

WHEAT LIFE

The official publication of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers

JULY | 2023

A SOLID FOUNDATION

Certified seed system and the people behind it ensure top quality for growers

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

2023 Wheat College

Dollar Sense: All about asset allocation

USW spotlight: Peter Lloyd

Predicting performance with genomic selection

Bickleton museum celebrates history, carousel

Address Service Requested

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

WHEAT LIFE

Volume 66 • Number 07
wheatlife.org

The official publication of



**WASHINGTON
ASSOCIATION OF
WHEAT GROWERS**

109 East First Avenue
Ritzville, WA 99169-2394
(509) 659-0610

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

Andy Juris • Bickleton

VICE PRESIDENT

Anthony Smith • Richland

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Jeff Malone • Coulee City

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Howard McDonald • Coulee City

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Leif Claassen • Clarkston

Marci Green • Fairfield

Ryan Poe • Hartline

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 reprinted without permission.

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

President's Perspective



Small town, big community

By Andy Juris

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer! I still remember watching the Lawrence Welk Show as the Champagne Ladies pranced out in 1960's beachwear singing the campy tune. My mom has always considered the song a bit of an insult to rural farm country. Crazy seems to be the only accurate word in its opening line that remotely describes the summer experience of a Washington wheat farmer. And while the farming schedule does its best to

absorb all our time, summer is also the season where our rural communities come together for the events for which we are famous. Rodeos, fairs, car shows, church events, and bingo nights are starting to fire up across rural Washington as summer kicks into gear.

Across the nation, 17% to 20% of the population lives in "rural America." This is down significantly from 100 years ago. But COVID-19 has changed a lot of things in our society, and there has been a trend lately of families opting for the more community-centered life of the country. It's a place where you live closer to the land and a remembrance of the past. Many of the houses, farms, pastures, and fields in my area still have the original names of the homesteading pioneers attached to them. It's where children still play outside, and many folks work jobs that get dirt under the fingernails.

In June, our town celebrated the 112th Annual Alder Creek Pioneer Association Picnic and Rodeo. A fixture of our summers here, this event features an all-school reunion, a 1905 carousel, local arts and crafts for sale, and a NPRA rodeo. It's a time when we all take a break from the crazy and get together to visit, have some homemade pie, and enjoy an old-fashioned rodeo without the interruption of our busy lives. Run completely by volunteers, it's a perfect example of a community coming together to make something special and share together in the fun.

I love living in a small town. While there are less people around, you are never alone. From the friends and neighbors who stop by to "see what's going on," to those who are willing to lend a hand when there's a problem, you seldom ever face life without a group of people standing beside you. When one of our community passes away, this is especially evident. Recently, my neighbor, Dean, passed. He was one of the toughest farmers I knew with ties to the original pioneers of this area. I still remember seeing him out in his field on a bitter cold spring day in an open station tractor not that many years ago, an example of grit and hard work to us younger folks. I always enjoyed his quick laugh and interesting stories of times gone by. During times like this, you see communities share in the grief of loss as they together remember those who spent so many years with us. Whether its food dropped off, the Rebecca Lodge ladies organizing the funeral dinners, or local farmers making up the volunteer force that lays their friend and neighbor to rest in the cemetery, we all share in a part of honoring those who have come before us.

So, as the crazy of the summer work season descends on wheat country, let's not forget to take the time to enjoy what our communities have to offer, a talk with a friend, a meal with a neighbor, an evening with grandpa at the fair. Farming can be stressful, particularly in a drought year like we're all experiencing. Our communities remind us we're not alone, we are part of something bigger, and we face the joys and sorrows of this life together. ■

Cover photo: Winter wheat in Adams County. 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
Directly Speaking	6
WAWG at Work	8
Policy Matters	22
Washington Wheat Foundation	26
Context is key in agronomy	28
Wheat College also featured pH testing, drones	
A foundation to grow on	32
Certified seed system ensures top quality	
Dollar Sense	36
All about asset allocation	
Profiles	40
Altitude Agri Services	
WGC Chairman's Column	45
Certifiably the best	46
The entity behind state's seed certification	
USW Wheat News	48
Peter Lloyd: International man of milling	
Predicting performance	52
Genomic selection helps speed up research	
Wheat Watch	54
Horse Heaven	56
Bickleton museum celebrates history, carousel	
The Bottom Line	60
Your Wheat Life	62
Happenings	64
Advertiser Index	66



Dollar Sense



Contributors

Andy Juris, president, Washington Association of Wheat Growers
Ben Barstow, chairman, Washington Grain Commission
Lori Maricle, communications director, Washington Grain Commission
Michelle Hennings, executive director, Washington Association of Wheat Growers
JD Rosman, writer, Oklahoma

Jennifer Ferrero, writer, Liberty Lake, Wash.
Arron Carter, winter wheat breeder and O.A. Vogel Endowed Chair of Wheat Breeding and Genetics, Washington State University
Mike Krueger, founder, The Money Farm
Tim Cobb, owner, Farmland Company

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 • 509-659-4302 (fax)

wawg.org

Call 509-659-0610 or visit wawg.org



You wouldn't trust
old tech to
keep you safe.



WHY WOULD YOU TRUST IT IN YOUR FIELD?

Lock in the best weed-destroying technology.

The CoAXium Wheat Production System powered by Aggressor AX herbicide is the latest, most effective solution for controlling cheatgrass, feral rye and other yield-robbing grassy weeds. No dockage. No soil residuals. No contest.

Get the goods at FindCoAXium.com



Driven by Aggressor® Herbicides and Aggressor® are trademarks of Albaugh, LLC. Refer to the Aggressor® AX product label for complete directions and instructions. Aggressor® AX EPA Reg. No. 45002-513 AD120222N

First half of 2023 crowded with issues

Time sure flies by fast when you're having fun! All of a sudden, I have realized I now have a senior in high school, which is very shocking and bittersweet, and a sophomore in high school. I know I'll have a couple more years with him, but I also know time will flash before my eyes. From rodeo, basketball, football, softball, volunteering for various community events — time is very short, and this doesn't even include my advocacy for wheat farmers through the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG). I have a passion for our industry, and I thoroughly enjoy and value the profession I am in, even when things are not so rosy at the legislative level, and we are dealing with the misunderstanding of where our food comes from and how important it is to have a safe, reliable food supply.

Reflecting on the past six months, there has been an abundance of issues going on, from farm bill to the lower Snake River dams to carbon sequestration to high input costs. All of these have been very challenging to tackle, with all the different moving parts and pieces that each issue reflects. It reminds me of a chess board; every move must be methodical, calculated, and strategized just right. Many of these issues are bigger than just Washington wheat, and it takes a community of like-minded organizations to be successful. We are fortunate to have a multitude of partners at both the state and national level to team up with.

It's farm bill season, and we are working through what is needed for farmers and how to improve the programs available to you. For example, we've been advocating heavily to double MAP (Market Access Program) and FMD (Foreign Market Development) funds. These programs haven't seen a significant funding increase since the 1980s, despite inflation and the increasing cost of everything. Trade is one of our top priorities, and these funds are vital to an industry that exports 90% of its wheat crop. We need the tools and funding to be able to explore new markets and keep the ones we have stable and growing.

We've also been seeking to increase the Price Loss Coverage wheat reference price that currently sits at \$5.50. That amount is obviously not aligned with our current



Michelle Hennings,
Executive Director
*Washington Association
of Wheat Growers*

break-even point, which has been hit with inflation and high input costs. But, in order to add money to our \$5.50 price, even just \$.05 would add millions of dollars to the farm bill budget. We have to ask ourselves, will \$.05 really make the difference in what is needed to help protect a farm when the need arises? To complicate matters, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, chair of the Senate Ag Committee, recently released a statement that the farm bill's baseline will stay the same, and if there is to be any money added, we will have to go find it.

Crop insurance is another top priority for wheat farmers. Approximately 90% of Washington wheat farmers have crop insurance. We have had many discussions on how we can improve the program. Crop insurance is getting more

expensive, so how can we mitigate that? Are there other ways crop insurance can be helpful to wheat farmers, such as a margin protection program? The House and Senate seem very willing to listen to these ideas. Out of all the farm bill conversations happening, improving crop insurance seems to be the one getting the most positive reception.

Conservation has been an ongoing farm bill discussion. Programs are being dissected, and ways to improve voluntary programs are being considered. The Conservation Reserve Program has been at the top of the list of potential programs that need to be reassessed. We always relay that the rental rates and criteria for those rates are not penciling out to the farmer. Washington state is lucky to have Jon Wyss as our Farm Service Agency state executive director, as he determined to find solutions for our farmers.

Another conservation-centered discussion is the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is receiving for conservation programs. IRA funding is focused on improving soil health, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing carbon sequestration and limits the total number of enhancements and practices available. There is a short window for this funding to be allocated, so they need to get information out to farmers on when and how

they can apply. Recently, I and other stakeholders attended a dinner with NRCS Chief Terry Cosby in the Tri-Cities. He explained how important this funding is and the need to get it contracted. NRCS will be sending out a team from D.C. in a couple of weeks to assist the state in providing details to farmers on how implementation will work for the funding. If you have been contemplating a conservation practice, now is the time to enroll.

The lower Snake River dams have been in the headlines quite a bit in the last six months. The Biden Administration came out with a press statement saying they were looking into how to improve salmon numbers, including dam breaching. The White House Council on Environmental Quality held several listening sessions that were dominated by dam-breaching advocates despite our best efforts.

In April, I traveled to D.C. for an advocacy trip to educate House and Senate committee members who will have a decision-making role on the dams. It was a very successful trip meeting members and staff outside of Washington state's delegation and assessing their knowledge on the issue. Some were very knowledgeable, and others not so much. The ones who weren't familiar with the dams were very appreciative of the outreach as this was an issue they may need to address in the future. It made me realize that something so big in our Pacific Northwest world could be so small. I couldn't believe some of them didn't even know the dams existed. On the other hand, I have learned there is very strong support for the dams and the clean energy they provide.

We can't recognize our Washington delegation enough, as they are the ones continuously staying in front of this issue and providing the information necessary for those who will make important decisions that will affect many lives and livelihoods.

I, along with the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, Shaver Transportation, the Port of Whitman, Bonneville Power Administration leadership, and utility representatives, was recently invited to meet with John Podesta, President Biden's senior advisor for clean energy innovation and implementation, and U.S. Department of Energy Deputy Secretary David Turk. Our group provided information on the benefits of the lower Snake River dams and the serious impacts of dam breaching. The meeting was productive, and the White House teams were very engaged in learning more from stakeholders. Additionally, I'm writing this column a week before I'll be testifying on behalf of wheat in a House Natural Resource Committee field hearing on the dams in Richland, Wash.

In the last six months, we also wrapped up the 2023 Washington State Legislative Session. Some of the big

issues we dealt with were riparian buffers, ag overtime, and the ag exemption on cap-and-trade fuel surcharges, among others. On the riparian buffers, it was a big win for wheat growers as we were able to work with leadership at a bipartisan level to restructure the legislation. The word "voluntary" was added, and that gives me relief. Unfortunately, the governor didn't like the legislation, and it died in committee.

Ag overtime continues to be a thorn in our side. We testified at a Senate Labor and Commerce Committee hearing and worked to introduce a seasonal exemption bill that didn't make it to the floor. As long as the committee members that are against a seasonal exemption or other solutions for farmworkers stay on that committee, we will have a difficult time getting this issue to be resolved positively. We made the case over and over that we are a seasonal industry, and we provide benefits to workers that should be counted or recognized for something. Legislators were unwilling to even consider our ideas, and this was very frustrating. Farmworkers are even testifying that ag overtime is not what they want. We will keep pushing forward and working to make the necessary changes, but it's an uphill battle.

On Jan. 1, 2023, the cap-and-trade program that is part of 2021's Climate Commitment Act took affect. Fuel used on the farm was exempted from any fuel surcharge, but a mechanism for that exemption has not been put into place. All session we worked with Ecology, legislators, and stakeholders to find a solution as farmers were paying thousands of extra dollars for fuel. Some fuel companies have figured out individual solutions, but not all. WAWG is serving on an Ecology workgroup this summer to provide feedback and discuss solutions for this mishap. Once again, it was a very frustrating issue to have to try to "fix." However, even with all that, I felt we had more legislators on both sides of the aisle listening to the needs of farmers this session.

As you can see, it's been, to say the least, very busy. We're heading into summer with a full schedule of ag tours, dam tours, providing education on wheat farming, and staying as actively engaged as our staffing allows. That gets me to the point on how important a WAWG membership is to your farm. We have tools to make it easy for you to state your position on an issue, and it's vital that legislators hear from all farmers on these issues. Having 30 farmers sign onto a bill doesn't have the same impact as 1,500 signing in. We need to have representation in order to make a difference. If you are not a WAWG member, please consider becoming one as it may support your farm more than you realize.

I wish everyone a good summer and a great harvest. ■

Summer already full of advocacy activities

On the policy front, it's already been a busy summer for leaders and staff of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG), with more to come. That was the message board members heard at June's state board meeting.

On June 10, Jeff Malone, WAWG secretary/treasurer, traveled to Wenatchee, Wash., to attend a Farm Bill Listening Session sponsored by U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), who was joined by the Senate Ag, Nutrition and Forestry Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.). Malone said he was able to share WAWG's top farm bill priorities, which include strengthening the crop insurance program, keeping conservation programs voluntary, and increasing the wheat reference price in the Price Loss Coverage program.

On June 13, WAWG Past President Nicole Berg and WAWG Executive Director Michelle Hennings attended a dinner with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Chief Terry Cosby in Richland, Wash. NRCS will be receiving a large amount of Inflation Reduction Act funds to administer in the upcoming years, and the discussion focused on how those funds will be allocated.

Hennings also attended a listening session at Bonneville Power Administration in Vancouver, Wash., with White House Senior Advisor for Clean Energy Innovation and

Implementation, John Podesta, and Department of Energy Deputy Secretary David Turk on June 14. A stakeholder panel discussed the importance of the lower Snake River dams for agriculture, power, clean energy, and local economies. Hennings will also be testifying in support of the dams at a House Natural

Resources Committee/Western Caucus field hearing in Richland, Wash., at the end of the month.

WAWG will be one of the sponsors of a congressional tour of the lower Snake River dams in August, and a state legislative agricultural tour is scheduled for early fall. Staff is also planning to take part in several fly-ins to D.C. over the summer.

Shaley Tiegs and Angelina Widman also attended as one of their last actions as this year's Washington Wheat Ambassadors.



FIELD DAY UPDATE. Michelle Hennings, executive director of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG), talks about some of the state and national legislative issues WAWG has been dealing with at last month's Lind Dryland Research Station Field Day.

"This was a great experience, and I'm really grateful for it," Tiegs told the board.

"I didn't realize how much information you went through in these meetings," Widman said, adding that she applied for the ambassador program on a whim. "I'm grateful to have been a part of the Olympia and D.C. trips. It was amazing to get to see (WAWG's efforts) at the state and then the federal level."

WAWG's lobbyist, Diana Carlen, attended the meeting to give a final report on the 2023 Washington State Legislative Session. Overall, she said it was a better session than many were anticipating. A bipartisan riparian buffer bill was put forward that focused on voluntary efforts, but unfortunately didn't pass because of a veto threat by Gov. Jay Inslee. However, many of the bill's provisions were included as budget provisos. Another bill concerning warehouse staffing was amended so it didn't impact agriculture, and the capital budget included \$33 million for continued work on the Odessa Groundwater Replacement Project.

One major problem, which few were anticipating before the legislative session started, was the lack of a mecha-

Due to harvest, the next Washington Association of Wheat Growers state board meeting will be held in September.

CLOUDS DON'T STAND A CHANCE

THE ALL-NEW CT8300 FLEX HARROW

Tackle clods and create a smooth finish with the new **CT8300 Flex Harrow** from Great Plains. With enhanced features like a rugged heavy-duty frame for added strength and durability, walking tandems to maintain consistent depths, and 25% longer bar-tine teeth for extended wear and improved residue flow, the new Flex Harrow will achieve a clod-busting finish on any field.



Learn More

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. 2728C-GPM

nism to exclude farmers from paying fuel surcharges relating to the cap-and-trade program.

"It was extremely frustrating," Carlen said, explaining that many legislators, the Washington State Department of Ecology and Inslee all pointed the finger at fuel suppliers as the entities responsible for making sure farmers didn't pay the surcharges. Ecology is forming a workgroup this summer to look at the issue.

Once the session ended, Carlen said all the attention has been focused on the 2024 elections. Inslee has announced that he won't be running again, and several democrats in key committee roles have left or are leaving.

Casey Chumrau, CEO of the Washington Grain Commission (WGC), said the commission recently passed an \$8.65 million budget based on revenues of \$8.4 million, with extra money earmarked as special project funds. The idea, she explained, was to give the commission flexibility to fund new ideas. Chumrau had just returned from the South and Southeast Asia Marketing Conference in Thailand, which she said was one of the best she's ever attended. Many southeast Asian countries are seeing an increase in convenience food consumption due to the growth of the convenience store market and café (coffee) culture. Many convenience foods are made with soft white wheat.

The WGC has seven trade teams scheduled to visit Washington state this summer, and Chumrau encouraged farmers to meet with them, if they can.

Because of harvest, the next WAWG state board meeting won't be held until September. ■

Strategic Partner. The partnership presents a wealth of resources and collaborative opportunities, aimed to enlighten individuals about the advantages of incorporating wheat into their dietary choices.

MyPlate is a scientifically grounded initiative, crafted to impart knowledge on the merits of wholesome eating and encourage adjustments in dietary habits that can yield significant long-term benefits.

