Attachment 1:

2016 AGENDA

8:00 Registration / Coffee & Donuts
Thanks to our sponsors!

8:25 Welcome
Dave Reynolds, IACSGA President

8:30 Vole Control
Ronda Hirnyck, ISDA

9:00 Transform Progress
Todd Pilcher, DOW AgroSciences

9:30 NAFA Update
Leland Tiegs, NAFA

9:45 Alfalfa Seed/Herbicide Trial
Bill Buhrig, OSU Extension

10:00 Vendor Voices from Sponsors & Break

10:30 Lygus Report
Dr. Jim Barbour, U of I Extension

11:00 Seed Coatings
Dr. Bing-Rui Ni, United Ag Technologies

11:30 Alfalfa Seed Grower Practices
Bill Buhrig, OSU Extension

12:00 State Association Meeting

12:15 Lunch
Thanks to our sponsors!

1:00 Alfalfa Seed Market Report
Kevin Osborne, Allied Seed

1:15 Treasure Valley Refill
Roger Batt, Treasure Valley Water Users

2:00 Water Outlook
Ron Abramovich, USDA-NRCS

2:30 Improving Bee Parasite Control During Field Season
Dr. Diana Cox-Foster, Logan Bee Lab
Dr. Ellen Klinger, Logan Bee Lab

3:00 Adjourn

PowerPoint Presentations can be found at:
www.pnwpestalert.net

THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 SPONSORS

ALFOREX SEEDS
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JWM LEAFCUTTERS INC.
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SIMPLOT GROWER SOLUTIONS

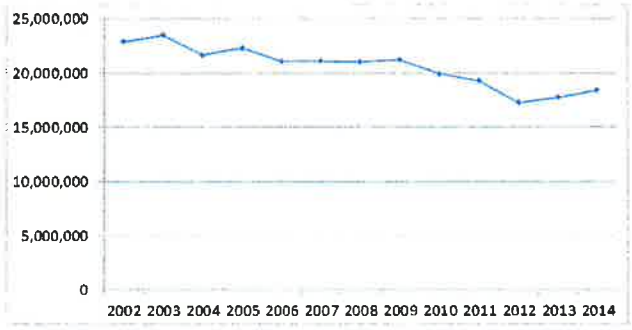
The Grower Associations gratefully acknowledge the 2016 industry sponsors who paid for food and room expenses.

Alfalfa Acres & Research Expenditures

Alfalfa is key to sustainable agricultural systems and is an economic engine in rural communities - its value for soil conservation, nitrogen fixation, energy savings, crop rotation, and wildlife habitat is unsurpassed.

Alfalfa must offer a competitive value for farmers in order to provide these benefits and maintain or expand its acreage base. Being recognized in policy and research funding decisions is critical in keeping pace with other cropping choices.

U.S. Acreage 2002-2014 (-19.5%)



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

FY '12 USDA Research Expenditures by Crop

Crop	$million	Scientist Years	# of Projects
Corn	44.6	109.9	108
Cotton	42.6	104.2	68
Wheat	42.1	95	145
Soybean	34.5	82.9	84
Apple	9.9	24	26
Tomato	8.5	19.7	43
Sorghum	8.4	22.3	27
Greens/leafy veg	6.9	15.4	19
Alfalfa	3.7	9.9	14
Sunflower	3.2	8.1	8
Carrot	0.8	1.6	5
Canola	0.7	1.6	5

Source: 2012 USDA ARS CRIS Reports

National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance
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A Success Story

EPA and Western Alfalfa Seed Growers Association

A partnership that ensures a consistent supply of high-quality alfalfa seed for the nation's fourth largest crop.

Alfalfa seed requires pollination by specific kinds of bees. In the Northwest, leafcutter and alkali bees are used. In California, leafcutter and honey bees are used.

Alkali bees are the only native pollinator used commercially in the United States. They are used to pollinate alfalfa seed in the Touchet area of Washington State.

- In the mid 1980's, alfalfa seed growers were losing effective pesticides that were safe to use during bloom time when pollinating bees were in the fields.
- In 1988, the Northwest Seed Growers petitioned EPA to regulate alfalfa seed production as a non-food/non-feed crop.
- In conjunction with State Departments of Agriculture, new state regulations were adopted to formalize agreements with the EPA. In Washington State for example, WAC 16-228-1270 states that for purposes of pesticide registration, alfalfa grown for seed, is considered a non-food/non-feed crop.

State Departments of Agriculture continue to audit and monitor seed production and seed conditioning practices.

Seed farmers themselves are the biggest advocates and policing group. They recognize and appreciate the importance of this law.

For over 20 years, the partnerships between EPA, State Agriculture Departments and alfalfa seed growers in 7 western states have allowed the growth and prosperity of the alfalfa seed industry, while simultaneously protecting our essential, sensitive bees.

In 2014, $107 million worth of alfalfa seed was exported from the United States to countries around the world.

Providing high quality alfalfa seed for the nation's fourth largest crop, and other countries around the world, requires continued success of this unique partnership.


