LIEBE GROUP NEWS

February 2019
Volume 22
Issue 1

What's Inside

LiEBE GROUP
Working together in Agriculture

From the Cover

Liebe Group Management Committee with outgoing President Ross Fitzsimons and outgoing Committee members Gary Butcher and Simon Metcalf.

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RSM

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Bec McGregor

WELCOME to the first edition of the Liebe Group newsletter for 2019. I hope you all enjoyed a great Christmas and New Year break and are feeling refreshed for the coming season. After a fantastic 2018 season throughout the Liebe Group region we are excited to see what 2019 brings for the group.

The Liebe Group Annual General Meeting held earlier this week saw Ross Fitzsimons step down as President of the Liebe Group after four years in the position. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ross as well as the other departing Management Committee members, Simon Metcalf and Gary Butcher for their commitment and dedication to the Liebe Group. Congratulations to our newly elected President Blayn Carlshausen, we look forward to working with you to create positive outcomes for the Liebe Group members. We also warmly welcome the new committee members for the Management, R&D and Women's Committees.

Soon to hit your mailbox will be the R & D Book which contains a wealth of information generated from the work conducted by our trial partners and the group in 2018. The book is a huge team effort led by our Research & Development Coordinator, Alana Hartley. A big thank you to Alana and the Liebe team for all of your hard work on pulling this together.

The upcoming Crop Updates and Trials Review Day on Wednesday 6th March is set to be a great day with a range of interesting and thought provoking presentations. For the full details see pages 9 - 10.

Earlier this month we also commenced the Liebe Group AgChat series which is a new initiative to provide targeted learning opportunities for our members. The next AgChat workshop will be held on Thursday 14th March with On-Farm HR and Single Touch Payroll. See page 12 for the event flyer.

Also kicking off this month is the Liebe Group Women's Committee Bitesize Learning series with Lois Kowald from CSBP presenting on soil health on Wednesday 20th February. See page 11 for further details.

Our Main Trial Site for 2019 will be located at the Keamy's property in Watheroo. A special thanks to the Keamy family for your input and for hosting the site this season. Our R&D Committee met earlier this month to discuss and plan the trials and demonstrations for the site this year with some fantastic ideas being generated.

We look forward to catching up with you all at the upcoming Liebe events and encourage you to drop in and see us at any time to share your ideas and thoughts. On behalf of the Liebe Group team we wish you all the best for a productive and prosperous 2019.

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MEMBER IN FOCUS: MIKE DODD

PROTEIN MONITOR

Alana Hartley
Research and Development Coordinator
Liebe Group

Farm Name: Niribi Farms
Farmer's: Mike and Narelle Dodd
Location: West Buntine
Average Rainfall: 320 mm
Farm Size: 6500 ha
Enterprise Mix: 100% crop – Wheat, Barley, Canola, Lupins

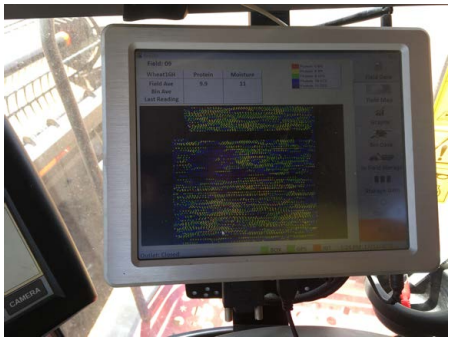
KEY messages:

- Nitrogen is fixed differently between soil types and crops.
- Nitrogen inputs can be targeted more effectively through the analysis of grain protein and yield across a paddock.
- Protein monitors can help to ground truth management practices when benchmarked against yield data and quality of delivered grain at harvest.

Significant improvements in precision agriculture has allowed growers to take advantage of technology that improves the productivity and profitability of their farming system. With most already having adopted the early precision technologies such as auto steer and yield mapping, growers like Mike and Narelle Dodd, west Buntine, are continuing to look at new technologies that can benefit their farming business. After having fully adopted variable rate technology (VRT) on their seeding equipment in 2015, they now look to the future of precise nitrogen management through the use of a fully integrated protein monitor on their harvester.

Developed in Australia, the CropScan 3000H, by NEXT Instruments and sold through CaseIH Australia, is a device that is compatible with all harvest machinery regardless of brand. It uses near infra-red (NIR) spectrometry to analyse the grain as it flows up through the clean grain elevator, analysing protein, oil and moisture of grains and oilseeds.

Real-time protein mapping (seen below) is the latest technology being used to monitor, blend and optimise the quality of grain on farm (before the blending by the local bulk handler occurs off-farm). It is also a tool that provides growers an opportunity to ground truth yield maps, variable rate prescriptions and identify key areas of individual paddocks that are under performing (and by how much).



Mike explained to Liebe Group's Research and Development Coordinator, Alana Hartley, that there was a desire to understand more about the variation in protein he is seeing across his paddocks, beyond the current tools he has available (soil test data and yield maps).

With analysis of grain protein being measured by sensors in the CropScan 3000H every 12-14 seconds, the number of data points collected across a paddock illustrates the variation just as a yield monitor would for weight of grain harvested.

By having this real time information on hand, Mike is now able to make more informed decisions about grain optimisation (marketing and grain quality strategy adopted by CBH) whilst also getting an insight to how his management practices are impacting nitrogen requirements for the season ahead.

“Our VRT system is currently only varying the rate of the compound fertiliser, not the nitrogen,” Mike explained.

“If we can continue to gain more information about how N influences protein across a paddock, using one of these monitors, eventually we should be able to be more prescriptive about our N requirements.”

Over the last three years the Dodd’s have trialled Urea VRT however the past two seasons haven’t lent themselves to having much influence over the end protein. Mike explained that they have been using a blanket 50l/ha of Flexi N banded at seeding however have started to make adjustments to a hydraulic drive on their spreader, to reduce slipping on the wheel drive and ensure the VRT application of Urea can be more consistent.

In addition to the trialling of VRT urea, Mike noted that they have deep ripped many paddocks to remove compaction and incorporate limed top soil. Such management practices have seen varied improvements in grain yield and protein.

“It seems cultivation and time influences the availability of N. Soils deep ripped in 2018 showed greater consistency and better protein than those deep ripped in 2017,” said Mike.

Improvements in yield were likely due to the greater rooting depth and access to subsoil moisture, while the better protein Mike believes is because of a release of N from a larger pool of nitrogen stored in the subsoil.

Room for improvement

As with anything new there is always room for improvement. Mike suggests that where possible it would be advantageous to have an averaging system linked to the front interface of the protein monitor. This would calculate they average protein in tonnes per hour (t/hr), so that growers are knowing what is going into each ‘bin’ load.