"We are looking forward to working with MyPlate as we help educate the benefits wheat can have in a person's diet by empowering individuals to make informed dietary choices," said Bernard Peterson, chairman of the National Wheat Foundation and a wheat farmer from Kentucky. "By teaching people about the benefits of incorporating wheat into their eating habits, we have the opportunity to positively impact their lives and foster a healthier future for everyone."

To learn more about MyPlate, explore MyPlate.gov. ■

Wheat foundation partners with My Plate

The National Wheat Foundation is pleased to join the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion as a MyPlate National



FARM BILL ADVOCACY. Jeff Malone (third from left), secretary/treasurer of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG), traveled to Wenatchee, Wash., last month to attend a Farm Bill Listening Session sponsored by Washington state's U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell (center, in red), who was joined by the Senate Ag, Nutrition and Forestry Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (center, in pink). Malone was able to share WAWG's top priorities concerning the farm bill with the senators.



AmpliFYR™

WE HAVE THE SCIENCE. YOU HAVE THE SEEDS. LET'S TALK YIELDS.

AmpliFYR™, from EVOIA, is a sustainable seed treatment that increases seedling root and shoot growth, improves seedling vigor, and enhances crop establishment. It brings nature, science and yield potential together in harmonious success. The first and only biochar extract designed and developed specifically for use as a seed treatment, it's fiery innovation you need to learn more about.

AmpliFYR is available in the PNW from Albaugh Seed Treatments. Find out more at **WWW.AMPLIFYR.US** or contact Ed Driskill at Albaugh (208) 874-7960.



EVOIA™

County growers hold summer meetings/BBQs

Growers in several counties held county meetings and summer barbecues last month, many in conjunction with their local variety testing plot tours.

About 20 Adams County growers gathered at the home of Ron Jirava to discuss county business and enjoy a meal following their plot tour.

In Benton County, over coffee and doughnuts, growers heard from Christy Rasmussen, Port of Benton commissioner, on the need to protect the lower Snake River dams; State Senator Perry Dozier on agricultural overtime and the fuel surcharge exemption; and Katy Martin, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Walla Walla office, on program funding.

In Franklin County, about 65 people enjoyed barbecue at Dana Herron's shop and heard from NRCS's Martin, from the Walla Walla office.

Grant and Douglas County growers gathered at HighLine Grain Growers' shop in Waterville for a dinner, sponsored by HighLine, and to hear industry updates. ■



Benton County



Franklin County



Grant/Douglas County



WINTER CANOLA HYBRIDS KICKER | MERCEDES | PHOENIX CL | PLURAX CL

Kicker: Top yielding conventional hybrid, 2020 & 2021 PNW Winter Canola Trials. Excellent winter hardiness and resilience to pod shattering. Good drought tolerance. Medium maturity.

Mercedes: #1 reference winter canola hybrid for yield and oil in the PNW since 2012. Vigorous fall establishment and early season cold tolerance. Responds to lower seeding rates relative to OP canola. Medium maturity.

***Phoenix CL:** Two-gene Clearfield hybrid with proven performance in the PNW. Superior cold tolerance. Vigorous fall growth helps overcome insect feeding. Early maturity. Enhanced pod shattering resiliency. High yield potential.

***Plurax CL:** Two-gene Clearfield hybrid with early maturity. High cold tolerance. Vigorous fall growth above and below ground. Prostrate fall crown development. Excellent yield and oil content. Strong pod structure.

PNWVT	2019	2020	2021	2022
Control Varieties lbs/ac (rank)				
Athena	4,344 (18)	4,015 (15)	3,698 (12)	3,025 (14)
Dwarf Essex	—	3,698 (23)	3,279 (27)	2,751 (26)
Ericka	3,829 (25)	3,516 (25)	3,219 (28)	2,273 (29)
Rubisco Seeds' Hybrids <i>Data courtesy of University of Idaho</i>				
Kicker	—	4,792 (1)	4,701 (1)	4,383 (1)
Mercedes	5,145 (1)	4,419 (6)	4,359 (3)	4,156 (5)
Plurax CL	4,959 (2)	4,717 (2)	4,465 (2)	3,411 (8)
Phoenix CL	4,900 (4)	4,611 (3)	4,043 (5)	3,398 (9)
PNWVT Mean	4,470	4,085	3,726	3,158
LSD (p=0.05)	287	253	228	280
C.V. (%)	12.4	12.3	10.6	15.0

***Phoenix CL & Plurax CL compatible within Clearfield wheat rotations.**

Strong cross tolerance to Imi / SU herbicides. Can be sprayed post emergence with Beyond herbicide. SU or SURT Canola cultivars are not viable in a Clearfield rotation. (50% yield reduction in soils containing IMI residues, independent research Calbeck Consulting.)

NEW HYBRIDS IN PRIVATE TRIALS - AKILAH & PICARD: TuYV Resistant

Contact Us

- 🍂 Earn Non-GM premiums in addition to optimizing yields
- 🍂 Locally based research on germplasm and agronomy
- 🍂 All hybrids developed with a strong focus on shatter tolerance
- 🍂 All seed is certified Blackleg free. Organic growers, please inquire

📞 (270) 903-4994
GENERAL INQUIRIES

📞 (270) 316-4316
CROP PRODUCTION PROGRAMS

✉️ info@rubiscoseeds.com
EMAIL US

🌐 www.rubiscoseeds.com
PRODUCT INFORMATION & SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Asotin growers award high school grads scholarships

The Asotin County wheat growers have awarded 2023 Asotin High School graduates, Haylee Appleford and Samantha Johnson, \$1,000 scholarships for their college ambitions.

Haylee Appleford

Appleford is the daughter of Dusty and Sunni Appleford. She grew up on her family's wheat farm in Anatone, Wash., where they also raise some cattle. At Asotin High School, Appleford was active in volleyball, basketball, and track. She was very involved in FFA and the National Honors Society. She is planning to attend Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC) in Lewiston, Idaho, with an eye towards a degree in either ag business or radiographic science, which would qualify her as a radiology technician. She will also be competing on LCSC's track and field team in shot put and discus.

Appleford hopes to use her college education to provide an income while she helps her family grow their cattle ranching.

"I'm very grateful that I was able to receive this scholarship. I know there were quite a few other people who applied for it," Appleford said. "I want to thank Asotin County wheat growers. I very much appreciate that they granted it to me in order to pursue school."

Samantha Johnson

Johnson is the daughter of Chad Johnson and Patty Scott. She is the 5th generation on her family's farm, where they raise wheat, alfalfa, and grass for hay. While a freshman and sophomore in high school, Johnson participated in FFA. In her junior year, however,



she started taking classes at Walla Walla Community College (WWCC) through the Running Start program. She graduated from high school with an associate's degree. She plans on returning to WWCC to get a bachelor's degree in ag business and eventually take over her family's farm.

"I've always grown up around the farm, so it's one of the things I know best. I've always enjoyed all the hard work, effort, and community," she said. "I mostly want to thank the Asotin County wheat growers for considering and accepting me. Getting the scholarship will help me go to school, learn and grow, and be more successful." ■

USDA accepts more than 1 million acres in CRP offers

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced last month that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting more than 1 million acres in this year's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General sign-up.

"This year's general CRP sign-up demonstrates the value and continued strength of this voluntary conservation program, which plays an important role in helping mitigate climate change and conserve our natural resources," said Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. "Today's announcement is one of many enrollment and partnership opportunities within CRP, including opportunities through our working lands Grassland CRP, Continuous CRP, and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). USDA will continue working to ensure producers and landowners have the information they need to take advantage of the options that work best for their operations."

Offers for new land in this general CRP sign-up totaled about 295,000 acres nationwide. Producers submitted re-enrollment offers for 891,000 expiring acres. Additionally, so far this year, FSA has received 761,000 offered acres for the continuous CRP sign-up, for which FSA accepts applications year-round.

The number of accepted acres that are enrolled in general CRP will be confirmed later this year. Participating producers and landowners should also remember that submitting and accepting a CRP offer is the first step, and producers still need to develop a conservation plan before contracts become effective on Oct. 1, 2023. Each year, during the window between offer acceptance and land enrollment, some producers ultimately decide not to enroll some accepted acres, which they can do without incurring a penalty. ■



Real. Comfortable. Genes.

TMC Genetics seed varieties have the fit.



TMC | M-PIRE **TMC** | M-PRESS **TMC** | LOCHAVEN **TMC** | SKYE

WWW.MCGREGOR.COM

Year in Review 2022/23

Another year, another 12 months of advocating for the Washington wheat industry. Here are some highlights and a look at what the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) has been up to for the last 365 days.

JULY 2022

The Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) **files public comments** in response to the draft Lower Snake River Dams Benefit Replacement Report. On behalf of the thousands of wheat growers in Washington state, WAWG urges Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee to reconsider the direction of the Joint Federal-State Process regarding dam breaching, citing the lack of feasibility of recommendations outlined in the report, along with the overall inaccuracy of the scientific data used to formulate recommendations.

The White House Council on Environmental Quality, releases two new reports on the effort to restore salmon and steelhead populations in the Columbia River Basin, one of which includes recommendations to breach one or more of the lower Snake River dams. WAWG **expresses disappointment**, saying, "Unfortunately, the report fails to consider the impacts breaching the lower Snake River dams would have on farmers that rely on the river system to move agricultural exports via barge to consumers around the globe. Washington's wheat growers continue to face market volatility, rising input costs, and significant supply chain challenges, and any action to remove these dams would further threaten the livelihoods of family farms across the region."

Michelle Hennings, executive director of WAWG; Glen Squires, CEO of the Washington Grain Commission (WGC); and Rob Rich, vice president of marine services at Shaver Transportation Company, **appear on The Business of Agriculture podcast**, hosted by Damian Mason, to talk about the importance of the Columbia-Snake River System.

Marci Green, past president of WAWG and a Spokane County producer, **joins more than 300 industry stakeholders at a House Agriculture Committee Listening Session** on the 2018 Farm Bill in Carnation, Wash. The session was hosted by Rep. Kim Schrier (D-Wash.). Green talks about the importance of crop insurance; how the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) reference price doesn't cover the cost of wheat production, especially with the current high price of inputs; market promotion funding; and the need to make participation in conservation programs voluntary.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is in the final stages of **mapping their Eastern**

Washington properties for potential solar farm development. Lessees who might be impacted are notified by postcard.

AUGUST 2022

Harvest is in full swing across Eastern Washington. Because of cool, wet weather that stretched into June, harvest is a couple of weeks late, but yields are generally higher than average, and the quality is good. That good news is offset by supply chain issues and high fuel costs. Many farmers report difficulties getting replacement parts, such as tires.

Using information provided by the final Lower Snake River Dams Benefit Replacement Study Report, Gov. Inslee and Sen. Murray conclude that while it is possible to replace most of the services and benefits provided by the dams, the benefits must be replaced or mitigated before breaching, and **breaching is not a feasible option in the near-term**. WAWG agrees, saying, "We remain committed to working alongside government officials and the broader stakeholder community to achieve science-based solutions that facilitate a healthy salmon population and support the viability of family-owned farms and businesses."

SEPTEMBER 2022

WAWG leaders **take part in the annual Taste of Washington event** with Washington State University, the Washington State Department of Agriculture, and other commodity groups. The event spotlights Washington-grown products and promotes Washington agriculture to members of Congress. As part of the trip, wheat growers meet with many members of the state's congressional delegation to discuss WAWG's national legislative priorities.

Long-time agricultural advocate **KayDee Gilkey joins WAWG** as the new outreach coordinator. Gilkey has been involved with industry groups for years, most recently as director of industry relations with the Washington State Beef Commission.

State legislators and staff learn about why the lower Snake River dams are a critical part of the state's transportation and utility infrastructure during a **boat ride and tour of Ice Harbor Dam**. WAWG is one of the sponsors of the tour.

OCTOBER 2022

WAWG helps sponsor a legislative food and farm tour in the Skagit Valley that focuses on issues such as farmland preservation, labor, the cost of inputs, the need for research funding, sustainability, and mandatory regulations.

Hennings joins several other commodity representatives in a **roundtable discussion** in Wenatchee, Wash., with U.S.

► WHERE CHAOS MEETS CONTROL — THAT'S YOUR SWEET SPOT.

VIPER® 4+ AND CR7™ FIELD COMPUTERS

HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR APPLICATION WITH A COMPLETELY INTEGRATED SYSTEM WITH RAVEN'S FULL LINE OF PRODUCTS INTO ONE NETWORKED PLATFORM.

Viper® 4+ is the powerful fourth generation Viper field computer powered by Raven Operating Software and a 12.1-inch customizable touchscreen. Easy job set-up, fewer touches, and greater efficiency allow for extraordinary data management capabilities.

CR7™ is a lightweight 7-inch field computer powered by CRX operating software with customizable in-job settings, and ISO Universal Terminal and Task Controller capabilities make this mighty unit an affordable, plug-and-play system.



RAVEN

Platinum Partner

►► Learn more at ravenprecision.com

Get \$2000 value for your Envisio Pro when you upgrade to our premium Viper 4+ Kit. Includes free INW install. Call for details!

509-838-2209

www.spraycenter.com

SCE SPRAY CENTER ELECTRONICS INC.

9721 W Flight Dr. Spokane WA 99224



SEE THE DIFFERENCE WITH BRENT

V-SERIES SINGLE-AUGER GRAIN CARTS

Take the next step in your harvest journey with Brent® V-Series corner-auger grain carts. The V-Series auger is positioned forward so it is clearly visible from the side window of your tractor. The auger is also angled upward and outward so you can easily unload with ample clearance. The standard four-way downspout control provides maximum versatility with limited tractor movement when unloading.



V-SERIES



VISIT BRENT EQUIP.COM OR SEE YOUR NEAREST DEALER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Unverferth Manufacturing Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 357 • Kalida, OH 45853
unverferth.com

secretary for transportation, Pete Buttigieg. The group discusses transportation, trade, and the high cost of inputs, among other topics. Hennings is able to highlight the importance of the barge system on the Columbia-Snake River System to the region.

NOVEMBER 2022

Casey Chumrau begins her leadership role at the WGC, replacing Glen Squires who retired at the beginning of the month.

Shaley Tiegs of Fairfield and Angelina Widman of Rosalia are selected as the **2023 Washington Wheat Ambassadors** and are awarded scholarships funded by the Washington Wheat Foundation.

WAWG leaders and staff travel to the **National Association of Wheat Growers' (NAWG) fall board meeting** in Salt Lake City, where they take part in committee meetings and consider resolutions to help guide the national organization. Research, trade, supply chain issues, and the wheat industry's next steps for the farm bill are all discussed.

As the dust from the 2022 election settles, **Washington state Democrats expand their majorities slightly**, picking up one seat in both chambers. In the Senate, Democrats hold 29 seats as opposed to Republicans' 20, while the House stands at 58 to 40.

The **Tri-State Grain Growers Convention** takes over the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. One of the largest crowds in years braves a winter storm to hear industry updates, listen to nationally known keynote speakers, and network. Ryan Poe is recognized as WAWG member of the year, while Asotin County is recognized as WAWG county of the year.

Andy Juris, a grower from Klickitat County, takes over as WAWG president. He replaces outgoing president, Howard McDonald from Douglas County. WAWG welcomes Douglas County grower Jeff Malone as the new secretary/treasurer. Anthony Smith, from Benton County, takes on the vice president's role.

DECEMBER 2022

Gov. Inslee's **riparian taskforce final report is released**. Recommendations in the report include recognizing that the 200-year site potential tree height as the buffer standard isn't feasible in all riparian corridors and recommends increasing funding of existing voluntary incentive programs.

DNR launches an **interactive map of state trust lands** to help clean energy companies locate potential properties for solar and wind energy development.

JANUARY 2023

The **2023 Washington State Legislative Session kicks off**.

For the first time since the pandemic began, the capitol campus is fully open to the public. Growers have a checklist of items they will be watching, including riparian buffers, an overtime exemption, and the dams, but one issue slams into the ag industry from left field. This month, the cap-and-trade law goes into affect, and fuel producers start adding a surcharge in anticipation of the first carbon credit auction to be held in February. According to the law, growers are exempt from a surcharge for fuel used on the farm and for transporting products to market, but the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) hasn't set up a mechanism for that exemption to be applied. Fingers are pointed, blame deflected, and growers are told to keep receipts as legislators and stakeholders try to come up with a fix.

Right out of the gate, Gov. Inslee introduces a **new riparian buffer bill** that sets up a voluntary grant program. Wheat growers testify against the bill because it relies on Fish and Wildlife guidance documents as "best available science" and has an overly broad title.

A bill that would allow producers to select 12 weeks in a calendar year where they would be permitted to employ workers for up to 50 hours before **paying overtime** is introduced, but never makes it out of committee.

With the opening of Capitol Hill, wheat growers resume their traditional **Olympia Days** trip. More than 30 growers, landlords, and industry staff meet with legislators on both sides of the aisle over a day and a half. No surprise, the carbon surcharge on ag fuel, riparian buffers, and ag overtime are the top concerns discussed. Growers also hand out cinnamon rolls in the Capitol Building.

WAWG leaders **head to D.C.** to take part in NAWG's winter conference and to meet with federal legislators. Washington's Congresswoman Schrier is given the NAWG Outstanding Wheat Advocate Award for her general advocacy of ag and her work on the House Agriculture Committee.

Ben Cochrane joins the WAWG board as the new Franklin County representative. Cochrane is the fifth generation on his family's farm in Kahlotus.

FEBRUARY 2023

A **new riparian buffer bill is introduced** that fixes many of the ag community's concerns. In hearings, WAWG members testify in support of the bill; however, the governor's office opposes it because it doesn't set minimum buffer sizes.

The **2023 Agricultural Marketing and Management Organization (AMMO)** is also back. This month, growers

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.



Full PWM Application Control

Controlled dosage
per weed - speed and
turn compensating.



