WINTER WALK









2025

Local farmers talk N strategy

Brendan Brown; CSIRO email: Brendan.Brown@csiro.au

A big thank you to Brendan Brown for walking us through his 'Whole-Body Thinking' framework (head, heart, gut, eyes, hands) - there's a copy at the end of this section.

We reflected on how we make nitrogen top dressing decisions but rather than focusing on specific rates or methods, the aim was to encourage us to think critically about our own decision-making processes.

This session was really interactive, with the whole room answering a range of questions using a simple link on our phones, then seeing real time responses pop up on the screen (anonymous of course).

Brendan has kindly provided the link if you weren't able to make it and would like to step through it yourself - just touch the QR code below, then on the link that pops up. Once you're done, email Brendan so he can send you your individualised report which will also show you where you sit compared to others in the Mid North, and to a national dataset of over 800 respondents.





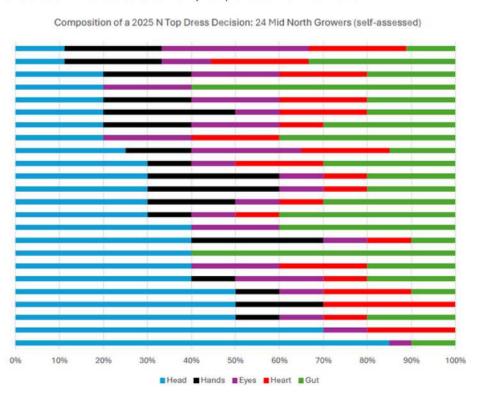
Alternatively, use this link: https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/IBg2Laom

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Here's a sample of the results from one of questions we were asked to consider. It asked how much weight (as a percentage) we think we put on each of the five aspects of Brendan's 'Whole-Body Thinking' framework (head, heart, gut, eyes, hands).

*This chart has been filtered to show only responses from farmers.



- 25% identified as "Quick Thinkers" relying heavily on gut instinct.
- 20% saw themselves as "Slow Thinkers" preferring to make decisions through head-based logic and analysis.
- The majority used a balanced approach, blending both instinct and reasoning, with no single dominant method.

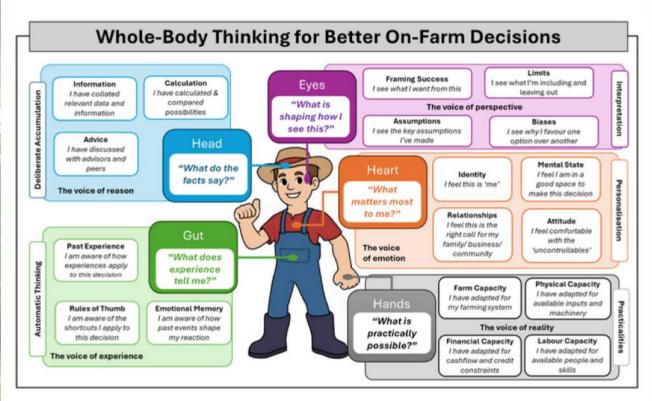
It's important to note, there's no one 'right' way to make decisions the key is self-awareness. By understanding how we typically approach decisions, we can better recognise where to pause, reflect, or strengthen our process. It's not about removing emotion, but rather adding clarity through reflection.

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Participants shared several key takeaways from the session:

- · A new appreciation for just how many factors influence decision-making.
- Recognition that Hands and Eyes sit atop and influence Head, Heart, and Gut.
- Awareness of the difference between experience and facts.
- Insight into how Eyes, Heart, and Gut can subconsciously skew decisions.
- · Greater attention to the role of the subconscious in decision-making.
- A call for consultants to dig deeper to understand why growers make the decisions they do.



HART Winter Walk 2025 GRDC Ref: CSP2505-014RTX

N strategy more from Hart...

LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST SERIES

Five episodes with five different experts, all under 30 mins each:

1) Understanding the basics, 2) Why it's personal, 3) Making big risky decisions, 4) Climate risk, 5) Achieving your yield potential







READ HART BEAT #67

We walk you through our N decision making process step by step, plus there are yield predictions for 8 Mid North sites.





Use any of the QR codes on this page or simply click on any of the images. For Hart Beat, you can also use this <u>link</u>:

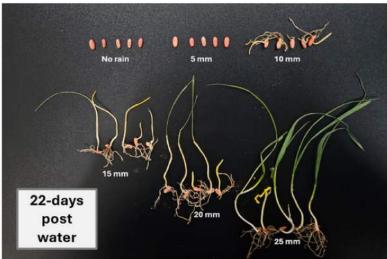
https://www.hartfieldsite.org.au/media/2025%20HART%20BEAT/HART_BEAT_67_July_9_2025.pdf

Crop emergence

how much rain do we really need?

Rebekah Allen; Hart rebekah@hartfieldsite.org.au





The pictures above are of seed recovered from our dry sowing risk mitigation and emergence trial.

Micro-plots received different amounts of simulated rainfall to assess rainfall requirements for germination and emergence on Hart soil.

Plant number, yield and grain quality will be assessed throughout the season to determine effects on plant growth and harvest outcomes. We will also assess the impact low or no follow up rain events at different stages of germination and emergence.

