

Clark Forest View

Family Business or Family Farm?

Our way of making it work.





Mary & Denis Scott & Jaimie Luke & Bernadette

Started 30/6/2002

2830Ha

2500Ha cropped

450 ewes

Clearly defined roles within the business

- 1-Luke had an Agronomy Role before returning, Focus on Agronomy, Rotation, Agworld recording, Grain Sales.
- 2- Scott had a Clerk/Merchandise Sales role, Focus on Accounting, Banking, John Deere data recording before it enters Agworld.
- Luke concentrates on Boomspray, Trucking.
- Scott concentrates on Seeding, Harvest.
- Denis prefers the Rolling, Spreading etc or we share roles.
- Saves 2 people worrying about maintenance on machines, no double ups.



Summer 2007

Sheep on stubbles

Poor WUE

No GPS

Records in Elders Books transferred
to PAM

We had both settled on the farm and were looking for a more sustainable system. Wanting to take out the peaks and troughs in yield and achieve more with our rainfall



Seeding April 2025

- Sheep removed from stubbles in 2012
- Now full RTK and CTF system
- Disc seeding system since 2012
- JD Apex and My Operations since 07
- Every operation has been recorded since then



Establishing crops in a high residue environment, can be challenging but rewarding.



- Move to disc seeding in 2012.
- 7.5" spacing for competition.
- Increase in urea usage.



- Increase in legumes
- 3-4 year rotation
- Increase in canola
- Calendar sowing



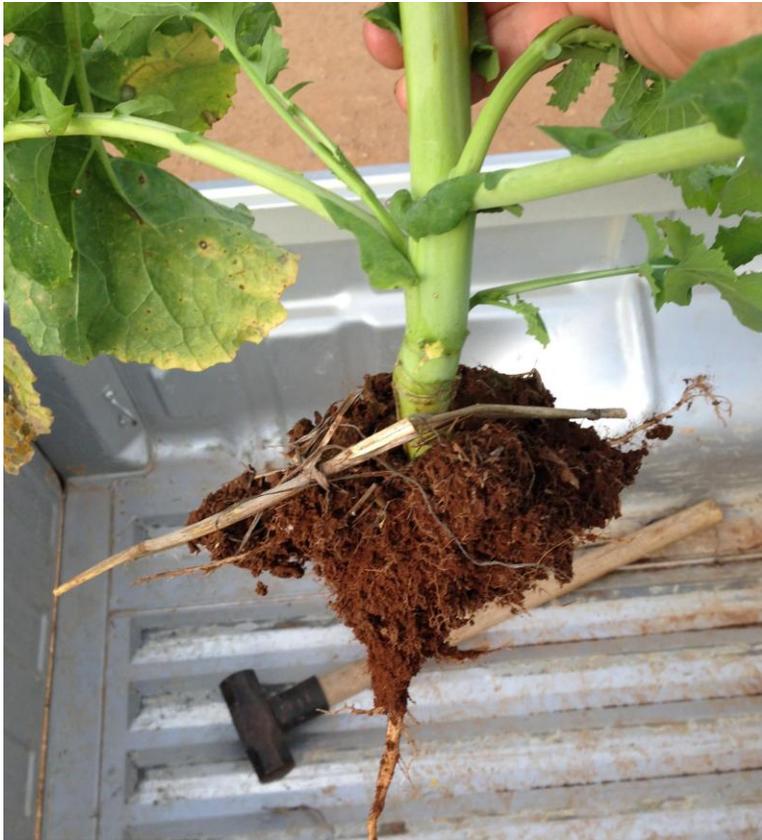
- Full cover early
- Shelbourne since 2016 for cover and less hairpinning



