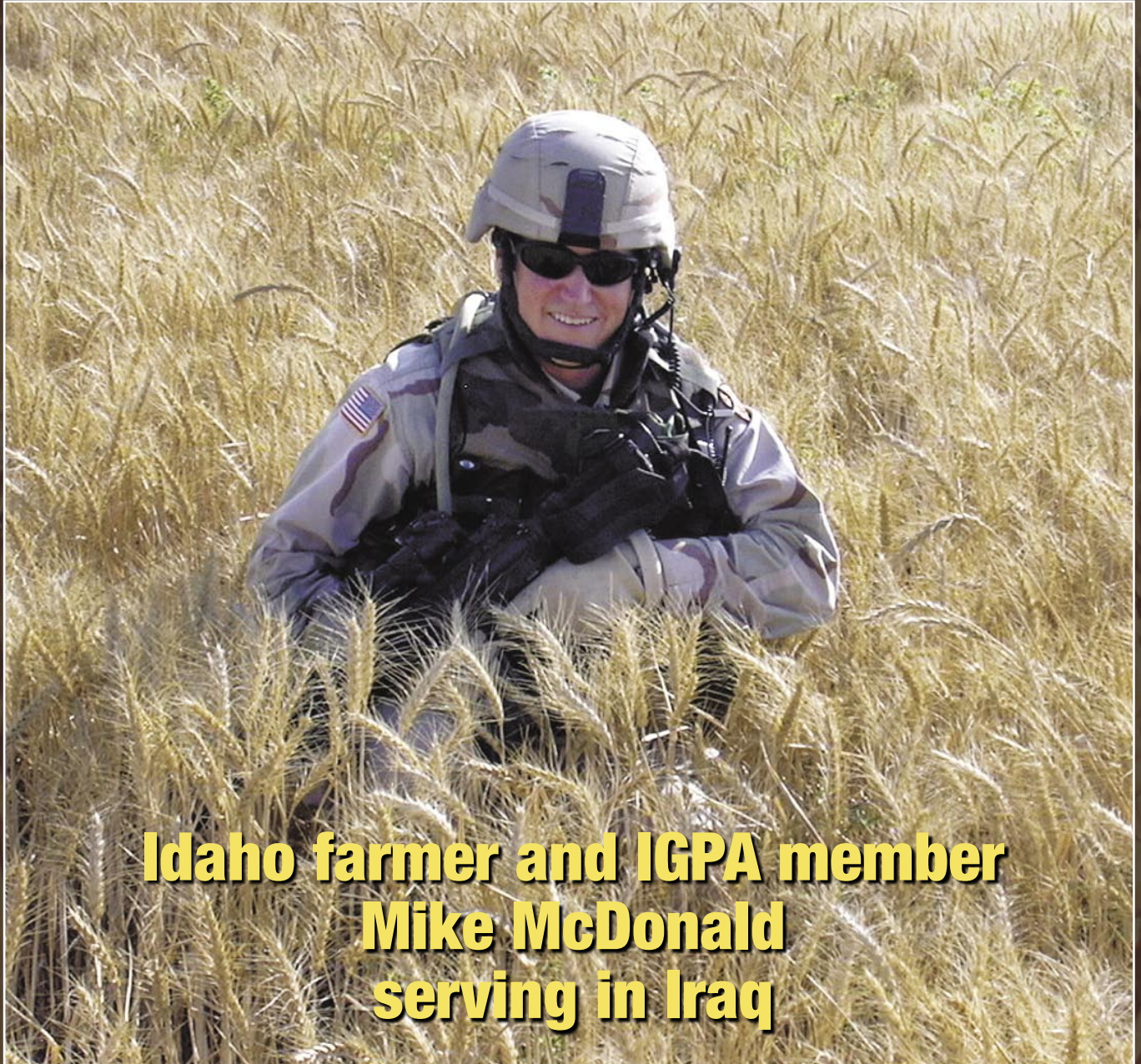


IDAHO GRAIN

THE IDAHO GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

Fall 2005



**Idaho farmer and IGPA member
Mike McDonald
serving in Iraq**

**Idaho State Wheat
Growers Association**

Idaho Grain Producers Association
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Views

BY RAY BUTTARS, IGPA PRESIDENT

What's Really Important



Sometimes things that seem urgent can distract from the doing of what's really important. Every day we all have to make some very important decisions -- decisions that impact our life and livelihood. For instance: more, or less fertilizer ... reduced tillage, or does it need to be plowed ... spend more time in the fields, in the office, with civic groups or with the family? Each decision involves the management of the most scarce of all resources: time and money.

There are some very important things that relate to your resources. I'd like to discuss four of them:

ONE. On Sept. 21, the Idaho Wheat Commission will host a group of wheat buyers from Taiwan. They will join Gov. Kempthorne in signing an agreement for trade and commerce between Taiwan and Idaho. During the summer of 2005, Idaho has hosted groups from Ecuador, the Philippines, Japan, China, Korea and Taiwan. Egypt, Peru and Thailand have visited the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland, through which nearly half of Idaho's wheat is sold.

TWO. USDA is presently holding "listening sessions" to gather input as they consider the 2007 Farm Bill. IGPA, other states' leaders and associations, and the NAWG committees are all continuously working to gather, compile and present your input to our senators, representatives and administration officials. This process will continue in earnest through the coming months as a new farm bill is drafted, refined and voted on.

THREE. The Senate Ag Committee held a hearing on June 28 and, on behalf of NAWG, I was invited to testify. Four key concerns were identified:

1. Affordable premiums for higher levels of coverage.
2. Minimize the "erosion effect" of consecutive disasters on actual production history (APH) and a farmer's ability to obtain adequate insurance thereafter.
3. Establish risk-management accounts, which would enable a farmer to co-insure the portion of his or her crop that is presently unprotected.
4. Insure a minimum harvestable value.

Recommendations for correction and improvement were made. Once August recess is over and the legislators return to Washington, we'll get back together and work to fix the four issues, as well as other weaknesses of crop insurance.

FOUR. Congratulations to Boyd Schwieder of Idaho Falls who was named chairman of US Wheat Associates in mid-July during their meetings in Oklahoma. Boyd has been an IGPA member for over 30 years and has served in several leadership positions, including IGPA president and 10 years on the Idaho Wheat Commission.

In his capacity with US Wheats, Boyd has worked diligently with three dissenting states that opposed a merger of the national wheat associations — USW, WETEC and NAWG. Boyd was instrumental in crafting a proposal that is being considered by each organization right now and may be voted on in early October.

Further, the key issue for the dissenting states has resulted from a division within those states of their commissioners and elected association leaders over who gets power and control. The argument is quite urgent. It is over which of the two groups should have more say in representing the wheat farmer. Oh yeah, we remember: the guy who actually pays the

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WHEAT



BARLEY



WHEAT & BARLEY

Look for these symbols in headlines throughout the magazine to see at a glance whether an article pertains to wheat issues, barley issues, or both.

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Editor's Note

BY STEVE JOHNSON

Grain Growers Support Salmon and Dams



Many of Idaho's grain farmers are avid salmon fishermen. Idaho Grain growers actively support protecting and enhancing Idaho's salmon populations. Idaho grain growers are also users of the highly efficient Snake and Columbia River shipping system. Idaho grain growers depend on this system to ship grain to customers around the world. For those reasons Idaho's grain growers will continue to be an active participant in the ongoing debate regarding Salmon recovery in the Northwest and seek proactive solutions that will preserve one of the world's most efficient shipping channels while exploring positive solutions that will preserve Salmon populations.



The Idaho grain industry brings some important core values to the salmon recovery debate. Idaho wheat growers produce about 100 million bushels every year. They export 60% of the wheat crop each year. Idaho barley growers have growing opportunities to expand markets in Asia and the river system is essential to that effort. Combined wheat and barley provided over \$500 million dollars to Idaho economy in 2004. When it's time to sell wheat or barley, Idaho growers compete in a world market that is so highly competitive that one or two dollars per ton can make the difference between making the sale or not. The river transportation system often times is the difference that provides the opportunity to make the sale.

Idaho's truck-to barge-to ship transportation system is one of the most efficient and safe transportation systems in the world. This delivery system is to all Idaho grain growers what irrigation water is to south Idaho agriculture. It is also a benefit to the citizens of Idaho and the Northwest. For example one barge loaded with wheat moving to the Port of Portland, on the river and off the highways, holds 140 semi-truck loads of wheat. Idaho grain growers believe that this is a significant contribution to everyone's safety throughout Idaho and the northwest.

Idaho grain growers believe that all sectors of the Idaho economy are important. Agriculture, fishing, tourism, hi-tech and all other sectors of the economy are equally important to Idaho's entire economy. To propose something as harmful and devastating as draw downs on reservoirs or dam removal is beyond comprehension. It would devastate several of Idaho's economic drivers. These are unacceptable solution to Salmon recovery for the Idaho grain industry.

Idaho's grain growers believe that reasonable solutions can be found to protect Salmon and maintain the river transportation system. Focusing our energy and money on solutions to improve by-pass systems for fish, fish friendly guidance systems, and more research into the affects of the ocean on Salmon we will better serve everyone including the Salmon. The Idaho Grain Producers Association believes, as do many Idaho Indian tribes that funding and improving fish hatcheries is a good way to improve Salmon populations.

Idaho wheat and barley growers have a long history of supporting proactive solutions to Salmon recovery. IGPA will continue to seek solutions that protect the economic viability of the grain industry while giving equal effort to the protection and enhancement of Salmon populations. Dam breaching, draw-downs and litigation, solutions used by environmental activist groups are not proactive measures. True leaders however will find solutions through open dialogues and the exchange of proactive ideas.



Idaho Grain Issues

US Wheat Associates Elects New Chairman From Idaho



Boyd Schwieder of Idaho Falls was recently elected as the US Wheat board of directors chairman during the July meeting held in Oklahoma (U.S. Wheat Associates

is the industry's export market development organization, working in 90 countries on behalf of America's wheat producers). Other officers elected included; Leonard Schock (Montana) vice chairman, and Ron Suppes (Kansas) became secretary-treasurer. Keith Kislung (Oklahoma) is now the past chairman of the USW board of directors and becomes chairman of the budget committee. Schweider is a past President of the Idaho Grain Producers Association.



