

**AUGUST 2022**

# OREGON WHEAT

*An Official Publication of the Oregon Wheat Industry*



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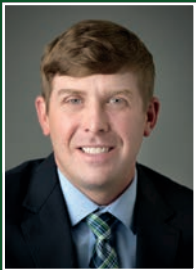
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# MY TWO CENTS WORTH



What a bounce back year we have had!! A big thank you to the man upstairs for all the rain and cool weather we have received this spring. Back in March I think we can all agree that many of our crops were on the brink, and we were not sure if we were going to have a repeat of 2021 yields. When April arrived with rain and cool weather, our fields began to rebound and remind us how resilient our crops can be to changing weather patterns. No one could have predicted these last two years, which affirms one of my theories: my farming IQ is only as good as what my rain gauge reads. With that being said, I am over the top thrilled for our Oregon farms preparing for this year's wheat harvest.

Hands down I can say harvest is the best time of the year for my farm. It is a time to celebrate what we have accomplished and what has challenged us this past year. This time of year can be considered a family reunion for many farms. Our kids or combine/bankout drivers return home from school. Many of our family friends drive hours across the state just to ride in the combine for a half a day. I can honestly say it is really great time of the year for all our farms to work as a team harvesting a years' worth of work in a few weeks. The hard work, passion and excitement cannot be replicated. However, harvest does not come without its daily challenges. As much as harvest is a celebration of the past crop year, there is a stress and time factor of getting our crops delivered efficiently and safely to the elevator.

As I get more crop years under my belt, and as more family members and friends become involved with our operation, safety is at the forefront every day for my crew. Spending the time to inspect and maintain equipment and look to the future for safer equipment to operate is at the top of my list. You know your equipment's unique personalities. Taking the time to train and communicate with our seasonal help can be overlooked or rushed at times as we have a lot that we are thinking about this time a year. However, I encourage all of us to take the extra ten minutes and make sure our farming family knows all the quirks of our equipment before harvest. We love our farming families and want to keep building our next generation, while celebrating harvest time throughout the community.

Switching gears a bit, we have been busy here at Oregon Wheat. One item that has been hot is initial

conversations on the negotiations for the 2023 Farm Bill. As you all know, Oregon Wheat Growers League is an active member within the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG). Domestic Trade and Policy Committee (DTPC) and Environmental and Research Committee (ERC) are the two main committees that make up NAWG's membership. Collin Crocker, our Vice President, serves on ERC and I serve on DTPC. We have participated in working meetings throughout these past couple months on strategy for Farm Bill negotiations. Among the questions that we have been asked are: what programs have worked for our growers currently, can we improve any of current programs and what can be added to the Farm Bill to secure our family farmers for another five years. Improving PLC reference price, making CSP work for our wheat operations, increasing funds for trade marketing, and securing and improving crop insurance coverage are a few of the items in discussion. One topic of conversation among legislators is climate smart programs and how they will be incorporated within the Farm Bill. Whatever side you are on for climate change, our weather has become more extreme and programs to help our climate in the future are popular conversation between all legislators. Compromise is part of every Farm Bill and how we farm our ground could depend on our eligibility into Farm Bill programs. This is a topic that is nonnegotiable with our farms and how we raise our crops should not affect what level of eligibility we receive in programs. We have a lot at stake coming in the next Farm Bill. Know that we at Oregon Wheat Growers League are in the center of those conversations back in D.C. and will continue to be an active voice for you and the wheat industry.


In closing, I wish everyone a safe and prosperous harvest in the coming days. We have some great looking fields in Oregon, and I look forward to hearing new harvest stories for the next few months. Please don't forget to share those great harvest pictures with family and friends and especially us at Oregon Wheat.





# Young Farmers: Apply for Free Grain Convention Registration!

Oregon Wheat Growers League is offering four (4) scholarships for first time attendees to the Tri-State Grain Growers Annual Convention. The 2022 Convention is scheduled for November 29 to December 1, 2022 in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Young farmers under 40 are encouraged to talk with their County President about their eligibility for the scholarship and submit an application. Applicants must be an OWGL dues paying member or become a member to receive the scholarship.

You do not have to own your own farm to participate. Just explain your current situation in the appropriate area on our online application. The OWGL Young Farmer Scholarship will pay for convention registration and lodging, however applicants are responsible for getting to the convention. Please complete the form online at [www.owgl.org/youngfarmer](http://www.owgl.org/youngfarmer) by October 22 for consideration. 



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**YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP OPEN!**

Young Farmers (under 40) who have never been to the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention could get their registration and hotel paid for!

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Coeur d'Alene Resort

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Early bird registration ends Nov. 1.

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[WAWG.ORG/CONVENTION](http://WAWG.ORG/CONVENTION)



**ERIC SNODGRASS** is the Principal Atmospheric Scientist for Nutrien Ag Solutions, where he develops predictive, analytical software to help agricultural producers manage weather risk. His frequent weather updates focus on how high-impact weather events influence global agriculture productivity.

**JULIE BORLAUG** is continuing the Borlaug legacy of food security and innovation in agriculture. She serves as President of the Borlaug Foundation and Vice President of External Relations for Inari. She is the granddaughter of the late Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and the founder of the World Food Prize.



**ROBERT BONNIE** (invited) is the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation at USDA. Prior to joining USDA, Bonnie was at Duke University, first as a Rubenstein Fellow and later as an Executive in Residence at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions working on conservation and environmental issues in rural America.

Watch [wawg.org/convention](http://wawg.org/convention) for additional speakers and breakout topics.



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Producers look at new variety options adapted for their individual growing environments.



Dr. Andrew Ross cookie demonstration at the Pendleton Station Field Day gives a stark visual to the impact of wheat classes on end product use.

## Field Days Highlight Importance of Research Investments

Jessica Chambers, Wayfinder Communications

For some, spending a day in a wheat field is just another day at the office. For me, it was a unique opportunity to see firsthand the importance of crop research being done that ultimately impacts the future of the wheat industry.

Field days and crop tours - which were able to return to in-person events this year across the state - offer just such an opportunity. These field days, showcasing research plots, are unique and offer producers, researchers, and folks like me a chance to see the impact these research programs have on the industry. Walking tours of the fields included briefings on the wheat breeding program, variety trials and testing for resistance to major diseases.

With wheat from the Pacific Northwest, and Oregon in particular, known for its quality in international markets, maintaining this quality is of highest importance. As well, the continued work to improve yields is vital for the economic success and sustainability of Oregon's wheat farms. Walking through test fields of wheat and listening to researchers talk about their work, I was amazed at the processes behind breeding for new varieties and disease resistance. But one thing stood out above all else – the importance of continued investments in this research.

