Crop scientists warn Idaho spud growers to expect bad weed year

By JOHN O'CONNELL Capital Press

ABERDEEN, Idaho -Crop scientists expect severe weed pressure in Idaho this season, especially in potato fields, following a prolonged wet period throughout the state's southern and eastern regions.

"All of the rain we've had may have compromised some of our pre-emergence herbicides. That's the main thing I've noticed so far," said Jeff Miller, a crop scientist with Rupert, Idaho-based Miller Research.

Miller said he's also seen commercial fields with signs of herbicide damage in spud plants

Miller explained heavy moisture has carried some herbicides, such as Matrix, Metribuzin and Outlook, deep into the soil — below germinating weed seeds but in contact with spud roots.

University of Idaho Extension weed specialist Pam Hutchinson expects weeds will begin to emerge in the coming days. She also considers it likely that growers will encounter signs of herbicide damage — both from herbicides leaching into potato root zones or soil laden with the pre-emergence herbicide Chateau splashing onto potato stems.

However, Hutchinson said growers shouldn't worry about herbicide damage, as a turn to warmer weather should enable plants to easily metabolize the chemicals without hurting yields. She said post-emergence applications of Matrix under cloudy conditions could also contribute to temporary mottled yellowing of leaves due to slowed metabolism.

Hutchinson has received several recent phone calls from growers seeking advice on how to respond to various weed scenarios.



John O'Connell/Capital Press

University of Idaho Extension weed specialist Pam Hutchinson holds a scoop of dirt with hairy nightshade plants within an experimental field at the Aberdeen Research and Extension Center. Hutchinson believes recent storms will contribute to a bad season for weeds in her state.

'All of the rain we've had may have compromised some of our preemergence herbicides. That's the main thing I've noticed so far.'

> Jeff Miller Crop Scientist, Rupert

In fields in which both spuds and weeds have already emerged, including fields in which the recent storms may have rendered prior herbicide applications ineffective, Hutchinson advises growers to spray Matrix or Metribuzin, which are post-emergence foliar herbicides.

American Falls grower Kevin Ramsey, for example, had already applied herbicide with irrigation on more than half of his acres prior to the storms and is concerned weeds may still emerge. If that happens, he'll spray Matrix post-emergence.

Hutchinson said growers shouldn't irrigate for a few days after applying Matrix or Metribuzin, which are effective against emerged weeds including hairy nightshade, and warned additional rainfall could wash them off plants. Hutchinson said some specialty and white-skinned, short-season potato varieties, such as Shepody, are known to be sensitive to Metribuzin.

In fields in which potatoes have emerged but weeds haven't, she said additional herbicides that work in the soil to prevent new weeds from germinating, including Prowl, Eptam and Dual Magnum, are also an option.

Prior to row closure of potatoes, she said the products Poast Plus and Select are effective against grasses.

According to Hutchinson's research, a single hairy nightshade plant per meter in a commercial Russet Norkotah field can reduce spud yields by 20 percent.

Many growers have been delayed from spraying fields and now must deal with emerged weeds because of the rains. American Falls grower Kamren Koompin sprayed Matrix for post-emergence weeds during a break between storms

American Falls grower Kasey Poulson said he's more concerned about the rains rotting seed potatoes than weed pressure, though he doubts rot will cause extensive damage.

to pesticide bill By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI Capital Press

No-spray buffer

requirement added

Lawmakers are adding a no-spray buffer requirement to Oregon pesticide legislation that also increases enforcement funding, doubles fines for violations and creates new requirements for applicators.

Controversy over Oregon's pesticide laws was ignited by an off-target application of herbicides that affected residents in Curry County in 2013, prompting a multitude of proposals during this year's legislative session.

Those concepts were distilled into a single piece of legislation - House Bill 3549 — that initially focused on better training for applicators and a greater capacity for state regulators to investigate complaints and enforce existing laws.

During a May 21 work session on the bill, the House Rules Committee adopted an amendment that will require 60-foot no-spray buffers around homes and schools for aerial pesticide applications in forestry.

Farm and forestry groups will continue to support the legislation despite the buffer amendment, said Scott Dahlman, policy director of the Oregonians for Food and Shelter agribusiness group

"In the legislative process, there is compromise along the way," he said.

