

JUNE 2018

OREGON WHEAT

An Official Publication of the Oregon Wheat Industry

6

Pendleton Harvest Revisited

14

Top Students Earn Oregon Wheat Scholarships

17

Wheat League Stands Ready:
2019 Oregon Legislature



OREGON WHEAT



Brent Cheyne
President



Alan von Borstel
Vice President



Clint Carlson
Secretary/Treasurer



Dana Tuckness
Immediate
Past President

County Presidents

Clint Carlson, Gilliam County
Rodney Cheyne, Klamath County
Ted Buhrig, Malheur County
Brent Martin, Morrow County
Ryan Thompson, Sherman County

Ben Maney, Umatilla County
Wade Bingaman, Union/Baker County
Kurt Melville, Wallowa County
Josh Duling, Wasco County
Tom Duyck, North Willamette Valley
Collin Crocker, South Willamette Valley

Issue Liaisons

Jerry Marguth, Environment & Regulations
Walter Powell, Farm Policy & Transportation
Craig Reeder, Research & Technology

Ex-Officio

Dan Steiner

Staff

Blake Rowe, Chief Executive Officer
Marilyn Blagg, Office Manager
Sally Christensen, Membership Director



OREGON WHEAT COMMISSION

Growers

Dale Case, Cove
Darren Padget, Grass Valley
Bob Newton, Helix

Public Member

Vacant

Handlers

Jordan Van Zante, Export Handler, Pacificor, LLC
Dan Steiner, Grain Marketer, Morrow County Grain Growers

Staff

Blake Rowe, CEO, Oregon Wheat
Tana Simpson, Associate Administrator
Diana Thompson, Administrative Assistant



Walter Powell
Chair



Jerry Marguth
Vice Chair

OREGON WHEAT

An Official Publication of the Oregon Wheat Industry

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 President's Half Acre
- 4 Glimmers of Sunlight
- 6 Pendleton Harvest Revisited
- 8 Sulfentrazone (Spartan® Charge) Application in No-Till Fallow
- 12 Spring, and Then, the Retirement of a Friend or Two
- 14 Top Students Earn Oregon Wheat Scholarships
- 17 Wheat League Stands Ready: 2019 Oregon Legislature
- 19 The Facts About Glyphosate, Part 2: Growing a Quality Wheat
- 21 Oregon Department of Agriculture, Strategic Plan Summary | 2018-2023
- 22 Producer Packs a Lifetime of Experience into Book on Modern Farming - Jack DeWitt, Author
- 24 Heading West to the Far East
- 25 OSU Names New Extension Cereals Scientist
- 26 Recipe: White Wheat Berry Bars

Subscriptions

For address changes, extra copies, or subscriptions:
Oregon Wheat Growers League
541-276-7330 mblagg@owgl.org

Sales & Advertising Rates

If you are interested in advertising for this publication, please contact our sales representative.

Leah Anderson - Ad Sales • NDP
406-475-1856 • landerson@ndpub.com

Oregon Wheat is published bimonthly by Oregon Wheat Growers League, 115 SE 8th Street, Pendleton, Oregon 97801. Oregon Wheat is sent to all Oregon wheat producers through funding provided by the Oregon Wheat Commission.

Receipt of *Oregon Wheat* magazine does not indicate membership in the Oregon Wheat Growers League.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy in articles published by Oregon Wheat; however, the publishers assume no responsibility for losses sustained, allegedly resulting from following recommendations in this magazine. Consult your local authorities.

The Oregon Wheat Growers League has not tested any of the products advertised in this publication, nor has it verified any of the statements made in any of the advertisements. The League does not warrant, expressly or implicitly, the fitness of any product advertised or the suitability of any advice or statements contained herein.



Cover: Wheat growing just east of Pendleton.



Brent Cheyne
President

A Legacy is More Than What is in Your Will

As I have traveled recently for the League, I have thought a little about the importance of our work in sustaining our operating environment, maintaining our markets, and protecting our social license with the public. These things are key parts of our “legacy”, what we inherited from our predecessors and what we will hand down to the wheat farmers who come after us. While we may not enjoy this responsibility as much as our actual farming and conservation work, it is important to our future.

Our work on the next Farm Bill falls into this effort. On April 20th, I found myself in Sherman County, along with about fifteen other Oregon wheat growers for a meeting with Congressman Greg Walden to discuss the House version of the legislation. We spent more than an hour and a half going over the provisions of the bill and sharing our concerns. We were very thankful to have so much “face-time” with him on such an important issue. We are a long way from a final Farm Bill, with the whole Senate process and a Conference Committee to go before we can even get to President Trump’s desk. That said, there were many aspects in the House bill we could support, along with some concerns that should be addressed.

Here are some of the highlights of the farm bill and our discussions. The crop insurance provisions, our top priority, were good, as was the handling of export promotion programs (MAP and FMD) and research. The ARC and PLC provisions in Title 1 were also pretty good, with growers allowed another chance to choose which program they wanted for the next five years and a shifting to prioritize RMA data instead of NASS data.

Unfortunately, the wheat reference price was not increased. On the conservation front, the proposed elimination/merger of CSP into the EQIP program was a non-starter for us. We spent a good portion of the meeting discussing this aspect of the bill and what might be done to address our concerns. The Congressman and his staff took detailed notes on our concerns.

On another subject, I just finished reading through my voter pamphlet today. It was very

interesting to read the candidates’ write ups. The dominant theme seems to be that “Oregon is broken and needs to be fixed”. For my part, I would agree. It would be more reassuring, if more of what I read from the candidates sounded like actual solutions instead of ways to make things worse.

“A will is a dead giveaway.”

While I have been an Oregon Wheat Growers League member, I have visited Salem and Washington DC several times and I appreciate that our organization is working very hard to protect and improve our operating environment and markets and the public’s understanding of agriculture. I would urge all growers to participate in a lobbying opportunity to see just how the system works; it is a real eye opener. It is satisfying to me, to know that I made the time to be engaged in the decision-making process.

It is easy to feel that we cannot change what is going on in the world around us and that our voice doesn’t matter, but one thing I know for certain is that if we do not try we are guaranteed of failure. Looking back, I regret not getting involved earlier in my career. Engaging in the political and regulatory landscape we must navigate to stay in business is very time consuming, but it must be done to protect our future. It is my hope that the generations coming after us will feel that we did the job well and continued the legacy that was passed down to us.

After the Walden meeting ended I took advantage of the opportunity to drive around Sherman County’s back roads and looked at many wheat fields. The stands looked quite good and timely rains have the wheat itself looking good. Getting it all sprayed was quite a challenge, due to weather, but it all got done and growers are off to other projects. It amazes me every year just seeing how resilient wheat is. It must have nine lives, just like a cat. Now if we could just get a good sales opportunity (as in higher prices)...



Glimmers of Sun Light

Blake Rowe, CEO, Oregon Wheat



One of the risks working in all the different arenas important to wheat is that you can find yourself too focused on the negatives: harmful legislation; stupid regulatory proposals; trade policies that risk our markets and customers; social

media campaigns masquerading as science; “experts” that have never owned land, managed people, grown a crop, or signed a check, but who are absolutely certain they know more than the people who do; endless litigation; bad weather; low prices; excessive inventories; port issues; etc.; etc.; etc. If you aren’t careful, you can find yourself so consumed by the problems that you forget to notice that there are good things going on at the same time. It doesn’t mean that the bad stuff is any less dangerous, just that there are some breaks in the clouds.

In Late April, the House Agriculture Committee took a major first step in getting to a new farm bill as they passed **HR 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018**. The legislation matches many of our priorities, especially in maintaining a strong crop insurance program, protecting funding for the MAP and FMD programs, and in research. We still have concerns and there are many hurdles to get a final bill through the House, Senate, conference committee, and signed by President Trump, but it’s great to have the first step behind us.

