONS

SLOW HERBICIDE RESISTANCE

WINTER CANOLA

NON GMO

IMI-TOLERANT

ROUNDUP READY VARIETIES ALSO AVAILABLE

SUNFLOWERS

TRITICALE

PLOW-DOWN MUSTARD

START BULDING YOUR SOIL HEALTH NOW!

Rotations increase yields, break disease cycles & reduce weeds.

SPECTRUM CROP DEVELOPMENT

RITZVILLE WA

Curtis 509-659-1757

Todd 509-641-0436

Preparations for the **2023 FARM BILL** are quickly ramping up, as WAWG has begun discussing Washington wheat growers' priorities for the legislation.

"We are hearing from our contacts in D.C. that **CROP INSURANCE** will likely be coming under the microscope in this farm bill," said Hennings. "Crop insurance is probably the most critical part of a producer's safety net, and we need to make sure that the program is fully funded and works appropriately for our farmers."

WAWG would also like to see the **WHEAT REFERENCE PRICE** increased from its current level of \$5.50, although finding funding for that could be an issue. Over the next few months, wheat growers are likely to see emailed survey requests in their inbox, as WAWG and NAWG seek grower feedback on what the industry's farm bill priorities should be.

Another USDA priority for WAWG that hits uncomfortably close to home is the **LACK OF A STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) nearly a year after the Biden Administration took over. Growers are growing increasingly frustrated at the delay and have urged the administration, through letters and meetings with USDA officials, to speed up the pace of nominations.

TRADE is never far from WAWG's priority radar, thanks to the Washington wheat industry's heavy reliance on overseas customers, and it is indirectly impacted by many other issues on this list, from the transportation options afforded by the lower Snake River dams to remaining competitive with other states despite onerous carbon regulations that will likely raise prices on fuel and fertilizer. WAWG will be working with NAWG and U.S. Wheat Associates to maintain the U.S.'s position as a supplier of top quality wheat and investing in trade promotion activities to develop additional markets.

The state's legislative session began on Jan. 10. For a state legislative preview, see page 16. At the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention, NAWG officials led a break-out session focused on the 2023 Farm Bill. See page 18. ■



Online Land Auctions

In 12 months **4,920± ACRES SOLD**
• 2 STATES - 5 COUNTIES


C.D. "Butch" Booker,
Owner/Broker/Auctioneer
Licensed in WA & ID

Call to secure your auction dates!



509-397-4451 or 509-397-4434
booker2bid@gmail.com
809 N. Main - Colfax WA





They're Going. We're Growing!

State Bank Northwest is proud to announce that our bank is growing steadily, having just added six staff to our ag lending team. For 119 years we have remained stable, liquid, and well-capitalized. If some of the recent changes have affected your banking connections, maybe you'd like to switch to our family. We are committed to Washington state agriculture and know our customers personally.

Don't wait. Switch to State.



Garfield Branch, 301 W. California St. 509-635-1361
Soon to be open in Colfax, Rockford and Palouse!

StateBankNorthwest.com

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER MEMBER FDIC

We service what we sell, since 1987

GLENER
HESSTON
Ag Leader
NORAC
RAVEN



BLUE MOUNTAIN
AGRI-SUPPORT, INC.

LEWISTON, ID
620 Thain Road
208-746-6447

MOSCOW, ID
2275 Nursery
208-883-3007

www.bluemountainag.com

WHO'S REPRESENTING YOU IN 2022?

Washington State Representatives

1	Davina Duerr	D-Bothell	17	Vicki Kraft	R-Vancouver	33	Tina Orwall	D-Normandy Park
	Shelley Kloba	D-Kirkland		Paul Harris	R-Vancouver		Mia Su-Ling Gregerson	D-Seattle
2	Andrew Barkis	R-Lacey	18	Brandon Wick	R-Battle Ground	34	Eileen L. Cody	D-Seattle
	J.T. Wilcox	R-Mckenna		Larry Hoff	R-Vancouver		Joe Fitzgibbon	D-Burien
3	Marcus Riccelli	D-Spokane	19	Jim Walsh	R-Aberdeen	35	Dan Griffey	R-Alllyn
	Timm Ormsby	D-Spokane		Joel McEntire	R-Cathlamet		Drew C. MacEwen	R-Union
4	Rob Chase	R-Liberty Lake	20	Peter Abbarno	R-Centralia	36	Noel Christina Frame	D-Seattle
	Bob McCaslin	R-Spokane Valley		Ed Orcutt	R-Kalama		Liz Berry	D-Seattle
5	Bill Ramos	D-Isaiah	21	Strom Peterson	D-Edmonds	37	Sharon Tomiko Santos	D-Seattle
	Lisa Callan	D-Isaiah		Lillian Ortiz-Self	D-Mukilteo		Kirsten Harris-Talley	D-Hillman City
6	Mike Volz	R-Spokane	22	Laurie Dolan	D-Olympia	38	Emily Wicks	D-Everett
	Jenny Graham	R-Spokane		Jessica Bateman	D-Olympia		Mike Sells	D-Everett
7	Jacquelin Maycumber	R-Republic	23	Tarra Simmons	D-Bremerton	39	Robert Sutherland	R-Granite Falls
	Joel Kretz	R-Wauconda		Drew Hansen	D-Poulsbo		Carolyn Eslick	R-Sultan
8	Brad Klippert	R-Kennelwick	24	Mike Chapman	D-Port Angeles	40	Debra Lekanoff	D-Bow
	Matt Boehnke	R-Kennelwick		Steve Tharinger	D-Sequim		Alex Ramel	D-Bellingham
9	Mary Dye	R-Pomeroy	25	Kelly Chambers	R-Puyallup	41	Tana Senn	D-Mercer Island
	Joe Schmick	R-Cofax		Gynda Jacobsen	R-Puyallup		My-Linh Thai	D-Bellevue
10	Greg Gilday	R-Camano Island	26	Jesse Young	R-Gig Harbor	42	Alicia Rule	D-Blaine
	Dave Paul	D-Oak Harbor		Michelle Caldwell	R-Port Orchard		Sharon Shewmake	D-Bellingham
11	David Hackney	D-Tukwila	27	Laurie Jenkins	D-Tacoma	43	Nicole Macri	D-Seattle
	Steve Bergquist	D-Renton		Jake Fey	D-Tacoma		Frank Chopp	D-Bremerton
12	Keith Goehner	R-Dryden	28	Mari Leavitt	D-University Place	44	Vacant	
	Mike Steele	R-Chelan		Dan Bronoske	D-Lakewood		April Berg	D-Mill Creek
13	Tom Dent	R-Moses Lake	29	Melanie Morgan	D-Parkland	45	Roger Goodman	D-Kirkland
	Alex Ybarra	R-Quincy		Steve Kirby	D-Tacoma		Larry Springer	D-Kirkland
14	Chris Corry	R-Yakima	30	Jamila Taylor	D-Federal Way	46	Gerry Pollet	D-Seattle
	Gina Mosbrucker	R-Goldendale		Jesse Johnson	D-Federal Way		Javier Valdez	D-Seattle
15	Bruce Chandler	R-Zillah	31	Drew Stokesbary	R-Auburn	47	Debra Entenman	D-Kent
	Jeremie Dufault	R-Selah		Eric E. Robertson	R-Buckley		Pat Sullivan	D-Covington
16	Mark Klicker	R-Walla Walla	32	Gindy Ryu	D-Seattle	48	Vandana Slatter	D-Bellevue
	Skyler Rude	R-Walla Walla		Lauren Davis	D-Shoreline		Amy Walen	D-Kirkland

*Freshman Representative

Washington State Senators

1	Derek Stanford	D-Bothell	17	Lynda Wilson	R-Vancouver	33	Karen Keiser	D-Kent
2	Jim McCune	R-Graham	18	Ann Rivers	R-Vancouver	34	Joe Nguyen	D-West Seattle
3	Andy Billig	D-Spokane	19	Jeff Wilson	R-Longview	35	Tim Sheldon	D-Potlatch
4	Mike Padden	R-Spokane Valley	20	John E. Braun	R-Chehalis	36	Reuven Carlyle	D-Seattle
5	Mark Mullet	D-Isaiah	21	Marko Lias	D-Mukilteo	37	Rebecca Saldana	D-Seattle
6	Jeff Holy	R-Spokane	22	Sam Hunt	D-Olympia	38	June Robinson	D-Everett

Find contact information
for your legislator at leg.wa.gov

U.S. Senators

Patty Murray (D)
murray.senate.gov • (202) 224-2621

Maria Cantwell (D)
cantwell.senate.gov • (202) 224-3441

U.S. Representatives

Suzan DelBene (D) District 1
delbene.house.gov • (202) 225-6311

Rick Larsen (D) District 2
larsen.house.gov • (202) 225-2605

Jaime Herrera Beutler (R) District 3
herrera.beutler.house.gov • (202) 225-3536

Dan Newhouse (R) District 4
newhouse.house.gov • (202) 225-5816

Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R) District 5
mcmorris.house.gov • (202) 225-2006

Derek Kilmer (D) District 6
kilmer.house.gov • (202) 225-5916

Pramila Jayapal (D) District 7
jayapal.house.gov • (202) 225-3106

Kim Schrier (D) District 8
schrier.house.gov • (202) 225-7761

Adam Smith (D) District 9
adamsmith.house.gov • (202) 225-8901

Marilyn Strickland (D) District 10
strickland.house.gov • (202) 225-9740

Congress in 2022:

U.S. House of Representatives

U.S. Senate

Party	Count
Dem	48
Rep	20
Vacancy	1

State Senate

Party	Count
Dem	29
Rep	19
Vacancy	1

State House of Representatives

Party	Count
Dem	56
Rep	41
Vacancy	1

LEGEND

- County Boundary
- County Name
- Legislative District Boundary
- Congressional District Boundary

WASHINGTON CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

DISTRICT 1: SKAGIT, SNOHOMISH, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 2: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 3: LEWIS, CLARK, COWLITZ, WAHKIAKUM

DISTRICT 4: GRANT, KITTITAS, DOUGLAS, CHELAN

DISTRICT 5: LINCOLN, FERRY, STEVENS, PEND OREILLE

DISTRICT 6: GRAYS HARBOR, PACIFIC, CLALLAM

DISTRICT 7: FERRY, STEVENS, PEND OREILLE

DISTRICT 8: KITTITAS, DOUGLAS, CHELAN, DOUGLAS

DISTRICT 9: ADAMS, WHITMAN, GARFIELD, SHOSHONE

DISTRICT 10: BENTON, FRANKLIN, WALLA WALLA, ASOTIN

DISTRICT 11: YAKIMA, TARRANT, GOSHAWK, COCONINO

DISTRICT 12: CHANDLER, MARICOPA, AVERA, COCHISE

DISTRICT 13: ARIZONA, MARICOPA, AVERA, COCHISE

DISTRICT 14: KOCHIKAT, SKAMANIA, STEVENSON

DISTRICT 15: YAKIMA, TARRANT, GOSHAWK, COCONINO

DISTRICT 16: WALLA WALLA, MILL WALLE, SATTEN

DISTRICT 17: WASHINGTON, CLATSOP, CLATSOP

DISTRICT 18: CLATSOP, CLATSOP, CLATSOP

DISTRICT 19: PACIFIC, GRAYS HARBOR, CLALLAM

DISTRICT 20: LEWIS, CLARK, COWLITZ, WAHKIAKUM

DISTRICT 21: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 22: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 23: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 24: JEFFERSON, MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON

DISTRICT 25: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 26: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 27: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 28: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 29: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 30: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 31: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 32: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 33: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 34: PIERCE, THURSTON, MASON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 35: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 36: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 37: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 38: MASON, PIERCE, THURSTON, JEFFERSON

DISTRICT 39: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 40: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 41: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 42: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 43: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 44: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 45: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 46: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 47: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 48: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

DISTRICT 49: SNOHOMISH, SKAGIT, WHATCOM

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATIVE & CONGRESSIONAL Districts 49 10

LEGISLATIVE
DISTRICTS Population
17,216,454

CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICTS Population
672,454



10% SAVINGS

ON CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE CROP PROTECTION PRODUCTS



TruChoice® Prepay offers a better way to buy your crop protection products. Simply **fund a TruChoice account by February 25, 2022** to qualify for upfront savings on participating products. Sign up at TruChoice.Corteva.us or contact your local retailer for information.