Varieties are bred with consideration for variability in the climates and environments in which it will be grown, weed pressure and diseases. As shifts in global climate continue, drought continues to be a challenge in the reduction in both



Growers hear from Dr. Chris Mundt on common wheat diseases and controls during the Hyslop Field Day.

yield and quality. With the selection of certain breeding lines, drought tolerance and avoidance can be achieved. Likewise, the breeding program works to address weed pressure by developing wheat that is herbicide tolerant. Diseases can also reduce yield and end-use quality, which is why the program has made a concerted effort to breed varieties that also have high levels of resistance to diseases such as stripe rust that is a problem in both western and eastern Oregon.





Dr. Andrew Ross and Dr. Francisco Calderon emphasize wheat quality during the Sherman Station Field Day.




Networking is a big part of field days. OWGL North Valley President Tom Duyck talks with Commissioner David Prybylowski.



Nathalia Moretti, OSU Faculty Research Assistant, performs in-field wheat head emasulation.


After varieties are harvested, samples from trials are sent on to labs where it is tested and evaluated for end-use quality. This work is in coordination with disease evaluations. Those with resistance levels in elite and advanced yield trials are used to determine which lines to advance toward potential release. All this is done in an effort to give wheat producers a choice when considering what wheat to grow and increase profitability.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**



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**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7**

The process, however, to achieve varieties that are productive, disease resistant and maintain its quality is tricky. A variety may be bred to be more productive and end up less disease resistant. Meanwhile, increasing disease resistance in one variety may also decrease its quality. This is an important process for researchers, and sometimes frustrating for growers who are depending on new varieties to grow. As one researcher quipped, “A good year for a plant breeder is a bad year for growers.”

As I watched a researcher perform the delicate task of emasculating a wheat head in the field, I gained a new appreciation for the work and process that goes into wheat products before I find them on grocery store shelves. Research will continue to look at what tomorrow’s technology will be. The next few years will be critical as wheat growers continue to face new challenges and will need to continue to evolve in order to remain competitive, both now and into the future.

*The Oregon Wheat Commission helps support the research being done through Oregon State University, Washington State University, Wheat Marketing Center and the Western Wheat Quality Lab. The commission dedicates nearly one million dollars a year to research activities.* 



Brigid Meints reviews how the barley breeding program is combatting climate change.



Dr. Bob Zemetra discusses upcoming releases for the OSU wheat breeding program.

**Crop Tours**

From Klamath Falls to Gilliam County, and all parts in between, Oregon State University coordinated informative and fun tours for producers this year.



Morrow crop tour talks shop in the field. Photo courtesy Erin Heideman.



An assessment of variety performance in the field aids in selections for the 2023 crop cycle.



Wasco County crop tour gets producers out to the Dufur variety trials.



Sherman Crop tour looks at canola plantings.



# Mental Health Resources for Producers

Tayleranne Gillespie, Wayfinder Communications


Farmers nationwide face increased challenges year after year. From increased fuel costs, changing weather, and logistical issues, there are constantly new obstacles to overcome. But one thing that often goes overlooked and unaddressed is mental health.

A 2020 report from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention found that farmers died by suicide at a higher rate than people in most other professions. The same study found that overall suicide rates have increased by more than 40% in less than 20 years.

High stress, long work hours and the physical demands of farming can all lead to depression, and other mental health issues. There are resources available, and it is crucial to take steps to get help before it is too late!

The Oregon Wheat Growers League has many resources listed on our website that are free and easy to access.

- The Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network run by Oregon State University offers helpful resources and classes.
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides a crisis line you can call anytime: 1-800-273-8255. Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741.
- Farm State of Mind Resource Directory offers a nationwide database for you or your family members to find help and learn more about the mental health difficulties farmers and farm families face.

If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out to one of these resources. You are an important part of your family, your farm, and your community! 



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# Permanent Heat and Smoke Requirements Take Effect

*What do employers need to know?*

Amanda Hoey, CEO

OR-OSHA's Heat and Smoke Rules have taken effect. Both rules apply to all employers, regardless of size, and require access to shade and water, paid breaks of increasing length as the temperature increases and new exposure assessments, plans and training for all employees.

In June we were joined by Renee Stapleton, Acting Administrator for OR-OSHA, to talk about the permanent rules and what they mean for wheat producers.

## Heat Rules

The heat rule requirements are based on a set of numbers called the heat index which indicates what the temperature feels like to the human body when relative humidity and the temperature are combined. The heat index is published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service.

Oregon OSHA's rules apply whenever an employee is working indoor or outdoor and the heat index equals or exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit. There are a few full and partial exemptions to the rules. Full exemptions to the requirements are provided for incidental heat exposures, exposures to heat generated from the work process, emergency operations, and buildings/ structures/ enclosed vehicles that have a mechanical ventilation system that keeps the heat index below 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Partial exemptions are available when employees perform "rest" or



Requirements begin to take effect at AQI of 101 or higher for exposures to particulate matter with a diameter in micrometers of 2.5 or less, commonly referred to as PM2.5.

"light" workloads, for associated support activities for wildland firefighters, and employees who work from home.

When the heat index equals or exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit, there are three key requirements employers must follow, as well as a few additional general requirements:

**Requirement: Training for supervisors and employees.** Employers must ensure that all employees are trained in

## How Do I Find the Heat Index?

1. Download and use the OSHA-NIOSH Heat Safety Tool App on your phone.

-or-

2. Measure on your own. The national Weather Service Heat index calculator can help:  
<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/html/heatindex.shtml>

heat illness prevention before they begin work at sites where the heat index will be 80 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. The verification documentation required of completed training includes the employee name, date of training and trainer name.

**Requirement: Access to Shade.** Employers must establish one or more shade areas when the heat index equals or exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Shade may be provided by natural or artificial means.

**Requirement: Provide Drinking Water.** Employers must provide enough drinking water so that each employee can consume 32 ounces per hour. Drinking water must be cool (66 to 77 degrees Fahrenheit) or cold (35 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit).

**Other General Requirements:** A number of written plans are required including an emergency medical plan and acclimatization plan; all of which can be wrapped into an employer's "Heat Illness Prevention Plan." For this plan, employers must maintain the plan in writing. It should be made available to worksites and upon request.

Additional requirements are imposed when the heat index exceeds 90 degrees Fahrenheit:

- Ensure that effective communication is maintained so that employees working at the site can contact a supervisor.
- Ensure that employees are monitored for signs of heat illness, and whether medical attention is necessary.
- Designate and equip one or more employees at each site who can call for emergency medical services.
- Ensure that each employee takes heat illness prevention rest breaks, based upon one of the three options in the rules.



**Smoke Rules**

The smoke rule requirements are based on the Air Quality Index (AQI) which was developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as an indicator of overall air quality for the general population. Requirements begin to take effect at AQI of 101 or higher for exposures to particulate matter with a diameter in micrometers of 2.5 or less, commonly referred to as PM2.5.

These standards do not apply to employees working in enclosed buildings, structures, and vehicles in which air is filtered by a mechanical ventilation system, and when exterior openings are kept closed except when it is necessary to briefly open doors to enter or exit, employers that have predetermined to suspend operations to prevent employee exposure to wildfire smoke, and employees working at home. Partial exemption is provided for wildland firefighting and associated support activities; evacuation, rescue, utilities, communications, and medical operations directly involved in or aiding emergency operations or firefighting operations; and work activities involving only intermittent employee exposure of less than 15 minutes in an hour, for a total exposure of less than one hour in a single 24-hour period.