Views — continued from page 2.

bills of these commissions and associations. And, you guessed it, this debate has dramatically diminished the ability of USW, WETEC and NAWG to do the important work that we farmers are paying them to do.

Over 200 years ago our country fought a revolutionary war because of taxation without representation. We elect our city, county and national leaders to administer the affairs of and to decide how to spend the tax revenues of the whole group. The grain industry associations and commissions were established and are supposed to function under the same premise.

Tying It All Together

On June 28, our family's life changed dramatically. My son was in an accident. He spent 22 days in a coma. Six weeks, nine surgeries, 35 lost-pounds, thousands of prayers and several miracles later, he's back home with us! He started school (half-days) in August.

Our family can't possibly thank everyone who included us in their prayers, helped care for other children and our home, and sent cards, letters and calls of encouragement. The compassion, support and good works by so many of you has been such a blessing to us. It's very humbling. Thanks to all of you.

It's amazing how something like this can help a person put everything in perspective. It helps you be more patient with most things – and perhaps less patient with other things, namely things that are called "urgent" which distract from accomplishing what is really important.

Idaho is blessed to have wheat and barley commissioners and grain association leaders who work together. We absolutely don't always see eye to eye, but we do always work together, remembering that we serve the farmer. And that is "What's Really Important!"

IGPA PROMOTES RAILROAD COMPETITION IN D.C.

More than 100 people—including three from the Idaho Grain Producers Association—were in Washington, D.C., recently to lobby Congress as part of Captive Rail Customer Day.

The purpose of this event was to bring in captive shippers from around the country and have them share their stories with members of the House of Representatives and the Senate. These meetings were also intended to garner cosponsor support for HR 2047 and S 919, railroad competition bills that have been introduced in their respective chambers.

More than 80 congressional visits were on the day's schedule, and many of them proved successful in getting the word out about the problems many industries face due to a lack of competition among rail companies.

Idaho continues to be plagued by poor and unresponsive railroad service. IGPA Vice President Wayne Hurst, who represented Idaho at many of the D.C. visits said, "Idaho grain producers will never remain competitive in the world grain market as long as railroads refuse to negotiate or even discuss shipping rates with shippers."

HR 2047 and S 919 would:

- Require rail carriers, upon shipper request, to provide a rate quote for service.
- Prevent the creation of "paper barriers," which restrict the ability of Class II and Class III rail carriers (short lines) to inter-

change traffic with Class I carriers.

• Allow the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to designate a state as an "Area of Inadequate Rail Competition" and would require the STB to remedy the issue.

• Allow either a shipper or a rail carrier to submit a dispute over rail rates, rail service and other matters under the jurisdiction of the Surface Transportation Board for "final offer" arbitration.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association has placed a high priority on improving railroad service in Idaho. ♦

Governor Appoints Gordon Gallup to Idaho Wheat Commission



Governor Dirk Kempthorne appointed Gordon Gallup of Ririe, Idaho, to the Idaho Wheat Commission in June. Gordon will represent the wheat producers of District Four, which includes Custer, Butte, Jefferson, Bingham, Bonneville, Madison, Teton, Fremont and Clark Counties. Commissioner Gallup will be replacing Boyd Schwieder of Idaho Falls, who recently completed serving 10-years on the Commission. Gallup, who has been operating the family farm since 1975, grows wheat, barley, and alfalfa on a 3000-acre farm in Ririe. Gordon is a past President of the Idaho Grain Producers Association.



Talking Wheat in the Middle of a War Zone

By Scott A. Yates, Capitol Press Staff Writer



ational Guard officer finds himself toting a rifle and advising Iraqi farmers

James "Mike" McDonald didn't have to go to Iraq. He is, after a fashion, fulfilling his heart's desire. He had, at one time, planned to be a 20-year military man, retiring to the family farm at the end of an Army career, but life, and the first President Bush, had other plans.

Just about the time he would have received a Regular Army commission, the president decided fewer officers were needed on active duty. McDonald spent the next eight years with the Washington National Guard, and then went into the inactive ready reserve.

"I missed it for 12 years, and I always kind of wish I'd stayed in," but farming and having to drive to Washington for drills took a toll. McDonald settled into a life that included selling farm equipment out of Nez Perce, Idaho, before returning to the farm full time.

He was farming and serving as a Grangeville City Councilman when life intervened again. The Idaho National Guard came before the City Council to discuss plans for exercises in the small Northern Idaho town. A chance conversation with the colonel in charge fueled McDonald's interest in the military again.

"I just kind of figured, I was 40 at the time and it was something I could never get back into," but the colonel told him otherwise and suggested it was possible he might re-enter as a captain. That didn't happen, and he went in as a 41-year-old first lieutenant, a circumstance he's glad for now. Assigned to a 28-man engineering platoon, he's charged with taking care of and training his men.

He likes the job and he believes in the mission. McDonald likened the nation's war on terror to World War II and said there needs to be the same kind of public solidarity.

"I think a lot of people in this country don't understand the connection between what we are doing in Iraq and 9-11. I don't

think it has been well illustrated in the media," he said.

McDonald said he believes outside insurgents crossing the Syrian border into Iraq are causing most of the problems.

"We still have Baathists who think Saddam is going to come back, but by and large, we are dealing with bad guys from outside the country. They hate America and the West," he said.



James "Mike" McDonald, a lieutenant in the Idaho National Guard, in a field of wheat near Kirkuk, Iraq. The Grangeville, Idaho, wheat farmer is working with Iraqi farmers and local officials to improve the country's agricultural infrastructure.

"If we can fight those guys over there, instead of here, that is what I'd rather do. This is a global war. When we're done with Iraq, we're not done. You can't put a price tag on it or date it on a calendar. When you do those things, it emboldens the people you're fighting against."

Family ties

McDonald is a husband first, a son second and a soldier third. He would not have joined the Idaho National Guard without first having his wife's and his father's blessing. After all, they were the ones left behind to farm when McDonald's unit shipped out to a base east of Kirkuk, an area he likens to a cross between Southern Idaho and the San Joaquin Valley.

"I couldn't do it without my dad and my wife. I'm blessed they work so well together," he said.

Nadine McDonald didn't nix the idea because she recognized the importance of her husband's desire.

"It's something he's always felt real strongly about, and I wanted to support him in it," she said.

As for media reports of the war, she really doesn't watch much news coverage, believing it one-sided. She also wants to shield her 7-year-old from the casualty reports. Is she worried? Of course, she said, but if she worried all the time, she'd go crazy.

"I wouldn't be able to do what I do here," she said.

Although she has always kept the farm's accounts, since her husband left six months ago she has taken over marketing and general administration. It's been stressful, but she has had a lot of support from within the industry. And she could have never done it without McDonald's dad, she said.

Jim McDonald, 67, former chairman of U.S. Wheat Associates, had been retired from the farm for several years. While his son's away, however, he has picked up the reins. "This has been a family farm for over a hundred years. It is my duty to keep it going," he said.

Field mission

McDonald works with farmers in Iraq. No matter where they hail from, he said, "Farmers are farmers," speaking the same language even when they have to speak it through an interpreter.

"You like to talk shop: 'What do you grow there? Oh, really? What yields? How do you do it? What is your methodology?' It's amazing once you have a common interest," he said.

The agricultural potential of Iraq is immense, McDonald said. Farmers can grow anything, and despite the desert locale, about

30 percent of the agriculture in his region is in dryland production.

Irrigation techniques are obsolete from an American's perspective. Watering wheat without sprinklers is difficult, and a lot of moisture is lost to evaporation.

"If they could get into a sprinkler system and only water at night, they would do really well," he said. "That's one of the reasons they want Western advisers to come. They know they can move ahead with companies coming to help them. I can't believe how much potential I see there."

Farmers grow winter wheat now, but with the season so mild, McDonald said, he thinks they could benefit by switching to shorter-season spring wheat and include another crop in their rotation. He also thinks crops would benefit by a closer coordination with the government that controls the antiquated water system.

For instance, he said, rationing water during head and grain filling this year is going to result in a lot of crummy wheat. The wheat is mostly soft white, but harder than what's grown in the Northwest. Iraqis use it to make flat bread.

Farmers have access to fertilizer and chemicals, buying the inputs from the government. Under a socialist system, equipment and farm ground are rented from the state at reasonable prices.

Ag equipment is smaller and on the old side. He's seen lots of Massey Ferguson, but no Case and only a few John Deere. The machinery is all bare bones – no cabs, no air conditioners and a lot of it is in disrepair. He believes a company could prosper in the parts and repair business there.

Welcome visitors

McDonald said the role of the National Guard is more than just a military one. They bring skills to rebuild.

"The people have seen it, too. They seem



Iraqi grain storage is rudimentary, as evidenced by this facility using excavator to load grain.

to appreciate us. That doesn't mean we don't have problems, but the people who have worked with us, the local leaders, tell us we're different and they seem to like that," he said.

McDonald has spent a lot of time talking to Iraqis. Aside from a few social customs and other minor changes, "I think people are pretty much the same everywhere." Iraqis are particularly fond of their children and are excellent hosts if they know you're coming. They don't like confrontation, however, which, as a member of an American city council, McDonald believes can be healthy and clarify issues.

Tough conditions

McDonald said his decision to put himself in harm's way is hard to explain to people who haven't worn the uniform.

"There is something about being a soldier. No offense, but people who have never worn the uniform – it's hard for them to understand. There is something about being a soldier and working with other soldiers for a common goal and a common good," he said.

"I didn't want to go to Iraq or go to war, but when I realized the unit was going, there was no way I couldn't go. No way."

McDonald knew he would be working with men young enough to be his sons and he had to do a "gut check" to determine whether he could keep up physically. He's not a fitness fanatic, but he began an exercise regimen.

"I know I needed to demand respect, that I wasn't some old fogey who wanted to

come back and relive my lost chances as a younger man," he said. "I feel like I knocked 10 years off my age. I feel like I'm 30. It's a real testament to exercise."

