

# Gem State Producer



September 2018 • Volume 22, Issue 6 **IFB**® IDAHO FARM BUREAU



Farm celebrates  
**150** years

New IFBF  
**15** marketing program

Nuisance lawsuits  
**31** threaten ag

## Sowing the seeds of policy for 2019



**By Zippy Duvall**

*American Farm Bureau Federation President*

We are coming up on an exciting time for Farm Bureau when you gather as members to begin the policy development process with your local county Farm Bureau.

This is a tradition many of you have been carrying on for a century now, and

## The Zip Line



we can all be proud of our active grassroots heritage. Our strength comes from our grassroots at Farm Bureau, and this process is living proof. You know better than anyone the impact that policies and regulations coming out of your state capitals and our nation's capital have on your individual farm and ranch.

This is your opportunity to bring those

issues to the table, so we can all speak with one voice to protect our businesses and way of life. You set the direction for Farm Bureau as you each step outside your fencerows to make a difference for agriculture.

Every time I meet with lawmakers and officials here in D.C., I am proud that I can say our Farm Bureau policies

*See DUVALL, page 6*

## N.C. nuisance lawsuits should concern every farmer



**By Bryan Searle**

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation President*

Farmers and ranchers around the nation should be alarmed by a string of 26 nuisance lawsuits targeting North Carolina hog opera-

tions.

The trial lawyers leading these lawsuits have been successful in the three that have been decided so far and they have resulted in multi-million-dollar jury awards for the plaintiffs. To date, the total amount awarded in these few cases exceeds \$468 million.

[See story on page 31.]

One example people familiar with these lawsuits have shared with me about how they are harming farm-

ers is the Joey Carter hog operation.

The Carter operation is a clean, well run operation located in a very remote rural area that has been raising hogs on this farm for over 20 years. Then 15 years ago, a new neighbor purchased some property next door and things were fine until the couple ended up in a divorce.

The husband remained on the property and remarried. The new wife did not like the smell and found it,

*See SEARLE, page 7*

## Western Farm Bureaus unified in wildfire management



**By Rick Keller**

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation CEO*

In a unified effort, the 13 state Farm Bureaus in the West, representing 385,000 member-families, informed U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue and U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Ryan

Zinke of the shared, strong belief that ineffective land management practices and policies in the West over the past several decades have contributed to increased risk of catastrophic wildfire.

An emphasis on fire suppression, reductions in commercial timber harvest and thinning, and additional regulations related to permitting and restrictions on livestock grazing, they said, have slowed the ability of states' public and private forest land managers to make significant improvements in forested landscapes.

Through the third week of August, the

Capital Press reports, 41,563 fires have broken out, burning more than 6 million acres across the West. Last year for this same period, 42,977 wildfires scorched 6.48 million acres the West.

Sustainable forest management and protecting and preserving our environment are not mutually exclusive. The U.S. Forest Service and BLM must both work toward a series of significant reforms that accomplish these important goals.

Targeted, active forest management

*See KELLER, page 6*





# IDAHO FARM BUREAU

Volume 22, Issue 6

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Photo by Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Director of Commodities and Marketing Zak Miller addresses participants of an Aug. 1 tour designed to show Teton Valley residents how farmers and conservation groups are working together to protect water and soil.

# Teton County farmers, conservation groups work together

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

DRIGGS – About 115 Teton Valley residents got a close-up look at how farmers, ranchers and conservation groups are working together to protect water and soil during an Aug. 1 tour.

The four-hour bus tour, which visited a farm, ranch and the banks of the Teton River, was organized by Teton County Farm Bureau and was attended by interested community members, environmentalists and agricultural producers.

Five years ago, Friends of the Teton River, Teton County Farm Bureau, Teton Soil Conservation District and several conservation groups started seeking ways to work together instead of fighting over natural resource-related issues, as they had in the past, said Friends of the Teton River Executive Director Amy Verbeten.

The tour was a way to highlight the results of that cooperation to community members and show them that more can be accomplished when the groups work together, she said.

“We have been taught that farming and ranching and conservation are either-or propositions. They are not,” Verbeten told tour members.

“It doesn’t have to be recreation, clean water or agriculture,” she said later. “They should both be working together and benefiting each other. And they do; we just have

See TETON COUNTY, page 8

**Cover:** Photo by Sean Ellis  
 Family from across Idaho and several other states gathered in Cambridge July 28 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Allison Farm, which has been recognized as the state’s first 150-year farm. See story, page 4.





Photo by Sean Ellis

Allison Farm owner Steve Johnson, center, is presented a plaque honoring the farm's 150th anniversary, July 28 in Cambridge, by Idaho State Historical Society trustee Bill Butticci, left, and Idaho State Department of Agriculture Deputy Director Brian Oakey.

# Allison Farm celebrates 150 years

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

CAMBRIDGE – More than 400 farms and ranches in Idaho are recognized as Century Farms that have been in the same family for at least 100 years and include at least 40 acres of the original land parcel.

Only one, Allison Farm in Cambridge, has been recognized by the state as a 150-year farm. That farm, currently owned by Steve and Debra Johnson, celebrated its sesquicentennial on July 28.

Officials from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture and Idaho State Historical Society, which jointly operate the state's

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**'When you consider the ebbs and flows of the economy, it's an absolute miracle the farm has stayed in the same family'**

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Century Farm program, presented the family with a plaque and certificate honoring the 82-acre farm's 150-year existence.

Because the Century Farm program doesn't yet have an offi-

cial 150-year award, the plaque reads simply, "Idaho Century Farm: Established 1868."

The program probably needs to create an official 150-year award, said Bill Butticci, an



ISHS trustee for the region who presented the award along with ISDA Deputy Director Brian Oakey.

“It looks like we’re going to have to revisit the program and see how many 150-year farms we have out there and update it,” Butticci said.

There could be farms in Idaho that have remained in the same family for a longer period but so far, the Allison Farm is the oldest officially recognized farm in Idaho.

Considering how economic

fortunes change and “farms are bought and sold and go by the wayside, it’s a miracle in itself that this farm has remained in the same family since 1868,” said Steve Johnson, the senior regional claims manager for Idaho Farm Bureau Insurance Co.

He said the descendants of William and Ruhama Allison, who homesteaded the property in 1868, have always had a strong attachment to the land and that’s one of the reasons the sesquicentennial celebration attracted family from through-

out Idaho and from several different states.

“When you consider the ebbs and flows of the economy, it’s an absolute miracle the farm has stayed in the same family,” Johnson said. “But that’s why it’s stayed in the same family, because all of us are absolutely enthralled with this property. The connection to this land is stronger than ownership.”

“This property is the uniting place for the whole family,” said Janet Loveland, Steve Johnson’s sister. “This is home.”

Johnson said the property won’t be leaving the family any time soon.

“Not on my watch,” he said.

William B. Allison and Ruhama Hedgecock moved to what is currently Cambridge after getting married in 1868. They raised cattle, milk cows, hogs, made their own cheese and planted an orchard. They also grew a small patch of potatoes.

Wheat, hay and pasture are currently grown on the farm.

The Allisons were one of the original five families to homestead the Cambridge area, which is in Washington County and 70 miles North of Boise and 27 miles Northeast of Weiser.

The Johnsons are descended from the Allisons’ first male child, Alexander Allison.

Oakey said it was a personal joy to him to be able to visit the Allison Farm and help present the plaque.

“I’m really thankful the Historical Society takes the initiative to keep the data and keep track of all these farms and ranches like this so we don’t lose that history,” he said. “Having the opportunity to come to an event like this is one of the things I personally look forward to, to get to know some of these farm families and learn the histories of some of these places that have been in the same family for 100 years or more.”



Photo by Sean Ellis

Family from across Idaho and several other states gathered in Cambridge July 28 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Allison Farm, which has been recognized as the state’s first 150-year farm.



Photo by Sean Ellis

Allison Farm owners Steve and Debra Johnson stand next to a family tree tracing the roots of the family farm back to 1868. The farm has been recognized by the state as the first 150 year farm in Idaho.

# KELLER

Continued from page 2

practices will have a significant positive impact on the ability of Western states to combat catastrophic wildfire, protect lives and property, safeguard our water supplies, and prevent the destruction of farming and grazing lands.

Healthy forests are critical to rural communities in the West whose economic and social fabric rely on the revenues generated by the multiple uses of the national forest system and BLM lands. These lands have a direct impact on agricultural activity, jobs, and annual payroll in many counties throughout the West.

We know how to manage forests and rural lands for healthy forests and watersheds. Forest harvesting and livestock grazing represent

two available strategies that can restore balance to these areas. That lack of balance is one reason wildfires have proven so destructive. We desperately need new policies and reforms aimed at improving the management of forests and grazing lands administered by these two agencies.

The Western State Farm Bureaus offered the following recommendations:

- Large-scale, landscape-level land management plans should be allowed to guide individual actions on forest lands without duplicative administrative processes under federal environmental laws.
- With regard to salvaging timber in fire-burned areas, there needs to be an expeditious alternative to following standard National Envi-

ronmental Policy Act procedures.

- In addition to the new Categorical Exclusions included in the 2018 Omnibus Bill, the use of existing CEs should be expanded for both timber harvesting and grazing purposes.
- The length of timber contracts should be lengthened to 20 years, to provide an incentive for long-term investment in forestry and milling infrastructure.
- Emphasis on direct coordination with states at federal, state and local levels should be strengthened.
- With regard to grazing, grazing permittees and others with long-term contractual agreements should be given stakeholder status beyond “public.” Agency socio-economic analysis should be given equal weight to the environmental

analysis in the decision-making process.

- Continued financial assistance in the form of matching payments to owners and operators of agricultural and non-industrial private forest landowners to establish, produce and deliver biomass feedstock.

In light of the recent catastrophic wildfires, it is abundantly clear that we need to implement thoughtful, sophisticated and scientifically based strategies immediately to improve the health of our forests and to protect lives and property. While the smoke from these horrifying wildfires lingers above us, let us commit to restoring balance to land management by focusing on cooperation and moving away from the myth that “no management” is sound policy.

# DUVALL

Continued from page 2

come directly from their farmer and rancher constituents back home. Together we shape policies that affect not just our farms today but future farms for generations to come.

And we have not shied away from the tough or complex issues either. When big data became a major concern on farm and ranch land, threatening our privacy and placing our valuable farm data at risk, our grassroots members stepped forward to begin developing policy to tackle the issue. Since then, we have established broad coalitions and worked with leading agriculture companies to develop privacy guidelines that make it clear just how, when and where your information is stored and used.

Technology is changing the landscape of agriculture, and farmers continue to be on the cutting edge.

Your involvement and adoption of new technology like drones has given us the opportunity to work with agencies like the Federal Aviation Administration to be sure you can bring the latest innovation to increase the efficiency of your farm. But our policy directive to shape that work began at a county Farm Bureau meeting.

