

What has been accomplished this past year?



IHFA DIRECTORY: The IHFA directory was produced in the spring of 2008. A total of 3300 copies of the directory were produced. Copies were directly mailed to the following:

IHFA Members	U of I County Extension Offices
Associate Members	Northwest Farm Credit Offices
Ag Science Instructors	USDA Farm Service Agency Offices
Weed Superintendents	Dairymen in Idaho
Idaho Cattle Association	Idaho Wool Growers
Horse Council	Ag Lobbyists
Agricultural Cooperatives	

Distributed at the Ag Pavilion at Western Idaho and Twin Falls County Fairs
Distribution through the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Individual copies mailed from office – unknown quantity based on inquiries

FOOD PRODUCERS OF IDAHO: IHFA holds membership with Food Producers of Idaho, a group of organizations which meet every Wednesday during the legislature to review agriculture, natural resource, and water legislation. Food Producers of Idaho speaks on many state and federal issues for Idaho agriculture. IHFA was represented at every meeting of Food Producers held in 2008.

AG IN THE CLASSROOM: IHFA holds organizational membership with Idaho Ag in the Classroom. The organization held a total of three workshops and three tours in the summer of 2008 and attracted more than 235 teachers. The organization is dedicated to providing educational material for students in Idaho classrooms.

PROMOTIONAL ITEMS: AITC sold IHFA promotional items including Got Alfalfa shirts, caps, and hay measuring sticks via mail and other events. Advertisements for items were made available in the IHFA directory and the Idaho Ag Pavilion, along with the IHFA website.

AG PAVILION: IHFA sponsored a booth at the Food Producers of Idaho Ag Pavilion at the Western Idaho and Twin Falls County Fairs. The Pavilion attracted more than 60,000 visitors. IHFA made industry promotional items available in the Pavilion Country Store.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT: IHFA provided support dollars for the U of I Ag Economics Tour for students from Moscow, the Ag All Stars Recognition event, and Idaho Ag Summit. In addition, IHFA was a banner sponsor at the State FFA Leadership Conference with over 1400 students and adults in attendance at CSI.

LOBBYIST: IHFA maintains a registered lobbyist during the Idaho Legislature. Rick Waitley has served as a lobbyist since 1977 and represents a number of agriculture clients in Idaho. Waitley monitors legislation and provides a weekly update, *Capitol Review*, to the members of the IHFA Board of Directors. Each week, Rick Waitley meets with other Ag Lobbyists at noon on Tuesdays to review legislative issues.

LEADERSHIP IDAHO AGRICULTURE: IHFA sponsored partial tuition for three individuals who participated in LIA Class 29: Ben McIntyre, Caldwell and Brad McIntyre, Marsing. There are 29 individuals in LIA Class 29; sessions are held for a week each month, November, 2008–February, 2009.

WEB PAGE: IHFA maintains a webpage with member information and industry contact information. Each week, IHFA members are emailed the Weekly Hay Report.

NATIONAL ALFALFA AND FORAGE ALLIANCE: IHFA Board member Michael Larson continues to be the designated representative for IHFA to the NAFA. NAFA was successful in raising the profile of alfalfa seed growers and hay and forage producers in the 2008 Farm Bill. NAFA continues to work on funding for Agriculture Research Service (ARS) through the federal government and represent grower groups across the US in Washington, DC.

Rick Waitley, Executive Director