- OpenSky® herbicide
- Pixxaro® herbicide
- WideARmatch® herbicide
- Tarzec® herbicide
- PerfectMatch® herbicide
- PowerFlex® HL herbicide
- Quelex® herbicide
- Rezuvant™ herbicide
- GoldSky® herbicide
- Starane® Flex herbicide
- Instinct® nitrogen stabilizer
- N-Serve® nitrogen stabilizer
- Transform® WG insecticide

CHAIRMAN

WASHINGTON GRAIN COMMISSION

By Mike
Carstensen



This is what I call the sandwich season. No, not eating sandwiches, but the holiday season sandwiched by the end of the old year and the beginning of the new year. As the old year ends, we go over farming strategies that worked or failed. We develop a game plan for the new year we are facing down. So, if I may, let's look back a little and look forward a little.

Really, after last year, who wants to look back? Come on man! With the stressful, disastrous 2021 year and amidst the (dare I say such an overused term?) unprecedented era of COVID-19, maybe the best thing for you is to carve out some time for a much-needed physical and/or mental health break.

Back in May of last year, Washington State University Extension announced new efforts to expand the farmer suicide prevention services available to Washington farmers. You can read more about it at <https://bit.ly/pnwag-news1>. Pacific Northwest Ag Network's Glenn Vaagen spoke to Don McMoran, director of WSU's Skagit County Extension office and the person who leads the WSU Extension program. You can give it a listen at <https://bit.ly/mental-health2>. We covered the program in the May issue of *Wheat Life*, which you can download at <https://bit.ly/3IWu6PM>. You can also get more information on resources to address stressors in your life at farmstress.us or by phone at (800) FARM-AID.

Downtime doesn't mean time wasted. The final month of the year found us attending grower meetings, servicing equipment for the upcoming year and spending time with family and friends. Speaking of grower meetings, I recently had the opportunity to attend in-person the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane. The event is organized by the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG), the Oregon Wheat Growers League, and the Idaho Grain Producers Association. Besides offering an opportunity to socialize and network, producers heard state and national policy updates, enjoyed top-notch keynote speakers and participated in educational break-out sessions. The 2022 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention will be held at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 2022. Make plans to attend next year as this is just a great educational event for all.

The Washington Grain Commission (WGC) is no different. The final month of the year found the WGC examining strategies and developing new game plans. Specifically, over the year, WGC committees have updated its research and marketing strategic plans. In

addition, the Education Committee is in the process of updating its strategic plan.

Looking forward, many people think of a new year as a clean slate. What does January usually mean to you? Is January your vacation month? Do you make New Year's resolutions? Perhaps eating less gravy is one, or being more proactive and less reactive? I'm thinking after last year, wiping the slate clean and looking forward is the popular choice. A few topics for the new year come to mind, such as family, physical and mental health, education and advocacy.

As we enter the new year, take advantage of all the educational opportunities that come your way, whether its the AMMO (Agricultural Marketing and Management Organization) presentations, co-op presentations, grower meetings, vendor meetings or whatever. The possibilities are limitless, in-person and online. Each of us can become better at being "a jack of all trades and a master of some." The WGC and WAWG actively support many of these educational endeavors, as well as constantly looking for new and better programs for growers and landlords.

Finally, the topic of advocacy. Go back to English class, and an advocate is a person who actively supports a cause. Here at the WGC, we actively support the long-term profitability and competitiveness of Washington small grains and small grain producers. While we accomplish a lot, we are somewhat limited, and this is where WAWG and individual producers and landlords finish the process with their lobbying efforts. Again, English class: lobbying is to conduct activities aimed at influencing public officials. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the number of farms in the country has fallen from more than 6 million in 1935 to roughly 2 million in 2012. Meanwhile, the average farm size has more than doubled, and the amount of total land being farmed has remained the same. As this trend continues, it is so much more important that we all get involved.

The sandwich time—I know it's much needed down time. I'm sure most all of us don't waste our down time, whether it's attending grower meetings, servicing equipment for the upcoming year, getting involved and spending time with family and friends. On behalf of the staff and commissioners of the WGC, we are glad that last year is complete, and we can start another year with a clean slate. Looking forward, we wish you a prosperous New Year, and eat less gravy! ■

Talking about (river) transportation

WGC'S GLEN SQUIRES TALKS WITH PNWA'S KRISTIN MEIRA ON THE FUTURE OF OUR RIVERS



Kristin Meira
Executive Director, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association



Glen Squires
CEO, Washington Grain Commission and Board President, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association

This year, Washington Grain Commission CEO Glen Squires is taking on an additional leadership role to better represent the interests of Washington farmers in the Columbia-Snake River System. In October 2021, Squires was elected to serve as the board president of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA) for 2022. In this role, he aims to increase understanding and awareness of the benefits of Pacific Northwest navigable water infrastructure to the local economies, region and nation. Also, he seeks to promote the message that salmon and run-of-river dams with fish passage can coexist. Squires sat down with the outgoing PNWA Executive Director Kristin Meira to look forward to next year and assess what they expect will be coming around the bend.

SQUIRES: What are the latest developments in Northwest salmon conversation?

MEIRA: When it comes to the ongoing litigation against the Columbia River System Operations plan developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and Bonneville Power Administration, the Biden Administration and plaintiffs recently hit “pause.” In the short term, the plaintiffs and the administration agreed to a short-term settlement on how much water will be routed over the spillways of those dams vs. through their powerhouses. Fortunately, those new spill levels shouldn’t impact navigation on the river system.

This pause in the courtroom is evidently meant to provide the Biden Administration and the plaintiffs with the opportunity to talk about broader issues and try to come up with a comprehensive path forward. We’ve met with some of the federal representatives who’ve come out west to see the issues for themselves, and we understand that negotiations have not yet begun. There is great concern in the region about the potential for politics to overtake science.

We’ve also seen different kinds of involvement from the Northwest congressional delegation in the past year. Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee announced a couple month ago that they were going to convene their own study to determine how to replace the benefits of the Snake River dams, with a deadline that coincides with the end of the short-term litigation settlement. It is difficult to envision a comprehensive study of the Snake River dams being completed in that time. Earlier this year, Rep. Simpson (R-Idaho) rolled out his vision for Snake River dam removal, which so far, has not moved forward in any bill in Congress.

Lastly, there have been exciting, positive efforts from some Northwest leaders to bring attention and funding to our region’s fish runs. Sen. Cantwell (D-Wash.) worked to secure historic funding for fish in the IJA (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) bill, including \$1 billion for culvert removal, \$1 billion for salmon habitat restoration grants, \$400 million to build and expand salmon hatcheries, \$500 million for fishery research and more. Earlier this year, Reps. Derek Kilmer (D-Wash.) and Marilyn Strickland (D-Wash.) were successful in shepherding the PUGET SOS (Promoting United Government Efforts to Save Our Sound Act) bill through the full U.S. House. Their bill would enhance the federal government’s role and investment in Puget Sound, the nation’s largest estuary by volume, which is vital to the

recovery of Puget Sound Chinook and other salmon.

SQUIRES: What about the Columbia Basin Collaborative?

MEIRA: Given the public positions of Govs. Inslee and Kate Brown (D-Ore.), there's been significant trepidation in the region about this new forum. That apprehension was heightened when we saw the lopsided composition of the forum's decision-making group. Though we have excellent people representing the so-called "river economy" interest on the I/RG (Integration/Recommendations Group), there is significant worry about whether this new group is truly representative of all viewpoints.

SQUIRES: So, when it comes to the river and salmon, what's next?

MEIRA: Our key message has been and will continue to be that there's no single cause of our region's salmon issues, and there won't be a single solution. There are a lot of other things that are less expensive, more beneficial to salmon and less impactful to our economy that we can and should be doing first, rather than continuing this myopic focus on dams with world-class fish passage that provide so many benefits to our region.

We're especially focusing on helping educate Pacific Northwest citizens—especially the many newcomers living west of the Cascades and in some of the larger cities elsewhere—about the critical role hydropower, irrigation, navigation and other benefits the dams play in mitigating climate change. After all, if we can't get ocean warming, acidification and prey base changes under control, it doesn't matter how great our work for salmon in the rivers has been.

SQUIRES: How about the lower Columbia River projects and activities that are underway or planned?



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MEIRA: The lower Columbia River is the work horse of the U.S. West Coast when it comes to exports. Every day, our federal navigation projects in the lower river keep our nation's farmers and other producers connected to overseas markets. Maintenance dredging is a significant annual need, and we must always remind our legislators of how critical our 43' federal channel is to accessing the world. Beyond the channel, we are celebrating continued progress on the rehabilitation of the jetties at the Mouth of the Columbia River. These enormous rock mounds protect navigation across the treacherous Columbia River Bar, and they take a pounding. Rehab work started five years ago, and construction is complete on two of the three jetties. But the third and final jetty is the biggest of all, and we're pleased to have secured funding for the Corps of Engineers to see the project through to completion in 2023. This is a project that has spanned multiple administrations and Congresses, and shows the support our river system has in Washington, D.C.

SQUIRES: The Water Resource Development Act effort is about to get underway again. Any insight on the types of projects and funding that could be targeted for our region and supported by both political parties?

MEIRA: We've had some really big wins in previous Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) bills, including full spending of annual Harbor

Maintenance Tax receipts for coastal navigation maintenance, as well as removing operating restrictions from the federal dredges “Essayons” and “Yaquina” that keep our channels open. In a WRDA bill next year, we have a number of items we’re pursuing. We’re hoping to fine tune an authority that could help our ports create more habitat mitigation banks. We’re also looking for the channel deepening project at the Port of Tacoma to move forward, which is critical not only to imports, but Northwest exports as well. Some language is needed to ensure basic maintenance dredging can take place on the lower Willamette River, which is important to grain exports and other commodities. Finally, there is the hope that the Snake River channel can be better defined, to ensure that future maintenance dredging can be more easily scoped and pursued when the need arises.

SQUIRES: Any other activity on the river that farmers should know about?

MEIRA: Each dam on the mainstem Snake and Columbia rivers has only one navigation lock, so reliability of those locks is critical to getting product downriver to market and inland for inputs. We partner with the Corps of Engineers to identify needs and funding for repair and replacement of components at those locks, rather than waiting for things to fail. The next routine outage will run five weeks, from Feb. 13 to March 19, 2022. This outage will be a few weeks longer than the usual two-week closure to ensure special repairs can be completed at The Dalles Dam. ■



Researchers from Pacific Northwest land-grant universities discussed varietal research with growers during the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention. From left are Clark Neely, Washington State University; Ryan Coombs Graebner, Oregon State University; and Kurtis Schroeder and Juliet Marshal, University of Idaho.