After several continuing resolutions to keep the federal government open, an **appropriations bill** to cover the remainder of FY 2018 was passed and signed by President Trump in March. The legislation included **\$1 million in continuing funding**, supported by the PNW wheat organizations, for the ARS in Pullman to **work on falling number research**. It also included an important “fix” for **Section 199A** of the federal tax code to correct a mistake that was made in the 2017 tax reform legislation in favor of agricultural co-ops. The compromise to fix 199A was the product of good faith negotiations between the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives and the National Grain and Feed Association.

On the marketing front, two new positions for US Wheat Associates (USW) should provide long term benefits for selling more of our wheat to markets in Southeast Asia and Latin America. USW hired Kong Song (Ivan) Goh to work as a Biscuit, Baking, and Noodle Technologist to expand **technical support to milling and baking customers in Indonesia and other SE Asian markets**. Goh will work closely with USW’s veteran bakery consultant Roy Chung to expand sales into these rapidly growing markets. USW is also in the process of hiring a **technical specialist in Latin America to promote the use of US wheat in those markets**. This position was identified as a **top global strategic priority** for USW. They had sufficient funds to cover the basic funding for the position, but the PNW states each committed \$30,000 a year for 3 years to help the new technician travel and connect with customers across the region.

In more good news from the marketing front, the US and Korea successfully completed the renegotiation of the **Korean-US Free Trade Agreement (KORUS)**. The process to renegotiate **NAFTA** moved into high speed with Canada, Mexico, and the US indicating that they **wanted to complete the negotiations in May**, before the upcoming elections in Mexico and the US. Rumors of compromise on outstanding issues may indicate a path to an agreement is developing. In another positive move, President Trump asked his staff to consider how the **US might rejoin TPP** and the President and Japan’s Prime Minister Abe announced their intent to set up a new framework in June focused on a **bilateral trade discussion between Japan and the US**. All of these developments are promising.

Finally, OSU completed their process to hire **Dr. Ryan Graebner as the new Extension Cereals Scientist**. He will take over leadership of OSU’s wheat variety trials program, which will now be housed at CBARC, a shift which should save significant travel costs compared to basing the program on the westside.

As this issue of Oregon Wheat goes to press, it looks like we might be headed for a pretty good 2018 wheat crop. That would certainly be nice; maybe we’ll get to a full blown sunbeam instead of just a few glimmers.



**IT IS RAINING.
IT IS WET, AND IT IS MUDDY.
SLUGS ARE IN THE FIELD.
GAME ON.**

Introducing your first defense for slug control: Ferroxx AQ slug and snail bait.

When the conditions are sloppy, charge in with our new waterproof formulation. It is rain, mold and water resistant and packed into pellets that are highly palatable to slugs, eliminating bait shyness. Unlimited number of applications per year allowed with no retreatment interval. Zero PHI, 4 hour REI. Residue (MRL) exempt.

Ferroxx AQ
Because you can't sit on the sidelines.

FERROXX
SLUG AND SNAIL BAIT
AQ



Neudorff North America
250-652-5888 • NeudorffPro.com

Pendleton Harvest Revisited

Sally Christensen, OWGL Staff

A couple of months ago, a photo was forwarded to me by John McManigal of Wasco County asking, “What can you tell me about this picture?” The photo in question turned out to be a panoramic view of wheat harvest circa 1960 near Pendleton.

John’s comments continued, “I found this on an odd blog site called Stuck at the Airport, by Harriet Baskas. As you can see at the site, it was taken by Ansel Adams and was on display at Grand Central Railroad Terminal (New York) in the late summer of 1961.”

“Do you or anyone around the office have a clue where exactly? “A wheat field near Pendleton, Oregon” covers a lot of territory. Early 60’s would mean Omar being cut. I make the combines to be JD 36B’s; the Cats have me stumped..... something earlier than a 9u D-6 I would imagine. I cut my harvest teeth on a similar pull type (a JD 33) so I have a soft spot in my heart for these old machines.”

Leave it to a veteran wheat farmer to remember every piece of equipment used on his farm 55 years ago.

I had no recollection of this photo, so I sent out a query to some of the local wheat farmers, and quite the conversation ensued!

Craig Reeder shared, “This looks very much like looking south on the Helix highway at Midway elevator. The house in the background could be Larry Straughan’s – it is not on Midway Road, it is a mile to the south. If that is the field north of midway that Rich Hamilton now farms, I believe it would have been Timmerman’s back then. The Cats are RD-6s I believe.”

Bob Newton, Oregon Wheat Commissioner and Helix farmer added, “Craig was correct on the field and Cats – it was Timmerman’s.”

He continued, “If you notice, there is nobody on the combine, and I believe I am driving the front tractor



Pendleton Harvest Photo: Courtesy of the George Eastman Museum. Reproduced with Permission from the Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust. All rights reserved.

Current Day Photo (inset): Sally Christensen, OWGL Staff

operating the combine from the tractor. This was one of Stan Timmerman's inventions/ideas. It was either 1959 or 1960, depending on when that field was in crop."

It is sad that Stan is no longer with us to share his insights and discuss further this innovation. Stan, an advocate for Oregon wheat until his passing in 2015, was a pioneer in the industry.

The original photo was displayed as a 'Colorama' in the Grand Central Terminal in 1960. Coloramas were promoted by Kodak as "the world's largest photographs" and were called "technically remarkable" by Ansel Adams, who photographed several. The towering backlit transparencies were 18-feet high and 60-feet wide, each illuminated by more than a mile of tubing. A total of 565 Coloramas were publicly displayed, changing out every three weeks.

The Coloramas now reside with the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film. "We are delighted that this treasure trove of photographic history and imaging technology, which enthralled millions

of people over the years, has found a home where they will be preserved for many more people to enjoy in the future," said Kodak professional photographer Steve Kelly, himself the creator of several Coloramas.

My husband and I sought out the site of the harvest photo in February where the original photo was taken by the noted Ansel Adams. This time, we were armed only with a mere cell phone set in panoramic mode. Not surprisingly, the landscape has changed very little, and wheat is still the only crop on the land. However, a long row of straw bales now stand as sentinels near the grain bins.

Many other things have changed since this photo was taken in 1960, like equipment, technology, weed and pest control methods, tillage practices, and conservation efforts. But some things in agriculture will never change: the farmers' love of the land and their commitment to the sustainability of the soil, water, air, and other resources for future generations.



Sulfentrazone (Spartan® Charge) Application in No-Till Fallow

Larry Lutcher, Extension Agronomist–Dryland Cropping Systems, Morrow County



Larry Lutcher is an extension agronomist with Oregon State University. He enjoys working on solutions to problems faced by farmers who produce wheat in fallow-based systems.

local farmers and funding from the Oregon Wheat Commission (\$12,950), I embarked on a project in 2016 to look at the effectiveness of Spartan Charge, generate weed management knowledge that is supplemental to information already found on the Spartan® Charge label, and look for any evidence of carryover effects on wheat plantings.

Project Overview

Objectives: The first objective of this project was to determine if a fall application of Spartan® Charge would control Russian thistle in no-till fallow. Results from this treatment were compared to an early spring application. The early spring application is standard practice for the limited-few who now use Spartan® Charge. The second objective was to evaluate the potential for a carryover effect of sulfentrazone in winter wheat produced after fallow. Sulfentrazone is a **soil-active** compound and one of the active ingredients in Spartan® Charge. Carfentrazone is the other active ingredient in this product. It has postemergence (foliar) activity on susceptible weed species.

Introduction:

Wheat growers across the Columbia Plateau have been searching for ways to better control Russian thistle for several years, especially as the distribution of plants resistant to glyphosate have expanded. Some Morrow County growers have used Spartan Charge in no-till fallow systems and have reported some success with controlling Russian thistle. With the assistance of

Background Information and Application

Details: Labelled application rates, which are dependent on the **organic matter** content, **texture**, and **pH** of soil, are listed in the following table. The label makes no statement about the recommended sampling depth for organic matter and pH determinations.

