

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday, March 10, 2023

## Getting The Crop In makes its return

The annual Getting The Crop In event was back in its traditional face-to-face format in Clare last week.

Farmers and industry gathered for the event hosted by the Hart Field-Site Group, and left with an insight into future trends and last year's observations to help plan the cropping season ahead.

With harvest only just wrapped up for most, rain showers moved over the event venue as a reminder that the growing season is just around the corner.

Major sponsor Precision Agriculture enabled the event to be offered free to attendees, and company representative Adam Brinkmann gave an overview of soil pH data across the Mid North.

Dr Amanda Schapel, from PIRSA, and farmer Jarred Tilley spoke about carbon and the farm business, breaking down some of the lingo, influences and testing requirements.

Jarred gave a first-hand account of the lessons learned from undertaking a carbon audit on his own farm last year, and encouraged fellow farmers to take "more leadership from the ground up" on the issue.

Hart research and extension manager Rebekah Allen launched the 2022 Hart Trials Results book – now available free online - and highlighted some of the standout results.

Among the highlights were variety and weed management for genetically modified canola – a three-year trial of 28 canola varieties - wheat variety performance; evaluation of pulse mixes – an evaluation of the multi-species cropping in medium rainfall zones over the past four years.

Outgoing Hart intern Declan Anderson followed later with more research updates and key trial findings from the Hart Field-Site in 2022.

Farmer and psychologist Stephanie Schmidt, ACT For Ag, hosted a session to help attendees understand 'our brain in stress – why we do what we do', and arm them with some tools to build resilience.

She shared some of her own experiences of putting 'psychological flexibility' into action when managing farm/family/life stresses.





The keynote guest speaker was Redhill farmer Ben Mumford (pictured) who spoke about his family farming operation in the Mid North and on Kangaroo Island, including the family's experiences and loss during the 2019 KI bushfires.



Grain marketing expert Ed Scamps from CloudBreak gave an update on market trends for cereals and canola, pulse markets, the relationship between inflation and wheat prices, and what is happening with some of the key price drivers including China, the war in Ukraine, and the United States cropping season.

The next event planned for the Hart Field-Site Group is its Winter Walk on July 18.

For more information, head to <u>www.hartfieldsite.org.au</u>

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