Eric Geyer, manager of business development for Roseburg Forest Products, said the industry isn't thrilled with the no-spray buffer amendment but the change isn't enough to sink its support of the overall package.

Earlier bill proposals that died in committee would have imposed greater restrictions on pesticides, including an outright ban on aerial spraying and certain classes of chemicals.

The amendment adopted by the committee does not include stricter notification and reporting requirements for pesticide applications, which the timber industry has opposed as impractical.

"Real time" notification of sprays is challenging time-wise due to changes in the weather, particularly if a company must alert numerous people, said Jake Gibbs, director of external affairs at Lone Rock Timber.

The timber industry is also concerned about the potential for sabotage by eco-terrorists if specific sites and dates are announced for spray applications, said Rep. Brad Witt, D-Clatskanie.

Proponents of more stringent notification requirements claim it's necessary in case aerial applicators violate rules against off-target spraying.

Advance notification would allow neighbors to prepare for pesticide sprays by staying indoors or leaving the area, said Rep. Ann Lininger, D-Lake Oswego.

"There are real people getting hurt and they need our help," she said.

Kathryn Rickard, a Curry County resident affected by the 2013 incident, said it took state regulators six months to notify her which chemicals were found on her property, which hindered adequate medical treatment.

The situation would be different with advance notice and better reporting, she said. "Our physicians would have known how to treat us in a timely manner."

While the no-spray buffer amendment to HB 3549 was adopted, the overall bill has not moved out of committee for a vote on the House floor, which means it's still subject to further hearings.

Apart from the no-spray buffers, the bill would increase registration fees on pesticide distributors to raise up to \$2.4 million for enhanced pesticide enforcement, complaint response and investigation.

Aerial applicators would be required to undergo 50 hours of special training a year and obtain a specific license.

Farm Market Report

Hay Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • St. Joseph, Mo.-Portland

d Grass Small

No new sales confirmed

California Egg Reports Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Des Moines

Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in per dozen. This price of ier contrac

		n this report have t ue (RFV), Acid De			Alfalfa Large So HARNEY COUN
		ients), or Crude Pr			Alfalfa Large Sc
bers:	J	,,		,	KLAMATH BASII
Grade	RFV	ADF	TDN	CP	Alfalfa Small So
Supreme	185+	<27	55.9+	22+	
Premium	170-185	27-29	54.5-55.9	20-22	LAKE COUNTY
Good	150-170	29-32	52.5-54.5	18-20	Alfalfa Large So
Fair	130-150	32-35	50.5-52.5	16-18	
Utility	<130	36+ ·	<50.5	<16	
	WASHIN	GTON-OREGON H	AY		Small Square
	(C	olumbia Basin)			
	(USI	DA Market News)			
	Mo	ses Lake, Wash.			
		May 29			
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EASTERN OREGON				Includes the coun
Alfalfa Large Square	Good	400	\$190	Yuba, Sierra, Nevad
HARNEY COUNTY				
Alfalfa Large Square	Good/Prem.	200	\$195	Alfalfa
KLAMATH BASIN				
Alfalfa Small Square	Premium	130	\$220	
		70	\$220	Orchard Grass
AKE COUNTY				Brome Grass
Ifalfa Large Square	Supreme	35	\$250	Rye Grass
	Good/Prem.		\$200	Oat
	Fair	34	\$168	REGION 3: Northerr
mall Square	Premium	30	\$240	Includes the count
	IDAHO HAY			olumne, Mono, Merc
	DA Market News)			
Mc	ses Lake, Wash.			Alfalfa
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This week FOB	Last week	L	.ast year	
3,600 Compared to May 22: I	4,700		3,000	Oat
Demand moderate to goo week.	u. Notali/1000 31010/1			Includes the count
		Tons	Price	Alfalfa
Ifalfa Large Square	Premium	1300	\$150-160	Oat
	Fair/Good	2000	\$105	REGION 5: South
Dat Large Square	Fair/Good	300	\$80	Includes the coun
	ALIFORNIA HAY			ern San Bernardino.
,	DA Market News)			
Mc	ses Lake, Wash.			Alfalfa
This west FOD	May 29			
This week FOB	Last week	L	.ast year 26.300	REGION 6: Southea
7,430 Compared to May 22: A	15,722			Includes the coun
Compared to May 22: A filk prices in the mid-teer				Imperial.
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REGION 1: Northern Inter				
Includes the counties of		Shasta.	Lassen and	
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nties of Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter a, Placer, Yolo, El Dorado, Solano, Sacramento Tons Price Good 150 \$210 Fair/Good 150 \$160 Fair 25 \$150 25 Premium \$320 Good 55 \$140 Good 50 \$120 150 Good \$125 rn San Joaquin Valley nties of San Joaquin, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Turced and Mariposa. Tons Price 600 \$260-265 Supreme Premium 200 \$230 Good/Prem 500 \$200 Good 300 \$160 200 \$196 Good 700 \$110 San Joaquin Valley ties of Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Inyo. Tons Price \$206 Good 500 1200 Good \$165 ern California ties of Kern, Northeast Los Angeles, and West-Tons Price 300 \$253 Supreme \$135 Fair 100 ast California nties of Eastern San Bernardino. Riverside and Price Tons Premium 75 \$215 1200 Good/Prem \$190-200 200 \$125 175 \$190 50 \$190 325 \$208.46 200 \$205-210 Premium