Soil Organic Matter (%)	Spartan® Charge Herbicide Use Rate for Fallow Applications (Fluid Ounces/Acre) ¹		
	Soil Texture		
	Course	Medium	Fine
< 1.5	3.75 to 5.00	3.75 to 5.75	5.00 to 6.50
1.5 to 3.0	3.75 to 5.75	5.00 to 7.75	5.75 to 8.50
> 3.0	5.00 to 7.75	5.75 to 8.50	6.50 to 10.2

¹Use higher rates for soils of pH less than 7.0 and lowest rate for pH greater than 7.0

Note: Soil in most farm fields of eastern and north-central Oregon has a "medium" texture.

I applied Spartan® Charge at the rate of 8 oz/acre. The 8 oz/acre rate was a little "heavy" for conditions (soil properties) that existed at sites used for research. This experimental rate was used in an effort to better address the project's second objective—to evaluate the potential for herbicide carryover. Spartan® Charge was applied in the **fall** (treatment "A") or **spring** (treatment "B") to plots 56 feet wide and 200 to 300 feet long. A **glyphosate-only** program (treatment "C") was utilized in another plot, for comparison.

Application details associated with three treatments ("A," "B," and "C") used in plots on four farms in Morrow County, Oregon.

Treatment "A"	Treatment "B"	Treatment "C"
20 oz Glyphosate Applied October 28, 2016 + NI-90 (1 qt/100 and Spray-Grade AS (17 lb/100)) 8 oz Spartan® Charge Applied November 3, 2016	20 oz Glyphosate Applied October 28, 2016 + NI-90 (1 qt/100 and Spray-Grade AS (17 lb/100)) 8 oz Spartan® Charge Applied March 10, 2017	20 oz Glyphosate Applied October 28, 2016 + NI-90 (1 qt/100 and Spray-Grade AS (17 lb/100)) Spartan® Charge Not Applied
32 oz Glyphosate Applied May 17, 2017 + NI-90 (1 qt/100 and Spray-Grade AS (17 lb/100)) 3 rd Application of Glyphosate not Required	32 oz Glyphosate Applied May 17, 2017 + NI-90 (1 qt/100 and Spray-Grade AS (17 lb/100)) 3 rd Application of Glyphosate not Required	32 oz Glyphosate Applied May 17, 2017 + NI-90 (1 qt/100 and Spray-Grade AS (17 lb/100)) 58 oz Glyphosate Applied June 24, 2017 + NI-90 (1 qt/100 and Spray-Grade AS (17 lb/100))

Note: Glyphosate formulation was a generic, 4-pound product.



Equipment used for sulfentrazone (Spartan® Charge) application to field research plots.

The sprayer was outfitted with air induction nozzles that delivered coarse (40 psi) droplets and a total spray volume of 13.4 gallons/acre.

Results

Did the Fall Application of Spartan® Charge Work? Yes it did. Fall and spring applications were equally effective at controlling Russian thistle. The level of control was better than that observed in plots treated with glyphosate only.

Treatment	Number of Thistles/Acre			
	May 16th	June 23rd	July 6th	August 17th
"A"	0	0	0	2
"B"	0	0	0	2
"C"	79	37	26	12

Treatment effects (4-site average) on Russian thistle control in May, June, July, and August of 2017.

Precipitation during the winter was slightly above our long-term average. There was a fair bit of snow on the ground for about two months. Precipitation between the two Spartan® Charge application dates (November 3, 2016 and March 10, 2017) was equal to 4.2 inches. I was worried leaching of the fall-applied sulfentrazone might make this treatment less effective than the spring application. Test results, of the residual concentration of sulfentrazone in soil, are evidence that leaching was not a problem. Results are statistically similar and consistent with observations of acceptable weed control in plots treated with either a fall or spring application of Spartan® Charge.

Sampling Depth (inches)	Residual Concentration of Sulfentrazone in Soil (parts per million, ppm) ¹			
	JEPS	MART	OREM	RIET
0-4	0.037	0.070	0.056	0.052
4-8	0.019	0.014	0.020	0.016
8-12	ND	ND	0.007	0.008

¹ Soil sulfentrazone levels, by depth, in plots treated with the **fall** application of Spartan® Charge. Soil samples were collected in October of 2017 (just before planting) and promptly analyzed by Pacific Agricultural Laboratory in Portland.

ND = none detected.



Mid Columbia Producers, Inc.
Grain • Seed • Fuel
Lubricants • Farm Stores



Sign up today for
Member Benefit Fuel Program,
Call 541-330-8356 for details.

Main Office
2003 1st St
Moro, OR 97039
Phone 541-565-3737
Toll Free 800-325-9327

Hermiston Office
345 N 1st Pl
Hermiston, OR 97838
Phone 541-289-5015

Bend Office
913 NE 1st St
Bend, OR 97701
541-382-4751 Phone
888-616-0690 Toll Free

www.mcpcoop.com

Sampling Depth (inches)	Residual Concentration of Sulfentrazone in Soil (parts per million, ppm) ¹			
	JEPS	MART	OREM	RIET
0-4	0.045	0.066	0.059	0.055
4-8	0.017	0.025	0.019	0.019
8-12	ND	ND	ND	0.009

¹ Soil sulfentrazone levels, by depth, in plots treated with the **spring** application of Spartan® Charge. Soil samples were collected in October of 2017 (just before planting) and promptly analyzed by Pacific Agricultural Laboratory in Portland.

ND = none detected.

Carryover Effects? Soft white winter wheat was planted (October of 2017) in plots treated with sulfentrazone during the previous year. Plots were treated with either a fall (November 3, 2016) or spring (March 10, 2017) application of Spartan® Charge. There was no evidence of crop injury on seedlings examined in late February or early March of 2018.

Concluding Remarks: I think the potential for a carryover effect is something that should be taken seriously. Although I am unaware of any situation where there has been crop loss from labelled application rates of Spartan® Charge, I have noticed concerning symptomology on isolated plants in fields where

- continued on page 11



Farmer Inspired. Farmer Admired.

Consistently Cleaner Fields.

You know a technology is needed when farmers ask for it, help develop it, test it and join a team to launch it. CoAXium™ Wheat Production System combines a non-GMO herbicide tolerance trait with Aggressor™ herbicides to give you superior control of feral rye, jointed goatgrass, and downy brome, including Group 2 (ALS) resistant grassy weeds. Get ready to enjoy clean rows, clean wheat and increased profits.



For more information visit CoAXium.com

CLEANER FIELDS. HIGHER YIELDS.™



Winter wheat seedlings growing in plots treated with the spring application of Spartan® Charge during the previous year. Pictures are from research locations on farms managed by Bill Jepsen (upper left), Brent Martin (upper right), Eric Orem (lower left), and John Rietmann (lower right).

sulfentrazone or sulfentrazone-containing products have been used for many years. This may be the result of a concentration build-up in soil at locations (isolated spots or small areas) where organic matter levels are low and/or pH values are high.

Sulfentrazone is not susceptible to photodecomposition or volatility following application to soil and is broken down by soil microbes. Environmental conditions, such as drought, that limit the activity of soil microbes, may increase the risk of carryover.

Minimize the potential for crop injury by utilizing sectional boom technology and set your overlap for zero or as close to that as you possibly can. It might be wise to avoid using Spartan® Charge in fields where the soil pH is equal to or greater than 7.5.

I am encouraged by the level of Russian thistle control in plots treated with the fall application of Spartan® Charge. It is consistent with the outcomes from spring application work conducted by Dan Ball many years ago. I hesitate to make a recommendation about a fall application. I think it's too early for that. Let's wait to see what happens with a second year of research. I encourage those who contemplate using Spartan® Charge (in the fall or in the spring) to do so in a small area, at least in the beginning. Maybe you could do your own experiment. If you do, then let me know how it goes. I would enjoy hearing from you.

Best of luck Larry

Acknowledgments: It was a privilege to work on this project with the cooperation of local farmers (Bill Jepsen, Brent Martin, Eric Orem, and John Rietmann). I look forward to future efforts with the help of Mark and Corey Miller, Chris Rauch, and Steve Hill. I am very grateful to all involved with this project and for the support provided by members and staff of the Oregon Wheat Commission.



Spartan® Charge research plots were viewed by wheat producers during the 2017 Morrow County Dryland Crop Tour on June 23rd.