As the protein scanner calculates on a time frame, the variation of harvesting speed and tonnes per hour across a paddock causes the readings to give a higher representation to those tonnes harvested at a lower tonnes per hour. Mike noted that even though the data point will be correct the bin average will bias towards these readings. A constant harvesting rate of tonnes per hour alleviates this issue but is very difficult to achieve.

Furthermore, Mike says ‘If however, the protein analyser utilised the Pro 700 display and its cumulative volume harvested, the average protein of the grain bin would be more accurate’.

After his first harvest using the protein monitor Mike is keen to apply the information gained from this technology to his paddock management in 2019 and beyond.

“Ideally, the end goal would be to have a more uniform protein range across the paddock” Mike explained.

With the support of improved precision agriculture technology many growers like Mike are looking for opportunities to target inputs through prescriptive application and ultimately improve paddock profitability.

CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP AT THE LIEBE GROUP

Wubin grain grower, Blayn Carlshausen, has been elected as the new President of the Liebe Group at the group's Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 13 February.

Mr Carlshausen replaces Buntine grower, Ross Fitzsimons, who led the organisation for four years.

Watheroo grain and livestock producer Alex Keamy continues his role as Vice President.

After accepting the position of President, Mr Carlshausen took the opportunity to thank Ross Fitzsimons for his service as a committed and supportive leader of the group. Mr Carlshausen noted the many accomplishments of the group under his leadership including the celebration of the groups 20 year anniversary and the opening of the new Liebe Group Agricultural Research and Education Facility.

Mr Fitzsimons, who has been involved with the Management and Finance Committees since 2002, will continue as a grower member of the Liebe Group Management Committee in 2019.

Following the meeting members heard from SwarmFarm founder and CEO Andrew Bate who spoke about robotics, automation and new technologies in agriculture. Andrew shared the SwarmFarm story with those in attendance saying "he believes that robotics and technology will allow us to be farmers instead of just machinery operators".

The Liebe Group congratulate all new committee members who were elected in 2019 and look forward to a bright year ahead for the group.

Newly appointed Liebe Group President Blayn Carlshausen with outgoing President Ross Fitzsimons

THANKS TO ROSS AND FAREWELL TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ROSS FITZSIMONS

The Liebe Group would like to take this opportunity to thank Ross Fitzsimons as the outgoing Liebe Group President. Ross commenced in the role of President in 2015 and has served as a committed, passionate and supportive leader of the group for the past four years. During this time the group has gone through big changes both in staff, location and projects and has accomplished some great achievements. Ross' commitment to the Liebe Group goes well beyond the last few years and he has been an avid supporter of the group since its inception. According to our records, Ross has served on the Liebe Group Management and Finance Committee since 2002 as well as serving a total of nine years on the R&D Committee. Thank you Ross and we look forward to your continued involvement on the Management Committee this year.

GARY BUTCHER

The Liebe Group would like to thank departing committee member Gary Butcher. Gary has been on the Management Committee for 15 years as well as serving 5 years as the Liebe Group President from 2010-2014 and many years on both the Finance and Employment Committees. We thank Gary for his time and dedication and look forward to seeing him around at Liebe events.

Outgoing Committee member Gary Butcher with Ross Fitzsimons

SIMON METCALF

We also farewell departing committee member Simon Metcalf. Simon has been a dedicated member of the Management Committee for the last 8 years as well as serving 3 years on the Finance Committee. He has also played an integral role in providing a connection to the Wongan Hills region for the group. Thank you to Simon for his committment to the group and we look forward to his continued involvement in the group as a Liebe member.

Simon Metcalf, at the Liebe Group Crop Updates event in 2016.

LIEBE GROUP AGCHATS SERIES OFF TO A GREAT START!

THE Liebe Group launched a brand new workshop series, AgChats, on Thursday 7 February that is designed to provide interactive learning opportunities on agronomic and business management topics for local farm businesses.

GrainGrowers are supporting the rollout of AgChats with Alan Meldrum, Western Regional Coordinator, saying "GrainGrowers is always looking at ways to bring growers together to discuss progressive farming applications. I know the AgChats will bring real value to growers."

The inaugural AgChats session focused on going back to basics with tank mixing and the chemistry behind the chemicals with Andrew Huxham, Nufarm Australia Senior Chemist, and Brad Smith, Senior Chemist for CSBP. Thirteen Liebe Group members shared their personal experiences with on farm chemicals before practical, hands on learning on how and why some mixes can go wrong.

Daniel Birch, Catalina Farms, said that he found the session to be very informative and discovered just how critical tank mixing order, product addition timing and water quality are for optimum results.

"The AgChats session highlighted the benefit of conducting jar tests if you are unsure of mixing order or compatibility," Daniel said.

Brad Smith demonstrated the importance of water, good agitation and, mixing order when adding chemicals and micronutrients with Flexi N or other UAN products in a hands on demonstration in the Liebe Group shed. Andrew further supported this demonstration by showing participants the physical consequences of incorrect mixing order and how chemical formulations vary considerably despite an active ingredient being identical.

Some of the take home messages for those who attended were; to ensure adequate volumes of water are being used before adding the chemical component of a tank mix; having good quality water; mixing chemicals in the correct order and; having patience and good agitation when mixing to ensure adequate dispersion of chemical in solution.

The AgChat series will be continuing throughout 2019 with the next session in March focusing on human resources and staff management for farming businesses. The Liebe Group are excited to be able to continue to offer local grower members timely and relevant information that can improve their business performance.

Andrew Huxham, Nufarm, sharing the chemistry behind the chemical at the Liebe Gorup AgChats.

Brad Smith, CSBP, offering hands on learning with chemical mixing in the Liebe Group shed.

EVENTS

LIEBE GROUP CROP UPDATES AND TRIALS REVIEW DAY

Wednesday 6th March, 10:30am - 6pm
Dalwallinu Town Hall, Dalwallinu

LiEBE GROUP
Working together in Agriculture

MEMBERS ONLY

TRIALS REVIEW

10:30am registrations - 1:30pm

Join us for a discussion and review of trials from the region including:

- Demonstration of legumes for reliable profitability
- National Variety Trials - Results from Kalannie, Ballidu and Buntine
- Amelioration of subsoil acidity and compaction
- Ripper Gauge - Demonstrating the benefits of soil amelioration
- Plus many more!

