

UNFS UPDATE



Upper North Farming Systems Newsletter

March 2021

Gearing up for the season ahead

Ruth Sommerville, Executive Officer

The past four weeks has been flat out in the UNFS team with extension events across the region and covering a wide range of topics. We've held or supported Precision Ag Training, Pulse workshops, GRDC updates and we have a great line up planned for the next 6 weeks to get you all the info you need to have a great start to the 2021 growing season. Make sure you get along to the upcoming Frost workshop in Booleroo Centre and the Sheep Tech Adoption event in Gladstone, both are practical workshops aimed at helping you implement better practices on farm this year. There are still places on the Pulse Bus Trip next week too...so if you are after a great day out learning more about Pulses and having some great experiences with a great bunch then get in touch with Rachel asap!

The Strategic Board met this week for the final step in our review and renew of the UNFS Strategic Plan. Thank you to everyone who submitted feedback into this process through our committees or the members survey. The results were really positive and it is great to hear that we are meeting the needs of our members. The planning day, held in Laura with Troy Forrest from Strategy Road facilitating, was a great opportunity to look at where we have come from over the past 5 years and develop some really strong priorities and focus for the coming 5 years. Our next newsletter will have a summary of our new plan for you all to review and the full plan will be up on our website soon! Thank you to all of the Strategic Board and Operations Committee that took a day out of their busy enterprises to help guide the future of UNFS. The group is in great hands. Thank you to Troy for steering us through the process and helping us reach a great outcome.



We are pulling together a great line up of trials for the year ahead and Jade and Denni are wrangling the big ideas into tangible plans. It is great to have some new trial co-operators on board this year and we are very grateful for the long term co-operators that help to make the UNFS trials of such great value to our regions farmers. We can't wait to share the full trial list with you after the upcoming Operations Committee meeting review and the Trial Planning Meeting...all happening in the next 6 weeks.

Our wrap of last year is also coming together really well and we are hopeful it will be out in the next few weeks. The Annual Research Compendium will be available live on our website for all to access and members will receive one in hard copy to peruse at the kitchen table or in the ute. It will be filled with some great results from trials across the region and will hopefully help you make in-crop decisions with more confidence this year and plan for the seasons ahead. Thank you to all that have contributed content to the book! A reminder that all of our previous compendiums are also available on the website. Now is a great time to review the Wheat & Barley Time of Sowing Trials to ensure you are getting the most out of your seed by getting it in the ground at the optimum timing for the region. <https://unfs.com.au/resources/>

With seeding getting close and sheep in the yards across the region, now is a great time to think about how you are going to do this busy season a little better. Have you had a toolbox meeting with your crew on how last years peak periods went and what can you change to keep your team healthy and functioning well through the whole peak period. Is there a piece of machinery you could improve to make it more comfortable, provide more sun protection or remove an OHS risk? Or is there a better way to share the load to ensure you are all getting enough rest this peak period in the farming calendar?

We hope to see your face at one of the upcoming events and hope the 2021 growing season is a bumper for all in the Upper North.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNFS Strategic Plan update• UNFS Pulse Bus Tour• UNFS Sheep Technology Group• Better Frost Decisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2021 Trials Planning meeting• UNFS Pulse Check meeting & Case Study• Hands-on Precision Ag workshop• Regen Goyder's line event | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listen in- Livestock corner• GrainGrowers update• GRDC Updates• Landscape board new faces• Kelvale Farm Field Day |
|---|---|---|

UNFS Strategic Plan

UNFS Board have engaged Troy Forrest from [Strategy Road](http://StrategyRoad.com.au/) to review our current Strategic Plan (2016) and guide us through the development of a new plan. Part of this process was a survey to members.

Thank you to all who completed the UNFS Strategic Planning Survey. We had a good response rate and the feedback has been great to compile and review.

Congratulations to Richard McCallum who was the winner of our door prize for entries. Richard received 1 tonne of seed from InterGrain and a coveted UNFS travel mug!

Richard, thanks for being such a good sport and sharing these photos of you enjoying your new favourite mug. You certainly seem more impressed with the win than Doggo there!

www.strategyroad.com.au/

www.intergrain.com/



UNFS Pulse Bus tour



Date: Wednesday 10 March 2021

Time: 6:30am departure

Location: Warnertown to Roseworthy

The GRDC Southern Pulse Extension project, delivered by a consortium of organisations involved in the pulse industry across GRDC's Southern region, provides a collaborative opportunity to increase the knowledge of growers and advisers on sustainable pulse production, improving the Southern Region's capacity to maximise future growth and profitability.

