

## People &amp; Places

# Weed specialist zeros in on herbicide resistance

By CAROL RYAN DUMAS  
Capital Press

KIMBERLY, Idaho — The newest weed specialist at the University of Idaho Kimberly Research and Extension Center crossed an ocean to further his studies in weed science.

Originally from Africa, Albert Adjesiwor earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture at a university in Kumasi, Ghana, and worked at the university as a teaching and research assistant for a year.

He then set out for the University of Wyoming where he earned a master's degree in agronomy and a Ph.D. in plant science. He stayed with the university for two years as a post-doctoral researcher, primarily working in weed science and the chemical control of weeds in corn, cereal crops, dry beans and sugar beets.

In July 2020, he started with the University of Idaho to research weed control in those same crops and alfalfa.

"My primary focus is weed management in agronomic crops," he said.

The work starts indoors screening weeds for resistance. People can fill out a form online and mail him samples to have weed seed tested at no cost. He also collects seeds from crop fields in the area. If he sees a weedy field, he stops the car, gets out, collects seeds and logs the field location with GPS.

Seeds are grown out and sprayed with different herbicides at different application rates to find out which might survive and determine resistance. If survival differs among the same weed species, he can send plants to the university's laboratory or to an outside facility to extract DNA to confirm the mechanism by which they are resistant.

"We already have some weeds that have developed resistance to some commonly used herbicides," he said.

Kochia is resistant to glyphosate,



Carol Ryan Dumas/Capital Press

**Albert Adjesiwor, University of Idaho extension weed specialist, explains how weeds are grown and treated with herbicides to screen for resistance at the Kimberly Research and Extension Center on April 15.**

2, 4-D, and most group 2 herbicides such as Raptor. Pigweed is resistant to photosynthesis II inhibitors, such as Metribuzin. Some populations of lambsquarters are resistant to glyphosate, and he's currently testing to determine if the weeds are resistant to additional herbicides, he said.

He's also conducting weed-control trials in alfalfa, small grains, sugar beets and dry beans this season.

Those trials include getting good weed control in first-year alfalfa. Raptor is commonly used but doesn't always provide good control, so he'll be testing for what else can be used in the establishment year. Another trial will be pre-plant options for direct seeding or no-till small cereal grains, as well as determining the best time to terminate cover crops.

He'll also be testing a chemical labeled for use in Europe in sugar beets to analyze weed control and crop-rotation restrictions. He'll also be looking for alternative herbicides that can be used in dry beans, which

have limited options.

Adjesiwor is also leading a new project funded by the Idaho Wheat Commission to find out what happens to weed seed in the soil in a wheat and alfalfa rotation, whether the weeds will come back when wheat is planted or what can be used to kill the seeds in alfalfa.

He and others at the university are also trying to set up a program that includes a website growers can go to with their weed problems and get recommendations on what they can try and what it would cost. The program would include shipping chemicals to growers to try on small areas.

"We think that would be a good way to address problems growers are having," he said.

The program is aimed at providing an integrated approach, with consultation on such things as weed control, best varieties, fertilizers and irrigation, to connect growers with the right people at the university.

"Growers could test out A, B and C and see what works best. If it works, growers are going to see

## Western Innovator

### ALBERT ADJESIWOR

Age: 32

**Occupation:** Assistant professor and extension weed specialist, University of Idaho

**Location:** Kimberly, Idaho

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in agriculture, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana, 2013; master's degree in agronomy, 2015, and Ph.D. in plant science, 2018, University of Wyoming, Laramie

**Associations:** Weed Science Society of America; Western Society of Weed Science, public relations committee, diversity and inclusion ad-hoc committee.

**Family:** Wife, Lucinda

**For more information including Adjesiwor's contact information and the form to submit seeds for screening, visit:** [www.uidaho.edu/weed-science](http://www.uidaho.edu/weed-science)

the results; I don't have to convince them it works," he said.

He has also teamed up with researchers at the University of Wyoming and University of Nebraska-Lincoln to develop an interactive web application that would estimate the risk of herbicide resistance. Growers could select the weed and the crop and find out what herbicides are labeled for Idaho, the level of control, the cost, the risk of resistance and implications for crop rotation.

"I would like people to reach out if they have any weed-management questions," he said.

## Washington Winegrowers re-elects board members

By SIERRA DAWN McCLAIN  
Capital Press

At their virtual annual meeting last week, members of Washington Winegrowers Association, which represents state's wine industry, voted to re-elect incumbents to three-year terms on the board of directors.

The re-elected incumbents included Becca De Kleine of Four Feathers Wine Estates in Prosser, Scott Williams of Kiona Vineyards & Winery in Benton City and Shane Collins of Rocky Pond Estate Winery in Chelan.

De Kleine studied viticulture and enology at Washington State University. As a student, she worked at several large-scale wineries, and was then hired to help develop Four Feathers Wine Estates, where she now serves as the general manager and director of winemaking. She is also president of the Washington Wine Technical Group.

Williams has been involved in the Washington wine industry since 1972, when he helped his dad clear land and plant the first vineyard on Red Mountain. He studied agricultural engineering at Washington State University, managed and planted vineyards for others until 1984, then went to work full-time for Kiona Vineyards. Although Williams has transitioned winery man-



Washington Department of Ecology  
**Washington Winegrowers Association members have re-elected three board members.**

agement and winemaking to his sons, he continues to serve the winemaking community.

