

'Farm Forward' keeping producers in ag



**Idaho grower
confidence
index, 5**

**East Idaho Ag
Hall of Fame, 8**

**Tractor raffle
debuts new
rules, 18**

Farmers, ranchers rise to the call



(March 18, 2020)

Things are far from business as usual in cities and towns across America this week. Millions of us are being called to serve our neighbors by staying home.

Our American Farm Bureau offices in D.C. have closed for the time being to follow this guidance and to help our employees and their families and neighbors stay safe and healthy.

But staying home doesn't mean that our

work stops, and we know that it sure doesn't mean work on the farm stops. There is a lot beyond our control and still unknown as we face this crisis, but we can focus on and be faithful with the tasks at hand.

For farmers and ranchers our calling hasn't changed, though its importance hits closer to home in times like these: we are committed to rising every day to grow and harvest the food we all depend on.

See **DUVALL**, page 6

The President's Desk

By Bryan Searle

President Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Let history remember that Idahoans came together during crisis



The coronavirus has led the nation into very trying times and many people are concerned not only about the virus, but the impact it is having on agriculture and the nation's economy.

It's almost surreal to see empty store shelves, as well as empty streets, restaurants and other establishments.

But instead of joining the panic that seems to have gripped many people, Idahoans must come together and support each other during this trying time.

As our governor wrote in a recent opinion piece, history will remember how people reacted to this situation. I hope and pray that history will remember that Idahoans came together and supported their neighbors and did their best to ensure no one was forgotten or left behind.

This pandemic has created a lot of uncertainty from, How do I avoid the virus, to, Will I get my guest workers, or, What will be the markets for the ag products we produce?

See **SEARLE**, page 7

Inside Farm Bureau

By Rick Keller

CEO Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Resiliency synonymous with Idaho farmers and ranchers



Resiliency: (noun) the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness; an ability to recover from or adjust easily to adversity or change (Webster's Dictionary).

Resiliency is a term which exemplifies Idaho's farmers and ranchers. It is as common to them as the sun coming up in the East each morning or a rainstorm in the spring.

Daily, farmers and ranchers face multiple challenges from multiple fronts with multiple outcomes. It is what they do, and they do it well. They don't shy away from what they face. They

meet the challenge with confidence, because they have done it before, many times.

Not only are farmers and ranchers resilient on their own, but agriculture is resilient as an industry because of the farmers and ranchers within.

As COVID-19 cripples the nation, agriculture and our nation's farmers and ranchers are meeting the challenges head on.

From the White House to state capitols, including Idaho's Department of Agriculture, the agriculture industry is being proclaimed as essential and critical.

See **KELLER**, page 6



Idaho Farm Bureau.

Volume 24, Issue 3

IFBF Officers

President..... Bryan Searle, Shelley
Vice President..... Richard Durrant, Meridian
Executive Vice President..... Rick Keller
Assist Executive Vice President..... Justin Patten

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Garner..... Clifton
Austin Tubbs..... Malad
Fred Burmester..... Downey
Scott Steele..... Idaho Falls
Stephanie Mickelsen..... Idaho Falls
Travis McAfee..... Howe
Gerald Marchant..... Oakley
Rick Pearson..... Hagerman
Rick Brune..... Hazelton
Cody Chandler..... Weiser
Galen Lee..... New Plymouth
Matt Dorsey..... Caldwell
Marjorie French..... Princeton
Tom Daniel..... Bonners Ferry
Tom Mosman..... Craigmont
Judy Woody..... Filer
Jason Fellows..... Weston

STAFF

Director of Admin. Services..... Cara Dyer
Member Services Assistant..... Peggy Moore
Member Benefit Assistant..... Dixie Ashton
Dir. of Commodities and Marketing..... Zak Miller
Dist. I Regional Manager..... Ott Clark
Dist. II Regional Manager..... Tyrel Bingham
Dist. III Regional Manager..... Zack Lanier
Dist. IV Regional Manager..... Brody Miller
Dist. V Regional Manager..... Bob Smathers
Dir. of Governmental Affairs..... Russ Hendricks
Boise Office Manager..... Kristy Lindauer
Energy/Natural Resources..... Braden Jensen
Governmental Affairs Representative..... Chyla Wilson
Director of Information..... Joel Benson
Publications Editor/Media Contact..... Sean Ellis
Video Services Manager..... Steve Ritter
Broadcast Services Manager..... Jake Putnam
Business Systems Administrator..... Tyler Moore
Videographer..... Michaela Andrus

Printed by: Adams Publishing Group, Pocatello, ID

GEM STATE PRODUCER

USPS #015-024, is published monthly except February, May, August and November by the IDAHO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION, 275 Tierra Vista Drive, Pocatello, ID 83201.

POSTMASTER send changes of address to: GEM STATE PRODUCER

P.O. Box 4848, Pocatello, ID 83205-4848. Periodicals postage paid at Pocatello, Idaho, and additional mailing offices.

Subscription rate: \$6.00 per year included in Farm Bureau dues.

MAGAZINE CONTACTS:

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
EDITOR (208) 239-4292 • ADS (208) 239-4279
E-MAIL: seanellis@idahofb.org
web: www.idahofb.org

Idaho agriculture department plans Farm Forward program

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – Idaho lawmakers approved Gov. Brad Little’s fiscal year 2021 budget request recommending \$95,000 to create a program that would help Idahoans enter or remain in agriculture.

Called Farm Forward, the program will use existing funds within the Idaho State Department of Agriculture.

“All services in this new program will be non-regulatory and will be aimed at helping people get into or stay in agriculture, the most significant driver of Idaho’s economy,” states a “back-grounder” on the proposed program provided by ISDA.

“The whole focus of the program will be to help keep families on the farm,” said ISDA Director Celia Gould.

She said many if not most people involved in the farming and ranching industry have a personal story about them or a neighbor struggling to stay on the farm.

“The overriding drive for this program is that agriculture is the economic foundation of Idaho but it’s not something that we can afford to take for granted,” Gould said.

Rather than recreating existing resources aimed at helping people get into farming or remain on the farm, the program will instead serve as an aggregator of the many such resources that already exist, said ISDA Chief of Operations Chanel Tewalt.

In effect, it will serve as a one-stop shop for people looking for resources that can help them get into agriculture or remain on the farm or ranch and serve as a clearinghouse to better leverage and utilize existing resources.

That could include lending options, training programs, business planning and succession planning. The program could maximize coordination among state offices, federal programs, higher education and non-profit organizations.

“There is currently no one-stop shop in Idaho that can provide people access to all of these existing resources,” Tewalt said. “We are not going to recreate something that exists, but there is no central location that aggregates these resources.”

While the program will focus on helping anyone stay in agriculture, it will focus heavily on emerging farmers as well as disabled farmers and ranchers and producers with military service.

According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, there are 4,613 agricultural producers in Idaho – 10 percent of all of Idaho’s farmers and ranchers – with military service.

The program could coordinate with the U.S. military on programs to provide on-the-job agricultural training.

The program is something that Gould and ISDA officials have

COVER: Drip tape in laid March 6 in a field that will be planted to onions. See this page for a story on a new program that seeks to help farmers and ranchers stay in agriculture.



Photo by Sean Ellis

Onions are harvested from a southwestern Idaho field in 2019. Idaho State Department of Agriculture plans to create a program called Farm Forward that would focus on helping people get into or stay in agriculture.

been thinking about for years.

The agriculture department basically has two missions: to regulate and promote agriculture in the state of Idaho. Helping people stay on the farm is not something the agency typically does.

Even though the department knew a program such as this was needed, “it was something that we thought another organization might fill,” Tewalt said. “But we’ve given it time and it has not come up anywhere else. We feel the time is right to start this program.”

Before deciding to move forward with Farm Forward, the ISDA formed an advisory committee to mull the idea over. It included members from the agriculture industry as well as representatives from Veterans Services, the financial industry, the Idaho Legislature, College of Southern Idaho and the University of Idaho’s Col-

lege of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

“We really wanted input from a lot of people outside this agency on whether this is a good idea and we are going down the right road,” Tewalt said.

The committee considered several things, including the fact that the average age of an Idaho farmer is 56 years old and the average age of Idaho farmers with military service is a decade older.

“We asked the committee whether we should proceed with trying to put some flesh on the bones of this idea,” Gould said. “And we got a resounding, ‘yes.’ They said, not only is it a good idea but it’s desperately needed in the state.”

“I think this is going to be a great program to enhance Idaho agriculture,” said Stephen Parrott, who is chairman of the Idaho FFA Foundation and represented the ag lending industry on the advisory committee. “I’m

optimistic and excited about the program and think it will be a really good ... resource that can help farmers and ranchers.”

Advisory committee member Robin Kelley Rausch, who owns Kelley’s Canyon Orchard outside Filer, said there are some good resources available to help producers with succession and business planning.

“The first piece is gathering all these resources in a place that is accessible to people,” she said. “Farm Forward (will be) an aggregator of information and resources to farmers and resources....”

ISDA also spoke to agribusinesses about the idea “and we had an overwhelmingly positive reception to it,” Tewalt said.

ISDA plans to hire someone to run the program and kick it off July 1.

The program manager will be located at an existing ISDA office in Twin Falls. ■

BYU-Idaho professor and students creating Idaho farmer confidence index

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – A BYU-Idaho agribusiness professor and his students are trying to create a grower confidence index that seeks to measure the economic health of Idaho agriculture.

Purdue University has an Ag Barometer that measures the economic health of U.S. agriculture but the BYU-Idaho index would be specific to Idaho's agricultural industry.

"The index will provide farmers and ranchers, policy makers and other stakeholders throughout the state a sense of how producers are feeling in the industry," said John Hibbard, professor of agribusiness at BYU-Idaho. "Are producers more optimistic about their economic situation or less optimistic?"

The Idaho Ag Pulse will be run by Hibbard's students but overseen by him.

For now, the index will be focused on the state's top five commodities in terms of cash receipts: dairy, beef cattle, potatoes, wheat and hay.

Hibbard is trying to recruit producers to participate in the quarterly survey but sign-up is going slow, he said.

"We're struggling a little bit to get enough producers to sign up," he said.

Hibbard said some producers could be worried about the privacy of their responses but he said all responses will remain anonymous and confidential.

"The only thing that would be reported would be a summary of all of the responses," he said.

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation is encouraging growers to support the survey, said IFBF Director of Commodities Zak Miller.

During IFBF's Legislative and Commodity Conference in February, members of Farm Bureau's various commodity committees were encouraged to participate in the survey.

See **SURVEY**, page 10



Photo by Sean Ellis
Sugar beets are planted in a field near Weiser March 6. A BYU-Idaho agribusiness professor and his students are trying to create a grower confidence index that seeks to measure the economic health of Idaho agriculture.