ALL WELCOME

CROP UPDATES

2pm registrations - 6pm

Come along to the annual Liebe Group Crop Updates with presentations including:

- Guest speaker David Carter, CEO Austral Fisheries
- Nuffield Scholarship research updates from Dylan Hirsch and Boyd Carter
- Delivering on our purpose, CBH CEO Jimmy Wilson
- GRDC Regional Cropping Solutions Network Update
- How does my level of machinery investment compare? Ben White, Kondinin Group

COST

Members	Free
Non-members	$100
Students	$30

Afternoon tea provided

QUERIES

Ph: 08 9661 1907
E: admin@liebegroup.org.au

https://www.stickytickets.com.au/81282

FAMILY FRIENDLY SUNDOWNER TO FOLLOW

Oysters and Champagne kindly sponsored by Scott's Watheroo Dolomite

Watheroo Minerals Pty Ltd
Scott's Watheroo Dolomite

DIAMOND PARTNERS

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EVENT PARTNER

GRDC
GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

CROP UPDATES AND TRIALS REVIEW DAY 2019 – AGENDA

TRIALS REVIEW – MEMBERS ONLY

10:30 - 11:00	Registration and morning tea on arrival			
11:00 - 11:05	Introduction to Trials Review and general housekeeping			
	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
11:10 - 11:40	**Demonstration of legumes for reliable profitability** Alana Hartley, Liebe Group	**Yardstick Demonstrations** Richard Devlin, Living Farm	**Ripper Gauge - Demonstrating the benefits of soil amelioration** Nathan Craig, West Midlands Group	**NxPxK Trial** Angus McAlpine, CSBP
11:45 - 12:15	**National Variety Trials - Results from Kalannie, Buntine and Ballidu** Peter Bird, GRDC	**Yardstick Demonstrations** Richard Devlin, Living Farm	**Summer plant back trial** Michael Macpherson, Imtrade	**Amelioration of subsoil acidity and compaction** Caroline Peek, DPIRD
12:20 - 12:50	**National Variety Trials - Results from Kalannie, Buntine and Ballidu** Peter Bird, GRDC	**Canola Variety Trial, Kalannie** Alana Hartley, Liebe Group	**Summer plant back trial** Michael Macpherson, Imtrade	**Interactions of lime, gypsum and tillage** Gaus Azam, DPIRD
12:55 - 1:25	**Disease management in cereals** Matt Willis, Bayer	**Stubble grazing** Dean Thomas, CSIRO	**Ripper Gauge - Demonstrating the benefits of soil amelioration** Nathan Craig, West Midlands Group	**NxPxK Trial** Angus McAlpine, CSBP
1:30pm	End of Trials Review and Evaluation - Break for lunch			

CROP UPDATES – ALL WELCOME

2:00pm	Registration and networking
2:30pm	**Welcome and 2018 season recap** - Blayn Carlshausen, Liebe Group President.
2:40pm	**Delivering on our purpose** - Jimmy Wilson, CBH CEO
3:20pm	**Nuffield Scholarship Research Update** - Dylan Hirsch
3:30pm	**Herbicide resistance levels in the Kwinana West Region** - Roberto Busi
4:10pm	Afternoon tea
4:30pm	**GRDC Regional Cropping Solution Network Update**
4:35pm	**Nuffield Scholarship Research Update** - Boyd Carter
4:45pm	**How does my level of machinery investment compare?** - Ben White, Kondinin Group
5:15pm	**From the Antarctic to the Tropics: Stories from a successful fishing agribusiness** - David Carter, Austral Fisheries
6:00pm	Close and sundowner - Oysters and Champagne sponsored by Scott's Watheroo Dolomite

STORING SEED AND GRAIN ON-FARM

Thursday 7th March, 8am

Improving on-farm seed and market-bound grain storage is simple and quick.

Come along to the Sawyers farm silos just to the south of Dalwallinu on Thursday 8th March at 8am to learn some simple things you can implement on farm to improve seed germination, minimise damage from grain storage pest insects and maintain grain quality in storage.

This 90-minute session will bring you up to speed on pressure testing your silos with a kit that will be left at the Liebe Group office.

KONDININ GROUP

BITESIZE LEARNING

LIEBE GROUP
Working together in Agriculture

UNDERSTANDING SOIL HEALTH

WEDNESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

12 - 2PM AT THE LIEBE GROUP OFFICE

BYO LUNCH

Liebe ladies, join Lois Kowald, CSBP, and Alana Hartley, Liebe Group, to dig into soil nutrition and discuss how it impacts on-farm decisions.

WHAT WILL BE COVERED

- An overview on the importance of soil nutrition to your farm business
- Hands on pH testing and ribbon tests
- Understanding and interpreting soil sample results
- Access to a closed Facebook group with resources and information

LIEBE GROUP AGCHATS

ON FARM HR: STAFF MANAGEMENT & SINGLE TOUCH PAYROLL

Thursday 14th March

3:30 - 5:30pm: AgChats with Paul O'Meehan and Steve Sawyer

Light refreshments provided

Paul O'Meehan

The O'Meehan family property is home to the renowned Butterfield Beef, a premium WA beef product, distributed as Stirling Ranges Beef. Paul will talk about the how they manage and retain staff in their beef feedlot and grain growing business and some of the different management techniques he uses.

Join Paul O'Meehan, Butterfield Beef, and Liebe Group member Steve Sawyer, Wimmera Farm, for an insight into staff management and resourcing for a large operation.

Topics of discussion include:

- Management styles and techniques
- Keeping staff - finding that work/ life balance
- Sourcing staff and managing seasonal employees
- Succession and ongoing staff development

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SINGLE TOUCH PAYROLL: 2 - 3pm
This session will take place prior to the AgChats and includes what STP is and what it means for you.

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Agribusiness accounting software

For more information, or to register, contact the Liebe Group office on 9661 1907 or email admin@liebegroup.org.au

PinG Partners in Grain WA

PAPERLESS FARM OFFICE

Made possible with support from MLA (Meat and Livestock Australia) and 'Profitable Grazing Systems – your pathway to success'

A workshop to transition your business to a paperless farm office administration system.

Participants will gain the key knowledge, tips and tricks to develop and manage their own paperless farm office. Learn how to use technology to increase the productivity and efficiency of the administration and management side of your farm business.

DALWALLINU Tue 26 Mar 19

Liebe Group Office, 17 Johnston St, Dalwallinu

Start: 8.45am sharp - Finish: 3pm

REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL via

www.pingwa.org.au/paperless

Enquiries: workshops@pingwa.org.au

Who should attend?

All members of your business involved in administrating or managing the farm office.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY: Profitable Grazing Systems your pathway to success; mla MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA

Hosted by: LiEBE GROUP Working together in Agriculture

TOPICS COVERED

- Equipment and connections
- Efficient scanning
- Internet & enhancing your data use
- Data storage & security (including cloud storage)
- Back-ups & virus protection
- Efficient email communication and management
- Electronic storage and management of:
  - Finance records
  - Plant & Machinery records
  - HR records
  - Operations, livestock & technical info
- Mapping your paperless system.
- Tips and tricks for improving efficiency
- Note: This workshop does not cover application or integration of machinery software

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COST: $325 (+ GST) for the first person from a farm business. $175* (+ GST) for additional members of the same business

- *Price Includes workshop manual & catering*
- **No discount for non-farm bus.*
- *Minimum 8 farm businesses.*
- *Maximum 20-25 participants.*

What other farmers thought:

... Inspiring, useful, relevant, informative, amazing!...