We are eager to hear what you all bring forward for the coming year. Questions are swirling around Washington on how to address innovative technology like lab-grown meat. I expect it's a topic that has come up around your local feed stores as well.

While we need to keep exploring innovative ways to feed a booming population, we must also be on the alert to protect our ability to bring healthy, farm-raised meat to consumers' tables. This is something we need to talk about soon, especially as government agencies plan

their next steps.

This is also a time for you to tackle the challenges you're facing on your farm with the down economy and ongoing trade disruptions. Farm Bureau has been a longtime advocate for trade, and we continue to meet with Congress and administration officials to urge a swift resolution to the trade war, as well as the opening of new markets for agriculture.

Farm Bureau is committed to protecting your status as a leader in the global marketplace. As you meet in the coming weeks and share with one another how the trade war is hitting your farms, we are counting on you to share with your county and state leaders what you need to keep your businesses moving forward.

Finding a solution for our nation's trade challenges will be difficult and getting new and improved trade deals could take a long time.

As we move forward with our policy development, we need clear and current policy on trade and aid, policy that addresses the crisis at hand and the long battle ahead.

At the national level, we will keep taking those messages and stories to Congress and the administration, and we won't ease up until the trade uncertainty is resolved. Together we can ensure agriculture remains a top priority in trade negotiations.

Finally, I want to thank you for taking the time to come together to discuss these tough issues and help strengthen our farming and ranching communities.

Time is always precious, and even more so on our nation's farms and ranches. But I trust that the time you spend planting these policy seeds will yield a fruitful harvest for all of U.S. agriculture for years to come.



# SEARLE

Continued from page 2

along with the movement of trucks, a nuisance.

No farmer or rancher can operate without the use of trucks, dust, or odors of some kind.

While the case was being heard, the judge would not let the jury visit the well operated farm.

At the conclusion of the case, the jury, which deliberated for only three hours and made its decisions based upon one side that was allowed in the court room, awarded the plaintiff millions. During the closing arguments, those things mentioned as a nuisance were odor, 176 times, trucks, 37 times, flies and buzzards, 19 times, and health issues, 24 times.

There were no examples or reported health issues in the case. The court room was filled with trial lawyers looking for how they might proceed with many other cases throughout this country.

The lawsuits have been successful despite North Carolina having what that state's agricultural community assumed was a strong Right to Farm law.

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation was involved in the successful effort to further strengthen Idaho's Right to Farm Act in 2011.

The law protects producers against nuisance lawsuits as long as they are following generally accepted farming practices and we believe Idaho's law is one of the strongest in the nation.

That said, North Carolina's ag-

ricultural community thought the same thing. It wouldn't hurt Idaho's farming community to take another look at this state's RTF law and see if there are areas where it can be strengthened.

As American Farm Bureau Federation officials have put it, the North Carolina lawsuits are a highly sophisticated and well-funded attack by trial lawyers seeking large jury awards based on the sights, sounds and smells of farming.

Because of the success they have had in North Carolina, there is every reason to believe they will use that playbook to target other farming sectors in other states.

This is not just a threat to hog farming and it's not solely a threat to the corporate integrator the lawsuits target. Eighty-nine farms have been implicated in the lawsuits. Some of these farms that have been labeled as "nuisances" are losing their contracts and their livelihoods.

The breadth, and success, of the North Carolina lawsuits have sent a shockwave of concern throughout all of U.S. agriculture.

But they have also served as a clarion call to the industry to unite to fight back against this attack on the men and women who produce the most abundant and affordable food supply in the world.

During a live roundtable discussion on the issue hosted by North Carolina Farm Bureau Aug. 3, congressional members and national farm indus-

**'The message from other state Farm Bureaus has been consistent: We stand with North Carolina on this issue and we have your back. '**

try leaders agreed it's time to rally the troops and seek a solution to the issue.

The message from other state Farm Bureaus has been consistent: We stand with North Carolina on this issue and we have your back.

The message from North Carolina Farm Bureau to other states has been: Take another look at your state's RTF law and make sure it protects against these types of attacks.

So, yes, we have North Caro-

lina's back but we also need to make sure we protect our own back as well.

Regardless of how the situation started in North Carolina plays out, farmers and ranchers should continue to strive to be good stewards of the land, air and water and good neighbors.

They already are but it behooves us to double down on those efforts to ensure we are doing everything we possibly can to ensure that's the case.



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# TETON COUNTY

Continued from page 3



Photo by Sean Ellis

Teton County farmer Rob Piquet addresses participants of an Aug. 1 tour designed to show Teton Valley residents how farmers and conservation groups are working together to protect water and soil.

to figure out how to communicate that and better harness that.”

She said the groups are working together to learn about and put on the ground practices that benefit farmers and ranchers and the soil and water.

“The most exciting thing about this is we’re actually getting things done on the ground,” she said. “We’re making real change and progress and we’re documenting that.”

TCFB President Stephen Bagley, who farms and runs a beef cattle operation in Victor in the south end of the valley, said local environmental groups and farmers had been at odds with each other in past years but that’s begun to change.

“Being able to sit down at the table, we have found a lot of common ground where they have helped us solve some problems and we’ve helped them solve some problems and to understand how things really

work on the ground,” he said.

The tour was a chance to educate people about how the groups are working together and welcome questions and input from community members, Bagley said.

“We often throw mud at each other without understanding each other’s point of view,” he said. “The main point of this whole farm tour is to just open up the dialogue and see each other’s point of view.”

An example of how the sides are working together include a voluntary aquifer recharge program that could result in more groundwater returning to the river during the critical late summer months, when both fish and farmers desperately need it, said Rob Van Kirk, a hydrologic consultant for the Henry’s Fork Foundation.

“That benefits everybody who is standing here to get that done,” he told tour participants on the banks of the Teton River.

The groups are also supporting a soil

health initiative and were able to purchase a no-till drill that is owned by the soil conservation district and rented to agricultural producers.

Other projects include experimenting with cover crops and different crop rotations to create healthy soil and prevent erosion into the river.

Friends of the Teton River is supporting a position that works with producers to measure and document soil health changes on their farms.

The conservation groups have strong fundraising and grant writing experience and “bring the science and money essentially,” Verbeten said, and “the producers obviously bring a tremendous amount of expertise in innovative agricultural best management practices.”

The Teton Regional Land Trust is also working with farmers and ranchers to of-

*See TETON COUNTY, page 11*



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*University of Idaho photo*

Michael Parrella, dean of University of Idaho's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, left, pointing, speaks with members of the Brigham Young University-Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, in April in Rexburg during a meeting of faculty and leaders from both colleges.

# University of Idaho, BYU-Idaho ag colleges to work closer together

**By Sean Ellis**

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

MOSCOW, Idaho – Leaders and faculty at the University of Idaho and Brigham Young University-Idaho ag colleges have agreed to foster closer collaboration between the two colleges.

This could benefit the state's agriculture industry by ensuring more BYU-Idaho students become involved in the industry in Idaho, Michael Parrella, dean of UI's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, told Idaho Barley Commission members during their recent board meeting.

"The big picture is you will have better trained students who are going to serve the

agriculture industry in Idaho. That's the ultimate goal," he said.

"University of Idaho is trying to improve and increase its graduate program and we already have these wonderful (BYU-Idaho) students in the state who want to go on to graduate school," Parrella added.

BYU-Idaho, located in Rexburg in eastern Idaho, has almost 1,200 students enrolled in its animal science, plant science and food science programs but the university is not a research institution and doesn't have graduate programs in those areas.

UI, which is located in Moscow in northern Idaho, has graduate programs in an array of ag-related fields and nine research and extension centers throughout the state where BYU-Idaho students could gain

valuable research experience.

Working closer with UI "is a way of helping our students be successful and providing them some things that we as a four-year, non-research institution can't provide," said John Zenger, dean of BYU-Idaho's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. "We're really trying to give our students as much real-world experience as possible."

Following recent reciprocal visits to each other's campuses, leaders and faculty from both ag colleges have agreed to work closer together. That could mean more internship type opportunities for BYU-Idaho ag college students to work with UI researchers.

This has occurred in a limited way in the past but both ag colleges agreed to pursue those types of relationships to a greater de-



gree and make BYU-Idaho students aware of the opportunities, Parrella said.

Many BYU-Idaho ag college students want to go on to graduate school but UI isn't even on the radar of many of those students, Parrella said.

"There is still no visibility for our programs on the BYU-Idaho campus," Parrella said. "We want to make their students aware that these opportunities are available."

"We feel it's a good fit for our students to go there and we're excited to learn more about what programs are available at the University of Idaho," Zenger said.

It could also mean the colleges working together to offer BYU-Idaho students degrees in various agriculture fields. For example, Zenger said, a student could attend BYU-Idaho for three years and UI for one

year to obtain a bachelor's degree or a specific degree that BYU-Idaho doesn't offer.

Or a student could attend BYU-Idaho for three years and UI for two years and receive a bachelor's degree from BYU-Idaho and a master's degree from UI.

"If they could feed their best and brightest students into our program, that's a win-win, for us, for them and for Idaho's agriculture industry," Parrella said.

Leaders and faculty from BYU-Idaho visited UI's Moscow campus in November and UI leaders and faculty visited BYU-Idaho's Rexburg campus in April.

"I think it's unprecedented and very exciting," Parrella said of the visits and agreement to collaborate. "There was this mutual understanding that there could be benefits on both sides. I think we had a very fruitful meeting."

"We learned a great deal when we went up there and they learned a great deal when they came here," Zenger said. "I feel very positive about the relationship."

Parrella said the colleges agreed to foster more collaboration from an administrative perspective, "but we're not forgetting that it's got to be the professors, one on one, who really make things happen."

Zenger agreed, saying that most of the ways to work closer together will be "established at the department level and approved, if needed, at the university level."

He said the most productive part of the campus visits was when "their ag economists and our ag economists went off and talked about things and our soil scientists and their soil scientists went off and talked about things."

## TETON COUNTY

Continued from page 8

fer voluntary farmland conservation easements that benefit both farmers and the land and water, Verbeten said.

Farmers are offered a financial incentive to enter into the agreements, which are in perpetuity and prevent the land from being developed but allow producers to continue to farm it. They can still sell it but it must remain in agricultural production.

Verbeten said local farmers approached her group about five years ago wanting to know if it would be willing to partner on projects that benefit the river, fish and land.

"I don't think they got more than three sentences into the spiel before we said, 'Oh heck yes, we would,'" she said. "This is exactly the kind of thing that I've always hoped could be part of what we do."

She said the conversations environmentalists had with these farmers was enlightening and refreshing.

"I don't think most environmentalists expect to stand around with farmers and ranchers and hear them talk about how the river is the lifeblood of our community and

how much they love the river," Verbeten said. "And yet that's been a part of this conversation from the beginning."

