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OREGON WHEAT

An Official Publication of the Oregon Wheat Industry

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MY TWO CENTS WORTH



For most of us, the 2024 harvest is in the rearview mirror. I hope it has been a bountiful one for you all, with good yields and quality wheat. With the current market price of wheat, we need to have a little extra in the bin this year. Our harvest was successful, but I worry that it's not enough to make up for the price that we're currently seeing. As for marketing wheat, I tell my neighbors to do the opposite of what I do, and they'll probably be better off.

While our harvest was successful and injury free, we did have a few small pieces of iron get bent this season. It seems that no matter how hard we try to be focused on safety and caution, when there are a lot of people, heavy machinery and trucks running, you're susceptible to having a mishap somewhere. Every year I am amazed at the unwillingness of some people on the roads to slow down and leave space for large farm machinery. Getting caught behind slow-moving farm equipment for two miles is the equivalent of waiting for two stoplights in the city. Most who will read this already know how important it is to use caution around farm equipment, but we need to make sure those not involved in agriculture also recognize that. Safety on the farm is so important; most often the people that are helping us are family members or employees that we think of as family. As you go into the fall and winter months, take some time to review practices and set a good example of what safety should look like. An employee will remember watching how you complete a task long after they have forgotten how you told them to do it.

With the price of wheat currently below the break-even level for production, maintaining or improving margins really counts. In August, I was able to attend the Lower Snake River Educational Tour along with staff of members of the Senate and Congress. We spent most of the day touring the Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River with the Army Corps of Engineers and talked about the importance of being able to move our wheat to markets around the world through Portland/Vancouver on the Columbia-Snake River system. Large investments have been made to maintain the navigation ability of the river and improve fish passage. As the removal of the four Snake River dams is being discussed, it is important to explain how additional costs for freight



Oregon Wheat Growers League President Wade Bingaman and U.S. Wheat Associates Chairman Clark Hamilton tour Lower Granite Dam.

are going to be a burden on the farmer. We are price takers and have no means to pass the additional freight cost along to buyers of our wheat. The competitive disadvantage that it creates for farmers in the Pacific Northwest is significant, and buyers of U.S. wheat count on the quality of our product and reliable shipping to deliver it when needed. The amount of cargo that a barge can haul cannot be replaced by trains or trucks; we simply don't have the infrastructure or workforce to be able to haul the amount of products that are carried on the river system.

Further, the demand for electricity is steadily increasing and we can't afford to lose the most reliable and cost-effective means of producing it. Removing the dams will make our energy grid less reliable, increase energy costs, raise emission levels, dry up irrigation water and jeopardize our ability to get grain to market. If you want clean, efficient shipping and electricity, and a stable food system, you should be a proponent of the dams on the Snake and Columbia rivers and what they provide to the Pacific Northwest.

The annual Tri-State Grain Convention in Coeur d'Alene is just around the corner, and I hope you can

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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attend. In addition to hearing about the current activities of both the Oregon Wheat Growers League and Commission, there will be speakers discussing the state of agriculture and ways to better your business. The breakout sessions are always educational, and I've never left the convention thinking that it wasn't time well spent. As with any meetings that I make time for, I look to bring home at least one tidbit that makes my

business better or benefits my life in some way. This annual meeting is always worth the drive, and I hope to see you there.



EPA Finalizes Herbicide Strategy

Amanda Spoo, ajae communications

In August, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its final Herbicide Strategy, which intends to protect more than 900 federally listed endangered and threatened species from the potential impacts of herbicides. The EPA will use the strategy to identify measures to reduce the amount of herbicide exposure to these species when registering new herbicides and reevaluating registered herbicides.

Historically, the EPA has struggled to remain in compliance on a pesticide-by-pesticide, species-by-species basis with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). After years of time-consuming, costly lawsuits, the EPA agreed to a settlement with the Center for Biological Diversity and the Pesticide Action Network North America. As part of the mega-lawsuit settlement and the ESA work plan, the EPA committed to developing individual strategies for herbicides, rodenticides, insecticides, and fungicides, of which the latter three are still under development.

“Finalizing our first major strategy for endangered species is a historic step in EPA meeting its Endangered Species Act obligations,” said Deputy Assistant Administrator for Pesticide Programs for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Jake Li in a press release.

The Oregon Wheat Growers League expressed concerns about the initial draft Herbicide Strategy regarding the feasibility of implementation, cost of compliance, and limited mitigation measures. “We did see improvements to the final Herbicide Strategy over the draft, but this is a complex framework that will still be tough and potentially costly for growers to navigate,” said Oregon Wheat Growers League CEO Amanda Hoey. “We are committed to helping growers find as much clarity as possible, but we understand that there are a lot of questions yet to be answered.”

Summing Up the Strategy

One ally that Oregon wheat growers can count on is Dr. Dani Lightle, who recently joined Oregonians for Food and Shelter (OFS) as the Policy and Stewardship Director. Previously, Dr. Lightle was at Oregon State University (OSU) as the Oregon Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Network Coordinator for the Western IPM Center.

“Although it was recently finalized, it is important to note that the final Herbicide Strategy (and those to come) is not a regulatory action that imposes new requirements. It is a framework for how the EPA will implement regulatory



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actions, including the pesticide registration and review process and assessing endangered species risk moving forward,” said Dr. Lightle. “There will still be a process for proposed label changes for any active ingredient on a product-by-product basis. As products are registered or re-registered, each label will reflect the required mitigations or direct applicators to EPA’s Bulletins Live Two system for mitigation requirements.”

Dr. Lightle agrees that she sees some positive changes made since the release of the July 2023 draft. The final strategy reduces the level of mitigation needed for applicators who have already implemented measures identified in the strategy to reduce runoff, erosion, and drift. Growers can also receive credit for things like good record keeping, working with conservation programs or certified crop consultants on implementing mitigations, and more.

This increases flexibility for growers, said Dr. Lightle, who explained that the door was left open to add additional mitigation options in the future.

“There were also changes that will alleviate some pressure on growers based on geography,” said Dr. Lightle. “There is a whole category of relief points based on areas more and less prone to run-off. Many areas within Oregon will receive at least some of these relief points, meaning those growers will need fewer runoff points and less mitigations overall.”

Still, there are a lot of concerns about the strategy’s complexity, potential economic impact on growers, and feasibility.

“This is where a lot of my concerns are right now. It’s a balance of trying to provide flexibility to producers, but the more flexibility, the more complex everything gets,” said Dr. Lightle. “I think compliance will be easier than expected for most growers, but first, we must take this significant, new system and make it digestible and accessible, and currently, the way that the EPA is proposing that growers figure this all out is very complicated.”


A Focus on Resources

The EPA has indicated it will produce educational materials and tools, including developing a mitigation menu website that the agency will release this fall and a calculator to help determine what further mitigation measures, if any, they may need.

Given the complexity and variability of the strategy’s framework geographically, Dr. Lightle is more focused on what resources will be developed at the state level. “We are waiting for additional guidance from the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) on how they will enforce new labeling requirements,” said Dr. Lightle. “We hope to work closely with ODA on funding to develop further tools to help growers. We are ready to help create those resources.”