KELLER

Continued from page 2

Agriculture's role is unquestionable: there is a need for local agriculture now more than ever.

Essential businesses for a safe and accessible food supply include farms, greenhouses, vegetable plants, orchards, pest management services, feed mills and ag supply businesses, agricultural equipment sales and services, animal feed and supply distribution networks, transportation systems from farm to retail, food and meat processors and manufacturers, veterinary services and supplies, distribution and transportation from processors and manufacturers to

retailers, retailers to include grocery stores and farmers markets, grocery delivery services, laboratories and inspectors that ensure food safety.

'We commend the resiliency of Idaho's farmers and ranchers. We pray for you daily as you meet the challenges of the day, from the normal vicissitudes of life to the complex trials that are so heavy to bear. For we know that if you are resilient, then maybe we can be, too.'

Agriculture and the food chain are the critical infrastructures which keeps this nation functioning.

We've watched the resiliency of farm-

ers and ranchers each time a commodity market turns, a storm cloud is viewed on the horizon, trade barriers and compacts are announced, a government regulation is directed, or even as a hydraulic hose on the combine is blown; they adjust, they compensate, they make do.

They have done it in the past. They do it now. They will continue to adjust in the future.

We commend the resiliency of Idaho's farmers and ranchers. We pray for you daily as you meet the challenges of the day, from the normal vicissitudes of life to the complex trials that are so heavy to bear. For we know that if you are resilient, then maybe we can be, too. ■

DUVALL

Continued from page 2

We can't do that work alone, however. In the days, weeks and months ahead, agriculture will continue to depend on access to a skilled workforce to help with the work of planting, cultivating and harvesting our crops.

For this reason, Farm Bureau is urging our nation's leaders to classify farm workers as emergency workers on H2A guest-worker visa applications.

We understand the administration's responsibility to act on behalf of our public health, and we must all do our part to protect the health of our families and communities. We can—and we must—find a way to safely secure access to the workforce agriculture needs to continue our critical work of providing a healthy, affordable food supply for our nation.

We have been blessed with plenty when it comes to America's food supply. Empty shelves can be frightening, but empty fields and barns would be devastating.

Times like these should remind us all of the importance of ensuring our nation's food security. While many retailers are scaling back and temporarily closing for public health, agriculture remains on call 24/7.

As Americans everywhere rush to their local grocery stores, I am reminded of and grateful for the tireless hours farmers and ranchers put in all year long to supply healthy, affordable food to be processed and packaged so stores can restock grocery shelves, produce bins, and meat and dairy cases.

We can also be thankful to live in a time when advances in technology allow us to continue our work and stay connected from a distance. But this national and global crisis, now more than ever before, is a reminder that a reliable broadband connection is a necessity for all, not a luxury to be enjoyed by some.

Farmers must be able to stay connected across the supply chain. Students in rural America will need access to online classes as grade schools, high schools and universities shut down for the com-

ing weeks, possibly months. And rural Americans of all ages will depend on access to telemedicine and counseling services to protect and promote well-being throughout this crisis.

While the coming weeks will be long for everyone, our friends with no reliable broadband will face a greater challenge in connecting to critical information and services.

Like you, I am praying for a quick end to this pandemic. I also have faith that great stories of service, of neighbors helping neighbors and communities working together (even from a distance) to protect one another will shine brightly across this country.

As any farmer knows, only too well, not one of us was promised we'd never face tough times. But I do believe that the Lord gives us grace to face each day and to handle the tasks He has set before us.

Let us each face this day with a heart to serve our neighbors, with endurance to finish the day's work, and with courage to get up and do it again tomorrow. ■

Continued from page 2

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue from the onset said, “American farmers, you’ve provided such abundant, healthy, wholesome, affordable, available food, that we take you for granted. And for all you people – from the people who are stocking those shelves, from the people who are driving the trucks to get this food to us, the people who are processing the food and the people who grow the food and all the vendors that supplied our farmers to help them grow this food, whether it’s fertilizer or feed or seed or any other input – thank you so much for what you’re doing. And I know these are uncertain times, but I just want to tell you from my heart, as an American citizen, I am so grateful for what you’re doing. And I want to thank you for doing that.”

I feel the same way and express those same sentiments. One thing I’m certain of, history will remember that Idaho farmers and ranchers, along with their colleagues around the nation, plowed ahead with their annual plans to produce the safest, most affordable, most abundant food supply in the history of the world.

As scary as empty shelves may seem, empty fields would be a lot more frightening, but that will not happen because of who we are as farmers and ranchers.

As I write this, America’s farmers, agricultural laborers and the nation’s entire food supply is facing many challenges but they are working hard to forge ahead with their plans to produce another safe and nutritious food supply this year that will feed not only Americans but people around the world.

A lot is happening to help minimize the impact the reaction to this outbreak is having on farmers and ranchers and I thank all those that have been and currently are involved in negotiations, at the federal, state and local levels, to accomplish that.

To Idaho’s farmers and ranchers and all those involved with the state’s massive agricultural industry, we must all stay focused on the task at hand and not be discouraged by any of the scary headlines that are dominating the news.

All of us within agriculture understand the ups and downs, as this is what we do each year. It’s an act of hope and faith every year, as farmers plant a seed, milk cows, or raise cattle, then have the hope and faith that the weather will cooperate, diseases will not be present, the harvest will be plentiful, and the markets healthy.

This year must be no different.

Farm commodity markets have taken a hit recently because of reaction to the coronavirus but farmers and ranchers must work together and support each other during this trying time.

Farmers and ranchers are competitors but they are also compassionate people and they have shown time and again over the

years that they will pitch in to help their neighbors when times are tough.

Make sure you are there for your neighbors if they need you.

While practicing social responsibility and doing our part to limit spread of the virus among our families, workers and communities, we must also forge ahead.

The days since coronavirus seems to have unleashed a widespread pall over everyday life have indeed been trying and it is now that we as an industry must rise to the occasion and do what we do best: produce food and lots of it.

History will indeed remember how people and groups and industries and leaders responded to the coronavirus outbreak. Let history record that America’s farmers and ranchers kept their noses to the plow and came through for the nation in a time of great need.

Let it be said that the nation’s farmers and ranchers did not shirk from their responsibility to produce the nation’s food supply. In fact, let it be said that farmers and ranchers embraced the challenge and went above and beyond. ■

‘As scary as empty shelves may seem, empty fields would be a lot more frightening, but that will not happen because of who we are as farmers and ranchers.’

IFB Idaho Farm Bureau Financial Services		◆ IDAHO PEOPLE SERVING IDAHO ◆	
<i>Now with five convenient locations throughout the state</i>			
275 Tierra Vista Drive Pocatello, ID 83205 208.232.7914	4122 East Cleveland Blvd. Caldwell, ID 83605 208.455.1526	1250 S. Allante Ave. Boise, ID 83709 208.547.2519	806 E. Polston, Ste. A Post Falls, ID 83854 208.457.8018
		2732 Kimberly Road Twin Falls, ID 83301 208.733.7212	

Idaho Farm Bureau Financial Services is happy to announce



Auto Lending Guidelines

- ➡ **Competative Rates!**
- ➡ **Up to 100% financing available, on 2019, 2018 & 2017 model years, for qualified buyers**
- ➡ **Up to 72 month terms for 2019 model year**
- ➡ **Up to 60 month terms for 2018 and 2017 model years**
- ➡ **80% Financing available on all other model years**

To learn more or to apply, please call your nearest Idaho Farm Bureau Financial Services office at their number above or call Idaho Farm Bureau Financial Services at 1.888.566.3276. You may also visit idfbfs.com online anytime.

Some restrictions apply based on the make and model of vehicle offered as collateral. Loans are subject to credit approval. 100% loan value based on NADA high retail, or purchase price, whichever is less. Finance charges accrue from origination date of this loan.



Photo by Sean Ellis

About 400 people attended the 48th Annual Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony.

Seven inducted into Eastern Idaho Ag Hall of Fame

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

FORT HALL – Seven people, including Idaho’s current governor, were inducted into the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame March 13 during a banquet attended by about 400 people.

Inductees who have made significant contributions to Eastern Idaho agriculture are chosen for the honor.

Five people are typically inducted into the EIAHF each year but Gov. Brad Little and Idaho State Department of Agriculture Director Celia Gould, both ranchers, were also inducted this year

during a banquet and induction ceremony.

Gould told banquet attendees that agriculture remains the cornerstone of the state’s economy and “shapes and defines who we are in Idaho.”

“Tonight’s award winners are the reason I have so much faith in the future

of our industry,” she said. “Our state doesn’t run without agriculture and ag doesn’t thrive without all of you.”

[Four up-and-coming young producers were also honored during the EIAHF banquet. See page 12 for story.]

Besides Gould and Little, this year’s hall of fame inductees are Sylvan Seely, a leader in the irrigation industry from Rexburg; Carl Ellsworth, a rancher from Leadore; Kent Taylor, a potato grower and shipper from Idaho Falls; Jim Summers, an ag educator from Preston; and Clen and Emma Atchley, potato seed producers from Ashton.

Clen and Emma Atchley

The Atchleys are the first married couple to be inducted into the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame.

The Atchleys raise hay, wheat, barley, canola, cattle and more than 800 acres of seed potatoes on their farm east of Ashton.

“Clen and Emma share a commitment to ‘leave things better than they found it,’” said EIAHF board member Matt Gellings.

“This philosophy applies to thoughtful decisions about their property and their ag leadership through the years.”

Gellings said the Atchleys “have a well-deserved reputation for producing the cleanest, high-quality quality seed potatoes possible. To achieve this goal, they designed and built an early-generation greenhouse, with Emma the primary operator since 1990.”

Jim Summers

Summers grew up on his family’s dairy farm in Tremonton, Utah, and taught vocational agriculture for 41 years at West Side High School in Dayton, Idaho.

“During his tenure at West Side, Summers restructured a failing agriculture program into a successful and powerful source for hands-on learning in agriculture,” said EIAHF board member Doug Eck. “Jim loved teaching and watching his students achieve and make career choices.”

Eck said Summers worked with nu-

merous farmers and businesses owns to help prepare and train students for the agricultural workforce.

“One of the most significant contributions Jim has made to Eastern Idaho is the legacy of past students that he has influenced in selecting a career in agriculture,” Eck said. “Many of our local veterinarians, farmers, ranchers, diesel mechanics and a host of agribusiness professionals were inspired and encouraged during their time spent with Jim Summers.”

Carl Ellsworth

Ellsworth was raised on his family’s ranch in Leadore and competed on the livestock and meats judging teams at Fresno State University and graduated with a degree in animal science.

He then returned to the family ranch and became a general partner. He took over as general manager of Ellsworth Angus Ranch in 1989 and has made several improvements to the ranch and cattle, including pasture and pivot irrigation improvements, and the purchase of additional farm ground.

