



Friday, October 23, 2020

## Variety management focus for Hart event

The second Hart 'mini' event – Managing Varieties - was hosted at the Mid North trial-site last Tuesday, with nine researchers and breeders presenting the latest trial data and observations.

Sessions included, Planning for 2021: cereal variety update; Management tips: wheat and awnless variety options; Improving oaten hay production and quality: varieties and local research; Finding a good fit: new release pulse varieties.

Hart's annual September field day was replaced with two smaller events this year, in line with COVID-19 restrictions, and research and extension manager Rebekah Allen said it had been a success in an undoubtedly challenging year.

"We had a great turn out to the last Hart event for 2020, 'Managing Varieties', and we are delighted that we were able to bring the expertise of both breeders and local researchers to this event," she said.

"The day provided information on new release varieties, management and new research to assist growers in their planning for the 2021 season.

"Despite the main field day not going ahead in 2020, it has been great to see the farmer and industry interest of the Hart trial site continue through both our mini events and group tours.

"After speaking with growers at last week's event, their feedback was that attending Hart provides valuable information to improve on-farm productivity.

"Many growers told me that even if they only take one key message from the day, it has the potential to assist in improving financial gains on-farm and that is really encouraging for us in planning ahead.

"We thank the growers, sponsors, researchers and industry who have continued to support us throughout 2020 in a year where we have had to work hard to find new solutions to deliver the results of our trial research, and hope that 2021 will allow a return to a more 'normal' format for our events."

This year the Hart trial site has been available to visit by appointment and remains so prior to harvest, until November 15.

Each trial has been signposted with a QR code which can be simply scanned on a smartphone or tablet which then shows data specific to that particular trial to read as you walk around the site.

In addition, each of the Hart mini events – Managing Weeds and Managing Varieties - have been filmed and will be available online in the near future for anyone who was unable to attend or those wanting to check back in on the information shared by breeders, researchers and industry representatives.

Keep an eye out on the website [www.hartfieldsite.org.au](http://www.hartfieldsite.org.au) for links to these online editions of Managing Weeds and Managing Varieties.

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