Details:

6:30am - depart Port Pirie Spencer Gulf Coaches depot pick up

6:45am - Warnertown Hotel pick up

7:00am - Andrew Sargents Crystal Brook pick up

8:30am - Port Wakefield morning tea stop

9:00am - Roseworthy campus Adelaide Uni (Researchers: Ben Fleet & Gurjeet Gill agronomy and weeds)

11:00am - Australian Grain Technologies (AGT) Roseworthy - Plant breeding and research tour

Lunch at AGT

1:30pm - Mick Brougham will take bus to pulse growers (lentil hay & soil amelioration sites)

4:30pm - Simon & Andrew Koch, Dublin Clean Grain tour

Dinner at Koolunga pub on way home

For enquiries and to RSVP for the Pulse Bus tour please contact:
Rachel Trengove on 0438 452 003 or rachel@unfs.com.au

Everyone Welcome! No cost. **RSVP by Friday 5 March**





Upper North Farming Systems Sheep Technology Group



Second Workshop: Friday 19th March 2021

8am-12pm Morning Tea & Lunch included



Andrew Kitto's sheep yards, 78 Kitto Road, Gladstone

EID and its Application

Michelle Cousins, Cousins Merino Services

Data management including:

- Identification of livestock and session vs lifetime data
- Understanding bucket files and useful excel functions
- Software options for managing data
- Uploading and downloading data
- Using data to make informed decisions on farm.

Andrew Kitto and Mark Noonan (Hornsedale): farmer's perspective on the use of EID's in their sheep enterprise and share their experience collecting data on body weights & wool traits

Dan Roe, Neogen SheepDNA: genomic flock profiling

The morning will be facilitated by Daniel Schuppan, Nutrien Ag Solutions
Bring a deck chair and hat

RSVP by Monday 15th March 2021: Rachel Trengove E:rachel@unfs.com.au M:0438452003



The Red Meat and Wool Growth Program is an initiative of the Government of South Australia, supported by Meat & Livestock Australia, SA Sheep and Cattle Industry Funds and SheepConnect SA.

BETTER FROST DECISIONS AUTUMN 2021 WORKSHOP

MARCH 25TH

1-5PM

BOOLEROO SPORTS COMPLEX

INCLUDES LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

REGISTER
NOW



Register online:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/142685533271>

or contact Denni

0431 233 679

denni@unfs.com.au

Better Frost Decisions workshops have been developed by leading experts on frost management, including **Dr Peter Hayman**, **Michael Moodie** and **Kenton Porker**, who will all be involved in delivering the workshops. There will be plenty of opportunity for Q&A and farmer discussions, aimed at exploring the practical aspects of managing frost on-farm and developing locally relevant strategies.

WORKSHOP AIMS

- Make better decisions on variety selection and sowing time in the different frost risk zones on their farms for this coming season.
- Increase grower awareness and understanding relating to the threat of frost on farm
- Options available to reduce frost risk and the
- Importance of mapping frost risk across an entire farm.

2021 Trials Planning meeting

To be held on March 26th in Jamestown. This is an important event in the UNFS calendar as it sets the expectations and responsibilities for everyone involved in UNFS research.

This includes.

- Contractors
- Project delivery partners
- Landholders
- Research partners

It's also a great opportunity to get everyone together before the craziness of seeding starts and to understand how individual involvement and contribution fits within the broader context of research in the UNFS.

If you have been invited to attend this meeting please RSVP to Jade Rose Jade@unfs.com.au 0448 866 865



UNFS Pulse Check Meeting

The final Pulse Check meetings as part of the GRDC Southern Pulse Extension Project were held last month (Feb 18th & 19th).

Meetings on both sides of the ranges at Napperby and Booleroo were well attended with 35 attendees across the two events.

Presenters included:

- **Penny Roberts, SARDI** presented findings from 2020 Pulse Agronomy trials at Fullerville and discussed 2021 trial opportunities.
- **Sam Holmes, Central Ag Solutions** discussed growing lentils in a closer rotation and the issues to watch out for
- **Richard Saunders, Pinion Advisory** guided through a farmer friendly gross margin tool to assess risk and profitability in different rotations

The GRDC Southern Pulse Extension project provides a collaborative opportunity to increase the knowledge of growers and advisors on sustainable pulse production, improving the Southern Region's capacity to maximise future growth and profitability.

(Right: images of Napperby meeting)



Hands-On Precision Ag Workshop

On February 17th a group gathered at the Gladstone Sports Complex.

