



2016 Annual Meeting and Election (8:00 am to 1:00 pm)

Thursday, January 28th, 2016

Walla Walla Regional Airport Community Room

- 7:45-8:00** **Sign in: Coffee & Rolls**
- 8:00-8:10** **Welcome, Introductions: Jim Kent, District Board Chairman**
- 8:10-8:15** **Update NRCS: Ed Teel, DC**
- 8:15-8:20** **Update FSA: Kelley Betts, CED**
- 8:20-8:40** **Wayne Thompson – WSU Extension “Water Use – Cover Crop vs. Fallow”**

“Driving Question: What is the water balance trade-off of building soil quality with a cover cropping system versus allowing for increased water storage with a conventional dryland fallow system?”
- 8:40-9:40** **Scott Neilson, WDA, on Long Term Residual Herbicides – Uses and Concerns (Confirmed 11/30)**

“Long Term Residual Herbicides – Uses and Concerns” is the title of my presentation. It focuses on understanding the soil life of certain herbicides. Why some are persistent and others break down rapidly. The factors involved in breaking down herbicides so they are no longer active. It will cover the positives of soil residual in some circumstances and the negatives as it relates to crop rotation etc.
- 9:40—9:55** **Break**
- 9:55—10:55** **Tim Miller, WSU Mt. Vernon, Glyphosate, Resistance, and Cancer (Confirmed 12/1)**

The discovery of glyphosate resistance in several weed species around the world has Pacific Northwest growers wondering if it will also happen here. Add in the International Agency for Research on Cancer's (IARC) recent classification of glyphosate as a probable cause of cancer in humans, and many people are now asking questions about the safety of this most-commonly used herbicide. In this talk, WSU's Tim Miller will discuss herbicide resistance, the toxicity of glyphosate, and what the IARC's ruling means.
- 10:55-11:25** **Walla Walla County Agricultural Burn Program: Kary Peterson, WA-DOE (Confirmed 12/1)**
- 11:25-12:25** **Dr. Michael Kahn, WSU, Thinking about GMOs in agriculture and the Marketplace (Confirmed 12/10/15)**

GMO crops like soybean and corn are not major sectors of Washington agriculture and, until recently, local decisions about GMOs were mostly made in the supermarket. But the releases of GMO alfalfa, sugar beet and apple are now requiring decisions by Washington producers and others may follow. I will review some of the issues and ideas that have made agricultural GMOs a controversial subject and try to project what might lie ahead.
- 12:25-1:15** **Hosted lunch:**