

SIXTH ANNUAL

Palouse Alternative Cropping Symposium

promoting healthy soils & profitable farming

Learn from area farmers about cover cropping, intercropping, integrating livestock, and emerging research and technologies.

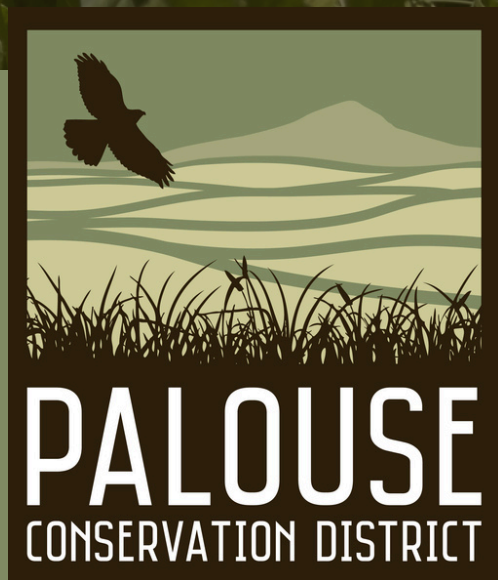
Thursday, February 27, 2025

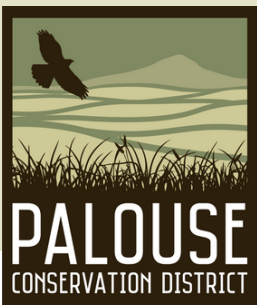
10 AM - 3 PM

Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, Colfax

\$10 Registration Fee. Register by 2/19.

www.PalouseCD.org





2025 Alternative Cropping Symposium

Thursday, February 27th, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, Colfax, WA

Agenda

Coffee & Networking

9:30 AM

Grab a beverage and chat with your neighbor!

Welcome and Introductions

10:00 AM

Wheat - The New Alternative Crop

10:05 AM

Ian Clark, Clark Farms

Ariel Zakarison, Zakarison Farms

Cover Crop Composition, Not Diversity, Shapes Soil Microbial Communities and Legacy Effects on Winter Wheat

10:35 AM

Bronte Sone, University of Idaho

Break

11:05 AM

Diversifying and Direct Marketing

11:20 AM

Alan Widman, Pine Creek

Chris Eckhart, Eckhart Farms

11:35 AM

Chris Eckhart, Eckhart Farms

Lunch catered by Serfes

12:05 PM

Ten Years of Hilltop Repairs

12:50 PM

Doug Schuster

Insights From Year Two of the Pacific Northwest Cover Crop Decision Aid System Grant

1:20 PM

Cami Ditton, University of Idaho

Bruce Petty, Producer

Break

1:50 PM

Millet, Peaola, and Cover Crops

2:05 PM

Jason Bishop, Living Heritage Farms

Farmers Leading Our United Revolution in Soil Health

2:35 PM

Ryan Boylan, Diana Salguero, and Gabby

Hannen, Palouse Conservation District

Closing Remarks

3:05 PM



Thank you to our sponsors!



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Speaker Bios *in order of appearance...*

Ian Clark

Ian is a fifth-generation farmer who farms with his family in the Pullman area. They raise wheat, barley, canola, garbs, lentils, peas, alfalfa, timothy, and lots of small acreage crops when possible. He is always annoying his family and coworkers trying to grow new and different crops, practices etc. Occasionally they work but not usually.

Ariel Zakarison

Ariel Zakarison is a fourth generation grain farmer in the Palouse region. Ariel and her mother, Sheryl Hagen-Zakarison, also run a feed mill supplying about 200 local farmers and homesteaders in Washington and Idaho with affordable poultry and livestock feed made from non-gmo grains grown in a no-till/low disturbance system.

Bronte Sone

Bronte earned her bachelor's degree in Sustainable Agriculture from the University of Maine and her Ph.D. in Soil and Land Resources from the University of Idaho. Her doctoral research focused on how tillage and cover cropping practices influence soil microbial communities, nutrient cycles, and cash crop growth. In January, she began postdoctoral research investigating how wildfire severity impacts forest health and ecosystem function. Broadly, her research aims to understand how management practices and environmental stressors shape soil microbial communities and their role in ecosystem processes.

Alan Widman

Alan's Palouse Pastured Poultry is a small, family-owned farm near Rosalia, WA and specializes in grain crops and pasture-raised poultry, including broiler chickens, turkeys, and free-range chicken eggs. From making their own specialized feed, to processing, packing, selling, and delivering their own products—they do it all. They also manage a 60+ herd of llamas used primarily as pack animals.



Check out the FLOURISH Podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, YouTube, or inwflourish.org.

Chris Eckhart

Chris is a 5th generation dryland grain farmer in northeastern Washington. He enjoys farming and is constantly learning how he can leave the land better for future generations.

