

# Eastern Idaho grain growers short on storage

By JOHN O'CONNELL  
Capital Press

RIRIE, Idaho — Boyd Foster just finished harvesting a 2017 grain crop that he said yielded well and possessed outstanding quality — but he has no good place to store much of his production.



Courtesy of Boyd Foster

Ririe, Idaho, grower Boyd Foster stores his barley in massive sacks, each with the capacity to hold 15,000 bushels, due to a storage shortage resulting from the carryover of 2016 grain into the current harvest.

Like many grain farmers in Eastern Idaho, Foster is still coping with the fallout of a bumper 2016 crop. A lot of that grain has carried over into the current harvest, resulting in a regional storage shortage.

Storage is tightest in Eastern Idaho's barley production areas, where growers with Anheuser-Busch contracts were asked to hold onto their grain much longer than normal while the company worked through its invento-

ries. Many wheat growers also kept grain, waiting for a price rally, and elevators reported receiving a lot of 2016 grain right before this harvest.

Mike Adams, with Adams Grain Bins in Ririe and Jerome, said there's been big demand for building new storage facilities in Eastern Idaho for the past two years.

This year, his business has been strong statewide.

"A lot of (growers) still have last year's crop," Adams said, adding that adequate storage provides growers with marketing options and helps them avoid selling at a loss.

Foster is still storing about half of his 2016 barley crop. He recently built a new 160,000-bushel storage, but he's also had to temporarily store barley in his fields, using bags that each hold 15,000 bushels — roughly the production of 100 acres.

Foster said he'll move grain from the bags into permanent storage as quickly as he frees space. Anheuser-Busch pays him to store the grain, and he believes the company has done everything possible to help growers, but Foster

said carrying over 2016 crop has presented both labor and cash-flow challenges.

Anheuser-Busch officials did not respond to a request for comment.

Ririe grower Clark Hamilton still has about a quarter of his 2016 barley on the farm. He, too, is experimenting with storage bags as a short-term solution. He rented a special implement from a neighbor to fill the bags.

"If Anheuser-Busch is going to be using more on-farm storage, I'll definitely be looking at building more storage," Hamilton said, adding he raised a strong 2017 crop.

Ririe Grain & Feed manager Lee Andersen said his facility dumped soft white wheat — which is now valued lower than other grain classes — outside in a pile to make

room for barley and other wheat.

He said growers have brought in some malt-quality barley to sell as feed to make space for their new crop. Others have been selling marginal 2017 malt as feed.

The good news, said Idaho Wheat Commission Executive Director Blaine Jacobson, is the state's grain growers haven't had problems with starch degradation, measured by the falling numbers test, and quality has generally been outstanding. He said ample soil moisture helped growers raise strong fall wheat crops. Spring wheat yields were in line with the five-year average in southeast Idaho, but were down about 15 percent from average in southwest and Northern Idaho due to heat stress, he said.

## Wash. to shoot wolves from a second pack

Four calves have been attacked since mid-June

By DON JENKINS  
Capital Press

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife announced Aug. 25 that it will shoot wolves from a second pack that is attacking cattle this summer in northeast Washington.

WDFW Director Jim Unsworth authorized the "incremental removal" of wolves from the Sherman pack, which wildlife investigators say have attacked at least four calves in Ferry County since June 13. WDFW shot two wolves in the Smackout pack in Stevens County in July.

The department did not specify how many wolves it planned to kill, though department policy calls for one to two wolves to be culled initially to try to stop depredations.

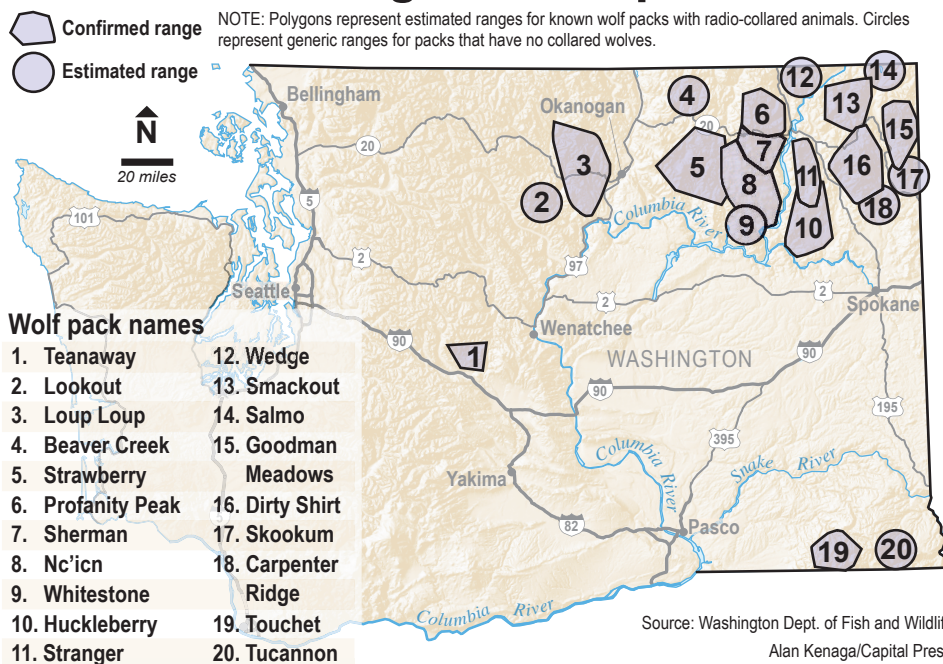
The fourth depredation by the Smackout pack was confirmed Aug. 24, meeting the threshold for the department to consider lethal removal. The threshold is four depredations within 10 months or three depredations within 30 days.

