# **UNFS UPDATE**



October 2017

#### Upper North Farming Systems Newsletter

## A note from the Vice-Chairman

## Matt Nottle - Vice Chairman

Welcome to this edition of UNFS update, my role as vice chair of UNFS is exciting for me. I feel the group is a very important information and networking source for farmers and industry reps to come together to learn and to put our resources together for the better of our industry and our businesses in this sometimes challenging environment which we work. My role is to support Matt Mc as chairman and to work with the fantastic committee to bring to the members valuable information and the opportunity to learn and evolve as farmers in the upper north.

With harvest already started of the west side of the ranges and just starting on the east side. Its a timely reminder to be look after ourselves and one another with harvest being a challenging season with increased work hours and increased heavy traffic on our roads. Please also follow the harvest code of conduct, its one of many tools we need to use to minimise harvest fire risk.

Grain quality and yield for this year is still largely unknown with an extended dry winter and spring period and way too many frost events. I think crops have done exceptionally well considering the lack of rain throughout the growing season, it says a lot for our systems and management practices. All the best for the harvest and BE SAFE.

## Know your Code this harvest

With the 2017 SA grain harvest imminent – or in some areas already underway – Grain Producers SA is encouraging growers to prepare their properties, be aware of fire risks and follow the Grain Harvesting Code of Practice.

Key points outlined in the code for growers include:

- Stop harvest when the local actual (not forecast) Grassland Fire Danger Index (GFDI) exceeds 35.
- Before harvest, establish a minimum four metre fire break around the boundary of crops or paddocks to be reaped.
- Keep crop residues on machines to a minimum, particularly engines, exhausts or brakes.
- Regularly maintain machinery before and during

harvest, particularly wearing parts and bearings.

- Reduce potential build-up of static electricity while reaping.
- Carry the prescribed equipment such as water, extinguisher and a shovel – and have immediate access to a UHF CB radio or mobile phone.
- Keep a farm firefighting unit in the paddock being harvested.

More information on the Grain Harvesting Code of Practice is available on the <u>GPSA website</u>.



## Also In This Issue

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- Clean Grain is worth the effort

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## **Update from our Project Officer**

## Hannah Mikajlo

We appreciate that this is a busy time of the year for everyone. Some of you are already well into harvesting your crops, while many others will be getting ready to start soon. I apologise to anyone I've been annoying with emails and phonecalls to help me with the case studies and photos for our Stubble Initiative guidelines.

Matt Nottle's pasture demonstration site which some of you saw during our Eastern Spring Crop walk or as part of the Laura Ag Bureau's recent trip is going well. We recently sent off some samples from the vetch, Leafmore forage rape, RAC2341 winter wheat, Dictator II barley, Vortex ryegrass and Bouncer brassica plots to the Australian Precision Ag Laboratory (APAL) in Adelaide for feed analysis testing. If you would like to see any of the results please feel free to flick me an email (projects@unfs.com.au).

Our SAGIT-funded Time of Sowing trial near Booleroo Centre is also coming along. If any of you have driven past the site lately and seen me wandering around in amongst the plots, I've been making some final assessments before it all gets harvested and analysed. With the cold conditions we had this year, quite a few of the plots have got a lot of frost-damaged heads. The worst hit varieties were the faster maturing ones such as Hatchet that we sowed back in mid-April. We're not expecting these badly damaged plots to yield well, but this isn't necessarily a bad thing because the whole point of the trial is to determine when to sow different wheat varieties, or when to not sow them.

In other news, UNFS is teaming up with the Birchip Cropping Group to run a series of GRDC-funded workshops on growing pulses (particularly lentils and chickpeas). We had originally planned to run the first workshop prior to harvest, but due to everyone being caught up doing other things, we're now planning to hold it either in late November or possibly the first week of December. We have about a dozen farmers on either side of the Ranges who have expressed interest. It isn't too late to let me know that you'd like to be involved.

Good luck with the harvesting!