Doug Schuster

Doug is a third generation farmer located NE of St. John Washington. He grows wheat, barley, canola, cattle, and hay. Doug has been dabbling with two-pass mulch til, no-till, cover crops, and other interesting methods for several years now.

Cami Ditton

Cami is from Meridian, Idaho. She received her B.S. in Horticulture and Urban Agriculture and is currently pursuing her master's degree in soil and water systems at the University of Idaho, where she studies integration of cover crops on the Palouse, including nitrogen use efficiency and water usage.

Bruce Petty

Bruce is a 46-year-old farmer from Asotin County, Washington. He farms 730 acres in Cloverland, where he gets 16" of rainfall annually. He is a 5th generation farmer, and his family has farmed in Asotin County since 1878. He has run the farm since 1998. He has been no-till for 10 years and has experimented with cover crops for the last 6 years. He runs a three-year rotation, seeding with a Horsch Cougar drill and a home-made air cart.

Jason Bishop

Jason Bishop and his wife farm in Lincoln County, Edwall Washington with their four children. He is a 5th generation farmer that returned to the farm in 2016 and took over the larger operations from his father in 2022. In a past life he worked as an engineer for a large aerospace company in western Washington. Jason is a problem solver and the good news is... there are a lot of problems to be solved in farming these days. The farm is dryland small grains, hay, and livestock with fields averaging an annual precip between 11 and 14 inches.

Palouse Conservation District Research and Monitoring Staff

Ryan Boylan

Research and Monitoring Program Manager

Diana Salguero-Gaibor

Research and Monitoring Coordinator

Gabby Hannen

Research and Monitoring Specialist

Thank you for coming!

	Last Name	First Name
1	Appel	Neil
1	Bates	Tyler
1	Bishop	Jason
1	Clark	Ian
1	Dobbins	David
1	Druffel	Allen
1	Eckhart	Chris
1	Elliott	Stuart
1	Eriksen	Devin
1	Fitzsimmons	Tom
1	Flansburg	Aaron
1	Glassman	Jesse
1	Greene	Jesse
1	Greene	Mark
1	Hagen-Zakarison	Sheryl
1	Hall	Kevin
1	Jones	Brian
1	Kolstad	Aaron
1	Lease	Jerry
1	Loomis	Jessiann
1	May	Jerry
1	Miller	Braden
1	Petty	Bruce
1	Riddle	Josh
1	Ruehl	Erin
1	Schultheis	Kyle
1	Schuster	Doug
1	Sesock	Lauretta
1	Stubbs	Michael
1	Widman	Allen
1	Wolf	Frank
1	Zakarison	Ariel
1	Zimmer	Mike
1	Lewis	Matt
1	Madsen	Craig
1	McCann	Brent
1	Widman	Emmy
1	Appleby	Aaron
1	Brown	Tabitha
1	Englund	Lovina
1	Fuchs	Ken
1	Meyer	Jackson

1	Nicols	Greg
1	Osborn	Emily
1	Winebrenner	Max
1	Carter-Chase	Kara
1	Case-Cohen	Alex
1	Disher	Delaini
1	Elliott	Jen
1	Franzen	Samuel
1	Hein	Mary
1	Hovde-Knudson	Elayne
1	Larsen	Josh
1	Lowder	Casey
1	Martin	Keaton
1	Miller-Keas	Marnie
1	Nieman	Brean
1	Pittmann	Cassin
1	Prout	Jodi
1	Schulze	Alex
1	Thomas	LeAnn
1	Watson	Josilyn
1	Wozniak	Samuel
1	Yantz	Brylee
1	Adhikari	Subodh
1	Bergmann	Nick
1	Brooks	Erin
1	Ditton	Cami
1	Eigenbrode	Sanford
1	Field	Colburn
1	Finkelburg	Doug
1	Hansen	Jeremy
1	Huggins	Dave
1	Kahl	Kendall
1	McFarland	Carol
1	Norouzi Kandelati	Amin
1	Slothower	Brianna
1	Sone	Bronte
1	Anders	Allison
1	Baker	Brad
1	Boie	Jennifer
1	Boylan	Ryan
1	Callison	Nicholas
1	Hannen	Gabrielle
1	Johnson	Chris

1	Johnson	Bradley
1	Kirkpatrick	Lauren
1	Leacox	Alicia
1	Lilly	Benjen
1	McAllister	Mindy
1	Rimmelspacher	Blake
1	Salguero-Gaibor	Diana
1	Sass	Carson
1	Schwendiman	Lucy
1	Sebo	Elizabeth
1	Wolfe	Andrew
1	Baerlocher	Chase
1	Adams	Theresa
1	Dickinson	Ivy
1	Leitz	David
1	Muegge	Brian
1	Nicol	Denise
1	Rahilly	Patrick
1	Rahilly	Ellen
1	Stolberg	Sarah
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