



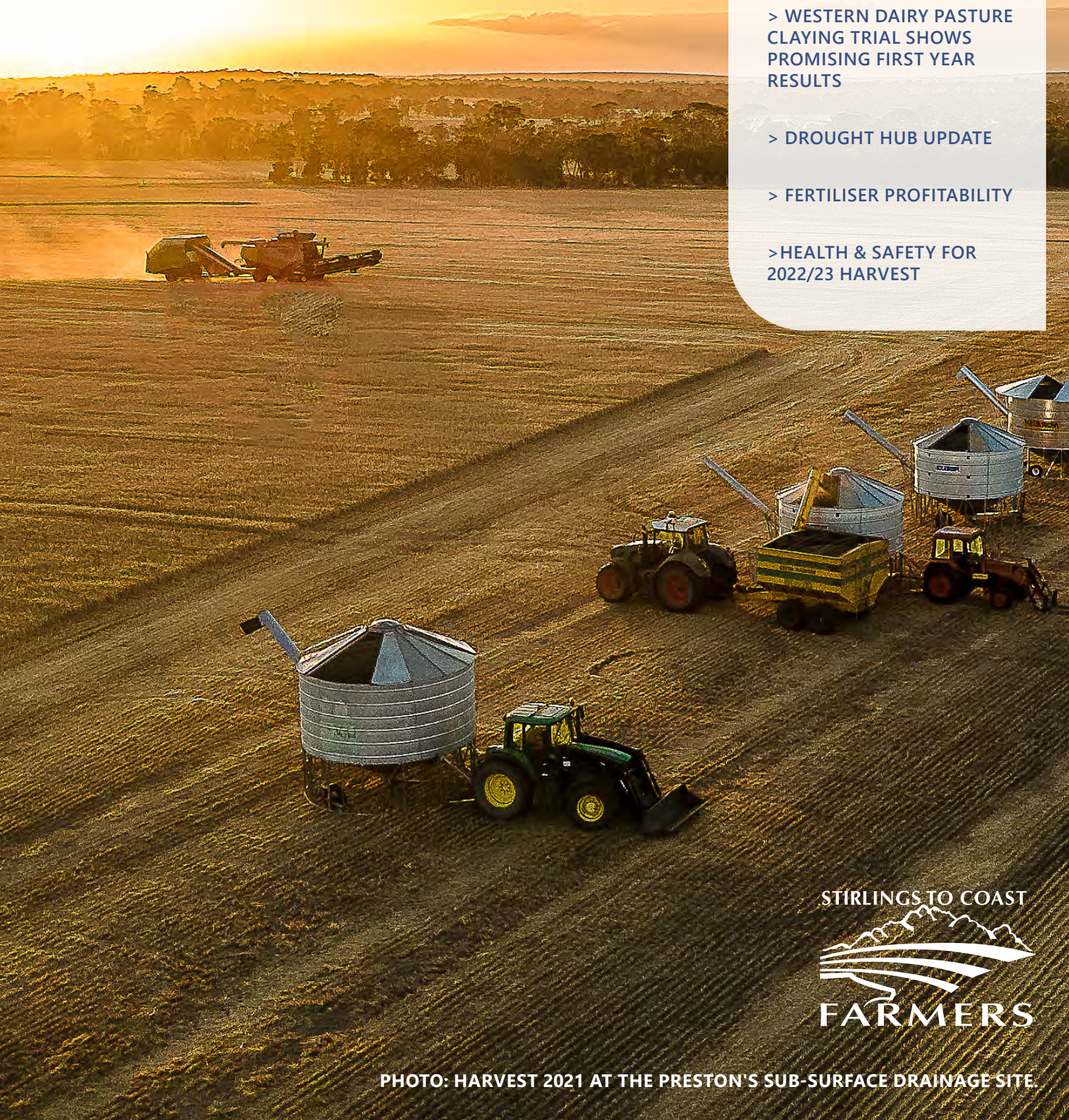
SCF Focus

STIRLINGS TO COAST FARMERS

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

In this issue

- > JOTTINGS FROM THE CHAIR
- > CEO REPORT
- > AMELUP FROST TRIAL
- > ASSESSING THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF CONFINEMENT FEEDING
- > WESTERN DAIRY PASTURE CLAYING TRIAL SHOWS PROMISING FIRST YEAR RESULTS
- > DROUGHT HUB UPDATE
- > FERTILISER PROFITABILITY
- > HEALTH & SAFETY FOR 2022/23 HARVEST



STIRLINGS TO COAST



PHOTO: HARVEST 2021 AT THE PRESTON'S SUB-SURFACE DRAINAGE SITE.



JOTTINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Sandy Forbes, SCF Chairman

Hello to all Stirlings to Coast Members, Sponsors and Staff.

Welcome to the Summer Newsletter. At the time of writing, we are waiting for spring to arrive in late November and would appreciate a bit of summer! Some of us have been able to start harvest while others are still waiting to finish silage and hay and get shearing done. The wet weather and soft finish to the season has certainly posed challenges for grain, hay and silage quality. On the flip side, the excellent spring flush of pasture has given stock a real boost in the drier areas but a slowdown in stock growth in the wet areas, with low dry matter feed.

Since the last newsletter our new CEO Lizzie Von Perger and the team at SCF have been very busy with running excellent Field Days, applying for funding, reporting on current projects and getting ready to harvest trials. We have been successful in the initial phase of funding of some new projects. Our livestock Officer Kelly Gorter has resigned after accepting a position as Livestock Manager on a farm in Katanning. We will miss Kelly's excellent work as our Livestock specialist and wish her all the best in her new role. We welcome Sheridan Kowald to the team who is helping Dan and Phil with their project work over harvest.

As harvest is upon us, I would just like to urge all our members to take care of themselves and staff over this busy time. I wish everyone a very successful and safe harvest. Once again, I thank our members, the SCF team, Sponsors and Board members who make this group what it is.

Best wishes for Christmas and New Year and may you all get a chance to have some time off after a busy year.

Sandy Forbes

Chairman

Amelup Frost Trial.....4

Assesing the economic benefits of confinement feeding6

Western Dairy pasture clayng trial shows promising first year results8

Drought Hub Update.....10

Health & Safety for 2022 Harvest 11

SCF Scholarship Winners12

Fertiliser Profitability.....14

Agrifutures Horizon Student Scholarship16

Sponsors Articles18

GOLD



Amelup Frost Trial

P 4



Assessing the economic benefits of confinement feeding

P 6



Western Dairy Pasture Trials

P 8



CEO REPORT

Lizzie von Perger, SCF CEO

If you are like me, you'll be wondering where the year has gone. All I can say is that time flies when you're having fun!

I've come up to three months with Stirlings to Coast Farmers now, and it's been an enjoyable whirlwind. I can't thank the SCF team and Board enough for the support they've given.

Front of mind for the members and the SCF team is harvest. Unfortunately for many members, the continued rain and cool weather have slowed, or in some cases, halted harvest. Pre-harvest sprouting may be a concern for some this season, and expert advice remains consistent around harvesting the most susceptible varieties first (see DPIRD's crop sowing guide for ratings), using available on-farm grain storage to help in grain mixing, and increasing harvest capacity, if you can. A large, SCF-led, survey this year assisted in informing further DPIRD pre-harvest sprouting research. Many thanks to the members who contributed; you've helped ensure research continues in this space.

Speaking of surveys (I see you all duck for cover!), thank you to all the members who have contributed their time to various project surveys this year. Surveys are trending high with funding bodies at the moment so they can demonstrate the impact of their investment. We ask you to continue to be supportive of these where you can. They are often a prerequisite for obtaining funding to do relevant and impactful work on behalf of members and we'll always aim to make the process as enjoyable as possible. On this note, Kathi McDonald is on the hunt for 10 farmer members who will put their hands up to be part of the climate resilience survey. If you're keen (and I know you are!), please let Kathi know.