In this case, the four depredations occurred over 12 weeks.

The department said that it does not believe additional non-lethal measures would stop the attacks.

"This rancher has made concerted efforts to protect his livestock using non-lethal

### Known Washington wolf packs (As of Dec. 2016)



measures and has met the department's prerequisite for lethal action," WDFW wolf policy coordinator Donny Martorello said. "Our goal is to change the pack's behavior before the situation gets worse."

The first three depredations occurred on Bureau of Land Management grazing lands, while the fourth occurred on a U.S. Forest Service grazing allotment in the Colville National Forest. The bones of a fifth calf were found within a quarter-mile of the fourth calf. WDFW said wolves likely killed the animal, but scavengers had picked away evidence that could have definitively pointed to wolves.

WDFW counted five wolves

in the Sherman pack at the end of 2016. The department says it has no evidence the pack produced pups.

Culling the pack will not set back wolf recovery in Washington, according to the department. Recovery goals have been met in northeast Washington, but wolves will remain a state-protected species until they spread throughout the state.

The calves attacked by the Sherman pack were born outside wolf territory and trucked to grazing lands, according to the department.

On May 9, before the calves arrived, five range riders under contract with WDFW started patrolling the area to look for signs of wolves. There are no

wolf dens or rendezvous sites in the area, according to the department.

In late July, three more range riders were added. Also, the rancher, his family and five employees have been watching for wolves, according to the department.

WDFW said radio-collar data contributed to investigators' conclusions that the calves were attacked by wolves in the Sherman pack.

One calf survived an attack by wolves, but was euthanized by the rancher because of its injuries. It suffered a broken right shoulder, and numerous cuts and punctures. A necropsy showed massive hemorrhaging below the wounds, according to WDFW.

## West Coast hay exports begin to rebound

By DAN WHEAT  
Capital Press

ELLENSBURG, Wash. — Hay exporters are beginning to rebound from more than two years of oversupply and low prices, but they say business is still lacking.

"Overall quality is up but demand is flat to down and shipments are down because of a rapid price increase. Export volume is down versus this time last year," said Mike Hajny, owner of Hajny Trading, an Ellensburg hay exporter.

"The timothy market has improved. Alfalfa continues to be underpriced in export markets. There continues to be more processing capacity for export than demand. We need more growth in export markets," said Mark T. Anderson, president of Anderson Hay & Grain Co., a large West Coast exporter in Ellensburg, Wash.

While prices have improved they are still low for growers and exporters compared to their costs, Anderson said.

Exporters lost money on a lot of hay last winter to clear out an inventory build-up caused by a union work slowdown at West Coast seaports in 2014 and 2015. A long, cold winter and cool spring increased domestic feeder hay demand and helped reduce stockpiles.

In the Columbia Basin, the price of premium export al-

falfa increased from \$120 to \$180 per ton in less than six months.

The sharp price increase met some overseas buyer resistance and while Japan, South Korea and China began buying more U.S. hay they will also be looking for cheaper alternatives, Hajny said.

"Pricing in China continues to be low compared to U.S. market conditions," Anderson said.

The average farmgate price of big bale premium timothy was \$245 per ton in the Columbia Basin on Aug. 18 and \$155 to \$175 for alfalfa, according to the USDA.

Shawn Clausen, a Warden, Wash., grower, said hay prices are now slumping because corn and wheat prices fell in just the last two to three weeks. At lower prices, grain will be attractive to overseas livestock owners who normally buy hay, he said.

Exporters are leery of buying hay at \$175 per ton and being unable to sell it profitably overseas, he said.

Third-cutting alfalfa in the Columbia Basin was compromised in quality by about two weeks of smoke from British Columbia wildfires, Clausen said.

"It created a false cloud cover. The sun didn't come through and that created high humidity and a lot more bleached out hay that took a couple more days drying time," he said.