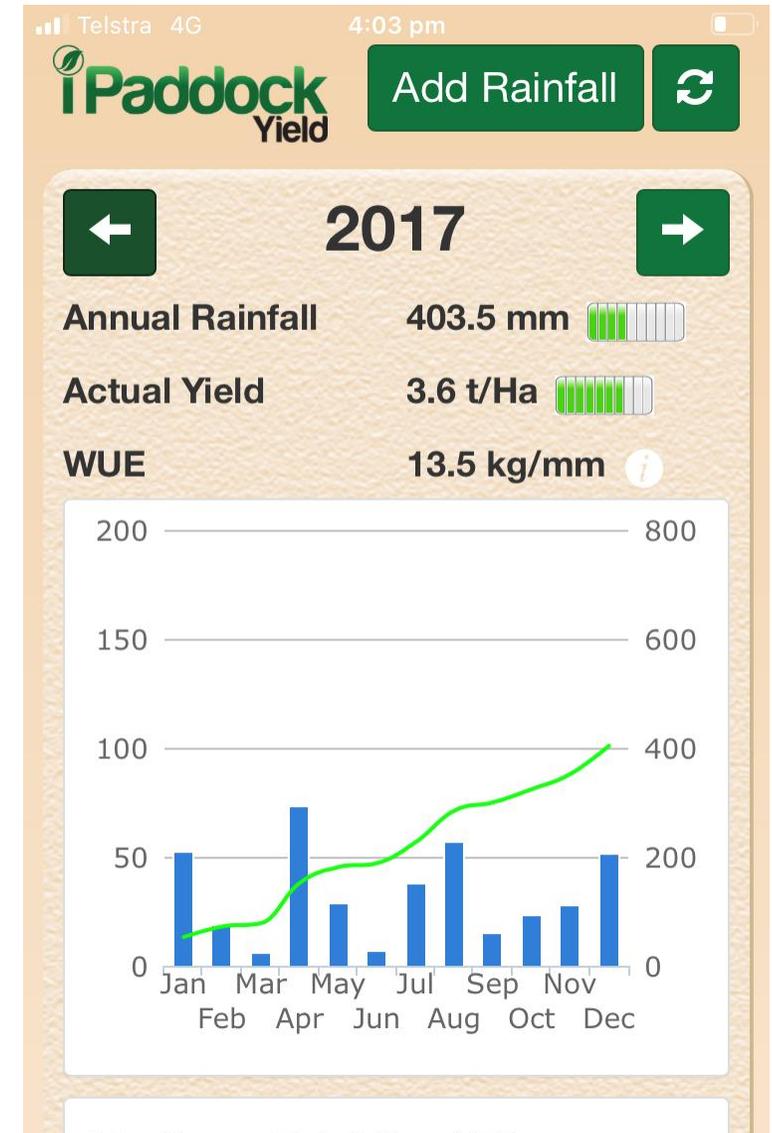
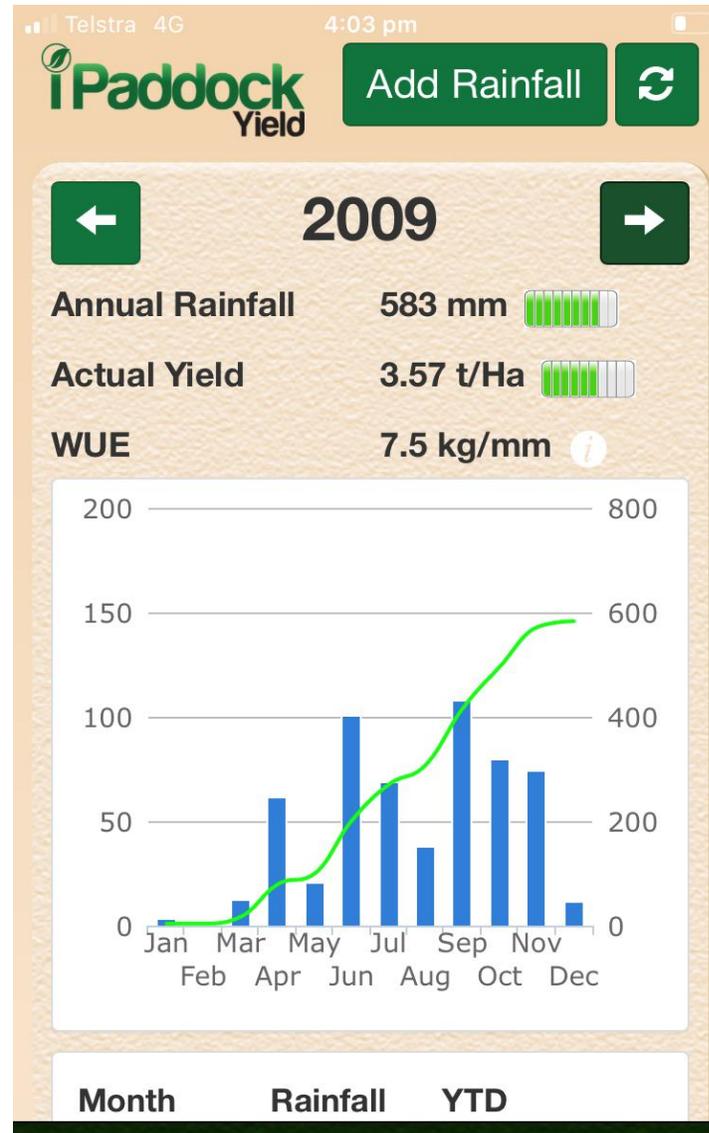
- Legume/Canola/Cereal
- WUE of canola in dry years a standout following a legume