Working in an environment where the temperature can get up to 140 degrees in the summer, and where a soldier's body armor weights 35 pounds, not to mention a 5-pound Kevlar vest, clothes, plus an 8-pound M-4 carbine, a person has to be in shape. Heat exhaustion is a real concern, McDonald said. Soldiers must drink a quart of water an hour. Vehicles are all air-conditioned, and if a unit doesn't work, it is taken out of service immediately.

He has known men and women who have been killed in Iraq by the notoriously named Improvised Explosive Device. He has not fired his rifle in anger, he said, though he's ready to.

McDonald, who left July 1 to return to Iraq after a 15-day leave home in Grangeville, expects his unit to stay in-country until Thanksgiving or Christmas, but said that all depends. After finishing this deployment, he expects to become a weekend warrior, "whatever that means with the war on terror."

He's already got eight years in. With another 12 he'll have his 20 years and a military pension. Most of all, however, he'll have a feeling of having finished what he started. ♦

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Requirements for Open Burning of Crop Residue in Idaho

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) regulates agricultural field burning for Idaho and these rules for field burning apply statewide. For field burning, Idaho is divided into two (2) tiers; Tier I and Tier II. Tier I includes all thirty-four (34) Idaho Counties south of the Salmon River. Tier II includes all ten (10) Idaho Counties North of the Salmon River. All growers in Tier II counties are required to pay a two dollar (\$2.00) per acre registration fee for any field they plan to burn. This registration fee does not apply to those counties in Tier I. The following represents the general registration and reporting requirements of the ISDA Crop Residue Disposal Program. Remember that these are general registration/reporting requirements and may not represent all growers' requirements for field burning. Contact ISDA, local, state, and federal authorities for more information concerning field burning in your specific area.

1. Register your fields.

All persons in Idaho must register *each* field to be burned *on an annual basis* prior to burning. Registration forms are available on the Smoke Management website (www.idahosmokemanagement.org) or at your local University of Idaho Extension Office. Registration forms may be mailed or faxed to the ISDA Smoke Management Office to the address or fax number on the form. It is advisable to submit your registration at least two weeks before you expect to burn your fields in order to provide adequate time to process the registration form.

2. Field burning reporting requirements.

(A) Field burning may not be conducted without first obtaining the approval of an ISDA field coordinator. This is easily done by calling the Smoke Management Office at (208) 332-8628 or toll-free 866-224-2456. You should call in your request at least

twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time you intend to burn your fields. This will allow ISDA personnel to check the meteorology in your area to determine if it will be a good day for field burning. Remember, you must have your fields registered before you request any field burning. A representative of the ISDA will contact you with an authorization to burn that will include the field identification and the times you are allowed to burn.

(B) After you have burned your fields, you need to inform the Smoke Management Office that you have completed your field burn. It is also important to inform ISDA if you decide not to burn a particular field due to weather or wind conditions so we can reschedule your field for burning at a later time.



Additional requirements of the ISDA Crop Residue Disposal Program include:

1. Burning Prohibitions. Burning of crop residue shall not be conducted on weekends or federal or state holidays.

2. Training. All persons conducting crop residue burning *must* attend a crop residue burning training session provided by the ISDA before any open burning of crop residue disposal will be approved, and must take a refresher course every five (5) years.

3. Burning of Fields Adjacent to Roads. Open burning of crop residue adjacent to roads and high-

ways will **only** be approved by the ISDA on a **case by case basis**. Additionally, you will need to warn motorists of any smoke hazards. **Signs, flaggers, or other warning devices should be used if your smoke may cross any public roadway.**

If it is required by local ordinance, growers also need to inform their local fire districts, county sheriff's department, or other agencies of field burning activities. The county or area your fields are located in may require a burning permit from another local, state or federal agency. Make sure that you have all the proper permits and notifications completed before you burn any field.

As always, **make sure that you can control any field burning operation!** Make sure that you have adequate fire breaks, water and personnel to prevent any fire from getting out of your field. You may be liable for any damages resulting from an uncontrolled field burn.

Growers that do not conduct open burning (field burning) in accordance with the ISDA Crop Residue Disposal Rules may be subject to enforcement action by IDEQ under their applicable open burning laws. Contact ISDA at (208) 332-8628 or toll-free 866-224-2456 if you have any question about field burning or the agricultural smoke management program. ♦



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KEY SPEAKERS

► **USDA SECRETARY MIKE JOHANNIS:** *(invited)*

Hear what the administration is planning for the 2007 farm bill as Secretary Johannis kicks off the conference!

► **DR. BARRY FLINCHBAUGH:**

A veteran of many farm bills, Flinchbaugh mixes facts and experience with humor as he outlines what the next farm bill will look like!

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Tentative)

- Bio-Fuels – Opportunities for the farm
 - Building Your Export Market– “Learn How it is Done”
 - Alternative Energy “Opportunities For Your Farm”
 - Customer Specifications “Understanding What the Foreign and Domestic Customer Wants”
 - Exploring Food and Nutrition Marketing Opportunities for Barley and Wheat Growers
 - The Latest in Cutting Edge Tri-State Research
 - Hard White Wheat “Why it’s the Future”
 - Tillage Systems for all applications
 - How to Use the Newest Best Management Practices for Today’s Farm Business
 - Leaning about the Latest Risk Management Tools – RMA
 - WTO 101
 - How to Transition the Farm to the Next Generation
 - The Latest in Global Positioning Systems (GPS)
 - The Nut and Bolts of Estates & Will
 - Scrapbooks
 - Wheat Weaving
 - Photography
- Note: Each breakout session will be repeated twice!**
- **Early bird Thursday Morning Workshop “The Emerging Chinese Market...Hope or Hype?”**

SPECIAL FEATURED EVENTS

Christmas lights lake cruise... evening of November 30

Enjoy the Coeur d'Alene Resorts famous Christmas Lights Cruise on the lake with fellow grain growers from all three states!



Cruise included with first 400 full registrations only!!!

TRI-STATES RECEPTION & ORAL AUCTION:
Enjoy an evening with other growers at the Tri-State Reception & Auction!

REGISTRATION

You can register online or print the form for mailing!

Registration is \$195.00

NOTE: (FOR IDAHO ONLY) The first 125 full registrations that reside in Idaho will receive \$100 refund from the Idaho Grain Producers Association. Reimbursement will be issued after the completion of the conference)

On-site registration is \$225.00

Wednesday November 30th Kick Off Luncheon = \$50.00
(This does not include the Cruise... Full Conference Registration is required for the cruise)

Thursday (One-Day) Registration = \$125.00

Friday (One-Day) Registration = \$125.00

DAYCARE AVAILABLE There will be a small charge...\$25 for the first child and \$15 for each additional child for the whole conference...The daycare will be available for the evening meals (Wednesday, & Thursday 5:00 – 9:00 pm and includes the child’s evening meal) **CHILD REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

For complete program information, registration, exhibitor, and sponsor information go online to:
<http://www.idahograin.org>



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—Mark Twain



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2004 Idaho Winter Wheat Variety Performance Tests and 2002-04 Yield Summaries

Stephen Guy, Juliet Windes, and Brad Brown – Extension Specialists, Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences, University of Idaho

Variety Testing

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

Information Summarization

Agronomic performance data for 2004 winter wheat tests are summarized by Idaho districts in Tables 1-4. District I is northern, District II is southwest, District III is south-central, and District IV is southeast Idaho. There is no data this year for southeast Idaho dryland because the trial was not usable due to environmental conditions. Yield data is given for individual sites, while other agronomic data is averaged over all the sites of each table. Bushel-per-acre yield results are based on 60 pounds per bushel at 11% moisture. Lodging ratings are the percent of a plot area lodged. Date of heading is the number of days after Jan. 1. Kernel hardness is on a 0 to 100 scale, with most soft wheat below 30 and hard wheat above 50. Average values are presented at the bottom of listings and are followed by a least significant difference (LSD) statistic at the 10% level.

Yield averages from variety performance trials for 2002-04 are presented in Table 5 for all districts. These data are the results from three to 14 site/years and should be a good indication of long-term adaptability of a variety to a region.

Information Interpretation

Average past performance of a variety is the best indicator available to predict future performance potential. Variety performance can vary from location to location and year to year. The site results reported in this article are for 2004 trials; 1995 to 2003 results can be found in fall 1995 through 2002 issues of *Idaho Grain*. Average performance over locations and years more accurately indicates varieties' relative performance.

Try to evaluate as much information as you can when selecting varieties. Yield is a primary characteristic used to select varieties, but disease resistance, maturity, lodging tendency, winter hardiness and quality characteristics such as protein, test weight and kernel hardness are also important variety selection considerations.

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

Further Information

Variety characteristic information can be found in an Extension publication: "2005 Idaho Certified Seed Selection Guides for Some Varieties of Winter Wheat and Winter Barley" (Progress Report 311). End-use quality ratings for most Idaho-grown wheat varieties can be found on the Idaho Wheat Commission Web site. Please visit our Extension site for more detailed information about variety performance and other agronomic practices at www.ag.uidaho.edu/cereals.

Table 1. Dryland Winter Wheat Variety Performance in District I near Nezperce, Lewiston, Genesee, Moscow, and Bonners Ferry, 2004.