# Can you assist UNFS? Do you have photos taken on the farm which you would be willing to see published?

UNFS is currently seeking photographs to use in our soon to be released Stubble Guidelines. If you have photographs of any of the following items which you are happy to see published, would you please email them to: <u>unfs@outlook.com</u> with the name of the source for acknowledgement.

- 1. A chaff cart
- 2. Mice, signs of mice or mice damage
- 3. Signs of earwigs or earwig damage
- 4. Signs of millipedes or millipede damage
- 5. pre-emergent spraying in stubble in action,
- 6. filling up a spray unit with water
- 7. a close-up of stubble after spraying treflan yellows maybe?
- 8. a close-up of a non-air-induction nozzle



## One-stop-shop for successful on-farm storage

NATIONAL

Source: GRDC Media Release : 30 August 2017

GRDC

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Caption: GRDC's national Grain Storage

GrowNotes<sup>™</sup> is a comprehensive digital resource.

NUMBER OF ON PROVIDENCE



Successful on-farm storage starts with a planned, strategic mindset.

OWNOTES

This enables growers to set up a flexible system that will suit their plans across variable years and crops, and enable them to manage quality and avoid problems.

Consultant Chris Warrick who heads up the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) Grain Storage Extension Project, said a component of storing grain successfully was knowledge of bestpractice management to avoid costly quality issues.

> "GRDC's national Grain Storage GrowNotes™ is a new and comprehensive digital resource that aims to provide relevant information, links to other resources and contacts to enable a base understanding of how to manage on-farm storage successfully," he said.

Mr Warrick said on-farm grain storage had become a significant component of many Australian cropping operations and growers who managed their storage facilities and operations well were being rewarded through preferred-supplier partnerships with key grain traders.

"However, on-farm storage systems are a significant investment to set up and manage," he said.

"Any potential return on investment in on-farm storage should be compared with other investment options, such as buying more land or upgrading machinery, to determine the best use of capital.

"The return on investment in on-farm storage varies for every grower depending on their scale, crops grown, access to bulk handlers and distance from domestic markets."

Mr Warrick said successful on-farm storage management included an integrated pest management (IPM) approach and proactive attitude to quality control.

"This will help growers avoid adding to the increasing challenge and scale of phosphine-resistant pests," he said.

"Ultimately our aim is to save growers and industry a

significant amount of money by prolonging the life of the most cost-effective pest disinfectant available – phosphine."

GRDC

Available at <u>https://grdc.com.au/grain-storage-grownotes</u>, Grain Storage GrowNotes<sup>™</sup> includes detailed advice on grain storage planning and purchasing; economics; safety; insect pest identification, management and prevention; and high moisture grain management.

Grain storage information, including Grain Storage GrowNotes™, is also available on the GRDC Stored Grain Information Hub at <u>http://storedgrain.com.au</u>.

Growers who wish to contact their regional grain storage expert can call 1800 WEEVIL (1800 933 845).

Contact Details For Interviews

Chris Warrick, Primary Business 0427 247 476 info@storedgrain.com.au Contact:

Natalie Lee, Cox Inall Communications 0427 189 827 Natalie.lee@coxinall.com.au

# Caution urged with pre-harvest herbicide applications

Source: GRDC Media Release : 25 October 2017

Grain growers are being encouraged to exercise caution and good stewardship when undertaking pre-harvest application of herbicides in this year's winter crops.

Growers applying herbicides late in the season to manage weeds, prevent weeds setting seed or to desiccate crops to accelerate or even-up ripening must adhere to herbicide label recommendations and withholding periods to avoid the presence of chemical residues in delivered cereal, pulse and oilseed grains.



To support growers and their advisers in ensuring late season herbicide application is carried out in a responsible manner, the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) has published a revised *Pre-Harvest Herbicide Use Fact Sheet*.