50% Less Weight

1.5lbs per sensor
places less stress
on your sprayer.



In-Crop PWM

Control Rate &
Droplet size for all
applications.



**AGRITECH
AMERICA**

ODESSA TRADING CO.

YOUR BOURGAULT DRILL DEALER

UNITS IN STOCK!

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**

attend seminars covering herbicide mixing and spraying; taxes and business updates; and two marketing seminars.

WAWG volunteers staff a booth at the **2023 Spokane Ag Show**. WAWG member Andrew Panneck from Spokane wins the smart TV drawing.

Bill Schwerin, a WAWG past president from 1988-89, passes away in Walla Walla, Wash. He was instrumental in turning the state annual convention into a tri-state event.

MARCH 2023

The **bipartisan voluntary riparian buffer bill fails to move out of committee**. State legislators say they will integrate elements of the bill into the capital budget.

There is still **no resolution** from state lawmakers or Ecology to exempt farmers from paying a cap-and-trade-related fuel surcharge.

Travel continues for WAWG leaders as they head to Florida to take part in **NAWG's annual meeting**. They participate in committee meetings, discuss national wheat priorities, and help set policy for the national organization for the coming year.

AMMO wraps up its winter schedule with updates from the Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

In national news, **NAWG elects a new slate of officers**. Washington grower Nicole Berg transitions to the role of past president. Brent Cheyne from Oregon becomes the new president.

APRIL 2023

Hennings, WAWG's executive director, **travels to D.C.** to highlight the importance of the Columbia-Snake River System to lawmakers outside of the Pacific Northwest.

Hennings' busy month continues as she attends two **farm bill listening sessions** held by Washington congresswomen, Rep. Schrier and Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-Wash.). Gluesenkamp Perez is a member of the House Agriculture Committee, and Schrier is chair of the new Democratic Coalition's Farm Bill Task Force.

WAWG member and WAWG and NAWG past president **Nicole Berg joins** Rep. Glen "GT" Thompson's (R-Penn.) National Agriculture Campaign Advisory Council.

WAWG joins with other Pacific Northwest agricultural stakeholders in sending a **letter to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack** outlining concerns over increasing rhetoric at the federal level on breaching the lower Snake River dams and highlighting the importance of the entire Columbia-Snake River System to the U.S.

The **Legislature adjourns the 2023 Washington State Legislative Session on schedule**. No new taxes or

fees are included in the budgets, and for the first time, revenue from the capital gains tax and cap-and-trade program are included. Both the operating and transportation budgets include funding for studies focusing on replacing the benefits provided by the lower Snake River dams. However ...

... One thing the **Legislature didn't do was provide a solution** or direct Ecology to provide a solution to the problem of farmers being charged a cap-and-trade fuel surcharge, even though agriculture is supposed to be exempt from any fuel surcharges.

In two listening sessions organized by the White House Council on Environmental Quality on the lower Snake River dams, **antidam activists dominate the conversation** despite stakeholders' best efforts. Breaching advocates recycle inaccurate talking points, saying that only by breaching the dams can salmon and steelhead be saved and most, if not all, of the barge traffic can be absorbed by the railroads.

Farm Fair season kicks off with the Benton-Franklin County Farm Fair. Volunteers and staff share wheat facts and information with about 350 elementary school children and their teachers.

MAY 2023

Approximately 1,000 **Spokane-area 4th and 5th graders learn about wheat** at the Northwest Natural Resources Institute Farm Fair from WAWG staff and volunteers.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service forecasts a **19% decrease in production of winter wheat in Washington** from 2022 at 99.8 million bushels. Yield is expected to average 57 bushels per acre, down 11 bushels from last year.

JUNE 2023

Approximately 75 growers gather in Colfax to take part in the annual **Wheat College**. Ted Labun, a Canadian agronomist, is the featured speaker. Growers also hear industry updates, learn about soil pH testing and the role roots play in the establishment of a crop, and see a drone demonstration.

County growers hold **summer meetings** and barbecues, often in tandem with their local variety testing plot tour.

WAWG secretary/treasurer, Jeff Malone, attends a **farm bill forum** in Wenatchee, Wash., with Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash) and Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.).

Hennings advocates for the lower Snake River dams in two events this month: a **listening session** with White House energy advisor, John Podesta, and David Turk, deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, and at a U.S. House Natural Resource Committee **field hearing** in Richland, Wash. ■



ALWAYS PLANT CERTIFIED SEED

**MAKE THE INVESTMENT THAT PAYS
YOU DIVIDENDS EVERY HARVEST**

CLEANER FIELDS



HIGHER YIELDS



GUARANTEED QUALITY



Find your closest certified seed dealer at www.washingtoncrop.com/dealers

WASHINGTON STATE CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

509-334-0461 www.washingtoncrop.com

POLICY MATTERS

Misinformation overflows at listening session

By Trista Crossley
Editor, Wheat Life

The final White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) listening session on the lower Snake River dams followed in the footsteps of the first two: dam-breaching advocates dominated the conversation, using incomplete information and relying on flawed studies to bolster their position. Dam stakeholders, however, were able to secure a few more speaking slots than the previous listening sessions.

According to the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, which facilitated the listening sessions — two previous sessions were held on March 31 and April 3 — speakers were selected on a first-come, first-serve basis and had three minutes to speak. The listening sessions were intended to allow U.S. government representatives and other stakeholders hear the public's issues and concerns in the Columbia River Basin. The listening panel included representatives from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, CEQ, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, and Bonneville Power Administration.

"We are still concerned that the listening panel heard information that was based on incorrect science and facts," said Michelle Hennings, executive director of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers. "We urge them to rely on the government's own studies and surveys that show little evidence that breaching the dams will restore salmon runs."

Alex McGregor, chairman of the



Ice Harbor Dam on the Snake River.

board of directors for The McGregor Company, was able to secure a speaking slot. He emphasized that it's important to make sure "scientific questions remain in the hands of scientists," and encouraged more research into ocean conditions, funding for improving habitat, and reducing species that compete or prey on salmon, rather than removing the dams.

"Think of all we can achieve if we really work together, not just go through the motions of doing so. We, too, have worked hard to be good stewards of the land and waterways — it's our livelihood — and we want to help protect our iconic salmon," he said. "Working together, we can have healthy rivers and a healthy economy. We should accept nothing less."

Representatives from public utility districts, ports, and county commissions emphasized the importance the dams play in the region, providing low-cost, environmentally friendly energy and contributing millions of dollars to the area's economy through recreation and cruises.

"(Dam) removal would have a devastating impact on the area," one county commissioner said, while another stakeholder asked that the government "... listen to all voices at ground zero before taking irreversible action."

Several growers secured speaking spots, using their time to explain how the loss of barging and irrigation would impact their operations. As one grower pointed out, irrigation means food security.

"Removing the dams would be the least creative and most short-sighted decision we could make," he said.

"(The lower Snake River dams) are the backbone of the region's energy, trans-



ELEVATING THE SCIENCE OF SEED TREATMENT.

(AND GIVING YOUR BOTTOM LINE A LIFT WHILE WE'RE AT IT.)

Trusted in multiple crops across millions of acres coast-to-coast, you can rely on Albaugh to dial in the right formulation – from single actives to custom blends – that'll deliver the right control for your specific needs.



TREAT 'EM RIGHT. LEARN MORE AT
ALBAUGHSEEDTREATMENT.COM

©2023 Albaugh, LLC. All rights reserved. Albaugh and the Albaugh logo are registered trademarks of Albaugh, LLC. Always read and follow label restrictions, precautions and directions for use. Some products may not be registered for sale or use in all states or counties. Please check with your local extension service to ensure registration status.



portation, and agricultural systems,” another grower said.

Dam-breaching advocates, meanwhile, repeatedly used studies published by Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho), Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, and Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) as examples to show that the services provided by the dams are replaceable. Simpson’s plan, published in 2021, puts the cost of breaching the dams and replacing their benefits at \$33 billion, while the Inslee/Murray study, published in 2022, concluded that breaching the dams is not currently feasible. In the budgets passed at the end of the 2023 Washington State Legislative Session, legislators included funding to study how to replace many of the dams’ benefits, including irrigation, power generation, and barging.

Besides saving the fish, other arguments advocates used to justify breaching the dams included honoring treaty rights, reducing methane emissions from the pools behind the dams, and replenishing the food source for the Southern Resident killer whales. One speaker even floated the idea of building a separate channel next to the river to allow fish to bypass all the lower Snake River dams. ■

NAWG responds to House committee appropriations bill

From the National Association of Wheat Growers

On June 14, the House Appropriations Committee released a bill relating to funding for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the fiscal year 2024. The total allocation amount proposed was \$17.1 billion, along with \$8.15 billion from funds reallocated into these programs, for a total of \$25.3 billion in proposed discretionary spending. This amount is \$532 million lower than the fiscal year 2023 and over \$3 billion below the President Joe Biden’s allocation request.

One of the National Association of Wheat Growers’ (NAWG) annual policy priorities is protecting crop insur-

ance as part of the annual budget and appropriations process, and this appropriations bill provided total funding of the federal cost share of the program. In March, NAWG submitted several wheat research-related appropriations requests, which were included in the bill reported out of the committee. Specifically, the committee continued to support the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative, the Small Grains Genomics Initiative, and research into soft wheat falling numbers test research. Additionally, the committee provided \$1 million in new funding for the Wheat Resiliency Initiative (WRI), which — if enacted — would support research into wheat stem sawfly and Hessian fly.

“We are glad to see a number of our research priorities be included in the House Ag Appropriations bill, including funding for the Wheat Resiliency Initiative members of the National Wheat Improvement Committee were advocating for in March,” said Jake Westlin, NAWG’s vice president of policy and communications. “The WRI plays an important role in providing research into new and emerging disease and pest challenges, and these resources will help build capacity to address the greatest future threats to wheat production.”

Also included in the bill is the provision of \$3.4 million for the Office of Pest Management Policy to use to draft and implement policy relating to pest management for the benefit of producers.

The House ag appropriations bill was passed out of the committee on a 34 to 27 vote and now awaits consideration by the full House of Representatives. The Senate is currently working on its version of an FY 2023 ag appropriations bill. ■

FSA extends program deadlines

The Farm Service Agency has extended two program deadlines to give producer more time to sign up.

The Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase 2 sign-up has been extended until July 14, 2023. This extension will allow additional time for producers to work with cooperators and apply for assistance. A listing of cooperative agreement recipients can be found at fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/cooperative-agreements/index.

Producers that apply for ERP Phase 1 and 2 must file all required and optional eligibility forms by Sept. 12, 2023. The optional forms include FSA-510 and CCC-860 for the additional ERP benefits.

The Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP) sign-up deadline has also been extended to July 14, 2023. Producers applying for PARP must file required and optional eligibility forms by Sept. 12, 2023. ■

Receiving your ALERT?

With their annual membership, Washington Association of Wheat Growers members can receive emailed industry updates through the weekly Greensheet. If you are not receiving it, either we don’t have your current email address, or it’s going into your spam folder. Call (509) 659-0610 to make sure we have your current email address. ■

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



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

FARMERS HELPING FARMERS

MENTION THIS AD & GET 10% OFF

Tankmax inc.

FULL SERVICE DRIVELINE SHOP

With over 35 years of experience!

Call Sharkey Today
509-842-0245

Call Jeff Spokane
216 N Dyer Rd
Spokane Valley, WA 99212
509-534-8000

Call Austin Pasco
1206 E Lytle St
Pasco, WA 99301
509-545-4600

neapco
Weasler

Muncie Power Products

Tankmax inc.

The ONLY Muncie Master Warehouse in the Inland NW
PTO and Hydraulics at very competitive prices.

BRILL **POLAR** **TANK TRAILER**

Meter Test & Repair | Tank Test & Repair
Bearings | Seals | Brakes | Wheels
Suspension | DOT Inspection

Parts and Service
Call Brian
509-545-4600

Mobile Testing Service
Call Aaron
509-534-8000

New & Used Equipment
Call Brady
509-534-8000

Pasco
1206 E Lytle St
Pasco, WA 99301
509-545-4600

Spokane
216 N Dyer Rd
Spokane Valley, WA 99212
509-534-8000

Portland
2334 NW St Helen's Rd
Portland, OR 97210
503-221-0335

Kent
8001 S 222nd St
Kent, WA 98032
253-872-3374

HIGH MOUNTAIN HORSEPOWER

USED HEAVY TRUCK PARTS

AXLES | CROSSMEMBERS | TIRES | WHEELS | FUEL TANKS
MISC PARTS | POWER TRAIN | DRIVELINES | HOODS
TRANSMISSIONS | ENGINES | CABS | COOLING PACKS | OIL PANS
REAR CUTOFFS | FIFTH WHEEL | ECMS | PTO'S

509-321-5428

3020 N. Flora Rd.
SPOKANE VALLEY, WA 99216
HIGHMTNHORSEPOWER.COM
Call Jim Today
admin@highmtnhorsepower.com

MBD

MAX BRANDING & DESIGN

CUSTOM SCREEN PRINTING, EMBROIDERY,
AND OTHER PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS FOR YOUR
FARM, RANCH OR BUSINESS NEEDS.

1304 EAST MARVIN STREET,
PASCO, WASHINGTON 99301,
UNITED STATES

509-870-HATS (4287)
MAXBRANDINGANDDESIGN.COM

CALL KIM TODAY

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS CALL THE LAND AND WILDLIFE TEAM

LAND & WILDLIFE REAL ESTATE
1816 N. 20TH AVE. PASCO, WA



**RURAL AND RESIDENTIAL AVAILABLE.
CASH BUYERS LOOKING FOR FARMLAND.**

RODNEY MCCONNELL
509-222-9720
rodney@landandwildlife.com

NAT CRUZEN
509-460-0526
nat@landandwildlife.com

FLO SAYRE
509-539-3161
flo@landandwildlife.com

LAND AND WILDLIFE .COM

LAND LEADER
LandLeader.com



View properties

Crop protection explained

By JD Rosman

For the Washington Wheat Foundation

When you drive across Washington state, once you cross the Olympic mountains and head east, you'll see field upon field of wheat, corn, potatoes, hay, and various fruit and vegetables. This time of year, the fields are full of tractors. Occasionally, in the air, you'll see yellow cropdusters applying various crop protection products to fields. Crop protection is basically a fancy term for pesticides and herbicides.

On the farm each spring, when the wheat is green and starts growing, so do weeds and bugs, just like in my garden this year. My zucchini started the year with a bang, only to be invaded by squash bugs, which decimated the plants until I sprayed them with a pesticide. If I hadn't used the spray, the bugs would have killed my entire zucchini crop.

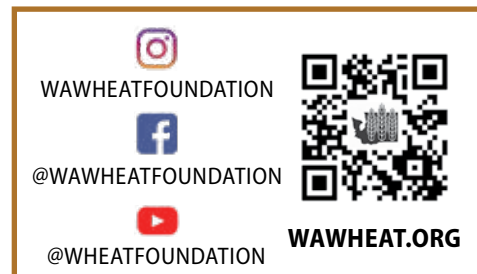
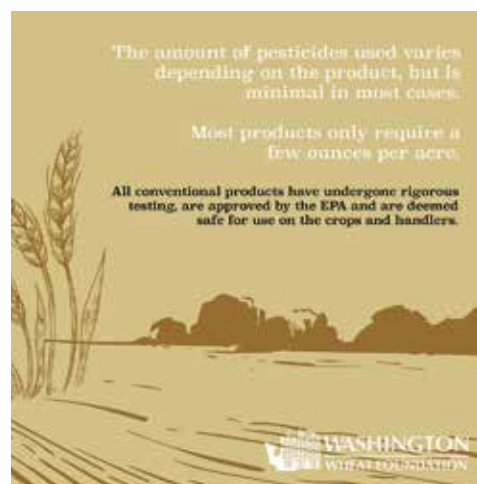
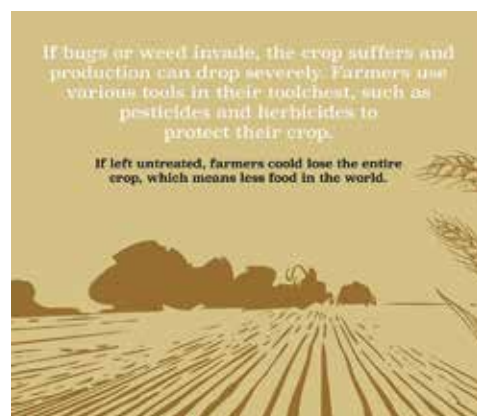
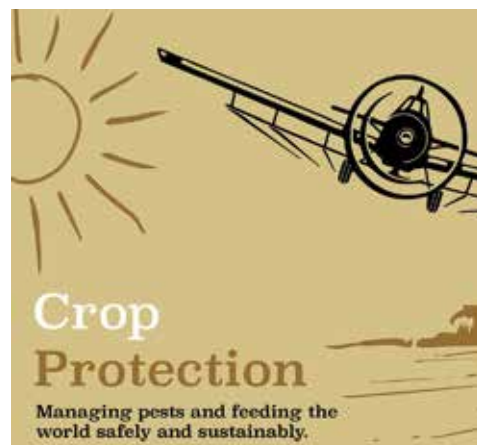
Similarly, wheat farmers spray their wheat crop with pesticides in order to stop the growth of diseases and bug infestations, as well as certain weeds. Those pests either damage the crop or use up the moisture in the ground.

When it's time to spray, we meticulously follow the instructions on the label of the product. Every product has slightly different instructions regarding application rates and outside temperature requirements. We also have to wait for a relatively wind-free day to avoid spray drifting into neighbor's fields. On an average product, the mix rate is usually less than 5% of the active ingredient and more than 95% water. Our sprayer has a 1,000 gallon tank on it, which allows us to spray roughly 100 acres per load, making us more efficient and using less fuel.