Adrian Roles from AgTrak facilitated an interactive workshop.

Topics covered included:

- Identifying, quantifying, and managing variable production constraints
- Tips and tricks for data management
- Hands on field simulation

Matt Nottle, UNFS Chairperson, had this to say after the workshop, *"No matter where you are in your PA journey, you will benefit from attending. It was not just the basics"*

A second workshop will follow later in the year, with timing and topics based on feedback.

If you have a PA question you want answered, or topic suggestion to include in the upcoming workshop please contact Denni Agnew denni@unfs.com.au 0431 233 679

(Left: Adrian Roles presenting fundamentals of PA in Gladstone)



The GRDC Southern Region Pulse Extension Project began in 2017 and is delivered by a consortium of organisations involved in the pulse industry, including Upper North Farming Systems.



Focus: frost, heat, drought

Interview date: June 2020

Lentils aren't as difficult to grow as they sound – that's the major lesson Yorke and Mid North farmer Brad Dennis says he learned in his first three years of growing the crop.

"Given the right conditions, we can grow them in these really marginal areas on the right soil types," he says. "That's the biggest thing for me."

Brad admits the foray into high-value legume crops was initially daunting, having focused on producing cereals and vetch for grazing in the decade since he returned to the family farm at Baroota, north of Port Pirie on the east coast of the Spencer Gulf.

"We thought we're not going to have too much joy out of it," he says. "Then we saw the neighbour getting on pretty well. And we thought there weren't too many reasons we couldn't have a crack at it."

Now in his fourth year of growing Hurricane XT lentils, Brad says the main differences to cereal crops are the extended fungicide program and the emphasis on preventing insect damage to the small red lentils that are destined for the premium food market.

"You have to really be on top of all that or you'll end up with a product that's not really saleable for anything but animal feed," he says.

Brad, who works alongside his brother Matt, their father Robbie and grandfather Peter, says they began looking for a break crop that would provide better returns about five years ago. Lentils caught their attention when prices topped \$1200/tonne in 2015.

OWNERS

Matt and Brad Dennis
Robbie and Michelle Dennis
Peter and Bev Dennis

LOCATION: Baroota, South Australia

FARM SIZE: 5200ha owned and leased, 4000ha cropped

ANNUAL AVERAGE RAINFALL: 325mm

SOIL TYPES: red sands to heavy red clay

ENTERPRISE MIX: cropping and livestock

CROP PROGRAM (2020): Cereals 67% (Grenade CL Plus, Scepter and Vixen wheat, Fathom and Spartacus CL barley), legumes 32% (PBA Hurricane XT lentils, PBA Twilight field peas, Morava and Rasina vetch)

LIVESTOCK: 2000 Merino ewes and crossbred lambs

TYPICAL ROTATION: wheat-barley-legume

MORE INFORMATION

Brad Dennis
Phone: 0407 647955
Email: brad.dennis94@gmail.com

“We need a break crop and we were trying to get out of running as many sheep as we do on some of our better soils,” Brad says. “We think we can make more money out of lentils too, in an average or above average year.”

The Dennis family runs about 2000 Merino breeding ewes producing crossbred lambs, and 1800 wethers for wool. They grow vetch for grazing and previously produced field peas for about 20 years before taking a five-year break.

“We went right out of growing pulses for grain crops because we couldn’t get the yields and had a lot of issues,” Brad says. “With the tight finishes up here, we were losing all the flowers in the heat and that was affecting yield. The price of sheep and lambs steered us back into sowing more vetch for feed and we got right out of peas, but we’ve got back into peas and lentils in the last three or four years and increased the overall area sown to pulses.”

Other farmers in the area also have added field peas and lentils to their rotations. Some grow lupins as well but the Dennises found they struggled, especially in the heavier, more alkaline soils at Baroota.

Just as Brad was preparing to sow his first crop of lentils in 2017, the Napperby Pulse Check discussion group was established as part of the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) Southern Pulse Extension Project.

“It’s been good for learning what to look out for,” Brad says. “There were all these fresh lentil growers around and we needed a bit more knowledge about it and to do some more testing. One of the best parts is getting out and looking at other people’s crops and having a chat about what they’re doing; what’s working for them and what’s not.”

Thanks to the discussion group, Brad says he now has a much better idea of timing for insecticide and fungicide application, chemical safety and rates, and the influence of soil type on results.

“Lentils need a bit of work, but not as much as we thought,” he says. “We haven’t had much trouble with weeds and pests.”

