# UNFS UPDATE

Upper North Farming Systems Newsletter April 2016

## UNFS Time of Sowing Trial for Wheat to run from 2016-2018

In October 2015 UNFS held its first Operations Committee Meeting. A significant component of this meeting was focussed on compiling a list of emerging issues, long standing problems and extension priorities. As a result of this process, when the SAGIT funding round opened we had a number of potential projects that we could apply for. We decided that a Time of Sowing Trial for Wheat on the East of the Ranges was the most appropriate submission.

The SAGIT committee announced the successful projects in March and the Time of Sowing Trial was funded for the next 3 years. A great outcome for our ground up approach to issue identification and project development. Great work to the Operations Committee.

So what does the trial involve? A comparison of 5 wheat varieties at 3 different times of sowing showing the different development rates of the different varieties. This will be a great site to walk through in Spring and see how sowing window and variety can effect time of flowering and the impact of frost and heat on grain development and the resulting yield.

First seeding will occur next week with the following sowing dates being early and mid May. Make sure you get on down and visit the site or keep an eye on the Facebook page for updates.

SAGIT 25 YEARS 1991-2016

*SA grain growers funding research solutions for 25 years*

### In This Issue

## Doing the Staff Shuffle

It is sad to say that Sara has decided to move on from UNFS. She has been a fantastic help in getting the admin work wrangled and keeping the finances flowing. We wish her well in her new venture .

We would like to welcome Mary Timms into the role of Administration and Finance Officer, effective immediately. Mary has had significant experience in Financial with a degree in Ag Economics from UNE, previous roles as an Agribusiness Consultant, Financial Counsellor and Agricultural Economist and since the birth of their two children, Jean and Wylie, as a Book Keeper and Wool Grower with her Husband Wade. Mary and her Family have moved to South Australia from Longreach and live between Clare and Spalding, where Wade manages a Sheep Property. We are looking forward to having Mary's enthusiasm and skill within our team and can see that she will bring much to the role and the organisation.

## Spray Workshops Hit the Target

Higher than expected turn outs at the two Spray Workshops showed the desire for growers in the region to improve their spray applications, increasing their efficacy and efficiency of their spray applications.

At both the event held at Booleroo Centre and at Wandearah, interest was peaked through out the district as a result of the coming together of the sprayers, with commercial units at both sites available for inspection and a full run down of operation by the owners. A number of nozzle types were demonstrated and the differences in droplet size and resulting drift was clear to see. The technical component of the afternoon, delivered by Jorg Kitt, gave attendees the confidence to review their own system.

After dusk had fallen and the last sausage had been consumed the inspection of the spray dye under different stubble heights and residue levels and treatments was an eye opener. This component of the event clearly highlighted the need for course droplet size and high water rates within retained stubble systems.

Ensuring effective herbicide and pesticide applications and long term resistance management means ensuring adequate cover and rates. Understanding the impact of stubble height, stubble loads and stubble position is key to ensuring that your applications remain effective. Stubble can interfere significantly with droplet trajectory, but there are ways and tools which can ensure that you achieve the desired control of your pests and weeds within a retained stubble system.

Funded under the GRDC Stubble Initiative.

GRDC Grains Research & Development Corporation
Your GRDC working with you

# UNFS Hub Events Proving Popular

After launching the new UNFS Hubs at the Members Expo in August 2015, the Hub Reps have been busy networking with members to determine the style of event the regions would like and find a suitable date to hold each Hub's Inaugural Event.

**Two great events are on this week**;

Wilmington Hub is getting together on Monday night (11th) at the Carey's property "Maidavale" from 6pm for a casual bbq. Rabobank is providing a guest speaker for the night on the opportunities for personal and professional development for farmers. Give Todd Carey a call if you are keen to come along. All welcome!

Morchord/Orroroo Hub is holding a mini field day on Friday the 15th from 3.30pm at the Morchard Complex. Great speakers, Emma Shattock from Elders and Dustin Berryman from Northern Ag will be presenting at the afternoon. Stick around afterwards for a BBQ and catch up prior to seeding. For more details contact Gilmore Catford or Ian Ellery.