Our sprayer has wings, or "booms," with nozzles roughly every two feet. These nozzles can be changed out to apply a larger or smaller volume of spray based on our goals with the product. You can actually walk safely behind the sprayer and barely get your shoes and pant legs wet right after the spray is applied. Farmers always use the least amount of product necessary to get the job done because of cost. I've never met a farmer who overapplies product to their crops ... it's a waste of money.

The herbicides and pesticides that our farms use today go through strict analysis and approval processes at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and they have been deemed safe to the public. Gone are the days of using products like agent orange and DDT to manage pests. In fact, in the early 1970s, the EPA banned the use of DDT on agriculture products. Today, our pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers use less harmful ingredients and are more efficient and safer than ever before.

Conventional farmers, minimum and no-till farmers, and even organic farmers, use versions of pesticides and herbicides to provide crop protection. Without it, crop production would drastically decrease and, in some cases, produce nothing fit for human consumption. ■



Washington Wheat Foundation Meetings are scheduled for **Sept. 18 and Oct. 16, 2023**,
at the Wheat Foundation Building in Ritzville, Wash.

Attention High School Seniors



**If your family is a member of WAWG
and you like to promote wheat,
consider applying for our Wheat
Ambassador Scholarship.**

Learn more at www.wawg.org

Deadline: October 16, 2023

**This is a program of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers.
Contributions made in part by the Washington Wheat Foundation.**



Context is key to grower success

2023 WHEAT COLLEGE FEATURED CANADIAN AGRONOMIST, DRONES, PH TESTING DEMOS

By Trista Crossley
Editor, *Wheat Life*

In agronomy, context is key. That was the message growers heard from **Ted Labun** at the 2023 Wheat College last month in Colfax, Wash.

Labun is the owner of TLC Agronomics Inc., a consulting company based in Calgary, Alberta, that works with producers to grow successful crops by incorporating best agronomic and management practices. He spent 19 years as a field biologist focusing on pest control in cereals, pulses, and canola, followed by 21 years as a technical lead supporting seed treatment technology in western Canada.

“Agronomy has a key role in making wheat production sustainable. What we say works on this farm may not work on another farm,” he told attendees, adding that agronomy doesn’t necessarily mean growers have



to spend more money. “Maybe look at where you are investing. Is there a way to get a better return?”

Labun listed four things that influence agronomic practices in wheat: Growing conditions, such as temperature and rainfall; crop rotations; soil management; and pests. Although growers should be the drivers of good agronomy, they need help from a strong science community that includes good breeding and research programs, as well as hands-in-the-field help from consultants or Extension.

“Agronomy is always changing, evolving and putting agronomy into context is important,” he said. “Those that have been farming for 30-plus years have a lot of experience and knowledge, a lot of common sense.”

Labun compared agronomic practices between three farms in the Canadian prairies — in Manitoba,



Washington State University Extension Agronomist Rachel Wieme demonstrates pH testing on soil samples.



Bill Kuper, founder of Ag Drones Northwest, gave a drone demonstration at the 2023 Wheat College.

Saskatchewan, and Alberta — who plant nearly 50% of their farm to spring wheat. He also touched on the sustainable management of pests, saying the goal isn't to eliminate pests, but to minimize the damage they cause using agronomic practices, such as crop rotations, residue management, seed treatments, seeding depth, row spacing, timing of chemical applications, and crop competition.

To summarize his presentation:

- Agronomy is based on science and technology.
- Agronomy is integrated and practical.
- Agronomy is continuing to evolve and improve.
- Agronomy must be put into context.
- Agronomy should be grower driven, i.e., challenges should drive solutions.
- The science community is critical for success.
- Agronomy must include farm safety — the grower is the most important asset on the farm.

Industry updates

Following Labun's presentation, Ben Barstow, chairman of the Washington Grain Commission (WGC), and Andy Juris, president of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG), gave industry updates.

The WGC is preparing for a summer full of trade teams with seven expected through October. Barstow said demand for club wheat is growing in Asia as it is a key ingredient in cakes popular with tourists.

"So as tourism picks up, so does demand for club wheat," he said. He added that barley acreage is up this year, a trend he hopes to see continue.

Juris reviewed some of the state legislative issues that WAWG tackled this year, including a voluntary, bipartisan riparian buffer bill, a seasonal exemption for agricultural overtime, and the lack of a mechanism to exempt on-farm fuel from surcharges related to the state's cap-and-trade program.

"In the majority party, there is an increasing lack of concern for issues that face Eastern Washington," Juris said. "It's something we continue to face. We try to partner as much as we can with legislators on the west side, and we have found some common ground, but it's a frustrating environment to deal with. We will continue to work to keep issues in front of legislators, many of whom have no connection to ag."

WAWG has also been active advocating for the lower Snake River dams and is participating in farm bill discussions.

Juris encouraged growers to get active in their county

grower groups and to contact state and federal legislators on issues.

“Nothing gets moved when we all stay home. Being a voice for your industry is more important than ever,” he said. “What kind of future do you want? The future we want will never happen if we all stay home.”

Wheat now and in the future

Wheat College’s second half started with a presentation by Aaron Esser, regional Washington State University (WSU) Extension specialist and manager of WSU’s Wilke Research and Extension farm in Davenport, Wash.

“We are at a pivotal road in farming,” he said, pointing out that fertilizer costs are up 140%, Roundup costs are up 190%, and diesel fuel costs are up 92%. “The 2023 crop will be the single most expensive wheat crop harvest in Washington state.”

Growers are facing volatile markets, environmental stress, and weed pressure. While the markets and environment are mostly out of growers’ control, they do have some control in relation to resistant weeds. He gave updates on research being done on reducing annual grassy weed pressure and enhanced broadleaf and grassy weed control during fallow periods. Esser encouraged growers to think of a field and name the three worst weeds in it. Then figure out:

- What crops were grown in that field in the previous four years.
- What crops are planned for that field for the next four years.
- List three things that can be done differently (this may take some outside-the-box thinking, such as some tillage in a no-till practice).

“What you did in the past dictated the situation you are in, so what are you going to do differently?” he asked growers. “The solution is having a plan and knowing what you are going to do now and in the future, but you need to be flexible.”

Hands-on

Wheat College closed out with three, hands-on rotational topics. Ric Wesselman, integrated account lead and seedcare specialist with Syngenta Crop Protection, talked about the role roots play in the establishment of a crop, what impacts root development, and how roots can save on input costs.

“What’s going on underneath the ground is becoming more and more important, and that investment, your last investment in the year, is probably your most important,” he said, referring to seed treatments.



Growers were able to look at root structures in samples prepared by Ric Wesselman, integrated account lead and seedcare specialist with Syngenta Crop Protection, who talked about the role roots play in the establishment of a crop.

Rachel Wieme, WSU regional Extension agronomist, talked about soil pH testing. She used a portable pH meter to show how soil pH can change depending on where the testing is done in a soil core sample.

Finally, Bill Kuper, founder and chief pilot at Ag Drones Northwest, explained how drones are becoming more popular in agriculture for mapping and spraying and gave a drone demonstration. ■

We service what we sell, since 1987

GLEANER
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

ENGINES FOR SALE REBUILT & USED DIESEL ENGINES

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

CUMMINS ISX, long block..... CALL

CUMMINS N14, Select 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!



(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



INLAND GEAR

(800) 366-5962 (509) 534-7818

6505 E. Valleyway, Spokane, WA 99212

your trusted partner
in all things Ag

We cover + protect what matters most.



Brooke Rodriguez

Laauli Faamausili

local care
national service

INSURANCE + BENEFITS

- Crop Insurance
- Farm/Ranch
- Agri-Business



We're an equal opportunity provider and employer.



509-735-7506

basinpacific.com/locations/tri-cities/

WESTFIELD WESTEEL BATCO NECO -SIOUX SCAFFOLD WALINGA



MOVE ★ DRY ★ STORE

★ Augers ★ Belt Conveyors ★ Dryers ★ Grain Bins ★ Construction

T&S Sales

509.535.1177

NwGrainAugers.com

A foundation to grow on

WASHINGTON'S CERTIFIED SEED PROGRAM HELPS ENSURE TOP QUALITY FOR GROWERS

By Trista Crossley
Editor, *Wheat Life*

Washington wheat is known all over the world for its quality and keeping that quality high is due, in large part, to growers like Derek Schafer, who's been growing registered and certified seed for more than 20 years.

Schafer, who farms outside of Ritzville, Wash., said he uses approximately 20% of his acreage to grow seed that will eventually be planted in other growers' fields for commercial production.

"I think (the certified seed system) helps maintain the quality and purity of the crops we produce," he said. "Also, the certification process helps ensure growers are growing clean seed, not contaminated with weed seeds or off-type wheat varieties."

Washington state's small grain certified seed system is administered by the Washington State Crop Improvement Association (WSCIA), which works with public and private breeders and seed dealers to develop, produce, and distribute seed. The system helps ensure genetic purity of the seed and makes sure the seed is free of weeds and meets the standards for certified seed. See page 46 for more on the WSCIA.

Once a variety is approved for release, it's a multistep, multiyear process to produce enough seed for growers who want to plant it for commercial production. WSCIA receives seed from the breeder, and through its Foundation Seed Services, uses that seed to produce breeder seed or foundation seed that meets foundation class standards. Seed dealers buy the foundation seed and contract with their seed growers to produce registered seed. Registered seed is planted and used to produce certified seed the next year, which is sold to the public. Each step is designed to increase the amount of seed available for the next class, and each step has to meet standards for the class being produced.

"There's significantly more effort placed on clean fields, taking care of boundaries and borders, and inspecting the field throughout the growing season," Schafer said. "There's also a special effort during harvest with cleaning equipment. You have to take all the proper care to make sure you don't have any contamination from non-seed fields."

Aaron Jeschke, WSCIA manager, explained that in order to grow foundation seed, a field can't have grown a small grain on it for at least two years. The field must also be at



Ritzville farmer Derek Schafer uses approximately 20% of his acreage to grow seed for the certified seed system.

least 50 feet away from any other species of the same genus, and the fields are rogued and inspected by WSCIA to assure they meet standards.

Once harvested, foundation seed is cleaned and thoroughly examined for physical purity and germination by the Washington State Department of Agriculture's seed lab. How much foundation seed is grown depends on demand from seed dealers.



Aaron Jeschke,
Manager of the
Washington State
Crop Improvement
Association

"Part of what drives the production that we are shooting for is our ordering system," Jeschke said. "A seed dealer will be aware of new releases from Washington State University, and we like to have year-in-advance agreements. The seed dealer will list how many pounds they want to order. That will help dictate and drive how much seed we are trying to increase."

The standards for registered and certified class seed aren't quite as strict as foundation seed standards, but each field is still inspected by WSCIA before harvest. Certain weeds, like Canada thistle and bindweed, are so noxious that if found in a field, that field is immediately denied certification. Growers have to rogue the weeds, and the field has to be reinspected before harvest. Jointed goatgrass is also a major concern, and if found, the field is unconditionally rejected. In order to grow certified seed again, the field must go through a reclamation process that takes at least five years in a dryland cropping system.

"WSCIA takes issues like that very seriously," Jeschke said. "That's why

we have standards to follow to make sure growers using certified seed for commercial grain production have high quality seed to plant to help them maximize their yield potential."

All certified seed classes are grown on both dryland and irrigated ground. Jeschke said it takes a different mindset to grow certified seed, and some farmers just don't want to deal with the extra work or smaller acreages that are usually involved, especially with the foundation seed class. But for all the extra time, trouble, and paperwork, growers are paid a premium for growing certified seed crops.

"The premium generally outweighs the cost of growing certified seed," Schafer said. "It's not a windfall, but it's enough to justify doing the extra work. Plus, it really keeps us on our toes to make sure we have clean fields."

Schafer pointed out another advantage; as a certified seed grower, he gets a look at new varieties before they are available for commercial production. ▶

2023 FALL SEED

SOFT WHITE WINTER VARIETIES:

AP Illiad	Curiosity CL+	Devote
LCS Kraken AX	LCS Shine	NW Duet
Piranha CL+	Xerpha	

HARD RED WINTER VARIETIES:

LCS Jet	Rebelde	SY Clearstone CL+
---------	---------	-------------------

CLUB WHEAT VARIETIES:

Castella	Pritchett
----------	-----------

FALL PLANTED DNS VARIETIES:

AP Venom

TRITICALE VARIETIES:

TriCal Flex 719	TriCal Gunner
-----------------	---------------

WINTER BARLEY:

Wintmalt	TriCal Valor (Forage Type)
----------	----------------------------

OTHER CROPS:

Alfalfa, Cover Crops, Custom Blends, CRP, Fall Peas, Forages, Pasture/ Hay Mixes

www.TriStateSeed.com



1000 N. Columbia Ave.
Connell, WA 99326
509-234-2500

MESZ Fertilizer
Blending

Custom Seed
Treatments

Delivery
Options

Mason Douglass 509-380-4425

John Mancini 509-380-1695

Geoff Schulz is the manager of seed operations for HighLine Grain Growers. The company manages grain and seed handling warehouses in eight counties along Highway 2 in Eastern Washington. Schulz works with nearly two dozen growers to grow registered and certified seed.

"Some of the seed growers that I've worked with have said it (growing certified seed) can be a pain. It can slow things down. But what they are finding is they are doing an overall better job on the farm by paying that extra attention to that detail, by taking care of some of their weeds and things they'd normally live with," he said.

The time involved in bringing a new variety to market can be upwards of 10 years or more, and seed dealers have to make some educated guesses on what varieties they think growers will want to grow in order to have enough certified seed ready. Schulz keeps a close eye on what's coming through breeder pipelines; HighLine also has their own research program and test plots. For a new WSU variety, seed dealers request seed a year in advance so WSCIA knows how much foundation seed to produce.

"I'm constantly looking, making decisions — or at least initial plans — now for what we are going to offer three to five years from now," Schulz explained. "I'm looking at a group of varieties that's been released this year and deciding what I'm going to buy foundation seed of to put out there. I'm deciding what is going to be very popular and beneficial to these growers in four and five years and hope nothing changes. It's a very tedious, arduous process. We make a lot of calculated gambles that we think something is going to work."

Schulz said that sometimes they pick a variety that



Geoff Schulz,
Manager of
Seed Operations
for HighLine
Grain Growers

"knocks it out of the park." But for every hugely successful variety, there's two or three other varieties they end up hauling off to a commercial grain channel for one reason or another, such as a quality issue, low falling numbers, or a fatal agronomic flaw.

"Once a variety is released, if we are fairly certain that it's something that's going to be beneficial and growers are going to want to grow it, we want to have enough (foundation) seed year one to have enough seed to cover enough market to make it worth the release," he said.

Like Schafer, Schulz says the certified seed system gives growers peace of mind that they are getting the wheat they are paying for.

"As long as crop improvement, breeders, and the seed industry can work together on realistic expectations and what we write into these variety descriptions is attainable, while ultimately achieving a crop that meets market demands, I think it is very important that growers understand that what they are buying from seed dealers has been taken care of properly and brought forward with the highest level of purity possible," he said. ■

Read more about WSCIA on page 46.

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

See Us for Your OPERATING LINES and EQUIPMENT LOANS

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

DAYTON, WA
257 E. Main St.
509-382-7111

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



Jay Hart
Colfax



Todd Wood
Dayton



Hector Lopez
Pasco



Michael Broeckel
Pasco / Colfax



**Bank of Eastern
Washington**

BEW IS A BRANCH OF BEO / MEMBER FDIC

SAY YES TO JESS! WHERE A HANDSHAKE *Still* MEANS SOMETHING



509.334.6000

JessAuto.com



You Have a Business to Run.

Coleman Oil Company makes it easy for you, your people, and your company. One call is all it takes and we've got you covered throughout the Pacific and Inland Northwest. Your equipment is running on-time, all the time, with lubricants from Chevron and the highest quality fuels made in the U.S.A. You take pride in your equipment and we do the same.

(888) 799-2000

www.colemanoil.com

info@colemanoil.com

Morgan Stanley



Because you support so many we're honored to support you.

It takes more than money to make our world stronger. It takes the efforts of groups like you, Washington's grain growers, who give their time and talents to help the community. The University Group of Morgan Stanley salutes you.



The University Group at Morgan Stanley
Jordan Thayer CFP®

Portfolio Manager

Vice President

Financial Advisor

601 Union St.

Seattle, WA 98101

+1 206 628-4681

Jordan.Thayer@morganstanley.com

<https://advisor.morganstanley.com/jordan.thayer>

WAOIC# 867508

NMLS# 1447645

<https://www.morganstanley.com/articles/serving-clients-country>

CFP Board owns the marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, and CFP® (with plaque design) in the U.S. ©2022 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC. Member SIPC. SUP029 CRC:3938645 01/22 CS 258450_1997812 02/22



Jordan Thayer

This is the second of four financial advice articles that will be appearing in the next few issues of Wheat Life. The information in this series is presented in partnership with Jordan Thayer, a financial advisor with Morgan Stanley who works with growers in Eastern Washington.

Thayer is scheduled to be a break-out session speaker at the 2023 Tri-State Grain Growers Convention in November.

Successful asset allocation means different things at different times

What is asset allocation, and why is it important for farmers to get it right? Jordan Thayer, a financial advisor with Morgan Stanley, breaks it down.

Define assets in this context.

Essentially, asset allocation is the decision surrounding what percentage of your investments should be in stocks vs. bonds vs. farmland vs. heavy equipment vs. cash. This is determined by your specific investing goals, even if you have many at once. If you don't get your asset allocation right — let's say your portfolio should've been 50% stock but it's really 10% stock — it's not going to matter how great your underlying investments are if the stock market is up, and you're missing out on major economic growth. The flip side is also true. If your goals and time horizon indicate you should be invested in something more conservative, then there is little need to invest in more volatile investments with larger potential returns.

