October 2004

What's Happening In AERS

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Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Idaho

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Activities of Interest

JULY

June 30- July 2 2004 **Murat Isik** traveled to Honolulu, HI, To attend the *Western Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meetings* and present several papers and to serve as Chair of the Selected Paper Sessions "Managing AgriculturalEnvironmental Impacts"

Larry Makus attended the WAEA meetings in Hawaii June 30 - July 3. He also accompanied **Paul Patterson** to Almaty and Astana Kazakhstan with the Farmer to Farmer Program July 6 - July 20.

July 8 **Neil Rimbey** served as committee member of Jeff Sharp's defense of his MS thesis (through Oregon State University), "An economic comparison of three cattle grazing management strategies intended to improve riparian habitat and water quality", at Union, OR.

July 19-22 **Neil Rimbey** assisted the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission on a 4 day teacher in-service at the U of I McCall Field Station. We provided 27 teachers from around Idaho with information on the social and economic considerations related to range livestock production and rangeland use.

July 28 Allen Torell and **Neil Rimbey** met with agricultural appraisers in Caldwell to explain the ranch value project that they have undertaken.

Paul Patterson attendended the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) annual meetings in Denver, Colorado July 30 - August 4. Participated in a preconference as a member of the National Food and Agribusiness Management Education Commission. While there, he judged the Graduate Student Case Study Competition and chaperoned 9 Agribusiness Club students who participated in the SS-AAEA (Student Section of the AAEA)

Quiz Bowl competition, competing against 37 teams from Universities from across the U.S. U of I teams were: **Jerri Jo Burger, Anne Konen, Stephanie Keuspert** (5th place); **Sage Clark, Riley Higby** and **Steve Kaufman** (8th place); and **Tommy Goodwin, Trent Van Leuven** and **Megan Starr** who competed on mixed teams (with students from other universities – as each university could only have 2 "official" teams.

J.D. Wulfhorst and Toni Stanger made a presentation to the HOIST program students on "Tribal Sovereignty, Community Health, and Resource Management for Kentucky Bluegrass Residue Burning in Northern Idaho."

J.D. Wulfhorst participated in a team research presentation to the USDA/EPA Air Quality Task Force tour of bluegrass research sites near Worley, Idaho.

J.D. Wulfhorst participated in the summer course for teachers, "Integrated Rangeland Management: Land and People in the New West" with Karen Launchbaugh and **Neil Rimbey**.

AUGUST

Paul Patterson spent August 15-19 in Bethel, Alaska and surrounding areas working with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation to help establish a Rural Utility Cooperative (RUC) for water and sewer projects in Eskimo and Native American villages in the Yukon/ Kuskokwim delta area of Alaska. This project is being sponsored by the Northwest Cooperative Development Center in Olympia, Washington.

August 1-4 **Paul Patterson** Attended the AAEA annual meeting in Denver, Colorado.

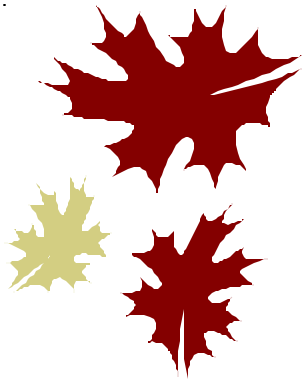
August 17-18 **Neil Rimbey** attended the Idaho Rangeland Summit in Boise.

August 20 **Neil Rimbey** visited with agricultural appraisers in Idaho Falls on the ranch value project.

In August, the Social Science Research Unit (SSRU) completed data collection and Phase I of a report to the Women's & Children's Committee of Gritman Medical Center based on a "Health Survey of Latah County Women and Their Families".

SEPTEMBER

The Lost Rivers Grazing Academy fall workshop was held at the Nancy M Cummings Center just north of Salmon September 13 through the 16. Participants learned tecniques for Management intensive Grazing (MiG) via class room instruction and hands-on application. Forage and livestock management practices and the economics of Mig were subjects at the workshop. This marks the 7th year the academy has been held. Instructors were Chad Cheyney, NMC Superintendant; Scott Jensen and Jim Hawkins, Extension Educator's; Jim English, Extension Veterinarian; Glenn Shewmaker, Extension Forage specialist; Wilson Gray, Extension Economist and Jim Gerrish, Grazing consultant and former professor with the University of Missouri Forage Systems Research Center.