Cattle Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Oklahoma City-Des Moines-St. Joseph, Mo.-Moses Lake, Wash.

\$250-260

Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals per pair or head as indicated

CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON, WASCO COUNTIES

Orchard Grass Small Square Premium 25

NATIONATIONAL FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE (Federal-State Market News) St Joseph Mo

May 29				
This week	Last week	Last year		
162,400	204,700	145,500		

Compared to May 22: A light holiday test of yearlings and calves sold fully steady to \$5 higher. The official start to the summer grilling season was followed by continued good demand for all classes and in many cases no signs of top-side pressure. Many major early-week auctions were idle this week, including the Oklahoma National Stockyards and the Joplin Regional Stockyards but buyers picked up where they left off at midweek sales, as demand remains very good for calves and yearlings.

Calf markets continue to trade on limited supplies with enough localized demand to offset supplies. The best advance continues to be on the heavier yearlings over 800 lbs. as demand remains very good on yearlings with farmer/feeders in the Corn Belt having plenty of corn from last year's record crop and looking at another good start to the 2015 crop.

Several sales took the opportunity to hold special sales, including the one in Russell, Iowa, which sold over 4 200 head including near 250 head of steer calves weighing from 500-550 lbs. averaging 528 lbs. sold with a weighted average

price of \$301.46 and a pot load of steers averaging 817 lbs. selling at \$234.25.

A little farther south at the Unionville Livestock Auction in Unionville, Mo., on May 26 sold over 240 head of vearling steers averaging 885 lbs. sold with a weighted average price of \$224.60. The previous week's Cattle on Feed Report released May 22 was bullish with April replacements coming in significantly lower than expected at 95 percent. One bullish aspect to this number would be smaller slaughter numbers going into the fourth quarter of this year and also that heifer retention is still very active for herd expansion.

Boxed-beef values after a stellar performance took a breather late last week while attention will turn to weekend clearance. Boxed-beef prices continued to hold together till mid-week trading mostly above \$260 level for Choice product, then dipping below the \$260 mark on May 28 closing at \$259.25. May 29 boxed-beef values turned sharply lower, with Choice down \$4.26 closing at \$254.99.

Boxed-beef values are due for a seasonal decline and correction after topping out around the Memorial Day period, as the long hot days of summer set in. Beef demand so far has been generally unaffected by pork and poultry sales. On May 28. Live and Feeder Cattle futures had impressive triple-digit gains, trading at some of their highest levels since the first part of January. Wet weather persisted across much of the country with flooding conditions in the Southern Plains from Texas up through Kansas. With

widespread rains supporting excellent grazing throughout much of the country is a trend that is expected to continue.

Corn planting is now 92 percent completed, with the first 2015 corn planting crop conditions out at 74 percent rated good to excellent; itis a long growing season and a long way from being in the bin, but the corn season is off to one of the best starts in years. Auction volume included 54 percent weighing over 600 lbs. and 40 percent heifers.