Farm groups applauded the efforts that local conservation groups have made to work with them to solve issues rather than fight over them.

"In the past, there has been a lot of bad relationships between conservation groups and farmers and ranchers," said Tyrel Bingham, IFBF's regional manager in the Upper Snake River Valley. "This has been a page turned. This has given us an opportunity to realize we don't need to be fighting with each other, but we can work together to benefit both the fish and the farms."

More than 50 percent of the land in the Teton Valley is in agricultural production and the river's presence has also resulted in a strong fishing and recreation industry that attracts millions of tourism dollars to the area.

Verbeten said the partnership has proven it's possible to have a strong tourism and strong farming industry in the same place.

"There's no reason we can't have both," she said. "There's no reason we can't have strong, healthy farms and a strong healthy fishing and recreation economy."

Following the tour, event participants enjoyed dinner together.

The cooperation between the two sides started following the beginning of the voluntary aquifer recharge program, said IFBF Director of Commodities and Marketing Zak Miller.

"What the groups realized is that they have a lot more similar goals than opposing goals," he said. "They've literally broken bread with each other tonight so now, if they are having some conflict in the future, hopefully they'll talk it through versus wanting to fight about it."

Verbeten said her hope is the cooperation can spread to other communities.

"We are documenting the successes that we are having here and hopefully we'll see this type of approach start to spread," she said.

# U of I's proposed CAFE project finds physical site

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

SUN VALLEY – University of Idaho officials are close to nailing down a physical site for the university's proposed Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment.

Once the university has a site for the project, the financial support to build the facility should speed up, Michael Parrella, dean of UI's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, told Idaho Milk Processors Association members Aug. 10 during their annual conference.

"We feel from this point on, if we can get a physical site, we are going to see CAFE on steroids moving forward and that is very exciting," he said.

The Idaho Legislature has approved \$10 million for the center, which will focus heavily on dairy industry research but will also conduct research that will impact all aspects of Idaho agriculture.

Legislators have made an additional \$5 million for CAFE contingent on the project making more progress.

UI will sell some of its assets and work with industry partners to generate the balance of funding needed for the project, which an initial feasibility study released last year estimated would cost about \$45 million.

Having an actual site will make it easier for the university to raise those additional dollars, Parrella said, because people will have a vision for the center they can buy into.

UI officials are currently in negotiations to purchase the first 640 acres of a 1,200-acre site within 50 miles of Twin Falls, said Parrella, who did not disclose more details because of the ongoing negotiations.

He also laid out a somewhat new scope for the project.

The initial plan, outlined in a feasibility



*Photo by Sean Ellis*

University of Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Dean Michael Parrella provides an update on the university's proposed CAFE project, Aug. 10 in Sun Valley during the Idaho Milk Processors Association's annual conference.

study released last year, was to locate research laboratories, temporary housing for faculty, students and visiting researchers, and an outreach and education center that teaches people about Idaho agriculture, on the same site as the 2,000-cow research dairy.

The new plan is to locate the laboratories, housing and outreach center on a separate, 500-acre parcel of land at the crossroads where Interstate 84 and Highway 93 meet near Twin Falls.

That high-visibility area – roughly 40,000

vehicles pass by there every day – will enable the outreach center to better reach the public with the message of how important the state's agricultural sector is to Idaho, Parrella said.

"That location gives us the visibility and public access that is almost unprecedented in the state," he said.

Having the outreach and education center separate from the research site is also better from a biosecurity standpoint, he said.

A food processing pilot plant that will be part of CAFE will be located on the Col-





Photo by Sean Ellis

University of Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Dean Michael Parrella is pictured in Sun Valley Aug. 10, where he provided an update on the university's proposed CAFE project during the Idaho Milk Processors Association's annual conference.

lege of Southern Idaho campus in Twin Falls, as originally planned.

The new model for CAFE, which was developed over the past few weeks, "gives us a vision and starting point for CAFE," Parrella said. "This is a seminal moment. I think we can move forward from here."

The Idaho Dairymen's Association committed \$2 million toward the project several years ago but IDA board members have some questions about the new CAFE model they need answered before releasing that money, said IDA Executive Director Rick Naerebout.

He said IDA members support the project, they just need those questions answered.

"There is no facility like this in the western United States," he said. "It's a no-brainer for us. We'd like to see this facility be built. There is some really good environmental research that could come out of it."

That said, "It's a new direction that hasn't been considered before," Naerebout added. "We just have to make sure we fully understand the scope of this new direction."

The original target for the research dairy, he said, was to be

within 20 miles of Twin Falls so it could have some good synergy with CSI.

He said dairymen are also curious about how much of the milk produced on the research dairy will be marketed and the potential impacts on the local marketplace.

Addressing that question, Parrella told IMPA members, "I think the research benefits to the industry [from the center] will offset the small amount of milk that will actually go into the market."

Gooding dairyman Steve Ballard, a member of Dairy West's board of directors and chairman of Idaho Farm Bureau Federation's dairy committee, said the research the center would conduct "is research that we need to be doing and it would be valuable to the industry."

The project was first pitched more than a decade ago but got sidelined by the most recent recession. The scope of the project has also changed a few times.

"We support the project," Ballard said. "But it keeps changing and I just don't know if they'll be able to raise the money to get it off the ground. That's the hard part about it."

Parrella told IMPA members he is passionate about the project and the university is committed to it.

The issue with progress up until now has had to do with not having a site nailed down, he said, but having a site will make a big difference because it will provide a tangible starting point to develop detailed plans for applicable facility de-

sign and business operations.

"I think we really have the opportunity to move this project forward," he said. "I think we can pull this off."

Idaho, which has 600,000 dairy cows, ranks fourth in the nation in milk production and No. 3 in cheese production. Milk is Idaho's No. 1 agricultural commodity in terms of farm-gate receipts.

CAFE will conduct dairy-related research on lagoons, nutrient management and surface and ground water contamination, which are issues that have been the subject of recent major lawsuits.

"These questions are not going to go away," Parrella said.

The center will partner with CSI and Brigham Young University-Idaho to address the workforce development needs of dairies and food processing facilities and provide them with a new and retrained workforce, Parrella said.

"CAFE is all over that," he said.

It will also conduct research on a wide array of topics relevant to Idaho farmers, including soil health and fertility, production management, forage cropping and agronomy, animal genetic improvement, labor management, precision agriculture, commodity risk management and food science and manufacturing.

It will educate the public, K-12 students and elected officials about Idaho agriculture.

"This is something that will benefit all of Idaho agriculture and every Idahoan," Parrella said.



Photo by John O'Connell

Gongshe Hu, a barley breeder with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, speaks about promising new barley lines, including Gemcraft, during a June 27 tour of his research plots in Aberdeen.

# Newly released barley variety geared toward craft brewing industry

By John O'Connell

For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

ABERDEEN – USDA barley breeder Gongshe Hu recently released the first of what he expects will be many malting varieties coming from his program specifically geared to meet the needs of the growing craft brewing industry.

Hu, who works at the agency's Aberdeen Agricultural Research Service, said about 35 percent of his breeding efforts are now focused on craft brewers, who tend to use all-malt recipes rather than blending

malted barley with starches from other sources, such as corn or rice.

Hu also spends about 35 percent of his time developing varieties well suited for large brewers who blend malted barley with other starches, called adjuncts. The remaining 30 percent of his time is spent developing barley varieties that are high in heart-healthy beta-glucan fiber, for human consumption.

Hu released the craft variety Gemcraft last year, and the Briess Malt and Ingredients Co. has malted it, for use by Wisconsin-based New Glarus

Brewing. A smaller facility in Idaho Falls has also raised and malted some Gemcraft for evaluations by regional breweries.

Hu started breeding for attributes needed by craft brewers in 2012, at the request of the Colorado-based Brewers Association, which represents craft breweries. The association has contributed funding to Hu's program during the past few years.

Hu identified Gemcraft after reviewing some of the elite lines in his program he'd been using as breeding parents but

had never released as varieties. The association picked Gemcraft based on taste tests, from a list of about 20 lines supplied by Hu.

Hu has several more lines in his program's pipeline, crossed since he began emphasizing the craft industry's needs.

"First, we will see the marketing response to Gemcraft. If they like it, we'll put more effort into (craft lines)," Hu said.

Chris Swersey, supply chain specialist with the Brewers As-

See *BARLEY*, page 20





Photo by Steve Ritter

JC Management Co. President Clark Johnston speaks to Idaho Farm Bureau Federation county presidents about the importance of having a solid marketing plan, during a July meeting in McCall. JC Management and IFBF have teamed up to create a free program for members who want help developing a marketing plan for their farm commodities.

## Idaho Farm Bureau offers free marketing program for members

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

POCATELLO – Idaho Farm Bureau Federation members now have access to a new program that could help them maximize their profit by developing a personalized marketing plan.

IFBF has contracted with JC Management Co. to help Farm Bureau members develop individual marketing plans for their farm commodities.

JC Management, based out of Hooper, Utah, will assist IFBF

members in developing customized management plans designed to help them achieve their marketing goals.

JC Management President Clark Johnston will sit down with individual farmers and help them develop a specific plan designed to put them in the best possible position to get the most money for their commodities, said Zak Miller, IFBF's director of commodities and marketing.

"People like Clark have access to better markets and information than the general farmer does," he said. "By being able

to take advantage of Clark's connections and his access to markets, farmers should be able to get a more consistent and higher price on average."

"He'll monitor the markets for us, he'll monitor futures markets and he'll help us find what the best cash price is for the individual farmer," Miller said.

Johnston will help educate producers about futures markets and basis, which is the spread between the local cash bid and the futures market and is an indicator of the local supply and demand situation.

Johnston said some farmers sell their crop largely based on emotion, but it's better to have a plan in place with specific points where the commodity needs to be sold at in order for the farmer to be profitable. When those points are reached, he said, "we sell no matter what."

"We're trying to take the emotion out of the market," he said. "Once you sell it, it's gone. You don't get to sell it again. We need to make sure we're doing the best we can to take the

*See MARKETING, page 20*

# Idaho Grain Market Report will continue

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – The Idaho Grain Market Report, which has been delivered by email to subscribers weekly since 1995, will continue under the new administrator of the Idaho Barley Commission.

Former IBC Administrator Kelly Olson, who retired in early August, created the report in 1995 when she realized there was no grain market news in Idaho despite the state being a major wheat and barley producer.

The report has come out every Thursday since 1995 with the exception of Christmas, New Year's Day and the Fourth of July.

“Even when I’ve been on vacation,” Olson said. “I remember doing the report in Botswana.”

When Olson announced she was retiring, there was some question whether the report would continue.

It will.

New IBC Administrator Laura Wilder said the report was the first thing Olson began training her on when they began working side by side in June.

Wilder said she was taught Olson’s weekly research routine “to ensure the successful continuation of the report.”

The report covers barley, wheat and corn trends, sup-

ply and demand information, prices and other market information.

