



## College

### New facilities benefit Idaho research in four southern Idaho locations

Former Idaho Gov. Jim Risch and UI President Tim White cut the ribbon on a new \$3.2 million biotechnology aquaculture laboratory at the university's Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station in September 2006.

Seventy percent of the U.S. trout farmed for food are grown within 20 miles of the 13,600-square-foot facility. Director Ron Hardy predicts it will help Idaho's aquaculture industry capitalize on opportunities and add to the industry's global sustainability.

With the USDA Agricultural Research Service and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, UI's 17 faculty and staff at Hagerman are developing advanced biotechnology-based tests to detect disease, investigating genetics of Idaho's wild and hatchery fish, selecting hatchery broodstock, and studying feasibility of replacing scarce marine protein with Idaho barley products in fish feeds. Also benefiting Idaho are:

**Advanced Genetics Laboratory, Aberdeen.** A \$5.1 million addition to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Small Grains Germplasm Facility provides 12,000-square-feet to ARS and UI scientists to conduct experiments aimed at breeding superior potatoes and small grains, including wheat, oats, and barley.

**Caldwell Research and Extension Center's** 3,650 square-foot expansion brings together UI faculty and staff in animal science, agricultural economics, 4-H, and District II UI Extension administration with colleagues at the Food Technology Center and Caldwell Business Incubator.

**Nancy M. Cummings Research, Extension & Education Center** near Salmon expects to begin building lodging and calving barns to support the center's research and workshops in cow-calf, forage production, and pasture grazing management systems.

Contact Ron Hardy at [rhardy@uidaho.edu](mailto:rhardy@uidaho.edu).

### Rising enrollment, new grants, help for small towns top college's 2006 news

Fall 2006 student enrollment at the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences was 1,098, higher by 31 than in 2005.

A multi-year \$2.8 million research grant from Gibraltar-based Eco-Energy Ltd. funding canola breeder Jack Brown's efforts to develop oilseed crops for biodiesel production will have a worldwide reach.

A proposed Idaho Center for Livestock and Environmental Studies advanced by a coalition of dairy and livestock industry,

higher education, and governmental interests is intended to address the needs and impacts of Idaho agriculture's largest economic segment, its animal industries.

Grants of over \$1 million will fund University of Idaho Extension's efforts to bring leadership development and economic opportunities to 14 small Idaho communities from Cascade northward in the next three years. Contact CALS Dean **John Hammel** at [calsdean@uidaho.edu](mailto:calsdean@uidaho.edu).

## DID YOU KNOW?

**\$16.5** MILLION Grant awards won during 2006 by college and UI Extension faculty, staff for research.

\*Source: University of Idaho Research Office, 2006

### \$4.5 billion projected for Idaho ag in 2006

Idaho agriculture churned out \$4.5 billion in cash receipts in 2006, according to projections by University of Idaho agricultural economists.

Milk sales and beef cattle sales again dominated, accounting for \$2.3 billion. Milk sales yielded nearly \$1.3 billion, a 9 percent drop caused by lower prices. Beef receipts declined 3 percent. With all livestock sales, Idaho animal industries still edged crops with about 53 percent of the total.

Potato growers enjoyed an excellent year with sales of \$664 million, a 27 percent jump from 2005 and the seventh best total on record, said Garth Taylor, UI regional economist at Moscow.

Rising farm expenses including fuel and fertilizer costs conspired with the essentially flat performance of projected receipts to trim net farm income by 23 percent from 2005, Taylor said.

Contact **Garth Taylor** at [gtaylor@uidaho.edu](mailto:gtaylor@uidaho.edu).