

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023

### **9:00-10:00 a.m. Farm Weird, Jason Mauck, Constant Canopy- 1– PD CCA**

Jason’s presentation will take you from the inception of his “wild” ideas to the reality of the present. Through years of experimentation with relay cropping, livestock grazing, and other concepts that go against the norm of traditional agriculture, Jason’s mistakes and lessons have served only to propel him forward. Learn the value of failure as a motivator, people as an asset, and outside of the box thinking as a way of life.

**Bio-** Jason Mauck is a farmer from Gaston, Indiana who has coined the term, “Farm Weird” - and for good reason. Jason’s passion for pushing the envelope of what is traditionally accepted in agriculture is contagious. As an early adopter of relay cropping, Jason has learned through years of experimentation. This has evolved into integrating grazing livestock to enrich the soil. He is also working, through his company Munsee Meats, toward a vertically integrated meat distribution model that provides transparency from farm to table for consumers. Never one to stop pushing forward, Jason’s current projects include planning and creating a modern farm that combines relay cropping, livestock grazing, and community enrichment all contained within 88 acres.

### **12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Building Resilient Farms for Future Markets - Jon Paul Driver, WSU**

Back by popular demand! Jon Paul spoke at the 2022 Summer Expo and we had to bring him back! Jon Paul will discuss the effects of increased inputs, supply chain uncertainties, political issues had on markets , and what to expect and prepare for in 2023

**Bio\_** Jon Paul Driver grew up on the family farm north of Spokane in Usk. He attended WSU and received his degree in Agribusiness, Management and Economics. After graduating, on Paul went to work for the Washington State University Western Center for Risk Management Education where his work focused on dairy and crop insurance policy. He worked for Northwest Farm Credit Services as an agricultural economist and industry analyst focusing on cattle, dairy, hay, potatoes, and small grains for 5 years before rejoining WSU. Jon Paul is a graduate of AgForestry Leadership class 37 and a part-time hay farmer.

### **3:15– 4:15 p.m. Family Forged: Succession Planning for the Real World- Michael Stolp, NWFCSCCA- 1 PD**

How is succession planning forged in your business? Hot and hammered into shape, or formed by concentrated effort? In this pragmatic presentation, real-world stories illustrate why succession planning is a priority, what gets in the way, and how you and your family can start building your plan. Learn how to create alignment between your business, succession plan and estate plan by building from a common foundation, and being business smart and family friendly. Finally, get the short-cut to wisdom and staying young!

**Bio-** Michael’s experience with family business is grounded in his family’s third-generation farm and ranch in Sprague, Washington. With over 18 years of experience in family business consulting, Michael blends lessons learned with an appreciation for farm, ranch and agribusiness perspectives throughout the Northwest.

# CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023**

## Room A/B

10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

**Controlling Cheatgrass with Gibberellic Acid and Preemergent Herbicides, Jacob Powell, Oregon State University— [1, WA, ID, and OR Pesticide Credit, CCA– 1 PM](#)**

Cheatgrass is becoming increasingly difficult to control in dryland wheat. Additional tools are needed to make herbicide more effective. Jacob will give an overview of Cheatgrass. He will discuss integrated pest management overview for Cheatgrass in wheat, the efficiency of using Gibberellic Acid with pre-emergent herbicides and preventing Herbicide Resistance in Cheatgrass

## Room C/D

10:15-11:15

**Relay Cropping - Jason Mauck, Constant Company – [CCA– 1 CM](#)**

Relay Cropping was probably something your grandmother had done in the garden... but didn't think anything of it. It is the practice of beginning a new crop before another crop has been harvested. In the lens of commercial agriculture it has been practiced with things like clover in wheat for centuries. In the last few decades farms have been integrating soy beans into cereals such as wheat, rye, and barley. Jason's experience now reaches 8 years on our farm in Indiana. He will share his journey. His mistakes, what he has learned, and what he is doing today. When we observe all the ancillary benefits of multi-cropping we can not only create more profit, but mitigate risks, lower input costs, and build more resilient, healthier soils.