The only real disappointment came in 2018 when the lentils were smashed by relentless strong winds. After two years of below average rainfall, the crop was light and lacked sufficient bulk to support the canopy while waiting for a contract harvester to arrive. Half the expected yield was lost. Eager not to repeat that experience, the Dennises last year changed their draper header front to a flex front so they can harvest the crop themselves as soon as it’s ready to go.

Average annual rainfall for nearby Port Germein is 325 millimetres. The 2018 rainfall tally reached just 170.5mm and was followed by 199.6mm in 2019.



“We didn’t have much sheep feed,” Brad recalls. “We were feeding sheep for a fair while, but the crops were still pretty reasonable because we had some summer rainfall that we managed to conserve. Aside from that, we’ve been pretty lucky – for the past nine or so years we haven’t really had too many shockers.”

Hot northerly winds at flowering can be a challenge when growing any legume crop. Losses can be reduced by sowing earlier and choosing shorter season varieties.

“But I don’t think we can completely avoid that every year,” Brad says. “Some years we’re just going to get knocked around like that. The Hurricanes seem as good a variety as any for our environment.”

Frost is not a major concern at Baroota, although the 2019 field pea crop lost an estimated 0.6-1t/ha of yield from a combination of aborted flowers and shrivelled grain in pods that failed to fill. Lentils seem to be more resilient, Brad says.

The Dennis family, who will celebrate a century on the land at Baroota in 2021, have operated their farm on minimum till principles for the past 20 years. The only cultivation occurs occasionally on some of the country where they run sheep.

The standard three-year rotation has changed from “three cereals and a break” to wheat-barley-legume, depending on weed issues and soil type. The main problem weeds are barley grass, ryegrass, statice, wild turnip and clover. Cereal crops and vetch are usually sown onto the heavier country which yields good sheep feed in a year of average or above average rainfall.

Despite their recent success with lentils and field peas, Brad says they’re not really thinking about trying other pulse crops.

“We’re still running sheep and all our heavy ground, that’s not suitable for lentils, we’ve just sown vetch on it to graze,” he says. “Chickpeas might be an option, but we’re sticking with the vetch, lentils and peas for the moment.”

The 2020 cropping program totals about 4000 hectares. It includes 1300ha of Fathom and Spartacus CL barley and 1400ha of mostly Grenade CL Plus and Scepter wheat, with some Vixen being bulked up for seed. There’s also 700ha of Morava and Rasina vetch, 200ha of Twilight field peas and 400ha of Hurricane XT lentils.

The GRDC Southern Region Pulse Extension Project began in 2017 and is delivered by a consortium of organisations involved in the pulse industry, including Upper North Farming Systems.



Regenerating Goydiers Line project PRE-SEEDING WORKSHOP

MARCH 31
9AM-12 NOON
QUORN

INCLUDES LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

Coming
Soon!



Listen In- Livestock Corner

"IT'S FLY TIME!" WEBINAR

Flystrike: prevention, monitoring and treatment all play key roles in flystrike management, but what is the right course of action? A recent AWI webinar, 'It's Fly Time!', provides info to manage high-risk fly conditions, plus tips for prevention, prioritising sheep for monitoring and treatment options.

Watch on YouTube https://youtu.be/KA77bqhvg_4



IT'S FLY TIME!™
PREVENTION



AWI CHANGE MAKERS –

EPISODE 4; EWE CONDITION SCORING

Condition score can tell you so much about your sheep and their performance, and is simply done by hand, measuring the fat and muscle cover over and around the short ribs. Join Nathan Scott as he outlines the benefits of recording and managing ewe condition scores, practical management tips and expected productivity gains.

Watch on YouTube <https://youtu.be/2RggkRZr15k>



THE YARN PODCAST-

EPISODE 158; NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF CROP STUBBLES

Grazing stubbles is an important component of many mixed farming systems, filling feed gaps over the summer months as a valuable source of feed for livestock.

But with varying crop species, varieties, management, and different harvesters, what is the nutritional value of modern crop stubbles? Dr Dean Thomas from CSIRO explains.

Listen online <https://www.wool.com/about-awi/media-resources/the-yarn-podcast/the-yarn-episode-158/>



Disclaimer: "These articles are supplied and not endorsed by the UNFS".



Your people are your best investment

GrainGrowers Family support program

Carolyn Rich, Corporate Services Manager GrainGrowers

People spend on average about one third of their entire adult life at work. It makes sense for a business to invest in its people by providing a great environment at work and by giving them the best tools available to support their journey through life as well.



