



Thursday, 25 February, 2016

Free cropping seminar in Clare to help farmers prepare for the 2016 growing season

The 2016 cropping season will get underway with a free half-day *Getting the Crop In* seminar hosted by the Hart Field-Site Group on March 16 in Clare, with a program of speakers providing the latest trends in marketing, grain variety and agronomy as well as first-hand accounts into their own farming operations.

The event is on from 8am-12.30pm, at the The Vines Christain Church on Stradbroke Road (immediately north of the racecourse), starting with a free gourmet breakfast sponsored by Rabobank.

Speakers will kick off with Hart Field-Site Group's research and extension manager Sarah Noack, who will present the key findings and updates from the 2015 Hart Trials, including the official release of the 2015 Hart Trials Results book.

Keynote speaker for the event will be Warracknabeal farmer and former grain marketer and agricultural economist Julia Hausler who will give an insight into what she has discovered about how grain marketing knowledge mixes with farming reality.

She will speak about some of the challenges she has overcome with husband Tim on their Western Victoria farm, the marketing opportunities they have tapped into, lessons learned and also her interest in social media and some of the insight she has regarding sharing of information.

Rabobank's Campbell Keene, manager origination and sales, global financial markets is based in Sydney and will provide a market update and outlook for the season ahead in his presentation titled 'Riding the wave of grain and pulse markets'.

SARDI new variety evaluation senior scientist Rob Wheeler will give a comprehensive rundown on all last season's cereal variety performances - from seeding through to harvest, including how new wheat varieties performed in 2015.

Following the *Getting the Crop In* seminar will be the GRDC's Farm Business Update at the same venue. Separate registration is required for this event (www.orm.com.au or 03 5441 6176).

The Hart Field-Site Group's *Getting the Crop In* seminar will be held at The Vines Christian Church, Stradbroke Road, Clare (northern end of the racecourse) 8am-12.30pm, 16 March.

For more information and to register for this event, see the Hart Field-Site Group website www.hartfieldsite.org.au

Media contact:

HFSG chairman Justin Wundke 0429 708 772 or research and extension manager Sarah Noack 0420 218 420.