Looking ahead in variety testing

Extension agronomists, Clark Neely, from Washington State University; Ryan Coombs Graebner, from Oregon State University; and Kurtis Schroeder and Juliet Marshal, both from the University of Idaho, engaged with producers at the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane to give an update on their three variety testing programs and the efforts they are making to collaborate across the Pacific Northwest and make more data, in a more useful format, available to growers. Variety testing programs at land-grant institutions are a valuable source of quality, unbiased and comprehensive information on wheat and barley varieties that growers can leverage to select the varieties best suited for their region. All three programs are making efforts to help breeders release land-grant varieties faster, pool data with the help of a recent grant and find ways to present findings in a clearer format to growers. Keeping the data as unbiased and good as possible is critical, even in extreme growing years like the one just completed. Growers are encouraged to look at averages from multiple years of data, when possible, for the best variety selection results. ■

Overseas markets, exports post-COVID

Doug Goyings, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) past-chairman and Ohio farmer, presented at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention. His update on overseas wheat markets emphasized that while exporter supplies are tight and U.S. stocks are at their lowest since 2007/08, we are still at double the total bushels we had ending in 2008. Discussion ranged from the possibility of Russia imposing a quota on exports in 2022 to Australia’s record crop facing quality challenges and their admitting that Australian soft white is a poor substitute for U.S. soft white and Canada’s transportation problem with a rail-line washout at the Port of Vancouver. “Big picture...it could be worse,” Goyings said. Stable markets continue to be stable. The Philippines are only down about 10 percent on sales. He noted that USW continues its crucial technical assistance with overseas customers despite COVID-19 challenges. ■

Break-out session focuses on grain shipping on PNW rivers

The lower Columbia River's 43-foot-deep navigation channel extends 105 miles inland. As the country's third largest export gateway, the river system carried more than 56 million tons of cargo in 2018 and supports 40,000 jobs. A 14-foot-deep channel extends 365 miles inland and with the help of eight navigational locks, will lift a barge more than 738 feet above sea level. Kristin Meira, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association executive director, spoke at the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane to provide the latest updates about infrastructure projects planned for our working rivers and other hot topics that affect all Northwest growers. Key updates included:

- Every March, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shuts down the system for a planned, two-to-four-week closure in order to address maintenance needs. Three new lock gates were installed recently along with major repairs at all others. A large, new downstream gate at McNary Dam is in the works for 2030.
- The major rehab of the jetties is on schedule to be completed in 2023 with the final congressional funding coming through this year.
- The current political environment is an opportunity that some dam-breaching advocacy groups are hoping to exploit. Meira noted that not one ele-



Kristin Meira, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association executive director, spoke at the 2021 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in Spokane to provide the latest updates about infrastructure projects on the Columbia-Snake River System.

ment from Idaho Rep. Simpson's dam breaching proposal made it into the infrastructure package.

- The Columbia River Treaty between the U.S. and Canada (originally ratified in 1964) is approaching a significant milestone in 2024, which is the earliest date the treaty can be terminated; however, neither country has yet to issue a required 10-year termination notice. Formal negotiations to update the treaty began in May 2018. Eleven rounds of talks have been held. The next is scheduled for Jan. 10.
- The Columbia River Systems Operations (CRSO) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) started in 2016. The final EIS was released, and a Record of Decision issued in the fall of 2020, covering all 14 dams in the system. Right now, this is in a holding pattern while litigation is "on pause."
- The Columbia Basin Collaborative is having a bigger conversation on salmon recovery. The question they are hoping to address is how do we get to healthy, sustainable, harvestable levels of fish? There continues to be concerns that the collaborative does not represent a true balance of all river stakeholders. ■

2021 WSU spring variety trial results

MAKING THE BEST OF A BAD YEAR

By Clark Neely

Extension Agronomist and Cereal Variety Testing Lead, Washington State University

What a difference a year makes! It is not an understatement to say that 2021 was a challenging year for wheat production across Washington state due to the drought, and that was particularly true for spring wheat. Yields and test weights were down across the board with yields running anywhere from 15 to 88 percent lower than 2020, and test weights down by roughly two pounds per bushel. Our highest yielding dryland site averaged 44 bushels per acre at Palouse, while our lowest yielding site averaged only 6 bushels at Lind. For the second year in a row, Reardan stood out with the highest trial average test weight at 61.6 pounds per bushel

in the soft white trial, and Almira hard red spring averaged the lowest at 54.4 pounds per bushel.

The dryland soft white spring trial consisted of 16 named varieties and eight experimental lines, while the hard red spring trial included 12 named and

"A good variety is one that can reliably perform well across multiple environments."

—Clark Neely
Cereal Variety Testing Lead

six experimental lines in 2021. Of the named varieties, three were spring club wheats and one club was a Washington State University (WSU) experimental line, "WA8325." If and when this line is released, it will be the first spring club wheat with Hessian fly resistance. This is following the previous release of "Hedge CL+," which was the first spring club possessing the 2-gene Clearfield trait.

New entries for 2021 include "UI Cookie," "UI Stone" and "WB6211CLP" in the soft white spring trial, and "Lanning" in the hard red spring trial. Both UI Cookie and UI Stone came out of the University of Idaho breeding program and were released in 2020 and 2012, respectively. Lanning comes from the Montana State University breeding program and was released in 2016. Overall, both UI Cookie and UI Stone yielded two bushels per acre below the trial average in each dryland precipitation zone. UI Stone consistently beat the trial average for test weight by more than one pound per bushel, except in the more-than-20-inch zone, while UI Cookie fluctuated around the trial average. Under irrigation, both varieties performed very well in 2021, with UI Cookie topping the trial, and UI Stone also falling into the top-yielding group. WB6211CLP is meant as a replacement for "WB-1035CL+." It hit the

Table 1. 2021 WSU Extension Spring Whe

Precipitation Zone=Irrigated						
VARIETY	MOSES LAKE	PASCO	AVERAGE YIELD	2-YR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN
	---Yield (Bu/A)---		Lb/Bu	%		
UI Cookie	129	144	136	--	60.6	12.6
WA8327	131	136	133	136	60.8	12.8
IDO1702S	130	135	133	126	62.2	11.8
Ryan	126	131	128	121	59.4	12.2
WB6341	121	134	128	129	60.4	11.4
UI Stone	127	128	128	--	60.1	11.9
WB6121	119	131	125	122	61.8	12.9
YSC-603	125	122	123	--	60.5	12.8
Tekoa	119	124	121	123	60.6	12.7
WA8325 ¹	126	113	120	117	60.9	11.3
Seahawk	119	120	120	112	59.5	13.1
IDO1404S	115	112	113	119	59.5	12.1
WB6211CLP	97	129	113	--	58.0	13.1
C.V. %	6	6	6	6	1.2	2.1
LSD (0.05)	11	12	8	6	0.8	0.3
Average	123	124	123	123	60.2	12.4
	---Yield (Bu/A)---		Lb/Bu	%		
AP Venom	113.5	122	118	124	57.1	14.56
WA8330 ²	119	116	118	118	60.7	15.1
SY Gunsight	110	122	116	122	60.1	14.2
WB9662	107	124	115	114	61.4	15.0
WB9668	108	119	113	113	60.2	15.8
Glee	112	115	113	107	60.3	14.2
WB9303	105	118	111	107	62.1	15.7
AP Octane	108	114	111	117	58.6	14.4
AP Renegade	104	116	110	110	59.2	14.5
Buck Pronto	106	111	109	--	60.7	15.7
Kelse	101	112	106	108	60.2	15.6
Alum	100	102	101	99	59.4	15.0
C.V. %	6	3	5	6	0.9	1.4
LSD (0.05)	11	7	6	6	0.6	0.2
Average	110	116	113	113	60.0	14.8
	---Yield (Bu/A)---		Lb/Bu	%		
AP Venom	140	165	153		61.4	14.6
AP Renegade	147	156	152		62.3	13.6
Dayn (HWS)	138	162	150		62.2	14.3
WB4303 (HRW)	137	159	148		60.1	13.7
SY Gunsight	132	158	145		61.6	13.8
WB7202CLP	131	151	141		62.0	14.0
AP Octane	129	152	141		61.3	14.9
SY Coho	133	148	140		59.7	14.9
CP3066	127	148	138		61.8	14.6
WB9662	124	146	135		62.2	15.8
Net CL+	124	139	131		62.5	14.4
Kelse	119	143	131		61.1	15.7
WB9303	123	135	129		62.6	16.0
WB9668	115	139	127		62.4	16.6
C.V. %	5	2	4		1.2	1.9
LSD (0.05)	13	7	6		0.9	0.6
Average	129	149	139		61.7	14.6

at Variety Trial Summary

Precipitation Zone=>20"										
VARIETY	FAIRFIELD	FARMINGTON	PALOUSE	PULLMAN	AVERAGE YIELD	2-YR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN		
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----						Lb/Bu	%		
Seahawk	38	48	50	40	44	58	59.5	11.4		
Ryan	42	46	46	42	44	59	57.1	11.2		
AP Coachman	43	45	50	36	44	58	57.4	10.8		
Tekoa	38	43	47	40	42	60	60.4	11.6		
Hedge CL+ ¹	37	44	47	36	41	55	59.3	11.8		
WA8325 ¹	36	48	44	33	40	58	57.6	10.8		
WB6341	37	41	46	36	40	56	57.2	10.7		
WB6211CLP	35	42	43	37	39	--	55.3	12.3		
AP Mondovi CL2	33	46	42	36	39	54	57.4	13.1		
UI Cookie	32	38	45	38	38	--	58.3	12.5		
UI Stone	34	40	43	35	38	--	57.4	11.6		
Louise	39	47	35	31	38	53	57.2	11.5		
WB6121	32	38	42	38	38	55	58.0	12.2		
JD ¹	36	40	39	33	37	53	58.4	12.0		
Melba ¹	30	34	44	32	35	57	56.8	12.4		
YSC-603	29	38	40	33	35	--	58.2	13.2		
C.V. %	5	6	7	6	6	9	1.5	2.8		
LSD (0.05)	3	4	5	3	2	3	0.7	0.3		
Average	36	43	44	37	40	56	58.3	11.7		
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----						Lb/Bu	%		
WA8315	43.3	41	46	44	44	64	60.0	14.2		
WA8330 ²	42	47	42	40	43	62	59.7	14.2		
Net CL+	37	45	44	37	41	58	59.0	14.5		
Glee	40	42	40	37	40	59	58.9	13.8		
Chet	33	42	46	38	40	55	59.9	15.0		
Alum	38	38	40	39	39	58	58.8	14.1		
SY Gunsight	36	39	38	35	37	59	58.1	14.0		
AP Renegade	35	37	39	35	36	57	56.9	14.3		
Lanning	31	42	36	37	36	--	55.8	14.8		
Kelse	34	38	37	35	36	53	57.7	14.9		
WB9668	36	35	35	35	35	54	57.6	15.7		
WB9662	33	37	37	34	35	52	57.8	15.1		
WB9303	30	39	31	34	33	53	58.5	15.2		
C.V. %	6	7	6	5	6	7	1.5	2.5		
LSD (0.05)	4	5	4	3	2	2	0.7	0.3		
Average	37	40	40	37	38	57	58.2	14.6		

¹Club Wheat ²Hard white wheat

trial average in the below-12-inch precipitation zone, but ranged between one and three bushels below that in the other zones. It also consistently had one of the lowest test weights in the trial. In the hard red spring trials, Lanning consistently yielded two to three bushel per acre below average with the exception of Almira where it landed in the top-yielding group. Test weight was generally one to two pounds per bushel less as well while grain protein

