December 2002

What's Happening In AERS

Volume 2, Issue 4

Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Idaho

A note from Dr. Van Tassell

This past quarter we held our first meeting with our newly formed advisory board (see pictures on the back page). It was an exciting meeting. Our board consists of Dick Wittman (farmer, consultant), Tom Lamar (Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute), Kelly Olson (Idaho Barley Commission), Blair Wilson (Farm Credit Services), Charles Cheyney (extension educator), Dennis Conley (Basic American Foods), and Laird Noh (Idaho State Senate, rancher). We look forward to their continued involvement in the department.

We would also like to say good-bye to Lois Rasmussen. Lois has been our financial tech for over 16 years. She left to go into the long-haul trucking business with her husband. We wish them the best.

We wish everyone a Happy New Year. In AERS, spirits are high and there is a lot of excitement for 2003. We hope it is productive for you.

In this newsletter:

Awards	pg. 3
Courses/Seminars	pg. 2
Noteworthy News	pg. 3
Trips of Interest	pg. 1
Presentations	pg. 2
Publications	pg. 2

Trips of Interest

October

Larry Van Tassell traveled to San Luis Obispo, CA to attend the Western Association of Agricultural Economics Administrators.

November

J.D. Wulfhorst and Larry Van Tassell took trips to Nezperce, Coeur d'Alene and Worley to meet with bluegrass seed producers and formulate an industry survey of bluegrass seed production practices.

On November 14, Paul Patterson and Wilson Gray assisted Shannon Williams, extension educator in Lemhi County, with a financial management workshop for ranchers.

December

J.D. Wulfhorst and Larry Van Tassell attended the Grass Seed Cropping Systems for a Sustainable Agriculture (GSCSSA) meeting in Portland, OR on December 10-12 to present progress on their funded bluegrass seed research project. Larry also attended meetings as the Idaho Chair of the GSCSSA Technical Advisory Committee.

Publications

Bartlett, E. Tom, L. Allen Torell, Neil R. Rimbey, Larry W. Van Tassell, and Daniel W. McCollum. "Valuing Grazing Use on Public Land." *Journal of Range Management*. 55 (2002):426-438.

Wulfhorst, J.D., K. Wrigley, J. Kamm, J. Parker, E. Glenn, J. Beller, and B. Breckenridge. "Subsurface Contamination and Economic Development in the Snake River Basin." Paper presented at the 2nd Annual INEEL Subsurface Science Symposium, 10/02, Boise, ID.

Wulfhorst, J.D., and **J. Parker**. "Differential Costs and Benefits Related to Control of Natural Resources." 10/02, Paper presented at the Global Challenges of Parks and Protected Area Management Symposium, Sardinia, Italy.

Smathers, B., Gray, W., Rimbey, N.. Idaho 2002 Livestock Costs and Returns Estimates, December 2002.

Guenthner, Joseph F. "Consumer Acceptance of Genetically Modified Potatoes." *American Journal of Potato Research*. Vol. 79 No. 5:309-316.

Courses/Seminars

- **J.D. Wulfhorst** participated in the UI Humanities Seminar, "Sense of Place" weekend on the Coeur d'Alene Indian reservation.
- **Steve Cooke** gave a seminar at WSU on November 21st entitled, "Earnings in the Mountain West: 1978 to 1988, A Test of the Power and Barrett Hypotheses."
- **Paul Patterson** and **Wilson Gray** conducted an in-service education workshop for extension educators on October 22-24. The workshop was held in Jerome, ID and covered financial management, enterprise budgets and new farm bill.

Presentations

J.D. Wulfhorst gave a final presentation to the Forest Service. Social Assessment conducted for the Idaho Panhandle National Forests—"Idaho Panhandle National Forests Social Assessment: Results, Implications, and Recommendations," Coeur d'Alene, ID (U.S. Forest Service Ecosystem Management Team).

J.D. Wulfhorst guest lectured on temporary storage of nuclear waste and associated social impacts in Erik Nielsen's course titled: Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change.

J.D. Wulfhorst gave a presentation at the Grass Seed Cropping Systems for Sustainable Agriculture meeting, Portland, OR, "Emotional Challenges to burning Kentucky Bluegrass in Idaho."

Paul Patterson and Wilson Gray gave presentations on November 14 on financial statements, ratio analysis and budgeting at a ranch management workshop in Salmon, ID.

Van Tassell, Larry W. "Economic Value of Burning Bluegrass Residue: Current Status." Presented at the

Grass Seed Cropping Systems for a Sustainable Agriculture Annual Meeting, Dec. 10-11, 2002. Portland, OR.

Awards

J.D. Wulfhorst received a UI Alumni Award for Excellence (most Influential Mentor for Janel Falk, Senior in Environmental Science).

J.D. Wulfhorst received a three-year McIntire-Stennis grant as a co-investigator with Jack Ward Thomas, Hayley Hesselyn, Joni Ward, and Steph Gripne at the University of Montana and Wyoming Nature Conservancy to study grass banking in the West.

Noteworthy News

In December **Paul Patterson** and **Wilson Gray** wrote commodity situation and outlook articles on wheat, feed grains, dry beans, dairy, cattle, sheep and the new farm bill. They also have published short-range and long-range planning prices for most of Idaho's major commodities. These are available on the AERS web site http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/aers.

J.D. Wulfhorst began serving as the Executive Secretary for the Idaho Academy of Science.

J.D. Wulfhorst is the advisor for Janel Falk who won the Most Outstanding Student Poster at the UI 2002 Outreach Conference in Moscow, ID.

Advisory Board

Advisory Board

Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Department
University of Idaho
P.O. Box 442334
Moscow, ID 83844-2334
(208) 885-7635
Fax (208) 885-5759

If you have information you would like to include in our next newsletter please contact the editor Sandy Bragg at:
P.O. Box 442334
University of Idaho
Moscow, ID 83844-2334
(208) 885-6262
sbragg@uidaho.edu