“This (market report) is extremely important and helpful to our growers and many have come to rely on it for important marketing information,” Wilder said. “While there is a lot of market data available from different sources, there is nothing else out there for Idaho growers that reports as much comprehensive relevant grain market data, trends and information, including current Idaho prices.”

More than 1,100 people subscribe to the free report, including people around the globe, foreign embassies in Washington, D.C. and major grain producing companies.

The report, which is delivered by email, has been used in a number of official capacities, including, because it collected price information over a long period of time, to help build and improve barley crop insurance programs.

Olson said creating the report is time-consuming “and that means you have to be disciplined, you have to collect information and know what’s going on every day of the week in your market. But it’s helped me be better at my job because I know what’s going on in the market.”

Idaho Grain Market Report, August 2, 2018 NEW CROP PRICES  
Published weekly by the Idaho Barley Commission, kolson@barley.idaho.gov, 208-334-2018  
Prices paid by Idaho Elevators delivered to warehouses in specified locations for barley and wheat  
Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2018. Barley prices in \$/Cwt. and wheat prices in \$/bu.

	Barley (Cwt.) FEED	MALTING	Wheat (bu.) Milling		
	48 lbs or better	Open market malting	#1 SWW	#1 HRW 11.5% pro	#1 DNS 14% pro
Ririe	\$5.75		\$4.70	\$5.30	\$5.60
Is		NQ	\$4.70	\$5.40	\$5.50
Pocatello		\$7.00	\$4.70	\$5.40	\$5.50
oda Springs	\$6.50		\$4.89	\$5.17	\$5.72
port	\$6.50		\$4.89	\$4.95	\$5.34
/ Buhl / Jerome	\$5.50-6.35		\$4.65-4.90	\$5.13	\$5.65
Weiser			\$4.95		
/ Craigmont	\$5.21		\$5.15	\$6.00	\$6.21
	\$5.75		\$5.41	\$6.26	\$6.47
ennessee	\$5.24-5.45		\$5.18-5.33	\$6.03-6.18	\$6.24-6.40

Prices at Selected Terminal Markets, cash prices FOB

#2 Feed 46 lbs. -	Malting	#1 SWW Ord pro -	#1 HRW 11.5% Protein	#1 DNS 14% Protein	#1

Idaho Grain Market Report

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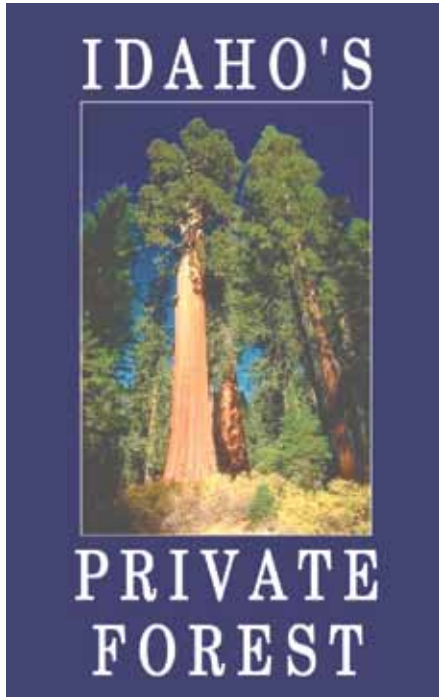


Photo by David Beckman

Adult fir engravers lay eggs horizontally, with the wood grain. Their larvae feed with the grain.

## Fir engraver attacks

By Chris Schnepf

University of Idaho

University of Idaho Extension and Idaho Department of Lands offices in north Idaho have been besieged with calls this summer about dying grand fir trees.

There can be multiple contributing factors, but ultimately, most of these trees are being finished off by a bark beetle known as the fir engraver (*Scolytus ventralis*). The insect is also commonly referred to by its genus

name, "Scolytus."

Most bark beetles are small, on the order of the size of a grain of rice. Fir engravers are no exception, being only 4 millimeters in length. Fir engravers become active in the summer.

If they find a tree they can successfully attack, they create a short gallery that is perpendicular to the wood grain. The female

lays eggs on both sides of the main gallery, from which larvae hatch and feed at right angles to the main gallery (with the grain). Fir engraver galleries score the tree's sapwood, hence the name of the insect: "engraver."

Because the galleries score wood, you can often see fir engraver galleries in long-dead grand fir trees that have lost all their bark.

When fir engraver larvae mature, they bore out of the bark in search of other trees to attack. When you see a dead grand fir that looks like someone stood 40 feet away and shot it with bird shot, you are looking at the exit holes of newly matured fir engravers that killed that tree. Entry holes are often near branch collars, which is why you sometimes see individual grand fir branches killed by this insect.

This year, fir engravers are killing a lot of trees, but fir engravers often attack trees without killing them. If you have ever seen grand fir with bubbled-up or shaggy bark, you are likely looking at "patch attacks" by fir engraver, whereby the insects only attack a small patch or strip of the tree's trunk. The tree's response to this injury is



Photo by Idaho Board of Scaling Practices

Patch attacks from fir engravers can dramatically reduce the value of grand fir logs.





Photo by Chris Schnepf

Bubbled-up or shaggy bark grand fir bark indicates past non-lethal patch attacks by fir engravers.

to grow over the dead tissue, which creates the bark irregularity. The attacked patch of cambium usually turns brown from a fungus the beetles bring into the tree. The dead tissue creates wood separation in the tree (sometimes called “ring shake”). In a tree with many patch attacks, wood degradation can be considerable, so log scalers deduct for this in the mill yard.

Grand fir can be quite sensitive to soil moisture and other environmental conditions. For example, soils that are too wet can stress grand fir as much as soils that are too dry. But dry soils are a more common precursor to fir engraver activity. The last half of last year’s growing season was very dry in much of northern Idaho and that was probably the biggest driver to our recent upturn in fir engraver activity.

Root diseases also play a role in fir engraver activity. Trees that fade over a period of years are often being killed by root diseases. Trees with crowns turning from green to red in one year are more likely being killed by bark beetles. But even where

trees are killed by bark beetles, root diseases often set the stage for them by stressing the trees. This is especially common with fir engraver.

Removing grand fir trees with needles that turned flat-brown will not usually have any effect on fir engravers, because after that point (especially after mid-June) their young have already matured and left the tree.

However, fir engraver can breed in green grand fir put down by storms or logging. This is relatively rare, but to be on the safe side, avoid leaving green grand fir stem material larger than 3-4 inches in diameter in the forest. This includes whole firewood sized pieces of green grand fir – these can be large enough for fir engravers to attack and reproduce in.

You can also check under the bark for beetle galleries; if you find fir engraver galleries, removing stem wood or removing and destroying the bark will eliminate fir engraver habitat.

Forest insect and disease issues are most effectively dealt with preventatively. Fir engravers are a native insect, present at some endemic level in most Idaho forests that can grow true firs. The underlying issue with fir engraver mortality is stands with more grand fir, at higher densities, often on drier sites, than we had historically.

So, the primary response to fir engraver is typically to favor more pines and larch on sites where grand fir grows, at a sufficiently wide spacing (12-15 feet between stems on sapling trees and up to 40 feet between larger trees).

By happy coincidence, this strategy can also reduce long-term mortality from root diseases, defoliating insects, and wildfire. If a stand is predominantly composed of grand fir and Douglas-fir, thinning could increase root disease issues (and fir engraver mortality).

The best strategy in this case may be to do a regeneration harvest at some point to re-establish a mix of pines and larch, as appropriate to the site.

For more information on fir engravers, the following publications are available online and may give you further insights on this insect that regularly kills grand fir on Idaho family forests.

Ferrell, George T. 1986. Fir Engraver- Forest Insect and Disease Leaflet 13. USDA Forest Service, FIDL 13. 11 pp. [https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fsbdev2\\_043751.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fsbdev2_043751.pdf)

Randall, Carol Bell. 2006 Management Guide for Fir Engraver. Forest Health Protection and State Forestry Organizations. 7pp. [https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5187436.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5187436.pdf)

Idaho Department of Lands. 2014. Fir Engraver. State Forester Forum Insect and Disease No. 20. 4 pp. <https://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/forester-forums/id20.pdf>

*Chris Schnepf is an area extension educator in forestry for the University of Idaho in Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai and Benewah counties. He can be reached at [cschnepf@uidaho.edu](mailto:cschnepf@uidaho.edu)*

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# BARLEY

Continued from page 14

sociation, said all-malt brewers tend to like varieties with lower protein levels than are found in common malts used by large, adjunct breweries. Recipes that blend barley and adjunct starches tend to need more protein and barley enzymes to aid in conversion of rice or corn sugars.

Swersey said his members also tend to prefer lower levels of free amino nitrogen (FAN), which is needed to support yeast reproduction but can lead to off flavors and poor shelf stability in excess. He said Gemcraft is high yielding and has FAN levels of 180 to 190, compared with levels in the 220 range in most adjunct varieties.

Swersey said craft brewers could benefit from varieties with even FAN levels, in the 150s. Furthermore, malt varieties with lower protein levels – appropriate for craft specifications – tend to also have higher percentages of starch, saving brewers money.

“I think Gemcraft is important because it does represent a departure from the current suite of barleys that are out there,” Swersey said.

U.S. craft brewers comprise 13 percent of the beer market but consume 40 percent of the nation’s malt, due to their all-malt recipes, Swersey said.

Hu said he’s also optimistic about an elite malting barley line that he developed for large adjunct brewing – ARS191-3. It’s been the top or second best yielder in 12 of 19 field trials. Before the year’s end, Hu plans to submit the line to the American Malting Barley Association for pilot-scale testing.

He said if the variety performs well in consecutive years of AMBA pilot-scale tests, it will move on to planting-scale testing, prior to its release by AMBA.

Early this year, Hu’s program also released

a food barley variety, called Goldenhart. The hull-less, 2-row food variety is expected to replace Transit, which is another food barley released from his program. Hu said both Goldenhart and Transit contain about 9 to 10 percent healthy beta-glucan fiber, but Goldenhart yields 5 to 10 percent better under irrigation and up to 30 percent higher on dry land.

He said Goldenhart has great potential for growers seeking to raise food barley in southeast Idaho.

Thresher Artisan Wheat is among the companies interested in Goldenhart.

“We started a food barley program back in the winter,” said Bradford Warner, vice president of marketing with Thresher’s parent company, Agspring. “It’s really attracted some (grower) interest. I think we hit the acreage number we needed pretty quickly.”

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# MARKETING

Continued from page 15

emotion out of that so that we make good marketing decisions.”

He said the key to good marketing is not thinking, “How much higher will the market go? It’s, hey, this is all it’s going to give us right now so let’s take what the market is going to give us. You’re possibly leaving a lot of money on the table without a good plan.”

It’s important to sell when somebody wants to buy, he added, “because once they’ve bought their needs in, then they exit the market. They’re not there anymore and you’ve missed your opportunity.”