**Over Summer the following events have been held:**

Booleroo Hub held a BBQ in December, a great social catch up to discuss how the season went and catch up with like minded farmers from the district. It also hosted the Production Wise Workshop held in February with David Evans. The hubs will all be participating in a Production Wise demo this year. If you would like to put your paddock on to the system to see what it is capable of get in touch with your hub representative.

The Melrose Hub, all be it a small group of its members, gathered for a bbq on the evening following the Booleroo Hub BBQ. As the hub rep position for Melrose is vacant, Matt Nottle and Joe Koch organised this event.

Nelshaby Hub/Ag Bureau has been very active over the summer with regular meetings and their annual consultants day, in addition to hosting the Western Spray Workshop at Chris Crouch's property and the Wandearah Hall.

Laura Hub/Ag Bureau has also held a number of meetings over the summer period and have been working with the Pinery Fire victims to assist them with the clean up and recovery.

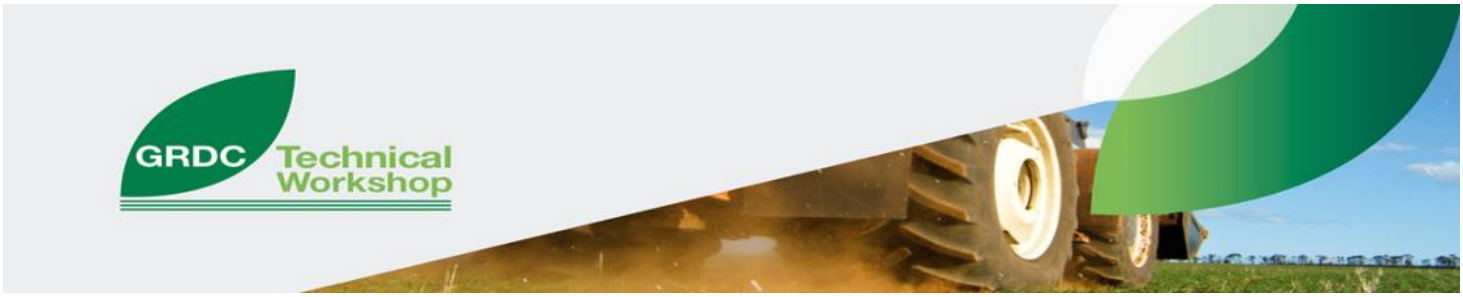
Jamestown Hub, a new area for the group, held its first meeting this week. Great work by Luke to get 30 people attending for a catch up and cold beverage at the pub, and a discussion on the needs of the region and issues that the attendees would like to see addressed.

Ladies on the Land has yet to meet but were successful in gaining funding from the recent SAGIT funding round. Watch this space for a training series for women in the region. If you are keen to be involved, please get in touch with Jess Koch for more details.

The Hubs of UNFS are sponsored by two great organisations, Grain Growers Ltd and Rabobank.

Rabobank

Grain Growers
Real benefits. Real results.




# Nitrogen Cycling & Trace Element Management

# Murray Bridge, 13 April 2016

The GRDC funded technical workshop about nitrogen cycling and trace element management is for advisers, agronomists, consultants and growers.

This workshop will provide information and technical advice for determining organic matter cycling in relation to nitrogen nutrition, paddock planning and fertiliser rates, plus trace element identification and management.