AUCTIONS

This week Last week Last year 104.000 168.000 111.800 WASHINGTON 1,300. 63 pct over 600 lbs. 66 pct heifers. There were not enough feeder cattle sales to report. DIRECT

This week Last week Last year 36.700 29.900 24.500 SOUTHWEST (Arizona-California-Nevada) 1,800. 10 pct over 600 lbs. No heifers. Holsteins Large 3 325 lbs. \$301-305 October Del: 450 lbs. \$244 June del.

NORTHWEST (Washington-Oregon-Idaho) 2.100, 52 pct over 600 lbs, 38 pct heifers. Steers: Medium and Large 1-2 Current FOB Price 850-900 lbs. \$194 Washington. Future Delivery FOB Price: 550-600 lbs. \$245-247 for October-November Idaho; 750-800 lbs. \$210 for September-October Oregon; 900 lbs. \$200 for July Oregon, Holstein Steers: Large 2-3: Current FOB Price: 350 lbs. \$268-269 Washington. Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: Current FOB Price:

Future Delivery FOB Price: 550-600 lbs. \$235 for October-November Idaho: 700-750 lbs. \$202 for September-October Oregon.

NORTHWEST DIRECT CATTLE (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash. May 29 This week Last week Last vear

2,500 2.100 3,550 Compared to May 22: Feeder cattle steady in

a light test. Trade slow this Holiday shortened week. Demand light to moderate. The feeder supply included 62 percent steers and 38 percent heifers. Near 52 percent of the supply weighed over 600 lbs. Prices are FOB weighing point with a 1-4 percent shrink or equivalent and with a 5-10 cent slide on calves and a 3-8 cent slide on yearlings. Current sales are up to 14 days delivery.

Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: Current FOB Price: 850-900 lbs. \$194 Washington. Future Delivery FOB Price: 550-600 lbs. \$245-247 for October-November Idaho: 750-800 lbs. \$210 for September-October Oregon; 900 lbs. \$200 for July Oregon.

Holstein Steers: Large 2-3: Current FOB Price 350 lbs. \$268-269 Washington.

Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: Future De livery FOB Price: 550-600 lbs. \$235 for October-November Idaho; 700-750 lbs. \$202 for September-October Oregon Replacement Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2:

Current FOB Price: 800-850 lbs. \$197 Wash-

DAILY CALIFORNIA SHELL EGGS (USDA Market News) Des Moines, Iowa May 29

Benchmark prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are 33 cents higher for Jumbo, 39 cents higher for Extra Large, 37 cents higher for Large and 35 cents higher for Medium and Small. The undertone is steady to higher. Offerings are light to moderate, mostly light. Retail demand continues light to moderate with food service movement usually moderate. Supplies are light to moderate. Market activity is moderate to active. Small benchmark price \$2.28.

Range
285
248

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, delivered store door

Size	Range	Size	Range
Jumbo	296-308	Extra large	266-278
Large	262-271	Medium	228-237

Livestock Auctions

Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals per pair or head as indicated

California

SHASTA (Shasta Livestock Auction) Cottonwood. Calif. May 29

Last week Current week 2 389 898

Compared to May 22: Slaughter cows and bulls generally steady. No large numbers of feeders in any one weight class. Market softer than last week's special sale. Off lots and singles \$30-\$70 below top offerings.

Slaughter cows: Breakers \$103-109, \$110-120 high dress: Boning \$95-102.

Bulls 1 and 2: \$110-135; \$135-145 high dress. Feeder steers: 450-500 lbs. \$87.50; 550-600 lbs. \$230.00-250.00; 600-650 lbs. \$217.00-237.00; 650-700 lbs. \$215.00-237.00; 700-750 lbs. \$210.00-225.50; 750-800 lbs. \$200.00-225.00; 800-900 lbs \$193.00-203.00.

Feeder heifers: 450-500 lbs. \$235.00-250.00; 500-550 lbs. \$255.00; 550-600 lbs. \$200.00-223.00; 650-700 lbs. \$195.00-212.00; 700-750 lbs. \$185.00-201.00; 750-800 lbs. \$180.00-189.50; 800-900 lbs. \$182 00-185 75

Calvy cows: Full-mouth \$1900-2200; Bro-ken-mouth butcher price \$1650.