...extremely in-depth information, very knowledgeable presenter, lots and lots of information provided ...LIGHT BULB MOMENT FOR MY FARM MANAGEMENT!... Great info, amazing presenter, loved it!!... Best way to get motivated to start making some changes...

7 TIPS TO MAXIMISE THE VALUE OF YOUR CASH FLOW FORECAST

Glynn Judd
Senior Manager
RSM

AS businesses across the region return from a well-earned Christmas break, planning for the 2019 year is well underway. One of the best ways to plan for the year ahead is to prepare a cash flow forecast.

Cash flow forecasts plan a businesses incoming and outgoing cash for a specified period, to forecast the cash surplus or deficit. The cash flow forecast is one of the most important planning tools a business has available. Without cash to pay the bills, a business will quickly fail.

While preparing your cash flow forecast this year, consider our 7 tips to ensure you get the most out of your forecast.

1: The more detail the better

There are a number of software solutions that enable detailed farm information to be captured and presented within a cash flow forecast. Utilise this software to your advantage and include as much detail as possible regarding the factors driving your income and expenses.

One of the main uses of a cash flow forecast for many businesses is for financing purposes. A detailed forecast displays your management capability to any potential financiers. A detailed cash flow forecast also allows for accurate analysis of your performance throughout the forecast period.

2: Use an expert

If you aren't sure what to input, how to collate or how to deliver the cash flow forecast in an easy to understand format, use an expert. Experts should have a good understanding of your business and access to software that makes the forecasting process quicker, easier and more collaborative for any users.

3: Identify problems and weaknesses

When your cash flow forecast is complete, use it to identify potential problems or weaknesses in your business. Maybe your cash flow indicates you are spending too much on non-core operations or specific business expenses? Use your cash flow as a catalyst to address the operational causes of these problems and weaknesses.

4: Sensitivity analysis

Run sensitivity analysis scenarios on your cash flow forecast. Analyse what happens to your cash flow if the price of key inputs increases, or yield decreases. How does your cash flow forecast improve if grain prices increase, or expenses decrease? What will you do with the extra funds generated by the business and how will you plan for this?

How would these changes affect your cash position and your business decision making processes? Is there a plan in place if this occurs?

5: Review and update regularly

Your cash flow forecast is exactly that, a forecast. Operations or expenses will inevitably change between the planning stage and the undertaking of a business activity. Regularly review and update your forecast in line with these changes and consider how they are impacting your operations. Can you make earlier, informed decisions to minimise the impact of any negative changes?

6: Variance analysis

Perform regular variance analysis to compare your actual results to your forecast results. Consider what has improved or declined when compared to the original forecast and investigate the operational matters that contributed to the variance. If the variance is negative and it's due to an operational decision within your control, what can you learn from your decision-making process to improve it for the future?

Alternatively, if the variance is positive and you have made a sound business decision, review what factors you considered when making your decision. Can you use this decision-making process in the future to give yourself the best possible chance to continue to make good business decisions?

Be mindful though, the variances could be due to a timing difference – for example the CBH freight charges have been paid earlier this year – you need to adjust accordingly.

7. Inform long-term decision making

Identify your long-term business and personal goals. Does your cash flow forecast enable you to achieve these goals? If not, review what can be done to help you achieve them and how any changes affect your current and future cash flow forecasts. Use your forecast to align your business cash flow and your short-term decision making to achieve your long-term business goals.

If you'd like help with your cash flow forecasting this year or want to ensure that you are maximising the value of your forecasts throughout the year, our team at RSM Moora are available to show you the tools we have available to make the process quicker, easier and more collaborative.

TRADE WAR TREMORS TO BE FELT IN AUSTRALIA'S GRAIN SECTOR – RABOBANK REPORT

Skye Ward
Media Relations Manager
Rabobank

THE prevailing factor in global grain markets for 2019 will be US-China trade relations, and this will have implications for Australian grain, according to **Rabobank's 2019 Agribusiness Outlook**.

In its just-released flagship annual Outlook, the agribusiness banking specialist says despite wheat not being a "key pawn in negotiations", wheat pricing will be affected as US farmers substitute soybeans for more wheat and corn.

"US farmers are facing extreme price uncertainty due to trade tensions with China," the report said, and "this may significantly move soybean prices either way in the next weeks in the run-up to US spring-crop planting time, thus also impacting the overall acreage of each of the three major US row crops."

EU plantings, however, could have a bigger bearing on prices, according to the report. "What's even more important for wheat globally is that EU cereal hectares have moved higher as rapeseed acreage was forced lower by dryness during planting," the report said.

As the balance of the northern hemisphere wheat supply is harvested and assuming there is a return to average for Australian wheat supply, Rabobank forecasts further softening of CBOT wheat to USc480.

But the report says local prices will remain well above global prices until the new crop becomes available near Q4 2019 – with the basis currently sitting 100 to 250 per cent higher than five-year-averages for this time of year. "In fact, basis will likely remain high into 2020 as Australian stocks are rebuilt," the report said.

With Western Australia "going against the grain of eastern Australia" with its above-average crop, the report said, "Western Australia will benefit from east coast demand but continue to be more exposed to the volatility of global markets that can be expected as ongoing trade announcements trigger soybean, wheat, and corn market and currency movements".

With the AUD trending downwards, Rabobank forecasts Australia's export wheat parity price at AUD 255 in December 2019.

Overall, Rabobank says Australian agriculture is on a strong path, with rising offshore demand and improved market access in the years ahead, while reaping the benefits of growing investment in the sector.

However, the report warns, there are "many cyclical and short-term factors" which are less favourable for Australian agriculture entering 2019, including climate and the global economic outlook.

For more information on Rabobank's research, please contact Rabobank on 08 9661 0900 or download the RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness podcast app.

Rabobank

HARVEST WRAP – SECOND BIGGEST HARVEST ON RECORD FOR CBH GROUP

Duncan Gray
Geraldton Zone Manager
CBH Group

IT'S been a better than expected harvest this season with 16.4 million tonnes delivered into the CBH network across the state, making it our second largest harvest on record.

We were just over 200,000 tonnes shy of the overall harvest record of 16.62 million tonnes that was achieved in the 2016-17 harvest.

Geraldton zone

CBH's first delivery of the 2018-19 harvest season was received at the Geraldton port terminal using the new CDF app. With ideal harvesting conditions the zone saw good volumes coming in, reaching just over 1 million tonnes in the first four weeks and surpassing the zone's 2016-17 receivals by late November. Mingenew received the most grain within the zone, with 575,700 tonnes delivered. The Geraldton Zone received 3.3 million tonnes of grain at season's end.

Kwinana zone

After a slow start to the 2018-19 harvest due to the inclement weather, grain deliveries in the Kwinana Zone ramped up quickly with a slew of records tumbling as yields across the zone came in higher than expected.