**Requirement: Assess and monitor air quality at each work location where employees are exposed.** Employers must assess work locations when they are affected by wildfire smoke to determine air quality conditions by checking the current average AQI value for PM2.5.

**Requirement: Provide and document employee training.** Employers that are not partially exempt from the standard must verify supervisor and employee training by preparing a written or electronic record that includes at least the name or

**Planning for Success**

OR-OSHA has a template Heat Illness Prevention Plan you can use. Fill in your company information and you are set! Available at: <https://osha.oregon.gov/OSHAPubs/pubform/heat-illness-prevention-sample-plan.docx>

identification number of each employee trained, the dates of the trainings, and the name of the people who conducted the training. The most recent annual training record for each employee must be maintained for one year.


**Requirement: Implement two-way communication system.** The system is intended to communicate wildfire smoke information between supervisors and employees and may include use of cell phones, two-way radios, in-person communication and any other viable means to transmit information reliably and effectively.

**Requirement: Implement engineering and administrative controls.** Used to reduce employee exposure to smoke, only controls that are functionally possible and would not prevent the completion of work must be used.

**Requirement: Provide NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirators for voluntary use to employees.** NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirators include: N95, N99, N100, R95, R99, R100, P95, P99, and P100. NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirators do not include any “KN” designations, such as KN95s.

- When the AQI value exceeds 250, employers must provide NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirators for mandatory use to employees.
- When the AQI exceed 500, employers must provide NIOSH-approved respirators for mandatory use to employees.

The League commented in the rulemaking process regarding challenges for implementation in work environments. We also sought clarification that wildland firefighting exemptions would include rangeland and cropland firefighting operations. The agency has subsequently provided affirmative confirmation that firefighting activities in cropland and rangelands are included in the exemptions provided for wildland firefighting. We have the recorded WheatTalk with Renee Stapleton on the “Ag Employers” section of our website. In that discussion, she reviews the rules and answers questions on the applicability of the rules to owner-operators and the responsibility for compliance that falls on growers even if contracting for farm labor.

The information provided is not an exhaustive review of the heat and smoke rules, so if you have questions, review with OR-OSHA directly. 

**CHECK IT OUT ONLINE:**

**Finding the AQI**

*There are a few ways to find the Air Quality Index measurement:*

- 1) Oregon DEQ website: <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map>
- 2) U.S. EPA AirNow Fire and Smoke Map website: <https://fire.airnow.gov/>
- 3) Download the free OregonAir app from DEQ or the “EPA AIRNow” app from the U.S. EPA





# Construction Begins on OSU Research Lab Upgrade

Jessica Chambers, Wayfinder Communications

After years in the planning process, construction on the new Cereal Quality Lab on the Corvallis campus of Oregon State University is now underway.

The single lab space in the basement of the Crop Science Building was randomly assigned to Dr. Andrew Ross when he arrived in 2001. Because the space had the elements needed for a functional bakery, he has been able to use the space as such for nearly 20 years. But there have been constraints. For one, major pieces of equipment could only be used one at a time. With the combination of limited bench space, oven capacity and floor space, the lab has been limited to working on one product at a time. Increasing capacity was one of the driving forces behind the rebuild.

The construction plan consists of tearing down the wall between the old bakery and the flexible storage space in the room next door. This simple change will double the floor area of the space and allows OSU to design the lab from scratch as a research and teaching facility. This new lab will potentially triple throughput, allowing for noodles, cookies or pastries, and breads to run in the same day.

Along with increasing throughput, there are other advantages to the new space. One of the important needs for both the barley and wheat breeding programs is to ensure grain hygiene. The remodel will provide enough space to freeze most of the grain that comes into the building for about three weeks in order to kill any potential insect infestations.

The process for this new research bakery started about three years ago. Funding for the project was secured through a number of sources, including a matching fund investment



Preparing for demolition

from the Oregon Wheat Commission. The Commission recognized the need to expand the facilities to continue to maintain a competitive edge in the marketplace for Pacific NW grains and to assure researchers the space to conduct work efficiently. Dr. Ross then worked with Oregon Wheat Growers League to seek the remaining funds needed for the project. The League successfully advocated for funding and the final piece of the funding was secured through the state from federal stimulus funds, thanks to the efforts of Senator Bill Hansell. This was the final piece of funding that pushed the project over the finish line, allowing demolition for the project to begin in June 2022.

Facilities like this for teaching, research and baking are not unique in the state. In fact, OSU collaborates with similar facilities, including the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland, Oregon and the Western Wheat Quality Lab in Pullman, Washington. Each facility, though, works at a different level, meaning that the OSU facility will not be in competition with partners. One of the differences with the OSU lab is that they have access to analytical labs in the cereal quality program which compliments their research with analysis. This allows them to work cooperatively rather than in competition because their ultimate mission is the same.

As a strong advocate for wheat and barley and proponent for whole grains, Dr. Ross has been overseeing this project from the beginning. When he joined OSU to create a formal cereal quality program, there was just a bit of equipment and a small amount of quality testing being done, but they mostly relied entirely on the Western Wheat Quality Lab.

The much-improved bakery and production facility to complement OSU's analytical capabilities will not just




Cereal Quality Lab Space challenges pre-renovation





Lab space ready for renovation

improve the lab, but also attract collaborations that they were not able to have before, including the opportunity to host visiting scientists. Dr. Ross says that by having this facility in place, they will be more likely to attract external funds, which would allow them to have a public health benefit. “I would like to make a positive impact on public health using wheat over the next few years,” he says.

With this new research and teaching facility, there will be opportunities for improved research capacity and teaching opportunities, along with a space more conducive to outreach and promotional work, their work has the potential to have public health benefits. Ultimately, this will open doors for new projects that can attract collaborations in a way not possible before. 

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## Introductions and Acknowledgements

**Dana Tuckness**

OWC Chair

# OREGON WHEAT COMMISSION

As most of you have probably noticed, the service in almost every business and government entity has shown a huge decrease in quality lately. Any of you that normally read this column will find it is no exception to the rule, but then my predecessor, Jerry Marguth, is not an easy act to follow. For those of you who don't know me, my wife, Kathy and I farm in the Treasure Valley, just a stone's throw from the Snake River and Idaho border. We have five adult children, four sons and one daughter along with five grandchildren. I am fifth generation to work the land in Malheur County, my family settling near Jordan Valley in 1869. I have grown many different crops in my 40+ years of farming, with wheat being the one crop being raised every year, all under irrigation.