In breaking SCF news, we welcome Sheridan Kowald to the team, just in the nick of time for harvest! Sheridan has previous grower group experience from her time at Southern Dirt in Kojonup and has hit the ground running on both our cropping and livestock projects. She's currently busy helping Dan Fay with the harvest losses project, which is continuing into its second year at SCF. State-wide results from the 2021 harvest indicated that farmers could be losing up to \$80,000 in harvest value per season, which could be mitigated by adjusting harvester settings.

Losses at harvest are also important for mice management which is topical at the moment with widespread populations across WA in areas where they previously haven't been a problem. Harvesting cleanly is key, as well as monitoring paddocks for active burrows. It's good to note that chew cards are not as effective when there is a lot of other food around for mice, so don't solely rely on these. The GRDC has plenty of information available on both mouse monitoring and management.

In the technology space, SCF is working with the Liebe Group and CSIRO on a new project called 'AgTech Decoded'. The project will test some of the CSIRO-based digital tools to assist in economically addressing agronomic issues. The project acknowledges that there are tools and data being utilised individually to make management decisions and that there is a huge opportunity in collectively utilising this information. For example, using yield maps, soil tests and climate information to generate realistic N-model-based maps for variable rate. If this interests you, Let Phil Honey know. There is also a workshop planned for early 2023; we'll keep you posted.

In wrapping up, a massive thank you goes out to the SCF team, Phil, Kathi, Sam, Dan, Sammy, Taryn and Sheridan, for all their hard work this year. There has been an impressive project list to manage, and they've done an outstanding job! As a team, we'd also like to extend our thanks to Sandy Forbes (SCF Chair), the Board, the Committee chairs and members, the trial site hosts and our sponsors. Without you all, we couldn't do what we do – which is deliver credible, relevant research and information to our members. We hope both members and sponsors have enjoyed their involvement with SCF this year, and we're looking forward to another cracking year in 2023.

We wish you all the very best for a safe and successful harvest. We also hope you get some time off in the new year for a much-deserved break and family time before we get stuck into 2023.

Merry Christmas!!

Lizzie

Amelup Frost Trial – Crops sown end of April significantly frosted

Dan Fay, Research and Development Co-ordinator, SCF

In WA, the impact of frost is estimated to be, on average, \$400 million dollars a year. Stirlings to Coast Farmers is currently managing a frost trial as part of a larger, GGA-led GRDC investment. Overall, the investment focuses on planning for frost, utilising the agronomic tools currently available and assisting with post-frost identification and recovery. The aim of this trial, in particular, is to assess a range of crop types and cultivars over two times of sowing (TOS) with the purpose of evaluating the frost damage when planted early or late in the season, and ultimately how this impacts on yield and quality.

The trial is located in Amelup in a particularly frost-prone area, where the farmer experiences regular frost events, and 2022 was no exception!

The Trial Design

The following crop types and varieties were trialed across two times of sowing (28 April and 6 June 2022):

- Wheat: Denison, Rockstar (Slow-mid) (Mid) and Sceptre (a Short-mid).
- Barley: Rosalind (Short-Mid), and Planet (Mid)
- Oats: Banister
- Canola: Trident TT
- Lupins: Jurien

For the cereals, the first TOS could be considered relatively early for a standard mid-spring variety, while the second time of sowing could be considered a late and very conservative approach to avoiding critical frost windows.

What can impact frost severity?

We often think of frost resulting from a particular cold spike where temperatures drop below zero degrees and cause catastrophic damage. However, frost events can often be more

subtle and localised (and as a result hard to measure).

The severity of frost is often impacted by a series of factors, such as when light rain has fallen in the hours prior to a frost event, or when there has been a prolonged period of absence of wind. It appears that these scenarios lead to an increased presence of a Pseudomonas species bacterium found in rain or dust and this bacterium acts as a frost nucleator, causing plant tissue to freeze at 'warmer' freezing temperatures, in a shorter exposure time than when these bacterium are not present.

Similarly, a heavy stubble load from the previous season's crop can increase frost severity. This is the result of a two-fold effect; the stubble can increase the level of Pseudomonas (living on decaying crop residues) and the ice nucleic proteins produced by them, and the substantial stubble cover maintains a cooler soil temp, reducing the heat bank effect of the soil.

More research is being undertaken in WA currently to better understand the role of the Pseudomonas bacteria in regard to frost damage.

Frost in Amelup, 2022

The Amelup trial site was chosen for its frostiness! It is in a low-lying area of the property, which is typified by a rolling topography and sits next to the Pallinup River which acts as a cool air sink. The site in 2022 growing season was subjected to 20 frost events between July and October. These 20 events varied in severity; however, there were three particularly significant events, occurring on 31 June, 24 September and 25 September.

The critical period for frost in cereals is between GS60 and GS70 (flowering), where yield impacts are particularly severe. Frost during the flowering period results in bleached heads and florets, causing sterilisation of the floret and lack of grain development. This is directly linked to yield loss.

TOS 1

Buffer	Buffer	RGT Planet	Bannister	Rosalind	Sceptre	Rockstar	Denison	Buffer	Buffer	Trident	Jurien	Buffer
Buffer	Bannister	Sceptre	Rockstar	Rosalind	Denison	RGT Planet	Buffer	Buffer	Trident	Jurien	Buffer	Buffer
Buffer	Denison	Rosalind	Bannister	Rockstar	RGT Planet	Sceptre	Buffer	Buffer	Trident	Jurien	Buffer	Buffer

Figure 1. Trial design and layout for the first time of sowing at Amelup.

TOS 2

Buffer	Jurien	Trident	Buffer	Buffer	Rockstar	Denison	Sceptre	Bannister	RGT Planet	Rosalind	Buffer
Buffer	Jurien	Trident	Buffer	Buffer	Rosalind	Bannister	RGT Planet	Sceptre	Denison	Rockstar	Buffer
Buffer	Jurien	Trident	Buffer	Buffer	Sceptre	Rockstar	Rosalind	Denison	Bannister	RGT Planet	Buffer

Figure 2. Trial design and layout for the second time of sowing at Amelup.



Impact of frosts on TOS1

TOS1 was significantly impacted by frost, with the floret sterilisation testing showing an impact across all the cereal treatments. The damage ranged from 59% in the Sceptre to 4% in the oats (Table 1). Given the frequency of the frost events across the site, there was a high likelihood that each crop type would be somewhat impacted by frost. Interestingly, the Denison wheat cultivar suffered significantly less frost damage than the Rockstar and Sceptre wheats. Denison, which is a long spring variety, has a prolonged vegetative stage, which resulted in some avoidance of the critical frost window (GS60-70) coinciding with frosts, by later flowering. Rockstar and the Sceptre wheat flowered earlier in the season coinciding with the peak frost period.

It again highlights the importance of selecting cultivars that will most effectively avoid flowering in the key frost windows for your area.

TOS2 appears to have been somewhat impacted by late frosts but not as significantly as TOS1 and floret sterilisation from TOS2 is still being analysed. This data, and the grain yield and quality data will be reported on in the SCF Trials Review Booklet, to be released in early 2023.

Frost Mitigation Methods

Frost management is a tricky subject as it is largely reliant on risk mitigation across your whole program, rather than pulling a specific agronomic lever. As a result, frost mitigation should be considered as a farming system issue rather than a specific

agronomic constraint. The best management for frost risk is avoiding having all your eggs in the one basket. When we talk about agronomic management to mitigate frost damage, the primary aim is to avoid this critical flowering window occurring during the period you are most susceptible to frost conditions. This can be managed by being aware of the maturity class of your chosen cultivar. Having an awareness of the approximate time it takes a cultivar to reach flowering and the factors that trigger the flowering to occur, and then planning sowing dates accordingly, aids in avoiding flowering in frost windows.

