

**IDAHO BARLEY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 21, 2014, USDA ARS NATIONAL SMALL GRAINS  
GERMPLASM RESEARCH FACILITY, ABERDEEN, ID**

**I. Roll Call** – Chairman Pat Purdy called the IBC meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at the USDA ARS National Small Grains Germplasm Research Facility in Aberdeen, Idaho. **Attendees included:**

Pat Purdy, Chairman  
Tim Dillin, District I Commissioner  
Scott Brown, District III Commissioner  
Tim Pella, Industry Representative  
Kelly Olson, Administrator  
Amy Ziegler, Administrative Assistant

**Guests included:** IGPA Executive Board Member Clark Hamilton, Ririe; Dr. Juliet Marshall, UI cereal agronomist/pathologist, Idaho Falls; Dr. Christopher Rogers, UI barley agronomist, Aberdeen; Dr. Arash Rashed, UI entomologist, Aberdeen; Dr. Xi Liang, UI cropping systems agronomist, Aberdeen; Dr. Mike Bonman, ARS Research Leader, Aberdeen; Dr. Gongshe Hu, ARS barley breeder, Aberdeen; Dr. Kathy Klos, ARS research molecular geneticist, Aberdeen; Dr. Phil Bregitzer, ARS research geneticist, Aberdeen; Chris Evans, ARS barley breeding scientific technician, Aberdeen; Dr. Mike Davis, President, American Malting Barley Association, Milwaukee, WI (be telephone for part of the meeting); Jake Burtenshaw, Idaho Falls area producer; Dennis Brower, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, Pocatello; and *Capital Press* reporter John O'Connell, Pocatello.

**Chairman Pat Purdy welcomed all guests and offered a special welcome to the two new board members who joined the IBC, effective July 1: Scott Brown as District III Commissioner and Tim Pella, Industry Representative, Idaho Falls elevator manager for Busch Ag.**

**II. IBC Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the IBC's June 17-18, 2014 meeting were reviewed. **A motion was made by Commissioner Tim Dillin, and seconded, to approve the minutes for the June 17-18, 2014 IBC meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**III. IBC Administration**

**Review and discussion of 2014 barley crop conditions and challenges** – Dr. Juliet Marshall, UI cereal agronomist/pathologist, led off the discussion of the 2014 crop which had been on pace to produce record yields and quality until the excessive moisture arrived during harvest in August and early September. She reported that her program had been testing 2014 barley samples for mold and other toxins to determine whether

there is a threat to feeding the damaged grain to livestock, but had found no positive tests. Industry Representative Tim Pella provided an overview of what Busch Ag had seen in their contracted production, noting high levels of sprout damage which is problematic in successfully malting the barley. Busch Ag had implemented the latest technology and testing methods to better test for acceptability given the widespread pre-harvest sprout conditions. Juliet also reported she had confirmed heavy levels of Barley Scald and Spot Form of Net Blotch. 2014 was first year this latter disease was confirmed in Idaho and this is not good news. While this disease was a minor threat in 2014 it is likely to become a bigger threat in the future if environmental conditions are conducive to this disease. From Midwestern experience, yield losses from Spot Form of Net Blotch can be substantial. Juliet found no confirmed DON from Fusarium Head Blight in barley this year, but it has been confirmed in wheat.

- **Grower education** – Juliet stated she was prepared to make an **official recommendation to tank mix herbicide and fungicide.** Side by side malting barley field comparisons in Idaho Falls in 2014 clearly demonstrated the economic value from fungicide application. Information will be distributed via ***Barley Agronomic Quick Fact Sheet*** (Christopher Rogers), IBC publications (Kelly Olson) and winter 2015 cereal schools (Juliet Marshall).

**Pest / virus disease concerns** - Dr. Arash Rashed, UI Entomologist, reported heavy infestation of mealybugs, and presence of wireworms, thrips and likely early season damage from brown mites. These pests are prevalent in this region and levels were exacerbated by drought conditions in June and July. Some unusual findings – wireworm feeding usually winds down towards the end of summer and during fall, however, that did not appear to be the case this year.

If we have a mild 2015 winter (over winter / lay eggs), pest populations such as mealybugs, aphids and mites will likely remain high next year. Arash tested plants for various aphid- and mite-transmitted viruses but found none.