In the meantime, Dr. Lightle encourages growers to participate in a Bulletins Live Two training to learn how to navigate the system from the label, as there are already products on the market that require extra steps for growers to be in compliance. She said that all growers and applicators should take advantage of these resources and support, including those provided by ODA.

“ODA is taking a compliance assistance approach, recognizing that this is a huge change in how growers plan and potentially manage their sites,” said Dr. Lightle. “It is also vital that growers make sure that their local Extension faculty know this is a priority so they can take the steps to be another resource.”

Dr. Lightle is one of the featured breakout session speakers at the upcoming 2024 Tri-State Grain Convention and says by then, we will have a further understanding of the strategy, what implementation looks like, and the status of additional resources. 

What Active Ingredients May Have Bulletins Live Two Language?*

1,3-D (Telone)
Bromoxynil
Carbaryl
Chlorpyrifos
Cyantraniliprole
Diazinon
Inpyrfluxam
Malathion
Methoxyfenozide
Methomyl
Metolachlor / S-Metolachlor
Prometryn
Pyraclostrobin
Sulfoxaflor

**List current as of June 2024.
Additional active ingredients will be added over time.*

New product purchased of these AIs may have BLT language. Check the Section 3 label. If Endangered Species requirements are not on the Section 3 label on the product, you are not required to check BLT.

More information at:



Deregulation versus Commercialization: A Distinction Worth Noting

Amanda Hoey, Oregon Wheat CEO



The Pacific Northwest is one of the areas of the world most in-tune to the discussions on wheat breeding technologies and the implications of those technologies. As a state with more than 90% of its wheat going to export markets, and several of our most significant markets being highly sensitive to changes in those technologies, we have a keen understanding of the challenges with market adoption. Now, with a recent

announcement from USDA, we also are ensuring education around regulatory processes and what different levels of approvals mean in relation to wheat.

In August, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced that they had de-regulated the Genetically Modified (GM) drought-tolerant HB4® wheat that incorporates drought tolerance transferred through a sunflower gene. It was developed by the Argentine company, Bioceres. USDA APHIS had already previously approved the import of HB4® grain for food and feed use in 2022.

The recent USDA APHIS announcement is essentially a statement that USDA assessed risks and determined that the modified plants do not pose an increased plant pest risk, relative to non-modified plants. The announcement was quickly followed by a statement from the Pacific Northwest wheat commission executives (Britany Hurst, Idaho Grain Commission; Casey Chumrau, Washington Wheat Commission and I) that reads:

“The PNW wheat industry supports and encourages new technologies that increase producer profitability and will help feed the growing world population. At the same time, we remain committed to providing our customers with the quality and reliability they have come to expect from PNW wheat.

It is important to understand that the APHIS approval process is different than commercialization. This announcement provides a pathway to future commercialization of the HB4® trait in wheat in the United States, however the scientific process is lengthy, and it is unlikely that the trait will be commercially grown or available for at least three to five years. We can still confidently say that no genetically modified



The PNW wheat industry has always been a global leader in wheat quality by focusing on the high standards for end-use characteristics driven by our export customers.

(GM) wheat is currently being cultivated commercially in the United States.

The PNW wheat industry has always been a global leader in wheat quality by focusing on the high standards for end-use characteristics driven by our export customers. PNW wheat breeding has been acutely focused on, and responsive to, the needs of our export markets. The region will continue to provide a reliable supply of high-quality grains and wheat foods that customers know and expect.”

One of the most important distinctions made in the statement was the differentiation from commercialization. Commercialization is a separate step, and the biotech trait is not fully into any into U.S. wheat varieties.

How Does the Regulatory Process Work?

Regulatory processes differ around the world and are country specific. They involve three components: food approval, feed approval and cultivation approval. A food approval indicates the regulating country has approved import of grain with a specific trait for human consumption. A feed approval indicates the country has approved the import of grain for animal feed use. A cultivation approval indicates the country has approved grain with the trait for commercial cultivation within the country.

For the United States, the federal government regulates biotech plants through three agencies.

USDA APHIS: Responsible for protecting agriculture from pests and diseases, with a regulatory oversight role provided through the Plant Protection Act. If a product is found to not pose a risk it can then be deregulated, at which point the product is no longer subject to oversight from USDA-APHIS.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Regulates the sale, distribution and use of pesticides. EPA's registration process is designed to protect health and the


environment, regardless of how the pesticide was created. Meaning, even if the plant itself produces the pesticide, EPA would have a regulatory role.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA): Responsible to assure the safety and proper labeling for plant-derived food and feed. The same safety standards apply to all products, whether imported or domestic, and whether derived from conventional or biotech techniques.

Serving our Markets

So what does it mean? Very little in the near term. However, the de-regulation announcement may accelerate activities leading to commercialization. As such, despite potential commercialization being a number of years into the future, we are focused on assuring that we can still fully serve our markets. The joint Wheat Industry Principles for Biotechnology Commercialization adopted by our national wheat organizations have several core elements that lay these out well, including:

- Minimal market disruption. We support the ability of our customers to make purchases based on their preferences for specific traits, classes, qualities, and characteristics.
- Major export market approvals must be secured. Major markets are those defined as having at least five percent of the normal export volume of U.S. wheat. Bioceres is currently seeking regulatory approval for food and feed import and/or cultivation in a number of markets around the world.
- Ability to test. An accurate, economical and timely trait detection test must be provided by the trait developer prior to commercialization.


As we look ahead, we will continue to focus on the steps that would be necessary to ensure customers can obtain the quality wheat they expect from Oregon. 



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Tyler Hansell

OWC Chair

OREGON WHEAT COMMISSION

One of the most important aspects of our industry is relationships.

I was fortunate enough to grow up on our family farm. I worked with my grandfather, my dad, my uncles, my siblings, and my first and second cousins. Having positive family relationships among our extended family is one of the most important reasons our farm continues to this day. These relationships were important from my first job of pulling rye grass, and through today, since my brothers are my business partners and we rent ground from several of my extended family members. We have to be able to talk to one another and express ideas. We have to take and follow instructions. And we have to work for a mutually beneficial end-result. We have been fortunate that we have had a great relationship with all the family that we work with. Some days it requires us to work harder than other days to find patience and understanding, especially when we're tired.

Relationships are not just about family, though; no farmer is a lone wolf out in the field. We rely and work with many other people and companies. All of us should know and respect the people that we rely on. At our farm, Bryan is our ever-important petroleum manager, Tom is our local account manager at RDO, Sam and BJ are our seed and chemical suppliers, and our bankers are Elida and Chris. These are just a few of the hundreds of people that we rely on every day. The best part about most of these people that we rely



An annual visit from representatives for Nisshin and Rogers Foods included dinner at the home of Tyler and Sally Hansell, with representatives from the Oregon Wheat Growers League.

on is that they also rely on us and our relationships with them. Most of us likely have neighbors that we have lived next to and worked with for years, and hopefully we all have good relationships with them. I have seen how important it is to have a neighbor that shows up to help when they see smoke in the summer. I hope that all of those reading this are the type that shows up.