	Yield					Average	Protein %	Kernel Hardness 0-100	Test Weight lb/bu	Plant Height inches	Lodging %
	Nezperce	Lewiston	Genesee	Moscow	B. Ferry						
Soft White											
Albion	86	109	115	101	121	106	10.2	5	57.5	34	4
Brundage 96	93	116	111	96	121	107	10.4	8	58.0	35	3
Cashup	93	111	107	102	93	101	10.4	6	58.9	35	7
Clearfirst	77	103	101	88	87	91	11.2	15	58.9	36	2
Dune	96	119	110	103	117	109	10.4	12	59.0	35	4
Finch	87	123	116	97	100	105	10.3	11	59.6	38	7
Hubbard	97	114	116	100	127	111	10.0	11	58.7	43	3
IDO 587	108	110	113	93	130	111	10.8	11	58.7	35	4
Lambert	106	120	114	99	116	111	9.9	14	58.9	40	4
Madsen	82	110	112	94	115	103	10.7	15	58.4	36	3
Mohler	101	119	111	103	130	113	10.6	11	59.2	38	6
ORCF-101	90	112	103	99	108	102	11.3	13	58.0	36	2
ORCF-102	97	120	120	102	112	110	10.2	12	59.3	37	3
Rod	90	112	109	102	124	107	10.3	12	57.5	36	4
Simon	95	114	111	97	105	104	10.9	15	58.7	37	2
Stephens	95	118	114	103	120	110	10.7	12	58.8	35	3
Tubbs	90	125	112	101	128	111	10.4	14	57.4	38	3
WestBred 528	97	121	119	102	109	110	10.5	13	60.3	35	4
Average	93	115	112	99	115	107	10.5	12	58.7	36	4
Hard Red											
Boundary	93	120	116	98	109	107	10.3	48	60.1	37	6
Moreland	70	102	104	76	103	91	10.7	48	59.7	35	5
Finley	86	68	102	97	84	87	10.8	44	62.4	49	49
Average	83	97	107	90	99	95	10.6	47	60.7	40	20
Club											
Chukar	86	116	113	92	111	104	10.7	14	57.3	40	8
Coda	93	119	113	100	108	107	10.3	16	60.5	41	6
Hillier	92	105	111	94	102	101	10.4	15	56.9	37	5
Rohde	98	118	122	98	110	109	10.4	17	60.8	37	4
Temple	92	116	114	96	81	100	10.0	14	59.5	39	5
Average	92	115	115	96	102	104	10.4	15	59.0	39	6
Overall Average	92	113	112	97	110	105	10.5	18	59.0	38	6
LSD (0.10)	6	7	8	7	15	5	--	--	0.6	1	2

Table 2. Irrigated Winter Wheat Variety Performance in District II at Parma, Weiser, and Hammett, 2004.

Variety	Parma		Yield		Average	Protein %	Test Weight lb/bu	Plant Height inches	Lodged %
	early	late	Weiser	Hammett late					
Soft White									
Brundage	123	144	52	116	109	11.4	59.0	34	4
Brun+Step Mix	151	153	84	115	126	11.4	58.2	35	5
Clearfirst	--	136	--	106	--	10.9	57.6	36	3
Dune	174	163	89	132	140	11.2	59.9	35	6
IDO 587	152	144	90	118	126	11.2	57.2	36	8
Malcolm	159	158	103	109	132	11.2	58.0	37	4
Mel	--	134	--	95	--	10.3	59.0	35	25
ORCF-101	148	146	94	114	126	11.7	57.0	35	0
ORCF-102	157	147	100	118	131	11.3	58.4	38	6
Simon	155	148	80	104	122	11.3	58.1	36	5
Stephens	159	157	96	122	133	11.3	57.6	36	8
Tubbs	170	151	102	114	135	11.3	56.5	37	8
WestBred 528	167	159	74	124	131	11.7	59.7	35	5
Average	156	149	88	114	128	11.3	58.2	36	7
LSD (.10)	13	8	19	22	20	0.8	1.3	2	12
Hard									
Falcon	149	140	115	106	127	11.5	61.0	35	28
Golden Spike	148	138	129	127	135	11.7	59.8	40	54
Hoff	133	147	100	134	128	12.2	60.9	37	9
IDO 377ss	--	142	--	132	--	11.1	62.5	40	49
Ivory	152	148	113	133	136	11.5	59.4	38	9
Moreland	149	151	90	138	132	13.0	60.0	34	8
NuFrontier	--	143	--	132	--	10.9	61.8	40	45
NuHill	--	146	--	132	--	12.2	62.5	37	15
NuHorizon	155	165	115	130	142	12.1	62.6	35	19
Vandals	--	136	--	123	--	13.6	60.3	36	9
WestBred 936s	--	144	--	125	--	12.6	59.8	34	6
Average	148	146	110	128	133	12.0	60.9	37	22
LSD (.10)	9	10	15	16	9	0.9	0.9	2	21

⁵ Spring wheat

Table 3. Dryland Winter Wheat Variety Performance in District II at Midvale, 2004.

Variety	Yield bu/acre	Protein %	Test Weight lb/bu	Plant Height inches	Variety	Yield bu/acre	Protein %	Test Weight lb/bu	Plant Height inches	
										Soft White
Brundage 96	33	9.0	55.5	28	Hard	Alzo	27	10.2	52.0	36
Dune	35	8.9	59.3	26		Bogo	32	10.3	52.9	34
Eltan	33	9.6	57.6	28		Boundary	38	9.4	58.8	29
Hubbard	36	9.3	59.4	32		Buchanan	32	9.2	58.4	33
IDO 587	33	10.5	57.3	27		DW	32	9.5	61.1	31
Malcolm	33	9.0	58.5	29		Finley	35	9.6	62.4	37
ORCF-101	34	10.1	56.8	27		Gary	39	9.3	60.7	34
ORCF-102	33	9.4	57.9	27		Ivory	33	9.8	60.6	30
Stephens	36	10.1	59.6	28		Moreland	36	9.6	60.1	27
Simon	35	8.8	58.0	27		Promontory	37	9.7	63.2	34
Tubbs	39	9.3	57.2	30		Utah 100	34	10.0	59.5	34
Weatherford	35	10.1	59.9	28		Average	34	9.7	59.1	33
Average	35	9.5	58.1	28		LSD (.10)	5	0.4	1.0	2
LSD (.10)	5	0.6	1.9	2						



Table 5. 2002-2004 Winter Wheat Variety Average Yield Performance.

Site/years	District I Dryland 14	District II Irrigated 12	District II Dryland 3	District III Irrigated 6	District IV Irrigated 3
	bu/acre				
Variety					
Soft White					
Albion	96	--	--	--	--
Beamer	--	--	--	118	132
Brundage	--	122	--	120	131
Brundage 96	100	--	41	117	118
Burn+Step Mix	--	--	41	--	--
Cashup	93	--	--	--	--
Daws	--	--	--	118	134
Dune	--	--	--	127	139
Eltan	--	--	43	--	--
Finch	96	--	--	--	--
Hubbard	101	--	--	--	--
IDO 587	100	127	--	112	130
Lambert	102	--	--	120	138
MacVicar	--	--	--	120	137
Madsen	96	--	--	112	122
Malcolm	--	130	44	116	132
Mohler	105	--	--	116	129
Rod	98	--	--	--	--
Simon	100	126	45	118	128
Stephens	98	132	43	116	134
Tubbs	104	133	--	122	140
Weatherford	--	--	40	--	--
WestBred 470	--	--	--	110	126
Club					
Chukar	96	--	--	--	--
Coda	97	--	--	--	--
Hillier	95	--	--	--	--
Rhode	101	--	--	--	--
Temple	94	--	--	--	--
Hard Red					
Alzo	--	--	41	--	--
Bogo	--	--	44	--	--
Boundary	97	--	--	128	128
Buchanan	--	--	37	--	--
CDC Falcon	--	--	--	112	120
Deloris	--	--	--	122	111
DW	--	--	38	120	103
Finley	--	--	40	--	--
Garland	--	--	--	123	118
Hoff	--	122	--	--	--
Moreland	--	--	41	127	119
Neeley	--	--	--	122	117
Promontory	--	--	40	127	122
Utah 100	--	--	40	129	124
Hard White					
Gary	--	--	41	118	107
Golden Spike	--	117	--	118	108
Ivory	--	131	41	--	--
NuFrontier	--	--	--	123	105
NuHorizon	--	136	--	128	101

Table 4. Irrigated Winter Wheat Variety Performance in District III and IV at Kimberly, Rupert, and Aberdeen, 2004.

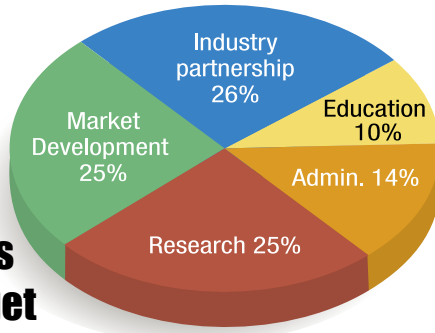
Variety	Yield			Average	Protein %	Kernel Hardness 0-100	Test Weight lb/bu	Plant Height inches	Date Head fr. Jan 1	Lodging %
	Kimberly	Rupert	Aberdeen							
Soft White										
Beamer	130	135	111	126	8.7	14	60.0	38	155	3
Brundage	141	121	110	124	8.1	14	60.8	33	151	1
Brundage 96	137	122	101	120	8.6	15	59.1	35	158	1
Clearfirst	125	109	83	106	9.3	23	59.9	35	160	0
Daws	136	132	117	128	8.2	20	60.8	36	159	0
Dune	143	144	114	134	8.0	21	60.7	35	153	2
IDO 587	123	135	104	121	8.5	16	58.6	35	154	1
Lambert	146	132	114	131	8.5	23	60.1	38	155	1
MacVicar	151	129	114	131	8.4	18	59.8	37	158	0
Madsen	126	125	104	118	8.6	19	60.2	36	159	3
Malcolm	133	137	108	126	8.3	19	59.8	37	156	4
Mel	127	107	86	107	9.3	24	61.8	35	161	0
Mohler	132	128	93	117	8.1	15	60.0	38	157	2
Simon	133	121	98	117	8.3	25	59.8	37	156	1
Stephens	127	138	110	125	8.5	17	59.3	37	156	0
Tubbs	150	134	116	133	8.4	20	59.0	37	158	2
WestBred 528	141	142	107	130	8.8	19	60.9	35	151	2
WestBred 470	144	132	110	126	9.1	16	62.9	35	152	0
Average	135	127	104	122	8.5	19	60.1	36	156	2
LSD (.10)	21	13	22	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Hard Wheat										
Boundary	134	128	131	131	--	--	61.7	37	157	1
CDC Falcon	130	122	98	116	--	--	62.0	35	155	1
Deloris	125	121	115	120	--	--	62.9	43	154	5
Dumas	119	113	112	114	--	--	62.9	35	150	0
DW	132	132	112	125	--	--	62.5	38	155	4
Garland	133	124	111	123	--	--	60.5	28	158	3
Garyw	132	141	107	127	--	--	61.5	41	155	16
Golden Spikew	140	128	106	125	--	--	61.4	41	159	7
Moreland	133	130	111	125	--	--	61.3	33	151	0
Neeley	137	118	120	125	--	--	63.1	41	158	4
NuFrontierw	123	127	112	121	--	--	63.0	38	150	0
NuHillsw	106	109	113	109	--	--	63.1	34	149	1
NuHorizonw	133	133	130	132	--	--	63.4	34	150	0
Promontory	141	138	118	132	--	--	63.4	39	151	1
Utah 100	133	124	114	124	--	--	61.7	42	157	0
Average	127	126	114	122	--	--	62.3	38	154	3
LSD (.10)	15	14	17	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹⁰ Hard White Wheat



2005 Annual Report from the Idaho Barley Commission

Idaho Barley Commission's FY 2006 Budget



WHO WE ARE...

