# GRAINS RESEARCH UPDATE | 2025

# PROGRAM DAY 1 – 24 FEBRUARY

| Time | | | | |
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| **8.00 am** | **REGISTRATION AND COFFEE** | | | |
| **8.45 am** | **PLENARY SESSION 1** | | | |
| **8.45 am** | **Welcome** – Peter Bird, Senior Regional Manager West, GRDC<br>**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**<br>**Farming Systems** | **SESSION 2**<br>**Markets** | **SESSION 3**<br>**Weed Management** | **SESSION 4**<br>**Technology** |
| | **Seasonal variability in the South West Land Division and what's in store in 2025**<br>Meredith Guthrie and Ian Foster, DPIRD | **Creating value at a commodity level**<br>Ashley Wiese, Nuffield Scholar | **Weed management systems in Canada (1)**<br>Tom Wolf, Agrimetrix, Canada | **Imaging and advanced AI-based phenotyping for agronomy**<br>Ferdous Sohel, Murdoch University |
| **12.00 pm** | 5-minute moving | | | |
| **12.05 pm** | **Stacking up the benefits of a Double Break crop rotation**<br>Nathan Craig, West Midlands Group | **Identifying opportunities for oats, stepping through global trends to product innovation**<br>Hemali Kanthilanka, AEGIC | **Weed management systems in Canada (2)**<br>Tom Wolf, Agrimetrix, Canada | **Hyperspectral satellites can accurately detect nitrogen in crops**<br>George Marangos-Gilks, Messium, UK |
| **12.35 pm** | **LUNCH** | | | |
| **1.40 pm** | **SESSION 5**<br>**Farming Systems** | **SESSION 6**<br>**Cereals** | **SESSION 7**<br>**Disease Management** | **SESSION 8**<br>**New Researchers** |
| | **Key learnings from six years of farming systems trials in southern NSW applicable to WA**<br>John Kirkegaard, CSIRO | **Benchmarking Australian wheat quality performance: challenges and opportunities**<br>Larisa Cato, AEGIC | **Outcomes from five years researching spot form net blotch (SFNB) management in low rainfall areas**<br>Jason Bradley, DPIRD | **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**<br>Martin Harries, DPIRD | **Goldie, Minnie and Koala: are they different from Bannister?**<br>Hamid Shirdelmoghanloo & Blakely Paynter, DPIRD | **Flag smut of wheat; how to respond to 2024**<br>Geoff Thomas, DPIRD | |
| **2.45 pm** | 5-minute moving | | | |
| **2.50 pm** | **New tools to predict crop flowering**<br>Chris Helliwell, CSIRO | **Agronomy of oaten hay: exploring relationships between quality variables**<br>Bronte Wackett, DPIRD | **BioScout: an innovative approach to crop disease management**<br>Dror Dagan, BioScout | |
| **3.20 pm** | **AFTERNOON TEA** | | | |
| **4.00 pm** | **SESSION 9**<br>**ESG** | **SESSION 10**<br>**Grain Career Opportunities** | **SESSION 11**<br>**Disease Management** | **SESSION 12**<br>**Water Management** |
| | **TBA** | **Career opportunities in the grains industry**<br>Bob Nixon and Richard Hudson from ABC will be facilitating a panel discussion with: | **Managing lupin sclerotinia: know your risk and how to respond**<br>Ciara Beard, DPIRD | **Now-casting of plant available water (PAW) at any point in time, within and across paddocks**<br>Thomas Bishop, University of Sydney |
| **4.30 pm** | 5-minute moving | • Kathryn Fleay, Living Farm<br>• George Marangos-Gilks, Messium UK<br>• Darcy McDonald<br>• Grace Moloney<br>• Katherine Zulak, CCDM | 5-minute moving | |
| **4.35 pm** | **Increasing momentum behind sustainability accreditation and developing market signals**<br>Rosemary Richards, Sustainable Grains Australia | | **New breeding lines and field screening methods for developing sclerotinia stem rot resistant canola cultivars**<br>Mark Derbyshire, CCDM | **Drainage dollars: unearthing the ROI of sub-surface drainage in Albany port zone, WA**<br>Philip Honey, Stirlings to Coast Farmers |
| **5.05 pm** | **NETWORKING SUNDOWNER** | | | |