Across the Kwinana zone, 17 sites broke their one-day receival records and 18 sites broke their season receival records. The Merredin receival site received the most grain within the zone, with 444,300 tonnes delivered. Meanwhile Narrakine received just over 284,000 tonnes and Corrigin received over 167,000 tonnes.

At the end of harvest, the Kwinana Zone reported its best season yet, with a record 8 million tonnes delivered to CBH sites, breaking the previous record of 7.5 million tonnes set in 2013-14.

Overall, it's a great result given that CBH introduced a number of changes to the delivery processes this season, including the implementation of the new CDF (Carter's Delivery Form) mobile delivery app for growers and transporters.

The CDF app was well received across the state, with over 69 per cent of tonnes delivered via the app. We were also able to better track average site turnaround times including queue times which reduced from 46 minutes last season to 43 minutes this season.

Work on the Network Strategy continues following a ramp up in the delivery of projects – including at Wickepin, Narrakine, Kondinin, Carnamah, Mingenew and Perenjori - prior to the 2018-19 harvest. Looking ahead, projects to be undertaken on the network includes further work at Wickepin where new open bulkheads and throughput upgrades have been approved.

On Friday, 22 February 2019, CBH will be holding its Member Forum and Annual General Meeting in Perth. This will be followed by a Cocktail Function, providing a great opportunity to meet or catch up with fellow growers and CBH representatives over some canapes and drinks. If you are a grower member and would like to attend this event, please send your RSVP to us by 15 February.

Finally, taking in such a large crop is not without its challenges, so a big thank you to all our growers and transporters for their continued support, and the CBH team for working safely and efficiently to resolve issues. I wish growers every success for the upcoming season and look forward to how we can keep improving for next harvest.

	2018 - 19 Harvest	2017 - 18 Harvest
Albany	2.7 million tonnes	3.23 million tonnes
Esperance	2.4 million tonnes	2.83 million tonnes
Geraldton	3.3 million tonnes	1.56 million tonnes
Kwinana	8.0 million tonnes	5.6 million tonnes
CBH TOTAL	**16.4 million tonnes**	**13.23 million tonnes**

2,4D LABEL CHANGES WILL CAUSE INCONVENIENCE AND GOOD RECORD KEEPING

Chris Robinson
Agronomist
Farmanco

FARMANCO

KEY POINTS:

- All 2,4D labels will change;
- Boomspray setups will have to change when applying 2,4D products;
- Strict guidelines and penalties are in place for incorrect applications of 2,4D;
- Required application guidelines are going to inhibit efficacy of many other mixing pesticides.

From October 3rd, 2018, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Authority (APVMA) introduced new label instructions for all 2,4-D products e.g. 2,4-D Ester 680 LV and 2,4D Amine 625. Changes are focused around the application of 2.4-D herbicides to reduce drift that damages neighbouring crops and vegetation. The changes listed below are going to greatly affect the way farmers use 2,4-D products to the point 2,4-D may not be applied in mixes with any other products.

The key changes that effect growers are:

- 2,4 D products can only be applied with very course spray droplets at a maximum 50cm above target;
- Mandatory downwind no spray zones from both aquatic and terrestrial off target vegetation including sensitive crops, gardens, landscaping vegetation, protected native vegetation or protected animal habitat;
- Mandatory in-depth record keeping on spray conditions at the time of application;
- Advisory statements about spray application over summer;
- Aerial applications need to be maximum 5m above target;

The vital parameter is that very course spray droplets are required when applying 2,4-D. This increase in droplet size is going to inhibit the performance of other chemical mixing partners that require maximum coverage for sufficient efficacy i.e. glyphosate, fungicides.

Currently summer spray 2,4-D applications are between 50-80L/ha in coarse spray quality which provides adequate coverage for larger broadleaf weeds. When grass weeds become part of the weed spectrum, glyphosate or paraquat needs to be added. Water rates will need to be lifted to approximately 100L/ha to provide acceptable coverage to hit the small grasses. Under the new changes, 2,4-D is mixed with glyphosate or other products where coverage is critical, water rates applied with very course spray quality will have to exceed 100L/ha to achieve adequate results on finer leaf and or erect weeds.

There is limited information on the requirement of water rates that are satisfactory to control small grass weeds with a very course to ultra-course spray quality. It could be possible that when mixing glyphosate or paraquat with 2,4-D, water rates will have to be 150L/ha to get a satisfactory result on grasses. Other situations that will be compromised will be Pyrasulfotole (Velocity®) 2,4-D mixes where Pyrasulfotole requires maximum coverage for best results on wild radish. 2,4-D products are also often mixed with fungicides late in the season. Most fungicide products have a medium spray quality for application stated on the label which does not fit with the new 2,4-D label regulations.

Figure 1 demonstrates the coverage of different water rates at different spray qualities. A very course droplet at 85L/ha is suitable for the application of 2,4D alone, targeting broadleaf weeds. The 125L/ha water rate as a very course droplet and is not acceptable to control fine leaf grasses or fungicide applications when mixed with 2,4-D.

Options will be:

- increase water rates when applying with very course nozzles;
- spray pesticides separately;
- remove 2,4-D from the mix where possible and replace it with more glyphosate;
- substitute 2,4-D with alternative herbicides e.g. Group G herbicides or MCPA formulations.

Growers are going to have to be vigilant with their spray set ups, there are limited nozzle types available that suit this type of application at current operating speeds and pressures. Bill Campbell (Mob: 0427 545 553) is available to help growers with their boom set up. He is currently doing research on optimising efficiencies with very course spray work.

Boom operators will need to keep more extensive records of the application of 2,4-D products and the conditions 24 hours after application and will be required to keep them for a minimum of two years. Those records are:

- Date, start and finish times;
- Location with address and paddock/s that are sprayed;
- Product name, rate and hectares applied;
- Situation and crop that 2,4-D was applied to
- Air temperature, relative humidity and wind direction;
- Nozzle brand, size, type, and pressures;
- Height of boom from ground and target;
- Name and contact details of person applying the product.

These requirements mean electronic record keeping maybe an easier way to comply. Talk to your Farmanco Consultant about current options available.

The mandatory buffer zones have also been changed and have to be checked with each different 2,4-D product at application. The buffer zone can be found on the link on the APVMA website amongst the latest 2,4-D use permit, http://permits.apvma.gov.au/PER87174.PDF. In general, 2,4-D ester 680 applied at rates up to 1.7L/ha need a buffer zone of 20 meters from aquatic areas and 30 meters from what is classed as sensitive terrestrial environments.

The label changes are also applicable to products that do not have the current label changes. Resellers have a responsibility to supply the latest information on the application of 2,4-D products at the point of sale, as released on the 3rd October 2018. Anyone who contravenes the conditions of the new permit will be subject to penalties up to $189,000 for an individual or $315,000 for a corporate body.

