

PACIFIC NORTHWEST GRAIN & FEED ASSOCIATION



Volume 6, Issue #24

Bi-Weekly NewsBulletin

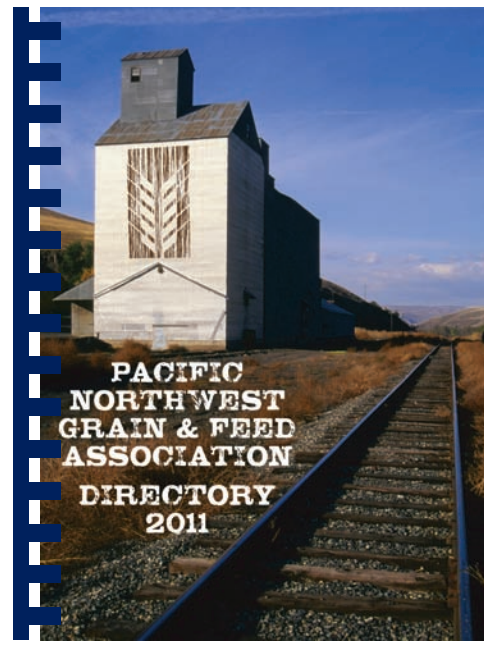
December 22, 2010

2011 Directory Advertising - ORDER TODAY

PNWGFA 2011 Annual Directory is now in production. The annual directory has grown into the most comprehensive and relied upon directory in the region. The publication lists over 300 member and non-member companies handling grain, feed, seed processing and allied industry suppliers in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and beyond!

Each member firm receives one complimentary Directory, and can purchase additional copies for \$50 each. Non members can purchase copies for \$150.

Contact Margerie for additional PNWGFA Directory orders at 503.227.0234 or email pnwgfa@pnwgfa.org.



2011 PNWGFA Directory
Cover: Sweetgrass, ID

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Happy Holidays from PNWGFA Board & Staff!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, I wish you all Happy Holidays and a healthy & prosperous New Year. Thank you for your membership and support throughout the year!

- Dain Lauderback, The Scouler Company — President
- Sam White, Pacific Northwest Farmers — 1st Vice President
- Steve Yorke, United Harvest, LLC — 2nd Vice President
- John Evans, Evans Grain, Feed & Seed — Past President
- Jeff Kaser, United Harvest, LLC — Treasurer
- Dan Bahr, Pendleton Flour Mills, LLC
- Ty Jessup, CLD Pacific Grain, LLC
- Kevin Whitehall, Central WA Grain Growers, Inc.
- Ron Williams, Columbia Grain International, Inc.
- Margerie Sedam, Association Director

44th Annual Warehousemen's Conference

FEBRUARY 10 - 11, 2011 - The Davenport Hotel

Planning for the 2011 Warehousemen's Conference & Trade Show in Spokane, Washington, is underway! We have confirmed most of the speakers and are planning maximum value and credit opportunities for our attendees. If you have topic or speaker suggestions, please contact Margerie at the PNWGFA office. The schedule will be published at the beginning of the year.

The registration form and sponsorship opportunities are online! Go to www.pnwgfa.org or register using this link: http://www.pnwgfa.org/Bulletins/WHSE_Registration_Form_11.pdf

For sponsorship opportunities and tier structures, go to http://www.pnwgfa.org/Bulletins/WHSE_Sponsorship_Memo_11.pdf

Hotel room block information:

The Davenport Hotel
10 S. Post St
Spokane, WA 99201
www.thedavenporthotel.com

Room Rates

Deluxe Tower Rooms - \$109/night + tax
Deluxe Hotel Rooms - \$129/night + tax

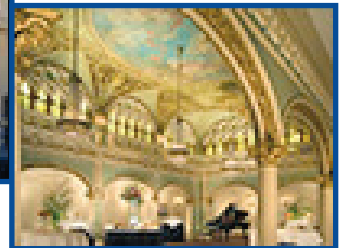
For reservations, call 1.800.899.1482 and tell them you are with the Warehousemen's Conference.

Warehousemen's Committee Members:

Keith Becker, Pacific NW Farmers Co-Op — Chair
John Cranor, Northwest Grain Growers
Mike Dunlap, Inland Empire Oilseeds LLC
Marty Hughes, H & S Services
George Johnstone, Whitgro, Inc.