## Room E/F

10:15– 11:15

**Growing Grain Hemp in the PNW, Rob Dewald, Dewald Farms, Aaron Esser, WSU— [CCA– 1 CM](#)**

Aaron and Rob will share their experiences with growing grain Hemp. Aaron Esser, WSU Regional Extension Agronomist, based in Ritzville, WA and his project is focused on the dry land wheat producing region of eastern Washington. He also manages the WSU Wilke Research and Extension Farm near Davenport, WA.

## Room G/H

10:15– 11:15

**Soil Testing - Joe Mullinax, Plant Pathologist, Denele Lab- [CCA– SW](#)**

Joe Mullinax is a Certified Plant Pathologist for Denele Analytical, Inc which is the largest agricultural lab in the western US, with multiple locations. He has over twenty years of agricultural testing and research experience. Joe's expertise is in Soil Health and Plant Nutrition. In his extensive career, he has conducted over 500 plant and soil research trials from his time in cooperative extension, Universities to corporate research and development. He has developed soil testing methods that are the bench mark for today's advanced soil and plant validations and developed an industrial standard for respiration and soil microbial activity.

# CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023**

**Room A/B**

**12:45 – 1:45 p.m.**

**Fertilizer Placement Strategies, Perry Weisberg, Bourgault - [CCA- 1 NM](#)**

A unique look into strategies to maximize returns on fertilizer investment. This presentation looks at how different placements of primary nutrients like N&P can impact plant stand & yield, simply by changing where they are positioned in relation to the seed row.

**Room C/D**

**12:45– 1:45 p.m.**

**Intercropping, Cover Crops and Grazing- Program Updates, Tracy Hanger, NRCS-  
[CCA- 1 CM](#)**

**Room E/F**

**12:45– 1:45 p.m.**

**Bringing Cattle to the Farm- Using Livestock in Cropping Systems, Drew Leitch, Keith Nantz, Nexus Beef, [CCA- 1 CM](#)**

Join Drew Leitch of Leitch Farms and Keith Nantz of Nexus Beef for a discussion on bringing Cattle to the Farm and using Livestock in Cropping Systems. “Cattle on productive farm ground?” Cattle are a tool in the tool bag, just like your tractor and drill. The first challenge is shifting paradigms, the second is logistics, and finally comes the economics. What does a system look like that manages synergistic tools to achieve our desired outcomes?

**Room G/H**

**12:45-1:45 p.m.**

**SAP Testing- David Knaus, Apical Crop Science, [CCA- 1 NM](#)**

This presentation will discuss the benefits of plant nutrients, the drawbacks of plant toxins, and how to utilize modern techniques to achieve plant nutrient balance.

David Knaus is the President and Founder of Apical Crop Science LLC, an ag tech company that combines laboratory analysis, smart data management, and sustainable growing products to provide growers with the tools they need to grow high-yielding crops organically.

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023**

**9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

**Breaking Barriers in Agriculture - The Mental Health Side of the Farm - Lesley Kelly**  
**CCA- 1 PD**

After sharing a live video of Lesley and her husband's mental health stories that created a conversation within and outside agriculture and around the world, Lesley shares what sparked them to create the video and then co-found the Do More Agriculture Foundation. Lesley will also share their road together on mental wellness, how it's helped them, their team and farm, and the power behind how one conversation can break barriers, change a culture and help save a life.

Lesley is the head and heart behind the popular High Heels & Canola Fields blog where she dispels myths about agriculture and brings consumers and farmers together. Lesley's goal in being involved in agriculture beyond the farm is to build community and bring people together, create conversation, collaborate and identify solutions that help both the industry and consumers. Lesley has been a leader in advocating for mental health. She's been a part of the Canadian Bell Let'sTalk campaign and co-founded the Do More Agriculture Foundation whose mission is to break barriers and support all producers in taking care of their mental well-being.

