

# UNFS UPDATE



Upper North Farming Systems Newsletter

2018

## UPPER NORTH FARMING SYSTEMS 2018 EXPO

UNFS will be holding its Annual Members Expo on Thursday, August 30th, in the Booleroo Centre Institute Hall.

The theme for this year's expo will be "Achieving your potential in a dry year."

We have a series of great speakers lined up for the day. This year we will be running concurrent sessions, so attendees will have the choice of what talks they want to listen to. Whether you're a livestock farmer or you're purely into cropping, there are sure to be presentations that cater to your interests.

The keynote speaker in the morning will be consultant Sam Trengove, who will discuss how precision agriculture fits into the Upper North. Jess Crettenden (SARDI) and Deb Scammell (Alltech Lienert) will give presentations on livestock nutrition, Michael Richards (Northern & Yorke Regional Landcare) will explain the latest innovations in snail management, and Michelle Cousins (Cousins Merino Services) will speak about electronic ear tags and virtual fencing. Greg Butler (SANTFA) will speak about water injection seeding systems.

After lunch we will visit the UNFS Time of Sowing site just north of Booleroo, and then afterwards have a look at a nearby National Variety Trial site with researcher Kenton Porker from SARDI.

At the end of the day there will be an opportunity to network & catch up with everyone. We hope to see you all there!

The UNFS Annual Members Expo is made possible through funding from the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), the South Australian Grains Industry Trust (SAGIT) and the valued sponsors of Upper North Farming Systems group.

If you would like more information, please contact our admin officer Kristina Mudge ([admin@unfs.com.au](mailto:admin@unfs.com.au)).

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# Upper North Farming Systems

## 2018 Members Expo

*Achieving your potential*



**Thursday 30th of August 2018**

**Booleroo Centre Institute Hall**

**9am to 5pm.**

**Registration from 8.30am. AGM –12.30pm**

**Where does Precision Agriculture fit in the Upper North - Sam Trengove**

**Snail Control: Moving at a rapid pace - Michael Richards**

**Electronic ear tags and Virtual fencing - Michelle Cousins**

**Livestock Nutrition - Deb Scammell and Jess Crettenden**

**Harvest weed seed management - Sam Trengove**

**Water Injection seeding system - Greg Butler**

**Afternoon-** Inspection of local Time of Sowing and National Variety trials  
with Kenton Porker

**Admission:** The Expo is free for UNFS Members and includes morning tea and lunch.

Membership is due for renewal and can be paid prior to the Expo or at the door.

Membership includes attendance at UNFS Field Days, a regular newsletter, Research and Demonstration Activities and the Annual Results Compendium.

**NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.** Membership Options;

Membership Structure Options	People/Entry	Email Addresses	Field Day Book	Compendium	Cost
Business Membership	3	3	3	3	\$125
Dual Membership	2	2	1	1	\$75
Individual Membership	1	1	1	1	\$50



**Contact:** Kristina Mudge at [admin@unfs.com.au](mailto:admin@unfs.com.au)

[www.facebook.com/UpperNorthFarmingSystems](https://www.facebook.com/UpperNorthFarmingSystems)





## UNFS Time of Sowing Trial

*Hannah Mikajlo*

As part of the expo, attendees will have the opportunity to visit the UNFS 2018 Time of Sowing trial site, located just north of Booleroo Centre. This is the third year that the South Australian Grains Industry Trust funded project has been run to investigate the effects sowing time, heat and frost have on wheat yields. Varieties being tested this year are Scepter, Trojan, Cutlass, Hatchet and Longsword. With the frosts of the past week, the performance of the early varieties, in particular Hatchet will be interesting to all.



### From the AWI Woolgrowers Newsletter - July 2018

AWI funds the participation of emerging wool industry leaders in the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation's Australian Rural Leadership Program (ARLP).



The program is producing a network of informed, capable and ethical leaders to work collaboratively to advance the interests of their industries, communities and rural Australia. Applications for course 26 are now open and end on 30 September 2018.



<https://rural-leaders.org.au/our-programs/arl/>



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## Welcome to our new Admin Officer!

We are pleased to announce that UNFS has appointed a new admin officer, Kristina Mudge.

*Originally from Adelaide, the past 25 years have been residing at Baroota where my husband, Barry and I run a mixed farming operation, with input from family members at peak periods.*

*I had over 20 years experience in the finance industry before taking on other administration roles with various organisations before returning to study a Diploma in Applied Social Science. I'm currently administering the farm books and volunteering as the Vice President and Finance Officer with the Port Pirie Netball Association, whilst also operating my own business as a Professional Organiser.*

Welcome aboard Kristina!



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## WeedSmart Big 6

1. Rotate crops and pastures
2. Mix and rotate herbicide modes of action
3. Increase crop competition
4. Use the double-knock
5. Stop weed seed set
6. Implement harvest weed seed control

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## National Variety Trial site

*Hannah Mikajlo*

Expo attendees will also visit a nearby National Variety Trial site. The National Variety Trials are a GRDC-funded program that has been running since 2005, focusing on comparative crop variety testing. The site we will be visiting includes a wheat variety trial as well as a time of sowing trial.

Kenton Porker, a research scientist with SARDI, will be there to explain the trials and answer any questions attendees have.