- **Grower education** – Need to control volunteer grains and implement rotation out of continuous grass cropping system.
- **Research needs** – Continued evaluation of different chemical controls, evaluating the biology of mealybugs.  
**NEW** - Investigate use of winter cover crops; crop rotation out of cereals / cropping systems approach to pest control. ***Christopher Rogers, Xi Liang, Arash Rashed.***

**Wireworms** – Arash reported that wireworm populations appear to be on the rise, resulting in yield losses. Arash was funded by the IBC to implement a trapping program this summer to establish a baseline of pest distribution. Arash is now part of a regional network of scientists working on wireworm control.

- **Research needs – NEW** – Investigate affects of no-till on wireworm populations (potential strip trials at Pat Purdy's farm in Picabo, if possible).

**Aphid activity in winter barley region of south-central Idaho** – Although there is not a systematic aphid trapping program in place (no available funding), Arash confirms that Bird Cherry Oat aphid activity was present this fall. Plants infested with mealybugs (sampled to establish mealybug colony) developed large numbers of aphids in containment, indicating the presence of aphids. Bird Cherry Oat aphid is an efficient vector of **Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus**.

- **Grower education** – Immediately prepare and distribute *Idaho Winter Barley Crop Advisory* covering this issue and other relevant agronomic issues. Target audience: malting barley companies, feed barley handlers and their growers. Juliet Marshall, Arash Rashed, Christopher Rogers. Growers should implement aggressive field scouting now and again in early spring (spring grains) to determine need for insecticide control.

**Fertility management and performance** – Dr. Christopher Rogers, UI Barley Agronomist, reported on discussions he has had with growers in different areas about fertilizer performance. Concern was mentioned about the performance of urea fertilizer as compared to other nitrogen sources. With proper management, differences are not expected between fertilizer nitrogen sources. Soil testing should be conducted for the 0-12 and 12-24 inch depth to determine fertilization rates; however, continued research is needed to improve recommendations for current varieties and to investigate current and new soil test methods with the potential to provide more accurate recommendations.

- **Grower education** – Urea should be applied onto a dry soil surface, and incorporated (i.e., via tillage, rainfall, or irrigation) within 2 days of application. Increased soil moisture and humidity in the region, due to heavy fall rains, can potentially increase fertilizer nitrogen loss and thus, proper management is of increased concern.
- **Research** - Research investigating improved fertilizer management under varied conditions. Christopher and Arash are currently studying effects of nitrogen on aphid and barley yellow dwarf prevalence in barley.  
**NEW** - Evaluate current and new soil testing methods to improve estimates of available nitrogen and thus, improve the accuracy of soil test recommendation for current varieties. Evaluate fertilizer nitrogen utilization by various barley varieties in efforts to improve fertilizer use efficiency. Christopher Rogers has initiated research to investigate optimal rates and timing of nitrogen application for winter malt varieties. Further investigations are needed, particularly in dryland areas, to investigate the agronomic and economic appropriateness of fertilizer management

strategies, including enhanced efficiency fertilizers, particularly for surface/top dress applications.

The meeting agenda was interrupted to allow for research presentations as reported below. The Administration discussion resumed after lunch.

**Approval of hosted meals** – The Administrator reviewed three hosted meals during the period July 1 through October 10, 2014, totaling \$106.78. **A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Brown, and seconded, to approve the three hosted meals totaling \$106.78. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Travel Authorizations** – The Administrator reviewed the calendar and proposed two travel authorizations:

- Jan. 11-12, 2015 – AMBA Barley Improvement Conference, San Diego – Chairman Pat Purdy & Administrator
- Feb. 8-11, 2015 – USGC International Marketing Conference, Costa Rica - Administrator & Industry Representative Tim Pella (Commission Dillin is approved to participate as a USGC board member). The Administrator stated that she would not likely participate due to the need to cut travel spending this year.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Tim Dillin, and seconded, to approve the two travel authorizations as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### ***IV. Research***

**Endowed Barley Agronomist Report** – In addition to the above information, Dr. Rogers reported on communication efforts he had undertaken to ensure good flow of information between the University of Idaho, Idaho Barley Commission and Idaho barley producers on his research program that is being supported through the \$1 million Endowed Professorship in Barley Agronomy.

**University of Idaho CALS** – Chairman Pat Purdy commented on his recent participation in the CALS Dean's Advisory Board meeting in Moscow and commodity group meeting with UI President Chuck Staben. Pat emphasized that President Staben is demonstrating excellent leadership in charting a new course for the UI, focusing heavily on student recruitment, and wants to work with commodity groups to ensure stable research funding. He noted that the UI would like to review the policy on overhead charges on commodity commission-funded research at some point in the future (current research agreements don't allow for these overhead charges). Pat also noted some concern from the Dean's Advisory Committee that no one from agriculture was serving on the current Provost Search Committee.