Spring, and Then, a Retirement of a Friend or Two

Wally Powell, Chair, Oregon Wheat Commission



There is something of a love/hate relationship between me and spring. Wind/rain squalls/wind/spray briefly/wind/seed briefly/rain/seed/faulty node harness/seed/faulty servo valve/seed. Ah, finally a six mph wind out of the northeast, and away from Jordan Maley's

orchard. A perfect day is followed by another perfect day with wind blowing away from Durfey's garden. The weather is fifteen degrees warmer, and I once again love spring. I can now tell Sue that she can bring back my Jameson's bottle from wherever she hid it. I wasn't really going to drink it all in one setting. And the black smoke was not from me burning my Raven system.

Sinking the tractor along the edge of what is now apparently a marsh, formerly the backside of a terrace, capped my performance one day. We were able to pull the drill out backwards, and then pull the tractor out as well. I immediately looked around to see where Randy Anderson was spraying in hopes he was not observing my folly. No luck. On the other hand, he slid his self-propelled sprayer completely out of the field last year; and is somewhat more humble for his experience, as am I for mine. Not a lot more humble of course or it wouldn't be Randy and Wally.

I did hit the numbers reasonably well when picking up the spring wheat seed. I was only over two or three hundred pounds. There appears to be a race developing at Igo between those seeding. You try to finish first so you can pass your extra seed onto your neighbor rather than having to store the remainder.

I wasn't so lucky with the Assure II used on the winter pea crop. In order to finish the final 2.2 acres, I would have needed to purchase enough chemical for 32 acres, thus carrying over enough chemical for 29.8 acres. Hum.....How much of a volunteer grain problem do I have on the remaining 2.2 acres? Too much is the decision.

Friends, and Retirement

Two close friends are shutting it down this year. I will first start with my closest golfing partner. I actually

have three that have now retired, so they will likely dump me from their foursome. Where have Cindy and Jack Osterlund not contributed to our community. Cindy spent a lifetime leading Gilliam County 4-H, and Jack is still involved with Oregon Wheat activities (CBARC liaison committee). Jack sat on the committee focused on redesigning the OWGL/OWC relationship; and also served on the Condon School Board. When I wander too far from his view of reality, I know that Jack will fire an email out to me with his thoughts. The Oregon Wheat Commission thanks both of you for your service to the industry, and to our youth. We are better for our friendship with you.

I am stepping back in time now. Roy Howard and Sons (Couse Creek, south of Milton-Freewater) bought their first two JD 95-H combines in 1965. I was sixteen, and that was the first combine I actually drove. The absolute best times I had in my early years were when farming the foothills south of Milton-Freewater. My grades showed where my interests were actually. My first tractor was a 9U D-6 with a wood cab (sliding doors and windows), and I almost wanted that technology package back a couple of times this spring. Not quite though. The Roy Howard land was later sold to a neighbor, Herb March.

I understand that Herb and his son, Herb (young Herb, Herbie, little Herb, whatever) are retiring. There are no more than three or four minds in farming that I respect as much, and I certainly respect theirs more than mine. The work done by these two individuals on GPS based protein mapping, and variable rate fertility applications for soft white wheat has been exceptional. Yes, I was instructed in variable rate application by a man in his eighties, with no hope of me understanding all the material. I think Herb was one of the first farmers in their eighties with a drone. This work was used by Oregon Wheat in order to successfully defend funding for the ARS station at Pendleton.

Every once in a while you will run across an individual adept in all phases of dryland farming. This number will total perhaps five or ten in your lifetime. The Marchs' were one of my five or ten. I have been fortunate to call them my friends for sixty years; and consider this friendship one of my greatest pleasures. For lack of a better description, I love how they "think".

So, here is to you Herb. Sue and I thank you for the friendship, and wish you and your family the best.

What does the OWGL do for you?

- Serves as your voice at the State and National levels of government during the creation and implementation of new laws and regulations.
- Partners with the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) and other wheat states to lobby Congress on critical wheat issues.
- Represents Oregon's interests on the NAWG Board of Directors and NAWG committees. (www.wheatworld.org)
- Builds relationships with state and federal agencies to bring favorable changes to administrative rules and/or the creation of new programs.
- Partners with other organizations such as Oregonians for Food and Shelter, Associated Oregon Industries, PNW Waterways Association, and many others on agriculture and business policies.
- Member of the Wheat Foods Council, the national wheat education association, to promote the benefits of wheat based foods (www.wheatfoods.org).
- Publishes regular member communications: the bi-weekly newsletter, and the bi-monthly magazine (which is also mailed to all assessment-paying wheat growers, regardless of membership status).
- Identifies and trains future industry leaders.
- Organizes educational seminars and county grower meetings, and partners with Idaho and Washington for the Tri-State Grain Growers Association.
- Provides staff support for the Oregon Wheat Foundation and Oregon WheatPAC.
- Maintains the industry website and social media sites.



OREGON WHEAT GROWERS LEAGUE
Your Association — Your Voice
Join now!

Join today at owgl.org

or complete this form and mail to:
Oregon Wheat Growers League
115 SE 8th St., Pendleton, OR 97801

Farm/Business

Name: _____

Representative: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Send my OWGL Newsletter via: ☐ US Mail ☐ Email

Producer/Landlord

____ Member (Less than 320 Acres).....\$125

____ Member(320-2000 Acres).....\$175

____ Member (More than 2000 Acres).....\$225

____ Affiliate (Retired Grower or landlord).....\$100

The above dues amounts include a pre-set Oregon WheatPAC donation of \$25. If you wish to opt-out, reduce the above amount by \$25. You may also opt to increase your PAC donation. Oregon State offers a tax credit of up to \$100 for joint filers.

Additional WheatPAC Donation.....\$ _____

Total Amount Paid.....\$ _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Check # _____ (To Oregon Wheat Growers League)

Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Questions? Call the OWGL office: 541-276-7330

Top Students Earn Oregon Wheat Scholarships



The Oregon Wheat Foundation is pleased to announce we have awarded a total of ten \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors this year, representing ten counties or regions.

Students were judged on their community involvement, academic achievement and an essay on a

wheat industry topic.



Joshua Andersen, the son of Dan and Lynette Andersen, is a graduating senior at **Vale High School**. He will attend the College of Idaho where he plans to study political economy. Joshua was president of the National Honors Society his senior year; ASB Secretary his senior year;

competed in cross country, track and field, and wrestling. He was also active in Science Club, FBLA, and the Fellowship for Christian Athletes. Joshua is also very active in his community and his church.

Luke Flegel, is a graduating senior at **Crook County High School** and is the son of Wade and Janice Flegel of Prineville. He plans to attend the University of Idaho studying agricultural engineering. Luke played football and basketball, and competed in track and field. He is also involved in several community, school and church projects.



Case Goracke, son of Dave & Lisa Goracke, is a graduating senior at **Central Linn High School** in Halsey. He plans to study agriculture science at Eastern Oregon University, La Grande. Case is senior

class student representative, varsity football captain, FFA and wrestling. He has won numerous awards for his participation in FFA including district ag mechanics top-10; district tractor driving champion and a state tractor driving champion, 6th place. His activities extend to various school, community and church projects.



Treve Martin is a graduating senior of **Sherman County School** in Moro. Treve is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Doug Martin of Rufus and plans to study agricultural business management at Oregon State. He played basketball, football and baseball, and competed in track with many

all-league selections; he also participates in band and FFA. Treve is also involved in various other community and school projects.

Andrew Matthews will attend Thomas Aquinas College in Santa Paula, California studying for a Liberal Arts Degree. Andrew is the son of Patrick and Trina Matthews of Joseph and will graduate from the **Mother of Divine Grace Homeschool** program. Andrew's long term goal is to own his own land, eventually passing it down in the best condition



possible. He has shown various animals at the county fair. Andrew's involvement in numerous church and community activities are reflective of his interests.