Spouse Event Committee Members:

Pam Becker — Chair
Shelly Cranor
Sandi Ovnicek



MAKE YOUR ARRANGEMENTS TODAY!



Seeking Bulletin Content, Articles, Speaker Info

PNWGFA strives to bring current, pertinent industry articles and information to our members. To this effect, if you have information you would like to share with your fellow members, or, if you seek specific topics or industry information, please contact Margerie via email or at 503.227.0234.

Planning the 44th Annual Warehousemen's Conference, Southern Idaho Pesticide Conference and the 31st Annual Country Elevator Council, we are seeking industry specialists and accreditation-related seminars to bring to our members. Contact the office today!

Other 2011 Events - Save the Dates!

Southern Idaho Pesticide Conference

March 17-18 at The Ramada Inn - Pocatello, Idaho

Planning Committee:

John Evans, Evans Grain, Feed & Seed – Chair

Tyler Musgrave, Gavilon Grain – Sponsorship Chair



31st Annual Country Elevator Council & Golf Tournament

April 14-15 (date changed!) at Marcus Whitman Hotel
Walla Walla, Washington

Byron Behne, AgVentures Northwest LLC – Meeting Chair

Chris Peha, Northwest Grain Growers – Sponsorship Chair

Jeff Young, Industrial Systems & Fabrication – Golf Chair



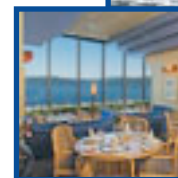
94th Annual Convention, Golf

Tournaments & Membership Meeting

June 22-24 at Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Sterling Haskins, The Haskins Company – Chair

Jeff Young, Industrial Systems & Fabrication – Golf Chair



Annual Idaho Trout Fry & Golf Scramble

September 29 at Clear Lake Country Club in Buhl, Idaho

John Evans, Evans Grain, Feed & Seed – Attendance Chair

Sterling Haskins, The Haskins Company – Sponsorship Chair

Jeff Young, Industrial Systems & Fabrication – Golf Chair



Davenport Union Warehouse Co - Seeking General Manager

Davenport Union Warehouse Co., local grain co-op, is seeking a General Manager. Responsibilities include: day to day management of operations, grain marketing, finance, and personnel management. Minimum qualifications include: college degree or equivalent, and five years grain industry experience. Salary and benefit package DOE. Send cover letter and resume with three references by January 15, 2011, to Davenport Union Board of Directors, P. O. Box 149, Davenport, WA 99122.

Job Postings - Contact PNWGFA Association Office

If your company has a job opening or you know of a company who is hiring, please contact Margerie at 503.227.0234 or pnwgfa@pnwgfa.org. We will post industry job postings as a benefit to our members.

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Risk Management Agency • Spokane Regional Office • 11707 E. Sprague Avenue, Suite 201
Spokane Valley, WA 99206 • (509) 228-6320 • rsowa@rma.usda.gov • <http://www.rma.usda.gov/go/rowa>

Contact:

Jo Lynne Seufer (509) 228-6320

Farmers and Ranchers are Reminded of Adjusted Gross Revenue and Multi-Peril Crop Insurance Program Dates

SPOKANE, Wash. December 6, 2010—The Risk Management Agency reminds producers of winter and spring sales closing dates for the Multiple Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) programs, the Adjusted Gross Revenue Pilot (AGR) available in select Northwest counties, and the Adjusted Gross Revenue-Lite (AGR-Lite) programs available throughout the Pacific Northwest. AGR and AGR-Lite cover most farm-raised crops, animals, and animal products.

Upcoming regional sales closing dates:

- January 31, 2011 Final date to obtain or change AGR insurance in select counties in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Final date to submit required documents to continue or change 2011 AGR-Lite insurance for EXISTING POLICY HOLDERS in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.
- February 1, 2011 Final date to obtain or change crop insurance coverage for 2011 Spring Planted Onions in Idaho, Oregon and Washington and Cabbage in Oregon and Washington.
- March 15, 2011 Final date to obtain 2011 AGR-Lite insurance for NEW APPLICATION/ENROLLMENT POLICIES in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Final date to obtain or change ALL OTHER Spring Seeded MPCI (excluding wheat in counties with Fall and Spring planted types).