“His beef evaluation skills have served him well, as Carl has developed one of the reputation herds of commercial Angus cattle in central Idaho,” said EIAHF board member Jay Wiley. “His calves are big and usually top the market for their weight, whether sold privately or on the video market.”

Ellsworth has always been active in the Lemhi County Cattle & Horse Growers Association and the Idaho Cattle Association and has held almost all elected offices, including president, in both groups.

Kent Taylor

Taylor was raised on a small, gravity-irrigated farm near Idaho Falls where the family grew hay, grain and potatoes. According to EIAHF board member Justin Skaar, “Kent and his siblings grew up with shovels and spud sacks (and) Kent learned to cut seed potatoes by hand while still in grade school.”

Helping their father, the six Taylor kids learned to plant, weed, irrigate and harvest potatoes. Kent’s father, Howard,

recognizing the advantage of controlling their crop through to market, began storing, selling and shipping his own potatoes and buying more from neighbors, becoming a pioneer grower/shipper.

“Kent learned the business from the ground up,” Skaar said.

Taylor Brothers merged with Rexburg Fresh in 2011 and the name was changed to Gold Emblem Produce. Kent Taylor sold his last interest in the shed and retired from the sales desk in 2014.

“He was one of the last true owner/shippers in our state,” Skaar said.

Sylvan Seely

Seely was born and raised on his family’s farm north of St. Anthony, where they raised crops, pigs, chickens, sheep and dairy cows.

When he needed more hand lines for his 160-acre farm, he discovered the local dealer had sold out but found a company in Utah had what he needed at half the price he was quoted locally.

“This gave him the idea to buy extra hand lines to resell other farmers, which he knew he could do at a price that would be a good deal for both parties,” said EIAHF board member Richard Larsen.

In 1996, he began making sales and service calls in the family’s station wagon and the business took off. Three years later, Seely and his wife, Gail, established their own irrigation company in Rexburg.

He soon became the first dealer in the area to offer all brands of pumps, hand lines and wheel lines. He was also involved in developing most of the huge irrigation projects along the Teton River canyon after the Teton Dam broke in 1976.

“We’re told if all the pivots Sylvan has installed were put end to end, they would stretch 1,125 miles,” Larsen said. “Imagine a pivot span reaching from Rexburg to Kansas City.”

Gov. Brad Little

Little, a rancher from Emmett, planned to attend the hall of fame’s 48th annual banquet and induction ceremony

but had to stay in Boise to hold a press conference announcing the state's first case of coronavirus. But Little did address attendees through a video.

"Agriculture has been, still is and will continue to be important to me and all of Idaho," the governor said.

Little was raised on his family's sheep and cattle ranching operation and managed Little Land and Livestock for almost 30 years until 2009, when his son, David, took over management of the operation. The governor continues to work as head of Little Enterprises, a diversified farming and cattle operation.

"Despite the fact that our industry is the state's leading economic driver,

Idaho hasn't always been blessed with governors who understand agriculture," said EIAHF President Rick Phillips.

"But when we elected Brad Little as our 33rd governor in 2018, we gained a person with an extensive dual career in agriculture and public service."

Celia Gould

Gould has served as ISDA director since 2007 and is the first woman to hold that position and also the longest-serving department director ever.

As director, she leads the department that both promotes and regulates agriculture, which is the single largest contributor to the state's economy and accounts

for more than 13 percent of Idaho's gross state product each year.

Gould was born and raised on a farm and ranch and is the owner and operator of G+ Ranches in Buhl, which produces wheat, corn, hay and Black Angus and Angus-Wagyu cattle.

"For 13 years, we in Eastern Idaho and all across this state have been able to rely upon Celia to thoughtfully consider the needs of producers and agribusinesses when making decisions and taking positions that affect us," her award bio states. "At the state and the national level, she is both a voice and a shield for producers and agribusinesses in our state." ■

SURVEY

Continued from page 5

IFBF also sent out information about the survey through its social media channels.

Miller said Idaho Farm Bureau Federation officials wanted to make sure the survey was both voluntary and confidential and it is.

Most of the farm-related information available usually has a Midwest bias, he said.

"So having something that would give us a little more of the pulse of what's happening in Idaho would be a big benefit," Miller said. "It would help us better understand what's a national issue vs. what's a state issue and it would also help us better understand what the mindset of our farmers and ranchers in Idaho is."

Miller said he follows the Purdue grower index and finds it interesting.

"We're extremely supportive of the (BYU-Idaho) project because we feel it will give us better insight into how Farm

Bureau can better meet the needs of farmers and ranchers," he said.

Idaho Dairymen's Association Executive Director Rick Naerebout said the index could be a creative way to determine whether producer sentiment can translate into being some type of core early indicator of market movements.

"So having something that would give us a little more of the pulse of what's happening in Idaho would be a big benefit. It would help us better understand what's a national issue vs. what's a state issue and it would also help us better understand what the mindset of our farmers and ranchers in Idaho is."

— Zak Miller, IFBF Director of Commodities

"If producer sentiment sways one way or the other, does that translate into being able to predict market movements?" he said.

"Given the recent erratic behavior of markets, an index such as this might become very helpful," said Idaho Wheat

Commission Executive Director Blaine Jacobson. "It has more meaning when there are substantial shifts in the market mood than during peaceful times. As it develops a track record I have confidence it will find some regular use."

Hibbard said the index so far has support from the Idaho Wheat Commission,

Idaho Cattle Association, Idaho Dairymen's Association and the Idaho Hay and Forage Association.

If enough producers participate in the survey, he said, it could be possible to release a statewide producer confidence report as well as individual reports for certain commodities.

Producers who participate in the index would be surveyed on a quarterly basis regard-

ing current economic conditions and future expectations. The survey would take three to five minutes to complete, Hibbard said.

For more information about the Idaho index, or to participate in the survey, send an email to idadpulse@gmail.com. ■

MDLIVE[®]

Cold or the flu?

What should you do?

You now have access to immediate online doctor visits
24/7 using your smartphone, tablet or computer.



Unlimited free calls to a board-certified MD, all year long, for you and every member of your family under the age of 26.

Idaho Farm Bureau Discount Starting At \$4.95/month

Healthcare should be simple, fast, and uncomplicated. MDLIVE makes it easy for you and your family to visit a doctor in minutes through our mobile app, online and by phone - and when medically necessary, even receive prescriptions for medications to help you get better even quicker. Get access to quality healthcare without ever leaving your home, your job, or wherever you are. Find out how easy it is to receive affordable, quality care without traveling to the doctor's office!

Find MDLIVE at www.idahofbstore.com



Quality healthcare starts with quality doctors.

MDLIVE's friendly, board-certified doctors are revolutionizing remote access to quality healthcare. They are professionally trained to use virtual technology to treat many non-emergency conditions. Our doctors are board-certified and have an average of 15 years of experience.



Photo by Sean Ellis

From left, Sedar Beckman, Saydee Longhurst, Rob Cope and Kenny Dalling receive young producer awards March 13 during the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame's annual induction ceremony.

Young producers honored during hall of fame event

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

FORT HALL – Four up-and-coming young producers were honored during the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame's annual induction ceremony March 13.

The Edward P. Duren Memorial Young

Producer Award recognizes innovative agriculture producers under the age of 40.

The hall of fame created the annual award in 2018 and it is presented in memory of Ed Duren of Soda Springs, a long-time supporter of the agriculture industry who passed away in 2017.

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation's

Young Farmers and Ranchers program this year became the main sponsor of the award.

"The Young Farmers and Ranchers committee felt this is exactly the type of people that the group represents and wants to honor," said IFBF Director of Commodities Zak Miller, who is a mem-

ber of the EIAHF board of directors. “The YF&R program wanted to really reach out to those young producers and say, ‘you’re doing amazing things,’ and make sure they know Idaho Farm Bureau cares about them and appreciates what they are doing.”

The award was presented to one individual in 2018 and 2019 but the votes for the four nominees in 2020 were so close “that the board decided to give it to all four because they felt they were all so deserving of that honor,” Miller said.

All four recipients of the award this year are Idaho Farm Bureau Federation members.

The award recipients are Kenny Dalling of St. Anthony; Sedar Beckman of Idaho Falls; Rob Cope of Montevue; and Saydee Longhurst of Shelley.

“What an impressive group of producers,” Idaho State Department of Agriculture Director Celia Gould said during the EIAHF’s 48th annual banquet and hall of fame induction ceremony. “As I read each of your bios, I was impressed with how quickly and thoroughly you all have learned some of agriculture’s greatest lessons.”

Gould, a rancher, said the challenges and difficult circumstances that are inherent in being a farmer or rancher make producers better people, better parents and better citizens.

“The young producers we honor tonight exemplify this,” she said. “Kenny, Rob, Saydee and Sedar are leaders in their families, they volunteer in their communities and they give back to their fellow producers.”

Kenny Dalling

According to his award bio, Dalling, 26, got his first ag loan when he was 14 years old and “is a man who is building a successful and diverse agricultural operation in Fremont and Clark counties by recognizing and capitalizing on potential, while being mindful of risks and cash flow.”

Dalling owns 100 acres of farmland, leases another 550 acres from eight different owners and manages his parents’ 1,000-acre farm. He also has a 60-head beef cow herd.

He and his wife, Abby, purchase or rent neglected parcels of land that need major work and as a result are more affordable and available than developed farms.

“By hauling off junk, weed control and irrigation development, he brings these lands back to life and into crop or pasture production,” his bio states. “Kenny’s work ethic and accomplishments are amazing but he’s a quiet guy who leads by example.”

Rob Cope

Cope is a 34-year-old farmer from the Montevue area who got his start in agriculture by purchasing 160 acres, “which featured most of Idaho’s noxious weeds, damaged sprinklers and exhausted soil,” according to his bio. “It was a much better farm when he sold it.”

He and his wife, Candace, now own 480 acres, where they raise alfalfa, barley, wheat and pasture, plus cattle and horses. He also helps his father with the family’s farm and grazing ground.

“Rob is constantly educating himself about crop and livestock production and agribusiness management, pushing himself to improve, increase, conserve and restore,” his bio states. “He has the well-deserved reputation of leaving his land, and the people around him, better for having known him.”

According to his bio, producers of all ages watch Cope closely as he tests and adopts innovative practices relating to precision agriculture, rotation crops and soil and water conservation.

Saydee Longhurst

Longhurst started her small-bale alfalfa and grass hay venture at age 14 as an FFA project and has increased her rented acreage and financial investment every year to cover operating costs, customer demand and now her college expenses.

She is a former Idaho State FFA president, serves on the Idaho FFA board of directors and has traveled extensively as an ambassador for agriculture and Idaho, participating on a panel with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue and interacting with many national ag industry leaders.