As an example of how a farmer could benefit by working with Johnston, Miller pointed to a short period recently when wheat prices in Ogden, Utah, jumped in the morning.

“The average farmer’s not going to get that

call from Ogden, saying, ‘Hey, prices are up,’” he said.

There is no cost for members who want to take advantage of this program.

“If you’re a Farm Bureau member, you get Clark,” Miller said. “By paying your Farm Bureau membership, you’ve already paid for your consulting fee for Clark. There’s no extra cost whatsoever. There’s only things to gain by doing it. Whatever you’re producing, JC Management will work with you to make a marketing plan for that.”

Once a marketing plan is in place, producers will receive phone calls, text messages or emails about current news and opportunities to contract commodities according to their plan.

Johnston has served as a marketing consultant to IFBF for the past decade and Farm Bureau has relied on his expertise to pro-

vide a general idea of where the market is headed, Miller said.

“The difference now is we’re taking him out on the farm,” he said. “So you can call up Clark and say, ‘I have 30,000 bushels of soft white wheat, what do I do?’ And then Clark can help you put together a marketing plan.”

Based on IFBF’s past experience working with Johnston, Farm Bureau is confident in recommending producers work with him, Miller said.

“The market is going to do what it does but if you work with Clark and listen to what he says, he is going to put you in the best position to be as successful as you possibly can,” he said.

For more information about the program, contact Miller at (208) 390-4636, or Johnston at (801) 458-4750.



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Photo by Sean Ellis

Idaho barley growers, their family and employees, attend an Anheuser-Busch grower appreciation event July 13 in Idaho Falls. The company holds the event annually to thank Idaho barley farmers for providing almost half of the barley AB uses in North America.

## Beer giant thanks Idaho malt barley growers

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

IDAHO FALLS – Idaho barley farmers play a critical role in Anheuser-Busch's North American business model. As the bumper sticker says, "No barley, no beer."

During the company's annual Barley Grower Days event, AB officials made sure that the Idaho farmers who grow barley for the company know just how much they are appreciated.

"We appreciate everything you guys do," John Drake, director of western malting operations for AB, told growers during the July 12-13 event. "Our growers do a tremendous job making sure they're growing

the highest quality barley and we don't say 'thank you' enough. We can't do it without you."

AB works with 400 Idaho farmers, who produce almost half of all the malt barley the company uses in the United States.

That malt barley is turned into 300,000 metric tons of finished malt at the AB malt plant in Idaho Falls and the nearby Inte-Grow Malt plant, which is part of the AB family, and then shipped to the company's 12 domestic breweries across the nation.

Given that AB gets almost half of all its U.S. barley from Idaho, that means the malt in three of every bottles in a six-pack of Budweiser was produced in Idaho.

Several hundred barley growers, their fam-

ilies and hired hands attend AB's annual grower appreciation days event, which includes lunch, awards and other activities.

"We use it as an opportunity to let the growers know that without them, we really can't do what we're doing," said Doug Peck, AB's Idaho ag manager. "Idaho has become very important for Anheuser-Busch and Anheuser-Busch really appreciates the Idaho grower."

"It takes great barley to brew great beer," Dave Taylor, a Budweiser brewmaster, told growers during the appreciation event. "For me the brewer, thank you so much for everything you do."

The Idaho grower also appreciates Anheuser-Busch and knows how important





Photo by Sean Ellis

Idaho barley growers and Anheuser-Busch employees mingle in a barley field July 12 during an AB grower appreciation event in Idaho Falls. AB gets almost half of the barley it uses in North America from Idaho.

the company is to the state's barley industry, said Idaho Barley Commission board member Scott Brown, who grows malt barley in Soda Springs.

Idaho is the nation's No. 1 barley producing state and a big reason for that is AB's presence here, he said.

"We're the top barley producing state in the nation for a reason: we have great land, great soil, great irrigation and we have great companies like Anheuser-Busch and InteGrow to buy our barley," Brown said. "They're an important part of the Idaho barley industry."

During the grower appreciation event, Rep. Scott Bedke a Republican rancher from Oakley and speaker of the Idaho House of Representatives, said the state's barley farmers and AB benefit each other.

"From the growers' side, you provide Anheuser-Busch with a high-quality, consistent product year in and year out," he said. "And Anheuser-Busch provides growers with a predictable and consistent return."

AB came to Idaho in 1968 because this part of the state is an ideal barley growing region, Peck said.

"The soil here is good, the temperature is good, we have plenty of irrigation water, normally, and we have a high-desert climate so we don't have high humidity, which brings disease in," he said. "It's just an ideal place to grow good, quality malt barley."

Drake said it takes quality barley to produce quality beer and that's what Idaho growers provide.

"My job as maltster is to make the highest quality malt for our brewmasters and it all starts right here with the barley," he said.

Peck said the company is committed long-term to Idaho, as evidenced by the millions of dollars AB has invested in its Idaho infrastructure.

"We've invested a lot of dollars in Idaho with a malt plant, the grain elevator north of town, the seed cleaning facility north of town," he said. "You don't invest those

kinds of dollars unless you're very committed to the area. We're committed to this area for our barley production."

As part of that commitment, he said, the company has several sustainability programs for growers in the region, including a Smart Barley program that allows farmers to benchmark their production with other farms and use the information, if needed, to alter their production practices to maximize yields.

The company also has a program aimed at increasing irrigation efficiency and has invested in a series of strategically located weather stations in the region that help farmers maximize their irrigation applications.

Part of AB's sustainability program is also helping sustain the farmers financially, Peck said.

"We want them to get maximum production out of each acre they're planting," he said. "We've got to make them financially secure in order to have them growing barley for us in years to come."

# Farm Bureau can help you develop a marketing plan

**By Clark Johnston**

Whether we like it or not, fall is in the air. Grain harvest is completed and the crop is either in the bin or delivered to town. Either way I hope that you had a plan in place and you are watching your plan and possibly making some adjustments as necessary.

When I say necessary, I am talking about adjusting to possible changes in the market, whether that is futures, basis or both. Basis for hard white has been high during this summer and remained higher throughout the harvest season. We also saw good basis levels – basis is the spread between the local cash bid and the futures market – right out into next harvest for hard white. The other classes of wheat, not so much.

To give you an example, during the first week in August, Chicago December futures traded at the highest level for the past 13 months. This gave producers the opportunity to contract wheat even if it was in the deferred months. The market traded a little above the \$6 market and then we took 60 cents back out of the market over the following two weeks.

This was just another example of knowing the level in the market you would contract at least some of your commodities. These decisions need to be made ahead of time as there usually isn't time to think about whether or not you should sell. With this type of volatility, you could very well leave money on the table waiting for a nickel.

Remember, don't ever over analyze the market in an attempt to squeeze that last

nickel out of something you don't really have any control over. The futures market for the most part really doesn't care if you hold your wheat off of the market. However, storing your wheat and keeping it out of the market does at time have an effect on the local basis.

Once the crop is in the farm bin producers for the most part won't get all that excited about moving their commodity until the fall work is completed. Once this happens, the processors usually need to increase the basis in an attempt to entice the wheat out of farm storage and into the flour mill.

This is why the basis will usually strengthen between the first of September and the end of November. This, however, isn't the only reason the basis strengthens. During the fall, the demand is usually the highest. The domestic market is gearing up for the holiday season and the export sales are usually brisk during this time frame. September, October and November are generally good times of the year to contract your wheat even when selling for the deferred month deliveries.

We have had a very good carry charge in the wheat market until just recently. The futures have taken the carry out of the futures into the 2019 harvest months and have even looked at an inverse into new crop. This is telling us that there is a very good chance that the U.S. will reduce the stocks-to-use ration for next year and move us back into a more normal trading pattern where we trade a carry charge into the spring months and then invers into the harvest months.



**Clark Johnston**

These types of markets will continue to give you good marketing opportunities throughout the year but there won't be any incentive to hold wheat over from year to year.

As you look at new crops or at least new varieties of crops to be planting this fall as well as in the spring, don't forget to take a good hard look at your plan to market these commodities. It is never too early to begin putting your plan down on your computer.

You can always make adjustments to your plan once you have one. However, we have seen some producers in years past that don't have a plan, thus they can't make adjustments and end up chasing the market and missing their good opportunities.

Let us help you get ahead of the game. Idaho Farm Bureau Federation now offers a member benefit to you where we assist you in not only developing your plan but actually assist you in implementing that plan in the months ahead. For more information on how Farm Bureau can help you, call Zak Miller or Melissa Nelson in the Pocatello office at (208) 239-4341.

*Clark Johnston is a grain marketing specialist and owner of JC Management Co. of Ogden, Utah. He can be reached at [clark@jcmanagement.net](mailto:clark@jcmanagement.net)*



# Idaho legend, former farmer inducted into NFL Hall of Fame

By Jake Putnam

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

BOISE – Former Green Bay Packers player and Idaho dairy farmer Jerry Kramer was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame Aug. 4. Kramer farmed in Parma until the late 1980s.

As the keynote speaker at the Idaho Young Farmer and Rancher Leadership Conference in Boise in January 2012, he recounted his years in football and talked about his relationship with legendary Packers coach Vince Lombardi. “Excellence is an acquired skill,” Kramer told YF&R members at that meeting. “Being farmers, each one of you strives for excellence each day, that’s what farmers do.” Kramer was born in Montana but lived most of his life in Idaho in Sandpoint, Parma, and Boise. After graduating from Sandpoint High School in 1954, Kramer accepted a football scholarship at the University of Idaho.

His size, speed, and athletic ability elevated him to star status for the Vandals. After graduation, Kramer played in the East-West Shrine Game and the College All-Star Game, defeating the defending NFL Champion Detroit Lions.

Kramer had his jersey retired by the University of Idaho.

He was drafted by the Green Bay Packers and won the starting right guard position

his rookie year. As a Packer, the former Vandal won five NFL titles and the first two Super Bowls. Kramer also was the team’s kicker in 1962-63 and part of 1968.

Kramer was named All-Pro five times and prior to his induction, he was the only member of the NFL’s 50th Anniversary All-Time team who was not a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Near the end of his career in 1967, Kramer collaborated with Dick Schaap on his first book, the best-selling Instant Replay, a diary of the season which chronicled the life of an offensive lineman in the NFL.

Kramer and Schaap would write two more books together, including Farewell to Football. After retiring, Kramer briefly worked as a color commentator on CBS National Football League telecasts. At his induction speech, Kramer captivated the audience with his closing remarks. “After the game is all over and the stadium lights are out,” he said. “The parking lot is empty and you are back in the quiet of your room. The championship ring is on the dresser. The only thing left at this time is for you to live a life of quality and excellence. Make this world a better place because you were in it. You can if you will.”


The newly minted Hall of Famer walked off the stage to a standing ovation.




