

INSIDE AG | NOVEMBER 2025

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A Message from the Dean

Dear College of Ag Family,

What a Celebrate Ag Week! As we recognize and honor the legacy of MSU and the State of Montana, I want to extend my sincerest thanks to everyone who attended all of our wonderful events and who helped to make them possible. This year's series of events drew **roughly 2,000 attendees**, one of our best-ever attendances, and we had outstanding feedback. I particularly enjoyed our annual social on Friday night, where we got to recognize this year's Outstanding Agricultural Leader, Mr. Gordon Stoner.

As we race toward the end of the semester, my thanks also to all of you who are helping our students in so many ways, in and out of the classrooms, especially with academic advising for next semester.

The holiday season is almost here. Wishing you a very happy Thanksgiving with your family and loved ones!

Sreekala Bajwa



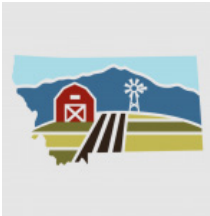
News from the College of Ag



MSU to acquire x-ray photoelectron spectrometer



Gordon Stoner named 2025 Outstanding Ag Leader



Montana Agritourism Conference set for November 20-21



Photos from MSU Celebrate Ag 2025

Recent Events

Huge thanks to the roughly 2,000 people who attended this year's Celebrate Ag Week at Montana State! From Montana Ag Live on Sunday to the Ag Appreciation football game on Saturday, our ag alumni, faculty, students and friends showed up and showed out. A selection of photos is below, and you can view the [full album on our COA Facebook page](#).



Accomplishments and Highlights

Congratulations to the many College of Ag, MAES and Extension employees who celebrated Milestones in Service last month! From 5 to 45 years, it was such a joy to recognize their years at MSU!

- Sara Adlington – Extension, 20 years
- Christine Armstrong – Extension, 5 years
- Lawrence Arnoldt – Ft. Keogh, 45 years
- Carrie Ashe – Extension, 15 years
- Tamara Balzer – SARC, 25 years
- Jared Beaver – ARS, 5 years
- Wendy Becker – Extension, 15 years
- Anthony Bertagnolli – MCB, 5 years
- Diane Bimczok – MCB, 10 years
- Darrin Boss – COA/MAES, 30 years
- Jane Boyd – Dean's Office, 25 years
- Amanda Bradbery – ARS, 5 years
- Monica Brelsford – PSPP, 20 years
- Larry Brence – Extension, 30 years
- Robert Brown – NARC, 5 years
- Kari Cargill – MCB, 25 years
- Daniel Colman – MCB, 10 years
- Jason Cook – PSPP, 10 years
- Reagan Cotton – UComm, 5 years
- Sally Dahlhausen – CARC, 15 years
- Diego De Almeida – ARS, 5 years
- Denise De La Garza – ARS, 10 years
- Casey Delphia – PSPP, 15 years
- Haley Dunkel – MCB, 10 years
- Stephanie Ewing – LRES, 15 years
- Andreas Fischer – PSPP, 25 years
- Sooyoung Franck – EARC, 5 years
- Jesse Fulbright – Extension, 15 years
- Liz Greenfield – Dean's Office, 20 years
- Nick Hagerty – DAEE, 5 years
- Monica Nicole Hall – MCB, 5 years
- Riley Hirsch – Ft. Keogh, 5 years
- Megan Hofland – LRES, 20 years
- Paul Hoglund – Ag IT, 25 years
- Doug Holen – PSPP, 15 years
- Hope Huft – Ft. Keogh, 5 years
- Bridgid Jarrett – Research Centers, 10 years
- Clain Jones – LRES, 25 years
- Justin Kiel – Ft. Keogh, 20 years
- Jason Killam – Extension, 15 years
- Doug Kominsky – MCB, 10 years
- Allison Kosto – Extension, 15 years
- Emma Loveday – MCB, 10 years
- Chaofu Lu – PSPP, 20 years
- Gregory Lutgen – PSPP, 5 years
- Kellen Marlow – ARS, 5 years
- Uta McKelvy – PSPP, 5 years
- Shelley Lee Mills – Extension – 15 years
- Kelly Moore – Extension, 10 years
- Matthew Morren – NARC, 5 years
- Jennifer Munter – Extension, 5 years
- Elaine Nichols – PSPP, 35 years
- Colleen Pagar – Extension, 10 years
- Christian Posbergh – ARS, 5 years
- Zoe Pratte – MCB, 5 years
- Brenda Richey – Extension, 10 years
- Marni Rolston – LRES/PSPP, 30 years
- Aga Rynda-Apple – MCB, 15 years
- Abiya Saeed – PSPP, 5 years
- Anna Saum – PSPP, 10 years
- Kierstin Schmitt – WARC, 5 years
- Brett Schomer – Extension, 20 years
- Michael Schuldt – Extension, 30 years
- Thomas Sebrell – MCB, 10 years
- Frank Stewart – MCB, 5 years
- Wendy Stock – DAEE, 25 years
- Emily Williams – Dean's Office, 5 years
- Cathy Zabinski – LRES, 25 years