Splitting seeding dates of crop types can be an effective way to manage risk. For example, by planting a particular variety, such as Sceptre wheat, across two seeding windows (i.e., late and early) it will prevent the total wheat crop from being susceptible to the same frost event, as the critical flowering window will be split.

Alternatively, you can use multiple maturity class cultivars across your program to spread out your frost risk profile by spreading out the flowering window. This can be achieved by either using differing varieties of spring wheats with different season lengths, such as Vixen (short) and Denison (long), or by mixing and matching wheat types, such as Sceptre (spring), and Illabo (winter type), or Bennett (winter), where the vernalisation requirement of the winter types like Illabo, and the true winter wheat like Bennett, will naturally stagger the flowering period.

Other options include strategically minimising risk by reducing inputs in frost prone areas to reduce the overall economic impact in the event of frost damage. This can be done by taking a similar approach to input strategies as you would with planning for rain deciles. Another option is to avoid planting susceptible crop types in particularly frost prone areas of your property. In these parts, oats and/or pasture may be better options.

The GGA frost investment will be continuing in 2023 with pre-seeding frost planning workshops scheduled for early 2023. If you are interested in attending a workshop, please register your interest with Dan Fay by email dan.fay@scfarmers.org.au.

	Count-Damaged grain		Count-Total Grain		% Damaged Grain	
Denison Wheat	8	b	34	b	25	b
Rosalind Barley	7	bc	28	de	25	b
Bannister Oats	3	c	85	a	4	c
Rockstar Wheat	14	a	30	cd	47	a
RGT Planet Barley	5	bc	27	e	20	b
Sceptre Wheat	18	a	31	bc	59	a

Table 1: Floret sterilisation results from TOS 1 at Amelup. Letters indicate significant differences between on treatments. Heads were harvested on the 24/10/2022



Assessing the economic benefits of confinement feeding

Kelly Gorter, SCF

Earlier this year, SCF began our MLA-funded Producer Demonstration Site (PDS) project titled 'Assessing the Economic Benefits of Confinement Feeding'. The project aims to examine the production benefits to farm businesses of different confinement feeding setups. Each site is unique in design, age, feed style, ration, and stocking density, providing an excellent demonstration of the diversity in strategies around confinement feeding.

A field walk was held in July 2022 at two of these sites and included a bonus site that was not part of the project itself. Attendees were able to view the different setups and discuss the various benefits and risks in setting up and managing each system.

Over the year, measurements were taken at each site at the time of animals entering and coming out of the confinement pens. While each farmer host may have run many mobs through their systems over the year, the project followed a single mob for each host. The main measurements taken at each site were feed tests on the grains and roughage to be fed, condition score of ewes going in and coming out, and biomass cuts on pastures that were able to be deferred due to animals being in the confinement feeding pens. A summary of each site is provided below.



Figure 1: Griffiths clover regrowth.

Jason Griffiths - Gairdner

Sheep into confinement: 4/4/2022

Sheep out of confinement: 29/4/2022

Feeding system: poly culvert pipes cut in half, mounted on posts on the outside of a plain wire fence. These were filled using a sheep feeder with an auger and scales.

Ration: oat seconds, lupins, barley mix. Ad-lib hay and straw bales on the ground

Condition score of sheep: slightly lower than desired at introduction however, increased by 0.4 over the confinement period.

Deferred pasture production: increase of 387.5kg DM/ha on a chicory, lucerne and serradella mix and 966.67 kg DM/ha on a medic pasture on canola stubble.

Jason built this setup new in the summer of 2021/22. It sits on the leeward side of a block of bush, providing protection from Autumn winds and is on a slight slope. There is no shade in the confinement paddocks. Water is supplied in cement troughs, which point into the wind to reduce the amount of dust and hay that blows into them. A laneway runs along the back of the pens leading to the sheep yards, with the feed trough on the opposite fence. Feeding is done from the outside of the pens on a well-compacted track.



Figure 2: Walkers refilling feed troughs.



Jeremy Walker – Green Range

Sheep into confinement: 21st March 2022

Sheep out of confinement: 26th April 2022

Pen size/ stock density: 6 pens, @ 4ha each.

Feeding system: Communal feed trough pen. Feed trough made of shade cloth hung from two wires approximately 200m long, divided into three sections.

Ration: Full mixed ration using a tub grinder. Hay, minerals, lupins and barley/ oats/ wheat seconds

Condition score of sheep: Slightly lower than desired at introduction but increased by 0.2 over the confinement period.

Deferred pasture production: Self-sown barley increased 1383.33kg DM/ha. Established clover/ ryegrass pasture 1166.67kg DM/ha.

Sheep are let into the central feeding pen one pen at a time after the trough has been filled with a mixed ration from the tub grinder. Jeremy observed that when the sheep had got their fill, they would take themselves back to their paddocks. The pens are built adjacent to the farm shed area so someone was generally always nearby to lock a mob out and let the next mob in or refill the feed trough as needed. Jeremy noted that it was a surprisingly quick process to rotate the six mobs through each day. Water was supplied in raised troughs with Jeremy's 'quick tip and clean' design.

Benefits of this system for Jeremy included cheap feed troughs, and he didn't have to make lots of them. Pens were big enough to plant a cover crop in and were multipurpose throughout the year. The set-up was close to the sheds so it also acted as good holding paddocks for busy sheep work periods. Ewes were held off lambing paddocks for as long as possible, saving feed for lambing.



Figure 3: Field walk at Jeremy Walker's in July 2022.

Clare Webster - Tenterden

Sheep into confinement: 18/4/22

Sheep out: 7/6/22

Pen size/ stocking density: Small paddocks between 1 and 16 ha scattered within 1-2km of the sheds. Approx 100hd/ha in each. 5,500 sheep confined in total.

Feeding system: Trail feeding on the ground

Ration: Barley/ lupin mix treated with Home and Dry alkalisating pellets. Ad-lib hay/ straw.

Clare seeded these paddocks with a variety of summer forage crops and grazed them throughout summer and early autumn. They were then grazed out with the confinement feeding mobs. The 'Home and Dry' alkalisating pellets sterilise the seed so any missed grain did not germinate in the confinement paddocks. Clare is calculating the figures on the percentage and value of grain wasted in the trail feeding vs the cost of feed troughs to suit her system. Water was mainly from troughs.

Clare notes one of the benefits of the system is that it allows the pasture feed in lambing paddocks to get away more as stock are held off the pastures while in the confinement feeding pens. The system utilises multi-purpose small paddocks. Other benefits include improved weed management in the cropping paddocks due to more effective knockdowns pre-seeding because sheep are not in the way or grazing the targeted weeds. It is also quicker to feed and check sheep, so staff are less tied up during seeding.

Next Steps

The project now moves in to its second year with another set of grower hosts to further examine the benefits of different confinement feeding systems. By the end of the project SCF will have a case study booklet and short videos outlining the many different types of confinement feeding systems, and their various benefits and/or risks to farm operations and profitability.





Western Dairy pasture claying trial shows promising first year results

Dan Fay, Research & Development Co-ordinator, SCF

This year Stirlings to Coast Farmers established a broad scale claying trial at Denmark. The objective of this trial, and another set up at Scott River, is to assess the viability and productivity of the soil amelioration technique of claying on sandy, low fertile pasture paddocks. The trials will be monitored until 2024.