What do you mean by asset allocation, and why is it important?

The balance of owning different types of investments can help determine the stability of your portfolio as you move closer to retirement. It also can help improve the long-term growth of your portfolio if you are younger in your investing career.



Who is asset allocation important to? Retired or about-to-be-retired farmers or farmers who are just starting out?

All of the above! Many of our region's retiring farmers end up selling the farm and equipment to the next generation in order to provide the cash flow for them to live on in retirement. Wealth is certainly built within the farm ... but is it accessible?

It's an admirable thing for the next generation to take the reins, but it may be beneficial for the next generation farmer to begin to invest in investments outside the farm like stocks and bonds. As part of a financial plan, those outside investments can grow to provide an income stream for that younger farmer to retire on and not force him or her into selling the farm to the kids, but rather gift portions of it and help give the kids a leg up.

Does asset allocation work differently when a farmer's assets are often land, equipment, or a share of a crop (landlords)?

These things are all assets (just like stocks and bonds) with either a resale value or cash flow potential. As a retiring farmer, cash flow is a top priority in order to pay your bills and enjoy your retirement years. Cash proceeds from crop share leases can certainly serve that priority. The reselling of assets (heavy equipment and machinery) can certainly serve that purpose as well, but finding a willing buyer is the question. Stocks and bonds have a huge market of willing buyers and sellers, hence why you see their prices broadcast far and wide. Heavy equipment and machinery have a more specific buyer, and those assets tend to go down in value with age and use. They are wonderful tools and assets to own, but may not command the prices one would like as they approach retirement.

How does one go about allocating their assets?

Different asset classes have different historical rates of return. When considering differ-

**Serving All Your Seed Cleaning Needs
Plus Grade Improvement For Specialty
Crops – On-Farm Service Since 1967!**



**WHEAT • BARLEY • OATS
SPECIALTY CROPS**

Plan Ahead – Call NOW Reserve Your Cleaning Date



Other Brands Of Seed Treatment Also Available

Custom Seed Conditioning

Frank Hager Elk, WA

509-292-2506 Cell: 509-998-5590

McKay Seed Company, Inc.
SYNERGY



McKay Seed Company is proud to continue our partnership with Albaugh so that we can bring our customers the best possible seed treatment. Designed by scientists in order to protect against your specific regional threats, our SYNERGY custom seed treatments give our customers the tools they need to succeed.

HARD RED WINTER WHEAT

LCS Jet • Keldin • Kairos

BEYOND RESISTANT SOFT WHITE WINTER WHEAT

Curiosity CL+ • UI Magic CL+ • Stingray CL+
Piranha CL+ • Sockeye CL+ • VI Voodoo CL+

SOFT WHITE WINTER WHEAT

Rosalyn • Norwest Duet • Norwest Tandem • Otto • Puma
SY Dayton • AP Exceed • LCS Hulk • LCS Shine • WB1621

CLUB WINTER WHEAT

Pritchett • Castella • Crescent

Rosalia, WA
(Wilhelm)
509-523-3471

Almira, WA
509-639-2293

Moses Lake, WA
509-766-9894

Driven by
ALBAUGH, LLC
SEED TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY

**A M E R I C A N
F A R M + R A N C H**

Lic. in WA, OR & ID
**Northwest
FIRST REALTORS**

• **POMEROY DRYLAND FARM**

625.91± FSA Cropland Acres - listed at \$1,565,000

PENDING!

• **MILL CREEK WEST**

366.96 Acres - listed at \$2,160,488

PENDING!

• **WATERVILLE FARMLAND**

159 Acres - listed at \$255,000

SOLD!

shown here: **LOWDEN
IRRIGATED
FARM/RANCH**
454.77 Acres
listed at \$5,500,000



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

OUR *Roots* RUN DEEP

WALLA WALLA, WA • INFO@NORTHWESTFIRSTREALTORS.COM
509-524-9055 • NorthwestFirstRealtors.com

ent investments, it stands to reason to look at the historical rates of returns of stocks, bonds, and other investment options. My belief is that some basic math should be done to determine the rate of return of the farm and business itself. What is the rate of return of your farming business? No doubt, it is respectable if it supports a grower's family and lifestyle. Would it make sense to add another investment to the mix? It's a question worth asking. If you're going to invest in another 100 acres of land, what are the additional requirements to make that land pay? Another tractor? Another few farmhands plus the cost of benefits? After some thoughtful calculations, you may arrive right back at purchasing more land or tractors. If that's the case, great! I'm just advocating for a thoughtful decision and looking at the numbers.

Does the allocation change over time? In other words, would a retiring farmer want to allocate their assets differently than a 40-year-old farmer?

Oftentimes, yes, it does change over time. A 40-year-old farmer may be comfortable owning some stock in good quality companies, even though the stock market can go

up and down at times. Theoretically, over a 25-30 year holding period, those stocks would be worth more than when they bought them. A 65-year-old farmer getting ready to retire may not want to endure the ups and downs of the stock market and may feel more comfortable in bonds that pay a dividend. Typically, within five to seven years of retirement, a "pre-retiree" would want to reduce the amount that their investments go up and down in value and prefer them to stay stable. That way, a portion of their portfolio can be relied upon to pay month-to-month bills.

As always, a trusted financial advisor can help you determine what stocks and bonds are in your best interest. ■

Jordan Thayer is a financial advisor with the Global Wealth Management Division of Morgan Stanley in Seattle, Wash. The information contained in this article is not a solicitation to purchase or sell investments. Any information presented is general in nature and not intended to provide individually tailored investment advice. The strategies and/or investments referenced may not be appropriate for all investors as the appropriateness of a particular investment or strategy will depend on an investor's individual circumstances and objectives.

CRC 5639090 04/2023



**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




PULLMAN MULTI-PARCEL LAND AUCTION

THONNEY FAMILY FARMLAND ESTD. 1877

B2B **Parcel 1**
124± ACRES

ONLINE-ONLY BIDDING
AUG. 24-28

OFFERED BY:
C.D. "BUTCH" BOOKER
509.397.4451 / 509.989.2855

Parcel 3
114± ACRES

DETAILS AT: Booker2Bid.com

**WASHINGTON
WHEAT
FOUNDATION
ANNEX**

(IN RITZVILLE, WASH.)

FOR RENT

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

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

HEALTHY SOIL = HEALTHY CROPS

BUILDING
HEALTHY
SOIL

+ IMPROVES
WATER
EFFICIENCY

+ IMPROVES
SOIL STRUCTURE

+ IMPROVES
NUTRIENT
CYCLING

BT PLUS
COMPOST

*Make BT PLUS
COMPOST the
foundation of your
Regenerative Agriculture
program.*



BARR-TECH
Compost / Organics Recycling
BUILDING HEALTHY SOILS

509-590-0437 | barr-tech.net

New 2023 Demco Grain Trailer

40ft, 2 Hopper, roll up tarp, front and rear ladder, 11/24/5 tires, spring suspension
\$49,850



2001 KENWORTH T800

Tandem Axle, day cab, C12
Cat, 430 hp, engine rebuilt
June '15, 18 spd. transmission
rebuilt March '21, Jake brake,
axle differential lock, real
clean truck, low miles

\$45,500

Mike's Auto

(509) 725-1765

37502 Mayberry Rd. E.
Davenport WA 99122

Pomeroy Grain Office 509-843-1694

Pomeroy Agronomy 509-843-1394

Colfax Grain Office - Colfax 800-424-5056

Pomeroy Grain Growers



*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

Drone-based business flies high on possibilities

Kurt and Melody Beckley, Altitude Agri Services

By Trista Crossley
Editor, *Wheat Life*

Down in the Tri-Cities, Kurt and Melody Beckley are confident growers will see the possibilities their new drone-based business, Altitude Agri Services, offers.

"I find I'm anticipating that moment when more growers see what the drones are capable of doing, and they want to embrace them and take advantage of the services we can provide," Melody said. "It's been a journey, a lot of fun, working with farmers and state agencies. It's a real joy. Farming is in my roots, and I'm still a farm girl at heart."

Both Beckleys have agriculture in their backgrounds. Melody grew up on an irrigated farm in Royal City, Wash., but went into the legal field after graduating from high school and college. Kurt, whose grandparents were dryland farmers in Ralston, Wash., grew up in Moses Lake. After graduating from Washington State University, he spent 10 years as a commercial crab fisherman in Alaska, worked as an industrial engineer for McCain Foods, and then became a commercial and agricultural banker for 15 years. Kurt's chance encounter with a DJI Agras T30 Agriculture spray drone — and a four-hour chat with the owners — at an ag conference in Kansas City in early 2022 set the Beckleys on their new career path.

"Banking deals with relationships and clientele, and I became a little bit disenfranchised with how banking practices weren't geared towards being wholly beneficial towards the farming industry," Kurt said. "I just really thought, if I want to get back to what I really believe in, and both Melody and I believe in being able



Melody and Kurt Beckley, owners of Altitude Agri Services in the Tri-Cities, are using drones for pesticide and fertilizer applications, as well as mapping, scouting, and monitoring services.

to help people, especially in the ag community, being able to provide another tool to farmers for chemical application purposes, what better way to get back to this and go large scale? So, I ended up coming home and pitching the idea to Melody, and she was very happy about making the transition. We could both see the writing on the wall with banking and making this career transition was a favorable move. We both embraced it and have had good support from friends and family."

Altitude Agri Services' main focus is using drones for pesticide and fertilizer applications, although they also offer mapping, scouting, and monitoring services. They can apply both liquid and dry products. Each of their six DJI Agras T30 drones weigh 56 pounds, have the capacity to hold about 30 liters of liquid/40 kilos of dry product, and measure nine feet from rotor tip to rotor tip. The drones can cover about 30 acres per hour, spraying three gallons per acre, and multiple drones can be used on the same field at the same time. Maps of the area to be sprayed are uploaded to the drones, which then fly mostly automatically, although there are operators standing by who can take over the controls at any moment.

"Most people are hugely surprised when they see the size of these drones," Kurt said. "These are \$30,000 pieces of machinery. It's not like playing a video game. These are not the kind of drones you are going to buy your grandkids."

While using drones to apply chemicals is still relatively new, the Beckleys said there are some real advantages to using the technology, especially when compared to on-ground applications. For dryland wheat farmers, Kurt pointed to losses incurred from "trampling," the tracks left by a spray rig. According to his research, the national average yield loss due to trampling is about 4%. On 100-bushel wheat in a 1,000 acre field, that's a potential yield loss of 4,000 bush-



Happy Independence Day

Join in celebrating the freedom of our Nation on this special day.



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



Joe Behler AAMS®
Financial Advisor
11707 E Sprague Ave
Ste. 103
Spokane Valley WA 99206
509-927-8033



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



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 Mail II
1260 SE Bishop Blvd. Ste C
Pullman, WA 99163
509-332-1564



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

CLASS 8 TRUCKS

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



You never know where a truck's gonna go! It seems like this one would have stayed local and been happy, but a man called and said it needs to go to the American Samoa Islands. So, it gets loaded up, goes to the port of Los Angeles, then on a boat ride down towards Australia. About a 6000 mile journey. Jeff is pointing the way.

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

**NOT JUST TRUCKS,
TRAILERS TOO!**

www.class8trucksales.com

**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**

els, which, depending on the price of wheat, could end up costing a grower tens of thousands of dollars.

"The surprising thing to us, when we would ask farmers, especially 1st or 2nd generation farmers, what their trampling loss is, they say, 'I don't know. I've never tried to analyze it because we have to spray,'" Kurt said. "With drones, we don't have that footprint. There's no impact to the ground."

Kurt pointed out another advantage drones have over fixed wing and ground sprayers — because drones operate on a GPS grid, they can fly at night. Compared to a crop duster flying about 100 miles per hour 50 to 60 feet off the ground, the drones fly 12 to 15 feet off the ground doing six miles per hour. Kurt also feels there are some opportunities for water-use savings (depending on if the chemical's label includes a range for water) since the drones fly much closer to the ground and more slowly than planes do.

"These large-scale, industrial-size drones have a distinct advantage of helping provide better efficacy, better chemical use, potential lower water use," he explained. "The other part of this is we are carbon neutral (the drones are battery-powered). We are hoping to get into sustainable farming carbon credits, the carbon market arena. We can help farmers get additional returns by not using diesel, by minimizing the carbon out in the atmosphere."

In order to fly the drones, the Beckleys and their employees have to be certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). All drone pilots have to have a visual observer with them, as the FAA requires that all drones be kept in visual line of sight at all times, and they have to have at least three miles of visibility.

Altitude Agri Services is one of the largest, if not the largest, drone service providers in Washington state, and as such, is "writing the book on what can go wrong, and how to fix it," Kurt said. But even with the learning curve and the legendary reluctance of many farmers in adopting new technology, the Beckleys say it's been rewarding to work together. Melody, because of her legal background, tends to handle much of the L&I work, compliance, and contracts. Kurt oversees field operations.

"Historically, we come at things from different angles," Melody said. "Since we started going down this path, for whatever reason, we appreciate the fact that we see things differently."

For more information about Altitude Agri Services, visit their website at altitudeagriservices.com. ■

• 3rd Annual •

PALOUSE ANTIQUE TRACTOR PLOWING BEE

LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED

9 AM SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



COLBY DUGGER 509-595-5190 COLBYDUGGER0@GMAIL.COM



SERVING OUR MULTI-GENERATIONAL FARM FAMILIES

2023 FALL SEED

SOFT WHITE WINTER VARIETIES

Devote	LCS Hulk	LCS Shine	Norwest Duet
Otto	Piranha CL+	VI Frost	VI Presto CL+

NEW! SOFT WHITE WINTER COAXIUM NEW!

LCS Kraken AX	LCS Hydra AX
---------------	--------------

CLUB VARIETIES

ARS-Castella	Pritchett
--------------	-----------

HARD RED WINTER VARIETIES

Keldin	LCS Eclipse AX	LCS Evina	LCS Jet	WB4311
--------	----------------	-----------	---------	--------

ALTERNATIVE CROPS AVAILABLE

Triticale	Fall planted peas	Winter barley	Canola	Forages
-----------	-------------------	---------------	--------	---------

CUSTOMIZED SEED TREATMENTS AVAILABLE
SEED PURCHASES ELIGIBLE FOR PATRONAGE

CALL US TO DISCUSS YOUR SEED NEEDS
Geoff Schulz or Ryan Higginbotham
509-796-4141

 Almira 509-639-2431 Harrington 509-253-4604 Reardan 509-796-2575	Farmer 509-745-8551 Odessa 509-982-2691 Wilbur 509-647-5510	
--	--	---

CHIPMAN & TAYLOR CHEVROLET'S
33RD ANNUAL
Classic Car Show



SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 9AM-2PM

CHIPMAN & TAYLOR |  **CHEVROLET**

250 SE BISHOP BLVD, PULLMAN, WA 99163 **FREE ADMISSION!**



SCAN FOR INFO

FARM & HOME SUPPLY
888-643-3395 • 509-843-3395
www.fhsupply.com Pomeroy, WA

NEW KIOTI RX7320PS, cab, loader, 82" QA bucket.....CALL

NEW KIOTI-DK6010SE HST, deluxe cab, loader w/QA72" bucket.....CALL

NEW KIOTI CK3520SE, rops, loader w/ 66" QA bucket..... \$33,227

NEW KIOTI-DK5310SE, 50hp, ROPS, loader w/ QA72" bucketCALL

NEW KIOTI-CX2510 HST, 25hp, cab, loader w/ 50" bucket, mid-mount mowerCALL


KIOTI CK3520SEHCB, cab, loader w/ QA66" bucket.....CALL


NEW KIOTI CK2620, ROPS, loader, 66" QA bucket.....CALL

GREAT PLAINS TURBOMAX,
30', rolling spike harrow and
rolling basket harrow
to firm the soil.
TRUE VERTICAL TILLAGE
DEMO.....\$97,750

2022 BUSH HOG RTX92G 92" rototiller,
 like new\$5,750

ASK ABOUT ZERO DOWN,
0% INTEREST FINANCING


KIOTI



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.

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.

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

**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 BUILDING 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**



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

CHAIRMAN

WASHINGTON GRAIN COMMISSION

By Ben Barstow



A long time ago, in a university classroom far, far away, I walked into the first day of Ag Economics 331, the “agricultural sales” course, sat down, and the professor started his introduction beneath a projection on the screen behind him that read, “IF NOBODY SELLS, A TERRIBLE THING HAPPENS.” He kept the bottom half of the screen with the answer hidden for the next 40 minutes of introduction, finally revealing the “terrible thing” that was going to happen if there were no salespeople. If nobody sells, a terrible thing happens — NOTHING!

It’s a little hard for me to think of the marketing efforts of the Washington Grain Commission (WGC) as salesmanship, but there is no doubt that without grain getting sold, all the production research and education efforts we fund would be of little use to anyone. The professor was right. Nothing of any consequence happens unless there are ongoing sales.

Though we don’t actually sell grain to anyone, the WGC is constantly encouraging customers around the world to buy our wheat. It is a year-round endeavor, expending a big chunk of our budget. Summertime is especially busy with trade teams. Most of these trade team visits are done in collaboration with U.S. Wheat Associates (USW), and the participants will be millers and bakers from around the world who buy about nine of every 10 kernels we grow and sell.

Some of the USW overseas people who recruit, assemble, and organize trade teams were featured in the “Wheat News” section of the June *Wheat Life*, and another of these milling and baking experts, and what they do for our customers, is featured in this issue as the series continues on page 48. Though most of them would probably consider themselves educators who help millers and bakers be more efficient and make better, higher-quality products, these are the real salespeople who champion U.S.-grown wheat. They all like to see more U.S. wheat being used by their clientele and bringing those clients to the source of the wheat they buy can further solidify relationships.