Precipitation Zone=16-20"										
VARIETY	MAYVIEW	PLAZA	ST. JOHN	WALLA WALLA	AVERAGE YIELD	2-YR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN		
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----						Lb/Bu	%		
Louise	27	34	37	26	31	53	59.0	12.5		
AP Coachman	28	38	32	25	31	53	58.5	12.0		
Ryan	28	29	32	29	29	55	60.2	12.8		
Tekoa	27	33	31	24	29	57	60.7	13.0		
Hedge CL+ ¹	27	30	30	24	28	47	61.1	13.2		
Seahawk	29	30	27	23	27	56	60.6	12.5		
JD ¹	26	30	30	22	27	48	60.8	13.1		
AP Mondovi CL2	22	31	28	25	26	48	58.7	14.7		
WB6341	23	28	31	23	26	51	59.7	12.0		
WB6121	25	25	24	25	25	53	60.5	14.0		
WA8325 ¹	23	23	31	22	25	54	61.6	12.1		
WB6211CLP	24	24	26	23	24	--	58.3	13.5		
UI Cookie	27	21	25	23	24	--	59.9	14.1		
UI Stone	25	24	27	19	24	--	61.4	12.8		
Melba ¹	24	23	29	19	24	46	59.9	13.1		
YSC-603	19	15	20	19	18	--	60.0	15.1		
C.V. %	9	14	8	10	11	12	0.9	2.6		
LSD (0.05)	4	6	4	4	2	3	0.4	0.3		
Average	26	27	29	22	26	52	60.3	13.1		
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----						Lb/Bu	%		
WA8330 ²	30	31	27	26	29	56	60.7	15.7		
Alum	29	34	26	25	28	51	60.6	15.6		
WA8315	25	28	25	26	26	55	60.5	16.3		
Chet	24	27	27	24	25	48	60.9	16.4		
Net CL+	22	29	26	24	25	51	60.8	16.3		
Kelse	28	26	24	23	25	50	60.0	16.1		
AP Renegade	29	23	25	21	25	53	58.0	15.4		
Glee	21	25	29	21	24	53	60.9	15.5		
SY Gunsight	27	18	23	21	22	47	59.5	15.6		
WB9668	22	24	22	21	22	49	59.9	18.1		
WB9662	25	20	24	19	22	47	59.8	16.8		
Lanning	22	14	19	29	21	--	58.7	16.5		
WB9303	14	13	17	16	15	44	60.2	17.5		
C.V. %	9	13	12	10	11	10	0.9	2.3		
LSD (0.05)	5	6	5	4	2	2	0.5	0.3		
Average	24	25	25	23	24	50	59.8	16.2		

was near average for the trial.

When looking at soft white spring variety performance for all entries across precipitation zones, "AP Coachman" and "Ryan" both continued to perform well, landing in the top yielding group in every dryland zone. "Tekoa" and "Louise" also handled the tough growing conditions better than most, yielding near the top in

three and two zones, respectively, out of four. “Seahawk” numerically was the best across all sites in the more-than-20-inch zone, while “AP Mondovi CL2” did well in relation to others in the below-12-inch zone this year. In the spring-planted irrigated sites, UI Cookie, Ryan, “WB6341,” and UI Stone all led the pack for yield with “WB6121” achieving the best test weight.

In the hard spring wheat trials, I think it is important to mention how impressive some of the new experimental material is looking and performing. “WA8315” and “WA8330” (hard white) are leading the trial in every precipitation zone on multiyear averages. They also stood up well to the extreme conditions in 2021, highlighting their yield stability. There are other, newer lines from both the WSU and Croplan programs that also yielded well across all precipitation zones in their first year, sometimes outstripping even the best released varieties, so growers should keep an eye out in the future for when some of these lines will be released, though we are still two to three years out from widespread seed availability. On the named variety side, “Net CL+,” “Glee,” “Chet” and “Alum” all did well in the more-than-20-inch precipitation zone, whereas Alum stood alone as the best named variety in the 16-20 inch zone. Chet, Net CL+, Alum, “Kelse” and “SY Gunsight” also did well in the below-12-inch zone, however, there was little agreement in rankings across locations in the 12-to-16-inch zone and very little separation across named varieties when looking at the regional average.

In 2021, the program added two fall-planted hard red spring trials at our irrigated sites in Moses Lake and Pasco. Those trials are in the



Growers talking by the Washington State University spring wheat variety trials following the Dayton field day in June.

ground again for the 2022 season along with a dryland site at Dayton. The best yielding entry, “AP Venom” was numerically five bushels higher than the hard red winter wheat check “WB4303” when averaged across the two sites in 2021. Granted, the later planting date (Nov. 2 for Pasco and Oct. 30 for Moses Lake) certainly favored the earlier spring varieties, particularly during the early heat last summer. “AP Renegade” and “Dayn” (hard white) were also statistically in the top-yielding group.

Results from the 2021 high rainfall and irrigated regional summaries can be found in Table 1 while the low rainfall summaries can be found in Table 2. Results from the Dayton and Almira soft white spring trials are not shown due to a high C.V. (coefficient of variation), indicating too much unexplained variability within the trials.

When possible, growers are always encouraged to view multiple years and multiple locations of data for making varietal comparisons to better estimate the stability in varietal performance across environments. A good variety is one that can reliably perform well across multiple environments. This article includes a two-year average for most entries, but three and five-year averages are available for some at smallgrains.wsu.edu.

In coordination with other programs at WSU, University of Idaho and U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service, entries in the WSU Variety Testing Program are screened for disease resistance, insect resistance, acid soil tolerance, falling numbers and end-use quality, among others. Be sure to check out these ratings in the final 2021 technical report on our small grains website (smallgrains.wsu.edu) or through our variety selection tool either through our website (varietyselection.cahnrs.wsu.edu/) or on our new “WSU Variety Selection” tool mobile app. The Washington Grain Commission also publishes a “Preferred Wheat Varieties” brochure at wagrain.org/2018-preferred-wheat-varieties/ with end-use quality ratings

Table 2. 2021 WSU Extension Spring Wheat Variety Trial Summary

Precipitation Zone=12-16"									
VARIETY	ALMIRA ³	ENDICOTT	LAMONT	REARDAN	AVERAGE YIELD	2-YR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN	
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----				Lb/Bu	%			
Ryan	--	22	21	20	21	52	58.7	12.8	
AP Coachman	--	24	17	19	20	47	54.2	12.2	
Louise	--	26	15	17	19	51	56.3	12.5	
AP Mondovi CL2	--	22	15	18	18	42	56.7	14.6	
WB6341	--	18	17	18	18	47	56.9	11.8	
Tekoa	--	19	13	21	18	49	58.4	13.2	
WB6121	--	19	16	17	17	44	57.7	13.8	
JD ¹	--	21	12	17	17	46	60.1	12.7	
WA8325 ¹	--	15	16	19	17	49	60.9	12.3	
Hedge CL+ ¹	--	20	14	16	17	47	60.5	13.2	
Seahawk	--	17	15	17	16	47	59.3	13.3	
Melba ¹	--	19	15	15	16	49	57.9	13.4	
YSC-603	--	16	18	13	16	--	58.3	14.8	
UI Cookie	--	17	14	16	16	--	58.7	13.7	
UI Stone	--	15	15	17	16	--	60.1	12.6	
WB6211CLP	--	18	13	15	15	--	55.2	13.3	
C.V. %	--	11	8	9	10	13	2.3	3.5	
LSD (0.05)	--	3	2	3	2	3	1.3	0.5	
Average	--	19	16	17	18	47	58.4	13.0	
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----				Lb/Bu	%			
WA8330 ²	25	21	18	19	21	43	58.6	15.9	
WA8315	20	23	19	18	20	41	58.4	16.2	
WB9662	24	19	19	15	19	39	58.1	16.2	
SY Gunsight	21	20	17	18	19	41	57.1	15.6	
Lanning	23	17	17	17	18	--	55.9	15.9	
AP Renegade	18	21	17	16	18	41	54.7	16.2	
Alum	17	21	16	19	18	40	58.1	15.8	
Glee	19	18	16	18	18	41	57.9	15.5	
Chet	18	19	16	18	18	38	58.3	16.3	
Net CL+	19	16	17	19	18	38	58.4	16.2	
Kelse	17	16	17	18	17	37	56.3	16.6	
WB9668	24	16	14	15	17	38	58.0	17.3	
WB9303	25	15	13	13	17	35	58.7	16.9	
C.V. %	12	13	11	11	12	10	2.3	3.2	
LSD (0.05)	4	4	3	3	2	2	1.1	0.4	
Average	21	19	17	17	18	39	57.3	16.2	

Precipitation Zone=<12"									
VARIETY	BICKLETON	HORSE HEAVEN	LIND	AVERAGE YIELD	2-YR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN		
	----Yield (Bu/A)----				Lb/Bu	%			
Tekoa	14	13	8	11	25	58.6	13.7		
AP Coachman	14	11	7	11	25	57.0	11.8		
AP Mondovi CL2	13	12	7	10	22	57.7	14.7		
Ryan	14	8	8	10	23	59.4	13.4		
WB6341	12	9	7	9	21	58.7	12.2		
Louise	12	9	8	9	23	57.7	12.9		
Seahawk	12	10	5	9	22	59.8	12.8		
Melba ¹	12	9	6	9	23	59.1	12.9		
WB6211CLP	12	9	5	9	--	57.2	13.5		
UI Stone	11	8	7	9	--	60.8	12.9		
WA8325 ¹	11	8	6	8	20	60.4	12.2		
WB6121	12	6	5	8	19	60.2	13.8		
Hedge CL+ ¹	10	8	6	8	21	60.2	13.2		
JD ¹	10	8	4	8	20	60.1	13.1		
UI Cookie	11	7	4	7	--	58.9	14.0		
YSC-603	10	6	5	7	--	59.6	14.7		
C.V. %	11	11	15	12	12	1.0	2.6		
LSD (0.05)	2	2	2	1	1	0.7	0.3		
Average	12	9	6	9	22	59.4	13.2		
	----Yield (Bu/A)----				Lb/Bu ⁴	%			
Chet	12	10	7	10	21	61.9	15.9		
Net CL+	12	10	5	9	22	60.6	16.2		
Alum	11	10	6	9	22	61.8	15.2		
Kelse	12	9	5	9	20	60.4	16.1		
SY Gunsight	11	10	5	9	21	60.7	15.5		
WA8315	11	10	5	8	22	61.9	16.0		
WA8330 ²	11	8	6	8	21	62.4	16.6		
AP Renegade	9	7	6	7	19	60.1	15.2		
Glee	8	8	5	7	19	62.8	15.8		
WB9662	8	7	5	6	17	61.9	16.7		
Lanning	7	7	4	6	--	61.1	15.9		
WB9668	7	6	4	6	16	62.5	18.0		
WB9303	6	5	3	5	12	63.6	17.2		
C.V. %	12	14	20	15	11	0.8	2.1		
LSD (0.05)	2	2	2	1	1	0.8	0.3		
Average	10	8	5	8	19	61.1	16.1		

¹Club Wheat ²Hard white wheat ³Almira yield data not show due to high variability. ⁴Test weight values from Horse Heaven only. Sample size too low to estimate test weight from other locations.

for commercial varieties. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at clark.neely@wsu.edu or (509) 335-1205. ■

Acknowledgements: Funding for supplies, travel and technical support for the WSU Extension Cereal Variety Testing Program is provided by the Washington Grain Commission. Facilities,

salary and equipment are provided by WSU administration. We are grateful for the many on-farm cooperators we partner with to conduct these trials around the state. They are essential for producing quality data, and their donations of land, time and resources are appreciated.