Reed Middleton is a graduating senior at **Hermiston High School** and plans to study agricultural business at Kansas State University. Reed is the daughter of Jason and Cindy Middleton of Hermiston. She plays tennis, and is the Senior Representative, FFA Chapter Vice

President, a member of the National Honor Society and is active in Umatilla County 4-H. She also volunteers on several school and community projects.

Sydney Namdar, the daughter of Stacy Namdar of Hillsboro, is a graduating senior at **Beaverton High School**. She plans to attend Oregon State University, majoring in marketing and design. Sydney has been part of the National Honor Society for the past two years. Her high school sports include soccer, basketball and track & field. Sydney helped design a new magazine and logo apparel for her high school. She is also involved in several school and community activities.



Morgan Orem is the daughter of Eric and Brandi Orem of Heppner. She is a graduating senior at **Ione Community School** and plans to study animal science and agricultural business at Oregon State University. Her long term goal after earning her



Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine is to become a large animal veterinarian, hopefully opening her own clinic in her home town of Ione. Her school sports included volleyball, basketball and softball. As a senior, Morgan served as student body president and Chapter FFA president. She was District FFA Secretary in both her junior and senior years, and a member of the National Honors Society her senior year. Morgan is active within her FFA chapter and has entered various projects and animals in county fairs. She also volunteers on several school and community projects.



Annika Rietmann, the daughter of Tom Rietmann & Katherine Cook, is a graduating senior at **Condon High School** with plans to attend the University of Idaho studying agricultural science and pre-med with a long term goal of becoming an emergency room

physician. Annika's high school achievements included volleyball and basketball; was a member of the chemistry club; served as student council president her senior year; and was a National Honor Society member. Her interests extend to various school, church and community activities.

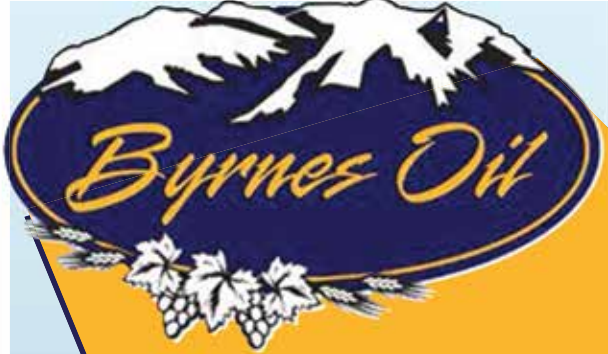
Kimberly Williams plans to attend Walla Walla Community College to earn an Associate's Degree, then on to a four year college, completing her Bachelor's degree in animal science. Kimberly is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jason Williams and will graduate from **Powder Valley High School** in North Powder. She plays volleyball and basketball; is a National Honor Society student, and competes with the High School Rodeo Club. Kimberly is also involved in school and community activities.



- continued on page 16


Oregon Wheat Foundation Scholarships are open to high school seniors whose parents are members of the Oregon Wheat Growers League or whose parents are employed by grower members of the organization. The scholarship is also open to students employed by grower members.

Scholarship information can be found in the Oregon Wheat Foundation section of the Oregon wheat website at www.owgl.org. Applications are accepted beginning in October.

FREIGHT HAULING
STORAGE TANKS
FUEL

*Convenient
locations to
serve you:*



**We Feature
Chevron Lubricants**

Walla Walla, WA 1205 N. 11th 509-527-3400 1-800-572-8900	Pendleton, OR 513 S.W. 6th 541-276-3361
LaGrande, OR 804 21st Street 541-963-4932	

www.byrnesoil.com



"Logan (Padget) took this photo from the sprayer south of Kent at the Haggerty Place. After a less than stellar April for spraying, today was a 1000 acre day." A quote from the Facebook page of Darren Padget. Printed with permission.

Wheat League Stands Ready: 2019 Oregon Legislature

Submitted by Amanda Dalton, J.D. OWGL Lobbyist



Buckle up. It's going to be a bumpy ride.

While Oregon farmers fared relatively well during the 2018 short Legislative Session, your lobby team and coalition partners are bracing for what could be a difficult 2-year cycle. As the interim shapes up, workgroups are appointed, and

interim day hearings held, the policy table for 2019 is being set. The November General elections will have an impact on those discussions, but many are not expecting major changes in the current make-up of the House and Senate Chambers. We anticipate the 2019 Session to be headlined by major environmental, labor and tax policy proposals.

Major Farm Issues on the Horizon

Carbon & Environmental Policies

While a Cap & Trade style proposal did not advance out of the 2018 Legislature, serious commitments were made by Democratic leadership to pass something in 2019. At the time of press, a Joint Committee on Carbon Policy is expected, but not yet appointed. This committee will be meeting during the interim to continue to develop a proposal for consideration in 2019. Oregon Wheat Growers remain an active and strong voice in this discussion. We continue to raise concerns about the impact this policy will have on commodity businesses like wheat that depend on export markets.

Stiff competition from other wheat producing countries means wheat growers have no ability to pass higher costs to customers in both export (90%) and domestic (10%) markets. Businesses that are proposed to be regulated by cap-and-trade proposals are key suppliers of materials (fuel, power, equipment, etc.) and services (transportation, grain handling, etc.) to our farms. Their increased costs will result in our increased costs that can't be passed to our customers.

These and other concerns have not been addressed in the cap and trade proposals, despite our repeated appeals for consideration.

Grower's Tool Box

We fully expect aggressive attempts to bring new life to policy proposals that have not advanced in previous sessions. These issues include attempts to remove the preemption on local regulation of genetically modified crops, bans on the use of neonic products, new protection standards for workers using pesticides, increased notification and reporting requirements on the application of pesticides, bans on aerial application of pesticides and attacks on the Right to Farm & Forest.



Oregon-DEQ

The Department of Environmental Quality continues to press on a wide range of expanded regulations that will impact Oregon growers. Beyond the confines of the public legislative process, Oregon ag is seeing new rules and staffed project proposals from this agency. Among the issues we are currently monitoring before the DEQ:

- Cleaner Air Oregon
- Stormwater Permitting
- Pesticide General Permit
- Willamette Mercury TMDL
- Groundwater and Surface Water Guide
- Groundwater Program
- Irrigation & Drainage District Designations
- Water Rights
- Fees and Monitoring of Wells
- Pesticide Data Viewer

Major Employment Issues on the Horizon

As small business owners, Oregon's farmers and growers have a unique voice to share at the employment table. As price takers of perishable commodity products, they are truly one of the sectors hit hardest by costly new labor issues. So, what's on the horizon for labor issues?

OregonSaves

Employers across Oregon, regardless of how many employees you have, now have new enrollment and

administrative duties under the OregonSaves program. Originally passed during the 2015 Legislative Session, HB 2960 is a mandatory retirement program for all employers that do not offer an employer-sponsored retirement plan. Every employer with employees in the state of Oregon will be required to either register employees or certify that their business is exempt from the program. There is not an employer dollar match, however, you will find new payroll and administrative duties attached to this mandate. In 2018, we will see this mandated program extended to employers with 50-99 employees by May 15th and to employers with 20-49 employees by December 5th. Employers with 5-19 employees will be pulled into the program in 2019 and those with less than 5 employees in 2020.

Paid Family & Medical Leave

This policy remains a priority for labor and worker advocates. Their efforts were unsuccessful in the 2017 and 2018 Sessions, but in this interim Democrat leadership has formed a workgroup to negotiate a proposal for consideration in 2019. Only five states across the country have a statewide paid family leave program and the majority of those are 100% employee paid. Worker advocates are asking for 12-weeks of paid leave with a 50/50 cost split

between employees and employers. This would be another major new cost on Oregon employers. Many components need to be discussed before any proposal will move forward including: Which employers are covered, job protections, covered conditions, which family members are included, benefit length, portability, wage replacement, concurrence with FMLA, notice to employers, use of other leave, funding, administration, small business credits, and preemption.