So far this year, we have seen two of these trade teams, and many more are scheduled between now and October. Participants come here to learn about where their wheat comes from, and how it gets from here to there. They tour grain handling facilities, rail terminals,

the lock/dam/barge system, grain inspection and grading offices, farms, research greenhouses, laboratories, and field trials.

Trade teams meet the wheat breeders and learn about the land-grant university breeding programs and their focus on the future quality of the wheat we hope they will buy. We are very fortunate to have one of the four national wheat quality laboratories in our state. They learn about our quality evaluation at the Western Wheat Quality Laboratory in Pullman. Everywhere and always, we are transparent and open with everyone.

Being the current commissioner who happens to live closest to Pullman, I try to join trade teams during their wheat quality lab or Washington State University greenhouse tours. It has been fun and rewarding to run into trade team participants later in their home countries.

All of this educational touring is aimed at showing off our commitment to producing a clean, high-quality product that we have tested every step of the way to make sure it will perform well in their mills and bakeries. It all helps build solid relationships with our customers.

Seeing our transportation system first-hand builds confidence in our ability to deliver what a customer wants within a relatively short window. It may not be making actual sales, but it is sales work. We want them to see that our wheat, and the delivery system that it flows through, has value. And they do! In case you missed it, in the June *Wheat Life*, a flour industry official in the Philippines was quoted as saying, “The quality and logistics of the U.S. — if the weather is good — is like clockwork.”

In Washington, we grow five of the six classes of wheat. This means we can load a ship at a Columbia River port with multiple classes of wheat, something that a lot of ports are not equipped to do. It is a feature of our system that is of great benefit to a foreign miller interested in making multiple flours for different end uses by their customers. Translating features into benefits — it really is sales work.

I hope you will read the features in this issue about some of the amazing people who do the bulk of this work for us around the world. Without their work, a terrible thing happens. ■

Certiably the best

WASHINGTON STATE'S SEED SYSTEM EQUALS HIGH QUALITY, HIGH PURITY PRODUCT

By Jennifer Ferrero

Special to Wheat Life

Ensuring genetically pure seed with a varietal identity is mission-critical for the future of crops in Eastern Washington. That's the take on it from the Washington State Crop Improvement Association (WSCIA, since 1951), which is the group that manages the certification of small grains in Washington. But at the end of the day, the producer works the land and grows the crop, so why is using certified seed the best choice? For growers, pure seed means guaranteed germination, "so growers can maximize yield potential through the use of high-quality certified seed," says Aaron Jeschke. It also means the best possible product is sold to feed people and livestock.

Aaron Jeschke is WSCIA's manager. He joined the group in the fall of 2021. "WSCIA acts as seed stewards ensuring certified seed meets genetic purity, physical

purity, and germination standards," he said.

Jeschke, a Washington State University (WSU) graduate, has an agriculture and criminal justice education. While this is an atypical education for someone in his role, Jeschke says the legal side of his education in criminal justice is invaluable, "because I work with many kinds of contracts and the Washington Administrative Code that dictates the requirements of certified seed production."

Seed certification is done for many crops. WSCIA certifies small grains (including wheat and barley), chickpeas, field peas, lentils, soybeans, buckwheat, millet, sorghum, and forest reproductive material. Additionally, certified seeds are classified into three main categories (classes) for each released variety: foundation, registered, and certified. A distinctive tag is attached to each bag to denote the seed class. Each shipment of certified seed should be



The Washington State Crop Improvement Association (WSCIA) manages the certification of small grains in Washington. Pictured from left are (front row) Aaron Jeschke, WSCIA manager; Darlene Hilkin, foundation seed office manager; Rebecca Hulsey-Griffith, certification office specialist; and Katie Whetzel, finance officer. (Back row) Darryl Krause, foundation seed operations supervisor; Jake Nelson field program supervisor; and Karen Olstad, finance officer.

Certified seed classes

Foundation seed (white tag) is multiplied from breeder seed or existing foundation seed and is grown under the supervision of a Foundation Seed Program of either the public or private institution controlling the variety.

Registered seed (purple tag) is produced from either breeder or foundation seed. Registered seed is available in regular market channels and is typically required to produce certified seed.

Certified seed (blue tag) is the most encountered certified seed class and is the large-volume class sold to growers for producing a commercial crop of the variety. It is produced from either foundation or registered seed stock. ■

tagged or accompanied by a bulk certificate.

For Jeremy Tamsen and WSU, seed certification is a “key part of the production chain for any qualifying crop. Not all crops have seed certifications or standards.” He noted that grasses and small grains are susceptible to contamination. “Without certified seed, we don’t know if it is high purity, weed-free, and meets germination standards. It is vital for us. We want to develop and test the top-yielding varieties throughout the research on small grains. When we can offer seed to farmers, it must meet the quality we selected out of thousands of plants. Without certification, we don’t know what you are getting.”

Tamsen is the director of innovation and commercialization for WSU’s College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences. His role includes working with staff researchers and students on their inventions to help them bring products to market, including new plant varieties. He advises on patents, licensing, and varieties covered by Plant Variety Protection (PVP) certificates, and because of that, he says a law degree in this role is helpful. His stakeholders also include third-party businesses, farmers, and entrepreneurs, and people in the university conducting research. Tamsen had worked in a similar role at the University of Idaho for seven years before joining WSU a year ago.

Jeschke also feels that seed certification is essential, as many varieties are protected by PVP, licenses, or patents and are required to be sold only as a class of certified seed. He explains that each seed production field must meet the land history requirement, and WSCIA must have proper seed stock documents with the field inspection application. Before harvest, WSCIA teams inspect

each field to look for contaminants such as noxious weeds, off-types, and other small grains contamination such as rye or triticale. Once the seed is harvested, it is conditioned/cleaned and sampled. The Washington State Department of Agriculture conducts the lab analyses for purity and germination of the seed.

Jeschke has a long history in the Pacific Northwest and experienced farm life as a kid when visiting his grandfather in Genesee, Idaho. He said returning to Pullman in 2021 was “like coming home” to him. His main stakeholders include the board of directors for WSCIA and seed dealers. WSCIA is also a part of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA.org).

Tamsen said, “Washington raises over 300 different commodities, from timber to apples to wheat, and WSU supports every single one of those industries.” He said WSU is involved in finding solutions for the industry through research. Therefore, weather or crop-related issues fall into the purview of the college to create solutions or new cultivations.

Tamsen summarized, “Buying uncertified seed is like buying ‘mystery meat’ and feeding it to your entire family raw — you don’t know what you’ll get. When your entire business is based on the crop you’re growing, you don’t want mystery meat in your ground.” ■

Read more about the certified seed system and the farmers who grow the seed on page 32.

Do you have noxious weeds?

Aaron Jeschke, manager of the Washington State Crop Improvement Association (WSCIA), said that noxious weeds are a big concern for field purity. He said, “They can contaminate the seed supply and cause major problems.”

Jointed goatgrass, which can also cross with wheat to hybridize and spread, is difficult for growers to control. “If WSCIA finds jointed goatgrass in a seed field, that field is flat-out rejected for certification. This is one of the reasons why WSCIA inspects each field before harvest.”

Additionally, suppose WSCIA finds jointed goatgrass in the field. Not only is that seed field rejected for certification, but also that field is no longer eligible for certified seed production. There is a reclamation process where a field can be brought back into eligibility for certification, and WSCIA must inspect it every year to ensure goatgrass is not present. For dryland production, WSCIA must inspect annually for five years and irrigated production for three years. ■



WGC Exclusive | Peter Lloyd

Legend in Wheat

**Continues Quest to Bring
Better Flour to the World**

The humble apron doesn't convey the storied career Peter Lloyd built over four decades as an invaluable resource around the world for commercial millers and bakers. But that's just fine with him.

His job title, regional technical director, does not do justice to his global responsibilities. Based at the U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) office in Casablanca, Morocco, Lloyd travels the world to conduct technical support that helps prove the value of U.S. wheat.

"Our objective remains the success of the people we support," he asserted. "Why? Because successful millers and bakers are most likely to buy what we have to offer: high-quality wheat from high-quality farmers to produce high-quality flour for high-quality products."

Lloyd grew up around wheat and milling. "Having a master miller for a father, and a wheat farmer's daughter for a mother set the foundation," Lloyd said. "An early career in flour mill engineering, then applied research and development in Denmark sharpened up the technical skills learned, along with the experience and challenges of starting one's own business."

Continued, next page

EXPERT PROFILE

MILLING NEWS Industry Insights - U.S. Soft White Wheat

Secret Ingredient: USW's International Man of Milling



Peter Lloyd teaches a 2014 milling seminar in Cairo.

In 2022, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) conducted a Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) grain inspection and certification training at the Moroccan Milling Training Institute (IFIM) in Morocco for countries across Northern Africa, then again in Dubai for the Arab Gulf Region countries. Peter Lloyd and retired senior FGIS staff Bill Azmy were the instructors.

Working with schools extends knowledge of U.S. wheat value to flour millers throughout North and East Africa, as well as the Middle East. Cost remains a dominating factor when purchasing wheat in the Arab Gulf market. By educating millers and processors, who need the specific information about the differing performance of U.S. soft red winter and soft white wheat classes, USW is building the case that U.S. soft wheat offers greater value than competitors because it does not require additives that millers must use with cheaper wheat from other origins.

Educating regional milling and baking companies on the use of solvent retention capacity (SRC) soft wheat flour analysis has also been key. This multiple-year activity started in 2016 by Lloyd and the USW technical experts team based in Morocco. A series of educational activities funded by the Quality Samples Program (QSP) and Market Access Program (MAP) have helped at least four regional millers and baking organizations incorporate SRC analysis into their quality assurance processes, a beneficial change for soft red and white wheats. ■

USW NEWS
Testimonials
**Companies across Asia
rely on the technical
expertise of USW**

An executive with a large flour milling company in the Philippines said Lloyd has been an invaluable resource for the better part of 10 years, giving advice ranging from mill cleanliness and fumigation to more complex topics like milling economics and flour customization.

“We cannot thank him enough for all his help. He is a true encyclopedia of flour milling.



Peter Lloyd observes operations at a flour mill near Beijing, China, during a visit in 2017.

A Chinese milling executive said Lloyd's efforts helped his team better understand the processing characteristics of the individual classes of U.S. wheat.

“His constructive opinions on our production process have helped us be more efficient in milling U.S. wheat and helped improve the competitiveness of our flour products.

“I have the best job in the world.”

Peter Lloyd travels as much as 250 days per year teaching the value of U.S. wheat.

Continued from previous page.

Lloyd first joined USW in 1991 to manage responsibilities for developing a new Egyptian milling school in Cairo and see it through its first two years of operation. He directed construction and curriculum development and discovered a love of teaching that he would take with him the rest of his career.

After a stint at the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland, Ore., he returned to the UK and consulting work in 1998.

“Working with the director, Bob Drynan (who had also worked for USW and the California Wheat Commission), wheat growers, the grain trade, and the researchers at USDA and Washington State University was one of the most enjoyable periods in my career,” Lloyd said.

Over the next two decades, Lloyd's professional curiosity took him from Casablanca at the Moroccan Milling Training Institute (IFIM) milling school, through Dubai to pick up new updates in mill operations, returning to USW in 2005 to run the Tunisian Outreach Program, and then back to Casablanca where his work in support of U.S. wheat export market development in North and South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and occasionally Latin America and Europe, continues today.

The variety of countries, technical skill lev-



CUSTOMER INTERVIEW

“Long live U.S. Wheat Associates!”- Mr. Moulay Abdelkader, president of the National Milling Federation (NFM) in Morocco (pictured above), concluded his remarks at the celebration of the USW 40th anniversary in 2020 with this sentiment. A longstanding partner with USW, the NMF opened its Milling Training Institute in 1993, which trains milling technicians working in North Africa and the Arabian Gulf countries.

els, and technologies make his role a totally unique experience, “as are the wonderful colleagues I have the chance to work with,” Lloyd said. “We don't buy anything or sell anything. There is no ‘order book’ to fill. We can give our honest opinion to a customer about what we would do in his shoes, and he can choose to take that advice or leave it.”

Lloyd can attest that USW is a trusted partner for many customers globally, “the result of many decades of dedication from my predecessors,” he said.

“USW is the best organization I could hope to have worked for. We are a small team but a strong team, with a unique strength in the ‘people-to-people business’ that makes up what we do.

“That I can do what I love from within a framework at USW where I feel valued, trusted, safe, and welcome all add up to having the best job in the world,” Lloyd said. ■

USW NEWS
Industry Insights - Regional Profile

Customer Mindset.

“Our customers welcome us to their offices, listen to what we have to say, and trust us,” said Peter Lloyd. “End products are made from flour, not whole wheat kernels, so the growth of the milling and food processing industries are inextricably linked,” he noted.

“As much as any foodstuff, wheat-based products have a prominent place in shopping baskets in every country of the world and for every income group for the foreseeable future. And there are more and more shoppers every day.” ■



60% Cake, biscuits (cookies), and pastry consumption in the Arab Gulf Region has surged over the past 15 years. Cake consumption has grown 39% from 2007 to 2022 and is expected to rise another 60% by 2026. Retail volume for pastries has experienced the greatest growth, increasing from 246,000 metric tons in 2007 to 376,000 metric tons in 2022, a 53% jump. ■

Defining success?


To me success is defined as leaving the world a better place than we found it. We only take with us the love and respect of others that we have earned along the way.

- Peter Lloyd/USW Casablanca

WGC Exclusive | Q&A

How does this expert stay on top of his game?



"I try to learn something new every day, regardless of the source."

My job helps me to keep on top of the milling game – as I am exposed to the latest and greatest in the industry on a regular basis."

EXPERT PROFILE
Greatest Strengths?

Peter is completely committed to our mission to return value to the farmers we represent and their customers.

- Ian Flagg/USW Regional VP

MILLING NEWS Industry Insights - U.S. Soft White Wheat

Bringing Attention to U.S. Soft White Wheat in the UAE

U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) has focused its efforts on the intrinsic functional quality of U.S. soft white (SW) and soft red winter (SRW) for cookie, cake, and pastry consumption in the Arab Gulf region.

And the markets have grown sharply, including a global baking company opening a large-volume cookie and snack manufacturing facility in 2018 in Bahrain, an island country situated in the Persian Gulf. To support regional flour millers in supplying this and other snack makers, USW has utilized the Quality Samples Program (QSP) and the Market Access Program (MAP) through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service.

QSP has proven to be a versatile tool to demonstrate the value of SW wheat flour to milling and baking companies in overseas markets. For example, USW shipped several containers of SW to a flour milling and baking customer in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). That wheat arrived in November 2020, and USW guided the company through milling and cookie production virtually. The company liked SW quality and performance, yet end-consumer resistance to a premium price held back commercial sales.

However, USW's introduction of solvent retention capacity flour analysis (SRC) and other activities helped this UAE miller prove that it can supply flour milled from SW or SRW that meets the extremely specific flour quality demands, and price point, required by the large regional manufacturer. USW provided marketing and technical support multiple times in 2021, including virtual consulting, to help the company present specifications of SW and SRW flour to its regional customer. The activities included the first in-person technical support in October 2021.

The next hurdle was the market. Following the Pacific Northwest drought in 2021, SW export prices increased dramatically, and the cost of U.S. SRW wheat imports also increased. But even with these market challenges, U.S. SRW commercial sales to the UAE in 2021-22 was up from the year prior (2020-21), as was SW commercial sales. The increased sales in the face of high prices and a cost-sensitive market show how the tools taught by Lloyd prove that the value gained from high-quality U.S. wheat justifies the cost.

USW conducted a similar activity under QSP and MAP with the Kuwait Flour Mills and Bakeries in 2021. ■



Peter Lloyd

U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) - Middle Eastern, East/North African Region, Casablanca, Morocco

BAKING NEWS

Longer shelf life, cleaner labels

The USW effort to extend the shelf life of breads and baked goods is an ideal subject for baker education and a perfect topic for USW's training courses and technical support for its overseas customers. It also benefits retailers, distributors, and the U.S. wheat industry.

Expanding the window of time breads and cakes remain fresh helps retailers, food distributors, and bakers around the world grow their businesses. This, in turn, grows the U.S. wheat industry, which provides a key ingredient for baked goods in international markets.

"This is achieved by using very high-quality wheat, which has a slower rate of natural staling than some lower-cost wheats," Peter Lloyd, USW regional technical manager based in Morocco, said. "Our efforts in the European Union and Middle East regions also promote the use of hard red spring wheat in bread as a way of getting to cleaner labeling (fewer additives), a growing issue in that part of the world."

With the help of Lloyd and USW Baking Consultant Roy Chung, who is based in Singapore, USW plans to offer baker education that will bring more consumers quality bakery products made with U.S. wheat.

"We are planning a course that addresses the many details involved in reaching more consumers with quality bakery products made with U.S. wheat, and from the conversations we have had, there is tremendous interest everywhere," said Chung.

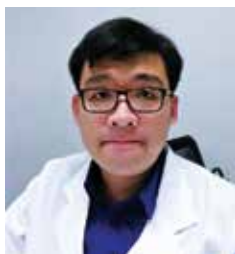
More online
<https://bit.ly/43IS0he>



Up Next

USW Technician Ting Liu

This U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) cereal chemist promotes the reliability, quality and value of all six U.S. wheat classes for the USW office in Beijing, China.



Up Next

USW Technician Wei-Lin Chou

Also a USW cereal chemist, this baking expert stationed in Taipei, Taiwan, conducts technical support that helps prove the value of U.S. wheat to customers across Southeast Asia.