2021 WSU spring barley variety trial results

2021 TAKES ITS TOLL ON WASHINGTON BARLEY YIELDS

By Clark Neely

*Extension Agronomist and Cereal Variety Testing Lead,
Washington State University*

Once again, Washington saw another dip in planted barley acres in 2021, down 7,000 acres from 2020 to only 83,000 acres according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. The drought reduced average yield by an astounding 58 bushels to an average of only 38 bushels per acre. Indeed, the Washington State University (WSU) spring barley variety trials saw very similar trends in 2021. In fact, barley trials seemed to be impacted to a greater degree by the drought and scorching temperatures in June relative to the spring wheat trials. Average trial yields were down 43 to 84 percent, and test weights were down between 3.1 and 8.6 pounds per bushel.

The trials consisted of 14 named varieties and four experimental lines. Of the named varieties, eight were malt varieties, and six were feed varieties. While 12 spring barley variety trials were planted and harvested across

three precipitation zones in 2021, data is only published for seven of them. Drought that produced very low yields exacerbated field variability and decreased reliability of the results. Only one of the four locations in the 12-to-16-inch precipitation zone produced any meaningful results. Yield, test weight and protein results from the remaining barley locations are summarized in Table 3.

Newcomers to the trial in 2021 included “KWS Thalís,” “BC Elinor” and “BC Leandra.” KWS is a global seed company based in Europe, and the “BC” entries come from a German breeding company, Breun, that is partnering with Limagrain Cereal Seeds. KWS Thalís was very competitive with the other entries in the trial under the drought conditions this year. In fact, it landed in the top group for yield in each precipitation zone and had exceptional test weight. BC Elinor and BC Leandra produced very similar yields to each other in each zone and were near the trial average. Both were near the bottom of the trial for test weight, though, except for BC Elinor in the more-than-20-inch precipitation zone.



Barley trials at Dayton in 2020. Due to drought, 2021 was a poor year for yields in variety testing trials.

Table 3. 2021 WSU Extension Spring Barley Variety Trial Summary

Precipitation Zone=>20"							
VARIETY	FAIRFIELD	FARMINGTON	PULLMAN	AVG. YIELD	2-YEAR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----			Lb/Bu		%	
FEED							
KWS Thalís	1930	3060	2540	2510	--	49.9	13.6
KWS Fantex	2180	2760	2300	2410	3330	48.8	14.0
LCS Opera	2210	2260	2290	2260	3360	49.6	13.6
BC Elinor	2140	2410	2120	2220	--	48.2	13.6
BC Leandra	1680	2760	2150	2200	--	47.3	13.4
KWS Jessie	1690	2590	2220	2170	3570	49.2	13.6
LCS Odyssey	1860	2470	1990	2110	3250	47.9	13.9
KWS Amadora	1660	2380	2050	2030	3300	47.7	13.4
Palmer	1810	2230	1900	1980	2780	47.6	15.1
MALT							
Survivor	1950	2730	2600	2430	2880	49.4	14.1
H0516-579	2120	2980	1750	2280	3610	48.7	14.2
Oreana	2020	2760	1880	2220	3580	50.3	14.2
Claymore	1990	2540	1740	2090	3270	47.9	13.9
Altorado	1910	2460	1820	2060	3280	48.7	14.5
Lenetah	1500	2600	1820	1970	3180	49.3	14.1
C.V. %	11	10	9	10	9	1.1	3.3
LSD (0.05)	350	430	310	200	200	0.5	0.4
Average	1870	2590	2020	2160	3280	48.6	14.0

¹Mayview only location with acceptable CV value for precip. zone

"Survivor" had an uncharacteristically good year, landing in the top of the trial for yield in most cases when it normally is closer to the bottom. This is an earlier maturing, IMI-tolerant barley that can be used in wheat systems that utilize Beyond herbicide as it can tolerate residual in the soil. "KWS Fantex" and "Altorado" had relatively good years as well, placing in the top-yielding group in two out of three zones. "Oreana" stood out for maintaining excellent test weight under the adverse conditions.

Due to the exceptionally low yields this year, growers are encouraged to spend more time looking at multiyear data for a better representation of variety performance. Additional information and yield data can be found at smallgrains.wsu.edu. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at clark.neely@wsu.edu or (509) 335-1205. ■

Acknowledgements: Funding for supplies, travel and technical support for the WSU Extension Cereal Variety Testing Program is provided by the Washington Grain Commission. Facilities, salary and equipment are provided by WSU administration. We are grateful for the many on-farm cooperators we partner with to conduct these trials around the state. They are essential for producing quality data and their donations of land, time and resources are appreciated.

Precipitation Zone=16-20"				
VARIETY	MAYVIEW ¹	2-YEAR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN
	Yield (Bu/A)		Lb/Bu	%
FEED				
KWS Amadora	2120	4550	49.8	12.5
KWS Thalís	2100	--	50.8	12.8
KWS Fantex	2010	4540	48.6	13.9
Palmer	1810	4040	46.2	14.6
LCS Odyssey	1790	4450	47.4	13.9
BC Elinor	1710	--	46.1	13.4
KWS Jessie	1650	4630	49.5	13.3
BC Leandra	1640	--	47.2	14.1
LCS Opera	1420	4320	49.1	13.3
MALT				
Survivor	1840	3700	49.4	14.6
Altorado	1790	4350	48.9	13.3
Claymore	1780	4310	48.0	14.1
Oreana	1760	4440	49.8	14.6
Lenetah	1650	4230	48.6	14.5
H0516-579	1580	4550	49.5	14.2
C.V. %	12	8	2.3	3.9
LSD (0.05)	340	240	1.9	0.9
Average	1740	4340	48.5	14.0

Precipitation Zone=<16"							
VARIETY	ALMIRA	ENDICOTT	REARDAN	AVG. YIELD	2-YEAR AVG. YIELD	AVERAGE TEST WEIGHT	AVERAGE PROTEIN
	-----Yield (Bu/A)-----			Lb/Bu		%	
FEED							
KWS Thalís	1520	1120	950	1200	--	43.6	14.2
KWS Amadora	1320	890	1030	1080	3260	44.4	14.0
BC Elinor	1440	750	920	1040	--	41.0	15.0
KWS Jessie	1440	850	830	1040	3180	42.8	14.2
LCS Opera	1250	750	1080	1030	3010	42.5	15.0
LCS Odyssey	1300	820	890	1000	3050	42.9	15.1
BC Leandra	1080	1010	830	970	--	41.2	14.6
KWS Fantex	1050	950	910	970	3030	42.2	15.8
Palmer	1220	790	510	840	2760	42.2	16.7
MALT							
Survivor	1600	980	1160	1250	2930	43.4	15.5
Altorado	1600	960	960	1180	3200	42.3	15.4
Oreana	1520	890	1040	1150	3130	45.9	15.1
Lenetah	1390	710	1070	1060	3200	44.1	15.1
Claymore	1390	770	1010	1060	3100	43.1	15.4
H0516-579	1200	910	850	990	3110	43.8	15.6
C.V. %	15	14	12	14	9	2.5	2.9
LSD (0.05)	330	240	220	140	160	1.0	0.4
Average	1370	870	930	1060	3080	43.1	15.2

WHEAT WATCH

WASHINGTON GRAIN COMMISSION

Price, export projections likely to fluctuate



By T. Randall Fortenbery
Professor and Tom Mick Endowed Chair, Washington State University School of Economic Sciences

The first of December marked the halfway point in the 2021/22 U.S. wheat marketing year, but a significant amount of market uncertainty still exists. This was evident in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) December World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE). On the one hand, USDA raised their projection for the marketing year average wheat price from \$6.90 per bushel to \$7.05, but they also reduced their overall demand estimate.

If the current price estimate holds up, it will be the highest national average price paid to wheat farmers since the 2012/13 marketing year. Most Washington farmers will exceed the average price they received in 2012/13 due to the significant premium between Washington and national prices through the first half of the marketing year. From Figure 1 you can see the premium for Washington wheat this year has been significantly higher than at any time over the last decade. This reflects the production problems faced by Washington producers. While yields were generally down across the U.S., Washington farmers were particularly impacted by last year's drought.

In contrast to the robust price forecast, USDA reduced its December export projection for the

Figure 1: Average wheat prices across all classes

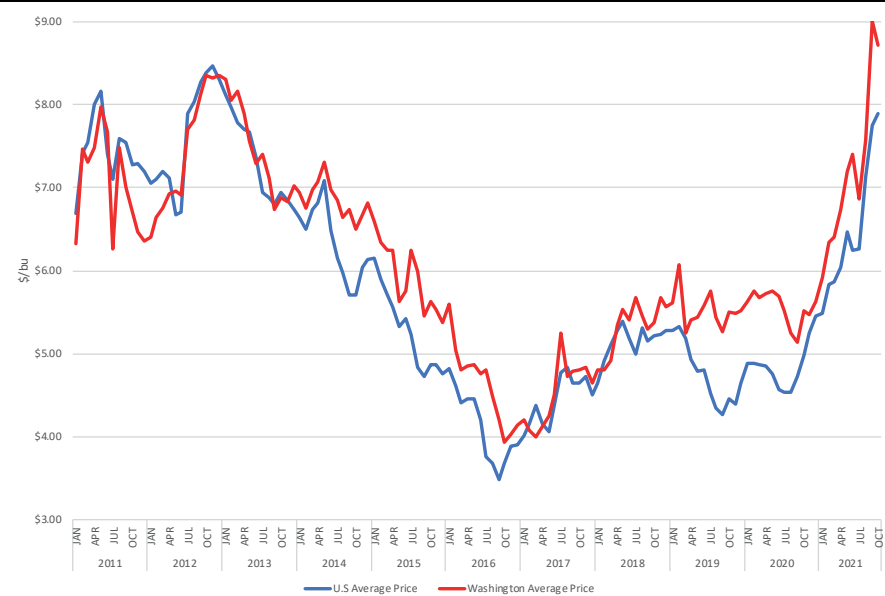
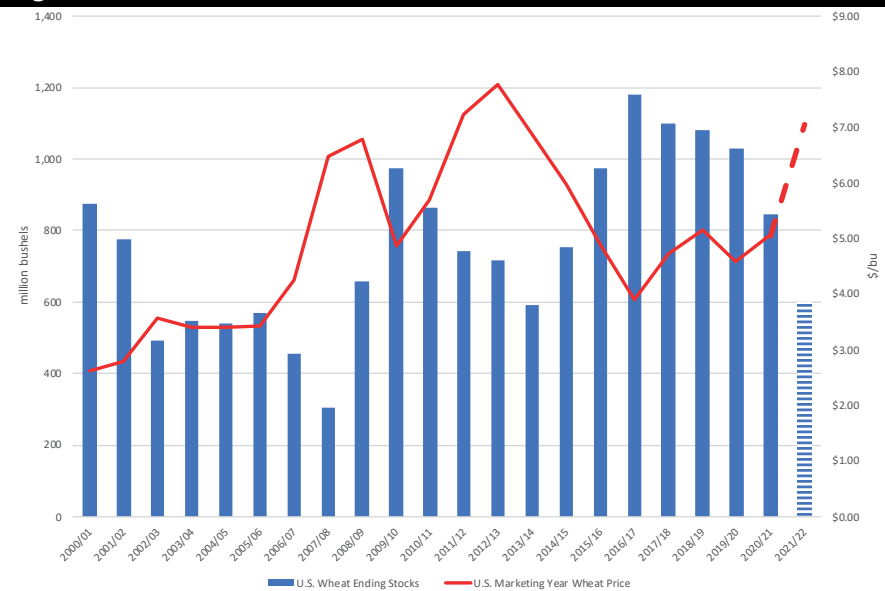


Figure 2: U.S. wheat



2021/22 marketing year by 20 million bushels (or about 2.3 percent), and increased the carry out by 18 million bushels (carry out is the amount of wheat that will be left over at the end of the marketing year). Despite the increased carry out estimate, wheat stocks are still expected to be at their lowest level heading into next summer's harvest since the 2013/14 marketing year (Figure 2). The marketing year price for U.S. wheat that year came in at \$6.87 per bushel.