In June, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) held its summer conference in Bend. It was well attended by commissioners from most of the wheat growing states and there was a tremendous amount of very useful information from USW staff and experts from the Pacific Northwest and National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG). The report that I thought was the most interesting was by USW's Jennifer Sydney. She highlighted the work being done overseas by USW and the amount of U.S. wheat going for the first time to many different countries and how USW staff was involved in helping to create the right mixtures for the products each country wanted. Of particular interest was the USW/Santiago staff working with a cookie/cracker company in Peru. With the help of USW, the company was able to work through milling problems it was having with soft white wheat in its product. Once the issues were solved, the company purchased 5500 metric tons of SWW at a value of \$1.5 million. Their first purchase of SWW since 2010. After the presentation I was approached by Mark Fowler, the VP of Global Technical Services for USW. He gave a good deal of the credit to the Commissions for the sale to Peru, because of previous commitments we had with the Santiago office. The highlight of the meeting was of course honoring outgoing USW Chair Darren Padgett, who passed the gavel on to Rhonda Larson of Minnesota. Darren has done so much for the U.S. wheat industry that I wouldn't know where to start, so I will simply say thank you Darren!



Four of the seven generations of my family that have farm/ranched in Malheur County. Left to right: Dana, son Henry, father Earl, grandson Brody, son Stan.


The OWC approved its Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget in May and after the low yields from last year's crop, we are trying to keep expenditures down as low as possible, while keeping up with our long-term commitments to our researchers and their projects that may take several years for completion. The Commission has been fiscally conservative in the past, but even more so this year due to the availability of funds. Our research partners at Oregon State University and Western Wheat Quality Lab are well aware of the low wheat yields from 2021 and in turn, the reduced funds available to the Commission going forward. Asks from researchers for this year were similar to last year, and some even a little less. I appreciate everyone working together to get through times when funds may not be readily available, while keeping quality research programs intact for the benefit of the grower.

There have been several changes to our industry recently and I would like to highlight a few of those here. Congratulations are in order for Oregon Department of Agriculture Director Alexis Taylor who was nominated by



President Biden as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's trade undersecretary. We have worked closely with Alexis since she was named to head the ODA and appreciate her hard work in that role. I look forward to continuing that relationship. Wheat Marketing Center (WMC) Director Janice Cooper has retired, and I would like to thank her for the excellent service, commitment, and professionalism she has shown during her tenure at the WMC. Last but definitely not least, I would like to thank my friend Walter Powell, as he has finished his second four-year term on the Commission, and thus will not

be returning. I have known Wally since 2012 when I was first elected to the League board and have served with him on the Commission for the last three years. Wally served as president of the League, as chair of the Commission and has done an excellent job, traveling extensively both domestic and abroad promoting Oregon wheat. I know Wally will be missed by all.

By the time you have this magazine in hand many of you will be in harvest. Here's to a safe harvest for all and hoping your bins are straining at the seams. 

## The Ever-Evolving OSU Wheat Breeding Program

Robert Zemetra, Professor, Plant Breeding and Genetics

The OSU wheat breeding program has had to grow and change over the past ten years to meet the needs of Oregon wheat producers due to new challenges in weed management, evolving diseases, and increasing climate variability while improving agronomic performance, disease resistance and end-use quality. This has been accomplished by working as a team with Dr. Chris Mundt setting the goals and evaluating the breeding lines for disease resistance and with Dr. Andrew Ross setting the goals and evaluating the breeding lines for end-use quality. The breeding program now is breeding four market classes of wheat; soft white winter, hard white winter, hard red winter, and winter club wheat with the hard red winter wheat effort starting in 2013 and the winter club wheat effort starting in 2016. The expansion of market classes was done to provide Oregon wheat producers a choice when considering what wheat to grow when facing increasing climate variability, disease pressure and weed competition.



Figure 1. Breeder seed head rows of OR12190027 CL+ grown at the Hyslop Field Research Laboratory north of Corvallis, OR, May 29, 2022.

**Climate Variability:** Climate variability, specifically reduced water availability in late spring – early summer can cause a reduction in both yield and quality of the wheat grown in Oregon as was seen in 2021. To address this issue, the breeding program has worked to produce breeding lines with drought avoidance and drought tolerance. Drought avoidance can be achieved by selecting breeding lines with an earlier flowering time, allowing seed to develop before severe water or heat stress occurs. This can be seen in the recent soft white wheat release Appleby CL+ and the advanced breeding lines OR12190025 CL+ and OR12190027 CL+ (Figure 1). Drought tolerance indicates the wheat can produce plump kernels

even under stress conditions. Lines such as OR2130755 that maintain a high test weight across multiple sites and years is an example of a wheat with drought tolerance. A third approach is to switch market classes to one that is better suited to drought conditions such as winter club wheat or changing to a hard wheat such as hard red winter or hard white winter wheat, since higher percent protein is a benefit not a detriment for end-use quality.

**Disease Pressure:** Pressure from diseases can greatly reduce yield and end-use quality of wheat if unchecked. This is especially true this year with the high late spring rainfall Oregon is experiencing. Control of diseases with fungicides,

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Figure 2. Head rows of CoAxiom hard red winter wheat breeding lines segregating for stripe rust resistance at the Hyslop Field Research Laboratory north of Corvallis, OR, May 28, 2022.

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when possible, can reduce the yield loss but also leads to reduced profitability due to the cost of the fungicides and application costs. The best approach is to use disease resistant varieties. The breeding program has made a concerted effort to have a high level of resistance to stripe rust, a perennial disease problem in both western and eastern Oregon (Figure 2). Other diseases may be more regional such as Septoria leaf blotch and Sharp eyespot that are found in western Oregon or crown and root diseases such as Cephalosporium stripe, Fusarium crown rot and Strawbreaker foot rot that are more prevalent in the drier areas of eastern Oregon, or diseases found more in areas where irrigation is present, such as soilborne wheat mosaic virus (sbWMV) and Fusarium head blight. Varieties such as Bobtail, Norwest Tandem, Norwest Duet, Nixon, OR2X2 CL+, Appleby CL+ and the new release OR2130755 have maintained their level of resistance to stripe rust while other varieties such as Rosalyn have experienced a reduction of resistance with the evolution of new races of stripe rust, especially in western Oregon. Rosalyn, Bobtail, OR2X2 CL+, OR2130755 and the advanced Clearfield lines ORI2190025 CL+ and ORI2190027 CL+ all carry one to two genes for Strawbreaker foot rot resistance. The breeding program has an active breeding effort for sbWMV resistance in both soft white winter and hard red winter wheat using both molecular markers and field screening (Figure 3).