**IBC Industry Service Award presented to ARS researchers** – Chairman Pat Purdy presented the commission's 2014 Barley Industry Service awards to ARS barley breeder Dr. Gongshe Hu and ARS barley breeding scientific technician Chris Evans.

These awards will be officially bestowed during the Tri-State Grain Conference on November 13 but Chris Evans is unable to attend this conference so the IBC felt it was appropriate to recognize these two outstanding scientists at this meeting.

**ARS Research Reports** – Dr. Mike Bonman, ARS Research Leader, gave opening comments and thanked the board for holding their meeting at the ARS research facility in Aberdeen. Mike noted that barley was one of the most important stakeholders at this ARS research location.

**Dr. Gongshe Hu, ARS barley breeder** – Gongshe provided a progress report on his malting and food barley variety development program, including lines that are in AMBA advanced scale testing and potential malting and food barley variety releases in the next one to three years.

**Dr. Kathy Klos, ARS molecular geneticist** – Kathy reported on her work evaluating the genetics of biotic and abiotic stresses and malting quality. She provided findings from her current research into better understanding the genetic basis for Barley Stripe Rust resistance which will lead to tools to help speed up disease resistance breeding.

**Dr. Phil Bregitzer, ARS research geneticist** – Phil reported on his basic research in genetically engineering barley for Fusarium Head Blight resistance, specifically focusing on and refining precise transgene delivery methods to create clean, targeted and predictable resistance gene expression.

## ***V. IBC Budget Report***

**FY 2015 revised budget** – The Administrator distributed and explained a revised FY 2015 for the board's consideration, reflecting lower income and expenditures. She emphasized that check-off income will be down substantially from June projections due to lower overall production and considerably larger percentage of the crop moving into feed channels which can be problematic for barley check-off collection. The revised income projection is **\$529,830, down \$105,050** from the June estimate and the revised expenditures is **\$681,202, down \$31,995** from June. The resulting deficit budget will result in a projected draw-down in reserves to \$358,476 at the end of FY 2015. There was an ensuing discussion on an appropriate reserve balance for the barley commission. The Administrator noted that the IBC does not have current policy on an appropriate reserve balance so the board asked her to present information for the board's consideration at their February 2015 meeting. **A motion was made by Commissioner Tim Dillin, and seconded, to approve the revised FY 2015 IBC budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Monthly check-off receipts, balance sheet and income statements** -- The Administrator reviewed budget reports as of October 14, 2014, showing check-off receipts totaling \$81,461.55. The Administrator reviewed the IBC's balance sheet and income statement, showing assets at \$280,381.93; total income to date of \$81,629.17, which is 15% of the budgeted amount for the year; and expenses of \$313,064.61, which

is 46% of the budgeted amount. This includes the \$200,000 endowment installment to the University of Idaho, our single largest budget expenditure. **A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Brown, and seconded, to approve the IBC financial report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**FY 2014 audit completed** – The Administrator reported that the IBC had a clean FY 2014 audit, with no findings. She thanked the new administrative assistant for stepping up with very little time in her new position to help clean up some fiscal errors that had been uncovered at the end of the fiscal year and prior to the audit and for compiling and providing information to the auditor. The board thanked the IBC staff for an excellent audit.

## ***VI. IBC Program Review***

**Malting industry developments** –Dr. Mike Davis, President, American Malting Barley Association, Milwaukee, WI, joined the IBC meeting by telephone to provide a report on AMBA, barley research funding and trends in North American malting and brewing industry. Mike reported that ARS barley positions are being refilled when they become vacant, which is a good trend. He noted that the University of Wisconsin is filling a new small grains research position with someone with barley expertise. Mike also noted that AMBA has identified a priority of filling a basic end-use quality research position at ARS Madison with someone with pre-harvest sprout expertise. AMBA base funding is stable at \$494,000, with additional contributions from some members for targeted research priorities.

Industry Representative Tim Pella and the Administrator offered additional comments on North American malting and brewing trends..

**Idaho Grains Producers Association report** – IGPA Executive Board member Clark Hamilton provided good insights into 2014 crop losses and important steps producers need to take to mitigate losses, including investing in good storage with aeration.

**US Grains Council report** – Commissioner Tim Dillin provided a brief report on the US Grains Council's current programs to promote barley in international markets. He noted that he was unable to participate in the Council's summer board meeting due to farming conflicts. The Administrator reported that the IBC continues to work closely with the Council in devising food barley market development strategies in Asia.