RMA also reminds producers of the important link between Federal crop insurance and Farm Service Agency (FSA) Disaster Assistance programs for the 2011 crop year. To maintain eligibility for FSA's disaster programs, producers must obtain a policy or plan of insurance of at least catastrophic (CAT) level coverage if available. For those crops that are non-insurable, coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program must also be timely obtained. Producers are encouraged to visit with their local FSA office to ensure they are in compliance with the new linkage requirements. If there is no coverage in a county for a specific crop under the traditional MPCI program, producers may ask a crop insurance agent whether they would be eligible for coverage under a written agreement.

Producers are encouraged to contact a local MPCI agent to learn additional program details well ahead of the final sales closing dates. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers throughout the U.S. or at the website address: <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/>

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Dying E. Oregon Wheat Fields Under Investigation

PENDLETON, Ore. (AP) — Dying wheat fields in Eastern Oregon are being investigated by agriculture researchers to find out what damaged more than 40,000 acres in Umatilla and Morrow counties.

The East Oregonian reports that Umatilla County growers noticed wheat fields turning yellow and dying early in November.

Sixteen fields northwest of Pendleton were affected.

In Morrow County, officials say more than 30,000 acres of wheat have plants with discolored yellow or purple tips that sometimes dry out.

Oregon Department of Agriculture and Oregon State University researchers say they don't know yet if the problems in the two counties are related.

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The Draft Oregon Freight Plan is now available for public review and comment

The Draft Oregon Freight Plan is now available for public review and comment. The plan describes how product movement is directly tied to the vitality of Oregon's economy and recommends strategies for the public and private sectors to work together to help guide investments in highways, bridges, docks, airports and railroads for cargo movement.

ODOT recognizes that freight infrastructure is essential for businesses to receive and distribute products—reliable and efficient transportation of goods leads to better business and more jobs. A well functioning freight system also means citizens have the merchandise available to meet their daily needs—from apples to washing machines.

For these reasons, your input is important to make sure the plan addresses the needs of Oregon's businesses, communities and citizens. You may access the draft plan, public meeting schedule and commenting instructions at: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/FREIGHT/>. Comments will be accepted through February 28, 2011.

If you wish to follow Oregon Freight Plan development, you may sign up for email updates, messages and meeting reminders by registering your contact information at: <http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/oregonfreightplan>. ODOT keeps contact information confidential.

Please forward this message to share the information with any individual or organization that you think may be interested.

If you have questions about the public comment process or your organization would like to have a Draft Oregon Freight Plan presentation and discussion, please send an email to OFP@odot.state.or.us or call ODOT at 503-986-3520.



Wheat Buyers Well-Positioned for River Closure

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced this week that the extended navigation lock closure of the Columbia-Snake River System (CSRS) for major repair and maintenance work would begin as scheduled on Dec. 10, 2010. While barge traffic above The Dalles will stop for up to 16 weeks, wheat and other commodities will continue to move to Pacific Northwest (PNW) ports via rail and truck.

There is every indication that U.S. wheat buyers have prepared well to work through any issues created by the river system closure.

"We took this situation seriously and tried to do everything necessary to help our customers," said Vince Peterson, USW Vice President of Overseas Operations.

A review of commercial sales of wheat sales to markets traditionally taking wheat from the Pacific Northwest suggests that those buyers have responded to our input. For example, sales of soft white (SW) and club wheat so far in marketing year 2010/11 are 25 percent more than at the same time in 2009/10. Total sales to North and South Asian markets in 2010/11 compared to last year are up 25 percent and 37 percent respectively.

As USW expected, exporters are doing everything possible to keep the wheat flowing without major interruptions. Yet unexpected upside demand for U.S. wheat following the Russian grain export ban and sustained overseas demand for U.S. soybeans is challenging the supply chain. Looking ahead to the rest of 2010/11, PNW exporters likely will continue operating at or near capacity even after the CSRS opens again in March 2011. Given that situation, USW will stay focused on helping its customers analyze and adjust their expected wheat needs and logistical capabilities during and after the closure.