**Researchers' Names and Titles:**

Robert Zemetra, Professor, Plant Breeding and Genetics, Warren Kronstad Endowed Chair of Wheat Research

**2022 Grant Titles and Funding Levels:**

Developing Improved Winter Wheat Cultivars for Oregon, \$206,150

**Grant summary:**

Essential to the economic survival of Oregon wheat producers is the development of new winter wheat cultivars with improved productivity, improved biotic and abiotic stress resistance/tolerance, and superior end-use quality. Market classes include soft white winter (SWW), hard white winter (HWW), hard red winter (HRW) and winter club (WC) wheat. To achieve this goal, the OSU wheat breeding program utilizes a combination of classical and molecular breeding techniques to develop cultivars with the desired traits as efficiently as possible. New sources of germplasm carrying genes for disease resistance and improved end-use quality are introgressed into OSU germplasm by crossing in the greenhouse. Early generation material (F1 - F4) is evaluated in the field in both western and eastern Oregon to identify lines with disease resistance, abiotic stress tolerance, yield potential and end-use quality. Complementing the field testing is evaluation at the molecular level to identify lines carrying genes for disease resistance and abiotic stress tolerance. Intermediate generation material (F5 - F6) is evaluated in preliminary field trials in locations in western and eastern Oregon for yield, agronomic adaptability, disease resistance and milling quality. Advanced generation material (F7 - F8) is evaluated at multiple locations in the state for agronomic adaptability, disease resistance/tolerance, yield stability and milling and baking quality. Elite lines (F9 - F10) are evaluated in elite breeding and extension trials in Oregon to identify superior lines for release as cultivars. Elite lines are also entered into regional testing and the extension trials in Washington and Idaho for evaluation under additional climatic conditions. Prior to release, potential cultivars are submitted for evaluation by the Pacific Northwest Wheat Quality Council to confirm the lines have the desired end-use quality.

Resistance to this disease is critical because the acreage in Oregon with this disease is increasing each year and there is no way to eradicate sbWMV once it is in a field since there is no chemical control for the disease. Genes for resistance to these diseases and for potential future diseases are constantly being introgressed and stacked in OSU breeding lines through the winter greenhouse crossing program.

**Weed Competition:** Competition from grassy weeds such as cheatgrass and jointed goatgrass reduces the yield in




producers' fields and impacts end-use quality, especially in eastern Oregon. To address this need, the breeding program has developed herbicide resistant wheat with tolerance to either a group 2 herbicide (Clearfield-Beyond) or a group 1 herbicide (CoAxium-Aggressor). Starting with only second generation material in 2011, the breeding program now has a complete multi-generation 2-gene Clearfield breeding program and has released two Clearfield lines, OR2X2 CL+ and Appleby CL+, and has two lines, ORI2190025 CL+ and ORI2190027 CL+, targeted for released in 2023. The program is also developing 2-gene Clearfield winter club wheat and 2-gene Clearfield hard red winter wheat. To address the evolving resistance of cheatgrass to the group 2 herbicide Beyond and address the soil residual issue with Beyond herbicide that impacts crop rotation, the breeding program started introgressing resistance to the group 1 herbicide Aggressor into all four market classes of wheat in 2018. Using molecular markers and enhanced breeding methods in the greenhouse, there are now breeding lines in field testing at Hyslop Field Research Laboratory for all four market classes after only four years.

In summary, through the efforts of the faculty and staff associated with the wheat breeding program, the Oregon wheat breeding program is in position to meet the needs of the Oregon wheat producers now and into the future, regardless of climate changes and the evolution of diseases and weeds to overcome current control methods. It is only through the co-evolution of the breeding program that wheat varieties will be available to Oregon wheat producers that improve profitability and maintain the standard of superior end-use quality that wheat produced in Oregon has in the international market. Members of the wheat breeding



Figure 3. Screening nursery for soilborne Wheat Mosaic Virus (sbWMV) near Irrigon, OR, March 26, 2022.

team include: breeding – Mark Larson, Adam Heesacker, Nathalia Moretti, and Hilary Gunn; diseases – Chris Mundt, Christina Hagerty, and Jiang Liu; cereal quality – Andrew Ross and Teepakorn Kongraksawech. The OSU breeding program would not be able to function without the financial support of the Oregon Wheat Commission, the Warren E. Kronstad Wheat Research Endowment and the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences – OSU Agricultural Experiment Station. 


## Wheat Industry Welcomes Doug McKalip Nomination

On June 8th, President Biden announced the nomination of Doug McKalip as Chief Agricultural Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The wheat industry roundly welcomed the nomination.

“Trade is incredibly important to U.S. wheat producers, who export about half their production each year. That makes securing market access and the work of



USTR critical,” said U.S. Wheat Associates Chairman Vince Peterson. “We welcome the nomination and look forward to him being confirmed and in place to advocate for agriculture at USTR.” The sentiment was echoed by NAWG CEO, Chandler Goule, who stated: “NAWG applauds President Biden nominating Doug McKalip to this critical role, and we encourage the Senate Finance Committee to work quickly in moving forward this nomination.”

McKalip has served 29 years in ag policy and trade. Since March 2021 he has served as senior adviser to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack on matters related to trade, national security, animal and plant health regulations. 



# Commission Hosts US Wheat Summer Meeting; Honors Padget Service

Tana Simpson, Associate Administrator

In June, the Oregon Wheat Commission hosted the U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) Board of Directors in Bend, Oregon for their annual summer meeting. USW is the export market development organization for the U.S. wheat industry, promoting the reliability, quality and value of U.S. wheat to buyers, millers, bakers, food processors and government officials in more than 100 countries around the world.

The meeting, held at the Riverhouse on the Deschutes, was a great opportunity for board members from around the United States to meet and discuss current industry events including food aid reforms, transportation issues and grain market expectations. Presentations also included updates on USW's overseas marketing efforts, their collaborative efforts with PNW exporters and their continuation of virtual outreach and seminars, in addition to the restoration of in-person trade visits.



The group also met in Bend to honor Chairman Darren Padget who passed the gavel, after two years due to the pandemic travel restrictions, to Rhonda Larson, a representative of the Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council.



Padget spent his last several years of service to the wheat industry as a USW officer engaged in educating customers overseas and at home on typical wheat production and handling practices.

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The Padgett family, joined by their friends and neighbors from Sherman County, have hosted many memorable trade team farm and boat tours over the years. These tours blend Darren’s unique candor with education on U.S. water quality and natural resource management, and the benefits of the certified seed handling system, while highlighting the multi-generational nature of most modern farming operations.

“Considering Darren’s many years of service it would be hard to measure all the positive things he has done to help wheat farm families here and across the country,” said Oregon Wheat Commission CEO Amanda Hoey. Previously Padgett served as Chairman of the Oregon Wheat Commission, an Oregon Wheat Growers League Officer and as Chairman of the National Association of Wheat Growers Research and Technology Committee. He continues to serve on the Oregon Wheat Commission, as Past President of U.S. Wheat Associates and as Vice Chairman of the Wheat Marketing Center Board of Directors.

In addition to Rhonda Larson taking on the role as chair, Michael Peters (Oklahoma) took his position as Vice Chairman. Clark Hamilton (Idaho) began his year as Secretary-Treasurer. Darren Padgett will serve one year as USW Past Chairman. We are very grateful for Darren’s commitment to our industry and ongoing service!