**12:30 - 1:25 p.m.**

**Soil Health Principles and Concepts- Jon Stika, North Dakota University** **CCA- 1 SW**

Jon will discuss his journey discovering the principles of Soil Health. Soil health principles and concepts and a discussion on regenerative agriculture.

**Bio-** Jon Stika is a retired soil scientist and soil health instructor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and is currently a research technician at the North Dakota State University Dickinson Research Extension Center, environmental consultant, contributing writer to AgDaily and Brew Your Own magazine, adjunct faculty teaching soil science at Dickinson State University, and brewer/consultant at Phat Fish Brewing Company LLC in Dickinson, North Dakota. Jon is also the author of "A Soil Owner's Manual: How To Restore and Maintain Soil Health" published in April of 2016. He is the 2014 recipient of the Legacy of Conservation Award from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, 2014 United States Zero Till Non-Farmer of the Year Award winner from the Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Farmers Association, 2002 & 2014 Professional Award winner from the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts and 2006 Fellow Award winner from the Soil & Water Conservation Society for his work in writing and teaching about soil health.

**1:45 - 2:45 p.m.**

**Cover Crop Seed - RJ Schmitt, Clearwater Seeds, Scott Gail, Ty Meyer, Spokane Conservation District**

RJ Schmitt from Clearwater Seed will be discussing cover crop species are our ability to grow them for seed in the PNW. This discussion will touch on strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats our growers will face in order to grow cover crops for seed.

# CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023

### Room A/B

10:30 – 11:30

#### **Soil Health in Washington's Dryland Wheat: Lessons from Surveys and Samples, Dani Gelardi, WSDA [CCA– 1 SW](#)**

In 2019, the Washington legislature established the Washington Soil Health Initiative (WaSHI), a formal partnership between the Washington State Department of Agriculture, Washington State University, and the Washington State Conservation Commission. Together, WaSHI partners work towards improved soil health through research, outreach and education, policy support, and funding opportunities. This presentation focuses on WaSHI projects in dryland agriculture. Soil health scoring curves created from 250+ soil samples will be shown and compared against curves from irrigated agriculture or systems in the Midwest. Results from a recent survey will also be described, in which growers reported details about their soil management, farm economics, and severity of drought impacts. The presentation will also describe useful resources for growers, including lessons from the Soil Health Roadmap, research being conducted at Long Term Agroecological Research and Extension sites, and grants available through the Sustainable Farms and Fields program.

### Room C/D

10:30 – 11:30

#### **Two Herbicides Are Better Than One, Drew Lyon, WSU [1 WA, ID and OR CCA– 1 CM](#)**

When it comes to delaying the development of herbicide resistance in weeds, herbicide mixing and rotation are critical. One of the 12 Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing the risks of herbicide resistance is: *Use multiple, effective MOAs [Mechanisms of Action] against the most troublesome weeds and those prone to herbicide resistance.* Many growers have failed to heed this recommendation even as herbicide resistance has continued to increase. I will discuss the importance of using multiple MOAs to manage weeds. I will provide research results that support this important BMP.

### Room E/F

10:30 – 11:30

#### **Weathering the Storm, When Stress is More than a Season, Lesley Kelly [CCA– 1 PD](#)**

Farming can be both a rewarding and demanding occupation where farmers experience highs and lows and mounting stress. Everyone feels stress and there can be lots of negative stress on the farm. As farmers, we know how to recognize stress in our livestock, crops, and equipment. But do we know how to recognize when stress is too much for us and what we can do to help get through those stressful times? In this presentation, Lesley will share 5 tips using her "Weather the STORM" strategy and the things she's learned that have helped her family and farm get through stressful times.

### Room G/H

10:30 – 11:30

#### **From Protein to Prescription: A New Strategy for Nitrogen Management, Blake Hatch, Ag Enterprise Supply, Victoria Clancy, Next Instruments**