**Speakers:**

Dr Rob Norton, IPNI
Dr Jeff Baldock, CSIRO
Dr Glenn McDonald, University of Adelaide
Tony Cox, NSW DPI
Dr John Angus. CSIRO
Dr Nigel Wilhem, SARDI
Dr Ehsan Tavakkoli, NSW DPI

**Topics include:**

N placement and timing, role of testing
Increasing the sources of plant available N
The effect of P nutrition on yield
In crop nutrients
Nitrogen gains and losses in cropping
Micronutrient deficiencies
Trace element management
Includes full speaker panel session and plenty of time for networking and questions

**Cost:**

$88 incl GST
Catering and workshop materials supplied

RSVP: ASAP
Enquiries: Deb Baum 0448840232 | deb.baum@agcommunicators.com.au

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A project delivered by
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Grains Research and Development Corporation

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## Four Rivers Project – Volunteers Wanted

**Do you want to get out in the great outdoors? Are you looking to get your hands dirty?**

In the coming months there will be opportunities to be a part of a major project in the Northern and Yorke region.

**Melrose area**

19-20 April - Removal of tree guards and Survival counts

30 May to 3 June - Revegetation - planting along creek lines

**Wakefield area (Mintaro to Balaklava)** -

May- Aug - 1 week per month - Revegetation - planting along creek lines

Limited shared cabin accommodation (and camping) will be available. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Register your interest with Jennifer Munro on 0429 362 008 or email **jennifer.munro@sa.gov.au**

For more information about the Four Rivers Project visit the **Northern and Yorke Website**.

Natural Resources
Northern and Yorke

## GPSA Post Harvest Survey OPEN

Grain Producers SA's 2015-16 Post Harvest Survey is open. It asks growers to assess the performance of bulk handlers on terms of available segregations, turnaround time, opening hours, number of buyers, communication, staff expertise and ease of access as well as overall service levels of grain buying companies. Responses from producers help determine where GPSA focuses its efforts in advocacy.

**Details:** Growers can complete the 2015-16 Post Harvest Survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/RPC68QL

Paddock Practices

GRDC Grains Research & Development Corporation
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# Diversity key to minimising frost, heat risk

February 2016

Sowing a range of cultivars in their ideal sowing windows will give wheat growers the best chance of balancing the increasing risks of heat and frost damage. Former CSIRO senior research scientist James Hunt says weather conditions in recent years have shown why it is so important to sow a diversified wheat program. "We had unprecedented frosts in 2014 and we had very early heat conditions in 2015," he said.

"It is more important than ever to optimise the sowing window so that, as much as possible, all wheat flowers in its ideal window to minimise the risk of frost or heat damage."

## A hot topic

The direct effects of heat stress are estimated to cost grain growers in south- east Australia almost $600 million per year and about $1.1 billion nation-wide. Frost is estimated to cost south-east Australia at least $100 million a year in unfulfilled or lost yield potential.

Due to the effects of climate change, both heat stress and frost are likely to play an increasing role in the future and will require growers to take steps to manage the risks.

Growers who plant the majority of their wheat program using a single high-performing cultivar struggle to plant their whole wheat program in a time close to the ideal sowing window. This can result in flowering occurring earlier or later than desired. This then leads to a higher heat stress risk if sowing is delayed or higher frost risk if planting too early.

*Table 1: Time of Sowing yield results (t/ha) from Berriwillock in Victoria for 2015*

| | Time of Sowing Yield (t/ha) | |
|---|---|---|
| Cultivar | 9-Apr | 8-May |
| Bolac | 1.51 | 0.87 |
| Yitpi | 1.59 | 1.08 |
| Kiora | 1.68 | 0.98 |
| LongReach Lancer | 1.44 | 0.99 |
| RAC2341 | 1.57 | 0.99 |
| LongReach Scout | 1.78 | 1.09 |
| EGA Wedgetail | 1.40 | 0.70 |
| P-Value | 0.004 | |
| LSD (P=0.05) | 0.14 | |

For example, if the ideal sowing window is considered to be about five days either side of the target date, growers who sow a single cultivar over three weeks will have sown at least half of their crop (11 days out of 21) outside of this window. By comparison, if the wheat program was split up into two cultivars, almost 100 per cent of the crop can be sown in its ideal window.

### Time of sowing

Dr James Hunt says it would be impossible to choose a combination of sowing time and cultivars that would prevent exposure to heat and frost risk. However, time of sowing trials in South Australia and Victoria have shown that certain strategies will give crops the best chance.

