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Friday, August 23, 2019

Hart Field Day is just around the corner

The gates will be thrown open at the Hart Field Site on Tuesday, September 17, as the annual Hart Field Day gets under way, giving farmers an opportunity to see and hear first-hand the most up-to-date information on agronomy trials and check in on how the season is progressing.

The Hart Field Day has cemented itself as one of the country's leading agronomy events, and Hart chairman Ryan Wood says this year's program featuring 22 rolling sessions promises something for everyone on the cropping front.

"After a dry start, the rainfall has showed up at the right time to allow the Hart field trials to perform really well and will be looking fantastic for the field day," he said.

"This year's program features some must-see sessions from industry leaders and speakers on a wide range of topics, including discussion on the lifting of the moratorium of GM (genetically modified) food crops in South Australia and what it means for next season's canola variety choice," he said.

"We'll have the release of new herbicide-tolerant oat and faba bean varieties, and the launch of SARDI's new real-time pest management monitoring system for insects and disease.

"Another highlight will be our keynote lunchtime speaker, AgCommunicators co-founder Deanna Lush, a strategic communication specialist working in primary production, natural resources and advocacy, speaking on how we need to bridge the cultural gap between city and country, especially with education on our chemical and livestock management that is at the forefront of media currently."

Other highlights will include a redlegged earth mite and green peach aphid management and resistance update with Jess Lye from CESAR (The Centre for Environmental Stress and Adaption Research).

Dual purpose awnless wheat as an option for grain and hay will be addressed by speakers Mick Faulkner (Agrilink Agricultural Consultants) and Pat Guerin (Balco).

Cereal and pulse root diseases will be put under the microscope by speakers Tara Garrard and Blake Gontar from SARDI, while Jess Koch from Breezy Hill Ag will present a PA (precision agriculture) mapping update – what's out there and how you can capitalise on using map layers.

Legume and oilseed herbicide tolerance will be the topic of discussion for Andre Sabeeney from Nufarm and Tony Craddock from Rural Directions.

Soil and plant testing for better fertiliser decisions will be the focus for Sean Mason, of Agronomy Solutions.

There are also some new sponsors onboard and a range of new static displays along with some of our valued long-term sponsors.

Among them will be major sponsor Rocky River Ag Services, who will be on-site, providing an opportunity to kick some tyres and have all your machinery queries answered.

The event gets underway on Tuesday, September 17, with gates open at 9am and an official opening at 10am. The first session starts at 10.30am sharp.

Admission is \$35 (students \$5), or online early bird price of \$30, and includes access to all 22 sessions and more than 30 specialist speakers, as well as a comprehensive, full colour Hart Field Day Guide with articles and information from each of the sessions.

Pre-registration and payment is now live online.

Full catering is available throughout the day (cash sales only) and a refreshment tent will operate after the event, including craft beers from Yorke Premium, made using AG Schilling & Co's Yorke Peninsula-grown barley.

Held on the Hart Field-Site Group's trial site - 10 kilometres north of Blyth, just off the Blyth to Brinkworth road – visitors will get a first-hand look at how the trial crops have performed so far in the 2019 growing season.

Bus and group tours are welcome and encouraged to register now.

To register or for more information take a look at the Hart Field-Site Group website www.hartfieldsite.org.au or contact Sandy Kimber on 0427 423 154 or email admin@hartfieldsite.org.au

While early registrations are encouraged, online registrations will remain open until lunchtime on the 17th, so even if you decide on the day to head along it is easy to sign up before you arrive and fast track your way through the gate.

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Photo: Hart Chairman, Ryan Wood

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