Leafcutter Bee


Alkali Bee


Honey Bee

The Western Alfalfa Seed Growers Association is a proud affiliate of the National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance (NAFA).

Compiled by Mark and Sharla Wagoner • Touchet, Washington

Alfalfa Seed and Forage Systems Research Program

Programmatic Funding Request

FY 2017 Request: $3 million

The Alfalfa Seed and Forage Systems Research Program (AFRP) will effectively address the priority research needs of the alfalfa seed and forage systems industry for improving efficiency and sustainability of production through integrated, collaborative research and technology transfer. The program will focus on national priority research needs and needs of regional scope. The AFRP will provide a structure to encourage multi-disciplinary research networks which enhance limited state and industry resources.

Authorizing Language

Located in the *"High Priority Research and Extension Initiatives"* of the 2014 Farm Bill (Section 7209):
"(8) ALFALFA AND FORAGE RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Appropriations Language

Located in the *"Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2016"*:
"Alfalfa and Forage Research - The Committee notes that research into alfalfa seed and alfalfa forage systems holds the potential to increase yields, increase milk production, and improve genetics. The Committee... support(s) research into the improvement of yields, water conservation, creation of new uses, and the development of new storage and harvest systems."

Alfalfa is the 3rd most valuable field crop in the US!

Research Emphasis

Improving Alfalfa Seed & Forage Yield. Yield is the major determinant of profit for forage growers. However, diseases often limit yield and need to be identified and controlled. In addition, since manure is often applied to alfalfa, more information is needed to determine its effects on alfalfa growth, as well as its potential for disease transmission.

Persistence. Biotic (weeds, insects, other pests, frequent clipping, etc.) and abiotic (severe cold, high heat and humidity, drought, etc.) stresses are often very high. Persistence, therefore, is high on the forage list of research priorities.

Harvesting and Storage of Alfalfa. Yield monitoring equipment needs to be developed for alfalfa, such as that which currently exists for other small grain crops, to better monitor nutrient needs and removal from soil. Harvesting systems (hay, baleage, and silage) that reduce losses during the harvesting and storage process are critical to farm profitability.

Improving Estimates of Forage Quality. Fiber measurements currently being used to estimate energy levels in forage are less than accurate. Livestock producers, therefore, maximize grains in the rations they feed because the energy content of grains is more definitive, even though grains may be less economical and/or environmentally sound. Better forage quality tests will improve forage usage in animal rations.

Breeding. Research in forage crop breeding is needed to address seedling vigor (in order to improve establishment success), yield, production, and persistence.

Alfalfa and alfalfa forage systems are key to sustainable agricultural systems and are an economic engine in rural communities - their value for soil conservation, nitorgen fixation, energy savings, crop rotation, and wildlife habitat is unsurpassed.

Alfalfa and alfalfa forage systems must offer a competitive value for farmers in order to provide these benefits and maintain or expand its acreage base. Being recognized in research funding decisions is critical in keeping pace with other cropping choices.

Forage Facts

Industry Contribution. Industry contributes millions per year to forage related research, including variety evaluations, nutrition related analysis, and applied research.

Fertilizer Savings. One crop of moderately thin alfalfa plowed down provides the equivalent of up to 100 lbs of nitrogen per acre, enough to replace almost all of the fertilizer required by the following corn crop, the equivalent of 292,000 tons of anhydrous ammonia. This represents a savings of over 8 trillion BTUs of fossil fuel energy from natural gas.

Value of Hay in the U.S. Among field crops, the value of all hay produced in the United States is exceeded by only corn and soybeans. In 2014, all hay in the U.S. was valued at over $21.8 billion.

Mitigating Accidental Chemical Spills. Alfalfa's high protein content makes it a valuable crop for cleaning up sites with too much nitrogen. Alfalfa was used at railroad derailment sites in both North Dakota and California to remove excess spilled nitrate from the soil and groundwater.