“Few 19-year-old women post pictures of haystacks and tractors on their social media pages, or operate their own agribusiness,” her bio states. “Saydee Longhurst does and is proud to say she’s a member of a first-generation farm family.”

According to her bio, “Saydee can discuss statistics, issues and opportunities in agriculture, help you write your farm business plan, and give you tips on adjusting your baler.”

Sedar Beckman

When Beckman, 35, and his wife, Danna, purchased the original 155-acre Beckman family homestead in New Sweden, “he reaffirmed a passion and commitment to agriculture that goes back generations,” his award bio states.

Besides being manager and co-owner of Beckman Livestock & Farming near Roberts, the Sedars independently own and lease farm and grazing land and are increasing the numbers and national market share of their purebred LimFlex cow herd.

“It’s early when he goes out the back door every morning, but he’s already been busy updating crop, farm and cattle records, and researching strategies to better manage his land and livestock resources,” his bio states.

He also has a strong sense of giving back to the industry.

“Sedar has helped many kids select, train and show their steer and heifer projects, at the same time teaching them about proper care of their animals,” his bio states. “When a neighbor is in need, Sedar will be among those mobilizing help, often the first there with a shovel, pitchfork or combine.”

Ed Duren

Ed Duren was a University of Idaho Extension livestock specialist based in Soda Springs.

According to the EIAHF, “Ed spent a 39-year career (and many more years as a professor emeritus) providing education, outreach and leadership to producers and organizations across Idaho and beyond. His impact on agriculture in Idaho is beyond measure.” ■



GoodWheat harvest at Koompin Farms in American Falls.

Photo by John O'Connell

GoodWheat

American Falls farmers growing wheat varieties with reduced gluten, carbs

By John O'Connell
Intermountain Farm and Ranch

Three farmers in the American Falls area are entering their second year of raising specialized wheat varieties bred

to appeal to health-conscious consumers who are wary of gluten and carbohydrates.

Arcadia Biosciences, based in Davis, Calif., started production of its GoodWheat varieties about five years ago,

making them commercially available last year.

Arcadia agronomist Ann Munden believes the GoodWheat brand will be a game changer for both the agricultural industry and the public. She said South-

east Idaho will be the primary region for GoodWheat production.

Arcadia has bred GoodWheat varieties with significantly reduced gluten. Though people with celiac disease should still avoid GoodWheat, she said it will be a good option for anyone seeking to reduce inflammation.

Other GoodWheat varieties have been developed with resistant starch, which boosts the fiber content of flour and slows the digestion process, benefiting diabetics and consumers who wish to avoid spiking their blood-sugar levels.

Arcadia has also developed a GoodWheat oxidative line in exclusive partnership with Denver-based Ardent Mills LLC that makes shelf-stable whole wheat flour, which is slower to go rancid than conventional whole wheat flour. Arcadia has released GoodWheat hard red spring varieties for making bread and Durum spring varieties for pasta production.

"I think there is a lot more attention to health as an attribute," Munden said. "Most people aren't breeding for that. That's why Arcadia is optimistic about these multiple platforms. They focus on health as opposed to only agronomics."

This season, the three American Falls-area growers will raise thousands of acres of GoodWheat. Munden said Arcadia will likely seek to expand its grower base prior to the 2021 season.

"It's picking up (demand) pretty quickly. I think in 2021 it will be several thousand acres raised in American Falls," Munden said.

Additional acreage of GoodWheat will be planted this season in Montana and North Dakota's Red River Valley, she said.

Arcadia opened its American Falls facility eight years ago, when it started working with area growers on raising experimental varieties of safflower and other crops.

About two years ago, the company started leasing the former Bully Dog lo-

cation at 2839 Highway 39 in American Falls to accommodate the anticipated growth of GoodWheat.

"We're looking at remodeling and expanding it so we could store more wheat here," Munden said, adding that Arcadia keeps a local staff of between four and six workers.

Bay State Milling in Massachusetts and Arcadia have licensing partnerships in the U.S. on the GoodWheat brand of hard red wheat with resistant starch. GoodWheat varieties were developed through a process that's high-tech but is not considered to be genetic modification, called TILLING. TILLING is used to detect or generate genetic variation on genes of interest.

Munden explained that at its Davis lab, Arcadia used TILLING to turn down

"What we're doing going forward with GoodWheat is looking for the signals from the consumers on what other attributes we can bring to the marketplace. We're continually partnering with flour mills and end-users and consumer product good companies."

— Kevin Hodges, general manager over GoodWheat

genetic expression of certain attributes. She explained the breeding approach results in a slight yield drag — GoodWheat yields just under 10 percent less than the industry's top wheat varieties.

"That was a big advantage of our varieties is the yield drag ended up being a lot less than anticipated," Munden said.

Kevin Hodges, general manager over GoodWheat, said the company is currently focused on launching its three existing platforms and getting them into the marketplace. They've had especially good feedback on resistant starch, he said.

"What we're doing going forward

with GoodWheat is looking for the signals from the consumers on what other attributes we can bring to the marketplace," Hodges said. "We're continually partnering with flour mills and end-users and consumer product good companies."

Arcadia pays growers a premium for raising GoodWheat but expects them to store the grain in isolation and use specified identity-preservation practices, such as cleaning farming implements before and after use.

Ritchey Toevs, who farms in the Pleasant Valley area between American Falls and Aberdeen, raised 200 acres of the GoodWheat Durum variety with resistant starch and noticed no yield drag. Toevs plans to continue working with Arcadia on GoodWheat production, based on the premium he received.

"I think we just have to look more to the consumer in deciding what to grow," Toevs said. "People are more health conscious."

Koompin Farms in American Falls raised 380 acres of Durum GoodWheat last season. Farmer Kamren Koompin believes southeast Idaho is a natural choice for Arcadia because producers in the region raise some of the nation's highest quality grain and also get outstanding yields under irrigation.

"If it takes off it could be big. It could be tens of thousands of acres in Southeast Idaho," Koompin said. "It may mean a little more work on our end keeping track of things."

Cathy Wilson, director of research collaboration with the Idaho Wheat Commission, doesn't like that consumers may infer from the name GoodWheat that conventional wheat may be negative.

Nonetheless, Wilson believes Arcadia has tapped into a growing trend in Idaho grain production by directly marketing wheat as a consumer product rather than a bulk commodity.

See **WHEAT**, page 16

LOW INTEREST LOANS FOR IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

2.75% - 3.5%
Terms 7-15 Years
Up to \$200,000

- Sprinkler Irrigation
- No-Till Drills
- Fences
- Livestock Feeding Operations
- Solar Stock Water Pump Systems



swc.idaho.gov

(208) 332-1790

WHEAT

Continued from page 15

Wilson noted Idaho has a freight disadvantage compared with many other growing regions that export commodity wheat, but its consistent high quality is ideal for buyers seeking a specialized or premium product.

Furthermore, Wilson said Idaho growers have ample on-farm storage, which should aid them in identity preservation of grain raised to capitalize on specific traits.

“GoodWheat is defining wheat as an ingredient, not just as a commodity,” Wilson said. “It’s a real big paradigm shift, but I think if you’re looking at where Idaho has a chance to carve out a special place and get a higher value from their product, this is a place to do it.”

Wilson said companies such as Bay State and Limagrain Cereal Seeds are producing their own similar wheat varieties in Washington State.

“Everybody recognizes there’s an opportunity in Idaho, and hopefully our growers can make the transition, too,” Wilson said. “We’d really like to encourage all of the parts of the grain chain to pay attention to this opportunity.” ■



**Idaho Farm Bureau
Marketing Association
Sells Alfalfa & Grass Seed**

Zak 208-390-4636

Dixie 208-239-4279

Alfalfa Seed

Western Favorites

Surpass
Long-term yielding variety.

Treasure Valley Blend
(Surpass-Perry-Vernema)

Perry
When drought stress is of consideration

3.00/lb 150.00/bag

Hardy Varieties

Wrangler
Variety for tough climates, forage quality similar to Vernal

3.00/lb 150.00/bag

Drought Tolerant

Ladak
Tough, winter hardy, drought tolerant

2.50/lb 125.00/bag

***All Bags Are 50 LBS**
Prices subject to change

Grass Seed

Pasture Mixes

Grass Pasture
2.40/lb 120.00/bag

University Pasture
2.45/lb 122.50/bag

Rangeland
3.50/lb 175.00/bag

Horse Pasture
2.40/lb 120.00/bag

Climax Timothy
1.65/lb 82.50/bag

Home Yards & Lawns

Lawn Mix
2.00/lb 100.00/bag

Kentucky Bluegrass
2.70/lb 135.00/bag

Creeping Red Fescue
1.80/lb 90.00/bag

Also Available

Clover
Dryland Grass
Misc. Legumes

You juggle a lot in your world.



We know life can be a balancing act.

That's why we're here to help you protect what matters most, your todays and your tomorrows. **Contact your Farm Bureau agent to discuss what's been happening in your world.**



It's your future. Let's protect it.®

Visit fbfs.com



Idaho FFA members are shown next to a 2018 Yanmar 221, a multipurpose compact tractor that is being raffled off to raise money to provide scholarships for FFA members. FFA photo

FFA tractor raffle program enters 10th year

By Sean Ellis
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – A tractor raffle program that raises scholarship money for Idaho FFA members will look a little different this year.

But the small changes in the Idaho

FFA Foundation program should provide a huge incentive for the FFA members across Idaho who sell the raffle tickets.

Before this year, it cost \$10 for each ticket someone purchased for a chance to win a tractor, a Traeger grill or a \$250 gift card to D&B Supply.

Sixty percent of the tickets sales went

to scholarships, 6 percent went to the chapters that sold the three winning tickets and the remaining 34 percent was used to cover administrative costs of the program.

Beginning this year, tickets will cost \$20 each but half of the total of each ticket sold will go directly back to the

chapter that sold it. That chapter can use the money as they choose.

Also new this year with the program is that scholarships are only available to students in the chapters who have actually participated in selling tickets.

The new rules should act as a big incentive for FFA members to sell tickets, said Sid Freeman, the Caldwell farmer and Idaho Farm Bureau Federation member who along with his wife, Pam, started the raffle program in 2010.

“This way, it gives FFA members a direct incentive to sell tickets; that’s a huge incentive,” he said. “It has been received very, very well.”

“Almost every (FFA) teacher I’ve spoken with about the new program says, ‘It’s going great, can I have more tickets?’” said Idaho FFA Foundation Executive Director Marcia Jedry.

Heading into its 10th year, the raffle program has awarded \$146,000 in scholarship money to 134 students from 41 of the state’s 95 FFA chapters.

Another \$22,000 will be awarded in April to FFA students.

Most of the scholarships are for \$1,000 but two \$2,000 scholarships are awarded each year for ag education teacher degrees to help secure more ag-ed teachers for the state and reduce the ongoing shortage of those positions nationwide.