GrainGrowers implemented an employee assistance program in our workplace a couple of years ago. This is what prompted me to champion the **GrainGrowers Family Support program**. Most corporate organisations have entire Human Resource divisions dedicated to supporting the health and wellbeing of employees. Why should growers and their families miss out on professional support because of their geographical location?

Growers and their families can be isolated from health care professionals, and appointments can be hard to keep when unforeseen situations pop up on farm.

This program can be accessed remotely by phone, an online portal or face to face and has been designed not only to support people through their personal and work-related issues but has also been extended to the whole family. For most farm businesses, all human resource duties

(Payroll, OH&S, legal and counselling) are handled by a single person. It is a lot for a person to handle, especially when seasonal conditions are poor, and family are heavily involved in the day-to-day operations of the farm. This is where the support services of the program can help.

We hope that growers and family members that need some support reach out and use the Program, and farming families across the country can be as engaged and productive as our staff are here at GrainGrowers.

Visit www.graingrowers.com.au for more information and how to access the program.

GrainGrowers launch OnBoard: a grower director program

The *GrainGrowers OnBoard* program has been developed to strengthen the pipeline of growers applying for board director positions.

The program will upskill growers, enabling further industry representation by those who experience the challenges and opportunities of the industry first-hand. It will cover all costs for growers including supporting a place on the prestigious Australian Company of Industry Directors course.

The program covers hard and soft skills as well as governance training. Each module will be facilitated by an industry expert.



For more information visit

<https://www.graingrowers.com.au/leadership-events/onboard-a-grower-director-program/>

Disclaimer: "GrainGrowers is a sponsor of the UNFS. This article is supplied and not endorsed by the UNFS".

Allan's enduring contribution to grains industry recognised

The contribution of agronomic consultant Allan Mayfield to the Australian grains industry has been officially recognised with the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) 2021 Southern Region Recognising and Rewarding Excellence Award.

Voted upon by the GRDC Southern Region Panel, the award acknowledges Dr Mayfield's long-standing input and commitment to the nation's grains industry.

The award was presented to Dr Mayfield, of Clare (South Australia), by GRDC Southern Region Panel chair John Bennett at this week's GRDC Grains Research Update in Adelaide.

"There are many words to describe Allan – but effervescent, efficient, spirited, generous, hard-working, motivated, knowledgeable, unpretentious and considerate are right at the top," Mr Bennett said.

"The challenge of overcoming ever-evolving constraints has been a driving force behind his fierce desire to extend new knowledge and understandings from research into application in the paddock. He has been a tireless collector and disseminator of information, fervently promoting best practice and methods of pushing farming frontiers."

Dr Mayfield's selfless commitment to improving farming systems and the fortunes of grain growers saw him become one of the pioneer members of the Hart Field Site Group, where he served as the research manager for 10 years and, along with fellow agronomist Barry Bull, laid the foundations for the now popular and professional Hart Field Day.

"The value that Allan brought to the Panel and the GRDC more broadly was enormous. His insights, knowledge and close working relationships with growers and the research community helped to inform many impactful GRDC investments in research, development and extension," Mr Bennett said.

Dr Mayfield's expertise is broad and includes agronomy of temperate broadacre crops and pastures, particularly crop protection; using precision agriculture techniques to assess and manage production variability of crops; project management and evaluation; and grower group facilitation.

Over the years he has fulfilled many additional roles – including chairman of the Grain Legume Handbook Committee, leader of the Eastern Grain and Graze Research Advisory panel and a member of the Crop Science Society Programming Committee. He was Director of Farm Management 500, chairman of GRDC's SA adviser Updates, and chairman of GRDC Cropping Expos for SA.

"But it is his important input into the grains industry that we specifically acknowledge today," Mr Bennett told the hundreds of growers, advisers and researchers in attendance at the Grains Research Update. "We thank Allan for his decades of effort, commitment and contribution. He has helped shape this vibrant grains industry of ours."

In accepting the award, Dr Mayfield said that in addition to working with growers, one of the "quiet passions" of his life had been nurturing young people into the industry "because they are the future of the industry".





Consider Plant back implications after herbicide use

Jason Emms- GRDC Weeds Manager

Grain growers are reminded to keep residual herbicides front of mind when controlling weeds this summer, as what they apply now will have an impact on their winter crop choices.

Many elements influence the time it takes for herbicides to break down. The primary factors include soil temperature and moisture, microbial activity, soil type, soil pH, soil organic matter and the chemistry of the herbicide used, and how it degrades.