Clark Kauffman is Chairman and District II Commissioner from Filer. Clark represents barley producers from south-central Idaho and is serving his sixth and final year on the IBC. Clark is a delegate to the US Grains Council and member of the council's Value Added Action Team.

Dan Mader is Vice Chairman and District I Commissioner from Genesee. Dan joined the IBC in July 2004. He serves on the boards of the National Barley Foods Council and National Barley Improvement Committee.

Evan Hayes is District III Commissioner from Soda Springs (lives in American Falls). He was re-appointed by Gov. Kempthorne to serve a second three-year term in July 2005. Evan was elected President of the National Barley Growers Association in June 2005 and will serve a two-year term (2005-07).

Steve Balster is the IBC Industry Representative and is Director of Barley Operations for Busch Agricultural Resources Inc. based in Idaho Falls. Steve will begin serving a second three-year term on the IBC in October 2005.

Kelly Olson has been Administrator of the IBC since July 1994. Prior to that time, Kelly was Administrator of Marketing and Development for the Idaho State Department of Agriculture. She was raised on a farm in southern Idaho and resides in Boise.

Pam Moffet was hired as Administrative Assistant in 2002 and promoted to Project and Fiscal Coordinator in 2003. Pam is a native of Texas and was Administrative Assistant to the Texas Corn Producers Board prior to moving to Boise in June 2002 with her family.

Idaho barley production at a glance...

2005 Idaho barley crop (July 1 est.)		2004 Idaho barley crop	
Planted acreage	630,000 acres	Planted acreage	680,000 acres
Harvested acreage	610,000 acres	Harvested acreage	650,000 acres
Average yield	92.0 bu./acre	Average yield	92.0 bu./acre
Production	56,120,000 bu.	Production	59,800,000 bu.
Planted acreage	73% malting 27% feed	Planted acreage	72.4% malting 27.6% feed

2005 Program Highlights

Expanding markets for Idaho barley...

Our focus is on (1) domestic demand for malting, food and specialty feed barleys, and (2) export demand for feed and malting barley.

- **Expansion of eastern Idaho malt plants** – Anheuser Busch's plant expansion to 16 million bushels malt was completed in June 2004.

GModelo Agriculture Inc.'s 6.5-million-bushel malt plant will be fully operational by December 2005.

- **TVRR barley fractionation/ethanol is moving forward in Ontario, Ore.** This innovative facility will process at least 4 to 5 million bushels of specialty barley (waxy hulless) annually. TVRR was completing final site and environmental permitting in summer 2005 and expects to be operational in 2007.

- **Japanese feed and food barley team visited Magic Valley for the fourth straight year.** A six-member team visited a feed mill, dairy farms and the University of Idaho Fish Experiment Station in early August 2005 to investigate the uses of Idaho barley in dairy and fish diets. The team also discussed future food applications, including specialty products that will be available from the TVRR fractionation plant.

- **Importance of Japanese feed market.** Japan is the largest export customer for U.S. barley, buying more than 280 TMT from the United States in MY 2004-05. Japan has taken additional steps to liberalize their feed barley imports, which has worked to the favor of U.S. suppliers. The Japanese government has increased the portion of feed barley imports under their liberalized Simultaneous Buy Sell import system to 1.0 MMT in MY 2005-06, out of total estimated feed barley imports of 1.3 MMT. This represents an increase of 100 TMT from last year.



Six member Japanese barley trade team visits barley fields in Twin Falls area in early August 2005.

Conducting cutting-edge research...

- **Introducing North America's first winter malting barley.** Barley breeders at the USDA ARS Small Grains Germplasm Research Facility have released a new winter malting barley known as Charles that is currently being evaluated by Anheuser Busch Co. and SABMiller for future U.S. brewing applications. Charles is a 2-row malting type that has shown excellent yield potential in the Intermountain West barley production region. In Idaho, Charles is expected to be best-adapted to the irrigated areas of the southern Snake River Plain. It has shown excellent winter survival at the Aberdeen research station in the absence of snow mold. Breeder and foundation seed of Charles will be maintained by the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station's Foundation Seed Program.

Barley foods are receiving a lot more attention from food manufacturers, nutritionists and consumers...

By Pam Moffet

- **Improving food barleys.** We are engaged in a collaborative research effort with scientists at the USDA ARS research facility and the University of Idaho small-grains research program -- both located at Aberdeen -- to develop better-yielding waxy hulless barleys for food uses. IBC sponsored **specialty food barley nurseries** in both Parma and Genesee to evaluate how well these new barley cultivars perform in Idaho's diverse growing conditions. See related article in the adjacent blue box about the growing market demand for food barleys.

- **Improving specialty feed barleys.** We also are developing low-phytate hulless barleys for use in fish and swine feed. IBC and ARS co-hosted a **Specialty Feed Barley Research Forum** in Aberdeen in November 2004 to bring together barley breeders and potential end users to discuss the most effective commercialization strategies for the low-phytate experimental lines now being evaluated in both production nurseries and animal feeding trials. Potential customers for low-phytate barleys also have been identified in both Japan and Taiwan.

Providing a variety of grower services...

- **IBC is fully engaged in federal farm policies through its membership in the National Barley Growers Association.** IBC Commissioner Evan Hayes is now serving a two-year term as President of the National Barley Growers Association (NBGA). National priorities include the following:

- NBGA opposes re-opening the 2002 Farm Bill and reduction of program funding. NBGA has begun surveying its members on 2007 Farm Bill priorities.
- NBGA supports the passage of Rail Competition Legislation (S 919 and HR 2047).
- NBGA supports renewable-fuel incentives, including the Renewable Fuels Standard of 7.5 billion gallons/year recently approved in the Omnibus Energy Bill (HR 6). The RFS is expected to grow from 4 billion gallons/year in 2006 to 7.5 billion gallons/year by year 2012.
- Malt Barley Endorsement crop insurance. NBGA supports preserving the malt barley option B endorsement and supports adjusting the malt barley endorsement to more accurately reflect malt industry quality standards.
- NBGA supports the July 2002 U.S. proposal put forth in the WTO's Doha Development Round of multilateral trade negotiations.
- **IBC sponsors 5th year of risk-management workshops.** With grant funding from the WSU Western Center for Risk Management Education, the IBC organized and implemented another round of marketing and risk-management workshops for Idaho grain producers. 2005 workshops were held in Pocatello,

Experts predict great future for food barleys. In May 2005, Commissioner Dan Mader and Project Coordinator Pam Moffet participated in a Whole Grains Summit and Barley Conference held in Minneapolis, Minn. The conference drew researchers, food technologists, nutritionists, and major food manufacturers from several countries, with a central focus on the future consumption of whole grains. During the three-day event, presentations were given on the dietary importance of bran, soluble fiber, protein and starch found in whole grains.

Beta-glucan, a soluble fiber found in barley and oats, was one of the main topics because of its well-documented health benefits. Clinical trials have linked beta-glucan to significantly lowered cholesterol, reduced insulin resistance and stimulated immune systems. Major food manufacturers are beginning to develop food products that contain high levels of beta-glucan. Some of these products include smoothies, soups, nutritional bars, yogurts, etc. Instead of growing barley for feed and malt, producers may be growing barley for high levels of beta-glucan, a natural pharmaceutical.

The Idaho Barley Commission has funded specialty barley nurseries throughout the state looking at barley varieties that have high levels of beta-glucan as well as improved yields in our diverse growing conditions.

Nutritionists tout benefits of whole grains. With USDA and FDA's much-anticipated release of the new food guide pyramid and 2005 Dietary Guidelines, emphasis is now being placed on increased consumption of whole grains. *One of the key recommendations of the 2005 Dietary Guidelines is consumption of three servings of whole grains per day.* On average, individuals consume less than one serving of whole grains a day.

There are many types of whole grains: barley, wheat, oats, corn, popcorn, brown rice, rye, etc. Whole grains consist of the entire grain seed, called the kernel. The kernel is made of three components: the bran, germ and endosperm. If the kernel has been cracked, crushed or flaked, then it must retain nearly the same relative proportion of bran, germ and endosperm as the original grain to be called whole grain.

Barley is unique from other whole grains. While most grains contain fiber only in the bran layer of the kernel, barley is unique in that fiber (beta-glucan) is found throughout the entire kernel.

Moscow, Lewiston, Greencreek and Bonners Ferry during January through March 2005, with more than 140 participants. Additional sessions were conducted on crop insurance and marketing clubs at cereal schools held in Burley, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Ashton and Preston in January 2005.

