

Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association Newsletter - Furnished by PNDSA Staff

CROPPING SYSTEMS CONFERENCE

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS TODAY FOR A PROFITABLE TOMORROW

JANUARY 12 - 13, 2016**KENNEWICK, WA****Three Rivers Convention Center**

Register online at: www.directseed.org/events/annual-conference/
Please Contact us at: (P) 509-585-5460 or (Email) agmgt@agmgt.com

**Don't miss our Cropping Systems Conference
NOT JUST FOR DIRECT SEEDERS!**

General Keynote Presentations

- Learn from **Gabe Brown's regenerative soil practices** that have allowed him to cut almost all input costs (except seed) while still exceeding county average yields.
- Hear from a panel of UAV users, compare their drone equipment and see one of the newest UAV's from **xCraft a local drone tech and manufacturing company** based in Sandpoint, ID and recently received funding from all 5 Sharks on the investing show Shark Tank.
- **Does Whole Farm Insurance make sense for your production?** It may if you have diversified crops that must hit certain quality standards for market pricing. Drew Killian will provide some case studies to further explain the benefits and costs of this program.
- Presentations on "**The Perils and Promise of Farming Like Nature,**" **Andy McGuire**; and "Using Pulse Crops for a Successful Conservation Tillage Cropping System," Stephen Guy, Rebecca McGee, and Howard Nelson presenting essentials of sustainable farming practices to improve your operation.

6 Breakout Sessions

Crop Rotation and Cover Crop Track:

- Gabe Brown will answer questions and provide cover crop recommendations for cover cropping in the PNW along with regional updates from regional researchers and producers using cover crops, oilseeds, sunflowers, and quinoa in their rotations.

Soil Health and Nutrient and Pest Management Track:

- Learn about the latest research and strategies for wireworms, pH issues, and black leg. Also learn more about what your soil test reports are telling you to make better nutrient management decisions.

Technology and Precision Ag Track:

- Learn from industry experts and producers on developing prescription maps and maximizing the use of your precision ag data to reduce input costs.

Direct Seed 101:

- A perfect way for those wanting to pick up tips to begin transitioning or improve their direct seed operation. Learn from a few masters on their equipment, rotations, nutrients, CRP takeout, challenges and management strategies. Session will be provided for low, intermediate, and high rainfall regions.

Ag Business Track:

- Sharpen your finances and build a strong farm business with the sessions in this track. There will be sessions on succession planning, economics of direct seeding, insurance, and Farmed Smart sustainable ag certification program.

Irrigated Track:

- This track will cover information on building soils using low disturbance rotations and cover crops in irrigated crops, how to's and benefits of a direct seeded alfalfa, and reasons to invest in more efficient irrigation technology.

Other Reasons to Attend

- **Trade Show:** Learn about the latest equipment, products and services available in the market!
- **Research Posters:** Learn about the latest research happening throughout Idaho, Oregon, and Washington and collaborate with researchers on research topics and priorities needed for direct seeders.
- Network and learn from **other direct seed producers.**
- Obtain your **CCA and pesticide recertification credits** needed to maintain your certifications.

THANK-YOU!

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Gabe Brown is one of the pioneers of the current soil health movement that focuses on regenerating our resources. Gabe, along with his wife, Shelly, and son, Paul, own and operate a diversified 5,000-acre farm and ranch near Bismarck, N.D. Their operation focuses on farming and ranching in nature's image. The Browns holistically integrate their grazing and no-till cropping system, which includes a wide variety of cash crops along with multi-species cover crops and all-natural, grass-fed beef, poultry and sheep. This diversity and integration has regenerated the natural resources on the ranch without the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides or fungicides. Over 2,000 people visit the Brown's ranch annually to see this unique operation for themselves. They have had visitors from all 50 states and 16 foreign countries.



The PNDSA is a non-profit association formed in 2000 to provide information exchange, advocacy on conversation policy issues and research coordination that supports the adoption of environmentally sustainable and economically viable direct seed cropping systems. PNDSA unites growers under a cropping system, rather than one specific crop. We are passionate about bringing together diverse groups with common interests to advance the future of sustainable farming.

Register today for the 2016 PNDSA Cropping Systems Conference. The 2-day event features something for everyone with a trade show, general and breakout sessions, and research poster sessions. Register Online at:

<http://www.directseed.org/events/annual-conference/>