



Friday, March 16, 2018

Hart Getting The Crop In 2018 success

Hart Field-Site Group's (HSFG) annual Getting The Crop In seminar held in Clare last week attracted more than 100 farmers and industry representatives all keen for an insight into the latest grain variety and market information ahead of the 2018 sowing season.

Coinciding with the free seminar sponsored by Rabobank, the group launched its comprehensive 2017 Hart Trial Results book, with outgoing HFSG intern Dylan Bruce presenting some of his key findings from research at both Hart and Booleroo Centre.

He spoke about how well winter wheats performed in 2017 compared to traditional spring varieties from his work on a GRDC project, 'Development of crop management packages for early sown, slow developing wheats in the Southern region'.

For further information, the Hart Trial Results book is available free online at www.hartfieldsite.org.au or limited hard copies can be purchased from HSFG.

SARDI New Variety Agronomy research scientist Kenton Porker's presentation, 'Are we 'barley' scratching the surface of new variety potential', looked at new barley varieties and management, trial results, time of sowing and canopy structure.

Bordertown farmer Ben Hunt gave an insight into his integrated approach to cropping and livestock, including the successes and tribulations of growing long-season canola.

The hugely popular Q&A farmer panel returned for 2018, and Ben was joined 'on the couch' by Mintaro farmer Andrew Mitchell and AG Schilling & Co farm manager Neil Wittwer from Paskeville to give an insight into how they will prepare for the upcoming sowing season.

Glencore Agriculture general manager accumulation and grower services, and former Gulnare local, Andrew Wilsdon gave an insightful presentation on grain marketing and in particular, price drivers including Indian tariffs.

The HFSG will hold its annual general meeting at the Bentleys Hotel in Clare on April 10 and chairman Damien Sommerville said everyone was welcome to attend.

"Some spaces are also available on the Hart board and I'd encourage anyone interested in getting involved to seriously consider coming along and putting their hand up," he said.

"Current board members are available and willing to speak to anyone interested in learning what it means to join the board and the time commitments required. It's extremely rewarding to be part of South Australia's premier cropping field site."

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