Background

Claying is an often-used amelioration technique within broadacre farming. However, claying as an amelioration technique to primarily improve pasture production is novel. Given the high upfront cost and labour intensity involved in applying clay, there is a need for a large improvement in productivity to drive a positive return on investment (ROI). Within broadacre farming, particularly on non-wetting low fertility sands, claying is proven as an effective and profitable amelioration tool. Given the long lifespan of claying (30+ years), there is an increasing level of interest to assess how these techniques could be applied in livestock/pasture driven farming systems, and whether they would be profitable.

The site

The claying site in Denmark is located on a high production dairy farm, where the farmer sows short term pasture mixes to maximise productivity. The trial itself is looking at differing claying rates, with and without incorporation of soil after claying. Incorporation is a key component of claying within a broadacre setting where high rates of clay are applied to ameliorate to depth. The Denmark trial is looking to compare surface applied treatments, where the idea is that livestock will work in low rates of clay over time, with incorporation (tillage) which adds an addition expense.

Treatments, measurements & results

The trial site in Denmark had three different clay rates applied to achieve increases of +1%, +3% and +6% clay content in the soil (assuming 10cm incorporation depth). At these clay rates, spreading was possible with the farmers equipment. The trial was replicated and there were two zones for each treatment, an unincorporated and incorporated zone. Following claying, the trial was seeded on the 7th of May, with a pasture mix containing 35kg/ha of a mix comprising multiple varieties of ryegrass, clover, brassicas and perennial herbs along with 80kg/ha of oats.

Pasture cuts and a pasture composition assessment were taken prior to the first grazing (55 days after sowing). A significant relationship between tillage and dry matter production was

observed with all the incorporated plots outperforming all the unincorporated plots, irrespective of clay rate. This positive response to soil incorporation, was likely due to the soil being highly compacted after years of heavy stocking rates, restricting plant growth. The tillage effect of the incorporation method would have alleviated some of this compaction, resulting in improved plant growth (Table 1).

Table 1 Denmark trial site dry matter production from cut 1 (55 days post seeding) (t/ha)

Clay %	0%	1%	3%	6%
Incorporated	4.21	3.71	3.49	4.03
Unincorporated	2.68	2.99	3.85	2.07

A second round of pasture cuts were taken on the 20th of Oct, prior to the 4th grazing (Table 2). The unincorporated plots showed no statistically significant difference in dry matter production between the clay rates and the control. However, the plots that were clayed and then incorporated did show an increase in pasture production over the nil control. While the specific clay rate did not have an impact on pasture yield, the presence of any amount of clay when incorporated did improve pasture production. The combined average dry matter from the 1%, 3% and 6% clay treatments combined with incorporation was 3.05 t/ha of dry matter, compared to the 2.67t/ha of dry matter on the nil control (nil clay, incorporation only).

Table 2. Denmark trial site dry matter production from cut 2 (20 October) (t/ha)

Clay %	0%	1%	3%	6%
Incorporated	2.67	3.31	2.99	2.87
Unincorporated	2.36	2.00	2.10	2.61

The feed composition at the time of the first grazing was uniform across each of the plots. At the time of the second grazing the pasture composition had changed. The incorporated plots appeared to have approximately 30% more brassica compared to the unincorporated plots that were largely made up of the grasses, and only contained around 15% brassica.



Conclusions

The measured response of pasture production to claying x incorporation is likely a result of the following factors;

- The clay could be providing greater plant available water, which has had a positive impact on dry matter production as the season dried out. This benefit would have been unlikely to be observed early in the season as the paddock was at field capacity and water was not a limiting factor for plant growth.
- The clay could be providing greater nutrient availability. The presence of clay within the soil has been able to 'hold onto' mobile nutrients, or provide nutrients within the clay, that would otherwise not be present in the sandy soil.
- Incorporation alleviated the impact of non-wetting on the brassica species within the pasture mix. The brassicas were slower to germinate than the grass species, which could explain why this impact was not observed until the second dry matter cuts were taken. Brassicas are particularly susceptible to non-wetting and the presence of clay in combination with incorporation, alleviating the non-wetting constraint, could explain the higher proportion of brassica in the pasture mix later in the season.

Overall, the first year of the claying project showed some promising results at the Denmark site. However, the long-term success of claying as a soil amelioration technique for pasture production will determine the likelihood of widespread adoption. Most of the gains in pasture production this season resulted from claying followed by incorporation, regardless of the specific clay rate. In saying this, 2022 was a particularly wet season in Denmark, and non-wetting and plant available water were less of a limitation to pasture growth overall. Production differences between clay rates may be more evident in a season with a drier start and/or drier finish. This season, the unincorporated plots appeared to be negatively impacted by the presence of the surface clay. However, as the livestock work the clay in over time, and residue break down assists with the dispersion of the clay, the surface application without tillage, could provide some positive results.

Claying is a long-term investment, and it is impossible to draw conclusions to the effectiveness and profitability of claying on pasture production in the first year. Stirlings to Coast Farmers will continue to monitor the site in 2023 and 2024 so local farmers can better understand the benefits of this longer-term return investment.



Figure 1: Pasture composition of the +6% clay surface applied plot prior to the 4th grazing



Figure 2: Pasture composition of the +6% clay incorporated plot prior to the 4th grazing



Drought Hub Update

Kathi McDonald, Communications Manager, SCF

Future Drought Fund (FDF) – What is it?

The Future Drought Fund (FDF) provides secure, continuous funding (\$5 billion committed Nationally) for climate resilience initiatives to help Australian farmers and communities prepare for the impacts of changing climate and importantly, drought. The four key focus areas include harnessing innovation, better risk management, more resilient communities, and improved land management.

Read more here - <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/future-drought-fund>

Stirlings to Coast Farmers’ Role as a ‘Drought Hub Node’

The role of SCF as a ‘drought hub node’ is to assist the Grower Group Alliance (GGA), which leads the Drought Hub for South-West WA, by providing regional guidance on priority issues impacting drought and climate resilience of local farming systems, industries and communities. SCF will play a lead role in gathering and sharing knowledge with the local community and coordinating/supporting local climate resilience activities.

Regional drought resilience plans released

Regional Drought Resilience Plans have been released under the FDF-funded Regional Drought Resilience Planning program. They identify actions that will enable regional communities to prepare for drought and complement priorities identified by the South-West WA Drought Hub.

Public consultation was undertaken for the plans from 28 September - 21 October 2022. Links to the plans and more information about the Regional Drought Resilience Planning program are available on the DPIRD website.

More information about the Great Southern regional drought resilience plan can be found here - <https://www.gsdc.wa.gov.au/project/regional-drought-resilience-plan/>

Climate services for agriculture updated

The FDF’s Climate Services for Agriculture (CSA) platform has been updated. Improvements give more farmers new climate insights, and for more commodities. CSA provides farmers with historical climate data, seasonal forecasts, and future climate projections to 5km2.

See how climate variability could impact on your farm here - <https://climateservicesforag.indraweb.io/>.