In the Oregon wheat industry, we have another level of relationships. With over 90% of our wheat exported, we need to have strong relationships all the way to our end users. For our farm, that means we work closely with our local elevator, grain marketer, wheat scientists, Oregon Wheat Growers League, Oregon Wheat Commission and our local wheat handlers. I assume that each Oregon wheat producer has similar relationships, though I don't think any of us are planting the exact same varieties as of 60 years ago. Innovations like advancements in wheat breeding demonstrates the importance of our agricultural scientists and the investments of your Wheat Commission dollars. Our League helps all of us with state and federal regulations. Our grain marketer helps with the selling, timing and type of sale




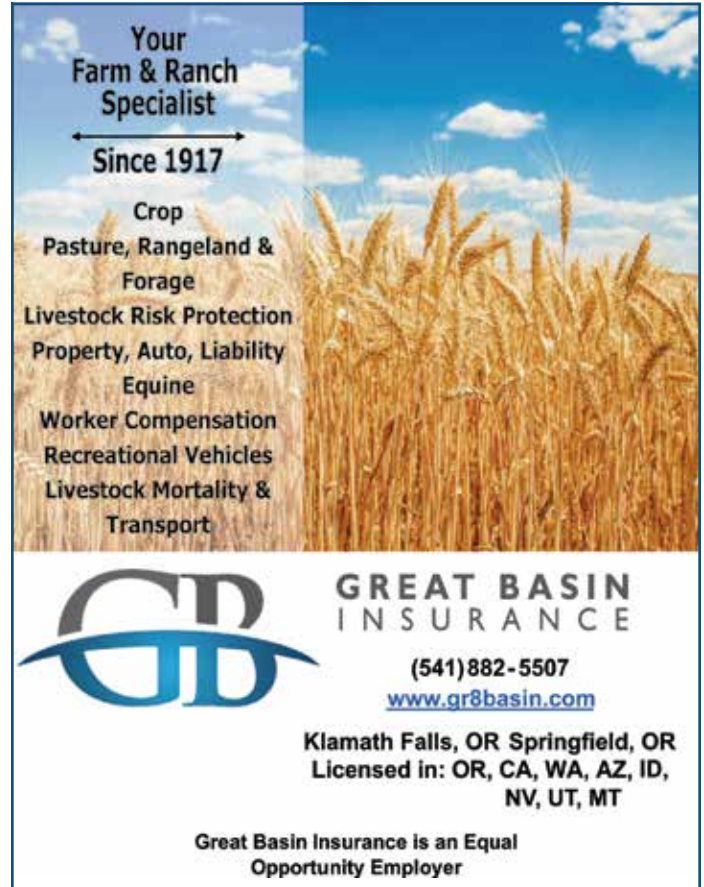
Developing relationships across many years: A Southeast Asia technical team enjoys lunch at the home of Tyler and Sally Hansell with Oregon Wheat Commissioners in 2022.

for our crop. Our local elevator operators and wheat handlers are the people that we see during our busiest time of the year: harvest. Harvest is stressful, which is another reason why relationships are important. We all need each other.

I have been honored to represent each of you and our wheat industry around the world. I am happy to report that relationships with our export markets are fantastic. Like us, they want to do business with people – not with faceless entities. Yes, people still matter; individual relationships with each other still matter. And from that, I have made some new friends. Many of them I may only encounter a few times in my life, but they are still valuable relationships to me, and I hope that we will help build trust and further connections across the continents.

I would be remiss not to share with you the relationships that I most value: my wife, Sally; my sons, Hunter and Tyler; my daughter, Anna; my brother, Kenzie, and his family; my brothers Luke and Ruben; my sister, Erin and her family; and our long-time employees, Jim, David and Bill, as well as their families. We love and cherish the good times we have together, and we rely on each other for help through the hard times. Our farm and my individual happiness would not be as successful or as bountiful without each and every one of these fine people. I thank them from the bottom of my heart.

Relationships matter. I hope these words remind you of the relationships that matter the most to you. 



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Selecting for Quality 2024: Collaborations, Cakes, and Calculations

Dr. Andrew Ross, Professor and Dr. Teepakorn Kongraksawech, Senior Research Associate

Collaborations and cakes: The Oregon State University (OSU) Cereal Quality lab has been collaborating with Drs. Andrew Mense and Jayne Bock at the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland on the problem of predicting Japanese sponge cake (JSC) performance. It is hard to understate how important a useful screening test for JSC performance would be. A screening test would provide greater leverage for breeders seeking genetic gain in JSC performance in soft white by enabling meaningful selections for JSC performance earlier in the process. This would allow us to discard lines with no hope of making acceptable JSC quality and reduce the risk of breeding lines with unacceptable JSC performance advancing to variety candidacy. Right now, making early selections is prevented by the need to make the cakes: a long winded, resource hungry, and intricate process.

We have made progress and have predictions of JSC volumes from measuring batter viscosity while cooking up 3.5 g of flour in a 50:50 solution of sucrose and water. Best results were achieved when we programmed our temperature-controlled viscometer to mimic the temperature rise when baking a full-sized cake. Within the sample set we tested, the associations were strongest when the viscosity data was paired with data from cakes made from a newer and

more commercially relevant mechanical-folding method for making cakes (the flour needs to be folded into the egg foam in a reproducible way). The viscosity study was published in the journal “Cereal Chemistry” earlier this year. The original hand-folded method, still used by some labs, showed useable, but weaker associations with the same viscosity data. Now begins the exacting work of validating these initial

Commission Funding FY 2024/2025:
\$80,000

Project summary:
Sales of Oregon wheat and other cereal grains rely on the grain having functional qualities that satisfy customer expectations. Accordingly, identifying genotypes with class-appropriate, superior, or specialized functionality is necessary when developing new cereal cultivars. The core activity of the Oregon State University Cereal Quality Lab is to provide functionality testing in support of OSU cereal variety development. We conduct laboratory assessments of grain characteristics, flour milling performance, multiple facets of flour functionality such as flour absorption capacity, dough and batter performance, and end-product traits. Most work is focused on early generation screening but also includes detailed interpretations of later-generation functionality data created by the Western Wheat and Pulse Quality Lab.

SKHRD	SKHRD Target	SKHRD Z diff	SKHRD >	SKHRD <	SKHRD SCORE	VAR
10.17	9.23	0.119			-0.1	APPLEBY
-0.44	9.23	-1.138			1.1	BOBTAIL
20.39	9.23	1.329			-1.3	DUET
8.964	9.23	-0.024			0.0	MADSEN
30.75	9.23	2.556			-2.6	MADSEN
3.384	9.23	-0.685			0.7	NIMBUS
-3.37	9.23	-1.485			1.5	OR2160243
9.33	9.23	0.019			0.0	OR2160243
2.938	9.23	-0.738			0.7	OR2160264
11.1	9.23	0.229			-0.2	OR2170559
12.34	9.23	0.376			-0.4	OR2170559
-1.19	9.23	-1.227			1.2	OR2180149
4.279	9.23	-0.579			0.6	OR2180149
-19.2	9.23	-3.360			3.4	OR2180168
-4.01	9.23	-1.561			1.6	OR2180350
-1.97	9.23	-1.319			1.3	OR2180377
-3.52	9.23	-1.503			1.5	OR2180377
-2.17	9.23	-1.343			1.3	OR2180377
21.69	9.23	1.483			-1.5	OR2190032
6.591	9.23	-0.305			0.3	OR2190068
1.546	9.23	-0.903			0.9	OR2190214
6.009	9.23	-0.374			0.4	OR2190463
-0.58	9.23	-1.154			1.2	OR2190490
4.942	9.23	-0.500			0.5	OR2190510
-5.51	9.23	-1.738			1.7	OR2190511
5.736	9.23	-0.406			0.4	OR2190597
6.365	9.23	-0.332			0.3	OR2190615
-1.79	9.23	-1.298			1.3	OR2190671
-12.9	9.23	-2.613			2.6	OR2190679
-4.06	9.23	-1.566			1.6	OR2200077
11.07	9.23	0.225			-0.2	OR2200129

Figure 1: A section of the proposed selection spreadsheet showing the trait values and scores for hardness index (SKHRD) for 31 SW samples harvested in Corvallis in 2023. The target value is the location average.

