

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Big crowd rolls in for annual Hart Field Day

The Hart Field Day cemented its place as one of the country's leading agronomy field days on Tuesday, September 19, attracting a crowd of almost 550 farmers and industry representatives in its biggest event post-Covid.

Hart chair Andre Sabeeney said Hart Field Day provided a unique opportunity for visitors to be on the trial site, hearing from leading researchers and have direct access to their expertise.



"The beauty of Hart is that growers can ask our presenters questions directly related to what is happening on their own farms," he said.

"I don't think there is any other agronomy field day in South Australia that offers the same scale of access to some of the country's leading researchers, actually in the field and amongst the trials.

"We had visitors from across the state's cropping areas, along with Western Australia and international visitors from Morocco, we also hosted school groups, university students, and a large number of agronomists and industry people.

"I think it really highlights that in our 41-year history, our vision to be Australia's premier cropping field site, providing independent information and enhancing the skills of the agricultural community remains authentic and relevant."

Mr Sabeeney said there was a feeling of 'contentment' among grain growers at the field day, but said the next few weeks would be critical for the season's yield and quality potential.



"I think many growers are happy, or even surprised, at how well their crops are looking at the moment, and that it is better than expected," he said.

"But favourable weather in the next two to three weeks could certainly change their outlook from content to hopefully more confident towards the end of spring and moving towards harvest."

The 2023 Hart Field Day was proudly supported by platinum sponsor Rocky River Ag, in conjunction with Case IH, CNH Industrial Capital and Flexicoil, and featured 20 rolling sessions throughout the day, across the trial site.

Highlights included agronomy trials and updates including export oaten hay; managing frost risk; lentil agronomy and time of sowing; grazing in mixed enterprises: pastures; pests and diseases; crop nutrition; varieties and herbicide tolerance.

The session on pre-emergent herbicide performance, delivered by Dr Chris Preston from the University of Adelaide, also generated plenty of interest among patrons.

The 2022 Hart trial results are now available on the Hart website, with 2023 trial results to be released in March, 2024.

The next Hart event will be the Hart AGM on October 10 via zoom (registration essential) and the Spring Twilight Walk at the field-site on Tuesday, October 17 at 5pm.

For more information head to the Hart Field-Site Group website www.hartfieldsite.org.au

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