Washington

	TOPPENISH	
(Toppe	nish Livestock A	uction)
(L	ISDA Market New	s)
N	loses Lake, Wash	ı.
	May 29	
is week	Last week	Last yea
250	1.300	1.360

1.250 Compared to May 22 at the same market: Not enough stocker or feeder cattle this holiday shortened week for accurate trends. Trade active with very good demand. Slaughter cows steady to \$3 lower. Slaughter bulls \$5-6 higher. Trade active with good demand. Slaughter cows 71 percent, Slaughter bulls 5 percent, and feeders 24 percent of the supply. The feeder supply included 34 percent steers and 66 percent heifers. Near 63 percent of the run weighed over 600 lbs. Replacement Cows Pre-tested for pregnancy, and age.

Feeder Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$317.50; 500-600 lbs. \$252.50; 800-900 lbs. \$195.50; Medium and Large 2-3: 600-700 lbs. \$183; Small and Medium 1-2: 400-500 lbs. \$250: 600-700 lbs. \$215-233: Small and Medium 4: 600-700 lbs \$180.

Feeder Holstein Steers: Large 2-3: 600-700 lbs. \$200.900-1000 lbs \$169

Feeder Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: 400-500

lbs. \$250-260; 700-800 lbs. \$199.50; Medium and Large 2-3: 500-600 lbs. \$213; 600-700 lbs. \$199; Large 2-3: 100-200 lbs. \$275, Per Head: 200-300 lbs. \$360. Per Head: 300-400 lbs. \$220: 400-500 lbs. \$212; 800-900 lbs. \$175; 1000-1100 lbs. \$141-154: 1100-1200 lbs. \$140: Small and Medium 1-2: 500-600 lbs. \$220-221.

Slaughter Cows: Boning 80-85 percent lean 1500-1900 lbs. \$99-105: Boning 80-85 percent lean 1250-1600 lbs. \$110.50-116; Lean 85-90 percent lean 100-1400 lbs. \$101-107; Lean Light 90 percent lean 900-1200

lbs. \$93-96. Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1-2 1400-2300 \$145-156

Cow/Calf (Per Pair); Medium and Large 1-2; Mid-Aged 1300 lbs. \$2300 with 150-200 lbs. calves. Feeder Cows: Large 1-2: 1000-1100 lbs. \$125, Young; 1100-1200 lbs. \$120, Youna: 1200-1300 lbs. \$120, Young; 1300-1400 lbs. \$120, Young.

Oregon

VALE (Producers Livestock Market) May 27

Total receipts: 542 head. Comments: Butcher cow and bull market steady to strona. Steer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$257-284; 400-500 lbs. \$264-297: 500-600 lbs. \$245-273.

Heifer calves: 300-400 lbs. \$237-258: 400-500 lbs. \$232-247; 500-600 lbs. \$228-247.

Yearling steers : 600-700 lbs. \$226-240; 700-800 lbs. \$207-221.

Yearling heifers: 600-700 lbs. \$210-224. Butcher cows: \$96-110 Thin shelly cows: \$84-94 Younger heiferettes: \$122-139

Butcher bulls: \$126-141. EUGENE

(Eugene Livestock Auction) Junction City, Ore. May 30

Total head count: 518. Market conditions compared to last week: Cows and bulls steady; feeders steady. Cows: Top cows high dressers: \$109-118.50, low dressers: \$90-108.50; Top 10 \$112.55. Top bulls high dressers \$120-146.

Feeder Bulls: 300-500 lbs. \$151-155; 500-700 lbs. \$125-195; 700-900 lbs. \$127.50-166.

Choice steers: medium to large frame No. 1 and No. 2: 300-400 lbs. \$260-293; 400-500 lbs. \$200-259; 500-600 lbs. \$200-251; 600-700 lbs. \$200-226; 700-800 lbs. \$200-225; 800-900 lbs. \$180-192.50. Choice heifers: medium to large frame No. 1 and No. 2: 300-400 lbs. \$250: 400-500 lbs. \$200-232.50: 500-600 lbs. \$190-217: 600-700 lbs. \$190-200: 700-

800 lbs. \$175-190; 800 lbs. and up \$156-182.