*IFBF file photo*

Recent Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee Jerry Kramer, center, meets with Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Rancher members in 2012. Kramer played for the Green Bay Packers and is a former Idaho dairy farmer.


## This Month’s Top Farm Bureau Agents



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Row 1: Colbie Niswander, Tennessee; Casey Spradley, New Mexico; Johanna Fox-Bossard, New York; Elaine Moore, New Hampshire; Michele Simoneaux, Louisiana; Lorenda Overman, North Carolina (member, AFB Women's Committee).  
 Row 2: Tammy Wiedenbeck, Wisconsin; Laura Purtle, Tennessee; **Chyla Wilson, Idaho**; Cyndi Johnson, Montana; Sherry Saylor, Arizona (chair, AFB Women's Committee).  
 Row 3: Lee Rankin, North Carolina; Connie Hass, Colorado; Krista Swanson, Illinois; Victoria Flowers, Oregon; Sherrie Lou Tate, Utah; Patty Lange Fischer, Indiana.

# Farm Bureau recognizes communications boot camp graduates

## American Farm Bureau Federation

The American Farm Bureau Federation recognized 15 farm and ranch women leaders as graduates of the organization's 12th annual Women's Communications Boot Camp. The intensive three-day course completed by the agricultural leaders comprised hands-on sessions on public speaking, working with the media and messaging.

"It's gratifying to see the increased confidence of these women leaders as they sharpen their skills for sharing messages about agriculture," said Sherry Saylor, an

Arizona row crop farmer and chair of the AFB Women's Leadership Committee. "Boot Camp graduates are persuasive and effective in connecting with influencers at the local, state and national levels."

This year's Boot Camp graduates are: Connie Hass, Colorado; Chyla Wilson, Idaho; Krista Swanson, Illinois; Patty Lange Fischer, Indiana; Michele Simoneaux, Louisiana; Cyndi Johnson, Montana; Elaine Moore, New Hampshire; Casey Spradley, New Mexico; Johanna Fox-Bossard, New York; Lorenda Overman, North Carolina; Lee Rankin, North

Carolina; Victoria Flowers, Oregon; Colbie Niswander, Tennessee; Laura Purtle, Tennessee; Sherrie Lou Tate, Utah; and Tammy Wiedenbeck, Wisconsin.

The American Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee, in partnership with AFBF staff, hosts and provides training for the Women's Communications Boot Camp. This the 12th year of the program, which has more than 180 graduates and is open to all women involved in Farm Bureau. An application process is used to select the participants.

# Coalition seeks reprieve from revived WOTUS rule

## AFBF

On behalf of America's farmers and ranchers, the American Farm Bureau Federation on Aug. 20 asked a federal district court in South Carolina to stay its order striking a rule that delayed implementation of the flawed 2015 Waters of the U.S. rule.

Without a stay, the court order has the effect of immediately reviving and implementing the controversial WOTUS rule in 26 states. The 2015 rule has been blocked by other court orders in the remaining 24 states.

AFBF and a broad coalition of industry groups asked the U.S. District Court of South Carolina to delay implementation

of its Aug. 16 order while the groups appeal the court's decision.

According to Monday's filing, the court's decision to strike the delay rule harms the public interest "because the 2015 WOTUS rule was promulgated in violation of [procedural requirements], is inconsistent with the text of the [Clean Water Act], and is unconstitutional — as every court to consider the issue has concluded."

The Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers issued the delay rule to provide regulatory stability and consistency while the agencies consider whether to repeal the WOTUS rule.



AFBF and the coalition warn of the "patchwork regulatory regime" created by allowing implementation of the WOTUS rule in about half the nation.

"Enormously consequential national regulations like the WOTUS rule — which subject commonplace activities involved in building, farming, and pest management to a com-

plex and burdensome federal permitting and enforcement scheme — should not apply differently depending on whether the activity happens to be located on one side of a state line or the other," the filing states.

The groups will seek a stay from the federal appellate court if the district court denies the request.

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Tamra Turner (at right) with her Farm Bureau Insurance agent, Lisa Bothof.

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# Discounts For Idaho Farm Bureau Members

**Case IH Tractor & Equipment Incentive Program:** Farm Bureau members can now take advantage of Case IH equipment discounts thanks to a new membership value program. Eligible Farm Bureau members will receive an incentive discount – from \$300 to \$500 – when purchasing qualifying Case IH equipment from participating dealerships. The discount is stackable, meaning it can be used with other discounts, promotions, rebates or offers that may be provided by Case IH or a Case IH dealership. A current Farm Bureau membership verification certificate must be presented to the Case IH dealer in advance of product delivery to receive the incentive discount.

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The Farm Bureau Member Benefit discount on Cat machines can be combined with any current retail discounts, promotions, rebates or offers available through Caterpillar or its dealers, with the exception of other membership purchase incentives (such as the NCBA discount). See dealership for details.





North Carolina Farm Bureau photo

Members of Congress lead a live roundtable discussion Aug. 3 on a string of recent nuisance lawsuits against North Carolina hog operations. Rep. David Rouzer, R-N.C., said the development is not just a North Carolina issue but could threaten ranch and farm operations throughout the country.

## Roundtable raises alarm over nuisance lawsuits

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – National agriculture leaders held a live roundtable discussion Aug. 3 on how successful nuisance lawsuits against North Carolina hog operations are a threat to all of U.S. agriculture.

The roundtable in Raleigh, N.C., was shown live on North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation's Facebook page and the event was attended by farm industry leaders from across the country, congressional leaders and other federal and state elected officials.

The topic was recent nuisance lawsuits

against North Carolina hog farms that were successful despite that state having a strong Right-to-Farm law.

During the discussion, Rep. David Rouzer, R-N.C., said the development is not just a North Carolina issue but could threaten ranch and farm operations throughout the country.

"We have a crisis brewing in ... North Carolina that is a threat not only to North Carolina agriculture but it's a threat to agriculture nationwide," he said. "The ramifications are very real for all of American agriculture all throughout the country."

According to American Farm Bureau Federation, 26 lawsuits have been filed since

2014 on behalf of 541 plaintiffs claiming hog farms are creating a nuisance to their quality of life.

According to a North Carolina Farm Bureau memo on the issue, the suits are against Murphy-Brown, a subsidiary of Smithfield Foods. Eighty-nine farms have been implicated, including 75 operated by contract growers.

The plaintiffs contend that Murphy-Brown unreasonably interfered with their rights to use and enjoy their properties.

According to AFBF, the lawsuits are being led by out-of-state, big-trial lawyers.

See *LAWSUITS*, page 34



Photo by Bill Schaefer

Researchers Tina Gresham, left, and Pam Hutchinson inspect a field of litchi tomato plants. The plants have shown some promise in controlling pale cyst nematode, which can significantly reduce potato yields if present in high numbers. The plants stimulate PCN cysts to hatch but because litchi tomato is not a host plant, juvenile PCN die without a host to feed on.

# Potato nematode has made farming more difficult for affected growers

By **Bill Schaefer**

*For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

SHELLEY – Pale cyst nematode, a microscopic worm that can significantly reduce potato yields if present in high numbers, has made farming more difficult for a group of potato growers in Bingham and Bonneville counties.

“It’s changed the way we farm,” Bart Wattenbarger of Shelley said succinctly and with just a hint of subtle understatement.

PCN, which is not a human health threat, is considered a quarantine pest by more than 80 countries and after it was detected in a small area near Shelley in 2006, several nations shut their doors to potato imports from Idaho.

Those markets were reopened after a small, federally regulated quarantine area was

established near Shelley to ensure the pest does not spread.

In an effort to keep Idaho potatoes from future export bans, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the University of Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the Idaho Potato Commission put together a PCN eradication program.

According to farmers affected by the program, it includes rules and regulations such as strict testing and heightened phytosanitary requirements that have made life difficult for them and cost them millions of dollars.

State and federal officials say those regulations are necessary to protect the state’s \$950 million potato industry.

Parts of the program include monitoring

PCN viability in infested fields, looking for ways to reduce and eradicate PCN in those fields and developing a PCN-resistant western Russet potato.

According to Tina Gresham, APHIS director of the Idaho PCN program, there are currently 27 infested fields totaling 3,043 acres. In addition, there are 5,177 acres of associated fields for a total of 8,220 regulated acres. Infested fields are fields where PCN has been found and associated fields are those that have been exposed to soil from an infested field during the past 10 years.

Gresham said there is a three-step process before an infested field can be deregulated and the 27 fields are in varying steps of the eradication process.

“The first testing that occurs is the viability test,” she said. “We pull cysts from the field and we stain them with a vital stain (that





Photo by Bill Schaefer

Litchi tomato plants, like the one pictured here, have shown some promise in controlling pale cyst nematode, which can significantly reduce potato yields. The plants stimulate PCN cysts to hatch but because litchi tomato is not a host plant, juvenile PCN die without a host to feed on.

soaks through the cyst wall into where the eggs are. If the eggs are dead, they take up the stain. If they're alive, they repel the stain, and so we break open the cyst, we count how many are stained, how many are unstained, and we get a percent viability."

Once the fields show zero percent viability – 22 fields have passed this first stage – they enter the second stage, a greenhouse bioassay done in a containment facility at the University of Idaho in Moscow.

More cysts are collected from the field and three crops of potatoes are grown in the greenhouse environment.

"The thought is (the cysts) are going to hatch when they are exposed to this food source and if they're viable, they're going to reproduce," Gresham said. "We're going to see evidence of that by the formation of new cysts in the pot."

To date, 13 fields have passed the bioassay stage.

The final stage is a return to production in the field for three potato crops.

"The field is subjected to an intensive, full-field survey following each harvest of a host crop," Gresham said. "If we find no viable PCN in the soil samples, the field can be de-regulated."

One mechanism used to eradicate PCN is fumigation. Methyl bromide and Telone are two fumigants growers have found effective in reducing PCN.

However, methyl bromide was dropped from the PCN eradication program in 2015 after it was discovered that residual amounts remain in the soil and are incorporated in future vegetative growth, resulting in toxicity in the plant.

Telone continues to be used but cost and availability limits its applications.

An alternative to fumigants that has shown some promise in reducing PCN is a plant called litchi tomato. The plant is a member of the nightshade family, of which the potato is a member, and is called a non-host trap crop.

Unlike the potato, the litchi tomato is not a host plant for PCN. However, litchi tomato does produce a chemical that stimulates PCN cysts to hatch. This is called a suicide hatch because the juvenile PCN will die without a host to feed on.

During the past five years, Pam Hutchinson, a potato cropping weed scientist at the University of Idaho's Aberdeen Research and Extension Center, has been working with litchi tomato in fields in the regulated area.

Because litchi tomato is listed as an invasive species trap crop by the ISDA, the field is closely monitored throughout the growing season by Hutchinson and Gresham.