Freeman said approximately \$450,000 has been donated to or raised for the tractor raffle program over the past nine years from businesses across Idaho in the form of banner sponsorships – these are used to purchase the tractors – as well as in-kind contributions and ticket sales.

He said the tractor raffle program started out as a simple way to get rid of an old tractor from his farm while raising some scholarship money for FFA members. He said it has become much bigger than he ever imagined.

With the help of ag-related businesses, the Freemans in 2010 refurbished a 1941 Farmall M and drove it around the state on a borrowed trailer to promote it. It was raffled off in April 2011.

“The enthusiasm for the tractor raffle has gone through the roof,” Freeman



FFA photo
This 2018 Yanmar 221, a multipurpose compact tractor, is being raffled off to raise money to provide scholarships for Idaho FFA members.

said. “It’s a great fundraising mechanism for FFA students but it also has become this huge statewide awareness campaign about the benefits and success of agricultural education with the FFA component.”

With the help of Idaho FFA Alumni members and some ag education teachers, the raffle tractor will travel about 5,000 miles a year, being towed on a trailer that was donated by C&D Trailer Manufacturing of Caldwell in 2013.

This promotes the tractor raffle program, which has become a visual symbol of Idaho’s FFA program.

Freeman said the state’s agribusiness community, as well as other businesses such as banks and construction companies, have all been huge supporters of the program.

Businesses can purchase banner sponsorships, which allows their name to appear on all 12 banners associated with the tractor raffle program.

“Businesses all across the state have been a huge help with all of this,” Freeman said. “We have more people wanting to be a banner sponsor than we can actually fit on the banners, which is a very good problem to have. Industry

wants to be part of a successful campaign like this one because they understand the quality of young individuals that come out of our ag education and FFA programs.”

Besides raising money for scholarships, the tractor raffle campaign has also helped boost awareness of agricultural education, Jedry said.

“Students who participate in FFA are significantly more likely to graduate from high school, go on to college or a career and technical education of some kind, and some are actually heading directly into a career job itself,” Freeman said. “They are also more likely to return to their communities as leaders in the future.”

Agriculture is the top sector of Idaho’s economy and many FFA students will be leaders of that industry in the future, he added.

“The tractor raffle has raised awareness about the FFA and what it does in agricultural education and how important that is in our state,” Jedry said. “It gives us a way to speak to people in every community that we are present in and educate them about the value of agricultural education.” ■

Idaho Farm Bureau

For detailed information go to: www.idahofbstore.com

THEME PARKS



RENTAL CARS



OIL CHANGE



TIRES



HOTELS



WINTER SKIING



INSURANCE



SUPPLIES



PROPANE



MOVIE TICKETS



HEALTH / MEDICAL



VEHICLES



AGRICULTURE



MACHINERY



TRANSPORT



NOTARY



LIFE FLIGHT



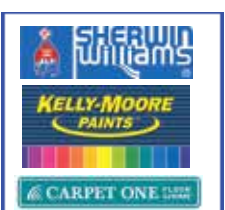
IDENTIFY THEFT



SMART HOME TECHNOLOGY



HOUSEHOLD



APPAREL



SPORTS



FINANCIAL



Scholarships

FOOD STORAGE



SEED



Member Benefits

(208) 239-4279

NORTH IDAHO



CENTRAL IDAHO



EASTERN IDAHO



THE 208 GROUP
Keller Williams Realty East Idaho

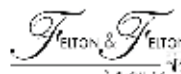


SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO



IDAHO RIVER REALTY

SOUTHCENTRAL IDAHO



INVASIVE HYBRID PLANTS

Hybridization enables invasive plants to survive

By Timothy Prather
University of Idaho

So why are weedy plants from other places so successful in Idaho? One answer comes from a conversation I had with a fellow graduate student years ago.

He made some money as a student by participating in a research study where he was placed in a clean environment for about a week. The air was filtered, clothes were provided, specific foods were provided.

The researchers monitored his health through the week but what was interesting to me was what happened after the study. He said he had boundless energy for several days and he slowly lost that energy, finally returning to normal.

There are environmental effects that our bodies must expend energy to deal with and without those effects, his energy level was high.

Similarly, when invasive plants come to a new area, they often come without external factors that reduce their competitive ability.

For example, there may be fungal or bacterial pathogens or viruses that are not introduced, and their absence makes the invasive



U of I photo
Hybrid Diffuse Knapweed with purple tipped flowers and brown, spine-tipped bracts





U of I photos

The Spotted Knapweed with purple colored flowers and brown, no spine-tipped bracts is pictured on the left. Diffuse Knapweed with cream colored flowers and spine-tipped bracts is on the right. The hybrid of these two plants is the Hybrid Diffuse Knapweed pictured on the opposite page.

plants more competitive.

The invasive plants may also be introduced without specific herbivores that feed on the plants such as insects or mites and without those specific herbivores, the invasive plants become more competitive.

Part of a weed management program can include biological weed control that attempts to bring organisms that are specific to a given invasive plant in order to reduce any competitive advantage.

Another way that plants can become invasive with increased competitive ability is through hybridization. We are most familiar with hybridization when we think about hybrid corn because we get greater yield. We also know that hybrids across cattle breeds often provide what we call hybrid vigor that allows the cattle to grow more quickly or produce greater meat per animal.

Both of those examples are hybrids within the same species and yet we see greater plant or animal vigor.

Another form of hybridization is crossing different species. One plant example we encounter frequently is wheat.

Wheat is the result of two ancient hybridizations, one that was 10,000 years ago when two grass species crossed.

Another hybridization occurred later that gave us other wheat varieties. So, while all of the species involved were grasses, wheat still is the product of former hybridization across species.

Crop production and hybridization are

'With hybridization comes the possibility of increased competitive ability. In addition, in some cases, hybridization allows the hybrid to occupy habitat where the parental lines were not found.'

interesting and how do these examples relate to competitiveness of invasive plant species? It turns out that weedy plants can also hybridize and both methods of hybridization are important.

With hybridization comes the possibility of increased competitive ability. In addition, in some cases, hybridization allows the hybrid to occupy habitat

where the parental lines were not found.

We try to use prevention, avoiding moving an invasive plant from a location where it is common to an area where it is new. If we avoid moving a plant to a new location, we avoid one additional challenge to our resource management. Why create additional problems for ourselves?

Often these prevention methods have costs associated with them. What if we have a common invasive plant species, say spotted knapweed, in multiple locations? Our prevention does not keep the spotted knapweed from a new area because it already is there.

Is the prevention effort then worth the cost?

Prevention in this case is harder to justify until we think about the cattle or corn example. We may be moving a spotted knapweed plant from one region of origin into a spotted knapweed patch from a different region of origin.

Our understanding of the area of origin for spotted knapweed is Europe (broad region) to western Asia and one genetic study determined five separate spotted knapweed introductions from the



Bohemian Knotweed, top, is a cross between Japanese Knotweed, left, and Giant Knotweed, right.

U of I photos

native range.

When plants from these different regions cross, we may get more competitive, within species, hybrids.

Our problem becomes one of genetics where we would have to trace population origin in order to say yes or no to a prevention strategy.

We all know that we won't go for that kind of testing so perhaps we can

think in terms of distance. Plants within miles of each other are more likely to already be interbreeding but when we look at moving long distances within the known distribution of spotted knapweed then the chance of hybridization effects increase.

Hybridization across species presents additional challenges. One background question is about what constitutes a spe-

cies. Typically, we don't get hybrids that are fertile among our native plants from the same region.

If we see frequent crossing, then we would not have different species. Plant species may have different flowering times or some breeding incompatibility that keeps them from forming hybrids.

Another way to get different species is with geographic isolation. When plants

are isolated, they would not need to develop mechanisms to avoid hybridization because the species would never interbreed.

Yet we are masters at moving plants around the globe. What happens when the species are no longer geographically separated? We can get hybridization across species.

Keeping with our knapweed theme, let's look at spotted knapweed and diffuse knapweed. I mentioned spotted knapweed being introduced from five different regions into North America.

Diffuse knapweed appears to have been introduced as diffuse knapweed but in some regions within its native range, it appears to have crossed with spotted knapweed and those hybrids have established here.

There are two types of spotted knapweed and only one type, that does not cross with diffuse knapweed, was introduced originally to North America. With all the trade we have today, we may also have, or will get, the type of

spotted knapweed that does hybridize with diffuse knapweed.

The hybrid diffuse knapweed can produce more seed and it often will make identification more difficult because it has the brown spots just like spotted knapweed, but it has spiny tips on the bracts below the flowers.

One other hybrid that we deal with currently in Idaho that is worth mentioning is Bohemian knotweed. In a previous article, we detailed the challenges to our streams and rivers from this invasive plant.

The Bohemian knotweed is a cross between Japanese knotweed and giant knotweed. The Bohemian knotweed is widely distributed across Idaho and causes considerable problems for our streams and rivers. Typically, Japanese knotweed is found in the eastern states or on the coast of Washington and Oregon.

Giant knotweed is found in a few locations within northern Idaho but is not widely distributed. The hybrid,

Bohemian knotweed, is found throughout Idaho.

As we move invasive plants from other regions around Idaho, we may be introducing new genetic material that could create within species hybrids that make the invasive plants more competitive.

We also may create hybrids across species that increase competitive ability and, in some cases, can allow the hybrid to become widely distributed into areas where the two parent species may not be found.

The situation with invasive plants is dynamic so we may encounter new variants of species that have become familiar problems to us. The bottom line is trying to avoid moving invasive plants from one place to another.

Timothy Prather is a professor in University of Idaho's Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences. He can be reached at tprather@uidaho.edu. ■

Your referral, like Thomas's, could be worth \$525.

Get \$25
WHEN A FRIEND YOU REFER PURCHASES A POLICY FROM US

Get \$500
IF YOU WIN OUR QUARTERLY DRAWING*

REFER A FRIEND, GET A gift!

Farm Bureau INSURANCE

*You're automatically entered into our \$500 drawing when you refer a friend, even if they don't purchase a policy.

Visit: idahofarmbureauinsurance.com/refer-a-friend-get-a-gift for complete rules and restrictions.

Above left: Thomas Lariviere (left) with his Farm Bureau Insurance agent, Kendon Perry.



Photo by Sean Ellis

Parma High School art teacher Linda McMillin stands next to a large agricultural-themed mural she painted in underground tunnel beneath Idaho's Capitol building. This photo was taken last year. Dozens of ag industry representatives were on hand Feb. 17 for an official dedication of the 35-foot-long mural.

Agriculture mural in Capitol building celebrated

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – Dozens of representatives of Idaho's farming and ranching industry were on hand Feb. 17 to witness the official dedication of an agriculture-themed

mural in the state's Capitol building.