The required changes to 2,4-D product labels are going to be challenging and inconvenient when applying with other pesticides. We advise you to be thorough with boom setups, spraying conditions and record keeping, there is a possibility the APVMA will be looking to make sure growers are abiding by the new regulations. These changes though, are still under review. When you are talking to your local GRDC representative, or anyone who may be involved in lobbying against the recommendations, don't forget to discuss the issues that have been incurred due to the changes. The changes are driven by Eastern States scenarios and in my opinion, are over-bearing for current Western Australian systems.

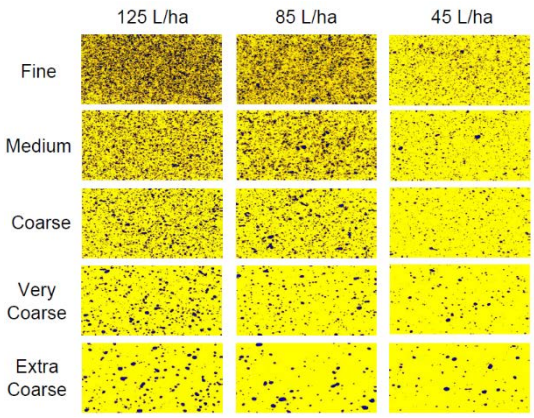


Figure 1: Demonstrated coverage of different spray qualities and various water rates per hectare.
SOURCE: SPRAYERS101.COM

BATTLING THE BUNNY! UNDERTAKE CONTROL ACTIVITIES NOW!

Linda Vernon
Executive Officer
Central Wheatbelt
Biosecurity Association

CWBA
Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association Inc

THE European Rabbit is a declared pest in WA. Landholders are obliged to control rabbit populations on their land. The aim of control is to reduce the impact of rabbits on farm enterprises and the natural environment. The success of rabbit control should be determined more by how many rabbits remain than by how many rabbits have been removed. Rabbits have the ability to rapidly re-invade and recolonise areas following control, so control programs should involve as large a number of properties as possible.

Two broad rabbit control strategies are applied to rural land in WA: the combination of poisons and warren destruction where the ground conditions are suitable. There are three stages of this rabbit control activity.

Stage 1 – Initial reduction

Where rabbit density is medium to high, the objective is to reduce the population to a manageable level - usually by a poisoning program, but only during the non-breeding season. Initial reduction may also be achieved by the arrival (natural or introduced) of rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV) or myxomatosis.

Stage 2 – Follow up control

If rabbit density is low the objective is to reduce the population further so that it cannot recover quickly. Follow up control is usually achieved by fumigation and warren destruction. When this stage is fully implemented and maintained, rabbit impact should not return to its former level.

Stage 3 – Advanced control

When rabbit densities are very low, advanced control methods such as shooting, trapping, fumigation and warren destruction make use of previous control inputs to keep rabbit numbers low in the longer term. Regular use of advanced control and monitoring, as part of overall property management, should avoid the need to repeat stages 1 and 2.

Before deciding on control strategies, monitor rabbit populations using daytime observations and spotlight counts. Use the following standard rabbit density classifications to assess and map density:

High density – abundant active warrens, rabbits visible any time
Medium density – active warrens present, a fair amount of sign (scratches, dung heaps, feeding areas)
Low density – some sign, few holes
Zero – no sign

Poisoning is most effective during the non-breeding season (when rabbits are less territorial and less tied to warrens) and feed is scarce. The best time is usually during mid to late summer (so now!). 1080 and Pindone are toxins registered for the control of rabbits. The objective of poisoning is to remove 90% or more of rabbits, which will prevent the population from quickly recovering, allowing time to implement follow up control.

More information can be found at www.cwba.org.au

Feral rabbits eat crops and compete with livestock for pasture. Before the release of RHDV, rabbit-induced production losses in the Australian wool industry were about $130 million per year1

Community Baiting Program - FREE ONE SHOT 1080 – Register you Interest
Poisoning with 1080 is a cost-effective method to reduce medium and high-density rabbit numbers to a manageable level. The Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association is coordinating a Community Rabbit Baiting Program this February and March in the Shires of Koorda, Dalwallinu, Perenjori and Morawa. They will host Rabbit Bait Mixing days across the region in central locations and supply poison one shot 1080 Oats to be mixed by LPMTs with landholders' oats. Assistance can also be provided to complete and pay for the cost of landholders obtaining Restricted Chemical Product Permits (if landholders do not already have one).

To find out more information or to register your interest to participate and receive your free one shot 1080 oats contact Linda Vernon, Executive Officer, Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association on 0473 163 050 or email eocwba@outlook.com

RHDV1K5 Virus Release
The RHDV1-K5 virus is the latest biological control tool in the war against rabbits. It is a variant of rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV1) that causes fatal haemorrhagic disease in the European rabbit (Oryctolagus cuniculus). It is specific to the European rabbit, and once a rabbit shows symptoms, death is rapid. Given the short disease time and the sudden death due to rapid organ failure, RHDV is one of the most humane control methods for rabbits currently available. There is no treatment or cure for rabbit haemorrhagic disease (RHD); however, a vaccine for domestic and production rabbits is available. You can contact your local vet for more information.

The virus is spread by insect vectors, including bushflies, blowflies and fleas. Direct contact between a rabbit and a K5 diseased carcass is also an avenue of spread. RHDV is a Schedule 4 restricted chemical product and can only be supplied to persons who are authorised to use the product under the laws of their state or territory. To become a registered user in Western Australia you must complete a short online training course which can be accessed by following the following link http://dafwa.moodle.com.au/externaluser/login/index.php

Late spring and autumn are the best times of the year to release the virus. NACC are able to access vials of the RHDV1-K5 virus and are currently seeking expressions of interest from landholders who would like to be involved. There are some monitoring requirements if you wish to host a release site, but these are fairly straight forward and much of which can be undertaken using the FeralScan App, which is freely available. For further information please contact Lizzie King (0447 361335 or lizzie.king@nacc.com.au) or Annabelle Garratt (0448 986879 or Annabelle.Garratt@nacc.com.au)

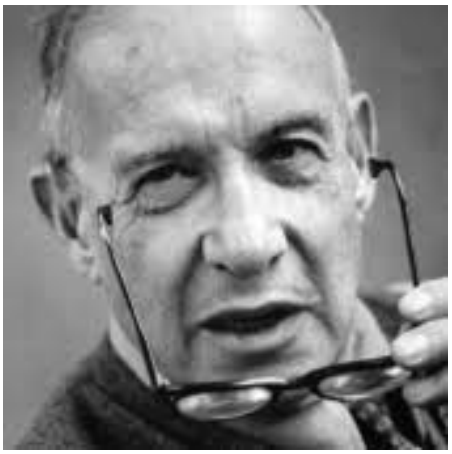
Further Information:
1. Gong W, Sinden J, Braysher M and Jones R (2009). The Economic Impacts of Vertebrate Pests in Australia. Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre, Canberra.