The Fact Sheet emphasises the importance of knowing the maximum residue limits (MRLs) of domestic and international markets and outlines the product registrations for pre-harvest weed control and desiccation which vary according to crop type.

GRDC Senior Manager Crop Protection, Ken Young, says application of herbicides close to harvest increases the possibility of detectable herbicide residues being present in harvested grain.

"In some situations, markets have extremely low or even zero tolerance to some herbicide and pesticide residues.

"It is therefore critical that growers know the destination of their grain and that particular market's MRLs to determine which, if any, herbicides are permitted for use on their crop late in the season," Dr Young said.

with Australian MRLs does not guarantee the grain will meet an importing country's MRL.

"Breaches of MRLs can lead to rejected grain, so growers should seek advice from their grain buyers before they undertake late application of herbicides."

Dr Young said growers and their advisers need to be aware of the implications of applying herbicides to crops in terms of food health safety and in protecting the entire grains industry.

"Stewardship must be taken seriously by all sections of the grains value chain, and that responsibility starts onfarm."

Grain handlers and marketers regularly conduct surveillance on grain receivals for residues. The National Residue Survey also conducts ongoing residue testing of grain.

The *Pre-Harvest Herbicide Use Fact Sheet* can be viewed and downloaded via the GRDC website at <u>https://grdc.com.au/GRDC-FS-PreHarvestHerbicide</u>.

## **Contact Details**

**For Interviews** 

Contact

Ken Young, GRDC Phone 02 6166 4500 Sharon Watt, Porter Novelli Phone 0409 675100



## Pre-Harvest Herbicide Use—Key Points

## https://grdc.com.au/GRDC-FS-PreHarvestHerbicide.

## Correct usage:

Product labels must be followed and withholding periods adhered to for all herbicides.

## **Residues:**

- Application of herbicides close to harvest increases the possibility of detectable herbicide residues being present in harvested grain.
- Maximum residue limits (MRLs) vary according to herbicide, crop and market. Compliance with Australian MRLs does not guarantee the grain will meet an importing country's MRL. It is important to know the destination of your grain and to check both domestic and importing countries' MRLs to determine what herbicides are permitted on that crop. Breaches of MRLs can lead to rejected grain both domestically and by the importing country.
- Grain handlers and marketers regularly conduct surveillance on grain receivals for residues. The National Residue Survey also conducts ongoing residue testing of grain.
- Late season herbicide use must strictly comply with the registered label to ensure Australian MRLs are not breached.
- Growers should seek advice from their grain buyers before using late applications of herbicides. This is very important for seed that is intended for sprouting.

## Key registrations:

- Barley: Diquat (e.g. Reglone®) and Sharpen® are the only herbicides registered for pre-harvest weed control in barley, however a minor use permit for certain glyphosate formulations is currently available for use on feed barley only. Growers must be aware that some barley maltsters have restrictions on all pre-harvest use of herbicides. Consult with buyers before use.
- Registrations for glyphosate use on cereals and canola vary across different labels (see table 2 within Factsheet).
- Sharpen® (saflufenacil) has been recently registered for late-season application in pulses and cereals. **Food safety:**

Growers and their advisers need to be aware of the implications of their herbicide applications and the role they play in ensuring food health safety and in protecting the grain industry.

## Be responsible:

Stewardship must be taken seriously by all sections of the grain value chain.

## Grazing & Soil Health Field Day

With- Dick Richardson– Grazing Naturally Walter Jehne– Growing Healthy Soils

Come along and find out how Grazing can improve your Soil Health and Farm Productivity



Gum Hill Shearing Shed Mount Bryan 10 am — 4 pm Tuesday October 31 2017 RSVP— 27/10/17 Anne Brown—0409 684 312 <u>abrown@greeningaustralia.org.au</u> Ashley Harvey—0428 526 953 Millie Nicholls—0409 206 105









Preparing for your next harvest begins NOW. What you do throughout the growing season can impact on grain quality and Australia's reputation as a provider of clean, green agricultural products. More importantly, any issues regarding grain marketability can impact your bottom line.