Given the current wheat export business, it is quite likely that the USDA's marketing year export projection will need to be reduced again in future months, and that will likely lead to another increase in total U.S. wheat ending stocks for the marketing year. As of mid-December 2021, the U.S. wheat export pace was running well below levels necessary to hit USDA's current projection and more than 22 percent below last year's pace for the same time frame. We need to see average weekly shipments of between 19 and 20 million bushels for the remainder of the year to hit the current USDA target. This is about twice the weekly volume experienced the first couple of weeks of December. If that pace does not pick up, prices may struggle to maintain current levels.

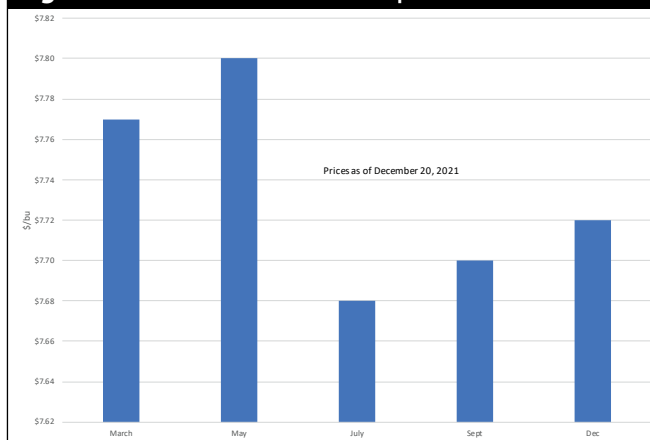
Ending stocks for white wheat in the 2021/22 marketing year are expected to fall about 34 percent year-over-year and total just 46 million bushels. The lower ending stocks number is largely explained by a reduction in beginning stocks (the amount of wheat brought into the year on June 1, 2021) and a 51 percent decline in white wheat production this past summer compared to 2020's harvest. In addition, USDA is projecting a slight increase in domestic consumption of white wheat. However, exports, the primary demand center for U.S. white wheat, are expected to be off more than 44 percent this year compared to last.

Based on USDA's preliminary forecast, total U.S. planted wheat acres this year are expected to total about 49 million. This compares to 46.7 million in 2021, and 44.5 million in 2020. Estimates of total winter wheat and canola acres planted last fall will be released by USDA on Jan. 12, as well as wheat stocks (the wheat stocks estimate will be as of Dec. 1, 2020). Since winter wheat accounts for about 70 to 80 percent of U.S. production, the January estimate will be an important indicator as to the magnitude of any wheat acreage increase for 2022. If it confirms a significant increase in U.S. wheat acres, then additional price improvement for next year's crop will likely need to come from production concerns in the spring.

The stocks report may also be important in future price determinations. If stocks on Dec. 1 prove higher than USDA expected (which often happens when export pace is lagging the initial USDA estimate), then the export estimate in later WASDEs (February or March) may be reduced again. This would put pressure on old crop prices and result in another increase in the projected carry out that would not be positive for next year's crop price.

Producers looking to price wheat for the next harvest need to be realistic concerning price expectations. Across parts of Washington, we still see basis levels running close to \$3 per bushel (as of late December). Basis is the difference between the local price being offered and the soft red wheat futures contract closest to maturity, and

Figure 3: Soft red wheat futures prices for 2022



anything more than \$2 per bushel is a very strong premium. However, the basis relationship this year is very much a function of the unique market characteristics this year, including the very small Washington white wheat crop harvested last summer. As you look to next year, it will be important to recognize that basis levels, in the absence of another major production issue, will likely to return to more normal levels.

Some of the same elevators offering almost \$3 more than the current futures price for wheat delivered now are offering a premium closer to \$0.50 or \$0.60 per bushel more than the futures prices for next summer's delivery. It appears they anticipate a return to more normal market conditions next year. However, as of late December, a \$0.50 to \$0.60 basis still translates into a cash price for next summer of more than \$8 per bushel. While that is significantly lower than prices for immediate delivery, it still represents the second highest harvest price since 2012 and the highest offered this early in the year. Thus, while prices for the 2022 crop may move higher, price risk is significant, and some price protection might be prudent.

Futures prices for next summer are already trading at a discount to prices for spring delivery (Figure 3), and current forward cash prices reflect a return to a more normal basis next year. While there is still a lot of uncertainty going into the next production season, recognize that prices for next year's crop are quite high relative to opportunities over the last decade, and that a combination of a poor export pace the remainder of this year and potential for increased U.S. wheat acres does imply significant price risk and potentially lower harvest prices later in the absence of a production scare. ■

Randy Fortenbery holds the Thomas B. Mick Endowed Chair in Grain Economics at Washington State University. He received his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign.

Coffee-roasting business brews success on Harrington wheat farm

Shelly Quigley, Roam Roasters

By Lacey Miller

Special to Wheat Life

When one thinks of Pacific Northwest agriculture, wheat, small grains, wine or apples are mainly what comes to mind. There may be a couple of other crops that pop into your head, but I'm sure you've never thought of coffee, which doesn't grow in this region. But local farmer Shelley Quigley has found the closest thing to producing it as she can get.

Quigley is a fifth-generation farmer who resides outside of Harrington, Wash., with her husband, Aaron, and their one-year-old son. The family raises dryland wheat. Quigley grew up helping on the farm while attending school in Harrington. Women in agriculture isn't a new concept to Quigley—her mother operated the farm, and her father worked in the medical field. However, Quigley dreamed about combining two of her favorite things: family farming and a good cup of coffee.

Coffee has always been a passion of Quigley's, and after experimenting with home roasting, she decided to develop a bigger operation that not only provided a delicious cup of coffee but also to gain support for farmers by showing more people how family farms operate. Quigley and her husband opened Roam Roasters in 2019, in a newly remodeled, 85-year-old building on the family's farm. They can roast up to 25 pounds of coffee at a time, and each batch takes anywhere from 11 to 14 minutes. Roam Roasters supplies the local coffee shop in Harrington, "The Post & Office," as well as having their own shop in Medical Lake. The company generally makes "flavored focused roasts," which are referred to as Nordic-style roasts and aren't as dark as roasts found at other popular chains.

The Medical Lake coffee shop was something the company hadn't planned on adding to their business until it collaborated with Davenport High School's FBLA team on a project called Partner with a Business. The FBLA team worked with Roam Roasters during the spring of 2021, quadrupling the business's local wholesale partners, as well as learning the ins and outs of coffee roasting. During the course of their teamwork, one of the team members reached out to Gerri Johnson, the owner of Farm Salvation in Medical Lake, who had an interest in making a custom blend that she now carries. After many conversations with Johnson and Quigley's husband, Roam Roasters decided to jump in and open Roam Coffee House in the Cornerstone building Johnson owns in hopes of connecting to more customers on a faster timeline. The shop



Shelley Quigley, her husband, Aaron, and their son at the family's coffee roastery, Roam Roasters, which is located on Quigley's family wheat farm in Harrington, Wash. The company has recently expanded, opening a coffee shop in Medical Lake.

opened in July 2021.

"It just sort of took off from there. We saw a great opportunity to get out there in the community," Quigley said.

While coffee isn't considered a locally grown crop, Quigley's goal was to demonstrate that just like wheat, there is still a quality to coffee making that entails everything from the ground it's grown in to how the beans are roasted, similar to how wheat becomes a product for consumers.

"Some people take coffee for granted and forget that it doesn't just magically appear on the table, the same way people who don't farm view other food items, like pastries," she said.

Eastern Washington wheat farmers are known for their quality crop, and Quigley believes coffee is no different.

"There are people who care about the quality of coffee

BRENT

BRENTEQUIP.COM

GRAIN HANDLING PRODUCTS



Harvest with the Power of Brent

With more than four decades of experience, Brent® grain handling products have built a reputation for innovation and quality. From the dual-auger Avalanche® to the single-auger V-Series grain carts, The Grain Train® wagons and more, we push the limits of technology to create products farmers can depend upon each and every harvest.

Visit **BrentEquip.com** or see your nearest dealer for more information.

UNVERFERTH MANUFACTURING CO., INC. | P.O. Box 357 • Kalida, OH 45853 • unverferth.com

Tankmax Inc.
TANK SALES • PARTS • SERVICE

TAKE IT TO THE MAX

The ONLY Muncie Master
Distributor in the Inland NW!



PTO and Hydraulics at very competitive prices.

FULL SERVICE DRIVELINE SHOP



- Trucks - Heavy to Light
- Agriculture & Industrial
- Automotive Parts & Components
- Custom Applications



SPOKANE N 216 Dyer Rd **509-534-8000**



PASCO 1206 E Lytle St **509-545-4600**

www.TankmaxNW.com

VISIT US ONLINE TODAY!

KENT 253-872-2274

PORTLAND 503-221-0335

they are growing just like there are people who care about the quality of wheat they are growing,” she said.

Roam Roasters imports coffee beans from Guatemala, Brazil, Colombia, Papua New Guinea, Zambia and other places for more seasonal roasts. Quigley’s husband does the design work for the company, and Quigley does all roasting, packaging and delivering, which ensures quality products straight to consumers.

The roastery does more than just roast coffee. It was seen as a much bigger opportunity for education and exposure to different farming practices, as well as insights into family farming for those who haven’t been raised in it. Running a small family farm takes a village, but that’s the beauty of it, something Quigley and her family never take for granted.

“There are still a lot of people who have never been to a farm, so we saw an opportunity to show the reality of family farming. What goes better with coffee than pastries made from wheat? The roastery felt like an opportunity to bring people out to our farm and have them see the family farm aspect that most people don’t see,” she said.

The roastery gives tours, tastings and hosts events where consumers can roast their own coffee beans to take home. Quigley uses these events to educate people about coffee, while at the same time, educating them about farming.

“We want to encourage our customers to support the farmers in their region, especially when it comes to sustainable farming practices.”



The motto, “farmers supporting farmers,” is something that has inspired the Quigley family, and they want to grow their presence in the community as the business grows. In 2020, Roam Roasters partnered with the Washington State Farm Bureau to create a Centennial Blend coffee that helped celebrate the Farm Bureau’s 100th year and raised money for the Farm Bureau’s efforts to support and represent farmers all across the state. Roam Coffee House was also named the 2021 Medical Lake Business of the Year.

For more details about Roam Roasters, visit roamroasters.coffee. ■

TIME TO PLAN for this year.

Bank of Eastern Washington
offers operating lines of credit and term
loans on Equipment and Land.