To read the US Wheat Associates Wheat Letter in its entirety, follow this link: http://www.pnwgfa.org/US-Wheat_120210_WheatLetter.pdf

Two of Largest US Agricultural Banks Intend Merger

News source: ALL ABOUT FEED.net

US AgBank and CoBank, two of America's largest agricultural lenders, plan to merge next year, expanding their reach as the farm economy booms.

The banks are two of the five banks that make up the Farm Credit System, a federally chartered network that accounts for more than a third of lending in the rural US.

The banks serve as wholesale providers of financing to farm credit associations and lend to agribusinesses and rural utilities directly.

The banks said in a joint news release that the merger would add geographic diversity and allow them to serve virtually every key agricultural commodity.

Read the entire article: <http://www.allaboutfeed.net/news/two-of-largest-us-agricultural-banks-intend-merger-5100.html>



First Ever Spring Roll Wrapper Course Held at Wheat Marketing Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST EVER SPRING ROLL WRAPPER COURSE HELD AT WHEAT MARKETING CENTER BEGINS NEW PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT BRINGING SCIENCE TO THE ANCIENT ART OF MAKING SPRING ROLL WRAPS

Portland, Oregon (December 20, 2010) – If you're like most of us, you've often wondered where those less-than paper thin "wraps," surrounding that delicious spring roll you've enjoyed, come from. And, when you think of those hundreds of thousands of spring rolls enjoyed around the world, well there's just got to be a lot of wraps being manufactured.

Making literally tons of those wraps is not quite as easy as the recipes on the web would have you believe: a cup of water, a cup of flour and an egg; whip it up, press it flat, and fry it. Is it really that easy? (First, is that really a spring roll wrapper? No, what we saw described on the web is really a wonton wrap.)

Not so easy at all... when this tasty, convenient food known as a spring roll is being consumed around the globe at an increasingly fantastic rate: literally millions. A delicate, strong, thin and uniform, and equally tasty wheat flour wrapper is needed for each one.

That's when things began to happen: a U.S. Wheat Associates field team from Singapore (Roy Chung and Lock Yang Phua, both experts in baking technology) convinced two executives from a major wrapper manufacturer in Southeast Asia (Thiam Chai Gan, Executive Chairman, and Yee Hong Tan, Production Manager, Kawan Food Berhad, Selangor, Malaysia) and an ingredient company seeking scientific study of ingredients/additives of his company's products (Kenichi Yamada, General Manager and Director, Rikevita Pte Ltd, Singapore), to come to the Wheat Marketing Center (WMC).

This was a first-ever End Product Collaborative (EPC) course to scientifically investigate flour and ingredient requirements for spring roll wrapper product. The week-long "Spring Roll Wrapper Course" was developed by Dr. Gary Hou, WMC, who commented that "in making spring rolls, the art was there and now the science is being added."

To read this article in its entirety, follow this link: http://www.pnwgfa.org/SpringRoll_WHEAT MARKETING CENTER.pdf



California Grain & Feed Industry Conference

The California Grain & Feed Industry Conference will be held January 12-13, 2011, at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Monterey Bay. The basic purpose of the conference is to provide mill managers and key employees of grain handling and feed manufacturing operations an educational program consisting of both managerial and technical information specific to the industry.

Additional information and registration form: http://www.pnwgfa.org/Bulletins/CGFA_conf.pdf



National
Grain and Feed
Association

USDA Issues ACRE Program Payments for Various Commodities

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on Dec. 9 announced it will issue an additional approximately \$10 million in payments under the 2008 farm law's Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) provisions for the 2009 crop year.

USDA said about 95 percent of the \$10 million in payments are expected to be issued to sunflower producers in Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. USDA announced in early November that it would issue an estimated \$420 million in ACRE payments for 2009-crop corn, wheat and other commodities. Of the \$420 million in payments for those commodities, about 70 percent were expected to be issued to wheat producers and 23 percent to corn producers. About 80 percent of those payments were expected to be issued to producers in Oklahoma, Washington, Illinois, South Dakota, Idaho and North Dakota.