## **SPRAYING**

When spraying, you must observe all label guidelines and permitted use patterns. This includes adhering to withholding periods, label instructions, application rates and safe operating procedures of the product being used. It is critical to only use registered/permitted chemicals on crops and any chemicals applied must be appropriately declared when delivering grain.

It is mandatory to make and retain accurate and detailed records when applying certain crop protection products in SA, e.g. when using Group I herbicides. In fact, it is good farming practice to keep detailed spray records of all chemical applications. These records should be kept for at least two years, depending on state regulations and label requirements. Details to recordinclude:

- · Location of paddock sprayed;
- · Crop/situation and weed/pest;
- · Application date, including start and finish times;
- Full name of the product, active ingredient and loading and product batch number;
- Product application rate per hectare, water volume, and number of hectares treated;
- Weather information including wind speed and direction, air temperature, relative humidity and cloud cover during application;
- Nozzle type, spray angle and spray pressure during application;
- · Name and address of person applying the product;
- · Personal protective equipment used; and
- Any additional information required as directed by the label or permit.

## WITHHOLDING PERIODS

According to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), a withholding period (WHP) in relation to the use of a chemical product means the minimum period that needs to elapse between the last use of the product in a crop or pasture; and the harvesting or cutting of, or the grazing of animals on, the crop or pasture. WHPs are designed to ensure maximum residue limits in grain, fodder and straw are not breached.

Failure to observe and adhere to product withholding periods and registered application timings could compromise future access to domestic or international grain markets.

## SNAIL MANAGEMENT

Snail population build-up is often a result of high rainfall corresponding with increased stubble loads and bumper crops. Some tips on snail management include:

- Combining cultural and chemical methods will provide optimal snail control.
- Cultural control methods including cabling, rolling, slashing and grazing are all effective for round snails. Undertake these activities on hot sunny days when the temperature is at least 35°C (preferably 40°C) for maximum efficacy, but be aware of the fire risk when working in paddocks at high temperatures.
- Burning is very effective for round snails. If summer weeds are controlled prior to burning and rocks are dislodged by

PLEASE TURN OVER





VITERRA



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Government of South Australia Primary Industries and Regions SA

# Clean grain is worth the effort. — Protect our markets —

cabling or similar, nearly 100 per cent snail kill has been achieved in trials.

- Bait when snails are actively feeding and before egglaying. This may occur after rainfall in late summer or early March.
- In summer a relative humidity of 90 per cent is likely to result in snail activity, whereas in the cooler months, 80 per cent humidity is enough to expect snail movement.
- Baits differ in terms of longevity and effectiveness so consider this when making a decision.

## **RODENT MANAGEMENT**

Mice populations can swell as a result of grain on the ground or around farms over summer. It is important growers reduce the amount of food available for mice and closely monitor numbers and activity. In particular, keep storage areas clear of weeds, debris and grain spills to minimise shelters and feed for mice. This also reduces the potential for carcase or faecal contamination in grain stored for later delivery.

## **GRAIN STORAGE**

If you store grain on-farm, it is essential to have adequate infrastructure and a plan to manage pests. Different storage options have variances in their effectiveness over the shortand long-term, or may require additional fumigation or protectants, which need to be taken into consideration.

The use of grain protectants and fumigants is critical to ensure that grain can be safely stored and presented to customers in a clean, uninfested condition. It is critical you regularly monitor and follow all instructions carefully when fumigating or treating grain stored on farm to ensure it can be accepted into the bulk handling system and accepted for sale by domestic or international customers. If you have grain stored on farm and want to know if your grain can be delivered into the bulk handling system, contact your local bulk handler.