BKPYLD	BFY TARGET	BFY Z Diff	BFY >	BFY <	BFY Score	total score	score <0	Score >0	DECISION	DECISION	VAR	WPROT
43.6	47.75	-1.8			-1.8	-5.9				Discard	APPLEBY	8.1
50.5	47.75	1.19			1.2	3.9			Retain		BOBTAIL	7.9
47	47.75	-0.3			-0.3	-2.4				Discard	DUET	7.6
49.3	47.75	0.67			0.7	-0.2				Discard	MADSEN	7.4
45.1	47.75	-1.1			-1.1	-6.1				Discard	MADSEN	8.1
48.6	47.75	0.37			0.4	4.2			Retain		NIMBUS	7.3
52.3	47.75	1.96			2.0	5.5			Retain		OR2160243	7.2
45	47.75	-1.2			-1.2	-0.7				Discard	OR2160243	7.6
50.9	47.75	1.36			1.4	3.8			Retain		OR2160264	7.4
47	47.75	-0.3			-0.3	-6.6				Discard	OR2170559	7.9
44.9	47.75	-1.2			-1.2	-1.6				Discard	OR2170559	8.1
49.7	47.75	0.84			0.8	-2.4				Discard	OR2180149	6.9
48.7	47.75	0.41			0.4	1.6			Retain		OR2180149	7
52.9	47.75	2.22			2.2	7.4			Retain		OR2180168	7.3
51.4	47.75	1.58			1.6	6.3			Retain		OR2180350	7.1
51.7	47.75	1.7			1.7	1.3			Retain		OR2180377	7.4
52.3	47.75	1.96			2.0	6.0			Retain		OR2180377	7.3
53	47.75	2.27			2.3	2.7			Retain		OR2180377	7
45.7	47.75	-0.9			-0.9	-2.1				Discard	OR2190032	8
47.3	47.75	-0.2			-0.2	1.0			Retain		OR2190068	7.7
50.4	47.75	1.14			1.1	5.2			Retain		OR2190214	7.3
47.4	47.75	-0.2			-0.2	-1.1				Discard	OR2190463	7.6
51	47.75	1.4			1.4	2.4			Retain		OR2190490	6.9
49.3	47.75	0.67			0.7	3.3			Retain		OR2190510	7.6
50.9	47.75	1.36			1.4	3.6			Retain		OR2190511	7.3
48.2	47.75	0.19			0.2	1.8			Retain		OR2190597	7.7
50.1	47.75	1.01			1.0	2.8			Retain		OR2190615	8
48.8	47.75	0.45			0.5	2.9			Retain		OR2190671	7.1
51.1	47.75	1.45			1.4	5.7			Retain		OR2190679	6.9
51.9	47.75	1.79			1.8	5.0			Retain		OR2200077	7
45.8	47.75	-0.8			-0.8	-7.0				Discard	OR2200129	7.6

Figure 2: A section of the proposed selection spreadsheet showing the trait values and scores for break flour yield (BFY) and the total scores for 31 SW samples harvested in Corvallis in 2023. In the spreadsheet there are 8 other traits to the left (not shown) that contribute to the calculation of total score: these are test weight; hardness index; water, carbonate, sucrose, and lactic acid SRCs; sugar-snap cookie diameter; and in some cases, sponge cake volume. The target value for each trait except test weight is the location average. For test weight, the target is the hard cut-off between US Grade #2 or better at 58 lb/bu.

encouraging results across different sample sets to see how robust the method is.

Calculations: One of our jobs is to provide detailed interpretations of later-generation functionality data created by the USDA Western Wheat and Pulse Quality Lab. In doing this, we encounter the challenge of finding lines with the optimum combination of heritable functionality traits. The breeder has the more difficult job of then integrating both functionality and the agronomic traits. In our view, the important heritable functionality traits for SW are test weight, kernel hardness index, break flour yield (an aspect of milling performance), absorption of water or carbonate, sucrose, or lactic acid solutions by the flour (solvent retention capacity: SRC), and sugar-snap cookie diameter.


The traits vary substantially in their absolute values. E.g., in soft white wheat, hardness index may vary from say 45 to -5 (a 50 unit range), break flour yield from 40 to 55% (a 15 unit range), water absorption from 49 to 60% (an 11 unit range), cookie diameter from maybe 8.5 cm to about 10 cm (a 1.5 unit range), and JSC volume from 1120 to 1320 mL (a 200 unit range). The challenge is to systematically assign equal weightings to these traits based on the data and not on some random “feeling.” We are developing a robust scoring system that can guide selections, crucially, in the presence of incomplete data. More often than we would like, we do not have all the data, but we still need to make timely and appropriate decisions.

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Our strategy takes the measured value for each trait for each line and subtracts that value from a target value. The target can be the value for a check variety in a specific nursery, the nursery or location average value, or even the value from the soft white quality targets. But it is eminently flexible, the target value can be changed as needed and as appropriate. E.g. the target value for hardness index in Fig. 1 was the average hardness index value for this location of 9.23. This value is very low compared to the soft white targets (35) and is a function of the overall softness of OSU's soft white germplasm. We could make the target value 35 (from the soft white quality targets), but then we lose the ability to apply real selection pressure on this trait, consequently in this case we chose the location average as the target. Once the raw differences were calculated we then applied a commonly used statistical method to standardize the distributions of differences within each trait. After this all distributions of trait differences have an average of zero and the same width. This allows us to directly compare traits: a good cookie might have a value of +2 as would an equally good cake or equally soft kernel (in this case "good" is a lower hardness value so we multiply it by -1 so "good" difference scores are always positive and "bad" difference

scores are always negative). E.g., in Fig. 1 Madsen has a poor hardness score of -2.6 based on its raw hardness value of ~31 (what we would expect). In Fig. 2, OR2180377 (Gale) consistently has break flour yield scores around +2 contributing to its overall good quality. This approach has some commonality with the method the Western Wheat Pulse and Quality Lab uses to create the t-scores for the quality-based preferred variety lists.

Finally, we sum all the individual trait values to get a total score. Positive total scores suggest retention and negative values suggest discarding (Fig. 2). We also added a visual index of the trait and total differences so that we can quickly scan to see how positive or negative a line is, either in total, or for a specific trait (Figs. 1 and 2). So it is easy to deconstruct a surprise negative total score for say a known check variety and relate it to a specific out of spec trait (e.g., Appleby in Fig 2 had unexpectedly low break flour yield, leading to a negative total score). By standardizing the trait differences then we can also cope with incomplete data: a negative total score regardless of how many traits were used in the calculation means that line needs to be further tested or to be discarded. We will be trialing this spreadsheet approach with the breeder this season and if validated we expect that its implementation would streamline the process of selecting for quality. 

