

Big Investments

BASF CEO Martin Brudermuller has signed a non-binding agreement last month with the Chinese to build a new integrated chemical complex in Guangdong, China. Guangdong represents a key market for BASF. The province's domestic products are growing at a rate of 7 percent annually. The new investment could reach 10 billion by the year 2030 and it is the chemical companies largest investment ever. BASF will be the sole owner and expects to open its first plants within the planned complex in 2026. BASF previously partnered with Sinopec in Nanjing in 2005 and the site generates 3.1 billion in revenues per year.

- Jim Fitzgerald

Genetic editing license granted to Simplot

Simplot reached an agreement with DowDuPont and the Broad Institute of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University to begin researching the nascent gene which when modified, would increase the shelf life of produce such as potatoes, strawberries and avocados. Simplot is the first company to receive such a license. The technology is called clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats or CRISPER for short. Click [here](#) for more details.

- Mark Swearingen

Speaker and topics ideas welcome

As we strive to bring you topics that are relevant and engaging, we also welcome any ideas you have regarding subjects or speakers who might be of interest to those attending. We are currently working on our January agenda and your input is important to us. Send your ideas to admin@fwaa.org or give us a call at 509-465-5055.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Lanyards (Dec/Jan)	Registration Packet (Jan)
Keynote/Gen Session (Dec/Jan)	Supporting Sponsorships
Industry Reception (Dec)	always available
Refreshment Station (Dec/Jan)	
Breakout Sessions (Jan)	Get Yours Now!



Hot enough for you?

With temperatures climbing, make sure your employees are aware of heat exposure and the steps to keep everyone safe.

Click [here](#) for more information



PAC Chair Extends Invitation for Committee Members

We would like to welcome Jill Sandnes of Chamberlin Agriculture as chair of our 2018/2019 PAC committee. Are you a member of FWAA, excel at getting donations, and would like to work with a great group of people on a fun project? Then this committee is for you! Jill is actively recruiting for members and if you would like to get involved, email errin@fwaa.org. All proceeds from the PAC auction are used to support well-qualified candidates who know and understand our industry and business.

Far West is Focusing on the Future

Back in March of this year, the Far West Agribusiness Association Board of Directors decided to go through the necessary steps to develop a new strategic plan for the Association with priorities, goals, and a 12-month action plan. On June 6th, 2018 members of the board met with staff and Ray Ledgerwood, the principal from Board Works, Pullman, Washington at the FWAA office. Ledgerwood worked through some general association trends, roles and functions as well as who we serve and how best to determine their needs. The board revisited and worked on the vision statements, core values, a goals grid, reviewed our lines of business, and are developing measurements of success. The board will meet again by phone on Wednesday, August 14th to further discuss the action strategies and timelines. During this process, the board discussed what to keep, things to change, and how best to poise the Association for the future. A special thanks to the following board members who took time from their schedules during a busy time to devote a day in June toward the start of this process. They were: Don Eucker, Jeremy Drescher, Scott Gosse, Don Kirkwood, Todd Barnett, Terry Hentges, Doug Brock, Kyle Grant, Brad Weaver, and Don Wysocki.

- Jim Fitzgerald

FWAA PAC Auctions

December 11, 2018

Three Rivers Convention Ctr
Kennewick, WA

January 9, 2019

Turf Club
Twin Falls, ID

*Help our PAC
make a difference!*



Would you like to
make a donation?

Click [here](#) for 2018 Form

Click [here](#) for 2019 Form

A to Z : The December Conference has Something for Everyone

From Anhydrous Ammonia to Zinc Nutrition, the December conference has engaging topics for everyone attending. Looking for Soil & Water credits? We have seven sessions to choose from! Our Safety & Regulatory sessions are being presented by experts from the following agencies: Oregon Department of Agriculture, Washington State Department of Agriculture, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and the Nevada Department of Agriculture. Are you considering a compliance management system for your company? Be sure to attend our panel discussion on the use of Asmark, JJ Keller, and Embark. Our New Technology/Cropping Systems sessions offer insight on the latest advances in agriculture.

- Errin Nelson

Join us! General registration opens August 20th, register before November 24th to receive our early-bird rate.

Exciting times to be in Agriculture!

The landscape of agriculture is changing as two new technologies hit the marketplace, one of which is CoAXium by Aggressor Herbicide which was introduced to the market place in 2015. CoAXium is a seed with a genetically modified trait that makes it resistant to herbicides which allowed applicators to spray herbicides without harming the crop therefore creating higher yields due to less competition for nutrients. If you want to learn more about this technology, Chad Shelton will be presenting a 50-minute session at the 2018 December conference at the Three Rivers convention center in Kennewick, Washington. Register today by clicking [here](#).

- Mark Swearingen



Are you participating?



Safe + Sound Week is an event offered by OSHA to raise safety awareness nationwide. Organizations in any industry are encouraged to participate. This is a great way to strengthen your existing program and show your employees that your company is committed to their safety in the workplace. The program has some great tools to help your company promote safety awareness and avoid costly and hazardous accidents before they happen.

Keep your workers and your bottom line safe!



[Click Here for More Information](#)

Chlorpyrifos Again in the News

Ninth U.S. District Court of Appeals in San Francisco has again legislated from the bench. Yesterday it ruled that EPA must remove chlorpyrifos from being sold in the United States within 60 days.

Chlorpyrifos was created by Dow Chemical Company in the 1960's and has been responsible for providing significant crop protection measures resulting in greater and more consistent yields. It remains one of the most sought-after insecticides for tree fruit and other related crops on the market today.

Judge Jed S. Rakoff stated that EPA's 2017 decision to maintain a tolerance level for chlorpyrifos was unwarranted due to what he believed was scientific evidence that residue on food causes neurodevelopmental damage to children. Environmental groups reacted stating that fruits and vegetables will now be safer. The irony is that much of the urban population has never seen an orchard devastated by a severe insect infestation, blight, disease or any other number of variables that can adversely affect the fruit and in many cases make it undesirable or unconsumable.

To no surprise, this latest issue involving chlorpyrifos occurs just months before a general election further dividing the parties and the country.

Science can often be where you find it with individuals/organizations choosing what suits them best. The University of California at Berkeley conducted a study in 2012 which found that 87 percent of umbilical cord samples tested from new born babies contained detectable (not harmful) levels of the pesticide. The extensive research and studies conducted by Dow have shown that the science which shows that chlorpyrifos is harmful has been inconclusive and flawed. Over the past 6 years, EPA, the industry, and some state attorney generals have reacted with caution voluntarily banning chlorpyrifos as a home insecticide due to the untrained and sometimes negligent use by urban homeowners. There have also been no-spray buffer zones established near sensitive sites.

There will never be a substitute or viable alternative to poor judgement or jaded science because life is always about good choices and risk management. It remains important that those of us in the agribusiness retail, application, agronomic consulting, and emergency, health and safety industry to educate our society about the tremendous advancements we have made and how we continue to work toward the need to feed a growing population which we are sure to do, given the chance. It may also be advisable to contact EPA and encourage them the appeal the decision to the Supreme Court and copy in your States Federal Senator and Representatives.

We share a concern that this is a very dangerous precedence. Let's hope and pray that as a society, we never have to decide who eats and who does not.

- Jim Fitzgerald