

## Preface

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The Russian wheat aphid, *Diuraphis noxia* (Mordvilko), was first detected in Bailey County, Texas, in 1986 and has spread rapidly throughout the major wheat and barley producing areas of the United States. Losses between 1987 and 1992 attributed to *D. noxia* feeding have been estimated at \$850 million, with >100 million bushels of grain lost in the western United States alone.

The response to this introduced pest involved researchers and extension personnel from the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Republic of South Africa, and cooperators in many countries which were explored for natural enemies. Agency response included USDA-ARS, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, AG Canada, and land grant universities in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. The Russian Wheat Aphid Task Force (sponsored by the Great Plains Agricultural Council) and the Western Regional Coordinating Committee (WRCC-66) were successful in organizing and prioritizing research and extension efforts to deal with this introduced pest. Thus, the scope of the research and extension responses to *D. noxia* has been multinational and multiagency and involved individuals from most western states.

This collection of presentations assembles current thinking of individuals involved in *D. noxia*. The collective efforts of these authors and others led to interdisciplinary research and technology transfer that we believe represents a sound response model. This collection of papers also offers views on the value of research and technology transfer efforts from academic, agricultural, and international perspectives. Research approaches