The Grains Research and Development Corporation has developed comprehensive resources to provide grain growers, agronomists and farm advisers with information to assist when planning herbicide use on the [GRDC Herbicide Behaviour](#) web page.

GRDC Weeds Manager Jason Emms said predicting how long herbicides would persist in the soil was an ongoing challenge for growers.

“Many herbicides can persist in the soil for extended periods of time. Herbicides for residual weed control need to provide weeks or months of persistence in the soil to achieve their desired weed control objectives,” Dr Emms said. He said while growers were often mindful of the residual nature of the products used in the fallow, it was also important they considered what herbicide products they had used in 2020 when it came to planning 2021 crop choices.

“There can also be plant back implications for growers from products they used last season depending on the seasonal conditions, this is particularly important if it has been dry following the application,” Dr Emms said. “Some herbicides typically used for post-emergent weed control and not considered ‘residual’ herbicides may also persist in the soil for some time after application. “It is important to understand the soil persistence of a herbicide and its potential impact on following crops in the rotation.”

Dr Emms said some key points for growers to keep in mind over the coming months were:

- Soil microbial activity is critical for herbicide breakdown and is significantly affected by lack of moisture. As a general rule, if the top 10 centimetres of soil isn't moist, then little herbicide degradation is occurring regardless of how many months have passed.
- Consider how rain has fallen since the herbicide application rather than simply calculating the rainfall total. A single rainfall event with months of dry topsoil is less effective at sustaining microbial populations compared with the same rainfall occurring as a number of events that keep the topsoil wet for longer.
- Consider the mobility of the herbicide. Those with higher water solubility and lower affinity for soil binding can move down the soil profile after rainfall events and sit below the zone of optimum microbial activity. This can increase persistence.
- Adhere to label recommendations on plant back period to minimise the risk of crop damage.

Disclaimer: “GRDC is a sponsor of the UNFS. This article is supplied and not endorsed by the UNFS”.

Listen in!

Pass the Baton- Presented by Tony Catt from Catapult Wealth

The purpose of this podcast series is to educate agricultural businesses (farmers) on how to work through generational transfer of farms. The goal will be to see farmers “pass the baton – not the buck!”

Listen on your favourite podcast app



Name: Alexia Catford, Landscape Officer (pictured right)

Contact details: Ph: 08 8658 1086

Areas of specialty: Pest animal and weeds, Sustainable agriculture, biodiversity, community and indigenous engagement

Something you should know: I grew up on a cropping/grazing farm in the Mid North which inspired me to undertake a Bachelor of Environmental Science degree specialising in Natural and Cultural Resource Management as a mature aged student. Living and working amongst the landscapes of my district is a dream come true.



Name Jessie White (pictured left)

Role Landscape Project Officer to deliver the Living Flinders Program

Contact details: Ph 8658 1086 mob: 0429 151 138 email Jessie.white@sa.gov.au

I'm working on: The Living Flinders project. Over a 28-month period we will deliver extension courses and workshops, for farmers to participate working towards improving their landscape management, soil hillslope erosion, wind erosion and soil carbon, and deliver programs such as wild dog and fox baiting injections days. The extension courses and programs workshops that we plan on running are Stress Free Stockmanship,

Ecologically Sustainable Rangelands Management, Lifetime Ewe Management and further programs which have been recognised, suggested, and are strongly supported and within the Farming Community as a need.

Something you should know: Whilst previously I have predominantly worked in Local Government within the Southern Flinders region, working at the Landscape Board is a new and exciting adventure and I look forward to working closely with the local farmers to deliver these projects to improve their landscape, which will in turn improve on farm productivity. Please contact me at any time if you would like to discuss a program which is coming up, or you have any ideas about a potential one which could be held in the region.

Name: Hannah Ling (pictured right)

Role: Community Engagement Officer – SA Arid Lands Landscape Board (Port Augusta and Quorn)

Contact: hannah.ling@sa.gov.au, 0409 753 495

When I'm not at work you will find me... hiking the Heysen Trail. So far I've made it from Cape Jervis to Kapunda and steaming ahead towards the Mid North and Southern Flinders.



Something you should know: The Landscape Board focuses on a range of topics including pest plant and animal control, sustainable agriculture, water management and biodiversity. The Port Augusta and Quorn district is a recent addition to the SA Arid Lands Landscape region, previously included in Northern and Yorke. I've recently started in this position and am keen to get to know the people and the area so don't hesitate to get in touch.