*The Oregon Wheat Commission would like to thank our sponsors that allowed us to host the functions associated with the meeting. Sponsors included Bayer, BASF, Columbia Grain, United*



*Grain, Mid Columbia Producers, BNSF Railway, Limagrain Cereal Seeds, McGregor, Northwest Grain Growers, Wheat Marketing Center and Shaver Transportation.* 



## OWC Welcomes New Commissioners; Elects Officers

The Oregon Wheat Commission welcomes David Brewer, wheat producer in Wasco County, as its newest Commission member. David began his four-year term on July 1, 2022. He replaces Walter (Wally) Powell who termed off the Commission, having served eight years.



David Brewer returned to the family farm in 1993. He has been managing the farm operations since the mid 1990’s and operating it with his wife, Margaret, since 2004. During that


time he has pioneered the adoption of direct seed farming and diversification of the cropping system in the area. “I have been an early adopter of new cropping systems and precision farming technologies,” stated Brewer. He has served on research station liaison committees where he has continued to push for research into cropping systems that address the cause of challenges facing wheat producers, rather than the symptoms.

In true service fashion, the work for Wally Powell is not complete, despite terming off the Commission. We are pleased to retain him for engagement as one of our two industry representatives on the wheat breeder search committee as



Oregon State University seeks to hire a replacement for the position held by Dr. Bob Zemetra.

In addition to welcoming David Brewer, we are pleased to continue another term for Commissioner Jason Middleton with United Grain Corporation. Commissioner Middleton serves in one of the handler roles and received confirmation of reappointment for a new two-year term.

Finally, the Commission elected officers for FY 2022-23. Congratulations to Chair Dana Tuckness, Vice Chair Tyler Hansell and Secretary/Treasurer Jordan Van Zante. The Commission expresses appreciation to our outgoing chair, Jerry Marguth, who continues on the Commission for the remainder of his term. 



## Oregon FFA Members Visit NAWG

Erin Heideman, OWGL Morrow County President

Members of the Ione and Baker FFA chapters had the opportunity to visit the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) headquarters earlier in June. Madison Orem, from Ione, and Neah Thomas, from Baker, were in DC attending the National FFA Organization Washington Leadership Conference (WLC). The conference is a week-long opportunity providing FFA members a premier leadership experience while exposing them to the rich history of the area. One day during the week, members have the opportunity to tour the Capitol and meet with their state senators and congressmen. This is when Orem and Baker, both who raise and show 4-H and FFA cattle, made the effort to get to the NAWG headquarters.

“My dad is a past Oregon Wheat Growers President and we are wheat growers,” said Orem. “I knew it would be neat to be at place where so much happens for our industry.”

FFA’s mission is to develop a student’s potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. 



Neah Thomas (Baker) and Madison Orem (Ione) visit the National Association of Wheat Growers headquarters in Washington, D.C. during the time that they attended a National FFA Leadership Conference. Pictured L-R; Taylor Williamson (Government Relations Representative), Mariah Wollweber (Communications Director), Jake Westin (VP of Policy & Communications), Neah Thomas (Baker FFA), Madison Orem (Ione FFA) and Erin Heideman (Ione FFA Advisor). Heideman is also the Morrow County Wheat Growers President.



# Commission Moves to Reduce Volatility in Funding

Amanda Hoey, Oregon Wheat CEO



Volatility in the wheat world has been tremendous over the last few months and we are all suffering from a series of sequential bouts of whiplash. Those swings can certainly take a toll. As we seek every avenue to minimize those impacts, we look to the areas over which we have control. For the Oregon Wheat Commission, that involves reducing volatility in our budgeted income projections and expenditure allocations. With the changes we have seen year-over-year, minimizing disruption due to budget factors was a focus for the Commission this year.

Previously, the Commission budgeted income- and made budgeted expenditure allocations- based upon the upcoming year's crop expectations. As every producer knows, the anticipation regarding crop yield expectations vary drastically between April (when the Commission establishes a budget recommendation) and July/August when we get into harvest. Those extremes are especially apparent for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 crop years. Over time, playing the average on yields for income works on a macro level. Yet, the swings in individual years- depending on if timely rains are received or not- can affect those revenue projections by half a million to a million dollars. Facing significantly 'up' or 'down' years in sequence can upend the entire budget. While reserves are healthy to buffer some change, they are limited.

In evaluating opportunities to reduce unpredictability in revenue projections, the Commission made a move this year to a budgeting process that sets income using the prior years' assessment revenue, rather than an unknown future projection. With reserves, we were able to make that move without adverse impact to the new year. That meant we could make the change while maintaining investments to key market development activities and multi-year research initiatives.

By making a shift that provides a greater level of certainty in our revenue projections, we are also able to provide a higher level of certainty to our researchers and market development partners. We know the overall crop outcome at harvest, well before the budget for the next year is formulated. In the immediate term, it means that this current fiscal year budget for July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 reflects the lowered revenue from the 2021 crop. It also means in the immediate term that we will be able to communicate to our partners well in advance of the new fiscal year on what we will be seeking for funding proposals. Given that we expect much improved crop

outcomes in 2022, it will allow more opportunities for work to support our producers in the upcoming cycle. In the long term, it offers the Commission a more stable understanding of resources on which to base decisions on expenditures and allows us to look longer term at the strategic investments- be that into equipment or new research- that we need to truly advance our industry.

While the change in budget process may have been one of the larger shifts we made, there were a few other significant items of note in this year's budget.

- We increased resources dedicated to our partnership dues with U.S. Wheat Associates (USW). Funding to USW is based on an Olympic average of production and Oregon had a few good years (despite 2021). As we are seeing significant returns from this partnership, it is a very worthwhile investment to ensure we maintain and improve our market prospects.
- We were able to free up funds from the annual "Block Grant." The block grant funds support the Pendleton and Sherman stations, including the long-term plots. It was essential that a dedicated resource be provided for these plots, given their potential future value for research purposes. A multi-year process to identify and secure resources for that purpose has culminated in federal program allocations secured by our federal legislators, in partnership with the growers, League and University. Those funds bolster the Ag Research Stations' work and support the long term plots, all while freeing up resources for individual research projects of consequence to the industry. It grows the entire total.
- Recognizing the need to ensure our crop quality sampling program through the Wheat Marketing Center, we approved additional funding for the Wheat Marketing Center for cross-over staffing.
- We retained the work in wheat and barley research and provided for a small increase in a new project in the Treasure Valley regarding cereal leaf beetle pressures. Approximately 36% of our budget this year is dedicated to research activities. With research programs being such a large portion of our allocations, I encourage you to take a look through the areas we are funding and talk with us regarding challenges your farm faces.
- The lifting of pandemic restrictions means the return of trade teams, in force. We budgeted for additional dollars to support the increase in team visits, which we will be pleased to welcome this year from Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Vietnam and more.



