



PROGRAM DAY 1 – 24 FEBRUARY

8.00 am	REGISTRATION AND COFFEE			
8.45 am	PLENARY SESSION 1			
8.45 am	Welcome – Peter Bird, Senior Regional Manager West, GRDC Future directions for GRDC investments – Sharon Starick, GRDC Chair			
9.10 am	GRDC award presentations – Gary Lang, Chair GRDC Western Panel			
9.25 am	Grain matters: market access in a changing world , John Ackerman, Grains Australia			
10.05 am	The future of automation in the Australian grains industry , Ben Kelly, John Deere Limited			
10.50 am	MORNING TEA			
11.30 am	SESSION 1 Farming Systems Seasonal variability in the South West Land Division and what's in store in 2025 Meredith Guthrie and Ian Foster, DPIRD	SESSION 2 Markets Creating value at a commodity level Ashley Wiese, Nuffield Scholar	SESSION 3 Weed Management Weed management systems in Canada (1) Tom Wolf, Agrimetrix, Canada	SESSION 4 Technology Imaging and advanced AI-based phenotyping for agronomy Ferdous Sohel, Murdoch University
12.00 pm	5-minute moving			
12.05 pm	Stacking up the benefits of a double break crop rotation Nathan Craig, West Midlands Group	Identifying opportunities for oats, stepping through global trends to product innovation Hemali Kanthilanka, AEGIC	Weed management systems in Canada (2) Tom Wolf, Agrimetrix, Canada	Hyperspectral satellites can accurately detect nitrogen in crops George Marangos-Gilks, Messium, UK
12.35 pm	LUNCH			
1.40 pm	SESSION 5 Farming Systems Key learnings from six years of farming systems trials in southern NSW applicable to WA John Kirkegaard, CSIRO	SESSION 6 Cereals Benchmarking Australian wheat quality performance: challenges and opportunities Larisa Cato, AEGIC	SESSION 7 Disease Management Outcomes from five years researching spot form net blotch (SFNB) management in low rainfall areas Jason Bradley, DPIRD	SESSION 8 New Researchers Snapshots from new or early career researchers on grain projects they are involved in
2.10 pm	5-minute moving			
2.15 pm	WA Farming Systems trials – initial findings Martin Harries, DPIRD	Goldie, Minnie and Koala: are they different from Bannister? Hamid Shirdelmoghanloo & Blakely Paynter, DPIRD	Flag smut of wheat; how to respond to 2024 Geoff Thomas, DPIRD	
2.45 pm	5-minute moving			
2.50 pm	New tools to predict crop flowering Chris Helliwell, CSIRO	Agronomy of oaten hay: exploring relationships between quality variables Bronte Wackett, DPIRD	BioScout: an innovative approach to crop disease management Dror Dagan, BioScout	
3.20 pm	AFTERNOON TEA			
4.00 pm	SESSION 9 ESG TBA	SESSION 10 Grain Career Opportunities Career opportunities in the grains industry Bob Nixon and Richard Hudson from ABC will be facilitating a panel discussion with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathryn Fleay, Living Farm • George Marangos-Gilks, Messium UK • Darcy McDonald • Grace Moloney • Katherine Zulak, CCDM 	SESSION 11 Disease Management Managing lupin sclerotinia: know your risk and how to respond Ciara Beard, DPIRD	SESSION 12 Water Management Now-casting of plant available water (PAW) at any point in time, within and across paddocks Thomas Bishop, University of Sydney
4.30 pm	5-minute moving		5-minute moving	
4.35 pm	Increasing momentum behind sustainability accreditation and developing market signals Rosemary Richards, Sustainable Grains Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathryn Fleay, Living Farm • George Marangos-Gilks, Messium UK • Darcy McDonald • Grace Moloney • Katherine Zulak, CCDM 	New breeding lines and field screening methods for developing sclerotinia stem rot resistant canola cultivars Mark Derbyshire, CCDM	Drainage dollars: unearthing the ROI of sub-surface drainage in Albany Port Zone, WA Philip Honey, Stirlings to Coast Farmers
5.05 pm	NETWORKING SUNDOWNER			