IF YOU CAN'T MEASURE IT, YOU CAN'T IMPROVE IT!

Kevin Mincherton
General Manager
Precision SoilTech

PRECISION SoilTech
BUILDING BETTER SOILS

PETER Drucker was a famous American management consultant and is credited with two of the most important business quotes of our time.



"If you can't measure it, you can't improve it."

"Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things."

So what does Drucker have to do with farming in Western Australia? Farmers are often quoted as custodians of the land and derive their income from one primary source, soil! So according to Drucker, if you are not measuring your soil and the physical constraints that limit production, then you can't do anything to improve it; and therefore improve your profitability and the sustainability of the family farm.

To effectively measure soil data over time, it must be collected in same way year after year. Here lies the problem! How does the farmer know that the results of his latest soil analysis are comparable to data collected in previous years? The short answer is, you don't! Unless you can find a sampling contractor that can verify the location of the sites and the number of cores taken per depth of soil collected, only then will the data be meaningful!

This leads us to the second of Drucker's famous quotes, "Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things." If "management is doing things right" and you can only manage what you measure, then it's no surprise that the most successful farmers in this state, regularly use specialised contractors to soil sample.

The top farming leaders rarely take soil samples themselves, because they understand that they don't have the right technology or resources to undertake accurate and consistent soil sampling especially to depth.

Key things to consider when employing a sampling contractor;

1. Independent sampling service.
2. Accurate GPS technology.
3. Capacity to verify the number of cores and depths collected.
4. Ability to collect soils to the farmers and advisors preference, with deep sampling capacity.
5. The goal to collect data that demonstrate nutrient, pH, compaction and moisture constraints within the soil.

The return on investment in soil sampling is often difficult to quantify, simply because the costs and benefits vary for each farmer. However for the average farmer, a 5% reduction of fertiliser cost equals $12,500 which would cover the cost of contract sampling and analysis.

This return on investment can be achieved by measuring soil nutrients and pH to ensure that the fertiliser used is placed in the right area and is available to the plant once applied. Soil sampling can identify problems that force plants to run out of moisture, nutrients, or an acid free root zone, which reduces production and on farm profitability.

In WA, farmers spend about $3000 on soil collection and topsoil nutrient analysis; this represents 0.4 % of (ABARES) average total cash costs for broad-acre farmers in WA. For a very small cost, the benefits can be significant, where management decisions are based on accurate measurements and inputs can vary according to the constraints presented.

Peter Drucker believes that measuring what you want to improve, doing things right and doing the right things are essential to business success. Soil management is critical to farm profitability so consistent accurate measurement conducted by trusted soil sampling industry professionals, is substantially more valuable than its cost.

If you require any further information, please call Kevin Mincherton, General Manager of Precision SoilTech.

FINDING THE BREAK CROP THAT FITS YOUR ROTATION

Michelle Handley
Project Manager
SEPWA

THE idea that crop sequences that include canola or legume break crops are as profitable as, and in many instances more profitable than, continuous cereals is not new and has a lot of farmer experience and research to back it up.

While the decision to include a break crop can be fairly straightforward making the decision on which break crop to grow can be complex. It involves thinking about a wide range of factors including:

- The purpose of the break crop in the rotation. Are you chasing profit, improvement in wheat and barley protein, weed, disease or pest control opportunities, soil N for next year's crop, forage for stock and/or soil fertility improvements?
- The "fit" with the rest of the cropping program, especially with respect to possible chemical residue problems and timing of ideal seeding and harvest windows
- Seeding and harvest equipment and labour requirements
- Average rainfall and likely timing
- Waterlogging and frost susceptibility
- Plant available soil water
- How to sell the grain (especially pulses)
- On-farm storage requirements

Tom Edwards (DPIRD) outlines research outcomes and what they mean for growing a good canola crop.

There are also a range of plant biology factors to take in to consideration.

Attribute	Canola	Field Pea	Chickpea	Faba Bean	Lentil	Narrow Leaf Lupin	Common Vetch
Soil pH (CaCl)	5.0-9.0	5.0-9.0	5.5-9.0	5.5-9.0	6.0-9.0	4.5-6.0	5.5-9.0
Soil Texture	Sand, Gravelly Sands - Clay	Loamy Sand - Clay	Sandy Loam - Clay	Sandy Loam – Clay	Loam - Clay	Sand - Gravely Sands	Loamy Sand - Clay
Average Yield Potential	High	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	High	High
Waterlogging	Moderate Sensitivity	Sensitive	Very Sensitive	Moderate Tolerance	Very Sensitive	Very Sensitive	Sensitive
Boron toxicity/ Sodicity	Moderate Tolerance	Moderate Tolerance	Very Sensitive	Moderate Tolerance	Very Sensitive	Very Sensitive	Moderate Tolerance
Salinity	Moderate Tolerance	Very Sensitive	Very Sensitive	Moderate Sensitivity	Moderate Sensitivity	Very Sensitive	Moderate Sensitivity
Surface Crusting	Sensitive	Moderate Sensitivity	Moderate Sensitivity	Moderate Sensitivity	Sensitive	Sensitive	Sensitive
Other Factors		Adapted to Late Sowing	Adapted to Mid-late sowing, Cold sensitive	Requires Early sowing	Early sowing possible		Variety selection/ zone key to success

Information adapted from Department of Agriculture Bulletin 4645, April 2005, Mark Seymour's observations and local farmer experience

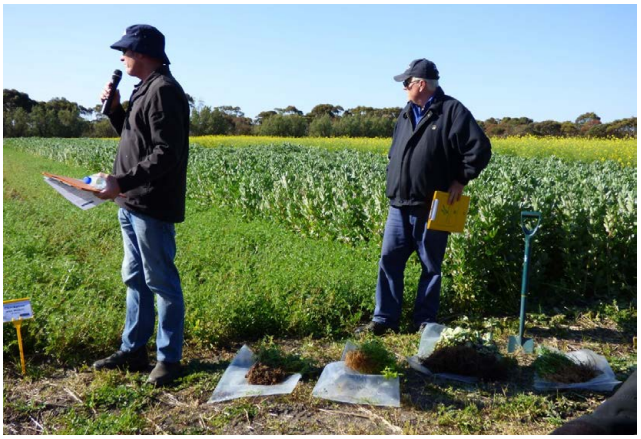


PHOTO: Greg Warren (F&G) and Mark Seymour (DPIRD) talk through how a range of break crop species have coped with waterlogged conditions at Gibson in September 2018.

The following table summarises what break crops might be successful in different parts of the Esperance region. Once the species has been chosen, variety selection plays a big role in success.