# GRAINS RESEARCH UPDATE | 2025

# PROGRAM DAY 2 – 25 FEBRUARY

| Time | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **8.30 am** | WELCOME COFFEE | | | |
| **9.00 am** | **Welcome Back** – Peter Bird, GRDC | | | |
| **9.10 am** | PLENARY SESSION 2 | | | |
| | **Farming the data: new paradigm in precision agriculture,** Raj Khosla, Kansas State University, USA | | | |
| **9.55 am** | 10-minute moving | | | |
| **10.05 am** | **SESSION 13** <br> **Wheat** | **SESSION 14** <br> **Crop Protection** | **SESSION 15** <br> **Farming Systems** | **SESSION 16** <br> **Weed Management** |
| | **Review of new wheat varieties** <br> Dion Nicol, DPIRD | **Geospatial mapping of resistance to fungicides; informing disease management practice** <br> Leon Hodgson, CCDM | **Predicting nitrogen cycling and losses in Australia cropping systems: augmenting measurements to enhance modelling** <br> Louise Barton, UWA | **Are we facing a glyphosate resistance crisis in annual ryegrass?** <br> Roberto Busi, UWA/DPIRD |
| **10.35 am** | 5-minute moving | | | |
| **10.40 am** | **An update on the national GRDC/CSIRO funded long coleoptile wheat project, and latest trial results from Western Australia** <br> Michael Lamond, SLR Agriculture | **Growing canola without insecticides** <br> Andrew Phillips and Svetlana Micic, DPIRD | **On-farm operations optimisation – Stage 1: understanding the challenges of Australian growers** <br> Alice Butler, Farmanco and Bindi Isbister, Agrarian | **Barley grass and brome grass control in barley** <br> Harmohinder Dhammu, DPIRD |
| **11.10 am** | MORNING TEA | | | |
| **11.45 am** | **SESSION 17** <br> **Canola** | **SESSION 18** <br> **Barley Weed Management** | **SESSION 19** <br> **Pest Management** | **SESSION 20** <br> **Nutrition** |
| | **Canola emergence: understanding the fundamentals and management approaches to improve establishment** <br> Andrew Fletcher and Matthew Nelson, CSIRO | **Maximising barley productivity: variety choice and management influences** <br> Blakely Paynter, DPIRD | **Update on hard to kill pests: snails, resistant red legged earth mite and Desiantha weevil** <br> Svetlana Micic, DPIRD | **Growing summer active legumes for winter nitrogen in the high rainfall zone of WA** <br> 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** <br> Chloe Rout, Living Farm | **Soil and plant tissue testing for diagnosing herbicide carryover risk: an update** <br> Tom Edwards, DPIRD | **Increasing capacity and capability for mouse surveillance and management in WA grains industry** <br> Blake O'Meagher, Farmanco | **Effectiveness of foliar applied phosphorus in wheat is influenced by soil phosphorus buffering** <br> Raj Malik, DPIRD |
| **12.50 pm** | LUNCH | | | |

| **1.40 pm** | **FOCUS SESSION 1** | **FOCUS SESSION 2** | **FOCUS SESSION 3** |
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| | **NITROGEN MANAGEMENT** | **GRAIN AUTOMATE** | **CROP MANAGEMENT UNDER TIGHTER CHEMICAL CONTROLS** |
| | **Convenor** <br> Wayne Pluske, Equii | **Convenor** <br> Tash Teakle, AgriStart | **Convenor** <br> Bevan Addison, ADAMA |
| | **Panel Discussion** <br> • Daniel Kidd, GGA <br> • Helen Suter, Uni of Melbourne <br> • Craig Scanlan, DPIRD | **Panel Discussion** <br> • Jake Humpal, GRDC <br> • Emma Leonard, AgriKnowHow <br> • Roger Lawes, CSIRO <br> • Andrew Guzzomi, UWA | **Panel Discussion** <br> • Tom Shaw, Nutrien <br> • Gordon Cummings, GRDC <br> • Chris Wilkins, Synergy Consulting <br> • Steven Tilbrook, CBH Group |

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| **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** <br> Chad Jennings, Almanac, Canada |
| **4.10 pm** | **GRDC closing comments** <br> Peter Bird, GRDC |
| **4.15 pm** | **SPONSORS AND SPEAKERS' SUNDOWNER** – All attendees welcome |