Under the ACRE program, revenue triggers for a commodity are required to be met on both a state and farm basis before producers are eligible to receive payments. The required 2009-10 marketing year average price data used to calculate 2009 ACRE payments for large and small chickpeas, sunflowers, canola, flaxseed, mustard seed, rapeseed, safflower, crambe and sesame seed became available to USDA on Nov. 30, 2010. A list of state payment rates for 2009 crops of large and small chickpeas, sunflowers, canola, flaxseed, mustard seed, rapeseed, safflower, crambe and sesame seed may be accessed by [clicking here](#).

USDA said the 2009 ACRE payments for long grain rice and medium/short grain rice will be determined after marketing year average price data is published by the National Agricultural Statistical Service on Jan. 31.

Canada Wheat Board Introduces New Feed-Wheat Pricing Program

Newssource: ALL ABOUT FEED.net

Canadian farmers struggle with large supplies of lower-quality grain this year. In an effort to help the farmers the Canadian Wheat Board, or CWB, has introduced new pricing options for feed wheat.

"Wet weather throughout the growing season means more feed wheat in the bins than there has been in at least six years. This has created a difficult situation for many farmers," CWB President and Chief Executive Ian White said in a press release. He said that "as much as a quarter of all wheat harvested this year could grade as feed."

The new pricing program gives farmers the choice of immediately locking in prices for Canada Western feed wheat, said the release.

"Farmers tell us they'd like to lock in a feed-wheat price this year, so we've adapted an existing program to enable them to do that," White said.

"Farmers can now choose the feed-wheat price that suits them best, taking into account their market view and cash-flow needs."

In an average year, more than 70% of western Canadian spring wheat is in the top two grades.

This year, only 38% is expected to grade No. 1 or 2, leaving about 35% as No. 3 and 25% as feed.

Not since the cold summer and wet harvest of 2004 has the CWB expected such a high volume of feed wheat, said the release.



U.S. Wheat Industry Applauds U.S.-Korea FTA Deal, Urges Similar Effort on Pending Trade Agreements

Following is a statement from U.S. Wheat Associates President Alan Tracy and National Association of Wheat Growers Chief Executive Officer Dana Peterson:

"The U.S. wheat industry welcomes the successful conclusion of negotiation on the U.S.-Korea free trade agreement (FTA). We applaud the Obama Administration for working hard to address the difficult challenges in this deal, and we look forward to its swift submission to and ratification by Congress.

"South Korea is a top ten market for U.S. wheat producers, importing more than 40 million bushels each of the last five years. Once implemented, the FTA will help protect this important market by eliminating the small duty U.S. wheat faces there now.

"Without bilateral and regional agreements such as the U.S.-Korea FTA, U.S. wheat producers face a competitive disadvantage in other key countries, particularly since other wheat exporters are moving ahead at a brisk pace to sign their own bilateral agreements in several key U.S. markets. For example, U.S. Wheat Associates estimates that failure to ratify the U.S.-Colombia FTA could lead to an annual loss of more than \$100 million for the U.S. wheat industry at current export prices. This is in part because a ratified FTA between Canada and Colombia will allow Canadian wheat to enter Colombia duty free in early 2011. Influential Colombian millers confirm that if they must pay duties on U.S. wheat, but not on Canadian wheat, U.S. market share will likely decline.

"The results of a comprehensive new study* by U.S. Wheat Associates and 11 other commodity groups show that active trade agreements directly increase U.S. agricultural exports, farm gate prices and job growth. Yet the United States risks falling behind as its export competitors aggressively press ahead.

"We are pleased with the effort on the U.S.-Korea FTA, and we hope its forward movement signals the United States is willing to work as hard, with the same urgency, to finalize pending Colombia and Panama FTAs, negotiate the Trans-Pacific Partnership and seek a beneficial conclusion to World Trade Organization Doha Round negotiations."

Source: U.S. Wheat Association news release



Global Wheat Acres Forecast to Increase

The surge in wheat prices this year will lead to increased global wheat production area in 2011, according to the International Grains Council (IGC).

With wheat prices climbing nearly 20 percent from a year ago, the IGC expects total wheat production area to increase by four percent, from 216 million hectares (MH) (534 million acres) in 2010 to 224 MH (554 million acres) in 2011. With the exception of Russia, the IGC anticipates increased winter wheat plantings for all major exporters.