Regional Agricultural Promotion Program Will Benefit Growers and Customers

Amanda Spoo, ajae communications

Last October, Secretary Vilsack announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) would authorize \$1.2 billion from the Commodity Credit Corporation to establish the Regional Agricultural Promotion Program (RAPP) to help U.S. exporters expand their customer base beyond established markets. These established markets, including China, Mexico, and Canada, collectively account for nearly half of all current export sales. Vilsack stated that the program would focus on regions such as Africa, Latin America, and South and Southeast Asia, where consumer demand and purchasing power are growing.

In May, USDA allocated the first \$300 million in RAPP funding to 66 U.S. commodity organizations to implement hundreds of export market development projects. U.S. Wheat Associates (USW)—the export market development organization for the U.S. wheat industry—received \$13 million in RAPP funding to be used through 2029.

"We are pleased that U.S. wheat growers have another opportunity to expand export market access under this

program," said USW Vice President of Communications Steve Mercer. "These funds will directly benefit U.S. wheat growers and their overseas customers."

Funding

Before RAPP, USW benefitted from the Agricultural Trade Promotion (ATP) program spanning from 2019 to 2024 to ease the effects of trade retaliation against U.S. farmers and exporters. According to Mercer, USW demonstrated that the additional funding helped protect crucial wheat export sales in established markets and build a base for growth in new markets.

"Global wheat trade is increasingly competitive, and market development takes time and consistency," said Mercer. "These additional funding programs, like ATP and now RAPP, complement established programs like the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development and support our mission to develop, maintain, and expand international markets to enhance wheat's profitability for U.S. wheat producers and its value for their customers."

When applying for RAPP funding, USW prepared a lengthy application addressing specific strategies and tactics with funding requests for activities focused on expanding exports, addressing trade barriers, and showcasing U.S. agricultural products in new and diverse markets. USDA evaluated each activity to assess whether to approve or not approve.

USW’s RAPP application focused on three key strategies:

- Educate more millers and bakers about U.S. wheat quality and value.
- Reinforce the competitive value of U.S. wheat among eligible customers.
- Build a preference for U.S. wheat in emerging wheat food trends.

“The U.S. wheat industry faces significant challenges that RAPP will help USW address. As U.S. wheat production has declined, cheaper Russian, Canadian, and Australian exportable supplies have grown and are increasingly competitive with U.S. wheat,” said Mercer. “Most millers and bakers representing expansion markets do not have enough information about purchasing and using U.S. wheat and flour to benefit their operations. USW is currently staffed and resourced primarily to serve traditionally large volume customers.”

RAPP Activities

USW will spend the \$13 million in RAPP funding it received for several global activities for the next five years,



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Top 20 importers ranked by total 2023/24 sales	Total historic marketing year sales (June 1 to May 31)							Marketing year-to-date		change from last year
	1,000 metric tons							2024/25	2023/24	
White	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24			
Philippines	1,174	1,323	1,511	1,291	1,057	949	1,183	582	463	26%
Japan	829	889	701	644	620	640	605	289	227	27%
South Korea	806	645	727	1,135	558	599	571	670	213	214%
Indonesia	599	870	466	493	7	335	384	297	133	123%
China	307	8	131	1,061	296	870	323	0	0	-
Yemen	263	445	385	347	0	207	159	103	104	-1%
Thailand	236	241	271	305	210	289	154	100	52	93%
Taiwan	144	144	168	139	109	98	147	55	58	-5%
Chile	132	121	49	115	0	174	127	44	92	-52%
Vietnam	105	52	136	157	63	103	95	140	18	-
Singapore	67	67	46	61	32	42	40	22	18	21%
Malaysia	61	54	51	46	20	18	31	2	6	-68%
Nicaragua	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	-
Sri Lanka	69	115	149	110	0	0	20	20	20	1%
Canada	10	13	8	9	30	11	16	5	3	85%
Burma	11	7	29	25	2	10	13	0	10	-100%
Panama	0	0	0	4	0	6	11	66	10	-
Mexico	84	35	56	94	2	25	5	25	0	-
Hong Kong	6	5	5	3	4	4	3	0	1	-100%
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Total Unknown	175	37	36	0	13	3	0	36	20	80%
White Wheat Total Sales	5,321	5,454	5,342	6,607	3,376	4,568	3,906	2,490	1,449	72%
Top 20 as a % of Total	92%	92%	92%	91%	89%	96%	100%	97%	99%	

2024/25 U.S. white wheat commercial sales through August 22, 2024.

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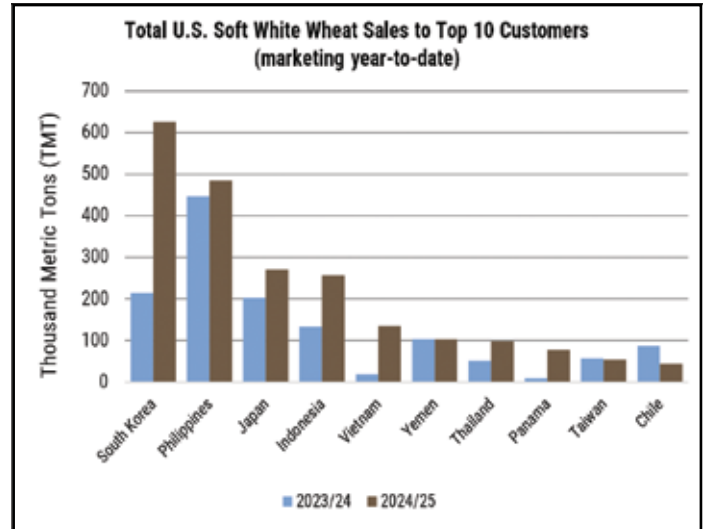
including conferences, trade teams, outreach materials, additional staff, short courses, studies, and more.

Here is a snapshot of some of those activities:

- Expand USW’s purchasing, risk management, wheat quality, and milling skills training to more millers in markets with growing wheat food demand, such as Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Kenya, Colombia, and Brazil.
- Add long-term technical staff resources in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
- Address competitive inroads and other constraints in primary and growing U.S. wheat markets, including Nigeria, South Africa, Brazil, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, and North Africa.
- Bring new buyers from eligible markets to the United States to observe the dependable wheat production and supply system and meet with farmers, grain inspectors, exporters, and more—a proven, effective strategy.
- Invest further in baking schools, milling and baking associations, and regional conferences to reinforce the value of U.S. wheat and its partnership with customers. This includes events like the 70th anniversary of USW’s Tokyo office in 2026, a symbol of the long-standing relationship with the Japanese milling industry and an office that Oregon Wheat was instrumental in establishing.
- Expand effective educational activities focused on solvent retention capacity analysis to help millers meet growing demand from Egyptian and Saudi Arabian specialty cake producers and South American biscuit/cracker producers. U.S. soft white and soft red winter wheat make ideal flour for growing snack and cake markets.
- Introduce new products from sophisticated North Asian baking industries that depend on high-quality U.S. wheat flour to several South Asian, African, and Middle Eastern markets.
- Engage in research relevant to gaining market acceptance of emerging technologies.
- Conduct several wheat quality studies as well as market research in RAPP-eligible countries currently not importing large volumes of U.S. wheat.
- Work with technicians in importing countries to understand their wheat quality and specific end-product needs, and communicate back to U.S. wheat breeders to help encourage the development of appropriate varieties.