**National Barley Growers Association (NBGA) report** – Commissioner Scott Brown reported on a NBGA conference call held on October 3, 2014 to discuss setting NBGA policy on the pending Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rulemaking by EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers. Scott said the priority for NBGA right now is on implementation of changes in farm bill and crop insurance programs.

**Barley crop insurance report** – The Administrator reported on a meeting she had participated in Spokane on October 10 with representatives of Watts & Associates and

the North Dakota Barley Council on the final development of the new Malting Barley Revenue Endorsement which has been approved by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for roll-out in 2016. Kelly reported that it was a very intense but productive session with all parties agreeing on final details. We will need to enlist the support of our RMA regional office in Spokane to push through all of the improvements that we are seeking, including optional units for malting barley, which is not available under current malting barley endorsement. This policy will replace the current Malting Barley Endorsement.

**IBC's risk management education** – The Administrator summarized IBC's current grain marketing and risk management educational priorities. **IBC has been awarded a total of \$156,900 in WCRME competitive grant funding since 2001.** Education components this year include:

**Farm Bill / Crop Insurance grower educational workshops** – tentatively scheduled Dec. 1-5, 2014 in eastern/southern Idaho and early January in north Idaho, in the following locations:

- St. Anthony
- Idaho Falls
- Pocatello
- Soda Springs
- Burley
- Twin Falls
- Lewiston
- Plummer
- Bonners Ferry

We will use the Farm Bill on-line decision aids developed by the University of Illinois. These workshops are required to be delivered by UI Extension under a cooperative agreement with USDA FSA, but Extension needed help in organizing the workshops as they are stretched very thin right now.

**Grain Marketing Strategies** – IBC is working with CHS Hedging on organizing series of 2 to 3 grain hedging workshops in eastern and southern Idaho in winter 2015.

**2015 Ag Outlook Sessions** – UI Extension are organizing another round of Ag Outlook seminars in December. IBC administrator will give Grain Outlook presentation at each location:

- Dec. 9 - Caldwell
- Dec. 10 Burley
- Dec. 11 Idaho Falls

**North Idaho education (Ken Hart, Lewis County Extension)**

- **Keeping the Legacy Alive: Farming Together for a Better Future** workshops (series of 3) – Dec. 2, 4 and 10 – Lewiston

- **Quickbooks for Profitable Farming and Ranching** workshops (series of 3) – Jan. 8, 13 and 15 - Grangeville

## ***VII. IBC Food Barley Initiative***

**Food Barley Initiative** – The Administrator gave a brief report on the IBC’s multi-pronged food barley initiative. She noted that all ongoing initiatives were on track to meet 2014-15 goals, including planning for a Food Barley Products Technical Symposium to be held at the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland this winter. She confirmed the symposium planning committee comprised of Highland Specialty Grains, Idaho Barley Commission and Ardent Mills (formerly ConAgra) will meet during the tri-state grain conference in November to confirm details.

**Future of the National Barley Foods Council** – Commissioner Tim Dillin reported he had received a reply from Greg Kessel, North Dakota Barley Council and past chairman of the National Barley Foods Council on Idaho’s letter sent in June requesting a meeting to formally dissolve the NBFC, given its inactive status. Tim recommended that IBC send another letter to all past members of the NBFC and ask for a full financial accounting for the last three years and again request a meeting to take action to dissolve this organization.

## ***VIII. IBC Officer Election***

**A motion was made by Industry Representative Tim Pella, and seconded, to cast a unanimous ballot of Tim Dillin for Chairman and Scott Brown for Vice Chairman. Approved.**

**A final motion was made by Industry Representative Tim Pella, and seconded, to approve all acts and transactions of the October 21, 2014 IBC meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

With no other business, the IBC meeting was adjourned by Chairman Tim Dillin at 3:35 p.m.

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Pat Purdy, Chairman

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Date

**IBC MEETING  
OCTOBER 21, 2014  
MOTIONS PASSED**

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Tim Dillin, and seconded, to approve the minutes for the June 17-18, 2014 IBC meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Brown, and seconded, to approve the three hosted meals totaling \$106.78. The motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion was made by Commissioner Tim Dillin, and seconded, to approve the two travel authorizations as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion was made by Commissioner Tim Dillin, and seconded, to approve the revised FY 2015 IBC budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Brown, and seconded, to approve the IBC financial report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion was made by Industry Representative Tim Pella, and seconded, to cast a unanimous ballot of Tim Dillin for Chairman and Scott Brown for Vice Chairman. Approved.
7. A final motion was made by Industry Representative Tim Pella, and seconded, to approve all acts and transactions of the October 21, 2014 IBC meeting. The motion carried unanimously.