All participants in the grains industry need to continue to keep our grain clean, ensuring all grain meets market requirements and is within physical, chemical and biological tolerance limits. All domestic and export markets require adherence to maximum residue limits, which in some cases may be very low or nil. There is a zero tolerance for the following contaminants:

- fertiliser
- · pickled/treated grain/artificial colouring
- · live stored grain insects
- · any chemical NOT approved
- rodent/snail bait
- glass and brittle plastic
- live or dead rodents
- toxic and corrosive materials

## **GOOD HYGIENE**

Ensuring compliance to good biosecurity practices around hygiene and grain movement is simple and can effectively safeguard all involved. Prevention is better than cure and growers should always use a "keep it clean" policy:

- Thoroughly clean all equipment to ensure it is ready for use, including headers, augers, chaser bins, on-farm storage, field bins, trailers, delivery trucks and grain handling equipment;
- Keep ground around storage areas free from weeds or potential contaminants;
- Immediately clean up any grain spills, particularly around storage areas;
- · Regularly monitor on-farm grain storages; and
- Prevent grain from mixing with fertiliser or other contaminants. This is particularly important if fertiliser is being transported to your farm and then back-loaded with grain.

## WHY?

Globally, the grain production environment is becoming increasingly competitive. Australia competes against countries who often have a much lower cost of production and current shipping costs often negate historical advantages relating to close proximity to markets.

Australia, and South Australia in particular, has an excellent reputation for providing clean, green agricultural products and working closely with trading partners to ensure their needs are met. By continuing to uphold high grain hygiene standards, South Australian grain growers will continue to differentiate from global competitors and maintain access to a large range of markets across the world.

*Remember: grain is a food which will be used for animal and human consumption.* 

All participants in the grain supply chain have a role to play in protecting markets.

## **MORE INFORMATION:**

#### Lachlan Allen

Chair, Grains Industry Association of SA (08) 8361 5601 | lallen@graincorp.com.au

#### Dave Lewis

Grains Account Manager, PIRSA (08) 8429 0472 | dave.lewis@sa.gov.au

## www.pir.sa.gov.au/cleangrain

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# Research across 25 sites in Western Australia supports the theory that harvesting stubble at the lowest practical level increases weed-seed collection

Source: GRDC GroundCover Issue126 :- Author : Jo Fulwood

New research has backed up the theory that harvesting crops as low as possible gives the greatest harvest weed-seed control, particularly when it comes to ryegrass.

Sampling in 25 wheat crops across the Western Australian grainbelt demonstrated a clear correlation between harvest height and ryegrass weed-seed collection. The results from this sampling determined that a theoretical zero-centimetre



University of Sydney's Dr Michael Walsh says there needs to be a balanced, risk-aware approach to slowing down the harvester to cut at a low level. **PHOTO:** Evan Collis

harvest height would capture the maximum number of ryegrass seeds, although University of Sydney director of weed research Dr Michael Walsh acknowledges that it is not realistic for harvesters to be set at that level.

"But this research clearly demonstrates the best result achieved in terms of harvest weed-seed control is at the lowest practical cutting height," Dr Walsh says.

In each sampled quadrat area, wheat and ryegrass plants were harvested at 40cm, 30cm, 20cm, 10cm and 0cm. These samples were then processed to determine the distribution of plant biomass and ryegrass seed through the crop canopy.

Dr Walsh says the results showed that 70 per cent of ryegrass seed production would have been collected when the crop was harvested at 10cm, compared to 24 per cent at 40cm.

Contrary to some lines of thought, he says, reducing the harvest height from 30cm to 10cm only increases the crop biomass (straw) collection by 14 per cent.

"So when you do cut lower, you are not dramatically increasing biomass collection, as previously thought, yet the increase in weed-seed collection is significant."

However, he says that the dilemma for many growers considering harvest weed-seed control is that the need to harvest lower to maximise weed-seed collection may reduce the speed of harvest. A longer harvest period increases the risk of harvest rainfall events and lost grain quality. This risk is particularly high in summer-dominant rainfall areas.

But Dr Walsh believes the study provides a clearer picture of the potential impact on harvest operations, allowing weed-seed control

to be planned accordingly.