Funded Research Projects (FY 2022-23)	Principal Investigator
<p>Oregon Wheat Breeding Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop improved soft white, hard white, hard red winter and winter club wheat cultivars adapted to high and low rainfall wheat growing regions of Oregon.</li> <li>• Develop new and improved OSU wheat varieties through Gene Introgression and Gene Editing. Develop lines carrying improved disease resistance and low PPO reaction. Transfer genes for CoAXium herbicide resistance. Determine the feasibility of using CRISP-Cas9 GE to rapidly modify OSU wheat varieties and breeding lines for improved end-use quality.</li> </ul>	Robert Zemetra
<p>Oregon Barley Variety Development and Deployment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop spring-planted varieties that are well- adapted to Oregon dryland environments and tolerant to soil residue from the herbicide imazamox.</li> <li>• Develop and deploy fall-planted malting barley varieties for Oregon’s diverse environments.</li> <li>• Work directly with growers and processors of malting and food barley in order to document and share information on prospects for Oregon barley production.</li> </ul>	Patrick Hayes
<p>Wheat and Barley Variety Testing in Oregon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the performance of commonly grown varieties.</li> </ul>	Ryan Graebner
<p>Screening for Resistance to Major Wheat Diseases in Oregon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate elite and advanced wheat lines for resistance to stripe rust, Septoria tritici blotch, Cephalosporium stripe, Fusarium crown rot, strawbreaker foot rot, sharp eyespot, and barley yellow dwarf virus.</li> <li>• Determine genetics and identify molecular markers associated with disease resistance.</li> </ul>	Chris Mundt
<p>Wheat Microbiomes and Multiple Disease Resistance: Determine if wheat diseases of importance in the PNW can be reduced through microbe-mediated genetic resistance of wheat varieties. Determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efficient methodology for evaluating effects of wheat genetics on microbiome populations that suppress disease.</li> <li>• Genetics of microbiome-induced disease suppression traits.</li> <li>• If wheat genotypes suppressing take-all also reduce disease caused by other common wheat pathogens.</li> </ul>	Chris Mundt
<p>Impact of volunteers and grassy weed control on root disease and yield of winter wheat</p>	Christina Hagerty
<p>Improving Control of Wheat Stripe Rust</p>	Xianming Chen
<p>Improving Weed Management in Oregon Wheat Production Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study the scope of the herbicide resistance problem in downy brome</li> <li>• Identify solutions for weed management issues.</li> </ul>	Judith Barroso
<p>How significant of a pest is the cereal leaf beetle at present? <i>*New Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor cereal leaf beetle populations, parasitism rates, and yield in plots.</li> <li>• Determine the effects of insecticide treatments on yield and assess the economic returns of insecticide treatments.</li> </ul>	Stuart Reitz
<p>OSU Cereal Quality Testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct analyses and perform quality testing on elite lines, variety candidates, and economically important varieties.</li> <li>• Improve or maintain the processing and other qualities of new cereal varieties being developed by OSU through the following actions.</li> </ul>	Ross & Kongraksawech
<p>Western Wheat Quality Lab</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide supplemental support for assessing the quality of OSU wheat breeding samples and the quality of public and private pre-release lines.</li> <li>• Conduct large-scale flour milling of the PNW Wheat Quality Council breeder samples on the WWQL’s Miag Mill.</li> </ul>	Alecia Kizonas

We know there are areas for which we have been unable to keep pace due to the lowered revenue from the 2021 crop. For instance, we held grower services and the League contract at level contribution given budget reality, despite knowing that the cost to deliver on those services has increased over time. Overall, we have maintained a minimal service level for core programs. As we look forward to the next year

and a bountiful crop, our assessment revenue will allow for reinvestment to bring those services up. In farming, we all know that the seeds we sow relate to the rewards we reap. I am so grateful for a Commission that has been thoughtful in its long term view towards stewarding the assessment funds to reap the greatest rewards. 🌾



# Indo-Pacific Economic Framework: Perspective On Potential

Dalton Henry, U.S. Wheat Associates Vice President of Policy

In May, the Biden Administration launched a signature foreign policy initiative aimed at increasing economic involvement across Southeast Asia. The initiative is called the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity or IPEF. According to the initial declaration issued by the participating countries, it “intends to advance resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness for our economies. Through this initiative, we aim to contribute to cooperation, stability, prosperity, development, and peace within the region.”

## TPP Replacement?

While touted by some in the United States as a replacement for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) for economic engagement in the Southeast Asia region, what has been revealed so far about the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework is quite different from Free Trade Agreements (FTA) like TPP. Unlike an FTA, the IPEF has no plans for addressing tariffs, instead featuring four “pillars” that individual countries can choose to opt-in or out of. Those pillars are:

- Trade
- Supply Chains
- Clean Energy, Decarbonization and Infrastructure
- Tax and Anti-corruption

The initial countries agreeing to launch the discussions include key U.S. wheat markets such as Japan, the Philippines,


Korea, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Malaysia. Others include Australia, Brunei, India, New Zealand and Singapore.

## Next Steps

These countries have not yet stated which pillars of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework they intend to join. The outcome of those individual country decisions will likely come after initial negotiations establish the scope of issues to be addressed by each pillar, and for the trade section, this will have far-reaching implications for the value of any subsequent agreement.

The timeline for reaching final agreements across all pillars ranges from 12 to 24 months, making it a hopeful first-term effort for President Biden. IPEF is not expected to require Congressional approval because it would not change U.S. law. Changes would require the U.S. Trade Representative to consult with and eventually seek approval from the U.S. Congress.

This also avoids the need for Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), which expired nearly a year ago. Politically, TPA is often seen as a prerequisite for large-scale negotiations because it delegates some negotiating powers from Congress to the administration and establishes processes for formal consultation and expedited voting for eventual agreements.

With no congressional approval, required an aggressive timeline is more likely for IPEF. However, it also indicates that the scope of the trade pillar will likely be limited in depth. 

## Export Development Programs Return Benefits

Oregon wheat producer funding to support market development programs are returning tremendous value to the bottom line: to the tune of more than \$24 in net export revenue for each dollar spent. The Oregon Wheat Commission contributes a portion of every five cent per bushel wheat assessment to market development programs with U.S. Wheat Associates (USW). In turn, USW leverages state commission resources with federal Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) program funds to conduct work cultivating new markets. Spending those dollars cultivating export markets directly benefits wheat growers and the general U.S. economy, according to a new econometric study by IHS Markit and Texas A&M University.

## Wheat Trade

Wheat is the most trade-dependent of the major food and feed crops grown in the United States. But individual farming operations cannot effectively market wheat overseas. The MAP and FMD programs help to encourage those customers to consider the various classes and qualities of U.S. wheat.

With funding from MAP, FMD and U.S. wheat farm families, experienced USW staff and consultants add exceptional value to all U.S. wheat class imports, including the major wheat class exported out of the Pacific Northwest: soft white wheat. USW also invests substantial funding to help



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in economic output across the U.S. economy every year from 2002 to 2019.

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overcome trade or technical barriers that would otherwise keep end-users from realizing the highest value and most revenue from using U.S. wheat.