The View from Oregon

Over the past few years, U.S. wheat farmers have faced



2024/25 data as of August 22, 2024

significant global competition and increased price sensitivity in vital markets. For Oregon growers, the export market development opportunities funded by RAPP should give white wheat a boost that it needs.


“Oregon is incredibly trade-dependent, and our growers are coming off of some difficult years and looking to regain vital market share,” said Oregon Wheat CEO Amanda Hoey. “RAPP and USW’s strategies will directly support growing markets essential to Oregon wheat producers. We look forward to actively participating in these activities, from representing our industry overseas to hosting U.S. wheat customers and more.”

There is renewed optimism and momentum to build on heading into the RAPP-funded era. According to USW Market Analyst Tyllor Ledford, customers worldwide have increased their purchases relative to last year, with a notable increase in four of the top five U.S. wheat importers to date. The total known outstanding U.S. sales for marketing year (MY) 2024/25 have been trending ahead of last year’s pace, and the MY 2024/25 U.S. white wheat commercial sales through August 22, 2024, were up 72% year-over-year.

Additional Funding

In August, the USDA announced it would make a second tranche of \$300 million available through RAPP to help grow export markets for U.S. farm and food products.

“Access to international markets supports U.S. farmers at home and food security throughout the world,” said Deputy Agriculture Secretary Xochitl Torres Small. “Given the importance of exports in supporting farm income and rural economic development, we’re delighted to make an additional \$300 million available this year.”

USW had until October 4 to apply for additional funding and anticipates hearing back on allocations by the end of the calendar year. 

Accelerating Farm Bill Action

The Oregon Wheat Growers League joined a multi-commodity national group of organizations calling for Congress to advance a meaningful farm bill in 2024. “Given the enormous challenges facing production agriculture – including a farm economy that has taken a downward spiral – it is imperative Congress acts before year’s end to strengthen farm policy for America’s farmers,” states the coalition.

Outlining the need for action, the groups communicated the challenges facing producers and the importance of the safety net. “Throughout the life of the current farm bill, producers across the country have experienced powerful headwinds, ranging from extreme weather to high input costs to uncertain global demand to supply chain disruptions. Farmers are struggling, and the decline in the farm economy is real.”

Those challenges have tested farm programs. “Since the 2018 Farm Bill was signed into law, we have realized considerable gaps in the farm safety net due to sharply changing conditions, including the trade war with China, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, COVID-19 and related supply chain challenges, rising foreign subsidies, tariffs, non-tariff trade barriers and other harmful practices. These conditions seriously tested the effectiveness of the 2018 Farm Bill, and it was only by the aggressive use of supplemental assistance that many farms survived. The outlook for farm country at this current point is even more daunting. USDA-projected market prices for the 2024 crop are well below costs of production, and current projections paint another bleak picture for 2025.”

In calling upon accelerated action, the durability of a farm bill reauthorization that would provide a strong safety net was emphasized, including the need for risk management




Helle Ruddenklau discusses innovations in Oregon agriculture supported through Farm Bill programs.

tools, voluntary and locally led incentive-based conservation programs, and enhanced international marketing and promotion programs. The letter expresses appreciation for the efforts of committee leaders to develop a Farm Bill that recognizes farmers’ contributions to provide food, feed, fuel, and fiber to consumers here at home and abroad.

In the interim, the League visited with



League President Wade Bingaman hosts a farm tour, discussing the importance of investment in Farm Bill programs that support wheat producers.

Oregon’s Senators and Representatives– through town halls and field visits during the August congressional recess. That activity was then followed-up in September when League Vice President Erin Hansell Heideman, NAWG Past President Brent Cheyne and CEO Amanda Hoey traveled to Washington DC as part of the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) Farm Bill fly-in to re-emphasize the need for action. It was part of a unified effort by farmers and lenders to get a bipartisan, long-term farm bill across the finish line before the end of the year that makes a meaningful investment in the farm safety net. In addition to NAWG, the National Corn Growers Association, American Soybean Association, National Cotton Council, U.S. Peanut Federation, Southwest Council of Agribusiness, National Sorghum Producers, USA Rice, Farm Credit Council, and the American Bankers Association participated to highlight the financial pressure building across U.S. agriculture. The groups were able to meet with roughly 100 offices and NAWG remains hopeful of passing a robust farm bill this year. 



The League joined leaders from other commodities and states for visits beyond the Oregon delegation, including this visit to the Office of Senator Mitch McConnell.

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Harvest Highlights

Harvest is a celebration of years of hard work. With timely rains, low pest and disease pressure, and beneficial growing conditions, Oregon had a bountiful wheat crop for 2024. In the August report, USDA bumped up production figure estimates. At 725,000 harvested acres and an average of 77 bushels per acre, USDA’s National Ag Statistics Service estimates the 2024 Oregon winter wheat production at a total of 55.825 million bushels (up 28% from last year).

Following on the heels of a difficult year for production, wheat quality also reflects well with test weights similar to

the five-year average, low dockage, and low moisture content. Protein across all classes showed lower than the five-year average. Generally, a lower protein soft white is desirable, but to a certain level and the consistency is critical. The significant carryover from the 2023 crop will provide blending capacity to support customer needs.


We appreciate all those who submitted photos throughout harvest as they are used in the monthly crop reports to customers. We invite you to share in reflection of this year’s crop! 



Photo by Kyle Bender



Photo by Andy Silcox



Photo by Joe Danielson



Photo by Chris Rauch



Photo by Erin Rencken



Photo by Zach Blaylock



Photo by Alan von Borstel



Photo by Jessie Fields



Photo by Rachel Archer

Morrow CIS Preserves No-Till Farming


Jason Flowers, League Program Director

A new Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) is being adopted by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in Morrow County that will help to preserve no-till farming in the county by fighting herbicide resistance through the utilization of new herbicide application technologies. This latest CIS will allow growers to access Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds to adopt the use of precision ag technologies to mitigate identified natural resource concerns.

The genesis of the new CIS is directly from grower discussions. Concerns were raised by growers at the Morrow County NRCS Local Workgroup meeting about the barriers to funding needed to make needed improvements to combat the growing herbicide resistance in weeds. They noted a trend of producers converting back to tillage practices due to increased herbicide-resistant weeds and the rising cost of controlling those weeds. In Morrow County there are approximately 25,000 acres of tillage fallow practices. Of that, roughly eighty percent (20,000 acres) was previously managed as no-till fallow. The potential for conversion due to a lack of tools for weed management raised concerns due to the increased risk of soil erosion when tillage is used.

The idea of the CIS is to get green-on-brown targeted spray technology, sectional boom control, individual nozzle control, and pulse width modulation used on more acres to increase the effectiveness of herbicide applications while reducing the amount of herbicides used. This reduction in the amount of herbicides applied would allow growers to utilize different crop protection products that may be too costly if broadcast sprayed. Ultimately, this helps farmers use herbicides with other modes of action, which can slow down herbicide resistance.

NRCS staff is working on finishing up details of the program and application process. Applications for the program's first round will be due later this fall.