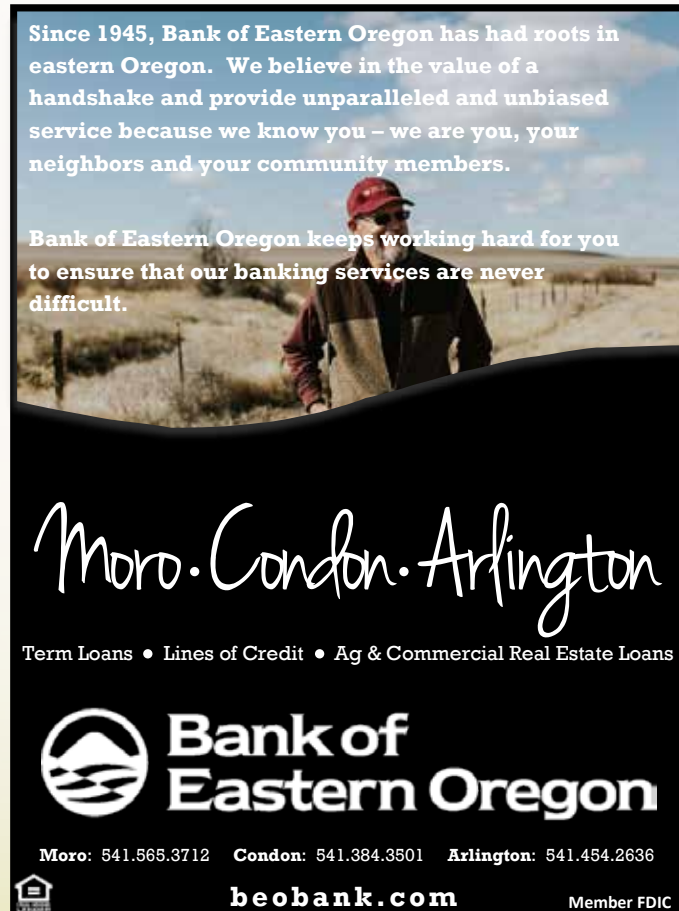
Revenue & Tax Discussions

A revenue package will be part of the 2019 Legislative discussion. Already, projections have estimated the State will need an additional \$1.2 billion in the 2019-21 biennium just to continue current programs at current levels. The Legislature has convened a bipartisan Joint Committee on Student Success that is traveling the State listening to school funding concerns. While the primary focus of this conversation is not tax increases, many anticipate that if the committee moves in the direction of 'increased funding for K-12', taxes will be a natural transition. Senate Republicans had been meeting in a bipartisan small group to discuss proposals, however they resigned after the Senate passed SB 1528, the small business disconnect from the federal tax reform. At press time we learned that Governor Brown was calling a special legislative session in May to consider some more favorable treatment for small businesses, but only for sole proprietorships.

2018 Elections

All 60 House members and 16 Senators are up for election in November 2018. Already we have seen an exodus of seasoned legislators leaving to take new jobs or simply retiring. Many of these members take with them a firm understanding of working across party aisles – having served in both the majority and minority. Today over 60% of the Democratic caucus members have never served in a Republican majority. Even fewer remember what the 30-30 split of 2011 House meant for bipartisan cooperation and true negotiation where Republicans and Democrats shared the Speakership and Committee gavels. Why does this all matter? Democrats are one vote away from holding 'super majority' control in both the House and Senate. If the Democrats are successful in picking up one or two seats, they will be able to raise taxes and pass new revenue packages without a single Republican vote – the one backstop that typically forces bipartisan negotiations.

It may be a bumpy ride, but Oregon agriculture has weathered challenging storms before. The Wheat League is stronger than ever, and our coalition partners stand ready to engage the challenges before us.




Since 1945, Bank of Eastern Oregon has had roots in eastern Oregon. We believe in the value of a handshake and provide unparalleled and unbiased service because we know you – we are you, your neighbors and your community members.


Bank of Eastern Oregon keeps working hard for you to ensure that our banking services are never difficult.

Moro • Condon • Arlington

Term Loans • Lines of Credit • Ag & Commercial Real Estate Loans

 **Bank of Eastern Oregon**

Moro: 541.565.3712 Condon: 541.384.3501 Arlington: 541.454.2636

 **beobank.com** Member FDIC

The Facts About Glyphosate, Part 2: Growing a Quality Wheat Crop with Glyphosate

This blog is the second in a five part series, titled “The Facts about Glyphosate,” sharing the facts about glyphosate and its use in the wheat industry.

The U.S. produces one of the best wheat crops in the world. It is the only country that can supply all six classes of wheat in large and reliable quantities at the highest quality, year in and year out. Each year, US wheat growers face different production challenges that may affect their financial stability. Because farming is their livelihood, growers are motivated to deliver a superior crop to market, which ultimately will become a wholesome product on the table of consumers.

Every year brings a new set of environmental conditions, and a new set of stresses to affect the wheat crop. Wheat growers rely upon tools and products designed to help the wheat plant alleviate these stresses. A grower will determine which tool is the most effective at reducing the stress to ensure a quality grain crop at harvest. For instance, in the southern Plains last fall, weather conditions were favorable to the growth of volunteer wheat prior to the new wheat crop planting. Volunteer wheat (a weed) can harbor a virus (wheat streak mosaic virus) and the curl mite that spreads it. Using glyphosate to prevent volunteer wheat from growing and infecting the new healthy crop is one management decision growers will make. If wheat streak mosaic virus is allowed to establish, unfortunately there is nothing that can be done to treat the infected plants and stop the spread

of the disease. This virus causes yield loss and very small, light grain of poor quality. There are many management decisions a grower makes in a production year, and these decisions will direct which tools and resources a farmer will employ in his or her operation.

In our first “Truth about Glyphosate” blog, we explained that more than 65 percent of wheat acres do not receive any glyphosate application at all. Most of the remaining 33 percent of acres receive an application of glyphosate to help manage weeds. These applications occur before planting, at planting or after planting but before wheat emergence.

Another labeled, authorized use of glyphosate that growers have at their disposal, is to apply to the crop prior to harvest. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which regulates all pesticides including herbicides like glyphosate, refers to this use as a “pre-harvest” treatment.

Pre-harvest applications occur on 3 percent or less of wheat acres in the U.S. These applications are made after the wheat plant has shut down, when wheat kernel development is complete and the crop has matured, just a little more than 7 days prior to harvest. Therefore, the wheat plant is not absorbing the glyphosate, but the green weeds in the fields will be killed by the glyphosate. For farmers in the northern plains, this can be an important tool, helping complete a harvest that otherwise would not

- continued on page 20



Let us help your business *GROW* with Sinclair Lubricants

HATTENHAUER ENERGY CO.

Lubricants Grease DEF Antifreeze

201 W. 1st Street The Dalles, OR 97058
541-296-3515

Miller Oil, Inc.
2158 NW O'Neil Hwy
Prineville, OR 97754
541-416-1078

Shortstop Krennie
1709 Gekeler Lane
LaGrande, OR 97850
541-910-7134

health risk to humans, when used according to label directions. For more than 40 years, the EPA has determined, through risk assessments and science-based evaluations, glyphosate is non-carcinogenic to humans. Glyphosate-based herbicides have had a long history of safe use in the U.S. and other countries.

Wheat growers rely on the federal government to make safety determinations and data, research and scientific evidence to make educated management decisions, and wheat growers also ensure they adhere to the regulations on use of pesticides set forth by the EPA. The decisions growers make day after day, year after year, on their farms are well-informed, carefully determined through adherence to US regulations and are ethically sound. The next time you consume bread, pasta, cereal or any other food made from wheat, think about the U.S. wheat farmer who proudly produces the safe, high-quality crop that found its way to your kitchen table.



Read the full 5 part Blog and the Recap under the 'Blog' tab at www.wheatfoundation.org/



occur in some years of wet weather and increased weed competition. These conditions threaten harvest and can cause delays in the short growing season in the north.

The trace pesticides left in treated products or crops are called "residues". A maximum residue level, or tolerance level determined by EPA, is the highest level of a pesticide residue legally tolerated in a food or feed when pesticides are applied under their label and considered by EPA to be safe. In the case of glyphosate, the label instructs farmers to apply a pre-harvest treatment when the wheat kernel is 30% moisture or less after grain development. The amount of glyphosate on the harvested wheat after a pre-harvest treatment has repeatedly tested well below the EPA approved maximum level.