Issue No. 2 of 5

Milling and Baking Expert Profile Series

www.wagrain.org

Global Market Influencer

USW technical expertise reaches across the globe

Peter Lloyd is a fixture in the starting line-up of USW's technical programming, helping introduce U.S. soft white (SW) and soft red wheat (SRW) to the Arab Gulf Region.

Market Snapshot

Arab Gulf Region:

Bahrain	Qatar
Kuwait	Saudi Arabia
Oman	UAE

Top 3 Products:	%
Flat Bread	75
Pastries	11
Leavened Bread	5

Product Growth:	%
Pastries	53
Cake	39
Biscuits/Cookies	4

(based on data 2007-2022)

On the other side of Asia, in 2018, Lloyd trained Taiwanese millers and product managers on club wheat milling and baking of sponge cakes, cookies, and steam buns through the China Grain Products Research and Development Institute. Lloyd was onsite to consult on testing of club wheat, donated by the **Washington Grain Commission**, in the mill and with the bake team using various ratios of white club with SW flour.

Between 2018-19 and 2019-20, white wheat sales to Taiwan jumped from 143,600 metric tons to 168,175 metric tons (17%). ■

Highlight

U.S. wheat in the Middle East *Your wheat in action.*

Wheat Blend Calculator

This milling tool created by Peter Lloyd helps millers blend flour streams from different U.S. wheat classes, and builds a preference for U.S. wheat supplies.



Baklava

This layered, flaky dessert of phyllo dough and sweet filling is one of the most well-known of Middle Eastern cuisine.



Happy ending

Ma'amoul are stuffed, shortbread-style cookies made with flour or semolina. Desserts are seen as symbols of friendship, joy, and generosity and are an essential part of any special occasion.



Washington Grain Commission hosts USW at the Wheat Marketing Center in 2022.

From left: Brian Cochran, Brian Liedl, Gary Bailey, Mary Palmer Sullivan, Peter Lloyd, Mike Carstensen, and Ben Barstow

Tech Insights - Top Quotes

Behind the Scenes: Q&A with a Wheat Hall of Famer

We sat down with Peter Lloyd for some insight on where he draws inspiration and what motivates him.

Who are your heroes?

My late mom and dad; Margaret Thatcher; Queen Elizabeth II; and President Ronald Reagan.

What do you do to destress?

I used to design, build, and fly RC model airplanes when this was still permitted where I live. Now it is mostly spending time on our own tiny farm.

What inspirational quote do you try to emulate/live by?

My dad said, learn something new each and every day. The day you think you know everything about flour milling, leave the business because your mind has closed.

What's your legacy?

I hope that I will be remembered and ultimately judged as someone who positively impacted the lives and livelihoods of others around the world, hopefully as a God-fearing man of integrity.

What would you say to a Washington farmer?

Thank you for the opportunity to represent those growing some of the best wheat in the world, and I would ask, what can we do better for you? ■



Predicting performance

GENOMIC SELECTION HELPS WEED OUT UNSUITABLE VARIETIES EARLY IN THE PROCESS

By Arron Carter

Winter Wheat Breeder and O.A. Vogel Endowed Chair of Wheat Breeding and Genetics, Washington State University

Sometimes, I feel like plant breeding is like the NFL draft. There are thousands of players out there, and, like an NFL scout, I walk around and look at their performance history and associated numbers.

In both scenarios, we find players (or in my case, breeding lines) that have a strong performance over the years. We then take a chance on them. NFL teams draft players hoping their performance in high school and college will translate into superior performance on the NFL team, and maybe even a future MVP. In my case, I hope performance over the multiple years of testing in various small plots trials throughout Washington will result in similar performance under full-scale commercial production.

What if an NFL scout had to make that selection without any previous knowledge? What if all you could do was look at a player in high school and decide if they would make it in the NFL. I am sure the accuracy of prediction would be very low. Looking just at a person on a high school football team and predicting they will be a future MVP of the NFL would be difficult. Many times, I do the same thing in my early generation plant breeding trials. I walk tens of thousands of rows, and basically, the only information I have is what the plant looks like. I can see when it flowers, how tall it is, how many tillers it has, how many seeds per head it has, but that is about it. Every now and then, we might get some stripe rust in the field, and I can evaluate for disease tolerance, but that does not happen every year, 2021 and 2023 being good examples. And then, it is very difficult to predict if a particular line has snow mold tolerance, good winter hardiness, good end-use quality, etc. All these traits are subsequently tested for over multiple years for evaluation. Each year, lines are discarded from the program (what we call negative selection) because they do not meet our standards. Eventually, one line rises to the top as having all the trait combinations and is released as the next cultivar. Our prediction accuracy during this process can be low. We start with thousands of lines in field testing, only to end up with one for commercial release. So, what if there was a way we could increase our prediction accuracy?

The field of genomics has been making major improvements over the past decade in wheat. We now have the first whole genome sequence of wheat. We have the capability of finding hundreds of DNA markers in wheat. As a reminder, a DNA marker is a region of the DNA that is associated with a specific trait of interest. We have the capabilities to identify polymorphisms, which are differences at the DNA level, between different lines of interest. For example, if you took the well-known cultivars

Selecting for excellence: What would your 'Wheat Variety Draft' look like?

	Emergence	Plant Height	Heading Date	Test Weight	Cold Tolerance	Adaptation	End-Use Quality	Snow Mold Tolerance	Stripe Rust Resistance	Genomic Estimated Rust Resistance
WSU0001	80%	35 inches	Late	62.3 lb/bu	Very Good	Low Rainfall	Desirable	Tolerant	No 2023 Data	Resistant
WSU0002	60%	30 inches	Early	61.9 lb/bu	Average	High Rainfall	Most Desirable	Moderately Tolerant	No 2023 Data	Resistant
WSU0003	75%	32 inches	Average	61.3 lb/bu	Very Good	Broadly	Desirable	Moderately Tolerant	No 2023 Data	Moderately Susceptible
WSU0004	85%	34 inches	Average	62.5 lb/bu	Very Good	Broadly	Acceptable	Tolerant	No 2023 Data	Moderately Resistant
WSU0005	60%	30 inches	Early	62.0 lb/bu	Very Good	Broadly	Desirable	Moderately Susceptible	No 2023 Data	Resistant
WSU0006	65%	31 inches	Average	60.9 lb/bu	Average	High Rainfall	Most Desirable	Moderately Susceptible	No 2023 Data	Moderately Resistant
WSU0007	75%	35 inches	Late	61.5 lb/bu	Very Good	Low Rainfall	Desirable	Tolerant	No 2023 Data	Moderately Resistant

This mock "Wheat Variety Draft" table illustrates how to imagine the wheat variety selection process as a fantasy football draft. You have a pool of players (wheat varieties) with different strengths and characteristics. By envisioning the selection process as a fantasy football draft, you can approach it strategically, with careful consideration of traits, and an eye to building a winning team that will deliver the best results for your farm.

Eltan and Madsen and sequenced them, you would find tens of thousands of polymorphisms between them — regions in their DNA that are different and make them unique cultivars.

What does all this have to do with plant breeding, selection, and selection efficiency? For years, animal breeders have been using a technique called genomic selection. This is a process where selection of an animal to be used in mating is determined on their genetics, not on their phenotypic performance. With our improved knowledge of wheat genomics, we can now use this in wheat breeding.

To use genomic selection, you first gather up thousands of lines that have both genotypic and phenotypic data collected on them. In my breeding program, we use past breeding lines that we have already collected data on as part of the breeding process. A computer program is used to associate every DNA polymorphism (or difference) between the lines with the associated trait of interest. We then go to new lines that have only been genotyped but have no phenotype data associated with them yet. Using this computer program, we look at all the DNA polymorphisms in these new lines and find the lines with the highest number of polymorphisms that are associated with our favorable traits. The program returns an "estimated breeding value" that is an indication of how well the line is expected to perform for a certain trait given its genotype.

What is the value in all of this? When I now look at lines for the first time, not only can I see what they visu-

ally look like, but I have estimates of performance for traits I am interested in. If I look at a line and it visually looks appealing but has a low estimate for disease resistance or end-use quality, I can pass it over. This prevents us from spending valuable resources field testing lines that will not meet expectations. It also allows us to make estimates in years we cannot get data from the field. For example, in 2021 and 2023 when we did not have much disease pressure in the field, I could still make an estimate to assist with selection. Since we do not get end-use quality data in time for planting decisions, I can make estimates of quality and not replant anything that has a low estimate. It has proven to be a very useful tool in the breeding program.

We can use this process for many traits, although some are more useful in predicting than others. For traits with a little simpler genetic control, like end-use quality or disease resistance, the accuracy of prediction is very high. For more complex traits like grain yield, predictions can be lower. Regardless, the ability to have these estimated prediction values is proving more useful than having nothing at all. As more data is collected on different traits and more is understood about wheat genetics, this process will continue to improve.

Relying on both genetic and phenotypic data to make selections is becoming common in breeding programs. There will always be a need to test breeding lines under field conditions, but using genomic selection will assist in selecting and advancing lines that have the best chance of become the next great cultivar. ■

WHEAT WATCH

WASHINGTON GRAIN COMMISSION

Crops lose luster as growing season continues



By Mike Krueger
Founder, The Money Farm

Same tune. Different day, month, and year. Volatility. These markets haven't lost their volatile nature, but prices suffered big declines in late April and May as the spring crops got planted very timely. Corn and soybean planting and emergence on a national level were way ahead of normal levels. A dry May nearly everywhere allowed this rapid crop progress. The dry conditions, however, have refused to go away, and now the markets have shifted gears. Instead of talking about perfect planting conditions and a good chance to reach the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) record corn and soybean yield projections, the trade started to worry about the expanding drought and a real possibility the USDA's yield and production estimates can't happen.

Corn and soybean futures led the early June rally, but wheat became a strong follower. Chart 1 is the Kansas City July futures contract through June 16. This contract has been bouncing back and forth in a \$2 range since early May.

Weather has become the key market force. The month of May was the second warmest on record in Fargo, N.D. The first 10 days of June were the warmest on record. The central Corn Belt (Illinois) has been extremely dry with occasional hot temperatures. Less than 50% of the Illinois corn crop was rated good to excellent in mid-June.

Weather has become the bullish factor, but slack demand continues to be the bearish factor. U.S. wheat prices have remained uncompetitive in world markets. Export sales lag the USDA's estimates. In fact, European wheat has reportedly been imported into the U.S. with more rumored to be on the way. Russia continues to export wheat at a record pace and at very cheap levels. Russia has continually lowered their stated minimum wheat export price over the past several months. It has dropped from \$275 per metric ton, or \$7.50 per bushel, to \$235 per metric ton, or \$6.40 per bushel. The reality is the minimum wheat export price doesn't exist.

The "export corridor" from Ukraine through the Black Sea has also operated without interruption. There are often very long shipping delays at inspection points,

but that hasn't detracted vessel owners from shipping through the Black Sea. The agreement is again set to expire in July. Russia says they won't extend it again without significant reductions in sanctions by the West. These threats have been idle threats in the past.

The June USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report didn't make any significant adjustments to U.S. production or ending supply estimates. The 2023 winter wheat crop is now forecast at 1.665 billion bushels. That compares to 2022 production of 1.659 billion bushels. The problem, of course, was that the southern Plains' hard red winter wheat crop was badly hurt by drought and some freeze damage. Keep in mind that winter wheat planted acres were up significantly from 2022, but harvested acres will be well below the long-term average, and yields are also very disappointing. Kansas, the largest hard red winter wheat producing state by far, is expected to harvest 191 million bushels. That is down from 244 million last year. Hard red winter wheat supplies will be very tight during this marketing year. Soft red winter wheat production, on the other hand, is big. More acres and ideal conditions resulted in production climbing to 402 million bushels compared to 336 million bushels last year. Soft red winter wheat will need to find a home. Soft white wheat production is expected to total 199 million bushels compared to 225 million a year ago.

The final two pieces of the U.S. wheat puzzle are hard red spring wheat and durum. The hot and dry May and early June had a negative impact on spring wheat potential. There were many reports of spring wheat across North Dakota starting to head at just a foot tall. That isn't a good sign. The first USDA spring wheat and durum production estimates will come in July. They will be below early estimates.

The U.S. corn and soybean crops also lost their luster in June as the drought across the central Corn Belt intensified. The USDA's early estimates of a record 181.5 bushel per acre corn yield (173.3 last year) and a record 52 bushel per acre soybean yield (49.5 last year) are now in jeopardy. The USDA is forecasting increases in corn and soybean ending supplies based on these record yield estimates. Corn ending supplies are projected to increase from 1.452 billion bushels to 2.257 billion bushels. That is bearish if it happens. Each bushel of yield, increase

Chart 1: Kansas City July futures contracts

or decrease, will add or subtract about 85 million bushels from the corn carryout, assuming demand doesn't change. Should the corn yield drop to last year's 173.3 bushel per acre, ending supplies could drop to about 1.5 billion bushels. It doesn't take a yield disaster to change the corn outlook.

The soybean situation is similar. The USDA is estimating soybean ending supplies will increase from 230 million bushels in the current marketing year to 350 million bushels next year. We will harvest about 87 million acres of soybeans. Just a two-bushel yield decline from the record estimate could drop the soybean carryover back down to below 200 million bushels.

This is why weather and yield potential are so critical over the next two months. Relatively small yield losses from the current estimates are significant.

Record corn and soybean crops in Brazil have also been bearish, but they have been factored into prices. The large speculative trading funds were short wheat, corn, and soybean futures heading into June. The funds were also short a record number of Chicago wheat futures contracts. Funds have been covering short positions since the weather patterns turned warmer and drier. The ques-

tion is, will they shift to long positions?

There are several world crop and weather situations that will affect prices. We are moving from three years of La Niña to an El Niño weather pattern. This can have a negative influence on crop production in Australia. The Indian monsoon has again gotten off to a slow and erratic start. Northern Europe has been dry, as has Argentina.

We are still dealing with geopolitical issues with China, Russia, and others. Demand is also somewhat suspect as interest rates, inflation, and high commodity prices temper consumption. China recently lowered interest rates in an attempt to stimulate their economy. Expect the market volatility to continue at least through the Northern Hemisphere's growing season and likely beyond. ■

A licensed commodity broker, **Mike Krueger** is a past senior analyst for World Perspectives, a Washington, D.C., agricultural consulting group, and served as a director of the Minneapolis Grain Exchange. He founded two grain marketing consulting companies, Agri-Mark and The Money Farm. He continues to write about agricultural markets for industry-related publications. He resides in Fargo, N.D.

HORSE HEAVEN

Bickleton museum celebrates 100-year-old wooden carousel, showcases history of eastern Klickitat County

By Trista Crossley

Editor, Wheat Life

Every year, during the second full weekend in June, Bickleton, Wash., is overrun with horses, but only some of them are real.

Tucked away on the west end of the Horse Heaven Hills in eastern Klickitat County, Bickleton, population 90, features an impressive list of gems: it hosts one of the state's oldest rodeos; is the home of the state's oldest, still-operating tavern; and is the self-proclaimed bluebird capital of the world. But the diamond in the town's collection is the fully restored, fully operational, wooden, 1905 Herschell-Spillman Steam Riding Gallery Track Machine, the only type of this carousel on the West Coast and only one of 13 in the entire U.S.

Most of the time, the carousel is displayed indoors at the Alder Creek Pioneer Carousel Museum in downtown Bickleton, where visitors can marvel over the 24 wooden horses and four chariots. Once a year, coinciding with the annual Alder Creek Pioneer Association Picnic and Rodeo, the carousel is moved to a nearby park where visitors can take rides on it.

Sandra Powers and Lynn Mains are part of the volunteer, five-member board that operates the museum and, by extension, the carousel.

"In the olden days, they left (the carousel) on in Cleveland Park. Wood and weather don't go together. It was in horrific disrepair," said Mains.

Restoration work began in the late 1960s and slowly gathered steam through the early 2000s. By 2003, all of the horses had been restored, and attention turned to the chariots. At this point, Powers said, the community had some inkling about the value of the carousel and started looking for a place to store it indoors. In 2005, the county purchased land for a museum, which was built the next year, thanks to local legislators who included money in the state's capital budget. The museum opened in 2007, with the carousel as the centerpiece. Very quickly, however, the museum began to outgrow the space. In 2018, again with funding from the state's capital budget, the museum expanded, more than doubling its space.

Carousel aside, the museum focuses on the history of eastern Klickitat County and includes displays on the history of wheat farming; Native Americans; a military wall of honor; a collection of indigenous taxidermic wildlife; branding irons; old tools; arrowheads; a music parlor and barber-shop; and books on area genealogy. The museum often features special exhibits, such as a 500-piece display of Pyrex dishes that is currently on loan to the institution.

"The carousel horses are what got us the money. They are the root of it all," Mains said.

"People have been very generous with their donations," Powers added. "Some of our displays are overriding (the carousel). There is so much history in here." ►





The 1905 Herschell-Spillman Steam Riding Gallery Track Machine is reassembled during the Alder Creek Pioneer Association Picnic and Rodeo every year. For \$.50 youngsters and the young at heart can take a spin on the carousel (above, left). The rest of the time, the carousel horses are on display at the (left) Alder Creek Pioneer Carousel Museum in Bickleton, Wash. (Above) Sandra Powers (left) and Lynn Mains are part of the volunteer board that operates the museum, which includes (below) displays on Native Americans, ranching, and wheat farming.



Keeping the area's history accessible is important to both Mains and Powers.

"I think children need to come into some place like this. Children today have no idea how people lived at one time," Powers said. "I'm a history buff, so I think the history is important. You need to know what's happened in our area."