“These export market development programs enable U.S. Wheat Associates to build a critical reserve of trust and goodwill with our overseas buyers, end-users and influential government officials, as well as key U.S. government agencies and officials,” said USW President Vince Peterson. “And there is a clear return on investment—for every dollar spent on export promotion, there is a return of \$24.50 in additional net export revenue – and the return is even higher to the U.S. wheat supply system.”

### U.S. Farm and Economic Returns

The results are consistent for the return to farmers. “Four studies since 2007 using various econometric models have all shown the same bottom line result – export market development programs work for American agricultural producers,” said Robbie Minnich, Chair of the Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports and Senior Government Relations Representative with the National Cotton Council. “Without question, the economic benefits they return far exceed the investment made.”

The newest econometric study, conducted by IHS Markit and Texas A&M University agricultural economists Dr. Gary Williams and Dr. Oral Capps, showed export programs added an average of \$9.6 billion per year to export value between 1977 and 2019. For farmers, livestock producers and dairy

operators, the study showed MAP and FMD increased cash receipts by \$12.2 billion per year. The study also indicated that these export market development programs added 225,800 new jobs across the entire U.S. economy.


“Our work indicated that MAP and FMD have accounted for 13.7% of all the revenue generated by U.S. agricultural exports between 1977 and 2019,” said Dr. Williams. “The additional export revenue bolsters the entire U.S. agricultural sector and creates a multiplier effect throughout the U.S. economy.”

The Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports welcomed the results of the study. In letters sent on April 27, 2022, members of the Coalition, including USW and other organizations, asked U.S. House and Senate agricultural appropriations subcommittee leadership to maintain funding of at least \$200 million for the MAP and \$34.5 million for the FMD program in FY2023.

### ATP Investment Also Analyzed

The study also analyzed the potential impact of the Agricultural Trade Promotion (ATP) program that the USDA established in 2019. The ATP program provided \$300 million to cooperating organizations, to which they contributed \$90 million in cash, goods and services. The study’s analysis of future expected returns from those investments between 2019 and 2026 predicts that incremental funding for agricultural export market development will provide an excellent return.

### Looking Ahead

While the Oregon Wheat Commission continues investment into USW through producer assessment funds as the private partner match to MAP and FMD, the Oregon Wheat Growers League will continue advocacy for increasing resources for those programs. The last time MAP and FMD received additional funds was in the 2002 Farm Bill. Since then, the funds have lost purchasing power due to inflation, administrative costs and sequestration. ATP helped fill a portion of the gap, but dedicated increases to MAP and FMD are needed. With the demonstrated efficacy of the MAP and FMD programs, it is clear that addressing an increase to program funds will support wheat producers long term. 

# Photo Contest

Enter to win **Free** registration to the Tri-State Grain Growers convention!

- Submit up to 3 high quality images via email.
- Include your name, farm name, location of photo and your phone number inside the email text.
- Photo must be in OREGON!
- High Resolution is requested for best viewing.

Submit your favorite harvest or farm photos to [info@owgl.org](mailto:info@owgl.org) by September 17, 2022.

MAP, FMD & INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE

## EXPORT IMPACT.



Export revenue increased by an average of **\$9.6 billion a year** from 1977 to 2019.

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# RECIPE

## French Toast Kabobs



Recipe contributed to [eatwheat.org](https://www.eatwheat.org) by Michelle Rager.

French toast is great any time of day! Dress up your French toast with this fun recipe that alternates cinnamon French toast cubes and fresh fruit on a skewer. Sprinkle with powdered sugar or drizzle with maple syrup for a sweet treat!

### INGREDIENTS

#### For French Toast:

- 1 (14-ounce) loaf bakery French bread, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 12 large eggs
- 1 cup whole milk
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

#### For kabobs:

- 1 pound fresh strawberries, stems removed
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 cup fresh raspberries
- 12 wooden skewers

#### For topping (optional):

- ½ cup maple syrup, optional
- ¼ cup powdered sugar, optional

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Line both baking sheets with silicone mats. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, milk, sugar and cinnamon.
3. Add bread cubes and gently toss until slightly saturated.
4. Arrange the cubes on the prepared baking sheets, allowing excess egg mixture to run off first.
5. Bake for 6 minutes. Remove from oven, spray tops of cubes with nonstick spray, and gently turn over.
6. Bake for an additional 6 minutes on the other side. Cubes should be slightly browned, and the egg mixture set.
7. Arrange french toast cubes and fruit on the wooden skewers, alternating and creating whatever pattern you prefer.
8. If desired, sprinkle with powdered sugar or drizzle with maple syrup. Serve immediately.





# Introducing a PGR that's **ready to work when you are**

## **ADJUST™ SL** plant growth regulator

When applied between the two-leaf and flag-leaf growth stages, Adjust SL plant growth regulator (PGR) helps increase your crop's stem strength and thickness, which helps:

- Encourage early crown root development
- Increase root mass
- Reduce lodging
- Improve pollination
- Facilitate harvesting
- Maximize yields

Best of all, Adjust SL can still be absorbed by plants in colder temperatures (down to 33°F), so you can maximize productivity.

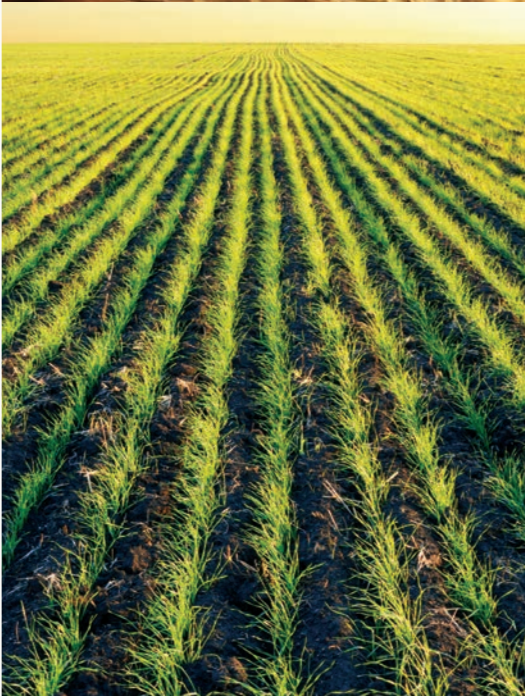
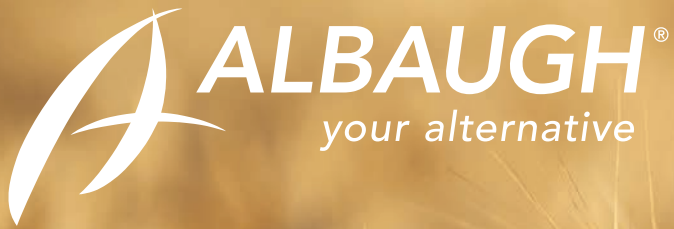
Find out how Adjust SL can help you ensure the yield you need. Visit [eastman.com/adjustOW](http://eastman.com/adjustOW) or call 888-321-3642.

## **EASTMAN**

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