If there was one part per billion of an herbicide residue in a one pound loaf of bread, a person weighing 150 pounds would **have to eat 36,000 loaves in a day to reach the acceptable daily intake**. Similarly, a person would need to drink **over 50,000 bottles of beer or eat 450,000 standard 1.5 oz servings of oatmeal per day**.

Regulatory bodies and scientific institutions have conducted science-based evaluations and concluded that typical glyphosate usage does not pose an unreasonable





OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY | 2018-2023

MISSION

Ensure healthy natural resources, environment, and economy for Oregonians now and in the future through inspection and certification, regulation, and promotion of agriculture and food.

VISION

The Oregon Department of Agriculture remains able to serve the changing needs of Oregon's diverse agricultural and food sectors to maintain and enhance a healthy natural resource base and strong economy in rural and urban communities across the state.



OBJECTIVE 1: ROLE MODEL ORGANIZATION

- Be adaptive
- Achieve operational objectives and goals
- Provide quality work products and services



OBJECTIVE 2: CULTURE OF COMPLIANCE & SUPPORT

- Provide education and outreach with a regulatory backstop
- Use progressive compliance strategies



OBJECTIVE 3: CULTURE OF COLLABORATION

- Engage interested parties
- Respect all view points
- Develop and grow partnerships



OBJECTIVE 4: FOSTER EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

- Integrate mission and values into daily work
- Support an encouraging work atmosphere
- Provide professional growth opportunities



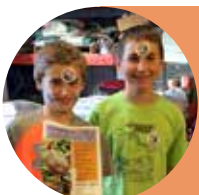
OBJECTIVE 5: EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE

- Embrace, support, and promote the diversity of Oregon agriculture
- Address customers' needs



OBJECTIVE 6: CONNECT & PROMOTE OREGON AGRICULTURE

- Raise awareness of opportunities within Oregon agriculture
- Connect Oregonians to Oregon agriculture



OBJECTIVE 7: INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION

- Be clear and concise
- Use effective tools
- Be responsive to customers, consumers, and public

CORE VALUES

Honesty, integrity, and fairness

Diversity, equity, and inclusion

Respect for people and property

Practical collaborative approaches to problem solving

Science-based approaches: technical and professional competence

Transparency

Quality customer service

Producer Packs a Lifetime of Experience into Book on Modern Farming - Jack DeWitt, Author

By Kevin Gaffney

Not many people become first-time authors in their 80s. Milton-Freewater farmer John (Jack) DeWitt has accomplished this feat.



“World Food Unlimited” is the title of his self-published book. DeWitt makes the case that modern farming methods and tools are not only sustainable, but necessary to feed a growing world population.

DeWitt started the book one winter, and three years later, it was finished. He recruited several experts to review it and ensure the book was factual and accurate.

So, what motivates a fellow like DeWitt to write a book?

“I’ve always had strong opinions about public relations and politics concerning agriculture,” noted DeWitt. “How people outside of the agriculture industry view farming is important to me.

“You could say that I grew tired of seeing people who don’t understand farming try to control how we

farm. There is a lot of misinformation out there. Certain people and organizations with agendas are trying to discredit and destroy our practices.

“The use of glyphosate (Roundup) often has been attacked. The quality and safety of our food products has been besmirched.”

DeWitt argues that most of the attacks and solutions offered by those outside the industry are not based on facts, and some claims are outright falsehoods.

“An intense hatred of Monsanto has fueled many attacks on Roundup in recent years,” DeWitt said. “But over several decades, all credible studies have shown the proper use of Roundup is completely safe. Ironically, the use of Roundup and genetically modified (GM) technology has reduced chemical usage by an average of 37 percent and increased crop yields by 22 percent. It has also made minimum-tillage and direct-seeding conservation practices much more common, preventing literally millions of tons of soil erosion.”

Genetically modified crops, widely criticized by some groups and individuals, are not something totally new, according to DeWitt.

“Mother Nature has been doing essentially the same thing for centuries, crossbreeding and adapting plants. To not use the tools at our disposal when GM food product testing has shown them to be safe and higher yielding would be foolish.”

Regardless of decades of testing and the declarations that GM technology is safe by prestigious organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences and the Food and Drug Administration, DeWitt still believes we are a couple more decades away from wide acceptance of GM crops.

“We are now developing methods of turning genes on and off in existing plant varieties, which does not involve the implantation of any foreign genetic materials into these plants,” said DeWitt. “Once people are educated about this and realize we can produce safe, healthy crops, there should be acceptance and viable markets.”

DeWitt’s book refutes assertions that organic farming can be a workable solution to feeding the world.

“Organic farming will not feed a growing world population,” said DeWitt. “There are several reasons,

including problems with weed control and nutrient supply. Manure is not an environmental free lunch, and the supply is limited. Organic production simply would not produce enough.”

Born and raised in Moscow, Idaho, on a small family farm, DeWitt always desired a career in farming.

Following high school graduation, DeWitt earned his bachelor’s degree in agronomy at the University of Idaho in 1958 and followed that with his master’s degree in agronomy in 1960 at Washington State University (WSU). DeWitt quickly landed a job with Lamb-Weston, based in Weston, Ore., after finishing up at WSU.

“Lamb-Weston was establishing a new potato french-fry operation in southern Idaho at the time,” explained DeWitt. “That created an opening for a new agronomist at Weston.”

Working as an agronomy fieldman, DeWitt spearheaded the introduction of irrigated green peas in the Grande Ronde Valley in Union County, Ore.

DeWitt’s results obviously made a positive impression, as just a few years later, one of the Lamb-Weston principals approached DeWitt with a new offer.

“W.L. ‘Shine’ Minnick had an established law career, and none of his children had an interest in farming,” remembered DeWitt. “He needed someone to farm their Walla Walla area land, and that person turned out to be me.”

Reprinted with permission from the March 2018 issue of WheatLife magazine, published by the Washington Association of Wheat Growers.



Heading West to the Far East

Blake Rowe, CEO, Oregon Wheat

After over 22 years as a veritable fixture at the Wheat Marketing Center (WMC), Dr. Gary Hou left his position as WMC's Technical Director in April, to take a position as the Chief Technology Officer with the SPC Group, a large South Korean chaebol (conglomerate), producing food and confectionery products. Gary's career at WMC started in 1995, when he was hired as the Asian Products Specialist. He was promoted to Technical Manager in 2000, and to Technical Director in 2005.



Dr. Gary Hou

Among his many roles during his time at WMC, he served as the Program Manager of the Asian Products Collaborative from 1996 to 2008 and the End Products Collaborative from 2009 to present. As the project names suggest, these efforts worked with teams from many Asian countries to develop and improve a variety of noodle, steamed bread and pan bread products. With the information gained from these efforts, Gary edited a book *Asian Noodles: Science, Technology, and Processing*, the only comprehensive English language book on Asian noodles, which was published in 2010.

Technical training, research and education have always been the hallmarks of the WMC program and Gary was a leader of many of their courses and efforts.

A partial list of technical short courses would include Asian Noodles, Flat Bread and Flour Tortillas, Cookie and Cracker Baking, Whole Grain Baking, Artisan Bread Baking, Steamed Breads, Frozen Doughs, Whole Grain Products, Science of Commercial Bread Baking, Science of Flour, Science of Mixing, and several custom designed courses for specific countries and markets. He helped provide educational workshops and tours to thousands of growers and students and had a major role in the preparation of the annual U.S. Wheat crop quality survey, which is so important to our export customers. He published more than 30 peer-reviewed research papers and book chapters and provided technical service and support to over 50 international food product companies and organizations from over 40 countries.

The move to the SPC Group is a great career opportunity for Gary. SPC Group operates about 4,000 bakery stores worldwide, including 67 stores in the US and more than 200 stores in China, with an annual revenue of \$6 billion. As their Chief Technology Officer for Grain Foods, he will oversee all technical and technology resources needed to continue SPC's global growth. After spending one year working at the SPC headquarters in Seoul, Gary will move to the SPC facilities in Shanghai, China. Gary summed up his mission as, "We will do whatever it takes to become a globally-competitive bakery brand."