Because litchi tomato is not a host crop but other nightshade plants are, it is imperative to be able to kill PCN host crops without harming the litchi tomato. To accomplish this, Hutchinson has been trial testing single applications of herbicides for their efficacy in killing PCN host plants while leaving litchi tomato alive as a suicide trap crop for the past five years.

This year is the first year she has been able to trial test tank-mixed combinations of herbicides.

"Tank mix trial has been very exciting," Hutchinson said. "With these tank mixes we're seeing a few more tools that we can use that are safe to litchi tomato."

Wattenbarger said he has planted litchi tomato in three fields and has been impressed with the results.

In the fields that Wattenbarger has grown litchi tomato, "it has definitely helped with nematodes," he said. "Litchi tomato has cleaned it up enough to go to (the) bioassay (stage). It's one tool that has helped in the process."

Wattenbarger said that one of his farm's fields has passed the bioassay stage and he is planning on planting potatoes in it next year.

"We're going to try it and see what we've got," he said. "It's kind of a scary proposition because one bug found and you're right back at the starting point. There's a lot of risk involved in wanting to grow a potato crop again but we're willing to give it a shot."

It's an investment in the future of the family farm to get the fields back into potato production, Wattenbarger said.

"The goal is to get these fields back to production," he said. "Growing grain on grain on grain and maybe a little alfalfa without that potato rotation, it's pretty tough to make money out of the ground."

# LAWSUITS

Continued from page 31



*North Carolina Farm Bureau photo*

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall speaks about a string of recent nuisance lawsuits against North Carolina hog operations, Aug. 3 during a live roundtable discussion hosted by North Carolina Farm Bureau. He dismissed the idea that farming operations are a nuisance and told North Carolina's agriculture industry, "We have your back."

A North Carolina judge ruled that the state's Right-to-Farm law didn't protect against these nuisance claims and three juries have already returned large multi-million-dollar verdicts for the plaintiffs. The most recent verdict was announced while the roundtable discussion was being held.

North Carolina's RTF law states that no agricultural or forestry operation can become a nuisance "by any changed conditions in or about the locality outside of the operation after the operation has been in operation for more than one year, when such operation was not a nuisance at the time the operation began."

In his ruling, Senior U.S. Dis-

trict Judge W. Earl Britt misinterpreted a phrase in the state's RTF law, said Jake Parker, an NCFB lawyer who is dealing with the issue.

Britt's ruling has been appealed to the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals but North Carolina's legislature last year changed the state's RTF law "to prohibit almost any nuisance lawsuit against a farm," Parker said. "Our legislature said, enough of this."

Parker said NCFB's message to other state Farm Bureaus is, "If your Right-to-Farm law looks anything like North Carolina's, then there is cause for concern."

Roger Batt, a legislative consultant who represents several

Idaho farm groups, said Idaho's Right-to-Farm Act was significantly strengthened in 2011.

"We really put some big teeth into it as far as protecting farming operations from nuisance lawsuits," said Batt, who helped shepherd those changes through the Idaho Legislature. "As long as they are following generally recognized farming practices, they are protected."

But he also said the North Carolina situation raises some concerns and the state's agriculture industry would stay abreast of it.

"If we need to strengthen our Right-to-Farm Act, we'll be on the front line helping out at the legislature," Batt said.

According to an AFBF memorandum to state Farm Bureau presidents, "Farmers of all sizes and commodities should be seriously concerned that having good farming practices, following state regulations, being productive members of the community and even a strong Right-to-Farm law are no defense when trial lawyers set their sights on you to cash another big paycheck. Consumers and farmers alike will pay a price if these lawsuits succeed and the trial lawyers take their playbook around the countryside."

The roundtable discussion was hosted by Rouzer, Rep. Mike Conaway, R-Texas, the House Agriculture Committee chair-



man, Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., and North Carolina Farm Bureau.

Numerous industry leaders were also in attendance, including people representing the nation's soybean, wheat, cotton, corn, egg, peanut, sweet potato, chicken, beef, turkey, pork and feed industries.

During the discussion, AFBF President Zippy Duvall said he was there representing farmers and ranchers from across the nation and he told North Carolina's agriculture industry, "We have your back."

Duvall said the issue is personal to him "because I know it could come to my neighborhood. It could come to my farm ... It could spread across America and handicap the greatest food system in the world. If it's in your backyard today it will be in my backyard tomorrow."

He also dismissed the notion that farming operations are a nuisance.

"Let me tell you what a country boy thinks a nuisance is: I have to live in the middle of Washington, D.C.," Duvall said to laughter. "The noise, the fumes from the buses, the smell of my neighbors. They're all inside the city but no one's starting a lawsuit there."

Rouzer said it's important to increase the public's awareness of the issue nationwide and that he and other members of Congress would explore possible legislative solutions at the federal level.

During the meeting, a clarion call was put forth for farmers and ranchers across the country to unite on the issue.

"The enemy of my friend is my enemy," said Texas Department

of Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller. "We have to stand up for one another. We'll help you any way we can."

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation CEO Rick Keller said the North Carolina nuisance lawsuits are concerning and he agreed that farmers and ranchers across the nation need to band together to address the situation.

"This is an issue that could affect all of agriculture and if this situation goes unchallenged, every farm and ranch operation in the nation could be a target," he said. "Idaho will stand with other states to fight this unacceptable attack on agricultural operations that produce the safest and most affordable food supply in the world."

North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler described the wave of nuisance lawsuits in North Carolina as a

blight.

He said that "if we don't do something about this right now, there is not a farm in this country that is going to be safe. This has got to stop. We have to stand shoulder to shoulder nationally to stop it."

"This really and truly is a nationwide issue," said Delaware Department of Agriculture Secretary Michael Scuse. "We are truly under attack. We would appreciate any help we can get at the federal level to prevent these lawsuits from putting our hard-working producers out of business."

"Enough is enough and it's time for our elected leaders to step up and stop this madness," said Dr. Howard Hill, a veterinarian and pork producer from Iowa.

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## FARM BUREAU COMMODITY REPORT

GRAIN PRICES	7/23/2018	8/24/2018	Trend
<b>PORTLAND:</b>			
White Wheat	5.80-5.93	6.00-6.11	+ .20 to + .18
Hard Red Winter	6.20-6.35	No bid	Unavailable
DNS 14%	6.57-6.67	No bid	Unavailable
Oats	260.00	240.00	- 20.00
<b>OGDEN:</b>			
White Wheat	4.68	4.64	- .04
Hard Red Winter	4.90	4.99	+ .09
DNS 14%	5.57	5.67	+ .10
Barley	No Bid	No bid	Unavailable
<b>BLACKFOOT/ IDAHO FALLS</b>			
White Wheat	4.40	4.15	- .25
Hard Red Winter	4.70	4.75	+ .05
DNS 14%	5.10	5.15	+ .05
Hard White	5.20	5.05	- .20
<b>BURLEY:</b>			
White Wheat	4.46	4.56	+ .10
Hard Red Winter	4.45	4.88	+ .43
DNS 14%	5.12	5.31	+ .19
Barley	6.50	5.75	- .75
<b>MERIDIAN:</b>			
White Wheat (cwt)	4.70	5.02	+ .32
<b>LEWISTON:</b>			
White Wheat	5.65	5.75	+ .10
H. Red Winter	6.05	5.99	- .06
Dark N. Spring	6.32	6.32	Steady
Barley	126.50	131.50	+ 5.00
<b>LIVESTOCK PRICES</b>			
	7/20/2018	8/23/2018	Trend
<b>FEEDER STEERS</b>			
Under 500 lbs	160-211	153-225	- 7 to + 14
500-700 lbs	132-191	139-188	+ 7 to - 3
700-900 lbs	122-163	125-160	+ 3 to - 3
<b>FEEDER HEIFERS</b>			
Under 500 lbs	140-195	140-212	Steady to + 17
500-700 lbs	125-160	130-164	+ 5 to + 4
700-900 lbs	120-146	116-141	- 4 to - 5
<b>HOLSTEIN STEERS</b>			
Under 700 lbs	80-95	75-90	- 5 to - 5
Over 700 lbs	70-89	70-87	Steady to - 2
<b>COWS</b>			
Utility/Commercial	61-79	47-69	- 14 to - 10
Canner & Cutter	51-69	44-64	- 7 to - 5
Stock Cows	850-1350	875-1400	+ 25 to + 50
<b>BULLS</b>			
Slaughter	70-92	63-86	- 7 to - 6
<b>BEAN PRICES:</b>			
Pinto	20.00-23.00	21.00	+ 1.00 to - 2.00
Garbanzo	27.00-32.00	21.00-22.00	- 6.00 to - 10.00

COMPILED BY THE IDAHO FARM BUREAU COMMODITY DIVISION



# IDAHO HAY REPORT

## USDA Market News, Moses Lake, WA

August 24, 2018

Tons: 25,300 Last Week: 7500 Last Year: 22,050

Compared to last Friday, Alfalfa for export and domestic use steady. Trade active with good demand especially for non-rained on dairy hay for immediate take out. Dairies are offering 90 cents/RFV point FOB. Exporters buying mostly fair to good testing Alfalfa for cubing and pressing. Retail/Feed store not tested this week. Prices are dollars per ton and FOB the farm or ranch unless otherwise stated.

	Tons	Price	Wt. Avg	Comments
Alfalfa				
Mid Square				
Premium/Supreme	2500	150.00-175.00	162.70	
Good	7900	145.00-160.00	153.99	
Fair/Good	600	145.00-145.00	145.00	Export
Fair	6000	130.00-135.00	131.67	
Fair	3000	120.00-120.00	120.00	
Utility	550	110.00-110.00	110.00	
Utility	2300	90.00-107.00	100.87	Rain Damage
Utility	2000	110.00-110.00	110.00	Weedy
Oat				
Mid Square				
Good	450	80.00-80.00	80.00	

# POTATOES & ONIONS

August 21, 2018

## Potatoes

UPPER VALLEY, TWIN FALLS-BURLEY DISTRICT, IDAHO -- 2018 Shipments 4-39-310 (includes exports of 0-0-1)---Movement expected to increase as more shippers start to receive new crop potatoes. Trading fairly slow. Prices Russet Norkotah U.S. One baled 10-5 pound film bags non size A mostly 7.25-7.50; 50-pound cartons 40s mostly 11.00-11.50, 50s mostly 11.00-11.75, 60-70s mostly 12.00, 80s mostly 11.00-11.50, 90s mostly 10.50-11.00, 100s mostly 9.00.

## Onions – Dry

IDAHO AND MALHEUR COUNTY OREGON--- 10-46-150---Movement expected to seasonally increase as more shippers start to receive new onions. Trading moderate. Prices Whites higher; Yellow super colossal and colossal generally unchanged, others lower; Yellow Spanish Hybrid U.S. One 50-pound sacks super colossal mostly 9.00, colossal mostly 8.00, jumbo mostly 6.50, medium mostly 5.00-6.00; White 50-pound sacks jumbo mostly 14.00, medium 12.00-14.00; Red Globe Type U.S. One 25-pound sacks jumbo mostly 10.00, medium mostly 10.00.