"Depending on the local climate and duration of the wheat sowing program, growers can take a few different approaches to optimise time of sowing," Dr Hunt said.

*Continuing Story….*

"In many regions of Victoria, growers can start with a winter wheat after a rain in April, then move onto slow-spring wheats and then mid-fast cultivars in May. The different maturity drivers of the cultivars mean that they still flower in the ideal window despite being sown at different times, meaning that overall yield is optimised and risk is minimised."

A time of sowing trial at Berriwillock in Victoria showed that where there is soil moisture, sowing early can provide higher yields than traditional sowing dates (Table 1). In this trial, early rains were simulated with 8mm of irrigation; winter wheats should not be sown dry.

Currently, winter wheats do not perform particularly well in South Australia.

However, three years of trials have shown that incorporating different cultivars improves overall results.

"LongReach Trojan has an unusual photoperiod sensitivity which is rare in Australian cultivars. This seems to delay flowering from an April sowing relative to Mace quite successfully," Dr Hunt said.

LongReach Trojan sown in its ideal sowing window outperformed Mace sown in its ideal window in all time of sowing trials sites across SA, with an average benefit of 0.6t/ha, as shown in Table 2.

Dr Hunt has outlined a suggested wheat program for South Australian growers, shown in Table 3. Despite winter wheats not being well adapted to SA climate, EGA-Wedgetail can be used for a long sowing program in conjunction with grazing to delay its development.

This strategy assumes average frost and heat risks but where risks vary, growers may want to adapt the plan. For instance, in Port Germein, where the frost risk is low, growers could choose to sow earlier.

"Three years of trials across multiple environments in SA have shown that yields decline at a rate of 28 kg/ha per day once sowing extends past the end of the first week in May," Dr Hunt said. "In order to maximize average yields, growers should therefore aim to finish seeding wheat by mid-May."

*Table 2: Time of Sowing yield results (t/ha) from South Australia for 2015*

| | | Time of Sowing - Yield (t/ha) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Location | Cultivar | 10-Apr | 29-Apr | 14-May |
| Cummins | EGA Wedgetail | 3.3 | 2.5 | 3.1 |
| | Rosella | 2.8 | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| | LongReach Eaglehawk | 3.3 | 2.7 | 2.8 |
| | Cutlass | 4.3 | 3.8 | 4.0 |
| | LongReach Trojan | **4.7** | 4.1 | 3.9 |
| | Mace | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.0 |
| | P-Value | 0.012 | | |
| | LSD (P=0.05) | 0.5 | | |
| Minnipa | EGA Wedgetail | 2.8 | 2.5 | 1.9 |
| | LongReach Eaglehawk | 2.9 | 2.3 | 1.8 |
| | RAC2341 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 2.7 |
| | Cutlass | 3.5 | 3.6 | 2.9 |
| | LongReach Trojan | 3.3 | **3.9** | 3.0 |
| | Mace | 2.9 | 3.8 | 3.2 |
| | P-Value | <0.001 | | |
| | LSD (P=0.05) | 0.3 | | |
| Port Germein | EGA Wedgetail | 2.7 | 2.3 | 1.6 |
| | Rosella | 2.7 | 2.3 | 1.4 |
| | LongReach Eaglehawk | 2.9 | 2.6 | 1.4 |
| | Cutlass | 4.1 | 3.8 | 2.3 |
| | LongReach Trojan | **4.5** | 4.0 | 2.6 |
| | Mace | 4.4 | 4.3 | 3.1 |
| | P-Value | <0.001 | | |
| | LSD (P=0.05) | 0.2 | | |
| Hart | EGA Wedgetail | 3.6 | 3.4 | 2.8 |
| | LongReach Trojan | 3.7 | **4.0** | 3.3 |
| | Mace | 2.9 | 3.4 | 3.5 |
| | P-Value | <0.001 | | |
| | LSD (P=0.05) | 0.3 | | |

*Continuing Story….*

**Diversity is the key**

The best strategy to manage heat and frost risk is diversity. By choosing a range of crops, cultivars with different maturity drivers and optimum sowing dates, growers will have the highest percentage of their program flowering in its ideal window.