*Specializing in Agricultural
and Commercial Loans.*

PASCO, WA
5205 N. Rd 68
509-545-6360

COLFAX, WA
803 N. Main St.
509-397-4681

DAYTON, WA
257 E. Main St.
509-382-2557



TODD WOOD
Dayton, WA



DANIEL REHM
Pasco, WA



RUSSELL SEEWALD
Pasco, WA



HECTOR LOPEZ
Pasco, WA



MICHAEL BROECKEL
Pasco / Colfax, WA



**Bank of Eastern
Washington**

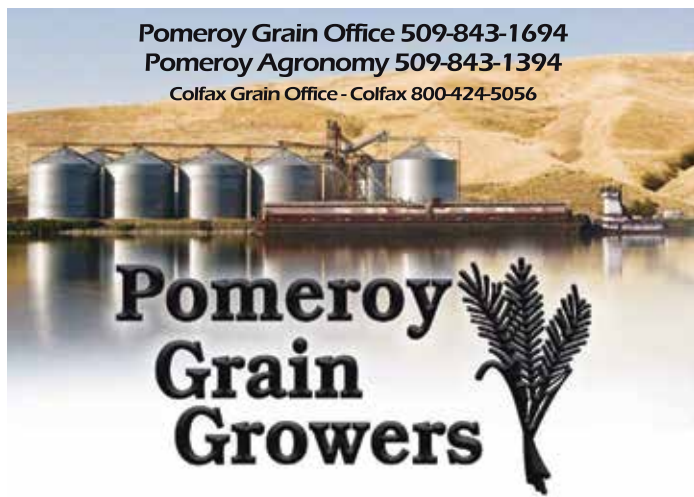
A BRANCH OF BANK OF EASTERN OREGON

Member FDIC

Pomeroy Grain Office 509-843-1694

Pomeroy Agronomy 509-843-1394

Colfax Grain Office - Colfax 800-424-5056



*Offering a complete range of service levels,
from Cash & Carry to Specialized Custom Services*

Seed Sales | Certified Crop Advising | Soil & Tissue Sampling

Grain Sales - Truck & Barge Shipping
Custom Seeding & Cultivating with Variable Rate Technology
Custom Spraying & Stream Jetting with Variable Rate Technology



Serving Area Growers for 90 years

www.pomeroygrain.com

WESTFIELD

WESTEEL

BATCO

NECO

MFS



NEED STORAGE FOR NEXT YEAR?

*With increased demand, long lead times, and steel volatility
bins will need to be ordered earlier than ever before. Call
us now to get a quote for your next project before its to late.*

T&S Sales

509.535.1177

NwGrainAugers.com

Communication key when family is on both sides

By Trista Crossley
Editor, *Wheat Life*

Walt Neff has the key to a successful, long-term relationship, whether it's a marriage or a generational family farm.

"Communication. That's the biggest secret right there," he said.

Neff is part of a landlord group that includes his two brothers and a cousin. Neff's son, David, is the group's primary tenant, but they also lease land to neighbors. The family's farm was first settled by Neff's grandfather along the Snake River in Walla Walla County in the early 1900s. He later purchased land in Franklin County, across the river from the original homestead. The family has always grown dryland wheat, but a leasing arrangement with their neighbors has allowed them to expand into irrigated wheat.

"They (the neighbors) have circles. They wanted some virgin ground. We had it, so they put in a couple of circles on our ground. They raise potatoes, corn, onions, sweet corn and carrots. When their crop comes off it, we raise wheat. This is how we were able to survive during times when wheat prices were shallow," Neff explained.

Neff transitioned into a full-time landlord about three years ago, turning over the Franklin County farm's operation to David. The best part about that arrangement, he said, is he doesn't have to go out and do the hard work anymore, although he does miss some things.

"I'm the kind of guy that loves driving tractor, always did, even when I was a kid. I'd go to school and sit at my desk and pretend I



was driving tractor," he said. "Now, I might go out to the ranch once or twice a month."

Farming is an industry where the idea that family and business don't mix is tossed out the window. Many family farms involve one generation leasing ground to the next, or, like Neff, sharing landlord duties with a group of relatives. Having that personal history and relationship in a business partnership adds layers, both good and bad, to any interactions. For Neff, that means mak-



CHROME ALLOY WEAR PARTS

** See all our parts online at www.rhmachine.com **

SPROCKETS

We offer chain drive, rod drive, and idler sprockets.

COLLARS

Collars are used on both sides of drive sprockets, and can be turned to obtain even longer life.

SPOOLS

We have regular spools, barrel spools, and spools with set-screw collars.

GOOSE-NECK POINTS

We have goose-neck points, with RH chrome rod installed.

WEAR BLOCKS

Wear blocks are available to fit all types of our spools.

BOOT POINTS

We have regular, rock, and universal boot points.

R & H MACHINE 115 ROEDEL AVE. CALDWELL, ID 83605 1-800-321-6568

Setting the Standard for Wear!



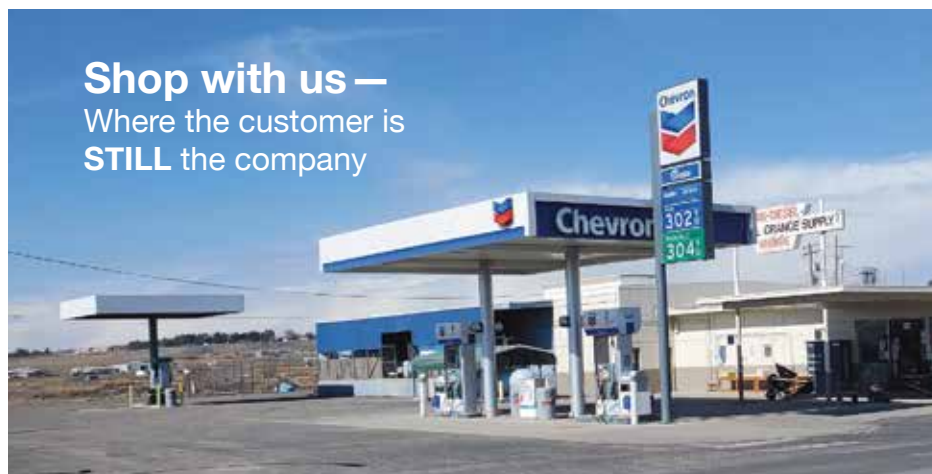
ing sure he is always communicating with his fellow landlords and their tenants.

"You have to get along. When you do disagree, you have to sit down and talk about it. It's like being married. If you can't talk to a landlord or your wife, you have no business being married or being involved with them," he said.

Neff also takes care to leave the decisions to his son, but they do discuss the farm operation.

"I don't want to be micromanaging my son. You can't go out, stand out there and say, 'why haven't you gotten this done? Why not do it this way?' You can't do that. You've got to let them do it on their own. They might mess up, but it won't happen again. You don't make too many mistakes farming, or you won't be in business," he said.

The family group operates under a crop share agreement, and Neff said they talk to David and their other tenants regularly about seeding options, crop rotations, inputs, etc. Not all the landlords live locally, but they try to visit the farm yearly, and the group stays connected via email and telephone. For the most part, Neff said they all get along. ■



TOP QUALITY FUELS • 24 HOUR PUMPS FARM HARDWARE IN STOCK • FULL TIRE SERVICES

343 S Columbia, Connell WA 509-234-2631 WWW.CONNELLGRANGE.COM



Burgess Gardner Lange **June 1, 1928 – Nov. 30, 2021**

Burgess Gardner Lange was born June 1, 1928, in Portland, Ore., to Derwin Lange and Lelah (Burgess) Lange. He passed away November 30, 2021.

Derwin, Lelah and Burgess moved to the Palouse to farm with Lelah's parents, Francis Freemont and Sarah Kellsy Burgess, just in time for the crash of 1929. His brother, Willard, was born in 1931. The family milked cows, sold cream, and farmed to survive.

Burgess and Willard attended Eden Valley School House. He graduated

from Palouse High School in 1947. Burgess attended Washington State College studying Agriculture/ROTC and found the love of his life, Maxine Farr, of Albion, at an AGR after-dinner dance. He graduated in 1951 and was commissioned into the Air Force as a lieutenant, stationed in Spokane and Guam.

Burgess and Maxine were married June 14, 1953, in Pullman at the Grey-stone Presbyterian Church. They joined the Lange family in the sheep business. Lambing in Pasco and grazing sheep back to the Palouse while Maxine taught school. A farm near Garfield was purchased from Roy Cochran. This would be their forever farm-home.

They had three sons: Frank was born in 1957, Marc 1961, and David in 1964. Focusing on cattle and crops they raised their boys.

Burgess was active in Farm Bureau, Garfield School Board, First Baptist Church and his coffee groups. Burgess enjoyed golfing with family and friends.

In 1972 Burgess came back from a cattle sale in Lewiston and proclaimed he had purchased an airplane. When asked if he knew how to fly, he proclaimed, "Not yet!" Then followed 40 years of flying tours from Alaska to Guatemala, seven winter tours through Mexico with The Flying Farmers, and a lifetime of friends and memories.

Farming, haying, cattle, flying and winters in Arizona — Burgess and Maxine were very good at the life they so enjoyed. Including watching and participating in the expansion and growth of their family. Burgess' dry sense of humor, beautiful smile and eye twinkle will be treasured by all. He enjoyed his coffee hours with friends in Garfield, Palouse and Colfax.

The family is so grateful and blessed by Dr. Johnson, Dr. Singh and the Whitman Clinic/Hospital nurses and staff. The Courtyard staff's expertise, care and love to Mom and Dad is treasured. Thank you Hospice.

Burgess is survived by Maxine, his wife of 68 years.

Son Frank and Patty Lange, of Garfield; grandchildren, Danielle Lange, James and Kristen Lange and great-graunddaughter Josephine Lange.

Son Marc and Gail Lange, of Spokane; grandchildren Dom and Kali Ingwaldson, with great-grandchildren Avaree, Amorette and Silas; grandchildren Valerie and Edgar Martinez, with great-grandchildren Noah and Rae Lee.

Son David and Melanie Lange, of Pullman; grandchildren Emily and David Zamora, and Taylor Lange.

Brother Willard and Sherry Lange, of Quincy, Wash.; nieces and nephews: Laun, Levi, Tawna and their families.

A small family service was held on Dec. 3, 2021. Bruning Funeral Home helped with the arrangements. Donations can be given to the organization of your choice.

We all salute the greatest generation that ever lived!

THANKS, DAD. LOTS OF RINGS AROUND THE TREE, AND YOU HAD A GREAT RUN.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Finding the right level of crop insurance

By Curtis Evanenko

McGregor Risk Management Services

How much crop insurance coverage is needed, and how do we get there?

This is an age-old question that is answered with “depends.” Please allow me to elaborate. Like beer or soda, all have different preferences and/or tolerances for risk. We believe the best outcome for crop insurance is that of “for the long haul” approach. Forge a plan and stick with it. Attempting to outguess the markets or weather is folly.

We personally work with growers that are all over the spectrum—those that have an aversion to risk and would purchase 100 percent coverage of their yield history if such coverage were available to them, as well as producers who chose the crystal-ball approach. Let’s delve into each of the groups further.

100 percent club. This group of producers looks for maximum protection, regardless of cost, and tends to maximize all inputs for maximum

Chart A: Premium subsidy by coverage level/unit structure

Subsidy Factor	Coverage Level							
	.50	.55	.60	.65	.70	.75	.80	.85
Basic Unit	.670	.640	.640	.590	.590	.550	.480	.380
Optional Unit	.670	.640	.640	.590	.590	.550	.480	.380
Enterprise Unit	.800	.800	.800	.800	.800	.770	.680	.530

production. If their proven yield is 75 bushels per acre, their perfect policy would be to insure 100 percent of their historic yield average with no deductible. We can almost get there for 2022 with the ability to insure up to 95 percent of a producer’s proven yield, and, yes, this is expensive.