- **IBC continues to play a national role in barley pesticide registrations.** Since 1996, the IBC has coordinated a national barley pesticide registration effort. We have been successful in securing federal funding through the USDA IR-4 program to conduct field residue studies of various pesticides used on barley that are needed to support label approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. ♦

Insecticides

Spintor (spinosad) – registered in 2000

Tempo – registered in 2002

Storcide II – stored grain insecticide was registered in 2004

Warrior – Section 18 exemptions annually since 1998. Pending registration by EPA

Mustang

Dimilin – reduced risk bait used on grasshoppers and Mormon crickets

Actara

Danitol

Fungicides

Quadris – registered in 2000

Headline – registered in 2002

Flint / Stratego

Folicur



China Rises Again

By Blaine Jacobson, Executive Director, Idaho Wheat Commission

A Brief History



China was the major power in the world for thousands of years. Relative stability and successive dynasties allowed China to become the most prosperous and plentiful country anywhere by the 1500s. Early explorers to China marveled at inventions such as paper, gunpowder, rubber, cosmetics and ceramics. Tools like the compass, the wheelbarrow and the seismograph were dreamed up in China. Chinese medicine was the most advanced in the world. China already had cities in the millions when the largest cities in Europe were still in the tens of thousands. China was unparalleled in its education systems for children and training of officials for government service. Even today, temples, towers, gardens and stone bridges, not to mention places like the Grand Canal and Great Wall, attest to China's greatness.

China's downhill slide began when it closed itself off from the barbaric world. Satisfied that it was the world's premier civilization, China closed its doors just as European explorers began venturing out. Chinese silk and spices were in great demand in Europe, yet the Europeans had nothing China wanted or needed. European traders pushed opium from India into southern China and caused many people to be addicted to it. Concerned over this foreign influence and the corruption of some officials and worried about the growing impairment of many addicts, China went to war to stop the importation of opium. During China's period of isolation, other countries developed technologically and militarily. Two opium wars were fought and China was defeated both times. In 1858, China was forced to make concessions to and allow occupations by several outside countries.

Since the opium wars, China's recovery has been hampered by occupation during World War II, a civil war between the com-

munists and nationalists, a population boom, and the Cultural Revolution. However, China has the ambition and drive to be a great power again. Western media often portrays China as too authoritative, or too crowded, or too polluted, or too corrupted or too lacking in legal infrastructure; forget the stereotypes. China has its struggles, but these problems are not as prevalent as it would appear from reading news stories. After 150 years of misfortune, China is putting the pieces back together and is booming again.

China Today

China passed the United States last year as the leading destination of investment dollars from around the world. Investment in infrastructure is everywhere. Airports are large, new, and full of travelers. Executives worldwide with expertise in banking, computing, manufacturing, engineering, architecture and advertising are being drawn to China. Ports are busy. Over half of the worldwide fleet of ocean-going vessels is engaged in trade to and from China. Wide expressways link even second- and third-tier cities in China. A world-class seaport is being built in Chongqing,

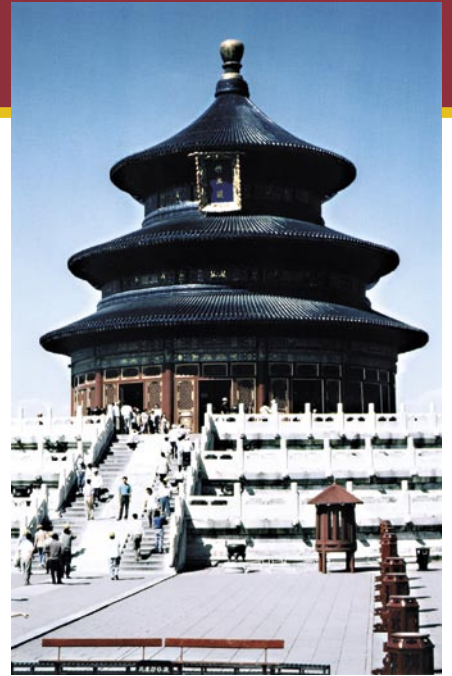


ing, 800 miles inland from Shanghai on the Yangtze River. Growing prosperity is reflected in high-income subdivisions, nice parks, attractive landscaping along roads and attention-catching office towers. Middle-class Chinese families are buying automobiles, household appliances and other consumer goods.

China is following the same economic model used by Japan after WWII and subsequently by Korea, Taiwan and Singapore. These factors include openness in political and economic systems; their emphasis on



education, particularly math and science; their industriousness and frugality (two classic Confucian values); and the stability of the family. "The third great industrial revolution in the history of the world is under way," according to Thomas Friedman, columnist for the *New York Times*. Friedman says the first great industrial revolution was the rise of Great Britain to become a world power in the 18th century. The second great industrial revolution was the United States following World War II.



The Temple to Heaven, or Tiantan as it is known, is where the Emperor selected wheat seeds to plant and where prayers were said for a successful harvest.

China accounted for one-third of all of the manufacturing done in the world last year. This manufacturing demand is setting worldwide prices for basic commodities. The price an Idaho farmer in Minidoka pays for diesel or the cost of a new combine in Genesee is being set by China's need for oil and steel.

Importance of Wheat in China

China is the largest wheat-producing country in the world. A good crop of grain has always been important to China. Assuring a good crop and an adequate supply of food for a vast population has always been a primary duty of the ruler of China. In times past, the emperor was responsible for selecting the wheat and rice seeds to be planted, and, as the intermediary between Heaven and Earth, for praying to Heaven for a good crop.

The Temple of Heaven, or Tiantan, is where emperors of the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties pleaded with Heaven for a good

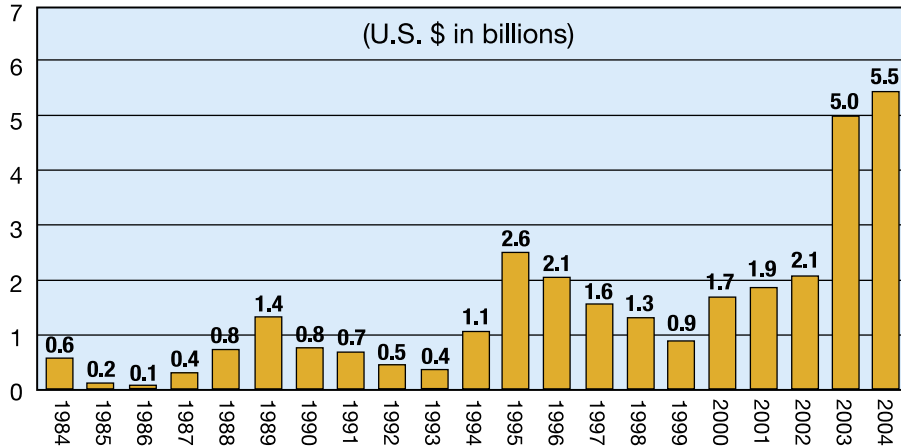
Massive locks like this on the Yangtze River allow wheat and other items to be transported the 800 miles between Chongqing and Shanghai.





China Rises Again...continued

U.S. Agricultural Exports to China



Note: Data are based on calendar years
Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service

crop. Today, Tiantan is a park in the fast-growing city of Beijing. But during the time of the emperors, Tiantan was outside of the city walls close to the croplands. Twice a year, at summer and winter solstices, the emperor would make the daylong excursion from the Imperial Palace in Beijing to the temple at Tiantan. During winter solstice, the emperor would select the best seeds and offer prayers for a good harvest. During summer solstice, the emperor would give thanks for a successful harvest.

Having a good harvest and stable supply of food for more than 1.3 billion people is

no less important today. China prefers to be self-sufficient in food, and government policy encourages as much food to be grown and stored as is possible. But with a burgeoning middle class and higher standards of living, China has a growing need for food imports. According to the USDA, China's agricultural imports jumped from less than \$11 billion in 2002 to more than \$25 billion in 2004. The United States exported a record \$5.5 billion in agricultural products to China in 2004.

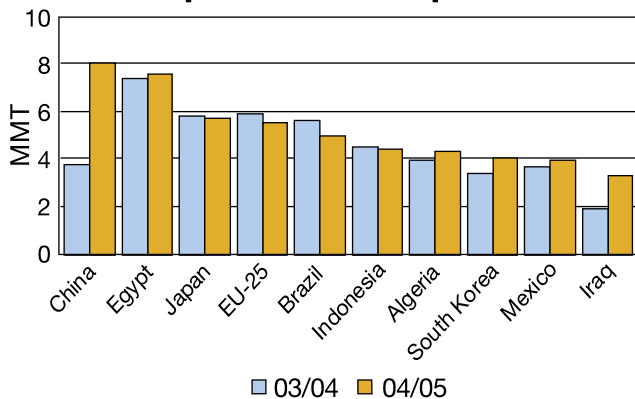
Soybeans and wheat were the major food commodities accounting for the increase in agricultural imports. Soybeans accounted for

30% of the increase over this two-year period while wheat accounted for 10% of the increase. Imports of wheat would have been higher, but China has been reducing excess wheat stocks accumulated during the late 1990s. The USDA report suggests that steady demand for agricultural imports will continue into the foreseeable future.

Because soybeans are more expensive on the world market than is wheat, it would seem like the Chinese government would encourage farmers to plant more soybeans while importing more wheat. However, the opposite is happening. Trying to remain self-sufficient in wheat and rice is a national security imperative; the presence of good wheat and rice crops has historical and cultural roots dating back to the days of the emperors. So far, China prefers to pay more to import soybeans while keeping domestic farmland dedicated to grains. In fact, in 2004 the Chinese government reduced the rent on land used for wheat production, reduced taxes on wheat farmers and increased subsidies in an effort to encourage more wheat. Breeding efforts to increase wheat yield are under way, as are discussions on whether or not to allow biotech wheat to be planted.

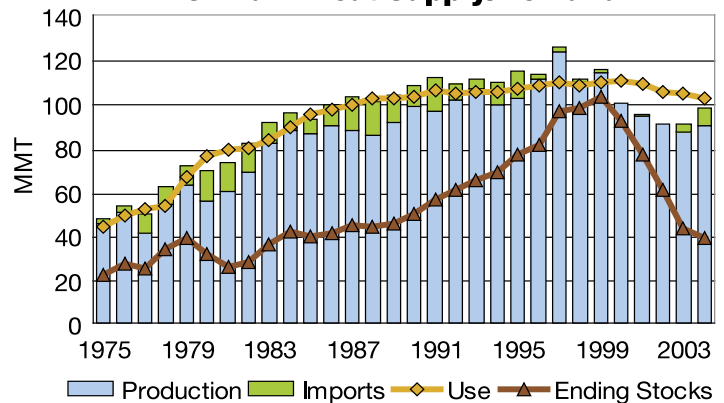
These policies are helping reduce import demand in the short term. Wheat acreage

Top World Wheat Importers



Source: USDA, PSD Online, February, 2005.