*Table 3: An example of how slow developing cultivars and early sowing can be used in South Australia*

| Duration of wheat sowing program | Cultivars (or equivalent maturity types) required to maximise average yield | Sowing window if seed-bed moisture available |
|---|---|---|
| 10 days or less | Mace | 5-15 May |
| 10-20 days | LongReach Trojan, Mace | 25 April - 15 May |
| 20-25 days | Cutlass, LongReach Trojan, Mace | 20 April - 15 May |
| 25 days or more | EGA Wedgetail, Cutlass, LongReach Trojan, Mace | 10 April - 15 May |

"The opportunities to take advantage of early sowing have never been better," Dr Hunt said. "Previous barriers have been overcome through no-till technologies, summer fallow management and cheaper chemistries to control early pests and diseases.

"Researchers are working on developing new cultivars that are better suited for sowing early, including a new winter wheat for South Australia. But there is no reason most growers can't spread out their wheat sowing by incorporating a few different cultivars with different maturity drivers."

Dr Hunt says that while aiming for all of a farm's wheat crop to flower at the same time runs against conventional wisdom of spreading flowering dates over a broad period to minimise exposure to single extreme frost or heat events, studies have shown the conventional logic is not the best approach.

"Spreading flowering dates out so they are before or after the optimal period is a bad way of managing frost and heat risk, because the really extreme frost and heat events will affect crops at a very broad range of growth stages," he says. "All our modelling clearly shows that yields are maximised and variability minimised by getting as much crop to flower during the optimal window as possible."

Dr Hunt suggests growers are better off managing risk by including a variety of crops into their program, including frost tolerant crops like barley or oats, and considering further diversification such as the inclusion of hay or livestock into the business

**Management of early sown crops**

Dr Hunt's tips for management of early sown crops:

- Don't dry-sow slow developing cultivars (EGA Wedgetail, Cutlass). They will flower too late if not established early. There needs to be seed-bed moisture and ideally some stored soil water to get them through to winter.
- If growing winter wheat (EGA Wedgetail) and not grazing, defer nitrogen inputs until after GS30.
- Pick clean paddocks - winter wheat is not competitive with ryegrass and common root diseases are exacerbated by early sowing.

Protect against diseases associated with early sowing - barley yellow dwarf virus (imidicloprid on seed backed up with in-crop insecticides at the start of tillering if aphid pressure high), Zymoseptoria tritici in some areas (flutriafol on fertilizer and timely foliar epoxiconazole applications at GS30 and GS39). Many slow developing cultivars also have poor resistance to stripe rust (flutriafol on fertilizer and timely foliar fungicide application at GS39).

*Dr James Hunt, pictured above, says planting a range of cultivars at their optimal sowing time can improve profitability for wheat growers.*

**More information:** James Hunt, 03 9032 7425, j.hunt@latrobe.edu.au

# MERINO LIFETIME PRODUCTIVITY

Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) and the Australian Merino Sire Evaluation Association (AMSEA) have teamed up to deliver the Merino Lifetime Productivity Project (MLP). The project offers a unique and exciting opportunity to evaluate lifetime Merino productivity including the trade-off between lamb and wool production, how to best select for lifetime productivity and the role that genetics plays in generating lifetime returns.

Four independent sites located across Australia will be involved in collecting and recording this data. The sites will operate like standard sire evaluation sites – following the rigorous and independently assessed measured and visual assessment protocols. In total 120 sires will be joined to 90 ewes each to generate the 3,600 F1 ewe progeny that will form the basis of the project. At the conclusion of the standard sire evaluation (generally once progeny are between 18 to 24 months of age), AWI will support the ongoing measurement and visual classing of all F1 ewe progeny through 4-5 joinings (capturing reproduction records) and annual shearings.

