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TO: Oregon Wheat Growers and Industry Reps.

RE: Green Bridge Reminder

FROM: Christina Hagerty

With snow still lingering on the ground in eastern Oregon, a compressed field season lies ahead. Don't let the "Green Bridge" limit your spring crop yield potential.

While some pests and diseases can persist in seed, stubble, or soil, others require green plant material to survive, this is known as the "Green Bridge".

The green bridge most commonly occurs in our production system when weeds and volunteers are not given adequate dry-down time after an herbicide application, and thus, transfer pests and diseases to young seedlings. Outright kill of weeds and volunteers before seeding spring crops is the only way to avoid the transfer of pests and diseases onto young spring seedlings. Controlling the green bridge on your farm is of great benefit to your neighbors as some diseases, such as rusts, can easily spread to adjacent parcels.

Outright kill of weeds and volunteers before spring seeding can take two to three weeks. With our compressed field season ahead, please keep the green bridge in mind and decide what is practical for your farm.

As always, please call or email with questions or concerns.

Best,

Christina