Russia will continue to feel the effects of this year's drought moving into 2011. The drought caused a late start to the planting season, and winter wheat plantings will be down this year as a result. The IGC estimates Russian winter wheat seeding will fall to 11.5 MH (28 million acres), approximately 14 percent below last year's planted area. The reduction in winter wheat sowing could lead to further export restrictions if spring sowing does not increase. Earlier this month, the Russian Grain Union stated that spring grain sowings would have to increase by at least 2.5 MH (6 million acres) to ensure domestic supplies are adequate in the upcoming year.

Finish reading this article at http://www.agnetwork.com/friday_newsletter.aspx?oid=1287970&tid=Archive&hq_e=el&hq_m=886716&hq_l=7&hq_v=bbb697f04d



Oregon State University Students Building an Experimental Malter

By John Foyston, Special to The Oregonian

This is a press release as received from OSU:

Drink a beer brewed in the United States, and there's a good chance the hops you'll taste were grown in Oregon. But chances are the malted barley in it wasn't.

Oregon State University is working to change that. Students there have designed and will build a malting unit that could soak, germinate and dry small batches of the grain as part of OSU's larger effort to create a market for barley grown in Oregon. The malter will become part of OSU's existing research brewery; researchers and companies can pay to use the machine to test new barley varieties or malting techniques.

Last year, Oregon farmers sold \$6.8 million of barley harvested on 31,400 acres, according to a report by the OSU Extension Service. But Oregon barley rarely makes it into beer because there is little data on its suitability as malts, said Pat Hayes, an OSU professor and barley breeder.

To gather that data, Hayes said, you need a malter. But commercial malters are too big, he pointed out. Their typical run is about 300,000 pounds of barley, producing about 175,000 gallons of beer, which is too much for research purposes.

OSU's brewery, which companies contract to produce experimental batches, requires only about 200 pounds of barley to produce 100 gallons of beer, Hayes said. The brewery uses barley that has already been malted because it hasn't had a malter. The university can't buy one because the machines on the market are too large for OSU's needs, Hayes said. So he and his colleagues asked three senior OSU engineering students to design and build a mini-malter capable of processing up to 300 pounds of barley.

"This equipment will remove the malting bottleneck and get Oregon grain flowing to Oregon glasses," Hayes said.

OSU professor and fermentation scientist Tom Shellhammer added, "We could conceivably produce enough malt for a small microbrewery to experiment with."

The students will build the machine during winter term and test it in the spring. When finished, the portable unit will weigh about 1,000 pounds, measure about 4 feet wide and 6 feet long, and stand about 5 feet high. The students are recording their progress. Great Western Malting Co., a commercial malter in Vancouver, Wash., is providing technical assistance.

Hayes hopes to brew the first beer from on-site malted barley by June, just in time for the North American Barley Researchers Workshop, which will convene on campus from June 6-8.

The malter is part of OSU's efforts to find more uses for Oregon's barley and add value to it. For example, Hayes is exploring the malting qualities in Oregon's six-row winter barleys, which he hopes can satisfy the region's taste for quality microbrews. He is also collaborating with OSU food chemist and baker Andrew Ross to develop a healthy, beta-glucan-rich food barley, which they have used to make bread.

In the future, the departments involved in the malt unit may collaborate on a mini-pearler to remove hulls from barley. As with malters, current pearler machines are designed for very large or very small amounts.

News source: http://blog.oregonlive.com/thebeerhere/2010/12/osu_students_building_an_exper.html



Journal 'Science': Agriculture's Next Revolution 'Perennial Grain' Within Sight

Biggest Agricultural Breakthrough in 10,000 Years?

Contact:

WSU Science Writer Eric Sorensen, 509/335-4846, eric.sorensen@wsu.edu

PULLMAN, Wash. – Earth-friendly perennial grain crops, which grow with less fertilizer, herbicide, fuel, and erosion than grains planted annually, could be available in two decades, according to researchers writing in the current issue of the journal *Science*.

Perennial grains would be one of the largest innovations in the 10,000 year history of agriculture, and could arrive even sooner with the right breeding programs, said John Reganold, a Washington State University Regents professor of soil science and lead author of the paper with Jerry Glover, a WSU-trained soil scientist now at the Land Institute in Salina, Kansas.