"This is something we can all be proud of; it's so well done," Speaker of the House Scott Bedke said about the 35-foot mural. "On behalf of a grateful state, we accept the mural and we are completely enthused about it."

The mural was painted on a wall in an underground tunnel beneath the Idaho State Capitol building. The tunnel, which connects the Capitol to nearby government buildings, is used by hundreds of lawmakers and state employees.

It features the word AGRICULTURE



Photo by Sean Ellis

Rick Waitley, state director of Idaho Ag in the Classroom, speaks to the dozens of ag industry representatives who were on hand Feb. 17 for an official dedication of a 35-foot-long agriculture-themed mural in the Idaho Capitol building.

and each of the large letters contains a different farm commodity produced in Idaho. The word AGRICULTURE appears to be planted in a farm field and the Sawtooth Mountains are in the background.

The A in the mural contains Russet potatoes, the farm commodity Idaho is world-famous for. The G contains wheat fields, the R dairy cattle, the I onions and the C has trout.

Beef cattle are in the U, sugar beets in the L, apples in the T, alfalfa hay with leafcutter bees are in the second U, honey bees are in the second R and sheep are depicted in the E.

The mural was painted by Parma High School art teacher Linda McMillin, who began painting it last January and completed the project in mid-April.

She told Farm Bureau last year that she has painted a lot of murals in her lifetime but this project was special to her.

“This is the best work I’ve ever done,” said McMillin, who grew up on a farm in Illinois. “I’m trying to show the beauty of all the different agriculture that is here in Idaho. I’m trying to present it in its best form.”

The crops and livestock featured in the mural are just a small sampling of the 186

farm commodities produced in Idaho, said Rick Waitley, state director of Idaho Ag in the Classroom, which commissioned the \$8,000 project.

He said people should not read too much into which commodities were or weren’t included in the mural. The important thing, he said, is that it is a reminder of the important role the agricultural industry continues to play in Idaho.

“I would challenge all of you in this hallway now to not let this ... be the last (mural). We’re all proud of our state, we’re all proud of the agricultural roots that we have here and let’s not let it stop here.”

— Speaker of the House Scott Bedke

“We are so pleased with what this is,” Waitley said during the mural dedication. “Every day, literally hundreds and hundreds of people pass through this tunnel and we think it’s a real tribute to the state of Idaho. Linda, you did a wonderful job.”

Although Idaho Ag in the Classroom began and coordinated the project, several ag-related groups and businesses helped support it financially, including Idaho Farm Bureau Federation.

“Idaho Farm Bureau was more than

happy to help support this project,” said IFBF President Bryan Searle, a farmer from Shelley. “It’s a beautiful reminder to everyone who passes through that tunnel that agriculture continues to play a critical role in the state’s economy and culture.”

The half-mile-long tunnel is dotted with some other murals, most of them decades old and badly faded.

During the mural dedication, Bedke and Waitley challenged other agriculture and natural resource organizations to help fund more murals celebrating their industries throughout the tunnel.

Bedke, a rancher, pledged to contribute \$1,000 toward the next mural and he asked others in the hallway “to join with me in pushing this.”

“I would challenge all of you in this hallway now to not let this ... be the last (mural),” he said. “We’re all proud of our state, we’re all proud of the agricultural roots that we have here and let’s not let it stop here.”

He said a hallway full of modern murals “ought to be one of the stops on the tours of the Capitol ... The trout industry ought to have a five or six foot mural, ditto onions, ditto dairy, ditto beef, ditto on down through the list.” ■



Where to begin.

Are you a young or beginning producer with dreams of a successful future in agriculture?

You've come to the right place. Our AgVision program provides financing for producers age 35 or younger, or who have less than 10 years in the business. Qualified applicants have less restrictive loan underwriting standards, a mentor and an abundance of educational resources.

Ready to build a life in agriculture? We're ready to help.

208.552.2300 | northwestfcs.com

Equal Housing Lender
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Here to Help You Grow®



RANGER XP® 1000: YOUR NEW 80HP WORKHORSE

**THE HARDEST WORKING, SMOOTHEST RIDING
AUTHORITY ON GETTING EVERY JOB DONE.**

The all-new Polaris RANGER XP® 1000, the world's most powerful and most comfortable utility side-by-side featuring a class dominating 80HP ProStar® engine, an all-new industry-exclusive 3-mode throttle control for ideal power and control for every situation, and best-in-class payload and towing capacity. See your dealer for more information or visit polaris.com to see the full RANGER® lineup.

Thanks to the following Polaris Dealers for supporting the Young Farmer & Rancher Program:

Action Cycles N Sleds
Twin Falls (208) 736-8118

Mile High Power Sports
McCall (208) 634-7007

Action Motorsports
Idaho Falls (208) 522-3050

Northstar
Preston (208) 852-1888

Buds Powersports
Cottonwood (208) 962-3211

Performance Motorsports
Ashton (208) 652-7738

Carl's Cycle Sales
Boise (208) 853-5550

Post Falls Powersports
Post Falls (866) 628-3821

Dennis Dillon
Boise (208) 343-2830

Rexburg Motorsports
Rexburg (208) 356-4000

Grizzly Sports
Caldwell (208) 454-8508

Sandpoint Marine
Sandpoint (208) 263-1535

Guys Outdoor
Lewiston (208) 746-0381

Switchback Motor Sports
Pocatello (208) 238-1575

Krehbiel's Sales & Service
Aberdeen (208) 397-4704

Young Powersports
Burley (208) 678-5111



Warning: The Polaris RANGER is not intended for on-highway use. Driver must be at least 16 years old with a valid driver's license to operate. Passengers must be at least 12 years old and tall enough to sit with feet firmly on the floor. All SxS drivers should take a safety training course. Contact RCHVA at www.rohva.org or (949) 255-2560 for additional information regarding safety training. Polaris recommends that drivers and passengers wear helmets, eye protection, and protective clothing, especially for trail riding and other recreational use. Always wear seat belts. Be particularly careful on difficult terrain. Never engage in stunt driving, and avoid excessive speeds and sharp turns. Riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix. Check local laws before riding on trails.



Sign your vehicles up for the Idaho Farm Bureau/Jiffy Lube Signature Service Oil Change **\$10 Discount*** program.

***This is a stand alone discount and is not stackable with any other Jiffy Lube promotions or discount offers.** Once an Idaho Farm Bureau membership is confirmed on the first oil change, the discount remains in effect for that specific vehicle (using fleet #102851)**.

**This program is anticipated to be available for multiple years. However, all discount programs are subject to change if requested by the Idaho Farm Bureau or by Jiffy Lube.

Present one of these for proof of Idaho Farm Bureau membership.

Valid Membership Card



OR

Proof of Insurance Slip



Participating Idaho Jiffy Lube Locations

AMERICAN FALLS	2830 POCATELLO AVE
AMMON	2523 E SUNNYSIDE RD
BLACKFOOT	933 MARKET ST
BOISE	1206 BROADWAY AVE
BOISE	3606 W STATE ST
BOISE	8018 FAIRVIEW AVE
BOISE	1484 S WEIDEMAN AVE
BOISE	5007 OVERLAND RD
BOISE	8401 W FRANKLIN RD
CALDWELL	1204 CLEVELAND BLVD
CHUBBUCK	4674 YELLOWSTONE AVE
EAGLE	1516 E. STATE STREET
FRUITLAND	903 NW 16TH ST
HAYDEN	8655 NORTH GOVERNMENT WAY

IDAHO FALLS	185 S WOODRUFF AVE
IDAHO FALLS	570 PANCHERI DR
IDAHO FALLS	1546 W BROADWAY ST
MERIDIAN	360 E FAIRVIEW AVE
MERIDIAN	1645 S SPRINGVALLEY LANE
MOSCOW	326 TROY ROAD
NAMPA	1130 CALDWELL BLVD
NAMPA	824 12th AVE RD
POCATELLO	588 YELLOWSTONE AVE
POST FALLS	1650 EAST SELTICE WAY
TWIN FALLS	947 BLUE LAKES BLVD N
TWIN FALLS	2362 ADDISON AVE E
TWIN FALLS	142 WASHINGTON ST N

Idaho dry bean acres could increase this year

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – Idaho dry bean farmers have suffered through a few years of woeful prices but things are starting to change.

Dry bean prices are ticking up and acres are expected to increase in Idaho this year after decreasing significantly over the past two years.

“The profit potential for dry bean growers has been very minimal the last couple of years,” said Don Tolmie, production manager for Treasure Valley Seed Co. in Homedale. “But we’re in a position now where these guys can make a little money growing dry beans and that’s encouraging.”

According to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service, the average marketing price for Idaho dry beans hovered in the mid- to low-\$30 per hundredweight (cwt) range from 2011 to 2015, then decreased to \$27 in 2016 and 2017 before dropping to \$23.40 in 2018 and \$22.40 in 2019.

Dry bean prices started rising toward the end of 2019 and are now up significantly compared with this time last year, Tolmie said.

“We’re seeing anywhere from a 25-40 percent increase in prices over this time last year and it’s pretty much across the board in all market classes of dry beans,” he said. “We’ve seen a pretty significant increase in the price of dry beans.”

The contracts that Idaho farmers are receiving to grow dry beans this year are up 15-40 percent, depending on bean variety, he added.

“The bean prices have definitely come up this year,” said BJ Metzger, the Idaho manager for Kelley Bean Co.

As a result of the price increase, bean acres could rise significantly in Idaho this year, said Jerome County Farm Bureau President Carl Montgomery, a member of Idaho



Photo by Sean Ellis

Dry beans are harvested in a southwestern Idaho field last year. Dry bean acres in Idaho are expected to increase this year as a result of higher prices.

Farm Bureau Federation’s bean committee.

Idaho dry bean acres, not including chickpeas, totaled 62,000 in 2017 but fell to 51,000 in 2018 and 41,000 in 2019.

“You can see by the acreage totals that beans haven’t been a very popular crop in Idaho the past few years,” Montgomery said. “I suspect there will be a lot more acres planted in the state this year.”

Dry beans were the state’s No. 8 ranked farm commodity two years ago in terms of farm cash receipts but dropped to No. 10 last year due to the fewer acres and lower prices.

Idaho ranks No. 5 in the nation in dry bean production but is the country’s No. 1 bean seed producing state. About 70 percent of the dry beans grown in Idaho are for seed.

Tolmie said a challenging bean production season last year in Canada and some of the United States’ top bean-producing states, including North Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin, is a big factor in the recent price increases.

As much as 35 percent of the beans planted in those areas were not harvested last

year and many of the harvested beans weren’t up to the industry’s normal quality standards, Tolmie said.

“So, quality and quantity were down,” he said. “As a result, we’ve seen a significant price increase in all market classes of dry beans.”