"Clearly there needs to be a balanced approach towards slowing down the harvester to cut at this low level, and harvesting at a speed to reduce the risk of grain quality problems if harvest is extended," he says.

"It may be that growers apply this research to some paddocks or parts of their paddocks, but not to others," he says.

Dr Walsh says harvest weed-seed control is now an established practice. "We now know that implementing harvest weedseed control practices are critical when it comes to managing the weed seedbank. If you control the seedbank you will control the weed."

## More information:

Dr Michael Walsh, 02 6799 2201,

m.j.walsh@sydney.edu.au

# **Changes to LPA underway**

hanges to the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program designed to strengthen and further safeguard Australia's status as a world leader in red meat safety, integrity and traceability, come into force on 1 October.

The changes are:

- Two new additional requirements to LPA accreditation: on farm biosecurity and animal welfare practices.
- LPA accreditation will have to be renewed every three years with an assessment and a \$60 (plus GST) fee.
- 3. Online learning modules will be available to help producers with accreditation.
- Offline learning modules and assessments will be available at a cost of \$20 (plus GST).
- Free electronic LPA National Vendor Declarations (eNVDs) will be available. ■

## Support systems

Resources to help you work through LPA changes

## LPA helpline: 1800 683 111

mla.com.au/lpa

## E: lpa@mla.com.au

Watch a series of videos on LPA on farm responsibilities at **mla.com.au/integrityvideos** 

For fact sheets, resources, important links and templates go to **mla.com.au/integrity** 

#### What do producers need to do?

If you are already LPA accredited



- Familiarise yourself with the new biosecurity and animal welfare requirements.
- When accreditation is due (you will get two months' notice), complete the assessment and pay the fee.

If you are not LPA accredited

- Work through the LPA online learning modules for fmæt-accreditation.
- Undertake the online assessment and, if all questions are answered correctly and you agree to abide by LPA, accreditation will be granted.
- From 1 October, you will need to pay the fee as part of this process.

To meet LPA accreditation requirements from 1 October – either when applying for the first time or when renewing accreditation – you will need to understand your obligations regarding:

## **Biosecurity**

All LPA producers will need to have a farm biosecurity plan and implement best practice biosecurity on farm. Producers will also have to complete the LPA learning module to ensure they are meeting requirements. Beef producers who have developed a farm biosecurity plan as part of their approach to Johne's disease (J-BAS) management will not need to complete another to meet LPA requirements.

Download a biosecurity plan template at animalhealthaustralia.com.au

#### **Animal welfare**

LPA-accredited producers will need to demonstrate their on farm handling of livestock is consistent with the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines. Those responsible for livestock management will need to have a copy of the Standards and Guidelines, be familiar with its content, complete the LPA learning module and be prepared to advise and oversee others handling their stock.

Download the Standards and Guidelines at animalwelfarestandards.net.au

## **Electronic NVDs**

Electronic NVDs (eNVDs) will be available through the LPA service centre and licensed software providers. It is also possible to print the eNVDs, as not everyone is able to receive them electronically.

It is not compulsory for producers to change to eNVDs. You can continue to use paper LPA NVDs (which will remain at \$40 including GST per book) or you can print the eNVD free of charge.

Find a software provider at mla.com.au/envd

## Feed Value of Stubbles over summer

# **Source:** SheepConnect SA - <u>https://www.sheepconnectsa.com.au/technical-information/feed-value-of-</u><u>stubbles-over-summer</u>

Stubbles are an effective feed for sheep over Summer and Autumn but it is important to remember that the greatest value lies in the grain and weeds in the paddock. Once any grain that is on the ground has been eaten, the feed value in the paddock is generally low, unless summer rains germinate new growth. Feed budgeting and condition scoring of sheep are useful tools in determining when supplementary feeding should be implemented.

