Join the Big Horn Basin Ag Ambassadors and University of Wyoming Extension for the 18th annual WESTI Ag Days Event! This event is free and pre-registration is not required.

Some of the highlights this year include:

The UW Agriculture Experiment Station (AES) will be hosting a listening session as part of a state-wide effort to connect directly with producers. The AES consists of four Research and Extension Centers across the state with dedicated teams of researchers working on crops and livestock challenges. They want to know:

*What unique problems are facing agriculture in Wyoming, and how can we address them?*

Great food and entertainment are once again on the menu for the Ag Appreciation Banquet, hosted by the Big Horn Basin Ag Ambassadors on February 3rd at 6:30PM. Please RSVP for the banquet by calling 347-3431.

And don’t forget to send in your nominations for Ag Citizen of the Year.

Attendees will receive one raffle ticket at each session attended, to enter a drawing for a rifle held on Wednesday afternoon. You must be present to win. The more sessions you attend the greater your chances of winning!

Wednesday afternoon we will host two concurrent panel discussions with special guests—join us for a lively after-lunch discussion!

**Large predators and WY Ranchers**

Host: Tara Kuipers, UW Extension
Mark McCartey, Two Dot Ranch, Cody, WY
Charles Price, Rancher & WGF Commissioner
Mike Jimenez, US Fish and Wildlife
Dan Thompson, WY Game and Fish

**Soil Health and WY Farmers**

Host: Dr. Jay Norton, UW Extension
Vance Lungren, Jr., Farmer, Worland
Greg Schlemmer, Farmer, Joliet MT
Other participants to be determined...

We will also be hosting a round-table discussion for diversified and specialty crop producers. This farmer-led discussion will be an opportunity for networking, and identifying needs for training, information, marketing support, etc.

A pesticide private applicator recertification class will be offered on Tuesday, February 3rd from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Pre-registration is appreciated. Please call the Washakie County Extension Office to register or email Tajin at Tperez3@uwyo.edu.
WESTI AG Days 2015

Tuesday

Registration 8AM
Coffee and Pastries

Morning Sessions 9AM - 12PM
Recovering from a Dry Harvest
Grain storage expert Dave Ahern of Intellifarms will discuss do’s and don’ts of grain storage linking technology to science, and helping growers improve their bottom dollar.

Grain Bin Safety
Ken Metzler, Wyoming Fire Academy

Don’t Lose Your Harvest
Dr. Scott Schell, UW Extension Entomologist, will provide an overview of the major invertebrate pests of stored grain and legumes in Wyoming and effective management strategies.

Disarming the Cheatgrass Battalion
Worried about the billions enlisted in the Cheatgrass Army that are marching over our rangelands? Mae Smith, UW Extension Educator, will talk about their fighting strategy and what we can do to lessen the casualties.

Wyoming Brucellosis Update
Dr. Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Working Successfully with Federal Land Agencies
Barton Stam, UW Extension Educator

Round Table Discussion: Local Production and Local Markets
Hosted by Lucy Paul, WY Dept. of Agriculture & Dr. Caitlin Youngquist, UW Extension Educator

Lunch 12 - 1PM
Display of Science Fair Projects
Students from Worland High School will display their science fair projects during lunch and be available to answer questions.

Special Sessions 1:00 - 2:45PM

UW Ag Experiment Station Listening Session
What unique problems are facing WY agriculture, and what can we do about it? What critical needs do you see? Please take the time to share your ideas and concerns.

Using On-line Mapping Tools
Google Earth and Web Soil Survey are powerful tools for planning and tracking livestock grazing. Ashley Garrels, UW Extension Educator, will show you how to assess rangeland resources, create a management system, and use Google Earth to track rangeland resource trends.

Afternoon Sessions 2:30 - 4:30PM

Do-it-Yourself Farm Energy Audit
Milt Geiger, UW Extension, will show you how to assess your farm energy use, especially irrigation and grain drying. Reducing energy costs increases profitability and limits exposure to future price increases.

Organic Production and Certification
Stan Jones, Dorsrey Creek Organics, will discuss organic farming practices for farms and gardens, including where to source organic amendments and how to certify organic crops and livestock.

Estate Planning Checklist
Cole Ehmk, UW Extension Specialist

Livestock and Crop Disaster Programs
Sherri Harvey, USDA Farm Service Agency

MAP-21, Rule Changes, State Ag. Exemptions
Trooper Richard Scowal, WY DOT

Water Development Projects and Funding Opportunities
Kevin Boyce, WY Water Development Commission

EPA Waters of the US Proposed Rule
Attorney Karen Budd-Falen will speak about inconsistencies in the proposed rule and economic impact.

Banquet and Awards 6:30PM

Wednesday

Registration 8:30AM
Coffee and Pastries

Morning Sessions 9AM - 12PM
2014 Farm Bill Program Update
Sherri Harvey, USDA Farm Service Agency

Herbicide Resistant Weeds
Dr. Gustavo Shatella, UW Extension Weed Agronomist, will speak about conditions that favor herbicide resistant weeds and strategies to reduce the risk of developing herbicide resistance on your farm.

Developing a Weed Management Plan
Dr. Andrew Kniss, Faculty, UW Dept. of Plant Sciences, will lead a participatory workshop on developing a weed management plan.

Livestock Risk Management Alternatives
John Hewlett, UW Extension Specialist

Calculating Cattle Break Evens
Bridger Feuz, UW Extension Educator

Tax Law
Western Sage CPAs

MAP-21, Rule Changes, State Ag. Exemptions
Trooper Richard Scowal, WY DOT

Lunch 12 - 1PM

Special Sessions 1:00 - 2:45PM

Soil Health and Wyoming Farmers
Vance Lungren, Jr., Farmer, Worland, WY

Large Predators and Wyoming Ranchers
Charles Price, Rancher and WGF Commissioner

Irrigation: Flood, Pivot, or Drip?
Carter, UW Extension Educator

Managing Disease in Sugar Beet Storage
Dr. Karen Fugate, USDA ARS Scientist, will speak on the effect of Aphanomyces root rot, Fusarium yellows, Rhizoctonia root and crown rot, and rhizomania on storage respiration rate, sucrose loss in storage, invert sugar accumulation, and recoverable sugar yield.

Rhizoctonia Management in Sugar Beets
Dr. Bill Stump, UW Extension Plant Pathologist, will speak about comparative efficacies of fungicides and timing for management of Rhizoctonia root and crown rot of sugar beets. He will present results from studies with various types of fungicides applied as seed treatments: in furrow, foliar, band, and broadcast.

Down-Ditch Administration, with Multiple Priorities
David Deutz, WY State Engineers Office, will speak about state water law versus case law for permitting the use of water not owned by an irrigation district, and administrative responsibilities.

Livestock Market Outlook
Bridger Feuz, UW Extension Educator

Management Showdown
John Hewlett, Bridger Feuz, and Caleb Carter, UW Extension Educators. Are you facing management transition in your operation? Join us for a fun “showdown” between generations. Share thoughts on communication, business and production anonymously. See where you stand!

Irrigation: Flood, Pivot, or Drip?
Considering a different irrigation system? Caleb Carter, UW Extension Educator, will speak about important considerations to think about to be sure you are making the best choices for your farm.

Closing Remarks & Rifle Raffle at 4:30 PM
Must be present to win. One raffle ticket received for each session attended during this two-day event.