## Oregon wine industry census shows more acreage, wineries

By ERIC MORTENSON  
Capital Press

Oregon's winemakers reported a 12 percent sales increase to \$529 million, planted 2,400 more acres of grapes and opened 23 more wineries

in 2016, according to an annual census commissioned by the Oregon Wine Board.

The growth came despite a 6 percent drop in production, slipping to 79,782 tons from the 84,782 tons harvested in 2015.

Not to worry, said Steve Thomson, CEO of Cristom Vineyards and the wine board chairman. For one thing, the 2014 and 2015 vintages were unusually large, and 2016 was closer to normal — although the

2017 yield is shaping up as another big one.

More important, he said, is the price per ton is increasing and the state's "pricing power" is intact. In other words, the state's winemakers concentrated from the early days on quality rather than quantity, and consumers remain

willing to pay more for Oregon wine.

"It all fits together really well," Thomson said.

The Willamette Valley's internationally acclaimed Pinot noir is still the big dog, accounting for 64 percent of the 30,435 acres of wine grapes grown in Oregon. In addition, about 73 percent of the grape "crush" happened in the North Willamette Valley. But Thomson said the state is no longer a "one trick pony."

The warmer Southern Oregon and the Columbia Valley regions, the latter including American Viticulture Areas in sections of Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington, produce a range of Mediterranean and Bordeaux

varietals to complement the Burgundian style Pinot noir. Across the state, buyers can find Chardonnay, Riesling, Pinot gris, Syrah, Zinfandel, Malbec, Merlot, Tempranillo and more.

"It's a strong healthy sign for our industry," Thomson said. "I marvel a little bit. Ten years ago it was Pinot noir driven, now there's incredible variety. It helps immunize our industry for the future by having greater diversity across our industry."

The census is the work of the Southern Oregon University Research Center. Among other statistics, the report showed Oregon now has 725 wineries, adding them at a pace of nearly two a month. Case sales at winery tasting rooms, where visitors can sample "flights" of various varietals, jumped to 484,714 in 2016 — 63,000 more 12-bottle cases than in 2015.

The Oregon Wine Board is a semi-independent state agency that does marketing, research and education for the industry.

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### LEGAL

#### PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 9/1/2017. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

Copart of Washington Inc.  
2885 National Way Woodburn, OR  
2015 Nissan Murano UT  
VIN = 5N1A2ZMH7FN235024  
Amount due on lien \$1455.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
Car Guys NW LLC

### LEGAL

#### PUBLIC LIEN SALE U-STORE SELF STORAGE Salem, Oregon

Sun., September 10, 2017 10AM  
1501 Hawthorne Ave NE  
Keyla Almestica Looney, 2C54; Jose Anaya, 1H06; Perla Anaid Cabello-Herrera, 1G16; Jillian Kay Collins, 2B21; Danielle Debusk, 2B31; Carmen Rocio Duran Ramirez, RJ14; Steven Fernandez, 2B09; Juan Flores, 2C03; Stacy Ford, 2A10; Cecelia Fuqua, 2C46; Kristina Gonzalez, 2B08; SheaAnn Greaves, 2A50; Austin Greene, 1C40; Cali Guthrie, Y223; Charles D Harris, 1G09; Randall Jordan, 2A77; Vernita M Knell, 2B69; Dustin Leja, Y1-7; Christina Leskowsky, 2A71; Maria de Martinez Hernandez, 1E21; Andrew Meyer, RC07; Nichole Morris, 1F35; Kimberly Munz, Y217; Siplus Ruba, 1G03; Barry A Sindlinger, 2D06; Linda Snook, 2C31;

### LEGAL

#### PUBLIC LIEN SALE U-STORE SELF STORAGE Albany, Oregon

Sun, September 10, 2017 1PM  
1668 Industrial Way SW  
Barry Hovelsrud, J039; Jennifer James, H022; James Kimble, F008; Allyson, E014; Harold Miller, J042; Elizabeth Meyers, J031; Alan Price, H015

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Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 9/5/17. The sale will be held at 10:00am by PARKING ENFORCEMENT SERVICES  
1768 13TH ST SE SALEM, OR  
2006 Mercedes ML350  
VIN = 4JGBB86X6A080667  
Amount due on lien \$2,883.00  
Reputed owner(s) CINSY ZIEBELL  
EQUITABLE FINANCE COMPANY

### LEGAL

#### PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 9/1/2017. The sale will be held at 10:00am by  
Copart of Washington Inc.  
2885 National Way Woodburn, OR  
2016 Toyota Corolla 4DR  
VIN = 2T1BURHE6GC728505  
Amount due on lien \$1455.00  
Reputed owner(s)  
Jesus Ascension Hernandez Juarez  
Toyota Motor Credit Corp.