For more information on any National Variety Trials, see [www.nvtonline.com.au](http://www.nvtonline.com.au)



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# Upper North Farming Systems Melrose Hub Crop Walk



**Thursday 23rd of August**  
**Meet at Grant Bammans Chickpeas**  
**on Critts rd, Melrose**



Focussing primarily on legume crops, time of sowing, pre/post seeding treatments and some paired/spreader boots vs standard seeding boots. Crops being visited include:

- Grant Bammans Chick Peas East of Melrose
- David/Jesse/Joel McCallums Chick Peas next to Melrose
- Matt Nottles Faba Beans on Bishops, sown using liquid fertiliser and trace elements
- David/Jesse/Joel McCallums Faba Beans next to their drive way
- Cameron McCallums Lentils South of Jeffs drive way, sown with Rootboot paired row
- Cameron McCallums Barley South of Jeffs drive way, sown with Rootboot paired row
- Ken and Andrew Walters Lentils, just East of where Cams are, sown with AgMaster spreader boot
- Ken and Andrew Walters Barley, next door to lentils, sown with AgMaster spreader boot
- Ken & Andrew Walters Field Pea variety comparison, Wals house, sown with AgMaster spreader boot
- Jason Arthurs Lentils, just East of Sue Girdhams house, sown with standard Bourgault points
- Jason Arthurs Barley, next door to his lentils, sown with standard Bourgault points

The day will finish at Caleb Girdhams new shearing shed, with snags and beers provided.

Start time 2pm, meet at Grant Bammans Chickies on Critts rd, Melrose. We aim to spend ~ 15 mins max at each site, with BBQ kick off around 6pm. Most owners will hopefully be present on the day to answer questions and discuss their experiences with the crops and seeding systems.

**Admission:** All welcome you don't need to be from Melrose to attend.

**Contact:** Andrew Walter 0428 356 511, if you're planning on hanging around for a snag to help with catering would be appreciated.

## Grain Growers August News



### Update from ACCC Agriculture Unit

The NPG had a constructive discussion with the ACCC Agriculture Unit and explored a range of current issues affecting the grains industry including:

- the "right to repair" agricultural machinery, as access to software codes and parts become more limited, and fewer (independent) repair outlets and mechanics are available, or allowed, to repair equipment without affecting warranty
- the need for better consumer/small business protections such as warranties based on operating hours, not calendar months
- the ACCC's approach to enforcement action, and investigations relating to consumer law breaches, and an update on some recent prosecutions.

### Combatting off-target spraydrift

Grain Growers' policy unit reported on various initiatives and discussions with regulators and industry to combat off target spraydrift as a matter of urgency. NPG members identified a range of factors to consider: including more consistent education and awareness; improving the training (and the quality of trainers), licensing options and the need to consider the chain of responsibility which should exist from retailer, to purchaser through to operator.

### Regional Telecommunications Review

Grain Growers is preparing a submission for the [Regional Telecommunications Review](#) based on NPG discussions and the feedback via survey of more than 700 farmers. There is widespread concern about the poor coverage and lack of service which remain a major barrier for the sector and inhibit adoption of future technology.



## 21<sup>ST</sup> PRECISION AGRICULTURE SYMPOSIUM IN AUSTRALASIA

10-11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018

@ IAN MCCLAUGHLAN ROOM, ADELAIDE OVAL, ADELAIDE  
SA FROM 12 NOON

Join us in our 21<sup>st</sup> premier PA event aimed at all farmers, advisers and researchers using precision agriculture.

**LEARN – SHARE - CONNECT  
& BE INSPIRED**

The Number 1 Precision  
Agriculture event in Australia

Bringing research to practice  
Hear experiences from our  
#learnfromafarmer sessions

FREE "PA Connections"  
networking mixer

PA Trade exhibits and  
Industry News showcasing the  
latest in PA technologies

A must attend event for the  
innovative

# Upcoming Events Calendar

## August 2018

22 - SA Livestock Consultants Livestock Advisor Update, Adelaide Elke Hocking 0427 667 081

**23 - UNFS Melrose Hub Field Tour**

28 - LEADA Spring Walk, Location TBC Megan Low 0427 393 065

**28 - UNFS Trial Site Inspections with South Australian Grains Industry Trust - Upper North**

**30 - UNFS Members Expo - Booleroo Centre**

## September 2018

4 -6 - AusCanola 2018, Scarborough, Rachel Nash 08 6262 2128

5 - SAGDA Mid North Durum Crop Walk, Roseworthy Deb Baum 0448840232

5 - MAC Annual Field Day, Minnipa Naomi Scholz 08 8680 6233

9 - 12 - 21st Australasian Weeds Conference, Sydney Nicki Abercrombie 0418 283 397

10 - 11 - 21st Precision Ag Symposium & AGM. Adelaide SPAA 0437 422 000

10 - 13 - 68th Australasian Grain Science Conference, Wagga Wagga Chris Blanchard 02 6933 2364

**12 - UNFS and Nelshaby Ag Bureau Crop Walk - Tour - Pulses on the York Peninsula - Contact Barry Mudge**

14 Growing SA, Hahndorf Alison Tierney 08 8332 3277

18 Hart Field Day, Hart Sandy Kimber 0427 423 154

18 - 20 Nuffield Australia National Conference, Melbourne Nicola Raymond 0406 761 798

**19 UNFS Strategic Board Meeting - Booleroo Centre - 7PM**

## October 2018

5 MNHRZ Field Day, Tarlee Phil Holmes 0428 587 862

10 - 12 National Landcare Conference & Awards, Brisbane Landcare 1800 151 105

16 Spring Twilight Walk, Hart Sandy Kimber 0427 423 154

**17 -TBC- UNFS Operations Committee Meeting - Project Identification and Planning**

## February 2019

13 - 15 3rd International Controlled Traffic Farming Conference, Ballarat; Chris Bluett 0409 336 113

## Contact Us

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# Upper North Farming Systems

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