UNFS UPDATE

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UPPER NORTH FARMING SYSTEMS IN 2024

We are excited about what lies ahead for Upper North Farming Systems (UNFS) in 2024. For the Upper North region,

- Weather station upgrades will provide more accurate and detailed data
- Strategic use of zinc hydroxide will be trialled to assess its efficacy
- Spray drift - avoiding hazardous pesticides will be discussed
- New project alert: mitigating frost in the Upper North will be trialled
- Alert and trained crop ag scanning carts will be trialled
- Northern Ag commercial paddocks will be established
- Milk producer demonstration site - improving pasture management systems 2023 update will be discussed
- GRDC HOT harvest report will be released
- Transitioning to non-mulsed sheep will be discussed
- Wipe sheets in sheep flocks on tables or ewes in improved pastures will be discussed
- Managing hot spots in sheep will be discussed

Thank you to our sponsors for their contributions to UNFS and our research investors for their support of our research projects.

We hope everyone has a great start to the season!

Kate Hale and Ed Barrett

Wheat Breeder

WEATHER STATION UPGRADE IN THE UPPER NORTH

We are pleased to announce that the WeatherMate and Cropio weather station upgrade will be rolled out across the Upper North in the coming months.

Cropio weather stations will be installed at Jamestown, Laura, Gladstone, Port Pirie, Crystal Brook, Spalding, Burra, Eudunda, Riverton, Kapunda, Tanunda, Nuriootpa, Angaston, Mannum, Strathalbyn, Langhorne Creek, Meningie, Tailem Bend, Bordertown, Keith, Naracoorte, Lucindale, Millicent, Tarpeena, Kingston SE, Penola, Coonalpyn, Cleve, Cummins, Lock, Wudinna, Minnipa, Cowell, Kimba, Cleve, Port Lincoln, Tumby Bay, Cummins, Port Neill, Karoonda, Loxton, Waikerie, Barmera, Renmark, Berri, Loxton, Waikerie, Barmera, Renmark, Berri.

These stations will deliver the following outcomes:

- Easy data access and delivery through a single platform
- Cropio app for farmers and agronomists
- Data sharing with other weather stations
- Data sharing with the Bureau of Meteorology
- Data sharing with the Australian Climate Service
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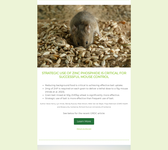
Wheat Breeder



STRATEGIC USE OF ZINC HYDROXIDE IS CRITICAL FOR SUCCESSFUL INSOME CONTROL

- Protection of the crop from insome infestation is critical for yield
- Crop grid is designed to be used prior to attack to prevent insome in the first place
- Crop grid is not a cure
- Crop grid is aimed at being deployed at the time of insome attack to prevent further damage
- Crop grid is not a cure
- Zinc hydroxide is the active ingredient in the crop grid
- Zinc hydroxide is a fungicide, not a pesticide
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