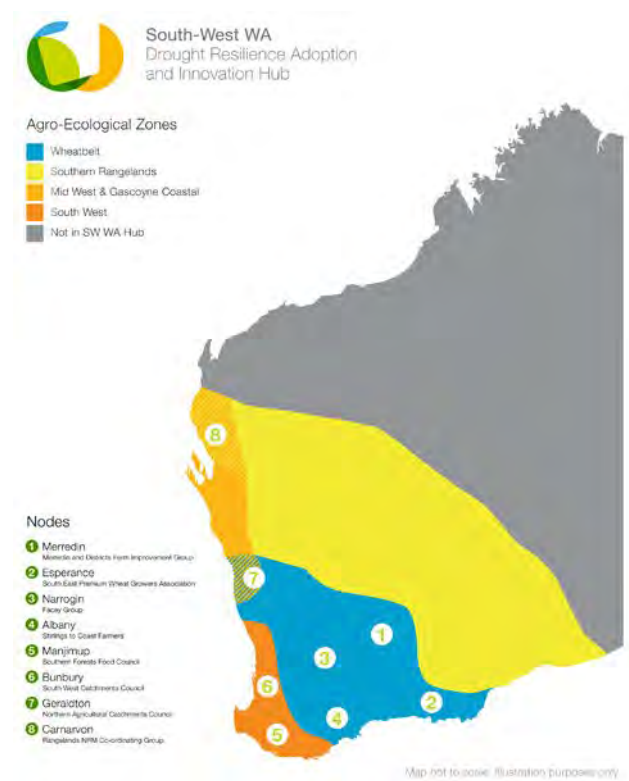
View the video here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0nzHycGpRPs>

New functionality for farmer tool

The FDF Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool (DR.SAT) has been updated after consultation across eight Australian agricultural regions. Improvements to the free tool include more commodities and regions. Assess your farm’s resilience here - <https://www.drseat.com.au/>

To keep up to date with all that is happening with the South West WA Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub and anything climate resilience related, check out their web page and subscribe to their newsletter here - <https://www.gga.org.au/activity/drought-hub/>

If you are interested in knowing more and being involved in project development for improving climate resilience in our local area, give Kathi McDonald (Albany Regional Node) a call on 0408 418 531 or email kathi.mcdonald@scafamers.org.au.





Have a quality harvest this year – don't compromise your health and safety

Harvest time is well and truly upon us (if you have dried out enough!). Farmer health, wellbeing and safety are often neglected when facing the pressures of harvest. Simple safety measures can dramatically reduce the risk of injury and illness. When planning for harvest, take time to integrate these measures to protect the health, wellbeing and safety of you, your family and other farm workers.

As harvest approaches, it's crucial that all machinery is checked to ensure a smooth and timely harvest. But simply mending the header and servicing the tractor won't cut it if you want to protect the key component – you. Considering your health, wellbeing and safety is so important with the upcoming long hours and pressure to get the job done.

Take some time to protect yourself against injury and accidents by planning ahead with these tips.

Check your tractor cabin to make sure you've got the right filter in place

Harvest can be a dusty business so make sure you have an appropriate – and clean – dust filter fitted into your cabin. These should be recharged every 6-12 months (or after 400 hours of service).

Check the safety of your equipment

Does your auger have a guard in place, and how about the PTO? These two pieces of equipment are the main cause of injury. Also consider the risks unguarded equipment has for children and pets – they don't understand the equipment you use or how dangerous it can be.

Plan a healthy harvest diet

Sitting in the tractor or header all day, you won't need to eat as many calories as you usually would. Have a good breakfast of oats, barley- or bran-based cereals, grainy breads, eggs and/or cooked veggies. Don't skip meals and avoid snacks that are high in sugar, salt and saturated fats.

Avoid dehydration

Have plenty of fresh water on hand and plan to drink a few litres of water a day. Doing this will also help avoid constipation that can result from sitting for hours on end.

Exercise

Sitting in a bent or rotated position puts you at increased risk for of spinal and joint pain. Plan to make regular stops to get out of

the cabin and walk around. Here are some exercises you can do in the cab:

- Point your toes and use your big toe to write your name in the air.
- Do some marching on the spot (while sitting down).
- Sit up straight and gently twist side to side.
- Arch your back then straighten up tall.

They might sound a bit silly, but it's better than a sore neck or lower back pain!

Manage fatigue

Your body needs sleep to regenerate, refresh and repair. Despite the pressure to get the crop off, you need to plan your sleep so that your mind and body can function properly.

Don't forget the impact an accident or injury can have on your family and business. However, with the proper planning nearly all this can be avoided.

Retrieve bogged headers safely

One of the most dangerous (and potentially fatal) activities that may be undertaken this harvest is retrieving bogged headers. Here's some tips.

- Unload the grain (most likely you'll be bogged when fully loaded) and take time to clear mud away from the tyres with a shovel or excavator as best you can.
- Review operator's manual for guidance specific to your machine (such as recommended attachment points for snatch straps).
- Ensure straps and D shackles are rated for the job and are in good condition.
- Once hooked up to go, don't tear off at high speeds, take it slow and steady.
- Always remember that snatch straps can break, and D shackles can go flying so ensure the operator and bystanders are well clear of danger.

Enjoy and a safe harvest to all!

This article was originally adapted from National Centre for Farmer Health Article, (19 May 2021) FHadmin <https://www.farmerhealth.org.au/page/safety-centre/farm-safety-harvest-health-and-grains-research-and-development-corporation's-grdc-groundcover-article>, (7 November 2022) <https://groundcover.grdc.com.au/farm-business/grower-groups/warning-issued-for-growers-harvesting-wet-paddocks>



THE IMPORTANCE OF BIOSECURITY TO WA FARMERS - SCF Scholarship winners entries

For three years SCF ran the Student Connect, Future Farmers program supported with funds from the National Landcare Program. With the completion of this project in 2020, SCF has been keen to continue supporting youth in agriculture and to promote the exciting career opportunities offered by our industry. To this effect, we've continued to support students from the WA College of Agriculture, Denmark and the Mount Barker Community College, by offering an essay scholarship award.

This year students studying agriculture at the two colleges were asked to write a 500 – 1000 word essay answering the question 'What is the importance of Biosecurity to WA Agriculture?'.

SCF would like to congratulate all the participating students. The essays received were of high quality and this made choosing the scholarship recipients very hard!

SCF Chair, Sandy Forbes, recently attended the WA College of Agriculture graduation ceremony and presented the scholarship on behalf of the SCF Board to Lily Furphy. Congratulations to Lily! We hope you enjoy reading her winning essay.

Although chosen, The Mount Barker Community College recipient will be announced at their awards night later in December and we don't want to spoil the surprise!

Lily Furphy- WA College of Agriculture Denmark

Biosecurity aids in the protection of Western Australia's agricultural industries from invasive, and in some cases foreign, pests, weeds, and diseases. In Western Australia (WA) the regulations relating to agricultural biosecurity are stated in the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007. The purpose of this Act is to provide WA with prevention measures, management practices, and facilitated standards, involving the protection of the states billion-dollar agricultural industry from invasive pests, weeds, and diseases.

An important aspect of biosecurity in WA farming is the prevention of new pests, weeds, and diseases from entering the state. Biosecurity actions are undertaken in the form of state preventative measures such as border control, and National Vendor Declarations (NVD's) and our individual property preventative measures such as vehicle washdown bays, designated driveways and parking, biosecurity signage, and quarantine procedures. Without these measures Western Australia would be under threat of an economic collapse. For example, foot and mouth disease is a highly contagious disease affecting all cloven-footed animals, and if this disease was to enter Australian borders it would have an extremely detrimental effect on all Australians. The dilemma with foot and mouth disease is that although there is a vaccination, if Australians were to administer the vaccine to their livestock it would impact trade by showing traces of foot and mouth in the animals even if the animals haven't been infected. The problem with buyers seeing the foot and mouth results is that it taints Australia's "clean, green" image of products which will cause a devastating loss of trade. However, if the vaccination is not administered, we have the opportunity to retain our high meat quality standards, as long as few animals get infected. This is still an issue because if a property becomes infected with the disease, all infected and at-risk animals on that property must be destroyed. The negative impacts of not having preventative biosecurity measures include severe economic losses, detrimental impacts to animal and plant health, and impacts on the mental health of West Australians



involved in the Agricultural industry. Therefore, it is so important for Western Australia to have in place the appropriate preventative biosecurity measures as the first line of defence rather than relying on management strategies.