Fox and Wild Dog Baits- Free injection service

Tuesday 23rd March, Quorn – Gun Club, Arden Vale road

Wednesday 24th March, Wilmington- Goey Gill's property, Orroroo road

Contact Jessie White for more details: 0429 151 138 jessie.white@sa.gov.au



Kelvale Focus Farm Field Day

Greg, Jane and Sam Kellock, 4336 Barrier Hwy, Black Springs
Wednesday 10 March, 2021

Purpose:

To increase the awareness of the range of livestock technologies available and how they can be implemented on-farm to improve productivity and efficiency. The Kellock's will share their technology adoption experiences and their plans for the future.

Time	Topic	Speaker
12.30 pm	BBQ Lunch provided	
1.15 pm	Welcome and Introduction	Michael Wurst
1.30 pm	Technology use on Kelvale	Kellock family
1.45 pm	AgriWebb Software	Kellock family
	Remote Pasture Monitoring	Michael Wurst/Kellock family
2.15 pm	Technology for containment / production feeding	Emma Shattock, Elders
3.00 pm	Afternoon tea	
3.30 pm	Gallagher eID equipment	Paul Hutchens, Gallagher
4.00 pm	Telemetry for monitoring	Tim Stockman, Stockman Electronics
4.30 pm	Close and drinks	

You must pre-register for the event at: <https://kelvalefieldday.eventbrite.com.au>

The Red Meat and Wool Growth Program is an initiative from the Government of South Australia, supported by Meat & Livestock Australia, SA Sheep and Cattle Industry Funds and SheepConnect SA.





BOOSTING ON FARM NITROGEN FIXATION IN PULSES

A FREE PRE SOWING WORKSHOP
FOR GROWERS AND ADVISERS



- Are your pulses and pasture legumes fixing nitrogen to their full potential?
- Is your soil biology, crop protection chemicals or sowing practices affecting nodulation?
- Keen to unlock the secrets of best practice inoculation?

Hear from leading researchers on inoculation, nodulation and nitrogen fixation of pulse crops such as chickpeas, lupins, lentils and faba beans at an upcoming FREE technical workshop.

SARDI researchers Dr Liz Farquharson and Ross Ballard and independent consultant Dr Maarten Ryder will be sharing their insights on getting the best results from inoculation, dry sowing and acid tolerance challenges, and optimising nodulation.

In addition, a local adviser will be presenting region-specific information relating to optimising crop growth to maximise pulse production, including chemical inputs, disease management, fertiliser, soil types and constraints.

All participants will receive copies of *Inoculating Legumes: A Practical Guide* and *Inoculating legumes: The Back Pocket Guide*.

COST

FREE

REGISTRATION

<http://bit.ly/MSFGRDPW21>

ENQUIRIES

LOREN REVELL-KARUTZ:

loren@agcommunicators.com.au • 0410 548 454

CLARE

THURSDAY 4 MARCH

12:00pm - 3:00pm

Clare Country Club

White Hut Road, Clare

Presenters include;

Dr Maarten Ryder- University of Adelaide, Research update.

Getting the best results from inoculation considering dry sowing/acid tolerance/chemicals/soil type/effectiveness of new and rhizobia strains

Sam Trengove/Stuart Sherriff-Trengove Consulting, Pulse Agronomy.

Crop management strategies to optimise N fixation considering disease management, fertilisers, chemical inputs and soil types/constraints

Also includes an interactive session on how to take nodulation assessments

Upcoming Events Calendar

March

2	Livestock Enterprise Planning Session– Strathalbyn	ProAdvice 8552 9641
2	Diverse species cropping- Wongyarra	AgEx Emma McInerney 0455 527 909
4	Boosting on Farm Nitrogen Fixation in Pulses-Clare	Ag Communicators – Loren Revell-Karutz 8332 3277
5	MeatUp Forum- Gawler	Pinion Advisory- 1300 746 466
10	UNFS Pulse Check Bus Tour- Adelaide	UNFS – Rachel Trengove 0438 0452 003
10	Kelvale Focus Farm Field Day -Black Springs	https://kelvalefieldday.eventbrite.com.au
10	Hart Getting the Crop in	Sandy Kimber- 0427 423 754
10	Climate Risk and Farming Webinar	RuralBiz Training 02 6884 8812
19	UNFS Sheep Technology/Adoption Meeting	UNFS – Rachel Trengove 0438 0452 003
25	UNFS Better Frost Decisions workshop- Booleroo Centre	UNFS- Denni Agnew 0431 233 679
31	UNFS Regenerating Goyder's Line- Pre-seeding workshop	UNFS- Denni Agnew 0431 233 679