PROGRAM DAY 2 – 25 FEBRUARY

8.30 am	WELCOME COFFEE			
9.00 am	Welcome Back – Peter Bird, GRDC			
9.15 am	PLENARY SESSION 2			
	Farming the data: new paradigm in precision agriculture, Raj Khosla, Kansas State University, USA			
10.00 am	10-minute moving			
10.10 am	SESSION 13 Wheat Review of new wheat varieties Dion Nicol, DPIRD	SESSION 14 Crop Protection Geospatial mapping of resistance to fungicides; informing disease management practice Leon Hodgson, CCDM	SESSION 15 Farming Systems Predicting nitrogen cycling and losses in Australian cropping systems: augmenting measurements to enhance modelling Louise Barton, UWA	SESSION 16 Weed Management Are we facing a glyphosate resistance crisis in annual ryegrass? Roberto Busi, UWA/DPIRD
10.40 am	5-minute moving			
10.45 am	An update on the national GRDC/CSIRO funded long coleoptile wheat project, and latest trial results from Western Australia Michael Lamond, SLR Agriculture	Growing canola without insecticides Andrew Phillips and Svetlana Micic, DPIRD	On-farm operations optimisation – stage 1: understanding the challenges of Australian growers Alice Butler, Farmanco and Bindi Isbister, Agrarian	Barley grass and brome grass control in barley Harmohinder Dhammu, DPIRD
11.15 am	MORNING TEA			
11.45 am	SESSION 17 Canola Improving canola emergence: fundamentals, management strategies and progress towards long hypocotyl genetics Andrew Fletcher and Matthew Nelson, CSIRO	SESSION 18 Barley Weed Management Maximising barley productivity: variety choice and management influences Blakely Paynter, DPIRD	SESSION 19 Pest Management Update on hard to kill pests: snails, resistant redlegged earth mite and Desiantha weevil Svetlana Micic, DPIRD	SESSION 20 Nutrition Growing summer active legumes for winter nitrogen in the high rainfall zone of WA Dan Fay, Stirlings to Coast Farmers
12.15 pm	5-minute moving			
12.20 pm	Opportunities for improved canola establishment in the low rainfall zones of WA Chloe Rout, Living Farm	Soil and plant tissue testing for diagnosing herbicide carryover risk: an update Tom Edwards, DPIRD	Increasing capacity and capability for mouse surveillance and management in the WA grains industry Blake O’Meagher, Farmanco	Effectiveness of foliar applied phosphorus in wheat is influenced by soil phosphorus buffering Raj Malik, DPIRD
12.50 pm	LUNCH			
1.40 pm	FOCUS SESSION 1 NITROGEN MANAGEMENT Convenor Wayne Pluske, Equii Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Kidd, GGA Helen Suter, Uni of Melbourne Craig Scanlan, DPIRD Courtney Piesse, Agronomique Services Trent Butcher, ConsultAg 	FOCUS SESSION 2 GRAIN AUTOMATE Convenor Tash Teakle, AgriStart Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jake Humpal, GRDC Emma Leonard, AgriKnowHow Roger Lawes, CSIRO Andrew Guzzomi, UWA Wesley Moss, UWA 	FOCUS SESSION 3 CROP MANAGEMENT UNDER TIGHTER CHEMICAL CONTROLS Convenor Bevan Addison, ADAMA Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom Shaw, Nutrien Gordon Cumming, GRDC Chris Wilkins, Synergy Consulting Steven Tilbrook, CBH Group 	
3.10 pm	15-minute moving			
3.25 pm	PLENARY SESSION 3			
	From data to decisions: the power of geospatial analytics and generative AI in AgTech Chad Jennings, Almanac, Canada			
4.10 pm	GRDC closing comments Peter Bird, GRDC			
4.15 pm	SPONSORS AND SPEAKERS’ SUNDOWNER – All attendees welcome			

GRAINS RESEARCH UPDATE

2025