The museum is open from the first full weekend of April to the last weekend of September, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday from noon until 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. The Alder Creek Pioneer Carousel Museum is located at 4 East Market Street in Bickleton and can be reached at bickletonmuseum@gmail.com. Please note, except for the aforementioned weekend in June, the carousel horses can only be viewed at the museum, not ridden. ■



The museum often features special exhibits, such as this 500-piece display of Pyrex dishes that is currently on loan to the institution.

Wooden carousel was purchased in 1929 for \$500

According to the Alder Creek Pioneer Carousel Museum, the town's Herschell-Spillman Steam Riding Gallery Track Machine first opened at the Oaks Amusement Park in Portland, Ore., in 1905. (Fun fact: Oaks Park is one of the oldest, continually operating amusement parks in the U.S.). The carousel was manufactured in North Tonawanda, N.Y., between 1890 and 1905. It is a two-row, portable track machine, meaning there is no overhead mechanism. The horses are rocked by an arm that connects from a rocker bar below the horses. The carousel is driven by tires on a track beneath the deck, and the machine is run by a belt from an external engine.

In 1929, the Alder Creek Pioneer Association formed a committee to purchase a merry-go-round. Four members went to Portland and spent four days dismantling and loading the carousel onto a railroad boxcar, which was sent to Roosevelt, Wash. At Roosevelt, the carousel was loaded onto trucks, brought to Bickleton's Cleveland Park, and reassembled. Total cost of the carousel, band organ, and steam engine was \$500. It opened that same year at the 19th annual Pioneer Picnic and Rodeo, bringing in \$268.98 with rides costing 5

cents each. The local newspaper, the *Bickleton News*, declared, "Alder Creek Pioneer Association has purchased its own merry-go-round, which is bigger and better than any ever set up in Klickitat County."

Originally, the carousel was powered by a steam engine that operated at 120 pounds of steam pressure with a water temperature of 356 F. The boiler held 90 gallons of water and used five to 10 gallons per hour. It took one and a half hours to develop enough steam pressure to give rides. Eventually, the steam engine was replaced by a belt-drive tractor, then a belt-driven electric motor, and now a cable driven by an electric motor.

In early 2004, the original steam engine was found and purchased for \$3,200. The band organ is a Wurlitzer Model 3534 and is original to the carousel. It was imported from Germany in the late 1890s. It is a 31-key, hand-cranked organ, but is sadly believed to be beyond repair.

Restoration work on the carousel has been funded by pin sales, memorials, donations, and grants from the National Carousel Association, the American Carousel Society, and Klickitat County Economic Development. ■



(Clockwise from top left) The Alder Creek Pioneer Carousel Museum in Bickleton, Wash., celebrates both the town's wooden carousel and the history of eastern Klickitat County. The museum is organized into "pods" that present history and artifacts related to specific topics, such as this replica of an old schoolroom.

Declan Moore operates the carousel at the 2023 Alder Creek Pioneer Association Picnic and Rodeo.

The clothes-washing pod. Other pods featured county military history, a music parlor, and indigenous taxidermic wildlife.

This year, Zac Moore was carousel chair, which meant he was responsible for the ride's operation during the picnic and rodeo weekend.

For \$.50, people could ride the 1905 wooden carousel with its meticulously restored horses and carriages.



THE BOTTOM LINE

Effective communication FOR the farm

By Tim Cobb

Owner, Farmland Company

In an industry where your “word” often carries more weight than a written agreement, effective communication between agricultural stakeholders is key to long-term success. Solid and forthright communication is a foundation of trust that takes years for good farming operations to establish. Effective dialog is a constant moving target, but if given the right attention at the right time, it has the capacity to sustain legacy farmland ownership in its generational opportunity and excellence.

Essential for farmland that is leased by absentee landlords is an earnest approach to the level of engagement desired and how best to grow the strength of the working relationship. For this type of scenario to work, all parties will need to come together to understand communication needs and direction.

Simple and consistent communication provides three impactful elements:



- **Connection to the Land.** For the many farmland owners with whom we work, one common question is always at the forefront of our conversations. “Tell us how the farm is doing,” they ask. These owners, many of which have distant memories of visiting or even working these farms with their families, are thrilled to hear a quick report about how the season is progressing. Conversations range from the impacts of the weather or the seeding conditions in the fall, to the new and improved grain varieties that are being used to enhance overall productivity.

There is power in a short notification. Regular updates in the form of a current “farm report,” for example, could be sent out indicating the status of the farm and only needs to be as simple as a written message at predictable times (spring and/or harvest) in the desired communication medium (mail, text, email, or social media) to be impactful. These routine notifications, however short or long the communication might be, will always yield a stronger connection and increase the depth of experience for those involved.

- **Builds and maintains relationships of mutual trust.** Successful operators and owners know how to work interdependently for the good of the land, making needed adjustments to crop rotations, tillage practices, and leasing arrangements in both good and poor markets. They understand the ebb and flow of changing local and global conditions and work to eliminate undesirable surprises that negatively impact the farmland and the strength of the working relationship. Proactive, strong communication lines will always allow for the time required by both sides to trust that the best effort is being put forth to control the controllable in farming.

- **Courage to share the full story.** The old saying that “a picture is worth a thousand words” could never be truer when it comes to courageously communicating the current status of the farm.

We live in a time where the quality of cameras built into our smart devices

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

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



enable us to quickly update a farmland stakeholder in real time of the status of a crop, irrigation equipment repair, or other improvement to a building on the property. The ability to share an image or video with speed and accuracy has changed our world forever, and ours is the opportunity to harness the advancement of this medium to communicate the good, bad, and even the ugly that is happening on the farm.

It is important to be willing to share all aspects with equal transparency. There are times when we, as opera-

tors, tend to hyperfocus on the challenges or other negative moments on the farm. Acting with integrity and courageous communication to divulge challenges the farm is facing is imperative. Make sure to also share the good as often as possible and be the reason for optimism, especially in the face of increasing challenge. Sharing the full story will pay dividends.

Overall, the most exemplary operators in the industry are using improved ways to communicate with landowners to ensure they maintain a standard of clientele relationship that will continue to grow in this testing environment.

Our invitation on reading this article is to share something today. Send a word of encouragement to your farm operator to let them know of your ongoing support or send a picture of the current crop to your landowner with a short message detailing a challenge you have overcome. Those messages will add real strength to the farm. ■

Tim Cobb is a farm kid from Eastern Washington and is the owner of Farmland Company, based in Spokane, Wash. Farmland Company specializes in direct farmland management, real estate brokerage, and consulting across the Pacific Northwest. For more information, visit the company's website at farmlandcompany.com.

YOUR ONE-STOP AG SOURCE!

- Sales & Superior Service -



**Tractors • Combines • Tillage • Drills
Sprayers • Precision Ag**

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



**JONES TRUCK
& IMPLEMENT**



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

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

www.jtii.com
jti@colfax.com

CASE II
AGRICULTURE
RETHINK PRODUCTIVITY

(509) 534-4460
Accucon inc.



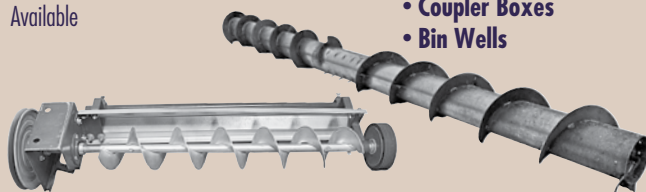
**WE MAKE PARTS FOR
MATHEWS
COMPANY
AG PRODUCTS!**



**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 Email: accucon@hotmail.com
Spokane, WA 99212 Fax: (509) 534-4337 accuconofspokane.com

Your wheat life...



(Above) John Wittman of Colton takes a break after working on his combine.
Photo by Nick Wittman.



(Right) "Coming home, honey."
Spring work in Pomeroy.
Photo by Craig Heitstuman.



Harvest 2022 at BRT Farms in Fairfield.
Photo by Shaley Tiegs.

**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.



Hesstyn Miller (6) and Case Miller (4)
checking winter wheat at Rocklake.
Photo by Emily Miller.



Spring storm in Grant County. Photo by Ryan Poe.



Alex McHargue poses for his senior pictures with his does that he shows. Photo by Almota Roses.

HAPPENINGS

As of press time, the events listed here are being planned. However, you should check prior to the event for updates. All dates and times are subject to change.

JULY 2023

4 GRAND OLD FOURTH. Pancake breakfast, parade, fireworks, carshow. Pasco, Wash. www.pascogo4.com

4 FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION. Entertainment, fireworks. Sunnyside Park, Pullman, Wash. pullmanchamber.com/events/chamber-events/

8 WATERVILLE PLATEAU FARMERS MARKET & WATERVILLE ROLLERS CAR SHOW. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Pioneer Park in downtown Waterville. Variety of homemade/homegrown items and nonprofit information booths will be available. Vintage car show. Open to the public. historicwatervillewa.org/events

7-9 CHENEY RODEO. Dances Friday and Saturday nights after rodeo. Saturday parade. Cheney, Wash. cheneyrodeo.com

14-16 PIONEER DAYS. Parade, music, BBQ, chalk contest, vendors. Davenport, Wash. davenportpioneerdays.org

29 PALOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL. The festival opens at 11 a.m. and concludes at 7 p.m. and features local musicians performing throughout the day. There will also be arts and crafts vendors, nonprofit organizations, and several food vendors. Hayton-Greene Park in Palouse, Wash. facebook.com/PalouseMusicFestival/

AUGUST 2023

3-5 MOXEE HOP FESTIVAL. Parade, beer garden, live entertainment, food and crafts, games, BBQ cookoff. Moxee, Wash. evcea.org

4-6 KING SALMON DERBY. Up to \$20,000 in cash and prizes available. Registration required. Brewster, Wash. brewstersalmonderby.com

5 SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES.

Enjoy the traditional features of Scottish Highland Games, such as massed bands, pipe band exhibitions, individual piping, heavy athletics and highland dancing. 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Spokane County Fair and Expo Center in Spokane Valley, Wash. spokanehighlandgames.net

9-12 YAKIMA VALLEY FAIR AND RODEO. PRCA rodeo, car show, parade, beer garden. County Fair Park in Grandview, Wash. yvfair-rodeo.org

10-13 OMAK STAMPEDE. Parade, carnival, art show, rodeo dances and vendors. Omak, Wash. omakstampepe.org

12 SWIM THE SNAKE. Only .7 of a mile, lots of flotilla support. Participants are REQUIRED to preregister. Come watch the swimmers. Lyons Ferry, Wash. swimthesnakedotorg.wordpress.com

12 WATERVILLE PLATEAU FARMERS MARKET. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Pioneer Park in downtown Waterville. A variety of homemade/homegrown crafts. Nonprofit information booths will be available. Local restaurants and food vendors. historicwatervillewa.org/events

15-19 GRANT COUNTY FAIR. Ag exhibits, livestock competitions, carnival, arts and crafts, entertainment, food. Moses Lake, Wash. gcfairgrounds.com

18-27 NORTH IDAHO FAIR AND RODEO. Fireworks, draft horse show, demolition derby, entertainment, carnival. Kootenai County Fairgrounds in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. northidahostatefair.com

19 NATIONAL LENTIL FESTIVAL. Stop by and see the world's largest bowl of lentil chili. Fun run, parade, softball tournament, beer garden. Pullman, Wash. lentilfest.com

19-20 PIONEER POWER SHOW AND SWAP MEET. See the equipment of yesteryear with vintage trucks and engines on display and watch our popular equipment parade. Learn about blacksmithing and watch demonstrations of the turn of

the century sawmill and the apple packing line. Enjoy the quilt displays, other historic exhibits and more. See wheat threshing done the old-fashioned way and then enjoy freshly baked bread at the Bread Shack. Central Washington Ag Museum, Fullbright Park in Union Gap, Wash. centralwaagmuseum.org/pioneer-power-show-union-gap.asp

22-26 BENTON FRANKLIN FAIR AND RODEO. Demolition derby, parade, live entertainment. Kennewick, Wash. bentonfranklinfair.com

24 NCW FAIR. Live entertainment, carnival, livestock sale, rodeo and horse. Waterville, Wash. ncwfair.org

24-26 LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR. Rodeo, livestock competitions, exhibits, food and games. Davenport, Wash. lincolncountywafair.com

24-27 NORTHEAST WASHINGTON FAIR. Exhibits, parade, talent show, live entertainment, Colville, Wash. <https://www.stevenscountywa.gov/>

26 SPRINT BOAT RACING. Enjoy 5 grass terraces, two beer gardens and a great atmosphere to watch fantastic racing in St. John, Wash. Fun for the entire family! Bring the lawn chairs, sunscreen and blankets. 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or until racing is finished. webbsslough.com or (509)648-8900.

30-SEPT. 4 PIG OUT IN THE PARK. Music and food. Riverfront Park in Spokane, Wash. spokanepigout.com ■

Submissions

Listings must be received by the 10th of each month for the next month's *Wheat Life*. Email listings to editor@wawg.org. Include date, time and location of event, contact info, and a short description.

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



*This is no ordinary diesel
fuel, this is Technology
Transformed Fuel.*



Pasco	509-547-3326
	888-806-7676
Boise	208-375-7767
Connell	509-234-3311
Milton Freewater	541-938-3864
Moses Lake	509-770-0769
Oroville	509-476-3610
Priest River	208-448-1812
Ritzville	509-659-1532
Spokane	509-535-1534
Sunnyside	509-837-5274
Yakima	509-453-3920
connelloil.com	

AGPRO

*The right equipment
for the best results*

*Designing and manufacturing top-quality
seed, fertilizer, and chemical equipment
for over 30 years.*

AGPROINC.COM
1112 Airway Ave.
Lewiston, ID 83501
(208) 746-2212

WASHINGTON GRAIN GROWERS AGAINST HUNGER

Partnership with



Your gift of grain will feed hungry people.

Washington Grain Growers Against Hunger, a partnership with Second Harvest, is designed to improve the lives of hungry families and seniors in our local communities.

How it works:

- Fill out Washington Grain Growers Against Hunger authorization form at your local elevator or contact (509) 252-6273.
- Gift a portion of the proceeds from your sold crop to Second Harvest.
- Return form and donation to your local elevator.
- All funds raised from Washington Grain Growers Against Hunger will be used to secure and distribute more food through Second Harvest's network of food banks and meal centers in the Inland Northwest.

*"I believe we should dedicate some of
our harvest to help hungry people.
That's what my family is doing."
Bruce Nelson, Whitman County Farmer*

For more information about the program
and an authorization form, see your local
elevator, e-mail WGGAH@2-harvest.org or
call Second Harvest at (509)252-6273.

Second Harvest • 1234 E. Front Ave. • Spokane, WA 99202 • (509) 252-6273 • 2-harvest.org

Advertiser Index

Accucon	61
AGPRO	65
Albaugh	11, 23
Bank of Eastern Washington	34
Barber Engineering	25
Barr-Tech	39
Basin Pacific Insurance	31
Big Iron Repair	38
Blue Mountain Agri-Support	30
Butch Booker	38
Byrnes Oil Company	25
Central Machinery Sales	67
Chipman & Taylor	43
Class 8 Trucks	41, 66
CO Energy	65
CoAXium	5
Coldwell Banker Tomlinson	34
Coleman Oil	35
Correll's Scale Service	39
Country Financial	66
Custom Seed Conditioning	37
Dugger Farms	42
Edward Jones	41
Farm & Home Supply	43
Great Plains Equipment	9
HighLine Grain Growers	42
Jess Auto	35
Jones Truck & Implement	61
Kincaid Real Estate	38
Land & Wildlife	25
McKay Seed Company	37
Mike's Auto	39
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management	35
North Pine Ag Equipment	67
Northwest First Realtors	37
Odessa Trading Company	19
PNW Farmers Cooperative	44
Pomeroy Grain Growers	39
Rubisco Seeds	13
Second Harvest	65
Spectrum Crop Development	44
Spray Center Electronics	17
T & S Sales	31
Tankmax Inc	25
The McGregor Company	15, 68
Tri-State Seed	33
Unverferth	17
Vantage-PNW	19
Washington State Crop Improvement Association ...	21
Yunker Brothers	31

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

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, Afis
Moses Lake, WA
(800) 689-9259

Wayne Cooley, CMA
Canby, OR
(503) 266-7000



AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT

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

1114-511HO



PRO-TILL®

HIGH PERFORMANCE TILLAGE

The fastest and most versatile piece of tillage equipment you will ever own, the Degelman Pro-Till® shreds heavy fall residue, opens up spring fields, levels ruts, destroys clods and produces an absolutely perfect seed bed. Pro-Till® is your single tool for tillage.



1802 E. James St. Pasco

1201 E. Yonezawa Blvd. Moses Lake

207 W. Southhill Rd. Sunnyside

509-547-9003

509-765-1257

509-837-3833

Degelman

REDEKOP™

**POTENTIAL \$18 PER ACRE NRCS PAYMENT
FOR E595G UNDER THE CSP**

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NRCS
OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS.



**YOU'VE READ ABOUT IT...
YOU'VE SEEN IT...
NOW...LET'S TALK AGRONOMY!**

Your banker will approve.
Your accountant will approve.
Your agronomist will approve.

Can more than pay for itself
in ONE crop harvest!

SEED CONTROL UNITS (SCU)

Available for:

- John Deere S-Series
- CaseIH 30, 40, & 50 Series
- Claus 8000 Series
- Fendt Combines
- New Holland CR Series

Early order discounts available!



NORTH PINE AG EQUIPMENT, INC.

cschmidt@att.net

2110 E Babb Road, Rosalia WA 99170

CALL (509) 994-2133

IT'S THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA.

INTRODUCING

TMC | M-PIRE

TMC M-Pire is a NEW early-medium maturing soft white winter wheat variety reigning with broad adaptability characteristics.



WWW.MCGREGOR.COM