Biosecurity is not only important for the prevention of invasive species entering WA, but also for the control of outbreaks and prevention of further spread if the pest, weed, or disease enters West Australian borders. In the event of any outbreaks the WA government have many measures put in place to prevent further spread of the invasive species. These measures include programs created to monitor and diagnose abnormalities such as cow collars which can detect sickness before symptoms can be seen, risk assessments on plants and animals, specific requirements involving imports and exports, procedures put in place to respond to outbreaks of pests, weeds, or disease, regulations on the movement and identification of livestock for example, the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS), as well as regularly updated and assessed biosecurity and quarantine legislation. These control methods are put in place to support our preventative measures and are there in the case of them not being effective. The upkeep of biosecurity measures in Western Australia is of vital importance in containing the impacts of invasive species. For example, dieback is a soil-borne plant pathogen that attacks the roots of susceptible plants and can cause extinction if its impacts aren't contained. To control the spread of this plant disease biosecurity measures are put in place. These include, ensuring all equipment, clothing, and vehicles are clean and free from soil before leaving a site, as well as before entering a site ensuring that all soil, plant material, and equipment is certified free of weeds and pathogens. Without these control measures the biodiversity of Western Australia's native plant species would be significantly diminished, increasing the risk of dryland salinity and erosion.

In conclusion, biosecurity in the West Australian agricultural industry is of vital importance in the protection of our trade standards, animal and plant health and production, and the environment. Our biosecurity measures provide preventative and management strategies to avoid the collapse of Western Australia's billion-dollar agricultural industry. As a state we must work together to uphold and maintain the high standards of these measures, as well as continuing to look for new ways to strengthen Western Australia's biosecurity for the benefit of all Australians.



Fertiliser profitability

Key points:

- **Fertiliser cost and fertiliser profitability are different. Fertiliser cost is obvious; fertiliser profitability is rarely assessed.**
- **Fertiliser response curves are needed to calculate fertiliser profitability.**
- **More efficient fertiliser use results in more profit and a lower carbon intensity of grain.**

With fertiliser prices climbing, many growers are taking a hard look at their fertiliser expenditure. There is a lot of discussion about tightening margins and cutting rates, yet little focus on the core issue of fertiliser profitability. Given how much is spent on fertiliser each year, it makes sense to know if this annual investment is cash flow positive.

In budgets and profit and loss (P&L) statements, fertiliser is typically the biggest cost, yet its return on investment (ROI) is rarely measured. Metrics for fertiliser profitability are rarely called upon when gauging cropping profitability. A profitable operation does not equate to fertiliser applications also being profitable. Inefficient and unprofitable fertiliser use can be concealed by good seasonal conditions, management, and grain prices.

Cutting budgeted fertiliser expenditure when fertiliser prices increase, with no consequential change to budgeted revenue, highlights a need for a closer look at fertiliser profitability. It requires a focus on how effective each unit of fertiliser is, rather than on the total fertiliser cost.

Gauging fertiliser profitability

Assessing fertiliser profitability needs yield response data for each incremental unit of fertiliser. This comes from a fertiliser response curve, generated from at least four fertiliser rates including a nil rate. When a crop is responsive to fertiliser, there are diminishing marginal returns as fertiliser rate increases. The first dollar invested gives the biggest ROI then ROI gradually diminishes until there is not enough justification to invest more.

Many growers aim for a 100% return on their fertiliser investment - spending \$1 to get \$2 back, making \$1 margin or profit for \$1 cost. In Figure 1, if the aim is at least 100% ROI, investing less than 24 kg/ha would mean yield and margin increases are not realised. Applying more than 24 kg/ha means a lower ROI compared to investing it elsewhere.

While such precise application of fertiliser rates is impossible in practice, an understanding of fertiliser responsiveness can shift practical rates to substantially improve returns. For instance, in Figure 1:

- applying 20 – 30 kg/ha would be a good result.
- applying an extra 10 kg/ha (30 – 40 kg/ha) would represent

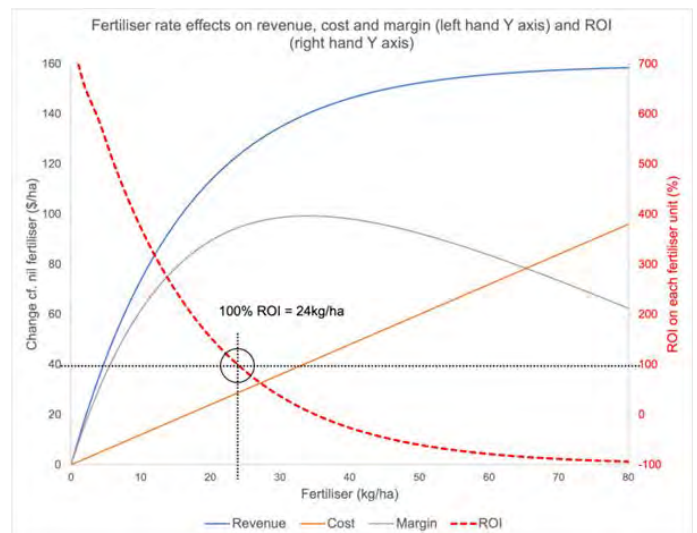


Figure 1: Fertiliser rate effects on revenue, cost and margin (left hand Y axis) and ROI (right hand Y axis)

additional cost and an unacceptable rate of return on it.

- using 70 kg/ha to get close to maximising yield would mean outlaying an extra \$48/ha (compared to using 30 kg/ha), a \$25/ha reduction in margin and negative rates of return on each kg applied from 35 to 70 kg/ha.

Sometimes fertiliser profitability is roughly gauged by looking at yields from a higher fertiliser rate strip in a paddock. If the yield in the strip is the same as that around it, the fertiliser rate in the paddock is too high, but we don't know by how much.

If there is more yield in the higher rate strip, the paddock rate is insufficient. But again, we don't know by how much. A basic economic analysis (revenue - cost) that ignores diminishing returns cannot determine the optimum fertiliser rate and can make the whole step up in fertiliser rate appear more profitable than it is.

Comparing response curves

Fertiliser response and ROI curves are used to gauge the fertiliser rate that corresponds with the minimum acceptable ROI for your situation. Figure 2 presents three scenarios with the same maximum yield but different response curves. The green scenario responds to most fertiliser; 100% ROI is at 54 kg/ha. In the blue scenario, 100% ROI is at 28 kg/ha. The red scenario is largely unresponsive; 100% ROI is 8 kg/ha and fertiliser is unprofitable above 16 kg/ha.

Guide to likely fertiliser profitability

Advice

Like farmers, most advisers have enough experiences and mistakes to have some gut feel for where fertiliser rates can go up or down.

If your adviser is telling you to apply fertiliser for maintenance, replacement, insurance or the longer term, there is a good chance they think your fertiliser investment will not be cash flow positive this year.

Soil test

Soil tests are useful to gauge paddock nutrient stocks and potential nutrient deficits. They aren't always accurate at predicting if the sampled site is responsive to fertiliser and are difficult to extrapolate beyond the sampled site. Fertiliser rates derived from soil tests are probably a guide at best. Some soil test advisory systems have nutrient response curves built into them which illustrate diminishing returns and can help assess the riskiness of higher rates.

Adjust fertiliser rates

Ranking how responsive all your paddocks (and even parts of paddocks) are to fertiliser (based on factors like soil type, production capacity, soil test results) is a good starting point for adjusting rates. Start with a basic ranking system such as:

- very responsive (less risky to keep fertiliser rates high)
- moderately responsive (fertiliser investments somewhat risky)
- non-responsive (use nil or lower rate of fertiliser)

remembering that fertiliser responsiveness of a paddock is not the same as its grain productiveness. If you cannot rate your paddocks for fertiliser responsiveness and profitability, it is an indicator you need to start measuring and critically thinking about fertiliser responsiveness.