Cost vs. benefit club. This group generally has a sharp pencil and compares the bushels/dollars of coverage to the cost of said coverage with historically stable yields. Typically, 75 percent coverage level provides the maximum dollars of coverage for the premium cost. As the coverage level increases, the decreasing deductible has a correspondingly increased cost due to the reduction in the premium subsidy of the policy. Other popular choices are 80 percent coverage level with optional unit structure and 85 percent coverage with enterprise unit structure. Chart A provides the corresponding premium subsidy provided by coverage level and the unit structure for the policy.

Leveraged club. The members of this group typically have 85 percent coverage as to them, any type of a crop disaster is a potential financial impact that would plague the operation for the immediate future and potentially beyond. The financial partner(s) of the producer may dictate what coverage level and plans are chosen for the year. Depending on the operation and crop rotation(s), enterprise unit structure helps maximize coverage while maximizing premium subsidy at the same time. Enterprise unit structure provides the exact same coverage dollars as the optional unit structure, but with premium savings that can be as much as 30 percent or more depending on the number of acres and locations planted.

Not-dependent club. Often, this group is comprised of landlords who have other investments or income streams that provide for their basic needs. The objective of crop insurance for them is for protection of contributed input costs and to make sure land taxes are assured, so other, nonrelated revenue sources are not relied upon to meet said input cost obligations. Coverage level choice often matches that of the operator and can include enterprise unit structure for the landlord to help reduce premium costs.

So, how much coverage is needed for your operation and vested interest? Once again, it depends on your appetite and tolerance for risk, the financial status of the operation, and how dependent you are on the crop revenue you’re expecting for the year. Please contact me or your local agent with questions. ■

**Sponsored by the
Agricultural Marketing
& Management
Organization.**

For more information and
a schedule of classes visit
wawg.org/ammo-workshops/



Curtis Evanenko serves as a risk management advisor with McGregor Risk Management Services. He can be reached at (509) 540-2632 or by email at cevanenko@mcgregorrisk.com.

ENGINES FOR SALE

REBUILT & USED DIESEL ENGINES

Cat • Cummins • Detroit • IH • Case • John Deere

CUMMINS ISX, long block..... CALL
 CUMMINS N14, Celect Plus, long block..... Exch \$13,000
 CUMMINS BIG CAM, long block Exch \$10,000
 NOW OFFERING CUMMINS ISB HIGH
 PERFORMANCE OVERHAUL KITS CALL
 AERVOE FLEET & ENGINE PAINT IN STOCK!



Yunker
 DIESEL & TRUCK

(800) 362-2387 (509) 534-1112
 N. 322 Eastern, Spokane, WA 99212
 www.yunkerbros.com

MEDIUM & HEAVY DUTY DRIVE TRAIN REBUILD CENTER

Parts • Custom Repair • Sales • Service

- Transmissions
- Differentials
- Exchange Units



(800) 366-5962 (509) 534-7818
 6505 E. Valleyway, Spokane, WA 99212



Serving ALL Your Fuel Needs

...Plus Quality Lubricants



Pasco	509-457-3326	Oroville	509-476-3610
	509-806-7676	Priest River	208-448-1812
Boise	509-375-7767	Ritzville	509-659-1532
Connell	509-234-3311	Spokane	509-535-1534
Milton Freewater	541-938-3864	Sunnyside	509-837-5274
Moses Lake	509-770-0769	Yakima	509-453-3920



Online ordering available at www.connelloil.com

OFFICES:

Genesee

208-285-1141

Colfax

509-397-4381

Rosalia

509-523-3511

Oakesdale

509-285-4311

Fairfield

509-283-2124

• Grain Marketing & Storage

• Pulse & Specialty Crop Processing

• Quality Pulse & Cereal Seeds

• Rail & River Shipping Terminals

• Country Hedging Futures & Options



"A Family of Farmers"

1-866-986-2008

www.pnw.coop



William Beale (1½) is a 6th generation farmer at Beale Meadow Creek Ranch in Pomeroy and loves helping his dad and grandpa. Photo by Lexi Beale.



Raegan Mae Appel (3) watching Papa Jim Hughes load his semi to go to the river on their farm near Winona. Photo by Jaimie Appel.



Dick Edwards with some of his great-grandkids during harvest near Hartline. In the back row from left are Emma Whitaker, Eli Edwards, Isaac Whitaker, Abbi Edwards, Allie Edwards and Sadie Whitaker. Front row from left are Wyatt Edwards, Lane Edwards and Dick. Photo by Karin Whitaker.

Your wheat life...



Brayden (6) and Bentley Dorman (4) helping their dad, Ryan Dorman, get ready to start harvest in LaCrosse. Photo by Danielle Dorman.



Braxton Williams (2) in the combine with dad, Justin Williams, west of Ritzville. Braxton cleans the windows and eats the cookies out of his dad's lunch box. Photo by Justin Williams.

Lia Cottrell (8) helps bring in the harvest on her dad's farm east of Tekoa. Photo by Van Cottrell.



A rare but welcome sight in May 2021, following a light, but refreshing, thundershower near Marlin. Photo by A. Lani Schorzman.

Send us photos of your wheat life!

Email pictures to editor@wawg.org.

Please include location of picture, names of all people appearing in the picture and ages of all children.

Advertiser Index

Accucon	19
AGPRO	12
Albaugh	15, 68
Bank of Eastern Washington	59
Barber Engineering	21
BASF	5
Battery Systems	23
Big Iron Repair	23
BioWest Ag Solutions	25
Blue Mountain Agri-Support	39
Butch Booker	39
Byrnes Oil Co	12
Class 8 Trucks	21, 23, 61
CO Energy	63
Coldwell Banker Tomlinson	33
Connell Grange Supply	61
Correll's Scale Service	19
Corteva Agriscience	11, 42
Country Financial	33
Edward Jones	66
Eljay Oil Company	23
Farm & Home Supply	27
Fay Ranches	23
Fluid Roofing	33
Frank's Boot Company	27
Great Plains Equipment	29
J & M Fabrication	33
Jones Truck & Implement	9
Kincaid Real Estate	39
McGuire, DeWulf, Kragt & Johnson	19
Mike's Auto	19
North Pine Ag Equipment Inc.	7
Northwest Farm Credit Services	21
Northwest First Realtors	25
Odessa Trading Company	31
Palouse Welding Design & Mfg.	38
Photosyntech	17
PNW Farmers Cooperative	63
Pomeroy Grain Growers	59
R & H Machine	60
Spectrum Crop Development	38
Spokane Ag Show	27
State Bank NW	39
T & S Sales	59
Tankmax Inc	57
Tri-State Seed	32
Unverferth Manufacturing Co	57
Vantage - PNW	31
WestBred	67
Wheatland Bank	13
Yunker Brothers	63



With a Roth IRA, any earnings are tax-free and distributions can be taken free of penalties or taxes.* At Edward Jones, we keep you and your goals at the center of everything so we can help you reach them.

To learn more about why a Roth IRA may make sense for you, call today.



Ryan Brault CFP®
Financial Advisor
3616 W. Court St. Ste. I
Pasco, WA 99301
509-545-8121
888-545-8126



Dean E. Roy AAMS®
Financial Advisor
1024 16th Avenue, Ste C
Lewiston, ID 83501
208-798-4742



Brian E. Bailey AAMS®
Financial Advisor
931 6th Street
Clarkston, WA 99403
509-758-8731
866-758-9595



Chris Grover
Financial Advisor
1835 First Street
Cheney, WA 99004
509-235-4920
866-235-4920



Joy Behen
Financial Advisor
6115 Burden Blvd. Ste A
Pasco, WA 99301
509-542-1626
877-542-1626



Terry A. Sliger
Financial Advisor
1329 Aaron Drive
Richland, WA 99352
509-943-2920
888-943-2920



Hank Worden
Financial Advisor
109 S. Second Ave
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-529-9900
800-964-3558



Greg Bloom
Financial Advisor
Professional Mall II
1260 SE Bishop Blvd. Ste C
Pullman, WA 99163
509-332-1564



Jay Mlazar AAMS®
Financial Advisor
609 S. Washington
Ste. 203
Moscow, ID 83843
208-882-1234

*Earnings distributed from a Roth IRA may be subject to taxes and a 10% penalty if the account is less than five years old and the owner is under age 59½.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



TOUGH BY WASHINGTON STANDARDS. EXCELLENT BY YOURS.

Washington has high standards for wheat. It needs to stand strong and get results. With excellent yield potential and high protein content, trust WB9303 and WB9668 to endure the region's toughest challenges — and meet your standards for excellence.

**WestBred**[®]

WESTBRED.COM

Bayer, Bayer Cross Design, WestBred and Design[®] and WestBred[®] are registered trademarks of Bayer Group. ©2021 Bayer Group. All Rights Reserved.

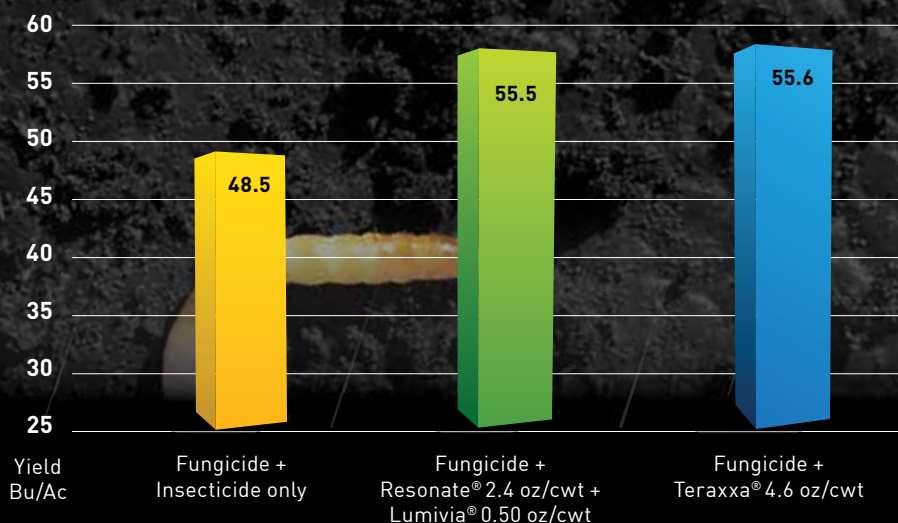


DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH MANAGING WIREWORMS IN YOUR FIELDS THIS SPRING...

Independent third-party trial data has proven that Albaugh's robust fungicide package plus Resonate® and Lumivia® wireworm seed treatment provided performance on wireworms with a better return on investment.



2021 PNW Customer 11 Site Summary
Trials Includes Wireworm Populations from Low to High Pressure



The data is in and shows that the combination of Resonate insecticide plus Lumivia CPL insecticide provides a one-two punch for control of wireworms, aphids and cutworms.



Albaugh is committed to delivering a complete seed treatment solution for insects and disease control based on performance targeting wireworms, aphids and suppression of Hessian Fly.

Lumivia® CPL

INSECTICIDE SEED TREATMENT

Resonate®
600 ST

Contact your local seed retailer for more information on using Albaugh's complete pest management seed treatment offer.

Refer to each product label for complete use directions and restrictions. Resonate® is a trademark of Albaugh, LLC. Lumivia® CPL is a trademark of Corteva Agriscience. Always read and follow label directions. EPA Reg. No. 42750-133 AD No. 110316. EPA Reg. No. 352-841.