China: Wheat Supply/Demand



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, January, 2005.

was up 2% to 4% this year — the first increase in six years. However, urbanization, industrialization and water being diverted to other uses continue to reduce the amount of farmland available to grow wheat and other crops. The long-term outlook appears to favor more wheat imports.

Government officials recognize the need to build overseas relationships to assure long-term supplies of wheat. The China National Cereals, Oils, Foodstuffs Corp. (COFCO) has made two trips to the Pacific Northwest in the past two years. A third trip is pending. During a visit to Lewiston in 2004, Xubo Yu, vice president of COFCO and general manager of the Grains Import & Export Co. within the COFCO group, said, "We are looking forward to establishing long-term relationships with the wheat growers and shippers in Idaho and the PNW."

Idaho's Opportunity to Supply Wheat to China

China's surging economy also hints of a rising need for wheat. As standards of living increase there are more wheat products being consumed. Today, consumption of wheat in China nearly matches consumption of rice.

Why is TCK an Issue in China?

Concern over TCK blocked PNW exports of wheat to China for nearly 30 years. Finally, in 2004, China began buying soft white wheat again from Portland, with a warning that TCK remains a concern.

Chinese sensitivity to TCK is rooted in a famine partially caused by wheat smut 50 years ago. During China's Great Leap Forward, land was collectivized and many long-time farmers were removed from their farms.

In 1957-59, wheat production declined due to these structural changes and also due to a wheat smut. Millions of people starved to death during this famine.

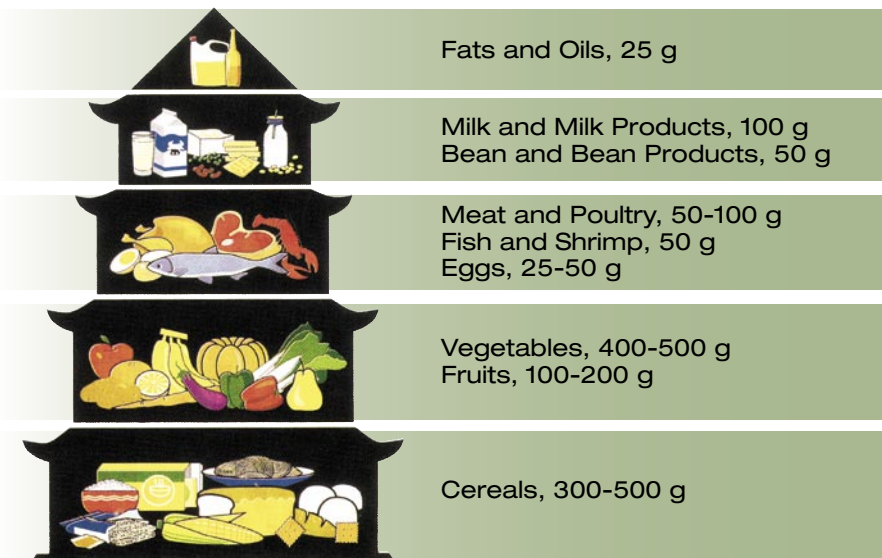
Since TCK is a type of smut, concern remains to this day. This past year, several vessels of wheat from Portland were found to have TCK. So 35-40% of China's soft wheat imports are still soft red wheat from the gulf. PNW soft white wheat exports to China would be higher if TCK were eradicated from the PNW. Growers are encouraged to use a seed treatment that prevents TCK so Chinese buyers will increase their purchases from Portland.

Wheat is expected to pass rice within the next decade. Domestic production of wheat will remain large, but it is probable that China will gradually become one of the world's largest importers of wheat.

Idaho and the PNW will compete with Canadian and Australian producers for this business. Soft white and hard white will be the classes of wheat that are important to

Chinese grain importers. Soft white wheat is used for steamed bread, moon cakes and pastries. Hard white wheat is used for noodles. To become a trusted supplier of soft white wheat, the PNW needs its wheat to be free of TCK (see above story on TCK). To get into the noodle market, the PNW needs to be a hard white wheat producer.

Idaho producers, along with producers from other states, help fund the Wheat Marketing Center (WMC) in Portland. The WMC has been active in working with Chinese importers and millers to formulate products that properly use wheat from the PNW. Idaho also maintains a presence in China through its participation in U.S. Wheat Associates. During the Governor's Trade Mission to Asia in May, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and Commissioner Hans Hayden presented COFCO officials with a Valued Partner Award. As Idaho continues to build friendships in the world's fastest-growing economy, and as it supplies TCK-free soft white wheat and increases production of hard white wheat, it should see a promising new market open up. ♦





Idaho Wheat Growers Represented on Governor's Trade Mission



Hans Hayden, IWC Commissioner, and Blaine Jacobson, Executive Director of the Idaho Wheat Commission, participated in the 2005 Governor's Trade Mission to Asia in May. More than half of Idaho's wheat crop is exported each year, primarily to Asia through the Port of Portland. The largest class of wheat exported is soft white wheat.

The Trade Mission strengthened ties with existing customers in three of Idaho's five largest export markets, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. The trade mission also served to develop new ties in China, Idaho's fastest growing market and sixth largest export market overall.

Japan imports a higher ratio of their food than any other country in the world. Their self-sufficiency is less than 40% of their food needs. Like many other countries, fewer people are choosing a livelihood in farming and the trend to more food imports is expected to continue. The Japanese government is recognizing this reality by initiating reforms that will allow for fewer but larger farms. Japan is

a loyal buyer of U.S. wheat and has been for many years. U.S. wheat growers have a 55% market share in Japan.

Japanese consumers are very sensitive to food safety issues, particularly pesticide residues. The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) asked the trade team to remind Idaho growers of this sensitivity to pesticides and to be careful in their use. In November 2005, MAFF will become more stringent in their regulation of imported food products as they triple the number of chemicals they perform residue tests for.

Northern Idaho and eastern Washington harvested sprout-damaged wheat in 2004. Some of this sprout-damaged wheat found its way to millers in Japan. About one in five millers had trouble in their milling of the 2004 wheat. As a result, new specifications go into effect in May 2006 to tighten the imports of low-amylograph wheat. After May 2006 Japan will not accept any lot of wheat with a falling number below 300.

The Japanese Flour Miller's Association

complimented Idaho growers on the efforts they have made to avoid shipping low-protein hard red wheat. There were no milling problems caused by low-protein hard reds this last year, but they remain vigilant. Low-protein wheat sometimes occurs when hard red wheat is irrigated late in the growing season. Although it boosts the yield for the grower it causes loaf size problems for the miller. Specific varieties the Japanese importers are avoiding include Garland, Semper, Symphony, Columbia 1, and Weston.

The largest usage of wheat in Korea is for noodles. U.S. market share in Korea has slid from 80% fifteen years ago to less than 50% today due to not having a hard white variety of wheat that can compete in price and functional quality with Australian standard white.

Korean millers and noodle makers are in-



The presidents of the two largest flour milling companies in Japan, Masataka Horikawa of Nippon Flour Mills and Ryuji Nakamura of Nisshin Flour Milling, meet with Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne, U.S. Ambassador to Japan J. Thomas Schieffer, Hans Hayden and Blaine Jacobson of the Idaho Wheat Commission. Nippon and Nisshin account for 60% of the flour milling done in Japan.





Idaho soft white wheat is used in pastries in Japan like those pictured here.



Noodles account for a growing share of the wheat purchases by Japan, Korea, and other Asian countries.



(Left) IWC commissioner Hans Harden and Idaho grain shipper Mike McNabb, accompanied by Matt Weimar of U.S. Wheat Associates, inspect a field of wheat in Hubei Province in China.

(Above) Korean millers came from as far as Pusan (south part of country) to meet with Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne and the Idaho Wheat Commission.



Idaho Wheat Growers Represented on Governor's Trade Mission...continued

terested in the new Idaho variety of Alturas (soft white). Noodle makers like it to blend with hard white to improve the texture of their noodle. Bakers like Alturas because it improves their mixing time.

The Korean Flour Millers Association (KOFMIA) committed to bringing in some PNW hard white wheat for a production test.

China is the largest wheat-growing country in the world, but it is also the largest wheat-consuming country in the world. In recent years the gap between domestic production and consumption has increased. China is 95% self-sufficient in grain, and they prefer to maintain their self-sufficiency (see related story in this magazine). However, long-term trends suggest wheat imports will grow. It is possible that Idaho wheat sales to China could be larger in a few years than combined sales to the current four largest customers. A recent buying team from China to Idaho indicated a desire to develop a reliable



Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne presents a Valued Partner Award to Ning Gaoning, Chairman of COFCO, and Xubo Yu, General Manager of the Grains Import & Export Corporation within the COFCO group.

long-term supply relationship.

Taiwan continues to be a faithful customer of United States wheat. The U.S. has more than 85% of the market. However, the Idaho trade team was warned that market share trends could mirror what has happened in Korea, unless viable hard white wheat varieties are developed and grown in sufficient

quantities to export. Taiwan purchases of soft white will not diminish. But the noodle market in Taiwan is also growing quickly and hard white wheat is needed to serve it.

Per capita consumption of wheat-based foods in Taiwan still lags Korea and mainland China. The China Grain Products Research & Development Institute (CGPRDI), which is partially supported by Idaho wheat growers through their participation in U.S. Wheat Associates, has been successful in launching a number of wheat-based foods and in increasing wheat purchases.

Following the visit of the trade team to Taiwan, millers placed tenders for two shiploads of wheat and committed to a visit to Idaho this summer to enter into a two-year agreement to purchase a large quantity of wheat. The visit by the Taiwan millers is now scheduled for September in Boise where they will meet with Governor Kempthorne, the Idaho Wheat Commission, and the press to announce their wheat purchase plans. ♦



Taiwan millers commit to come to Idaho during the summer of 2005 to sign a two-year purchase agreement for a large quantity of wheat.



Dr. Bob Zemetra Completes 20th Year

By Patricia Dailey



Dr. Bob Zemetra, soft white winter wheat breeder at the University of Idaho, has been working hard to develop varieties specifically suited to Idaho's growing conditions for the past 20 years.