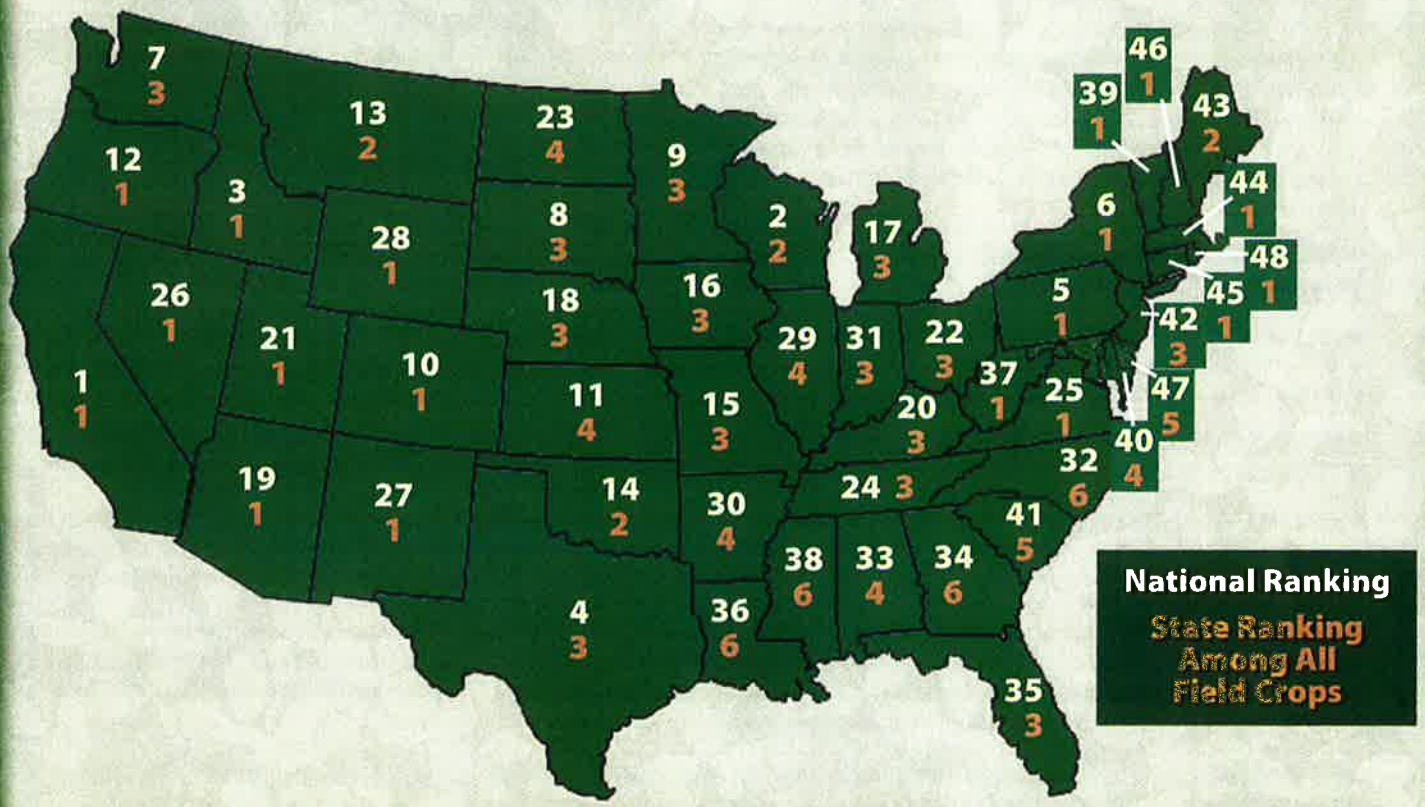
Forages Critical to Livestock Production. Grassland agriculture provides up to 90% of the feedstuffs consumed by livestock, critical to maintaining agricultural diversity. With its 98 million beef and dairy cattle, the forage-livestock industry contributed more than $109 billion in farm sales in 2014 to the nation's economy.

Environmentally Friendly. Forages are environmentally friendly in that they reduce soil erosion, pesticide usage, and fertilizer application. In addition, forages increase soil structure and organic matter and enhance agricultural profitability.

Forage Benefits Everyone. Our nation's forage, grassland, and range resources cover about 55% of the land area of the United States and improve as well as protect the soil due to its capability to "fix" atmospheric nitrogen.

Value of Forage Production

Source: USDA-NASS (National Rank 2014 data)



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2015-16 Idaho Alfalfa & Clover Seed Commission

			Term Expires (June 30)
Commissioners	Steve Lejardi 2411 Market Road Homedale, ID 83628 slejardi@frontiernet.net	hm 208-337-3001 cell 208-573-2493	2017 ^
	Jim Briggs 6068 Hogg Road Marsing, ID 83639 jmbriggs@speedyquick.net	hm 208-896-4473 fax (same - call first) cell 208-880-9467	2018 ^
	Larry Meyer 2074 E 3550 N Filer, ID 83328 larrymeyer@filertel.com	hm 208-326-4074 cell 208-731-9405	2018 ^^
	Paul Rasgorshek 12770 W Roosevelt Ave Nampa, ID 83686 paul.rasgorshek@landb.com	hm 208-466-7722 fax 208-466-4765 cell 208-880-0656	2016 ^^
	Dave Reynolds, **Chairman** 4649 W. King Road Kuna, ID 83634 davereynoldsfarms@msn.com	hm 208-922-4339 fax 208-922-4339 cell 208-890-1066	2017 ^
	Joe Weitz, **Vice Chairman** 16909 Marsing Rd Caldwell, ID 83607 jrwwesternfarms@gmail.com	cell 208-880-3445	2016 ^^
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Dealer Alternate	Kevin Osborne Allied Seed 876 Columbia Avenue Nyssa, OR 97913 kosborne@alliedseed.com	hm 541-372-5397 wk 208-466-6700 fax 208-466-9074 cell 208-960-4771	2016
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