For more information, including a full list of project aims and the list of sires to be assessed, including a large number of SA bred animals follow the link:

## National Heavy Vehicle Regulator: Important notices re fatigue management and work diary exemption for primary producers.

Effective Monday 14th March 2016, the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) have revoked the notice exempting SA primary producers from having to comply with work and rest hour limits and keeping records when transporting grain between a farm and a receiving point within a 100km radius of base.

The cancellation of this notice means that drivers for primary producers must adhere to work and rest hours (standard hours), keep a *local area driving record* and give records to their record keeper. Record keepers will have to collect and manage driver's daily sheets or alternative records.

Drivers are also required to complete a national driver work diary, unless they are undertaking journeys within 160km of their base under the national primary production work diary exemption.

Please click below to access the following notices that provide full information on the requirements for SA Primary Producers:
Fatigue Management for farmers
National work diary exemption Primary production

Grain Producers SA

SAVE THE DATE
Launch of the SA Sheep Industry Blueprint
Monday April 11, 2016
Adelaide

# If the world's soils keep drying out that's bad news for microbes (and people)

*Article by 'The Conversation', February 9 2016*
*Prepared by Brajesh Singh, Fernando T Maestre, Manuel Delgado Baquerizo*
*https://theconversation.com/if-the-worlds-soils-keep-drying-out-thats-bad-news-for-microbes-and-people-53937*

Deep beneath out feet, out of sight and out of mind, millions of tiny communities of microbes are working together to perform key functions for the ecosystem.

They provide services that are essential for human development and wellbeing. Such as food and fibre production, nutrient cycling and climate regulation.

The scale of these communities is staggering. The microflora in soils are the most abundant group of organisms on Earth. A teaspoon of soil contains up to a billon bacteria, several metres of fungal filaments, and thousands of protozoa and nematodes.

Yet, like many plant and animal communities, microflora are facing new threats due to climate change.

## Dry Spell

One of the biggest concerns is the drying trend forecast for many regions across the world. Little is known about whether this increasing soil aridity will cause a loss of microbial diversity, or what the effects might be. Unlike plant and animal communities, the consequences of this loss of microbial diversity remain debatable.

Dryland ecosystems are crucially important, both to the environment and humans. They cover 41% of the Earth's surface and are home to around 38% of the world's people. They also harbour a rich and unique diversity of species, and play a critical role in the global carbon cycle.

*Picture courtesy of ABC news website February 2016*

Drylands are expanding, too. The most recent climate forecasts indicate that the global extent of drylands may increase by up to 23% by the end of this century. Despite this, there has been so far no global, systematic assessment of the bacteria, fungi and other microbes that live in these soils.

## Studying soil microbes worldwide

In two related studies, we and our colleagues looked at the impact of the drying trend on soil microbial diversity and at whether these soils are likely to become less fertile and productive as a consequence.

In the **first** study, we looked at 80 dryland sites, on all continents except Antarctica, to see how the composition, abundance and diversity of soil bacteria and fungi change in response to drying soils.

We found that soil bacterial and fungal diversity and abundance reduced as these drylands get drier. This is largely because when soils dry out, plant cover and soil organic carbon content both decline, which in turn affects the bacteria and fungi living in the soil.

## *Continuing story*

In the **second** study we investigated the relationship between microbial diversity and a range of functions such as soil fertility and plant productivity. We looked at drylands all over the world, and compared them with a wide variety of temperate ecosystems in Scotland including grasslands, forests, croplands and bogs.

Our results showed that a high level of microbial diversity is linked to higher plant productivity and soil fertility in drylands. Microbial diversity was equally important for ecosystem functioning in temperate Scottish ecosystems.

However, the risk of aridity-linked decline in microbial diversity is significantly greater in dryland soils. Therefore, these already dry areas are particularly vulnerable to further drying.