The CIS was a team effort between Oregon State University Morrow County Extension, the Oregon Wheat Growers League, the local Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. I want to thank Larry Lutchter, Morrow County Extension Agent, for doing the heavy lifting on the draft. I hope this can be a template for other counties with similar challenges and serve as a pilot program towards further successful CIS's. 

Cereal Grain Pathology Scholar Endowment Selects Scholar

Amanda Spoo, ajae communications

Last spring, the Oregon Wheat Commission finalized the Cereal Grains Pathology Scholar Endowment with the Oregon State University (OSU) Foundation. Leading this new opportunity for research and grower outreach is the newly named Oregon Wheat Cereal Grain Pathology Faculty Scholar—Dr. Christina Hagerty, OSU Dryland Cereal Pathologist.

Looking at long-term research needs and knowing that each year difficult decisions are made on where to allocate research dollars, the Commission set aside \$250,000



Dr. Christina Hagerty,
Associate Professor of
Plant Pathology and
Oregon Wheat Cereal Grain
Pathology Faculty Scholar.

last year to establish an endowment fund for the future of plant pathology at OSU—where it will have the most immediate and direct impact for growers.

“As we face several perennial issues, compounded by new challenges, the fund helps secure our pathway to address those issues, not only in the near term but decades ahead,” said Oregon Wheat CEO Amanda Hoey. “It retains the focus on on-the-ground research and responsiveness to the needs of Oregon wheat growers.”

“We are very excited to work with Dr. Hagerty as the new Oregon Wheat Cereal Grain Pathology Faculty Scholar,” said Hoey. “She is already known as a strong advocate for grower-driven and applied research, and her hands-on approach and background will strengthen this program, for the very reason we invested in it, to begin with—giving researchers the flexibility to meet grower needs.”

Getting to Know Dr. Hagerty

Dr. Hagerty is an associate professor of plant pathology at OSU’s Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center based in Pendleton, Ore. She earned a bachelor’s in environmental science from Santa Clara University, a master’s in plant breeding from OSU, and a PhD in plant pathology from OSU. Most importantly, she will tell you that she is a fifth-generation Oregonian who grew up on a family farm in the Willamette Valley.

“I think that gives me a unique angle as a researcher. Not everyone understands the big picture for growers regarding the on-the-ground decision-making process and profit volatility in a family farm. I deeply understand these issues, having grown up watching my mother transform our family farm back into a profitable operation through grit, foresight, and the education she gained at Oregon State University,” said Dr. Hagerty. “I try to understand how our research program can support Oregon wheat growers, and I want them to know they are working with a farm girl, the daughter of a farmer. I hope that my academic training is just a bonus.”

Dr. Hagerty looks forward to working more directly with growers, explaining that this grassroots approach removes the layers between her and the growers, which is often a challenge with large, competitive federal grants.

“As plant pathologists, our bread and butter projects often take years. But there are several factors—climate variability, market volatility, environment-driven challenges, and more—that create timely work and research that can’t wait,” said Dr. Hagerty. “Sometimes I’ll get six grower calls in a day about an issue, and they need our attention on it now, whether that is research or grower education. This endowment makes space for what I call “stop, drop, and roll research,” allowing us that flexibility to be a consistent resource and letting the growers drive our mission based on their needs. So now, when I get those calls, and the growers say, ‘this is what we are seeing, and we’d like some data to inform our decisions or some further education on it,’—I can do it.”

Dr. Hagerty says she feels prepared to take on this role because she is fortunate to have many mentors who have taught her what a successful research program looks like. This is a legacy, she says, that she now has the opportunity to continue.

“The most important thing to me is that our research gives back to the farmers and stakeholders, so I see this opportunity as a continuation,” said Dr. Hagerty. “This appointment is extremely humbling. There is so much I want to accomplish in my career, and to date, this is the highest honor because it is also backing the team I’ve built, my lab, and everyone I collaborate with, many of whom also have a special connection to the wheat industry. And that is special to me. We are so excited to get started.”

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The Future of the Endowment

Looking ahead, to be successful, matching funds are necessary as the Commission cannot resource the endowment alone. Dean Staci Simonich and the OSU College of Ag Science stepped up to guarantee a \$50,000 match to be provided as soon as the fund was established, which would also enhance the base level of the endowment, allowing it to continue to grow over time.


“With the base funding from the Oregon Wheat Commission, and matched by OSU, we are seeking to expand and pursue additional contributions to support the full position endowment,” said Hoey. “As growers or stakeholders that have benefitted from research in the past make decisions regarding long-term planning, we ask that they consider being a part of this legacy through planned giving.”

The Oregon Wheat Commission partnered with the OSU Foundation to manage the endowment fund, creating opportunities for direct giving and support to those needing planned giving guidance.

Learn more about the Endowment and preparing for planned giving at <https://www.fororegonstate.org> or contact Alexis Eichler at alexis.eichler@osufoundation.org. 

Bioceres Affirms Commitment to U.S. Biotechnology Commercialization Principles

In its public statement following USDA's deregulation of the HB4® drought-tolerance trait from Bioceres Crop Science, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) noted that it would continue monitoring how the company's commercialization plans align with the "Wheat Industry Principles for Biotechnology Commercialization." USW was pleased to see the publicly traded company acknowledge that commitment in September.

Bioceres CEO Federico Trucco said the commercialization process will follow "the guidance that was provided by the wheat industry associations, the U.S. Wheat Associates, and the National Association of Wheat Growers, that requires approvals in certain key geographies where wheat exports from the U.S. are relevant, as well as an effective way to identify HB4 presence in wheat shipments." 

Market Development Activities Bring Customers

A busy season of hosting trade and technical teams continued throughout the summer with multiple delegations of U.S. wheat customers. These visits are vital to market development and nurturing the crucial relationships growers have built with customers over the years. They include a focus on understanding the current wheat crop, discussing long term investments made by the Pacific Northwest wheat states into quality and understanding how U.S. Wheat Associates can support customers in capturing greater value from US grown wheat. Most importantly, they make connections directly with Oregon wheat producers to help understand the commitment to stewardship and get customers out into the field.

Multi-State Approach: A unique opportunity this year involved hosting a Korean Crop Survey team on both sides of the state: from Nyssa to Cornelius. Beginning with a farm tour in Malheur County, Oregon Wheat Growers League County President Kevin Corn and Oregon Wheat Commissioner Dana Tuckness coordinated a tour of fields actively in process of harvesting wheat, followed by dinner with growers. It was made possible through Idaho Wheat Commission's collaborative approach to bringing the team across state lines. Next, the team traveled to Portland and the Willamette Valley for a tour hosted by Thomas Bernards, understanding more about the on- and off-farm transportation logistics.

The team included purchasing and sales managers from four Korean milling companies with a combined annual U.S. wheat import volume of approximately 500,000 tons (about 18 million bushels annually). It is expected to increase further in 2024 due to U.S. wheat's competitive pricing and ongoing U.S. Wheat Associates promotional activities.


Crop Surveys: Representatives from Nisshin, Japan's largest flour milling company, visited for their annual crop survey to produce a detailed analysis from their visits to farms and elevator operators. The team toured HT Rea Farms for an up-close look at the crop, hosted by Oregon Wheat Growers League Umatilla County President Ryan Rea,

followed by a dinner hosted by Commissioner Tyler Hansell. Throughout the visit, they met and toured facilities with NW Grain Growers, Mid-Columbia Producers, United Grain, and Morrow County Grain Growers.