“In some of the big bean producing areas, they had trouble getting their crop planted and harvested last year,” Montgomery said. “There’s a shortage of beans.”

The U.S. is the global leader in edible dry bean production and American farmers plant between 1.5 million and 2 million acres a year, according to the U.S. Dry Bean Council.

The previous few years of low dry bean prices were due to a glut of product that was exacerbated by trade issues that caused U.S. soybean farmers to plant more dry beans, Tolmie said.

“They turned to dry beans, which resulted in a glut,” he said. “But last year pretty much wiped that glut out.” ■

Watching futures may be key to being profitable through this crisis

Hopefully we get a handle on COVID-19 before too long. In the meantime there just isn't any way to predict the direction or how far the market will move with all the uncertainty.

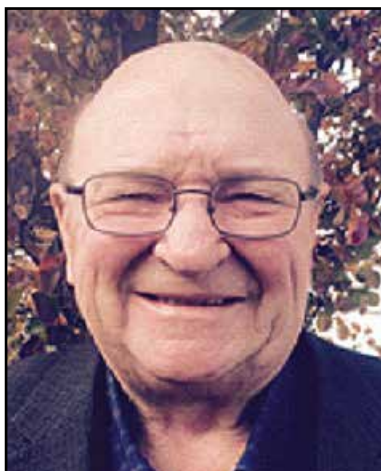
We as producers are at the bottom end of the food chain. We always have and will continue to have a very large portion of the price risk in the markets and the recent market movements really bring that to light.

How can we not feel just a little depressed when we have fall wheat planted and are on the edge of spring planting knowing that we need prices to move higher and then witness the market take 80 cents out of the futures in just a few weeks?

This weakness in the futures moved the cash bid for new crop soft white wheat in southeast Idaho near \$4 per bushel. At the time of writing this article the Chicago wheat market had gained 40 cents of this move back.

It is this type of volatility that makes the argument for hedging your crops all the more enticing. Granted, we don't usually have a virus scare like this year but we always have weather related markets as we move into the spring of the year.

Just watching the futures for the strength could very well give you just



the edge that you need to be profitable.

Back in January the Kansas City December futures traded at a level that when added to an average basis for hard white in November would give you between \$5.75 and \$6 for your wheat in southeast Idaho.

At these times when the futures are trading in the top 20th percentile for the past 12 months you could hedge your new crop production.

The cattle markets have been literally hammered during this COVID-19 period. The markets have over-reacted and sold off. They will move back higher but it will take just a little time for this to take place.

The October feeder cattle contract moved more than \$35 per hundred-weight (cwt) lower over a four-week period of time. The market traded from some of the highest levels to some of the lowest for the past 12 months.

Without trying to predict the bottom, the market still gave buyers the opportunity to lock in the futures level that looked to be profitable. Only time will tell but when we make marketing decisions based on trends and market levels what we are really doing is taking the emotion out of our deci-

sion-making process and this is a good thing.

We still have the opportunity to see the milk market trend higher as we move toward the summer months. This is based on the historical trends as production is reduced during the hotter days ahead.

We also see that milk producers still have the opportunity to hedge their milk prices as much as six months into the deferred months to stabilize their revenue. By simply staying hedged six months out in front, your average milk price on the futures would have been \$16.30 per cwt averaged over the past three years.

This is compared to \$15.92 on the spot futures price for the same time frame.

The markets for sure have changed and the way you market your commodities will need to change if you haven't already.

Marketing and how you outline and implement your plan needs to be analyzed and adjusted each year as well as during the marketing year. It's not a one-and-done plan but a plan that is a process all the time, 12 months out of the year.

Let's be proactive in asking questions and focus on outlining your new crop marketing plan for all of your commodities.

Clark Johnston is a grain marketing specialist and owner of JC Management Co. of Ogden, Utah. He can be reached at clark@jcmanagement.net. ■



Photo by Sean Ellis

Former Idaho Farm Bureau Federation president Frank Priestley, center, pictured with his wife, Susan, receives an Excellence in Agriculture award from Gov. Brad Little Feb. 18 during the annual Larry Branen Ag Summit.

Idaho producers receive awards during Ag Summit

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – Several producers from around the state, including a former Idaho Farm Bureau Federation president, were recognized Feb. 18 for the out-

standing contributions they have made to Idaho’s agricultural industry.

Former IFBF President Frank Priestley was one of four farmers and one farm that received Governor’s Excellence in Agriculture awards during the annual Larry Branen Ag Summit.

“The people we honor at this event are the heart and soul of Idaho,” Gov. Brad Little, a rancher from Emmett, said before handing out the excellence in agriculture awards.

The governor said Idaho has always been a place where bright ideas are born

and hatched out “and this award epitomizes that.”

Priestley, who served as president of IFBF for 18 years, received a Lifetime Achievement award, which, according to the award criteria, is given to an individual who has dedicated their life to advancing agriculture and “who embodies the high standards of Idaho agriculture and sets an example for others to follow.”

He raises dairy heifers and operates a farm in Franklin and was Idaho Farm Bureau Federation’s longest-serving president, having served in that position from 1997-2015.

Priestley has been involved with Idaho agriculture since he was a kid and started his own custom hay business when he was 14.

“Frank has been a strong advocate and spokesman for Idaho agriculture for nearly five and a half decades and has been attentive to responsible land usage, water issues, defending property rights and promoting freedom to operate,” his award bio states. “His voice has resonated both nationally and internationally to promote Idaho agricultural products, good farming practices and appropriate governance.”

Boyer Farms, which is located on the hills outside of Lapwai, received a Technical Innovation award, which is given to an individual or business that develops or implements new methods to advance agricultural production or processing.

The diversified operation includes a cow-calf operation, an extensive farming operation, a legume processing facility and a rock crushing business that provides gravel and rock products to the local area.

The farm, which is run by three generations of Boyers, has hosted Ag in the Classroom tours, Leadership Idaho Agriculture participants, and has invested in local FFA members to provide them projects and work experience opportunities.

Dwight Little Sr. was presented a Marketing Innovation award.

The owner and operator of Little Farms in Newdale, he runs a diversified



Photo by Sean Ellis

Rick Waitley, right, organizer of the annual Larry Branen Ag Summit, presents Rich Garber, the Idaho Grain Producers Association's director of governmental affairs, with a special ag summit lifetime achievement award Feb. 18.

operation with his son that includes malt barley, hard red spring wheat, potatoes, alfalfa and Black Angus cattle.

He has served on the Idaho Grain Producers Association’s Executive Committee the past five years, is currently serving as the organization’s past president and recently served for two years as president of the National Barley Growers Association.

He also served six years on the Idaho Barley Commission.

“He is a tremendous asset to Idaho’s grain industry and has advocated on behalf of Idaho’s wheat and barley farmers for years,” his award bio states. “Dwight ... has been an outstanding spokesman and advocate for agriculture, especially in the grain industry, on state and national levels.”

David Mosman, who passed away in September at the age of 58, received an Environmental Stewardship award, which is given to someone that demonstrates a commitment to maintain and improve the quality of air, water or soil as a result of innovative practices or technologies.

“Dave Mosman was always a thinker and an innovator who was never content with business as usual,” his award bio states.

According to his bio, Mosman saw early in his farming career “the potential for growing various turf grass seed crops to compliment the grains and pulse crops that he grew.”

He was also an early adopter of conservation farming practices on the Nezperce Prairie of northcentral Idaho.

“Dave’s impact on Idaho agriculture has been broad and noteworthy, with decades of contributions, such as innovation in grain farming to highly effective leadership in numerous agriculture organizations,” his award bio states.

Wayne Hurst was given the Education/Advocacy award, which is presented to someone who is committed to educating Idahoans about how important the state’s agricultural industry is to their life and the economy.

He operates a multi-generational diversified crop farm in Declo that grows wheat, potatoes, sugar beets, dry beans and forage crops.

He has held numerous county, state and national leadership posts in agriculture “and has been deeply engaged in the national farm policy debate for more than 20 years,” his bio states.

Hurst currently serves as president of the Cassia County Grain Growers, and served in leadership positions within the Idaho Grain Producers Association, including president.

“Wayne brings a significant skill set and respect to any organization he associates with,” his bio states. “His broad perspective, attention to detail, and big-picture thinking has benefited Idaho’s wheat industry for many years.”

Pat Takasugi Leadership Award

During the ag summit, wine industry leader Mike Williamson was presented with the Pat Takasugi Leadership Award, which is named after the late director of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture and given to someone who

has shown strong leadership for Idaho agriculture.

He manages Williamson Orchards and Vineyards in Caldwell.

Idaho Wine Commission Executive Director Moya Shatz-Dolsby said that when she was asked who in the wine industry should receive the award, “it took me about five seconds to figure out who should get it.”

Williamson “welcomed me into this agricultural community 11.5 years ago and is always so nice and willing to help anybody and everybody,” Shatz-Dolsby said. “He has served on various commissions and he is a true leader in this community. He’s definitely helped Idaho’s wine industry grow.”

Special Lifetime Achievement Award

Rich Garber, IGPA’s director of governmental affairs, was presented with a special ag summit lifetime achievement award.

Garber, who raised mint and sugar beets as a young farmer, served as president of Food Producers of Idaho from 1991-1993 and as chairman of the board of trustees for Leadership Idaho Agriculture.

He also served as executive director or lobbyist for several farm groups and as director of industry and government relations for the University of Idaho’s College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Ag summit organizer Rick Waitley said Garber “is highly respected as a spokesman for agriculture, he is a trusted confidant, a gentleman’s gentleman and has a passion for any position he has ever held.”

“Rich, on behalf of Idaho’s agriculture industry, we say ‘thank you’ for all you have done to make the industry stronger and more secure,” Waitley said.

“I just can’t tell you what a privilege it’s been to work with all of you,” Garber told ag summit attendees. ■

Farm Bureau Members Pay Less For Choice Hotels!

A **\$70** room will be closer to



\$56

A **\$90** room will be closer to



\$72

A **\$120** room will be closer to



\$96

CHOICE
HOTELS™



1.800.258.2847

FARM BUREAU DISCOUNT CODE

00209550

ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED



2020 Idaho FFA Foundation Tractor Raffle



Win this NEW 2018 Yanmar 221 with Blade & Bucket

**\$20 Ticket
Donation**



2nd Place: Traeger Grill

3rd Place: \$250 D&B

Gift Card

*Winners drawn first week of June 2020.
Need not be present to win*

Drawing Extended to June 2020!

It's easy to purchase Tractor Raffle Tickets!

Just send your email address by text message:

Text
TRACTORRAFFLE
to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply

Why Donate?

Scholarships

\$146,000 awarded

134 students

41 chapters



Chapter Support

\$10 of EACH ticket

goes directly back to

the chapter that sold it



Classifieds

ANIMALS

Registered black angus bulls - 20 months old. We feed no grain. \$2,000 each. Also some registered heifers. Rexburg, Id. 208-351-6654.