WMC has some big shoes to fill and Managing Director Janice Cooper is moving forward with the search process. The position has been posted on the WMC and industry websites and conversations with stakeholders on priority programs, products, and markets are on-going. Janice indicated she was going to be patient to make sure she finds the "best fit and the best person." In the interim, WMC is covering all their planned courses and projects with existing staff and selected consulting instructors.

We have all benefited from Gary's work at WMC and we appreciate his long and dedicated service on our behalf. We wish him and his family great success as he starts the next chapter of his career with SPC group.



OSU Names New Extension Cereals Scientist

By Mitch Lies, EO Media Group

Oregon State University announced April 18 it has hired Ryan Graebner, who just a week earlier obtain his Ph.D. in crop science, as extension cereals scientist.

Graebner will work out of the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center in Pendleton. His predecessor, former OSU Extension Cereals Specialist Mike Flowers, worked on the Corvallis campus.



Ryan Graebner, Ph.D.

Science. “With Ryan and other new faculty that we have brought on, and others we will be announcing soon, we are looking for an even brighter future for our agricultural sector in Oregon.”

Noller said the department expects to fill three field crops extension positions in coming weeks, including two in the Willamette Valley and one in Malheur County.

Graebner holds a master’s degree in crop science specializing in barley breeding, and a Ph.D. with a specialty in potato breeding. He obtained both degrees from OSU.

Noller said Graebner’s background in plant breeding should serve him well in his new position. “We anticipate great synergy between Ryan and (OSU wheat breeder) Bob (Zemetra),” Noller said.

Mary Corp, director of the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center, said she is delighted with the change in location of the cereal variety program from Corvallis to Pendleton and in having Graebner take over the program’s leadership.

Flowers left OSU last September after a dozen years at the university to take a position with Limagrain Cereal Seeds.

“We are excited to have Ryan,” said Jay Noller, head of the Department of Crop and Soil



**Oregon State
University**

“I think he has the skills and training to do a great job, and I know he is committed to the region and to the growers,” Corp said.

Corp said OSU consulted wheat growers before deciding to move the position to Pendleton. “We talked to the wheat growers about if it made more sense to move the program to where we grow the most wheat in the state, and they were very supportive of the idea,” she said. “I think it is going to be a great fit.”

With the help of faculty research assistants, Graebner will conduct trials in wheat growing regions throughout the state, Noller said, including in the Willamette Valley, where he will work closely with Zemetra and plant pathologist Chris Mundt, both of whom are stationed on campus.

OSU Extension field crops agent Nicole Anderson, who recently moved her office from McMinnville to the North Willamette Research and Extension Center in Aurora, also will do some wheat research, Noller said.

Noller noted that OSU has changed the statewide cereals extension position from tenure track, as it was under Flowers, to professor of practice, a change that relaxes some of the position’s academic publishing requirements in exchange for more outreach and applied research.

Flowers’ position also included some teaching responsibilities, which Graebner will not have.

Graebner, who was stationed in Hermiston while working on his Ph.D., said he is excited over his new position.

“I like the crop, I like the place and I like the growers,” Graebner said. “I am excited to be working with Oregon wheat.”



White Wheat Berry Bars

Servings: 16 (2 ¼ x 3 ¼" bars)

If you want to see something travel fast, just watch a good recipe get passed around at a potluck. Our featured recipe for White Wheat Berry Bars in this issue was prepared by Nancy Jepsen of Heppner last year at the Morrow County Fall dinner. She received it from Donna Bates of Condon, from her L&B Kitchen Cookbook, Waitsburg, WA. The recipe was originally titled 'Chewy Wheat Bars'.

Nancy found the recipe when looking for a treat to use as favors for her daughter's wedding. She tweaked the recipe a little, grinding her own soft white wheat for some of the flour, and adding a little almond flavoring, which is optional.

Bottom Layer:

1/2 c. butter
1/2 c. powdered sugar
1 1/4 c. home ground white wheat flour or all- purpose flour

Middle Layer:

3 eggs
3/4 c. brown sugar
*3/4 c. cooked white wheat berries, finely chopped in blender 1-2 minutes
1/2 c. shredded coconut
3 T. flour
3/4 tsp. baking powder
3/4 tsp. salt
3/4 tsp. vanilla or almond extract

Frosting:

1 1/2 c. powdered sugar
2 tbsp. melted butter
1 tsp. vanilla or almond extract
2 tbsp. milk or cream

*Cooking Wheat Berries:

Take 2 cups of wheat berries, rinse with water. Place in crockpot and cover with 8 cups of water. Cook on low overnight or for 8- 9 hrs. Drain and rinse. Makes 6 cups. (Use the extra wheat berries in a soup or wheat berry salad!)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F
2. Cream butter and sugar in a medium sized mixing bowl.
3. Blend in flour and press mixture into the bottom of a 9 x 13" pan which has been either lightly greased, or lined with parchment paper.
4. Bake about 12 minutes until set, but not browned.
5. Mix together eggs, brown sugar, wheat berries, coconut, 3 T. of flour baking powder, salt, and flavoring.
6. Spread this mixture over the baked bottom layer and bake for another 18-20 minutes – or until a light golden brown.
7. Cool bars, blend frosting ingredients until smooth, and spread over top.
8. Cool and cut into bars.
9. Store extra bars in an airtight container.

(Note: these do not freeze well long term – they get chewier with time!)

Grinding Wheat Berries:

If you don't have a wheat grinder, or someone to grind your wheat for you, you can grind small amounts in your blender.



Bill and Nancy Jepsen with individually wrapped White Wheat Berry Bars given as favors for their daughter Rebecca's wedding last fall.

**THIS IS
YOUR
GRAIN.**



Protected with Diacon®-D IGR



**THIS IS
YOUR
GRAIN
ON BUGS.**

*Unprotected wheat after 150 days of insect infestation**

Keep Wheat and Barley Neat with Diacon®-D IGR

Is there anyone out there who still isn't clear about what insects do to your grains? From causing discount penalties to rendering grains altogether inedible, infestations make a verifiable economic impact. Diacon®-D IGR is a ready-to-use solution for protecting wheat, barley and other grains in a variety of storage sites. This dry formulation is an insect growth regulator that stops larval development that is ideal for water challenged situations.

**Make sure your grains stay clean with Diacon®-D IGR.
Call 800.248.7763 or visit BugFreeGrains.com to learn more.**



*In laboratory setting

Always read and follow label directions. Diacon and Diacon with design are trademarks of Wellmark International. Central Life Sciences with design is a registered trademark of Central Garden & Pet Company. ©2017 Wellmark International.





Miller
Since 1899

NEW NITRO 6500 SERIES

The highest standard for power to the ground performance.

REVOLUTIONARY PROPULSION SYSTEM

The all-new Miller NITRO 6500 features an innovative electronically controlled twin hydrostatic Sauer Danfoss pump system with electronically controlled variable displacement piston drive motors and Farifield Torque-Hub® planetary final drives.

The new propulsion system is seamlessly integrated to provide optimum drive performance.

Your Miller NITRO Dealer in the West
Please call 877-253-WEST (9378) or
Greg at 541-786-1000

- GREATER TORQUE AT ALL SPEEDS
- FULL TIME TRACTION CONTROL
- ELECTRONIC CRUISE CONTROL
- PROGRAMMABLE SPEED RANGES
- INTEGRATED SPEED LIMITING
- ANTI-STALL FEATURE

POWER WHEN YOU NEED IT

Powered by a proven Cummins® QSL 8.9L turbo diesel with 380 (400 peak) horse power



10200 Wallowa Lake Highway
La Grande, OR 97850
541-963-9378

84083 Alpine Ln
Joseph, OR 97846
541-432-9378

378 Briar Place
Belgrade, MT 59714
406-388-2335

206 W. Main St
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-3022