Joe Guenthner tuaght part of an Agricultral Biotechnolgy short course for 28 participants from Eastern Europe at Michigan State University Sept. 15-16.

September 21st **Paul Patterson** Served on a three-member panel at a forum sponsored by Idaho State University discussing the book "Fast Food Nation." Other panelists included: Rick Fisch with the J.R. Simplot Company and Keith Franks with the Potato Growers of Idaho.

Sept. 14 **Neil Rimbey** participated in an "expert panel" on rangeland grazing in Twin Falls.

Sept. 30 **Neil Rimbey** met with Amalgamated Sugar personnel on a cooperative pressed beet pulp project in Boise.

J.D. Wulfhorst presented his guest lecture "Why Buckaroos Cry" for the 8th and 9th times to two different classes on campus

Publications

S. Devadoss and T. Wahl. "Wefare Impacts of Indian Apple Trade Policies." Applied Economics, 2004, 36, 1289-1294.

A. Gomez-Plana and **S. Devadoss.** "A Spatial Equilibrium Analysis of Trade Policy Reforms on the World Wheat Market," Applied Ecoomics, 2004, 36, 1643-1668.

Isik, M. and W. Yang, 2004, "An Analysis of the Effects of Uncertainty and Irreversibility on Farmer Participation in the Conservation Reserve Program", *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 29(2)(August 2004): 242-259.

"Creating Value for Your Customers," *Feed and Grain*, August/September, 2004. Wilson, Christine and **John Foltz**.

Hudson, D., L. House, B. Barnett and **M. Isik**, 2004, "GPS, Inc.: A Case of Investment under Uncertainty", *Review of Agricultural Economics*, 26(2004): 303-312.

Khanna, M., **M. Isik**, and D. Zilberman, 2004, "Cost-Effectiveness of Alternative Green Payment Policies for Conservation Technology Adoption with Heterogeneous Land Quality", In Agro-Environmental Policy, Editors Batie, S. and R. Horan, Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2004.

Hite, D., W. Intarapapong, and **M. Isik**, 2004, "A Watershed-Based Bioeconomic Model of Best Management Practices", in Water Quality Assessments in the Mississippi Delta: Regional Solutions, National Scope, Editors Nett, M., M. Locke and D. Pennington, Oxford University Press, 2004.

Isik, M., 2004, Book Review for The Economics of International Trade and The Environment, edited by Amitrajeet A. Batabyal and Hamid Beladi, *Risk Analysis: An International Journal*, 24(3)(August 2004): 1965-1966.

Presentations

Murat Isik presented the following at the Honolulu, Hawaii *Western Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meetings:* "Alternative Policies for Allocating Water Use in a River System under Externalities and Environmental Constraints**",** "The Role of Environmental Regulation in Concentrations of U.S. Livestock Sectors"

Courses/Seminars

This fall the Western Extension Marketing Committee will be publishing a series of article dealing with the animal ID program and things producers will need to know to implement and gain the most from the system. The articles have been reviewed and will be in print shortly. Titles in the series are:

C. Wilson Gray: The National Animal Identification System: Basics, Blueprint, Timelines, and Processes DeeVon Bailey: Benefits and Costs of Animal Identification

Michael Roberts: Product Liability Types (negligence vs. strict liability)

Michael Roberts: Information Management Confidentiality

Wendy Umberger: Cool vs. Animal ID

Darrell Mark: Structural Issues - Feedlot/ Stockers/Cow-Calf/Purebred

Ruby Ward: Value of Production Information

Kynda Curtis: Consumer Driven Forces

Jim Robb: Technical and Pricing Issues Related to Traceability

Russell Tronstad: Challenges of Adoption in Western Production Systems

Michael Coe: Working with Technology Providers

Dillon Feuz and Jim Robb: Implications for the future

Noteworthy News

September 21st: Served on a three-member panel at a forum sponsored by Idaho State University discussing the book "Fast Food Nation." Other panelists included: Rick Fisch with the J.R. Simplot Company and Keith Franks with the Potato Growers of Idaho.

John and Barbara's son James started this fall as a freshman at the University of Utah, where he is a student-athlete competing on the University of Utah swim team, majoring in secondary education.

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