June

30	Lambex— Melbourne	<u>Ag Communicators –</u> <u>Rebecca Jeisman</u> 8332 3277
----	-------------------	---

July

1 & 2	Lambex- Melbourne	<u>Ag Communicators –</u> <u>Rebecca Jeisman</u> 8332 3277
20	Hart Winter Walk	Sandy Kimber- 0427 423 754
21 & 22	Managing cereal & canola foliar diseases & fungicide resistance workshop- Clare	ICAN Rural – Erica 02 9482 4930
29	Livestock Advisor Update SA- Hahndorf	SALA -Elke Hocking 0427 667 081

August

9	Ag Excellence Forum & Awards- A climate of Opportunity	Ag Excellence – Kerry Stockman 0418 841 331
---	--	---

Funding Bodies



Delivery Partners



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



Global Grain Genetics



Upper North Farming Systems

Contact Details 2020/21



Strategic Board Members

Matt Nottle—Chairman - Booleroo Centre
matt.nottle@hotmail.com
0428 810 811

James Heaslip—Vice Chairman and Booleroo/Appila Hub Rep - Appila
james.h.heaslip@gmail.com
0429 233 139

Joe Koch Financial Officer and Ag Technology Hub Rep-
Booleroo Centre
breezyhillag@outlook.com
0428 672 161

Barry Mudge Board Member - Baroota
theoaks5@bigpond.com
0417 826 790

Jim Kuerschner Board Member and Morchard/Orroroo/Pekina/Black Rock - Black Rock
jgkuerschner@gmail.com
0427 516 038

Chris Crouch Board Member— Wandearah
crouch_19@hotmail.com
0438 848 311

Andrew Walter Board Member and Melrose Hub Rep - Melrose
awalter@topcon.com
0428 356 511

Andrew Kitto Board Member and Gladstone Hub Rep - Gladstone
ajmkitto@bigpond.com
0409 866 223

David Clarke Board Member - Booleroo Centre
david.clarke21@bigpond.com
0427 182 819

Michael Zwar Board Member
michael@agtechservices.net
0407 030 244

Kym Fromm - Public Officer - Non-Committee Member - Orroroo
fromms@bigpond.com
0409 495 783

Operations Committee Members

Industry Representatives

Emma McInerney
emma@agex.org.au
0455 527 909

Michael Eysers
michael@fieldsystems.com.au
0428 988 090

Ed Scott
ed@fieldsystems.com.au
0403 313 741

Rhiannon Schilling
rhiannon.schilling@sa.gov.au
0407 815 199

Matt Foulis
matt@northernag.com.au
0428 515 489

Jamestown Luke Clark
clarkforestview@bigpond.com
0429 840 564

Ladies on the Land

Jess Koch
Jessica.breezyhill@outlook.com
0419 986 557

Bethany Sleep
beth@unfs.com.au
0437 282 603

Morchard/Orroroo/Pekina/Black Rock

Gilmour Catford
catclub8@bigpond.com
0400 865 994

Nelshaby Hub Nathan Crouch
nathan.crouch3@hotmail.com
0407 634 528

Quorn

Paul Rodgers
prodge81@gmail.com
0429 486 434

Wilmington

John J Carey
maidavale1@bigpond.com
0428 675 210

New Farmer Representatives

Kyle Bottrall - Jamestown
kbottrall@outlook.com
0438 896 096

Matt Hagger
matt.hagger@icloud.com
0427 240 074

STAFF

Executive Officer

Ruth Sommerville
Spalding - Part-time
E: unfs@outlook.com
M: 0401 042 223

Administration and Finance Officer

Kristina Mudge
Baroota - Part-time
E: admin@unfs.com.au
M: 0438 840 369

Engagement Co-ordinator

Denni Agnew
Blyth—Part-time
E: denni@unfs.com.au
M: 0431 233 679

Research Co-ordinator

Jade Rose
Adelaide—Part-time
E: jade@unfs.com.au
M: 0448 866 865

Project Officer

Rachel Trengove
Spalding—Part-time
E: rachel@unfs.com.au
M: 0438 452 003

Upper North Farming Systems, PO Box 323, Jamestown, SA, 5491

Facebook: www.facebook.com/UpperNorthFarmingSystems

Twitter: @UnfsNorth

Email: unfs@outlook.com

www.unfs.com.au