

**Northwest Panhandle Ag Conference – Dalhart  
January 27, 2022**

**Dr. Dennis Coker, Marcel Fischbacher, and Mike Bragg**

➤ Managing Challenges and Opportunities in Current Cropping Systems

- (8:30-8:55 AM) Registration, pickup meeting agenda and survey, and enjoy a cup of coffee along with a donut or pastry before the meeting starts.
- (9:00-9:50 PM) Minimizing evaporative water loss and improving water use efficiency in irrigated corn production. Comparisons of conventional, conservation and no-till systems in terms of maintaining residue cover, corn yield and profitability. Practical use of soil moisture sensors and web-based irrigation schedulers. Are they better together? (*Dr. David Parker*)
- (10:00-10:50 AM) IPM highlights on how the 2021 season went for cotton and other major crop commodities. Early season investments and pest control, including spray nozzle type efficacy on thrips control and efficacy of seed treatments for early season pests; Bt efficacy on bollworm and other Lep species; scouting methods, control options, and management decisions for dealing with plant bugs. Timing and amount strategies for the most beneficial use of plant growth regulators in cotton. (*Kerry Siders*)
- (11:00-11:25 AM) Overview of organic crop production in the Northwest Panhandle. Challenges and opportunities related to management of agronomic inputs, soil moisture availability, and marketing of organic production throughout the region. (*Bob Whitney*)
- (11:30-11:55 AM) Concerns with effects and spread of late season disease in corn, need for ongoing efforts to monitor the status of these diseases in the Panhandle. Overview of 2021 demonstration on efficacy of fungicide treatments to manage the effects of these diseases. Spread mechanism, identification, and management of wheat streak mosaic virus. (*Dr. Ken Obasa*)
- (12:00-12:55 PM) Lunch and sponsor recognition.
- (1:00-1:25 PM) Sponsor recognition. (*Mike Bragg*) *Opportunities* for soybean production in the Northwest Panhandle including marketing and harvesting aspects. (*Sheila Quirk*)
- (1:30-2:20 PM) Strategies for herbicide selection, application, and avoidance of weed resistance issues in cotton and corn production. Outlook for new, over-the-top herbicide technology available for grain sorghum production. (*Dr. Kevin Heflin*)

- (2:30-2:55 PM) Alternative crop options (sunflower, soybean, hemp) for the Northwest Panhandle that are fairly-well adapted, water efficient, and generally profitable under good management. Agronomic considerations for managing soybeans in a possible rotation with cotton, corn, grain sorghum and wheat. (*Dr. Calvin Trostle*)
- (3:00-3:25 PM) Contribution of improved residue management in cotton cropping systems to soil health, establishment of plant stand, soil water reserve, nutrient availability, and relationship to an emerging market for carbon credits. Updates on the viability of planting fall cover crops for cotton cropping systems in the Northwest Panhandle. (*Dr. Katie Lewis*).
- (3:30-3:55 PM) Emerging economics and market outlook for cotton cropping systems, coping with increasing fertilizer, fuel, pest control, and other input costs. Short to long-term value of maintaining higher residue from rotational, grain crops, and implications for carbon crediting markets. (*DeDe Jones*).
- (3:55 PM) Conclude and finish conference evaluation. (*Dr. Dennis Coker*)