Measure and calculate it yourself

Using the variable rate application capacity of your machinery, apply at least four fertiliser rates, including a nil, and yield map the results. Generate a response curve from the results and calculate the incremental ROI. With a few years of data you will be able to gauge whether there is no response to fertiliser, big responses, or somewhere in the middle. You will also have your own metrics around the riskiness of your fertiliser investments across a range of seasons.



This article was written by Alisa Bryce and Wayne Pluske and produced as part of the GRDC investment PLT1909-001SAX.

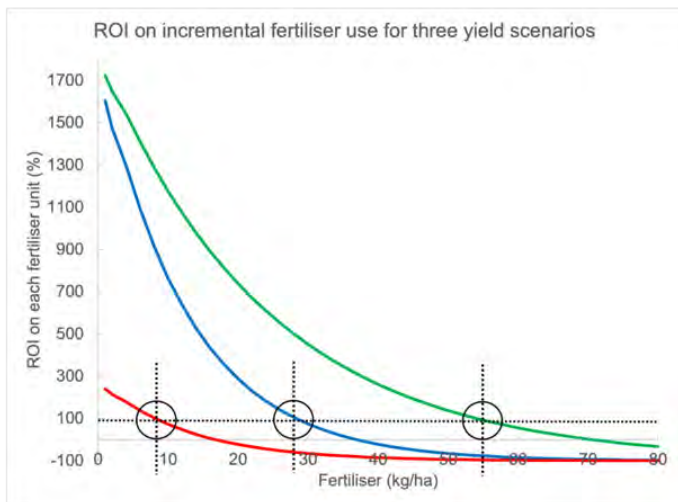


Figure 2: The associated ROI on fertiliser for three different yield scenarios.

ROI on total fertiliser spend vs incremental fertiliser spend

The following data from a WA nitrogen (N) trial compares two ways of assessing fertiliser ROI. The first is the ROI on each incremental unit of N (as used in Figures 1 and 2 above). The second is the ROI of the total spend at each N rate, calculated as:

$$\text{ROI at each nitrogen rate} = \frac{\text{margin change compared to nil}}{\text{total nitrogen cost}} \times 100$$

Using this method, every N rate appears profitable (Table 1, final column). But when the profitability of each incremental N rate is examined, only 25 kg/ha and 50 kg/ha are profitable. Using the incremental ROI curve in Figure 3, fertiliser reaches break-even at 65 kg/ha.

N rate (kg/ha)	N cost increase cf. nil (\$/ha)	Revenue increase cf. nil (\$/ha)	Margin change cf. nil (\$/ha)	ROI% incremental	ROI% total spend
25	50	337	287	321	574
50	100	473	373	70	373
75	150	528	378	-31	252
100	200	550	350	-72	175

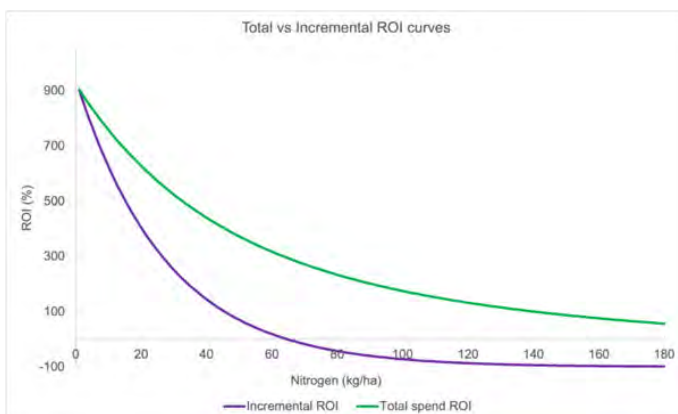


Figure 3: Total fertiliser spend ROI vs incremental ROI.

AgriFutures Horizon Student Scholarship applications are now open!

Applications for the 2023 AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship Program are now open. Students entering their final two years of an undergraduate degree who are passionate about the future of Australian rural industries are encouraged to apply.

The AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship is a collaboration between many of the Research and Development Corporations (RDC's), along with Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia, FMC Australasia, AgriProve and Kalyx to provide eligible university students with a \$10,000 bursary over two years and plenty of opportunities to develop their leadership skills and expand their networks. As part of the Program, students also attend an annual four-day professional development workshop and complete two weeks of industry work placements per year.



The Horizon Scholarship Program is open to students studying agriculture-related or STEM degrees with major studies and/or subject selections that align to agriculture.

To be eligible to apply students must:

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Be studying an undergraduate degree at an Australian university
- Be entering the final two years of their degree in 2023.

Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of their commitment to a career in agriculture, as well as their leadership potential and tertiary academic record to date.

Applications close Friday, 13 January 2023 at 5pm AEDT. Shortlisted applicants must be available for a telephone interview in February 2023, and scholarship winners will be announced in April 2023.

For more information and to apply visit www.agrifutures.com.au/horizon





Rabobank

How severe will global competition be for Australia's wheat exports?

With the winter crop harvest underway in parts of Australia, attention is turning to where the sector will face competition in global wheat export markets.

RaboResearch general manager Australia and New Zealand Stefan Vogel said all eyes remain on exports out of the Black Sea. "While Ukraine, in a war-stressed environment, has impressed with strong total grain and oilseed export volumes in past months, its wheat exports from July to mid-October were down approximately 60 per cent on the same period last year," he said.

There is more grain to come out of Ukraine, Mr Vogel said, but far less than in past years as the recently-harvested wheat crop (of approximately 20 million tonnes) was down almost 40 per cent on the previous year's record harvest, due to the war. "Even if the grain export corridor continues, the USDA expects only another six to seven million tonnes of wheat will be exported from Ukraine in the remainder of the current marketing year (to June 2023). And exports likely won't get much better with the next Ukrainian crop in 2023."

Mr Vogel said Russia's forecast record wheat crop seems to be getting smaller in recent weeks due to weather issues in the spring wheat belt (which accounts for half of Russia's wheat area and about a third of its wheat production). And the pace of Russia's wheat exports since July (the beginning of its season) is 15 per cent behind last year, he said.

"In Argentina, drought is hurting wheat production, which is estimated to be down 20 per cent on last year (the lowest in seven years). This will cut Argentina's exportable surplus by more than 30 per cent from last season.

"The USDA this month cut estimates for the already-harvested US wheat crop by seven per cent, to close to last year's level, which was a 20-year low. This will tighten the US's exportable surplus slightly below last season's 22 million tonnes, resulting in probably that country's lowest wheat export volume in 50 years."

EU wheat production – despite this year's heatwave – fell only three million tonnes short of last season (to 135 million tonnes), approximately 15 per cent below the record levels seen in 2014 and 2015, Mr Vogel said. "More importantly, the EU's total grain production is seven per cent down on last year and it will have



to rebalance this by cutting use of locally-produced grain in its feed sector to favour exports. This will require the second-highest volumes of EU feed grain imports seen in more than two decades, with the EU needing to import large amounts of corn from the world market to feed its livestock and to allow domestically-produced wheat to move into the export channel rather than the local feed sector."

According to Mr Vogel, Canada's wheat output, unsurprisingly, looks much better than last year's drought-hit crop and the 26 million tonnes of export potential is well above last year's 15 million tonnes.

"India, although having a slightly smaller crop in 2022, can still remain a wheat exporter while China, with its own good crop, does not likely require more imported wheat than last season.

"All in all, global wheat production in 2022/23 will stay close to last year's level, but, given lower global inventories, the world will have to cut back demand this year rather than achieve the average annual growth volume of 10 million tonnes seen over the past decade," he said.