Our findings indicate that a loss of microbial diversity caused by human activities and climate change will negatively impact key ecosystem functions in soils that are vitally important for global food production.

## Many microbes make good soil

Together, the key message from our two studies is that soil microbial communities, which are crucial for fertile soils and plant growth, are vulnerable to climate change and environmental degradation. Thus, these microbial communities need to be explicitly considered in management and conservation policies.

The loss of microbes in drying soils across the world could have severe consequences for the global population. Some 90% of human settlements in dryland environments are in developing countries. This poses serious challenges for future food security, carbon sequestration and environmental sustainability.

It is **estimated** that severe degradation of 10-20% of global drylands could affect up to 250 million people, mostly in the developing world. That would have a detrimental impact on the United Nations' **Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly the eradication of poverty and ensuring environmental sustainability.

We need to develop new approaches to protect soil microbes, to protect the world's soils for future generations. This will require a coordinated approach to slow the rate of climate changes, combined with changes to land use patterns such as avoiding and overgrazing.

### South Australians urged to realise their finest hour and apply for a Churchill Fellowship

A national award scheme that sends Australians from all walks of life overseas to explore a topic or issue of their choice wants more people from South Australia to apply.

As part of a campaign celebrating its 50th anniversary, the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust of Australia is urging South Australians to submit an application for a Churchill Fellowship.
As many as twelve South Australians receive a Fellowship every year. Worth an average of $25,000 each, they allow recipients to meet with, observe and learn from their peers and global experts anywhere in the world, and to establish valuable international networks.

The key is that the knowledge you are seeking is not readily available in Australia, and that you are willing to share what you learn when you return, to help inspire new ideas, innovation and excellence so that it benefits the broader community.

**Applications for the next round of Fellowships open on 28 February 2016 and close 15 May 2016. For more information and bookings visit www.churchilltrust.com.au or freecall 1800 777 231.**

# Upcoming Events Calendar

**April**

**11** Wilmington Hub Event

**12** The SA Sheep Industry Blueprint, Adelaide, **MLA** **02 9463 9391**

**13** **UNFS Strategic Board Meeting**

**13** Nitrogen Cycling and Trace Element Management, Murray Bridge **08 8332 3277**

**13 – 14** 2016 NRM Science Conference, Adelaide **Jennie Fluin** **0434 950 885**

**15** Morchard/Orroroo Hub Event

**May**

**UNFS Annual Results Book Launched**

**June**

**22** **UNFS Operations Committee Meeting**

**July**

**19** Hart Winter Walk, **Sandy Kimber** **0427 423 154**

**27** EPARF Member Day, Minnipa Agricultural Centre, **Dot Brace** **8680 6202**

**August**

**4** **UNFS Members Expo**

**9 – 11** EP Field Days, Cleve, **Renee Kelly** **8628 2219**

**10 – 12** Lambex Conference, Albury, **Donna Sykes** **0412 778 849**

**September**

**7** MAC Field Day, Minnipa Agricultural Centre, **Naomi Scholz** **0428 540 670**

**13** **UNFS Eastern Spring Crop Walk**

**20** Hart Field Day, **Sandy Kimber** **0427 423 154**

**October**

**18** Hart Spring Twilight Walk, **Sandy Kimber** **0427 423 154**

**ChemCert offers 10% discount to GrainGrowers members**

GrainGrowers has teamed up with ChemCert Training Group to offer members a special 10% discount on the popular chemical user training program. The partnership coincides with ChemCert's release of a new innovative e-Learning version of the course.

**AQF3 Chemical Accreditation course** focuses on upskilling chemical users on the industry's best practice methods and national standards. Participants are provided with practical advice covering industry's updates, local resistance and spraying issues to minimise chemical costs, limit spray drift and improve spraying outcomes.

The new online program allows users to complete their training at their own pace, without the need to travel from home or work, and can be accessed using a smartphone or tablet.

**Click here to find out more**

# Upper North Farming Systems

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**New Farmers -** vacant

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