



Thursday, March 14, 2019

Full house for 2019 Getting The Crop In

There was a full house for last week's Hart Field-Site Group's Getting The Crop In seminar held in Clare.

The fully-booked event saw almost 170 farmers and industry personnel gather to hear up-to-date trial information as the Hart Field-Site Group launched its 2018 trial results book, along with market updates, seasonal climate outlooks and the challenges of soil residual herbicides.

Always a drawcard, the keynote farmer speaker for the event Ben Wundersitz from Yorke Peninsula gave a detailed insight into how he and wife Belinda operate their farm, Anna Binna.

Rabobank senior analyst grains and oilseeds Cheryl Kalisch Gordon gave an overview of market trends in her presentation 'Trade war tremors descend on dry downunder'.

She spoke about the impact of politics in the United States and China on Australia's domestic market, as well as a look at the Rabobank Agribusiness Monthly commodity outlook report which was officially launched the following day.

Seasonal risk agronomist Dale Grey from Agriculture Victoria presented via video link on the autumn-winter climate outlook for SA, with growers remaining ever-hopeful for a 'traditional' Anzac Day break to the season.

Hart Field-Site Group research and extension manager Sarah Noack launched the Hart 2018 trial results book, and highlighted some of the key research findings across a range of varieties, agronomy and paddock surveys at both Hart and Booleroo Centre.

The challenges of soil residual herbicides was addressed by David Keetch from Nufarm and independent agronomist Craig Davis.

Sponsored by Rabobank, the free event continues to attract South Australian farmers with a 'thirst for knowledge' and outgoing Hart Field-Site Group chairman Damien Sommerville said it was heartening to see continued support for the group's key events.

"Hart's purpose continues to be to deliver value to growers and make agriculture better, in productivity, sustainability and community," he said.

"Getting the Crop In for 2019 provided some great, rounded information that is pretty timely as we head into seeding, and we look to back that up with our Winter Walk in July, Spring Walk in October and of course our field day in September.

"To get a good crowd like we did today shows we're on the right track, but we always welcome feedback and new ideas. We encourage growers and others involved in the industry to think about nominating to join the Hart board, before elections at our AGM coming up on April 9 at the Blyth Hotel.

“It really is a great opportunity to get involved with one of the leading agronomy groups in Australia and make a difference to South Australia’s broadacre cropping industry.”

For more information see the website www.hartfieldsite.org.au

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