

## **Josh Macnab Board Profile**

In the vast expanse of Sherman County, nestled amidst the golden waves of wheat fields, lies a legacy of farming deeply rooted in family history and a commitment to embracing technological advancements. At the helm of this legacy stands Josh Macnab, the Sherman County President for the Oregon Wheat Growers League and a dedicated curator of both tradition and innovation in agriculture.

When asked about his family history and the land they cultivate, Josh paints a picture of interconnectedness spanning generations. "We farm our part of Albert Kaseberg's ground and farm Stuart Macnab's ground. A cousin of ours also farms our family homestead." Josh proudly acknowledges his role as the fourth generation to be involved in the family farm. His journey began at a tender age, reminiscing, "I started spotting trucks for harvest at a young age and then moved to combine the next year." However, his full-time return to farming occurred later in life. After pursuing a degree in Construction Engineering Management and spending several years in the infrastructure sector, Josh came back to the farm at the age of 30, driven by a deep-seated passion for agriculture.

The hallmark of Josh's tenure as a farmer lies in his proactive approach towards integrating technology into traditional farming practices. "I started using drones last year to spot spray," he states. Additionally, Josh has ventured into precision agriculture, employing grid sampling soil and crafting prescription fertilizer maps to optimize nutrient application. His experiments with ag lime underscore his commitment to finding economically viable solutions to enhance soil health.

Beyond the boundaries of his farm, Josh is now giving back to the industry by serving as the Sherman County President for the Wheat Growers League. He is also the League's representative to the Sherman Research Station liaison committee. Reflecting on his journey into leadership, he shares, "Thad Eakin asked if I would be interested in joining the League and I knew it would be a great opportunity to support my County." His engagement with fellow farmers underscores his dedication to fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing within the agricultural community.

For Josh, ensuring the continuity of farming tradition involves imparting knowledge to the next generation. He warmly describes the joy of having friends' children and his own kids visit the farm during harvest, laying the groundwork for their potential involvement in the future. "Hopefully one of my children can build on so it stays viable for generations to come." he says. When asked about his legacy, Josh's response is simple... "to leave the farm better than I got it," emphasizing his desire to create a sustainable legacy for future generations.