# 5 YEAR GRAIN COMPARISON

Grain Prices.....8/25/2014.....8/25/2015.....8/22/2016.....8/25/2017.....8/24/2018

Portland:	8/25/2014	8/25/2015	8/22/2016	8/25/2017	8/24/2018
Soft White Wheat.....	6.93	5.61	4.85-4.95	4.84-5.25	6.00-6.11
Hard Red Winter.....	7.08-7.23	5.31-5.66	4.77-4.97	4.39-4.74	No Bid
14% DNS.....	7.96	6.06	6.00-6.15	7.30-7.79	No Bid
Corn.....	No Bid	250.00	4.37-4.39	4.19-4.21	4.44-4.50

Ogden:	8/25/2014	8/25/2015	8/22/2016	8/25/2017	8/24/2018
Soft White Wheat.....	6.07	5.40	4.07	3.60	4.64
Hard Red Winter.....	6.12	4.46	3.93	3.57	4.99
Dark Northern Spring.....	6.82-5.46	5.15	6.44	5.67	
Barley.....	6.35	6.35	5.55	6.20	No Bid

Pocatello/Blackfoot:	8/25/2014	8/25/2015	8/22/2016	8/25/2017	8/24/2018
Soft White Wheat.....	No Bid	5.05	3.60	3.40	4.15
Hard Red Winter.....	No Bid	4.10	3.90	3.75	4.75
14% DNS.....	No Bid	4.80	5.00	6.05	5.15
Barley.....	No Bid	4.50	4.10	4.15	5.05

## Burley:

Soft White Wheat.....	No Bid	4.94	3.75	3.60	4.56
Hard Red Winter.....	No Bid	4.03	3.27	3.50	4.88
Hard Red Spring.....	No Bid	4.78	4.77	6.10	5.31
Barley.....	No Bid	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.75

## Nampa/Meridian:

White Wheat (cwt).....	10.25	8.91	No Bid	No Bid	5.02
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## Lewiston:

Soft White Wheat.....	6.70	5.33	4.68	4.85	5.75
Barley.....	156.50	141.50	106.50	111.50	131.50

## Bean Prices:

Pintos.....	34.00-35.00	N/A	29.00-30.00	27.00-28.00	27.00-28.00
Garbonz.....	N/A	N/A	34.00-36.00	32.00-38.00	32.00-38.00

\*\*\*

# MILK PRODUCTION

August 20, 2018

## July Milk Production up 0.4 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 17.3 billion pounds, up 0.4 percent from July 2017. June revised production, at 17.2 billion pounds, was up 1.6 percent from June 2017. The June revision represented an increase of 40 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,980 pounds for July, 8 pounds above July 2017. This is the highest production per cow for the month of July since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.74 million head, 1,000 head more than July 2017, but 8,000 head less than June 2018.

## July Milk Production in the United States up 0.4 Percent

Milk production in the United States during July totaled 18.4 billion pounds, up 0.4 percent from July 2017.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,953 pounds for July, 10 pounds above July 2017.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.40 million head, 8,000 head less than July 2017, and 8,000 head less than June 2018.

## 5 YEAR LIVESTOCK COMPARISON

	8/22/2014	8/25/2015	8/19/2016	8/25/2017	8/23/2018
<b>Feeder Steers</b>					
Under 500 lbs.....	200-360	230-330	130-180	135-188	153-225
500-700 lbs.....	172-310	197-255	125-170	125-180	139-188
700-900 lbs.....	175-239	166-221	115-146	97-150	125-160
Over 900 lbs.....	148-207	160-197	109-134	88-136	113-143
<b>Feeder Heifers</b>					
Under 500 lbs.....	208-309	200-322	127-164	130-175	140-212
500-700 lbs.....	172-280	170-230	120-146	114-151	130-164
700-900 lbs.....	172-245	163-205	110-138	110-138	116-141
Over 900 lbs.....	166-204	160-199	114-126	100-129	105-122
<b>Holstein Steers</b>					
Under 700 lbs.....	150-216	140-200	No test	77-88	75-90
Over 700 lbs.....	149-190	130-172	No test	77-90	70-87
<b>Cows</b>					
Utility/Commercial.....	91-128	85-113	64-83	73-82	47-69
Canner & Cutter.....	83-112	75-101	59-74	60-76	44-64
Stock Cows.....	1440-1900	1175-2600	No test	1,100-1,275	875-1,400
<b>Bulls – Slaughter</b>					
	110-149	98-143	72-100	86-106	63-86

## CATTLE ON FEED

Released August 24, 2018

### United States Cattle on Feed Up 5 Percent

**Cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on August 1, 2018. The inventory was 5 percent above August 1, 2017. This is the highest August 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

**Placements** in feedlots during July totaled 1.74 million head, 8 percent above 2017. Net placements were 1.68 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 410,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 290,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 415,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 367,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 175,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 85,000 head.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during July totaled 1.87 million head, 5 percent above 2017.

**Other disappearance** totaled 63,000 head during July, 31 percent above 2017.

## CATTLE MARKET REPORT

August 24, 2018

### Cash Cattle

Packers entered the week expecting to pay higher prices for fed cattle but ended making purchases at lower prices in the south, steady to weak prices in the north, and expanding the already huge margins at the beef plants. In the north cattle traded for \$109-109.50 early and \$108 late live and \$173-174 dressed. In the south live prices were mostly \$109. The week is mostly over but additional sales might occur today.

The generous margins at the beef plant will both push another healthy size slaughter volume and continue to pull cattle through the beef pipeline. More of the sales are moving to negotiated grids and less in the open market. Packers have demonstrated total control over the gateway to processing plants.

**Cattle Futures.** Futures prices fell again on Friday. Some expect a bearish surprise on the COF report.

**Carcass weights** are released each Thursday [lagging the market by two weeks] and are a closely watched barometer indicating the position of cattle feeders in the nation's feedlots. The last report released for the week of August 11th, had steer carcass weights up 1# at 881# which is 1# under last year. Heifers carcass weights are up 2# to 811# which is 6# over last year.

**Forward Cattle Contracts:** Last week forward sales were limited to small bunches of holsteins. Very few forward contracts are being negotiated with feedyards. This will leave packer inventories short of historical numbers of forward contracts.

The weekly breakdown of fed cattle moving to the beef processing plants is as follows. 1) formulas 55%; 2) negotiated 20% [both live and flat dressed]; 3) forward contracts 25%. Some of the formula arrangements are week to week negotiated prices and not committed cattle to one plant.

**The Cutout.** The cutout composite was firm. The choice cutout is near \$214 a number that is much higher than last year. Retail interest remains good. The 50% lean grind has been supportive of the cutout for the past couple of weeks. The choice/select spread is \$9.

**Beef Feature Activity Index.** Erratic weather patterns across the country contribute to erratic eating patterns. Extreme heat in the west has supported wildfires and drought. In the east, heavy rains have dominated the news. Retailers will prepare for Labor Day weekend beef specials and the arrival of cooler more stable weather may increase interest in beef.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## Animals

Male Sphinx cat. 4 months old. 2 shots. Can help with delivery. \$800.00. Paul, Id. 208-670-2893.

Himalayan Yaks for sale. Calves, Yearlings, Cows \$800.00 - \$3000.00. Yaks produce fiber, milk, meat and can be trained to pack. Excellent mothers that will protect their calves from predators. Call, email or text Anna yakranch@frontier.com or (208)890-6399.

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## Farm Equipment

1945 AC WD 45 overhauled, new tires, front loader, back blade. 1964 JD 95H Hillside combine. (2) 18 ft headers, ready to go. 1947 Cub Farmall, runs good. Spirit Lake, ID. 208-290-4967.

1964 Chev 2 ton bobtail grain truck. 26,000 miles. Grain bed with hoist. Both work well. \$4,000. Pocatello, Id. 208-269-8355.

New Squeeze chute, green, hand pull, \$1,300. Midvale, Id 208-355-3780.

Balewagons: New Holland self-propelled or pull-type models, parts, tires, manuals. Also interested in buying balewagons. Will consider any model. Call Jim Wilhite at 208-880-2889 anytime.

## Miscellaneous

Grace quilting frame for sale. Never used. Paid \$700 for it 15 years ago. \$300 or best offer. Challis, ID. 208-879-5666.

Advanced elements Inflatable Kayaks Lagoon. 8'4" long, 34" wide. \$200. Advanced Frame, 10'6" long 34" wide. \$225. Hagerman, Id. 208-731-3544.

Gas powered mortar mixer. Honda motor, \$600; Toto Riding lawn mower, 16 H.P. Automatic transmission, Runs well, \$600; 2007 27' Featherlite camp trailer, self-contained. \$8000. Pocatello, Id. 208-269-8355.

Brand new 6 gallon crew-top Fermenter for making wine or beer. Comes complete with removable faucet, carrying handle, air-lock, rubber stopper, and re-usable, course mesh, jumbo fermentation straining bag. Excellent. \$40. Leave message 208-983-0599.

## Real Estate/Acreage

Lot for Sale - 1/2 Acre Country Lot. Build a New Home or New Mfg Hm. City water, Gas, Utilities available. Must obtain all permits. Shelley Area. 208-528-5337.

## Services

Pond stocking, Opaline Aqua Farm, selling bass, bluegill, grasscarp, trout and koi. fishguy@opalineaquafarm.com or call Rich 208-495-2654.

## Recreational

1996 Winnebago Adventurer Motorhome, Ford Chassis 460 V-8, 34' long with 16' slide out, Propane-full/\$200 of gas, Holds 90 gallons of water, 2 holding tanks, Generator, 39,000 miles. \$14,500 or Best Offer. Caldwell, Id. (208)989-2056.

## Vehicles

1976 Ford Dump Truck - 10 Wheeler. Runs Good. \$6,000. Shelley, Id. 528-5337 Leave Message.

## Wanted

Paying cash for old cork top embossed bottles and some telephone insulators. Call Randy. Payette, Id. 208-740-0178.

## Wanted

Paying cash for German & Japanese war relics/souvenirs! Pistols, rifles, swords, daggers, flags, scopes, optical equipment, uniforms, helmets, machine guns (ATF rules apply) medals, flags, etc. 549-3841 (evenings) or 208-405-9338.

Old License Plates Wanted. Also key chain license plates, old signs, light fixtures. Will pay cash. Please email, call or write. Gary Peterson, 130 E Pecan, Genesee, Id 83832. gearlep@gmail.com. 208-285-1258.

Our Idaho family loves old wood barns and would like to restore/rebuild your barn on our Idaho farm. Would you like to see your barn restored/rebuilt rather than rot and fall down? Call Ken & Corrie 208-530-6466.

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