



Thursday, 17 September, 2015

Big crowd shows why Hart Field Day is SA's premier cropping field day

Favourable conditions and a positive outlook going into the tail end of the growing season buoyed numbers at the annual Hart Field Day last Tuesday (15 September), with almost 700 people attending the State's premier cropping field day.

A rolling program of 20 sessions throughout the day attracted farmers and industry personnel from across South Australia as well as visiting groups from Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia and even some international visitors.

Outgoing Hart Field-Site Group chairman Justin Wundke says he is pleased with the success of the 2015 field day, in what is shaping up to be a good season for many SA grain growers.

"We're thrilled with the turnout to this year's event, we had an above average crowd and we are very grateful for the support of these farmers and industry representatives who continue to travel from near and far for our annual field day," Mr Wundke says.

"Another couple of rains would really finish off a strong season and especially the legumes in this area are looking fantastic.

"August and September have been very kind to growers in this region so far, after dry Springs over the last two years, and if these favourable conditions continue most farmers in this district, and certainly many other grain growing areas of the State, will achieve solid yields."



Key lunch time speaker was science communicator and senior research associate Dr Heather Bray from the University of Adelaide Department of History, Food Values Research Group, who gave a thought-provoking insight into public perceptions of agriculture and what influences consumer choice.

A packed program throughout the day ensured attendees had access to the latest agronomy and variety research, information and advice as well as the opportunity to seek information directly from the presenters including some of the cropping industry's top researchers, personnel and fellow farmers.

"There is no doubt that having direct access to these experts in the field and having the opportunity to not only hear them speak and see some of the trials first hand, but to also ask questions specific to their own farms makes the Hart Field Day such a worthwhile and valuable event on the Spring farming calendar," Mr Wundke says.

Static displays, including a machinery display by major sponsor Rocky River Ag Services, added to the comprehensive access to information and advice specific to the cropping sector.

The next main event on the Hart Field-Site Group calendar is a free Spring Twilight Walk on Tuesday, October 21 at 5pm.

A barbecue and drinks will follow thanks to support from Rabobank.

Take a look at the website www.hartfieldsite.org.au for more information.

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