Developing new varieties is a long, tedious process, often taking 10 to 12 years of crossing germplasm, checking results, keeping promising lines and discarding others until a winner is found.

According to Zemetra, one of the highlights of his work was the acceptance of the variety Lambert. Each breeding program devises its own selection criteria; however, it is several years before the success of that criteria can be determined.

"Lambert verified that the criteria we were using to do selections and testing were good," says Zemetra. "It was first released in 1995, and in 2005 was still the No. 2 soft white winter variety planted in north Idaho."

Another highlight in his program was the release of Brundage. "This was a first for me," says Zemetra. "It was the first varietal release from a cross I made at the University of Idaho. I brought in new germplasm from outside the PNW for one of the parents.

It was from New York. So Brundage is half Eastern and half PNW germplasm."

The release of Brundage also confirmed the design he uses in selecting varieties, which emphasizes end-use quality. Brundage 96, with improved stripe rust resistance, is now the check variety for comparing end-use quality in soft white winters in the region.

Another first is the release of the cultivar Simon. It is the first cultivar release from UI with pseudocercospora foot rot resistance similar to Madsen. Besides Madsen, the parents of Simon include Lambert and a variety from England. Simon also has good resistance to cephalosporium stripe and stripe rust.

There are several other cultivars in the queue including lines with herbicide resistance/tolerance to imidazolinone. Releases with Lambert and Brundage 96 backgrounds are under evaluation and expected to be available within the next two years.

Field Testing

Selection of the most promising crosses comes from multi-year, multi-site evaluation in the lab and field.

Wheat nurseries are planted at different locations to allow for comparison of performance across environments. One very impor-

tant aspect of variety development is to grow promising lines under grower conditions. Plots are planted on land donated by local growers, as well as UI sites. For Zemetra's program, half of the off-station sites are no-till.

Yield trials for soft white winter are located in Bonners Ferry, Tensed, Moscow, Deary, Cavendish and on the Camas Prairie at Ferdinand and Fenn. There are three irrigated locations in Parma, Hazelton and Aberdeen. At all sites, data is collected on yield, test weight and height. Quality analysis is done if yield and test weight warrant it.

Data gathered helps determine which varieties are commercialized. Multi-year testing in several locations is important also because it helps determine where the new variety should *not* be grown.

Grower Cooperators

Many farmer cooperators help with university research projects. The following highlights three growers working with the SWW program in Northern Idaho. All three are second-generation cooperators whose parents or other family members have provided land, labor and time to help further development of quality wheat varieties.





“Grower cooperators are invaluable to breeding programs,” says Zemetra. “We couldn’t make advances in our breeding program without cooperators. We need to identify plants in different environments and we can only do this by using grower fields.”

Doug & Gary Huffman, Cavendish

Doug and Gary Huffman farm over 1,700 acres around Cavendish, in north Idaho. “As a grower, having the yield trial nursery here provides invaluable information for us,” explains Doug. “We get to see how new materials will do on our farm, with our weather conditions and with our soil type.”



“Providing land for variety trials is one way for us to make a donation to the University of Idaho and help other wheat growers.”

A nursery has been on the Huffman farm since the early 1980s. Zemetra likes to use the area due to high disease pressure for dwarf bunt. Between 50 and 60 varieties are tested yearly. The Huffmans donate enough land for two advanced yield trials. One trial is planted with Dividend seed treatment, the usual practice used on their farm; the other is without seed treatment to see the full impact from dwarf bunt.

The Huffman’s use a three-year rotation with wheat, barley and lentils. Winter wheat is no till while spring crops are conventional till.

Darrel Uhlorn, Ferdinand

Darrel Uhlorn manages a 2,500-acre family farm that has grown research plots for several decades.

Zemetra and his staff rotate F6 generation

material between Uhlorn and Darcy Huffman’s farm. Although not far in distance, the plots are in different enough locations that researchers can make useful determinations.

“The advanced yield trials help ensure



“The trials help breeders see potential problems and help them make better choices.”

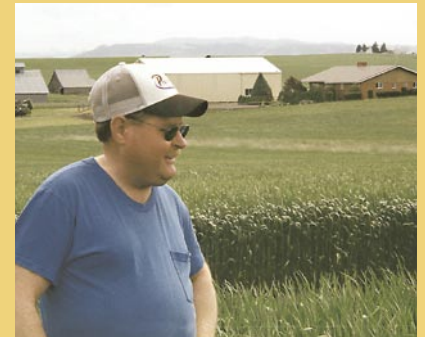
good varieties are available for the future,” says Uhlorn. “This is also a way to help support the University.”

Uhlorn worked at Lewiston Grain Growers before returning to help manage the farm. He uses a no-till rotation.

Darcy Huffman, Fenn

Following in his parents’ footsteps, Huffman continues a family tradition. Interest in research and helping improve the yield

and disease resistance in varieties spurred him to continue providing land and management of a plant nursery on his farm. He



“Having the plots lets me see into the future and have some input into what will actually go forward.”

plans to continue the project as he jokingly says, “Someone has to do it.”

Zemetra plants approximately 40 F6 generation entries each year along with two released varieties to serve as checks. Huffman manages his fields using conventional tillage including a summer fallow. ♦

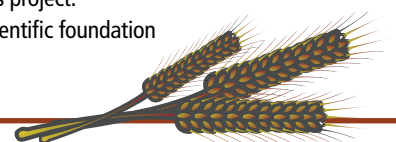
***The following cooperators are also recognized for their work in the development of soft white winter in Idaho: Joe Figgins and Michael Hubbard, Bonners Ferry; Jack Miller, Tensed; Marvin and Daryl Hunt, Deary; Joe and Jay Anderson, Tammany.*

International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium

The first meeting of the International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium was held recently. Mapping the wheat genome is critical to gain new technology to support breeding programs, to help develop new uses and improve quality and yields.

The wheat genome is five (5) times larger than the size of the human genome, which was completed in 2003. Eight countries are working on this project.

The sequenced wheat genome will provide the scientific foundation needed to help improve wheat grower profitability.



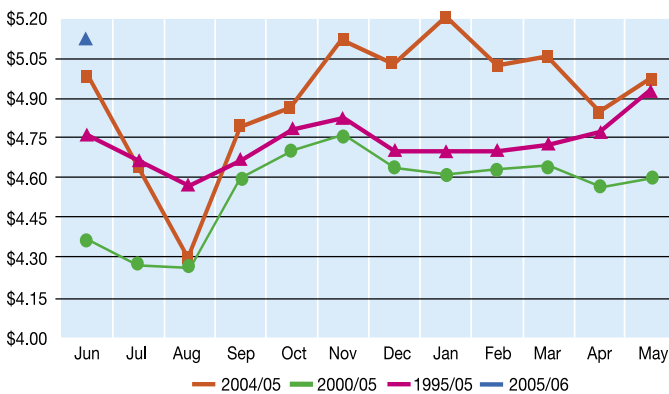


World Wheat Outlook – Downward Pressure on Prices

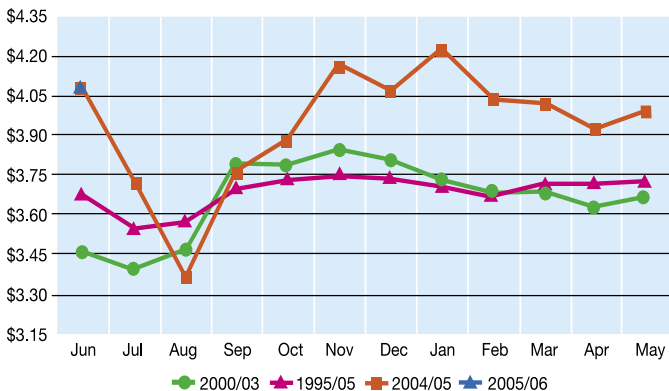
According to USDA, wheat exports are expected to increase from the FSU 22% and from the EU at 19%. This will probably put downward pressure on prices which are expected to range from \$2.60 to \$3.10/bushel compared with \$3.40 in 2004/05.

Historical information can help with marketing decisions. The following graphs depict historical prices for HRS wheat in Portland and Ogden. A comparison is shown of average prices over the past 10 years, 5 years and 1 year. While all wheat prices tend to move in the same general direction, year-to-year price variation exists among different wheat classes and protein levels. Knowing the expected price movement within the marketing year can help in developing a marketing plan. Price charts for all classes are on the IWC website.

**Portland Hard Red Spring Wheat (14%)
1,5,10-yr Avg Price by Month**



**Ogden Hard Red Spring (14%)
1,5,10-yr Avg Monthly Price**



Pre Harvest Tour

Mind share is market share. Following on this adage, IWC participates in as many activities as possible to introduce Idaho's quality wheat to industry members. The second PNW Pre Harvest Wheat Tour ended on a successful note as participants toured fields in both southern and northern Idaho, along with fields in Oregon and Washington.

Sponsored by the Tri State Wheat Commissions, the tour increases interaction between all sectors of the wheat industry as they take an early look at the crop and exchange ideas.



This year's participants included growers, millers, marketing specialists, elevator operators, bakers, extension personnel, media and government officials.

Bob Fesler, Horizon Milling, Ogden, estimates crop yield near Declo with wheat growers Mark Darrington and Wayne Hurst.

As interest in food safety increases, being able to walk through wheat fields where grain is sourced for milling, becomes more important. This is one way to highlight the state of Idaho and its wheat growers' accomplishments.

“Orange Leaf Wheat”

“Orange Leaf Wheat” made an appearance both in southern and northern Idaho this year. Wheat leaves covered with orange pustules marked the increasing presence of Stripe Rust on wheat varieties once thought resistant. Although we have been breeding resistance for stripe rust into Idaho wheat varieties for decades, the new races are evolving quickly. Mild winter temperatures combined with volunteer grain or weeds creating a green bridge, could harbor the disease over winter. Growers are reminded to be aware of the resistance level in varieties planted. Stripe rust data is posted at: http://www.agls.uidaho.edu/cerealsci/yield_trial_data.htm.



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