



## WESTERN ALFALFA SEED GROWERS 2023 WINTER SEED CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Premier Conference Sponsor: **Forage Genetics International**



### **Sunday, January 29**

5:00 PM – 6:30 pm – Opening Social – *Bel Air II*  
*Sponsored by – JWM Leafcutters*

### **Monday, January 30**

7:00 AM – **APRI Grant Proposal Meeting** – *Pine Valley* (APRI Review Committee)  
8:00 AM – **Registration Desk Opens** – Trade Show – *Bel Air Foyer*

#### **Session 1 – Pesticide Credit Session – *Bel Air I*** – Moderated by Shane Johnson

8:30 AM – **Conference Kickoff** – Shane Johnson, Western Alfalfa Seed Growers Association  
8:40 AM – **Herbicide Resistance: Implications for Weed Management** – Dr. Drew Lyon, Professor and Endowed Chair Small Grains Extension and Research, Weed Science, WSU  
9:20 AM – **Spray Nozzle Technology & Droplet Size Management** – Mike Powers, Northwest Regional Sales Manager, TeeJet Technologies  
10:10 AM – **Break/ Spray Table Presentation – Raffle Drawing** – *Coffee and Breaks – Bel Air Foyer*  
*Sponsored by – DSV/Northstar Ltd.*

#### **Session 2 – *Bel Air I***

10:30 AM – **NAFA Update** – Beth Nelson, President, National Alfalfa and Forage Alliance  
11:10 AM – **Grower and Industry Survey** – Shane Johnson, WASGA Executive Director  
11:50 AM – **Lunch & Raffle Drawing – *Bel Air II***  
*Sponsored by – Seed Services*

#### **Session 3 – APRI Research Session *Bel Air I*** – Moderated by Theresa Pitts-Singer

1:20 PM – **Informing effective alkali bee (*Nomia melanderi*) management decisions with novel microsatellite markers and population genetic analysis**– Jon Koch, USDA Logan, UT  
1:40 PM – **Comparing pesticide exposures of two important alfalfa pollinators, alkali bees and alfalfa leafcutting bees** – Kelsey Graham, Research Entomologist, USDA-ARS PIRU, Logan, UT  
2:00 PM – **Assessment of Seasonal and Yearly Variability of Alfalfa Leafcutting Bee (*Megachile rotundata*) Parasite Infestation in Seed Production Fields**– Lindsie McCabe, USDA Logan, UT  
2:20 PM – **Insight into causes of death for Alkali bees AND Research update from PIRU** – Diana Cox-Foster, USDA Logan, UT  
2:40 AM – **Break – Raffle Drawing** – *Coffee and Breaks Sponsored by – DSV/Northstar Ltd.*  
3:00 PM – **Enhancing & Protecting Populations of Alfalfa Seed Pollinators** – Doug Walsh, WSU, Prosser, WA  
3:20 PM – **Alfalfa Weevil and Lygus Bug Control** – Doug Walsh, WSU, Prosser, WA  
3:40 PM – **Maternal Effects and Management of Alfalfa Leafcutting Bees** – Makenna Johnson Bird, Biological Science Technician at USDA Agricultural Research Service Pollinating Insect Research Unit  
4:00 PM – **Raffle Drawing/Announcements**  
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM – **Presenter’s Meet and Greet Social & Researchers Poster Panel – *Bel Air II***  
*Sponsored by – Mr. Pollination Services*

### **Tuesday, January 31**

7:00 AM – **WASGA Board of Directors Meeting - *Pine Valley***  
8:00 AM – **Registration Desk Opens** – Trade Show Ongoing – *Bel Air Foyer*

#### **Session 4 - *Bel Air I***

8:30 AM – **Welcome** – Shane Johnson, Western Alfalfa Seed Growers Association  
8:40 AM – **Pollinator Partnership – Bee Friendly Farming Certification Program** – Cody Wilson, Bee Friendly Farming Pacific Northwest Associate, Pollinator Partnership  
9:00 AM – **“Tripping” out with alfalfa leafcutting bees: A career’s perspective** – Theresa Pitts-Singer, USDA, Logan, UT  
9:40 AM – **Canadian Seed Report** – Kurt Shmon, President/CEO, Imperial Seed Ltd, Winnipeg, MB Canada  
10:20 AM – **Break – Raffle Drawing** – *Coffee and Breaks – Bel Air Foyer*  
*Sponsored by – DSV/Northstar Ltd.*  
10:40 AM – **Challenges & Opportunities for Alfalfa Moving Forward** - Dennis Hancock, USDA-ARS, U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center - Madison, WI USA

11:20 AM – **Keynote – Preparing your Farm for Future Markets** - Jon Paul Driver, Economic Specialist,  
Washington State University

12:20 PM – **Raffle Drawing/Announcements/Conference Adjournment**