

GRAINS RESEARCH UPDATE

2025



PROGRAM DAY 1 – 24 FEBRUARY

■ GRAND BALLROOM 1
 ■ GRAND BALLROOM 2
 ■ CROWN BALLROOM 1
 ■ CROWN BALLROOM 2

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, Chair (GRDC)*

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	SESSION 2 Markets	SESSION 3 Weed Management	SESSION 4 Technology
	Seasonal variability in the South West Land Division and what's in store in 2025 <i>Meredith Guthrie and Ian Foster (DPIRD)</i>	Creating value at a commodity level <i>Ashley Wiese (Nuffield Scholar)</i>	Weed management systems in Canada (1) <i>Tom Wolf (Agrimetrix, Canada)</i>	Imaging and advanced AI-based phenotyping for agronomy <i>Ferdous Sohel (Murdoch University)</i>

12.00 pm **5-minute moving**

12.05 pm	Stacking up the benefits of a double break crop rotation <i>Nathan Craig (West Midlands Group)</i>	Identifying opportunities for oats, stepping through global trends to product innovation <i>Hemali Kanthilanka (AEGIC)</i>	Weed management systems in Canada (2) <i>Tom Wolf (Agrimetrix, Canada)</i>	Hyperspectral satellites can accurately detect nitrogen in crops <i>George Marangos-Gilks (Messium, UK)</i>
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12.35 pm **Lunch**

1.40 pm	SESSION 5 Farming Systems	SESSION 6 Cereals	SESSION 7 Disease Management	SESSION 8 New Researchers
	Key learnings from six years of farming systems trials in southern NSW applicable to WA <i>John Kirkegaard (CSIRO)</i>	Benchmarking Australian wheat quality performance: challenges and opportunities <i>Larisa Cato (AEGIC)</i>	Outcomes from five years researching spot form net blotch (SFNB) management in low rainfall areas <i>Jason Bradley (DPIRD)</i>	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 <i>Martin Harries (DPIRD)</i>	Goldie, Minnie and Koala: are they different from Bannister? <i>Hamid Shirdelmoghanloo & Blakely Paynter (DPIRD)</i>	Flag smut of wheat: how to respond to 2024 <i>Geoff Thomas (DPIRD)</i>
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2.45 pm **5-minute moving**

2.50 pm	New tools to predict crop flowering <i>Chris Helliwell (CSIRO)</i>	Agronomy of oaten hay: exploring relationships between quality variables <i>Bronte Wackett (DPIRD)</i>	BioScout: an innovative approach to crop disease management <i>Dror Dagan (BioScout)</i>
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3.20 pm **Afternoon Tea**



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4.00 pm	SESSION 9 ESG	SESSION 10 Grain Career Opportunities	SESSION 11 Disease Management	SESSION 12 Water Management
	Greenhouse gas emissions from grains: where we are today and what comes next <i>Kate McCormack (DPIRD)</i>	Career opportunities in the grains industry <i>Bob Nixon and Richard Hudson from ABC will be facilitating a panel discussion with:</i>	Managing lupin sclerotinia: know your risk and how to respond <i>Ciara Beard (DPIRD)</i>	Now-casting of plant available water (PAW) at any point in time, within and across paddocks <i>Thomas Bishop (University of Sydney)</i>
4.30 pm	5-minute moving		5-minute moving	
4.35 pm	Increasing momentum behind sustainability accreditation and developing market signals <i>Rosemary Richards (Sustainable Grains Australia)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kathryn Fleay (Living Farm)</i> • <i>George Marangos-Gilks (Messium UK)</i> • <i>Darcy McDonald (Great Northern Rural Services)</i> • <i>Grace Moloney (GRDC AgriFutures Horizon Scholar)</i> • <i>Katherine Zulak (CCDM)</i> 	New breeding lines and field screening methods for developing sclerotinia stem rot resistant canola cultivars <i>Mark Derbyshire (CCDM)</i>	Drainage dollars: unearthing the ROI of sub-surface drainage in Albany Port Zone, WA <i>Philip Honey (Stirlings to Coast Farmers)</i>
5.05 pm	NETWORKING SUNDOWNER			



GRDC investment 'Synthesis of data to optimise yield potential of barley in Australian farming systems', code UCS2301-002RTX. Credit: Dr Felicity Harris

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PROGRAM DAY 2 – 25 FEBRUARY

■ GRAND BALLROOM 1
 ■ GRAND BALLROOM 2
 ■ CROWN BALLROOM 1
 ■ CROWN BALLROOM 2

8.30 am WELCOME COFFEE

9.00 am Welcome back – *Peter Bird (GRDC)*

9.15 am PLENARY SESSION 2

9.15 am 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	SESSION 14 Crop Protection	SESSION 15 Farming Systems	SESSION 16 Weed Management
	Review of new wheat varieties <i>Dion Nicol (DPIRD)</i>	Geospatial mapping of resistance to fungicides: informing disease management practice <i>Leon Hodgson (CCDM)</i>	Predicting nitrogen cycling and losses in Australian cropping systems: augmenting measurements to enhance modelling <i>Louise Barton (UWA)</i>	Are we facing a glyphosate resistance crisis in annual ryegrass? <i>Roberto Busi (UWA/DPIRD)</i>

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 <i>Michael Lamond (SLR Agriculture)</i>	Growing canola without insecticides <i>Andrew Phillips and Svetlana Micic (DPIRD)</i>	On-farm operations optimisation – stage 1: understanding the challenges of Australian growers <i>Alice Butler (Farmanco) and Bindi Isbister (Agrarian)</i>	Barley grass and brome grass control in barley <i>Harmohinder Dhammu (DPIRD)</i>
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11.15 am Morning Tea

11.45 am	SESSION 17 Canola	SESSION 18 Barley Weed Management	SESSION 19 Pest Management	SESSION 20 Nutrition
	Improving canola emergence: fundamentals, management strategies and progress towards long hypocotyl genetics <i>Andrew Fletcher and Matthew Nelson (CSIRO)</i>	Maximising barley productivity: variety choice and management influences <i>Blakely Paynter (DPIRD)</i>	Update on hard to kill pests: snails, resistant redlegged earth mite and Desiantha weevil <i>Svetlana Micic (DPIRD)</i>	Growing summer active legumes for winter nitrogen in the high rainfall zone of WA <i>Dan Fay (Stirlings to Coast Farmers)</i>

12.15 pm 5-minute moving

12.20 pm	Opportunities for improved canola establishment in the low rainfall zones of WA <i>Chloe Rout (Living Farm)</i>	Soil and plant tissue testing for diagnosing herbicide carryover risk: an update <i>Tom Edwards (DPIRD)</i>	Increasing capacity and capability for mouse surveillance and management in the WA grains industry <i>Blake O'Meagher (Farmanco)</i>	Effectiveness of foliar applied phosphorus in wheat is influenced by soil phosphorus buffering <i>Raj Malik (DPIRD)</i>
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12.50 pm Lunch



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1.40 pm	FOCUS SESSION 1	FOCUS SESSION 2	FOCUS SESSION 3
	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) 	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) 	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		
3.25 pm	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		