To find out more about other Rabobank research, contact Rabobank's Albany team on (08) 9844 5600 or subscribe to RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness Australia & New Zealand on your podcast app.

Rabobank Australia & New Zealand Group is a part of the international Rabobank Group, the world's leading specialist in food and agribusiness banking. Rabobank has more than 120 years' experience providing customised banking and finance solutions to businesses involved in all aspects of food and agribusiness. Rabobank is structured as a cooperative and operates in 38 countries, servicing the needs of approximately 8.4 million clients worldwide through a network of more than 1000 offices and branches. Rabobank Australia & New Zealand Group is one of Australasia's leading agricultural lenders and a significant provider of business and corporate banking and financial services to the region's food and agribusiness sector. The bank has 90 branches throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Harvest Report

15 -21 November



Several rainfall events across the state this past week slowed down the rate of harvest deliveries, with 1.4 million tonnes received taking total deliveries to 3.9 million tonnes, compared to a total of 4.7 million tonnes this time last year.

Chief Operations Officer Mick Daw said that the rainfall events throughout most of the state over the past week had halted harvest in some areas.

"We have again had considerable rainfall across most of the state with some areas throughout the central wheatbelt also reporting hail and loss of crop."

"Despite this slow and frustrating start to the harvest period for both growers and our Operations team, some of our sites have still managed to break daily receival records."

"Some growers are still reporting yields higher than expected and protein in the Northern part of the state is also higher than expected at this stage which is a fantastic result."

"We do, however, anticipate that this will place some pressure on some sites and services across the network with some sites expected to fill and close."

"We are currently monitoring this and working through how this is managed, but we are encouraging those growers that can deliver direct to port to do so," said Mr Daw.

With the state seeing a rise in COVID cases, CBH is reminding growers and transporters to use the CDF app for all of their harvest deliveries, and not to enter a site if they have any COVID symptoms. More information about the COVID-19 Safety Requirements can be found here.

Albany Zone update

- The start to harvest has been slow with growers battling high moisture levels and rain events across various parts of the zone.
- The total grain received is 255,000 tonnes with the majority canola, with some barley and oats starting to be delivered.
- The quality of canola has been good.
- The Lake Grace and Jerramungup areas have had the most receivals to date. Hyden broke its daily receival record twice in consecutive days with 60 per cent of the grain received on those days being canola.
- All areas in the zone now have sites which are open with the average cycle time sitting at 41.7 minutes.

Disrupted global supply chains and geopolitical events have brought unwelcome turmoil to the global fertilizer market over the past couple of years and resulted in higher and more volatile pricing.

Against this backdrop, the use of blanket fertilizer rates across the farm is becoming increasingly inefficient and expensive if the wrong products and rates are applied.

Better nutrient management starts with soil testing, as it can help predict how much of each nutrient is likely to be available for next year's crop. Soil test data can be fed into our inSITE model so our Area Managers can customise fertilizer rates and products to overcome any potential nutrient limitations. This is particularly important where variable rate technology can be adopted. We encourage clients to soil test every paddock and/or site every 3 to 4 years. It's the best way to evaluate trends in nutrient status.

In addition to specific nutrients, other soil properties such as pH and electrical conductivity are also measured to get a better picture of your overall soil health.

For soils where a lower pH is a factor limiting yields, access to local, high-quality lime is important. In good news for South Coastal Farmers, Great Southern Lime has confirmed that it will commence deliveries of agricultural lime from its lime pit on the Nullaki peninsula close to Denmark in January 2023.

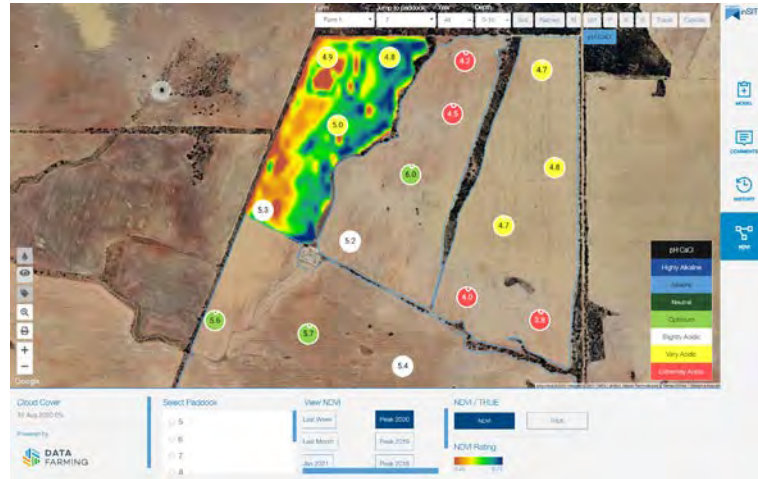
Orders for this lime can be placed with Summit Fertilizers and farmers wishing to use this new local lime source should contact the Summit Albany Depot:

Natalie Thompson, (08) 6819 6300, nthompson@summitfertz.com.au

Farmers seeking technical advice or soil testing should contact their relevant Summit Area Manager:

Andrew Wallace, Albany (East), 0427 083 820, awallace@summitfertz.com.au

Mark Ladny, Albany (West), 0498 223 421, mladny@summitfertz.com.au



Full inSITE soil test results (including trend maps and NDVI imagery - as shown left) are available for Summit customers to view on the SummitConnect customer portal.



WHAT CAN YOUR SOIL TELL YOU?

NULogic Soil Analysis allows you to identify the amount, and location of plant-available macro-nutrients in the soil so you can make informed decisions about your fertiliser rate, timing, placement and product.

Contact your CSBP account manager to optimise your nutrition plan for next season.



CSBP DETECT PLUS

MANAGED NUTRITION SERVICE

Want to take your nutritional management to the next level? With our premium nutritional package, you'll receive comprehensive data-based advice at critical decision points throughout the year. Choose CSBP Detect Plus – nutrition managed for you.

csbp-fertilisers.com.au/detectplus

*SCF Members & Sponsors
you are invited to the 2022*

SCF CHRISTMAS PARTY!



16TH DECEMBER

4:30PM-7:30PM

@ THE SCF OFFICE

**75 ALBANY HWY
(PARKING ACROSS THE ROAD AT DOME)**

Let's celebrate the year and the festive season with the SCF Community Christmas Party!

Come along and hear from AgriFutures WA Rural Women's Award winner, Louise O'Neill (Farm Life Fitness), and mingle with the SCF team, fellow farmers and industry, all while enjoying drinks and a succulent spit roast. The whole family is welcome.

**TO RSVP MESSAGE SAM J
0422 3322 12 OR SAMANTHA.JEFFRIES@SCFARMERS.ORG.AU**

BOARD MEMBERS

Sandy Forbes (Chair)	0427 354 036
Alaina Smith (V. Chair)	0438 986 404
Ken Drummond	0427 541 033
David Brown	0428 447 036
Mark Preston	0427 834 200
Shannon Slade	0477 197 970
Jeremy Walker	0437 955 443
Amy Sims	9842 5155

OFFICE STAFF

Lizzie von Perger, CEO	0448 888 265
Philip Honey, Smart Farms Coordinator	0428 768 589
Dan Fay, R&D Co-ordinator	0498 278 177
Dr Kathi McDonald, Communications Manager	0408 418 531
Samantha Cullen, Memberships Officer	0417 605 784
Samantha Jeffries, Marketing Officer	0422 332 212

The SCF team is based at the SCF office located at 75 Albany Highway (opposite Dome) in Albany.

Staff can be contacted on 9842 6653 or admin@scfarmers.org.au

SILVER SPONSORS