## Key Points:

- Greatest feed value is in the grain
- Determine available feed through feed budgets
- Use condition scoring to assess when to supplement feed

The relative feed value of a feed source is a combination

of Metabolisable Energy, Protein and other nutritional values. The digestibility of the feed is also the main factor in determining the amount of energy that is provided to livestock. At digestibilities of 55% or below, sheep will generally lose weight and condition.

Feed tests taken from a SheepConnect Focus Farm sites on the Eyre Peninsula demonstrated that the highest feed value from stubbles is in the grain. Tests also highlighted the large difference between the quality of the leaf and the stem. In this case it showed that barley leaf had a digestibility of 56% whereas the stem material was 30% digestible. Digestibility will continue to decline about 1% per week and this rate will increase with summer rain.

The barley stubble at the Poochera site had an average of 365kg of grain per ha on the ground ranging from 100kg to 600kg across the paddock. Once the grain is eaten the barley leaf would maintain dry stock. However once stock only have stem to eat they would begin to lose weight. Lambs will require greater than 100 kg/ha of grain on the ground to continue growing. Generally after six weeks, sheep grazing stubbles will no longer be able to gain weight and supplementary feeding should be implemented. Studies have shown that supplementing sheep grazing stubbles with lupins as low as 100g per head per day can maintain weights.

A feed budget should be calculated to determine available grain and dry matter. Feed budget calculations should be based on a dry sheep equivalent consuming 1.5kg of dry matter per day but this could be as high as 4kg per day taking into account wastage through trampling. At least 1 to 1.5 tonnes of dry matter should be retained for efficient ground surface cover.

A quick estimate of the amount of grain in a stubble can be gained by counting the number of seeds in a 0.1 m (squared) square (ie. the old cropcheck square or your Akubra hat). The number of grains that equate to 100 kg/ha are: 28 for wheat/oats; 25 for barley; 8 for lupins; 5 for field peas & chickpeas; 2 for faba beans.

Condition scoring is a useful tool to assess the body reserves of sheep and is best undertaken in a race when the animal is standing and relaxed. A sample of 50 sheep from a mob will provide a good indication of the overall condition of the mob and should be conducted regularly. You will not notice stock losing some weight (ie. 100g per day) but over two months this equates to nearly 1 condition score. It is easier & cheaper to maintain stock condition than try and put it back on later.

The feed value of stubbles generally reduces over summer, especially once any grain on the ground has been eaten. Stubbles should be grazed as soon as possible after harvest to take advantage of any fallen grain. Regular condition scoring of stock should be conducted to indicate a loss in condition and the need for supplementary feeding.

Upcoming Events Calendar	
November	
1	Chemical Accreditation & Refresher Course, Clare, Smith & Georg, 1800 991 985
ТВА	UNFS Pulse Group Meeting, Hannah
<u>2018</u>	
<u>February</u>	
8	Chemical Accreditation & Refresher Course, Clare, Smith & Georg, 1800 991 985
19-20	Thriving Women Conference, Handorf, <u>http://www.thrivingwomen2018.com.au</u> , 0427 592 243
20-21	Grains Research Update, Adelaide, <u>ORM Communications</u> , (03) 5441 6176
<u>March</u>	
14	Getting the Crop in Seminar, Hart Field Site Group, Sandy Kimber, 0427 423 154
<u>April</u>	
5 –6	Ag Excellence Forum & Awards, Adelaide, Ag Excellence, Kerry Stockman, 0418 841 331
<u>August</u>	
5-7	Lambex.Perth. AgCommunicators, 8332 3277

## **Monthly Commodity Outlook:**

VIEW REPORT

**Grains & Oilseeds**: Interstate grain transfers taking place on the east, WA not likely to be called upon at this stage.

Beef: Forecast rainfall through October may be enough to stop the price fall.

Sheepmeat: Lamb prices strong but expected to ease as increased supply hits the market.

Wool: Wool offerings to remain strong and keep pressure on demand.



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# **Upper North Farming Systems**

## **Contact Details**



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Bo

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