Black, two year and long yearling SimAngus bulls for sale. Easy to handle, good feet and legs, good calving ease. Caldwell, ID. Phil at 208-454 3790

FARM EQUIPMENT

Massy 1085 with cab, Perkins diesel motor, only 4183 hours. Has heavy duty angle & tilt blade, big bucket and big bale fork attachment. Runs good, new batteries. Caldwell, Id 208-880-5778.

Cornell water pump model 4rbs up to six lines. \$1,000 obo. New Holland pull swather model 499, good condition. \$6,000. Malad, Id. No texts. Dale 208-479-6785.

Yielder no-till grain drill 15/18 \$5000. Ripper, 7 shank hydraulic reset, HD. 3 point Aberdeen Classic JD model B \$2000. Aberdeen, Idaho, 208-220-8000.

Jauzzio Pump G.E. 110 volts, 220 volts, 3 phase Thermally protected 3450 rpm, 1 HP. Never Used, new, no guarantee. Been stored for years. Super for 1+ acres. Originally \$600+. \$395. If no answer please leave name and number. Meridian, Id. 208-375-4203.

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.

Waterwheel pumping system no electricity required. Your water source with 3 to 5 ft of drop. Pump will lift 600 ft with

unlimited distance. Irrigation or domestic use to 6000 gal per day. Sagle Id. 208-255-4581.

MISCELLANEOUS

Pro-Form crosswalk 480 treadmill fold-up exerciser. Kuna, Id. Leave message. Kuna, Id 208-866-8735.

A U.S. Army veteran looking for a year around property caretaker position with housing/utilities and some wages in Idaho or possible Montana. Resume upon request with prior experience. 44aussiedog@outlook.com 208-358-0623.

High Volume Jack Rabbit & Ground squirrel eradication. 5000 minimum. Idaho, North Nevada, North Utah, East Oregon. Call 6-9 pm PST 208-882-8963.

Responsible retired veteran looking for varmint hunting. Wolves, coyotes, chucks, squirrels. I live near Emmett but have gun will travel. leave message 208.365.1639.

Cabin Kits for the DIY, rough-in cabin packages, pole barns, equipment sheds, carports and garages, Rough Cut lumber or beams. We have milled logs and lumber that can help you achieve your custom-built dream. Please call John 208-781-0691.

John Wayne 'The Tribute Collection' 25 films and documentary on DVD in handsome case, \$20 plus shipping: New wax tapered candle making equipment includes wicking frame, dipping vat, heat press, 165 yards braid, \$65 plus shipping. Grangeville, ID. Kurt 208-983-0599.

REAL ESTATE/ACREAGE

Acreage for Sale - 4 Acres (approx.) Country Living. Build a New Home or New Mfg Hm. Requires a Well and Utilities to property. Must obtain Septic &

All Permits. Shelley Area. 208-528-5337 Leave Message.

VEHICLES

2016 42' 5th wheel. Royal Travel by Design. 4 tip-outs, 3 AC units, 2 fireplaces, furnace, stacked washer & dryer, king master, Queen hide-a-bed and single bed. 62K new, \$27,500. Obo. Viola, Id. 208-874-3557.

WANTED

Paying cash for old cork top embossed bottles and some telephone insulators as well as other vintage and antique items. Call Randy. Payette, Id. 208-740-0178.

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. 208-405-9338.

Pre-1970 Idaho License Plates Wanted: Also Revere Ware and Solar-Sturges Permanent cookware, and old signs. Will pay cash. Please email, text, call, or write. Gary Peterson, 115 E D St, Moscow, ID 83843. 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.

FREE CLASSIFIEDS

Non-commercial classified ads are free to Idaho Farm Bureau members. Must include membership number for free ad. Forty (40) words maximum. Non-member cost is 50 cents per word. You may advertise your own crops, livestock, used machinery, household items, vehicles, etc. Ads will not be accepted by phone. Ads run one time only and must be re-submitted in each subsequent issue. We reserve the right to refuse to run any ad. Please type or print clearly. Proofread your ad. Ads must be received by April 13 for the May Quarterly.

Mail ad copy to:
FARM BUREAU QUARTERLY
P.O. Box 4848, Pocatello, ID 83205-4848
or email Dixie at dashton@idahohfb.org

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Membership No. _____

Ad Copy _____



NO HEMP IN IDAHO FOR NOW

Bill that would
allow Idaho
farmers to grow
hemp voted down

By Sean Ellis
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – Idaho farmers will not be able to grow hemp this year and it appears doubtful they will be able to grow it next year either.

A bill that would have got the ball rolling toward allowing Idaho farmers to grow hemp was voted down, 8-7, by members of the House State Affairs Committee March 11. The legislation had passed the full Senate Feb. 27 by a 27-5 vote.

House State Affairs Committee members voted to hold Senate Bill 1345 in committee, effectively killing it and likely ending the last chance of passing hemp-related legislation this year.

Two hemp-related bills also failed during the 2019 Idaho legislative session.

One of SB 1345's sponsors, Rep. Caroline Nilsson Troy, R-Genesee, told Idaho Farm Bureau Federation she was very disappointed by the bill's demise.



National Hemp Association photo

A hemp plant is shown in this submitted photo. The new farm bill allows U.S. farmers to produce commercial hemp but the legislation's hemp provisions do not pre-empt state law. A proposed bill in the Idaho Legislature that would have begun paving the way for Idaho farmers to produce hemp has failed.

"I'm angry and frustrated that a commodity that is legal across the United States of America is denied to Idaho agriculture," she said. "And sadly, I think it was denied over a false narrative and politics."

Idaho is now one of only two states, along with Mississippi, that do not allow production of industrial hemp.

Hemp plants are the same species as marijuana but industrial hemp contains less than 0.3 percent THC, the psychoactive compound that gets marijuana users high.

Hemp supporters say it's not possible to get high with industrial hemp.

Industrial hemp is used in thousands of products that have been sold legally in the United States for decades but until recently, it has not been legal to grow and process hemp domestically. The 2018 farm bill changed that and classified hemp as a regular agricultural crop.

However, the farm bill left it up to states to determine how to handle hemp production. It is illegal to grow or process hemp

in Idaho and state law considers hemp with any THC the same thing as marijuana.

Opponents of the bill claimed during public testimony on the bill that hemp could be used as a way to camouflage marijuana and they also said it was the first step toward legalizing marijuana in Idaho.

Supporters of the bill said it would provide Idaho farmers with another option and would fit well into some crop rotations.

Tim Cornie, an organic farmer from Twin Falls County who testified in support of SB 1345, said Idaho will continue to fall further behind other states when it comes to hemp production and lose the revenue that would come with producing the crop.

"The Idaho farmer lost," he said about the bill's defeat. "I'm disappointed. A lot of farmers needed that extra revenue and we lost millions of dollars to neighboring states."

Cornie is co-owner of 1000 Springs Mill in Buhl, which produces dry beans, oats,

popcorn and quinoa.

"Hemp would have been a beautiful thing to add to our production line," he said.

Drew Eggers, a retired mint farmer from Meridian, provided lawmakers a brief history of mint production in Idaho to provide an example of what the hemp industry could potentially become in this state.

Eggers' father was one of the first Idaho farmers who started growing mint in southwest Idaho in 1960. At the time, there was a big learning curve to producing mint here, he said, and there was no certified rootstock, yields were poor, the equipment to produce it was not good, and there were no effective herbicides or pesticides for the crop.

After many years of research and grower innovation paved the way, Idaho now ranks No. 2 in the nation with 17,000 acres of mint, and the crop brings in about \$31 million in revenue each year.

"I believe that hemp in Idaho could have a similar story if Idaho farmers could



Grayscale Marketing photo

A hemp plant is shown in this submitted photo. The new farm bill allows U.S. farmers to produce commercial hemp but the legislation's hemp provisions do not pre-empt state law. A proposed bill in the Idaho Legislature would change Idaho code to match the new federal codes on hemp production.

produce it,” Eggers said.

Troy, along with other supporters of the bill, disagreed that hemp would become some type of cover for illegal activity and she pointed out that “our founding fathers grew hemp and a draft of the U.S. constitution was written on hemp.”

The commodity was also promoted during World War II as a necessary crop to win the war, she added.

Under the farm bill, states can either develop their own hemp plan as long as it complies with the federal hemp provisions or they can adopt the U.S. Department of Agriculture plan.

Idaho growers could theoretically apply directly to the USDA for a hemp license but that would appear extremely unlikely as long as hemp is considered an illegal drug in the state.

SB 1345 would have directed the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to devel-

op a state plan through Idaho’s negotiated rulemaking process, which allows stakeholders to participate in rulemaking.

Even if the bill had passed, Idaho farmers likely would have had to wait until 2021 to start planting hemp. Now, it appears the state’s growers will have to wait until at least 2022 to do that.

Troy said it’s much better for Idaho to develop its own hemp plan rather than adopt the federal one.

“The Idaho way is the best way,” she said. “Our farmers want to have a say in how their crops are regulated.”

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation has had policy supporting industrial hemp production for more than two decades.

IFBF President Bryan Searle, a farmer from Shelley, said Farm Bureau appreciates the legislature taking up and debating the issue but, he added, “We are disappointed by the outcome of the committee

hearing (March 11). “

“Despite the result,” he added, “Farm Bureau will continue to work diligently with lawmakers and stakeholders to legalize the production of hemp in Idaho. We look forward to Idaho farmers having the choice to produce hemp, if they so choose, like other producers around the nation.”

The legislation would have only got the ball rolling on legalizing hemp production and processing in Idaho but at least that would have put Idaho in the game, Troy said.

Using a football analogy, she told fellow lawmakers that hemp supporters were not looking to score a touchdown or even a field goal with the legislation.

“We just want to be on the field,” she said. “We want our farmers to get on the field and start planting hemp if that’s something they want to do.” ■



**IDAHO FARM
BUREAU FEDERATION**
P.O. Box 4848
Pocatello, ID 83205-4848

Go Further

**For details, go to
www.idahofbstore.com**

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS GET

\$500 BONUS CASH*



*Farm Bureau Bonus Cash is exclusively for active Farm Bureau members who are residents of the United States. This incentive is not available on Shelby GT350®, Shelby® GT350R, Mustang BULLITT, Ford GT, Focus RS and F-150 Raptor. This offer may not be used in conjunction with most other Ford Motor Company and Lincoln Motor Company private incentives or AXZD-Plans. Some customer and purchase eligibility restrictions apply. Must be a Farm Bureau member for 30 consecutive days prior to purchase. Visit FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com or LincolnFarmBureauAdvantage.com or see your authorized Ford or Lincoln Dealer for qualifications and complete details.