Rainfall Zone	Low	Medium	High
Prevailing Soil Type	Neutral to Alkaline Loams, Clays & Circle Valley Sands	Neutral to Alkaline Loamy Clays to Sand over Clay Duplex	Neutral to Acidic Sand over Clay or Gravel or Deep Sand
Canola	Maybe	✓	✓
Field Peas	✓	Maybe	×
Lentils	✓	Maybe	×
Faba Beans	✓	✓	✓ (if pH >5.0)
Narrow Leaf Lupin	✓	✓	Maybe
Common Vetch	✓	✓	✓ (if pH >5.5)

MECHANICAL CHIPPER ADDED TO WEEDS ARSENAL

Dr Andrew Guzzomi
Senior Lecturer
University of Western Australia

A new mechanical weeding machine may help change the face of fallow weed control across Australia's broadacre grains industry.

The Weed Chipper, developed by agricultural engineers and researchers from the University of Western Australia (UWA) and the University of Sydney, may be the next answer in the fight against herbicide-resistant weeds.

The machine has been designed using a cultivator bar where tynes are raised above the ground in a standby position, ready to chip the weeds out of the ground the moment they are detected with weed-sensing technology.
This simple, yet groundbreaking, technology will allow grain growers to control weeds in summer and winter fallows with greater flexibility for use in situations that restrict the use of herbicide treatments, such as wind, humidity, heat and resistance.

UWA School of Engineering agricultural engineers Dr Andrew Guzzomi and Dr Carlo Peressini, together with University of Sydney director of weed research Dr Michael Walsh, have designed and built the machine in response to grower concern about the difficulties associated with summer weed control.

The project received GRDC investment and several prototypes have now been trialled across the country to test its effectiveness.

According to Dr Guzzomi, the weed-chipping machine has been designed to adapt seamlessly and quickly into grain-cropping systems.

"WEEDit sensors installed across the bar detect a green plant, which physically activates the appropriate tyne or tynes to rapidly engage with the soil and, by using a hoeing action, they chip out the weed with minimal soil disturbance," Dr Guzzomi says.

The bar has been designed to run at 10 kilometres per hour and, while this may be slower than a sprayer, the weed chipper can work around the clock in a wider range of environmental conditions.

"In terms of the technology involved, this machine operates in a similar way as a weed-seeking spray boom. Weeds are sensed, though instead of spraying them, we chip them out," Dr Guzzomi says.
According to Dr Walsh, who has been testing prototypes in field trials, the weed control success rate has so far been 100 per cent.

"The real value is its ability to chip out weeds across a wide range of sizes and growth stages with minimal soil disturbance," he says.

"Using this approach takes the pressure off herbicides and removes the need to plan your herbicide treatments according to plant growth stages, weed species and resistance."

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Dr Guzzomi and Dr Walsh are hoping to provide growers with the opportunity to test a commercial-scale prototype in fallow this summer.

Dr Walsh says the initial concept for the machine was developed on a tour through the northern grain-growing region of NSW and Queensland in 2012.

“WA growers Ray Harrington, Andrew Messina and Lance Turner and I were travelling through northern NSW and southern Queensland, where we were delivering workshops on harvest weed-seed control,” Dr Walsh says.

“On a farm visit where we were walking through a fallow, Ray noticed the grower was kicking out the weeds with his boots and remarked ‘why can’t we get a tyne to do that?’”

The pre-commercial rig has hydraulic break-out tynes with a three-point linkage frame system to aid manoeuvrability between farms and the heavy-duty design allows it to handle a significant workload in tough conditions.

“While we have seen evidence of the success of this machine on a small scale, we will also be collecting data on weed-kill efficacy and machine stress levels during this grower demonstration phase,” Dr Walsh says.

Dr Walsh is hesitant to place a price point on the machine but believes it will be affordable for growers compared with current spray equipment.

“It is difficult to compare the regular seasonal cost of herbicides with a capital investment of the weed chipper,” he says. “But given this system requires little ongoing maintenance or inputs, we can see significant long-term cost savings for those growers using this system.”

Dr Guzzomi also believes the weed chipper will be a perfect fit for automated technology, particularly since there is no requirement to fill the machine with any chemicals.

“This mechanical solution is robust and simple, and will easily fit into an automated system,” he says.

Dr Walsh and Dr Guzzomi are hoping to receive grower feedback about the machine from these expanded trials, which are the first step in commercialising the weed chipper. Manufacturers are also being approached in the effort to ultimately get this technology into the hands of growers.

Source: GRDC’s GroundCover Newspaper – Issue 138 Jan/Feb 2019

Photos taken Friday 15th February 2019 on the University of Sydney Llara farm at Narrabri NSW. Llara farm impart of the university’s Plant Breeding Research facility at Narrabri. Photo Source: Nigel Taylor

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE BIOSECURITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'A AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES?

Rebecca Heath
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

WESTERN Australian producers and other stakeholders in the dairy, beef, grain/seed, hay, sheep and/or goat industries and respective supply chains are invited to apply for positions on Industry Funding Scheme Management Committees.

Industry Funding Schemes enable agricultural industries to raise funds to address priority pests and diseases at a whole-of-industry level.

The schemes are industry-driven and overseen by a Management Committee made up of producers and other stakeholders with appropriate industry knowledge and expertise.

Members of the committees are appointed by the Minister for Agriculture and Food for a period of up to three years. Support is provided to the schemes and management committees by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

From 1 July 2019, there will be vacancies on the following Management Committees:

- Cattle Industry Funding Scheme (6 positions)
- Grains, Seeds and Hay Industry Funding Scheme (5 positions)
- Sheep and Goat Industry Funding Scheme (4 positions)

Committees meet quarterly on dates agreed by members, and members are remunerated, including sitting fees and travel expenses.

The committee terms of reference, the selection criteria for members of the Management Committees, and guidelines for expressions of interest are available on the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development website at agric.wa.gov.au. Search for 'Industry Management Committee terms'.

The Western Australian Government is committed to ensuring diversity on Government boards and committees and, in particular, increasing the representation of women to 50 per cent by 2019.

Expressions of interest can be made online at https://agric.smartygrants.com.au/IFSEOI-2019. Alternatively, you can submit your expression of interest by email or post. This should include a two-page letter addressing the selection criteria and a current resume of a maximum of two pages.

Online applications are the preferred method for submitting an expression of interest. Emailed/posted applications can be sent to Rebecca Heath. Expressions of Interest close at 9.00 am Monday 11 March 2019.

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Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date	Location
Bitesize Learning: Understanding Soil Health	Wednesday 20th February	Liebe Group Office
Crop Updates & Trials Review Day	Wednesday 6th March	Dalwallinu Town Hall
AgChats: On-farm HR and staff management	Thursday 14th March	Liebe Group Office
Women's Field Day	Thursday 20th June	Dalwallinu Recreation Centre
Post Seeding Field Walk	Wednesday 25th July	Main Trial Site, Watheroo
Spring Field Day	Thursday 12th September	Main Trial Site, Watheroo

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