"It really depends on the breakthroughs," said Reganold. "The more people involved in this, the more it cuts down the time."

Published in *Science's* influential policy forum, the paper is a call to action as half the world's growing population lives off marginal land at risk of being degraded by annual grain production. Perennial grains, say the paper's authors, expand farmers' ability to sustain the ecological underpinnings of their crops.

"People talk about food security," said Reganold. "That's only half the issue. We need to talk about both food and ecosystem security."

Perennial grains, say the authors, have longer growing seasons than annual crops and deeper roots that let the plants take greater advantage of precipitation. Their larger roots, which can reach ten to 12 feet down, reduce erosion, build soil and sequester carbon from the atmosphere. They require fewer passes of farm equipment and less herbicide, key features in less developed regions.

By contrast, annual grains can lose five times as much water as perennial crops and 35 times as much nitrate, a valuable plant nutrient that can migrate from fields to pollute drinking water and create "dead zones" in surface waters.

"Developing perennial versions of our major grain crops would address many of the environmental limitations of annuals while helping to feed an increasingly hungry planet," said Reganold.

Perennial grain research is underway in Argentina, Australia, China, India, Sweden and the United States. Washington State University has more than a decade of work on perennial wheat led by Stephen Jones, director WSU's Mount Vernon Research Center. Jones is also a contributor to the *Science* paper, which has more than two dozen authors, mostly plant breeders and geneticists.

The authors say research into perennial grains can be accelerated by putting more personnel, land and technology into breeding programs. They call for a commitment similar to that underway for biologically based alternative fuels.



2011 Montana/Wyoming Sugar Beet and Barley Symposium

2011 Montana/Wyoming Sugar Beet and Barley Symposium will be held in Billings, at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center on Wednesday and Thursday, January 12 and 13, 2011.

The program on Jan. 12 will focus on malt barley production and crop protection plus managing weed, disease and insect pests of corn, dry beans and wheat grown in rotation with sugarbeets and barley. There will be presentations by faculty from Montana State University, the University of Wyoming, the University of Nebraska and others on commodity price outlook, government programs, crop insurance, irrigation, how to optimize fertilizer investments for these crops, updates on planting and harvesting equipment, strip tillage and the malting and brewing industry. John Pulaski, Northern Ag network's weather expert, will present a 2011 weather outlook. There will be a Trade Show with exhibits from many agbusinesses.

Presentations on the Jan. 13 will focus on sugarbeet production including fertility, irrigation, crop insurance, strip tillage, plus insect, weed and disease management. Luther Markwart, executive vice president of the American Sugarbeet Growers Association will present a Washington update, update on use of Round Up Ready sugarbeets and other issues affecting the future of the sugarbeet industry. Karen Fugate, USDA/ARS-Fargo, N.D., will discuss the role of field diseases in storage of sugarbeets.

The symposium will feature top experts from Montana State University, the University of Wyoming, North Dakota State University and the University of Nebraska USDA/ARS- Sidney, Mont. and Fargo, ND, USDA/Risk Management Agency and private industry. In addition, there will be a trade show with exhibits by many agricultural input suppliers. The Wednesday program will include a sponsored soup and sandwich lunch at noon and on Thursday the Billings Chamber of Commerce will provide breakfast starting at 6:30 a.m. for attendees.

The full agenda, registration information, and fees can be found at <http://ipm.montana.edu>. Preregistration is \$20.00/day and registration at the door is \$25.00/day. The 2011 Sugarbeet and Barley Symposium was developed by representatives from Sidney Sugars, Western Sugar, Wyoming Sugar, Montana State University and private industry.

For more information contact Barry Jacobsen, program chair. Phone: 406 994-5161/
email: uplbj@montana.edu

Montana



Center

The Montana Integrated Pest Management Center is part of the Western Integrated Pest Management Center, authorized by Section 406 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998. Our function is to provide pest management information to agriculture and horticulture of Montana and surrounding states, prioritize and coordinate pest management research, extension and educational programs, and respond to the informational needs of the public and private sectors on a regional basis.

The Montana Integrated Pest Management Center is supported in part by the Western Integrated Pest Management Center.