Collins is a fourth-generation orchardist. He studied communication from Washington State University, followed by viticulture and fermentation science at the Walla Walla Institute of Enology and Viticulture. He has held leadership positions in the Lake Chelan Wine Alliance, Cascade Valley Wine Country and the Washington Winegrowers Association.

The remaining board members are Patrick Rawn of Two Mountain Winery in Zillah, James Mantone of Syncline Wines in Lyle, Mike Means of Ste. Michelle Wine Estates in Paterson, John Derrick of Mercer Canyons in Prosser, Carrie Arredondo of Cave B Estate Winery in Quincy and Steele Brown of Golden West Vineyards in Royal City.

## Spokane junior livestock show to be held in person

By MATTHEW WEAVER  
Capital Press

The Junior Livestock Show of Spokane will be live and in person this year, although it will look a little different due to COVID-19.

"We're making lots of adjustments," manager Lynn Cotter told the Capital Press.

The show will be May 6-8 at the Spokane County Fair and Expo Center, one day shorter than normal. A live auction will be May 8.

Face masks and social distancing are required. Class sizes will be slightly reduced. No visitors or vendors will be present on the grounds.

"This is what we have to do this year," Cotter said.

The show's mission is to give kids the experience of raising and selling an animal.

Meeting in person gives participants better interactions with judges, more feedback and experience showing their animals, Cotter added.

The number of participants is slightly down, with roughly 400. Cotter estimates the number of animals is down about 10%.



Matthew Weaver/Capital Press File

**Marshall Bye of Pomeroy, Wash., waits in line to show his steer, Tart, in May 2019 at the Junior Livestock Show of Spokane. After going virtual in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the show will return to in-person this year, with social distancing restrictions and masks, manager Lynn Cotter says.**

She's keeping track of the numbers in the fairgrounds' barns to allow social distancing.

The costs of raising an animal have gone up due to inflation, Cotter said.

Cotter expects heightened demand for meat after the closure last year due to the pandemic.

"The meat prices and meat demand are there for the consumer," she said.

Last year the show held a virtual sale, and this year's show also includes online sales in addition to the live auction.

Cotter said participants got "fabulous" prices selling online.

"They had to learn to go out and sell that animal themselves, so I hope that continues on into this year," she said.

## CALENDAR

Submit upcoming ag-related events on [www.capitalpress.com](http://www.capitalpress.com) or by email to [newsroom@capitalpress.com](mailto:newsroom@capitalpress.com).

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY APRIL 23-25

**Oregon Ag Fest (drive-thru):** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Clackamas County Event Center, 694 NE Fourth Ave., Canby, Ore. Join us for the Drive Thru Ag Fest to experience the incredible world of Oregon agriculture, in a fun-filled, drive thru environment, and leave our event with an "Ag-venture" kit filled with activities, seedlings and more

to continue the fun at home. The three-day event, aimed to help families better understand where their food, fiber and flora come from, is a unique learning experience, where drive-by exhibits make learning about Oregon's vast agricultural industry educational and entertaining. Tickets are \$22 per vehicle and are available online at <https://oragfest.com/>

**WEDNESDAY MAY 5  
Got Manure? Great Ideas for Manure Management (virtual):** 6-7:30 p.m. Do you have horses, livestock, or other critters

**THURSDAY-SATURDAY  
MAY 6-8  
Junior Livestock Show of Spokane (live):** 9 a.m. Spokane County Fair and Expo Center, 404

N. Havana, St., Spokane Valley, Wash. The Junior Livestock Show of Spokane will be in person this year. A live auction will be May 8. Face masks and social distancing are required. Website: [www.juniorshow.org](http://www.juniorshow.org)

### WEDNESDAY MAY 12

**Poop in the Pasture?** Ideas for Pasture Management. 6-7:30 p.m. Join Clark Conservation District to learn about best management practices for your pasture. Whether you continually graze or rotational graze, there are solutions to improve productivity. Lisa Schuchman from USDA-NRCS will teach you how to

get the most out of your pasture system while also keeping poop out of surface waters. This is the second of a three-part webinar series, Manure Matters. Contact: Sam Frundle, [sfrundle@clarkcd.org](mailto:sfrundle@clarkcd.org)

### THURSDAY-SATURDAY MAY 13-15

**Washington FFA Convention (virtual):** The convention will maintain its traditional agenda, with one session streamed on Thursday and Friday evenings and two on Saturday. The new state officers will be announced Saturday evening. Website: [www.washingtonffa.org/91st-convention](http://www.washingtonffa.org/91st-convention)

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### To Reach Us

Circulation ..... 800-781-3214  
Email ..... [Circulation@capitalpress.com](mailto:Circulation@capitalpress.com)  
Main line ..... 503-364-4431

### News Staff

#### Idaho

Carol Ryan Dumas ..... 208-860-3898

#### Boise

Brad Carlson ..... 208-914-8264

#### Western Washington

Don Jenkins ..... 360-722-6975

#### Eastern Washington

Matthew Weaver ..... 509-688-9923

#### Oregon

George Plaven ..... 406-560-1655

Mateusz Perkowski ..... 800-882-6789

Sierra Dawn McClain ..... 503-506-8011

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