Announcements

Sign-ups are open for the **Research Poster Session at the upcoming Montana Grain Growers Association convention** on December 2. [More information and registration can be found here.](#)

Nominations for MSU's **Founders Day Student Awards** are open until December 5. [Nominations can be submitted here.](#)

Registration is open for the **2026 Crop and Pest Management School**, which will be held January 14-15 in the SUB Ballrooms. [More information can be found online](#), and [registration is available here.](#)



The graphic is divided into two main sections. The top section has a dark blue background. On the left is a circular logo for the '70th ANNUAL CONVENTION' and 'TRADE SHOW' of the 'MONTANA GRAIN GROWERS ASSOCIATION'. The text 'Maximizing Growth, Grain & Advocacy' is at the bottom of the logo. To the right of the logo, white text asks 'DO YOU HAVE RESEARCH YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH FARMERS?'. Below this, 'TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2' is written in green. Further down, 'SET UP' is listed as '2:00 PM - 3:00 PM' and 'POSTER SESSION' is listed as '4:30 PM - 5:30 PM'. The bottom section of the graphic features a collage of people at a poster session with the words 'RESEARCH POSTER SESSION' overlaid in large, bold, blue capital letters.



The graphic has a dark blue background. On the left is a yellow logo of a grasshopper on a stalk of grain. Below the logo, the text 'CROP AND PEST MANAGEMENT SCHOOL' is written in white capital letters. On the right, the text 'SCAN TO REGISTER' is written in white capital letters above a large white QR code.

Publications and Grants

Recent Grants

- Dr. Eric Boyd (MCB) was awarded Grantham Foundation funding as part of a collaboration with the University of Colorado Boulder.
- Dr. Chengci Chen (DRC) received a USDA award.
- Dr. Emma Loveday (MCB) received a PROTECH award from the Montana Biotechnology Center.
- Dr. Paul Nugent (LRES), Dr. Jed Eberly (DRC), Dr. Seunghyun Lee (DAEE), Dr. Anish Sapkota (LRES), and Dr. Samuel Wyffels (DRC) received a Western SARE Research and Education Grant.
- Dr. Jamie Sherman (PSPP) received a USDA award.
- Dr. Cecil Tharp (ARS) received an award from the Extension Foundation.
- Dr. Carly Urban (DAEE) received TIAA-CREF funding in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania.

Recent Publications

- P.J. Ferraro, M. Bowman, H.E. Correia, J. Gao, **K.R. Larson**, K.D. Messer, L.A. Paul, B. Pratt, & L.S. Prokopy, "Beyond adoption: The persistence of conservation and climate-smart agricultural practices in the United States." Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.

Funding Opportunities

- The Montana Fertilizer Advisory Committee is now accepting proposals for 2026 funding. **Project proposal deadline: December 31.** More information is available at ag.montana.edu/mfac/.

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