Exploring Wheat Value: Millers from Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines attended the U.S. Wheat Associates Contracting for Wheat Value seminar, with Oregon Wheat Commissioner David Brewer hosting them for a tour of Emerson Dell Farms. It was the second seminar team we hosted this year and an excellent opportunity to illustrate the benefits of the U.S. grain production and marketing system, helping us regain market share in future years.

Focus on Primary Markets: The 2024 Philippines Trade Team, including executive-level leaders with significant influence on future wheat purchases, toured elevators and wheat farms in August, including a tour at Padgett Ranches. Over the last decade, the Philippines has emerged as an important U.S. wheat export market and has recently held the top market share for the soft white wheat class.

Supporting Rising Executives: Working across levels of management helps us grow relationships over time. The Commission met with a Japanese mid-level manager team travelling to Portland, following stops in Washington and Montana. Oregon Wheat Commissioner Dana Tuckness and CEO Amanda Hoey attended activities coordinated by U.S. Wheat Associates that were designed to familiarize the team with the production and quality of various wheat classes, and the process for inland transportation and export operations in Portland.

It Takes a Team to Host a Team: The Commission appreciates the farmers, elevator operators and researchers who dedicate time each year to supporting market development activities. Investments to U.S. Wheat Associates and the ability to bring groups to the U.S. is essential to our long term competitiveness. 



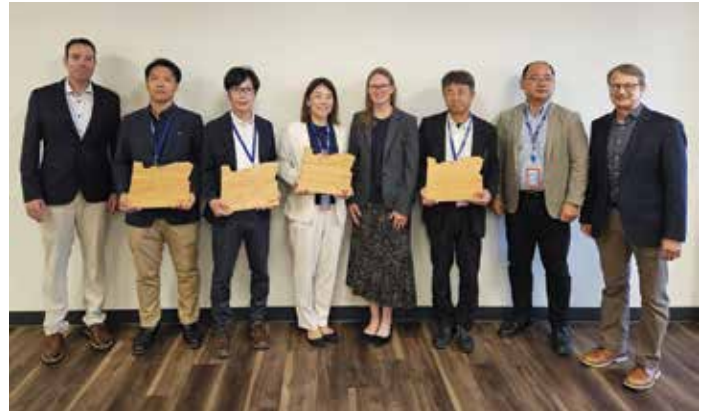
Watching a barge loading at Mid Columbia Producers The Dalles facility.



Commissioner Tuckness exchanges business cards, with USW-Tokyo country director Rick Nakano facilitating introductions.



Blue skies for an ideal day out in the harvest field with the contracting for wheat value team.



Japan mid level managers meet with USW and Oregon Wheat.



League and Commission representatives welcome the delegation of the Korean Crop Survey team.



Ryan Rea discusses the variety blend and approach to farm management and stewardship supporting high quality wheat.



Getting into the field to discuss research, family farm investments and purchasing.



Darren Padgett hosts the Philippine trade team for a dinner with growers.



TRI-STATE GRAIN GROWERS CONVENTION

IDAHO • OREGON • WASHINGTON

November 19-21, 2024

Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Early bird registration ends Oct. 25, 2024, at wawg.org/convention

DR. BART FISCHER is a research assistant professor and co-director of the Ag and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M AgriLife. His applied research focuses on solving real-world policy problems for ag producers and on anticipating potential policy changes for Congress to consider.



JOHN O'LEARY in 1987 was a curious nine-year-old boy. Playing with fire and gasoline, John created a massive explosion in his home and was burned on 100% of his body. He was given less than a 1% chance to live. John is the host of the Live Inspired Podcast and a speaker.

DERRICK JOSI is a fourth generation Oregon dairy farmer. Whether Derrick is on hour 27 of a long harvest day or breaking down the intricacies of the agricultural industry to an urban audience, he is building on a strong foundation of honest farming using raw, unfiltered transparency.



ERIC SNODGRASS is a Science Fellow and the Principal Atmospheric Scientist for Nutrien Ag Solutions. He develops predictive, analytical software to help ag producers manage weather risk. His frequent weather updates focus on how high-impact weather events influence global ag productivity.

Breakout sessions to include:

- Wheat Market Update
- Farm Bill Update
- NRCS Programs Update
- Financial Planning
- Legislative issues
- Barley Trends



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Auction and Dinner

The auction and dinner will be held Thursday, Nov. 21, at 6 p.m. Social hour starts at 5:30. Donation forms for auction items can be found at wawg.org.



Watch wawg.org/convention for updates



**TRI-STATE GRAIN
GROWERS CONVENTION**
IDAHO • OREGON • WASHINGTON

November 19-21, 2024
The Coeur d'Alene Resort
Coeur d'Alene, ID

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Farm or Business Name _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number _____

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FULL REGISTRATION (includes meals)

	#ATTENDING	AMOUNT
Regular Registration	_____ x \$225	\$ _____
Spouse Registration	_____ x \$225	\$ _____
After 10/25/2024	_____ x \$270	\$ _____
Non-Member	_____ x \$375	\$ _____

***Note: FULL Convention Registration includes Wednesday & Thursday meetings and all meals.**

SINGLE DAY REGISTRATION

Circle one:

Member Single Day	_____ x \$200	\$ _____ Wednesday/Thursday
Non-Member Single Day	_____ x \$275	\$ _____ Wednesday/Thursday

THURSDAY DINNER & AUCTION - Heads & Tails **Auction Fundraiser**

_____ x \$10 per person = \$ _____

ADDITIONAL Meal Tickets *Available to purchase ONLY with a Full Registration

___ Individual Breakfast	_____ x \$40	\$ _____
___ Individual Lunch	_____ x \$55	\$ _____
___ State Banquet	_____ x \$95	\$ _____
___ Dinner & Auction	_____ x \$115	\$ _____

Please Indicate Which Meals you will be Attending (Important for head count purposes):

___ Agribusiness Breakfast (Wednesday)	___ Oregon Banquet (Wednesday)	___ Opening Breakfast (Thursday)
___ Tri-State Luncheon (Wednesday)	___ Idaho Banquet (Wednesday)	___ Luncheon (Thursday)
	___ Washington Banquet (Wednesday)	___ Dinner & Auction (Thursday)

Please Indicate All that apply:

___ Speaker	___ Committee Chairperson	___ Past Washington Wheat Commissioner
___ Exhibitor	___ Idaho Wheat Commissioner	___ Past Washington Barley Commissioner
___ Sponsor	___ Idaho Barley Commissioner	___ Wheat Foundation
___ Past President	___ Oregon Wheat Commissioner	___ First Time Attendee
___ State Officer	___ Washington Grain Commissioner	___ 15x40 Attendee
___ County President	___ Past Idaho Wheat Commissioner	___ WA Lifetime Member
___ Board Member	___ Past Idaho Barley Commissioner	
___ Executive Committee	___ Past Oregon Wheat Commissioner	

Registration cancellations will be accepted through Oct. 25, and refunds, less \$ 25 per person administrative fee, will be granted upon written request through this date. No refunds will be granted after Nov 10.

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