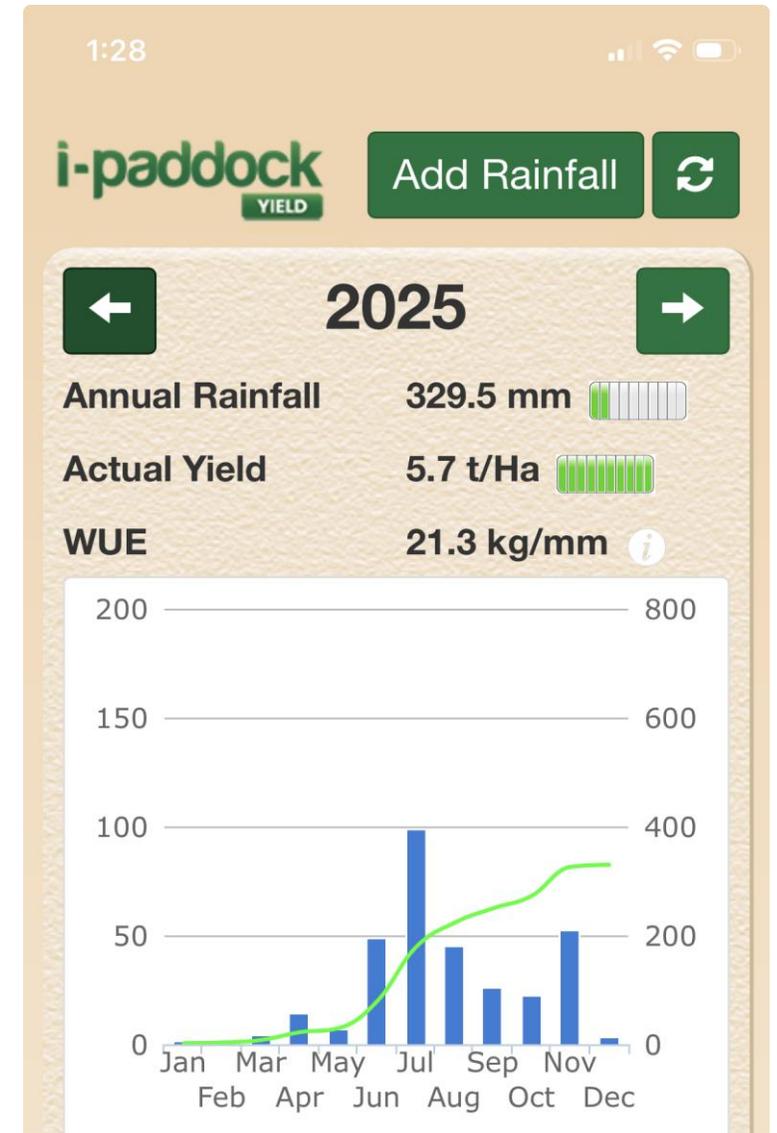
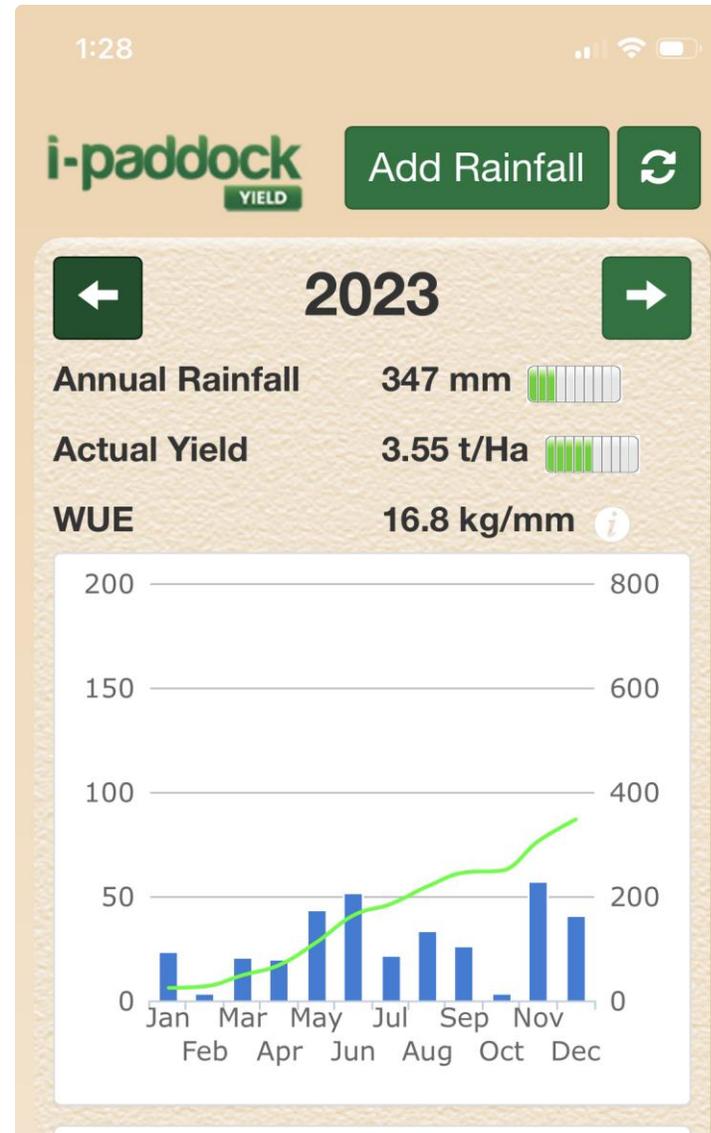
- CTF opening increasing water infiltration
- Lime use increasing legume yields, allowing move to lentils



Demonstration of WUE increases



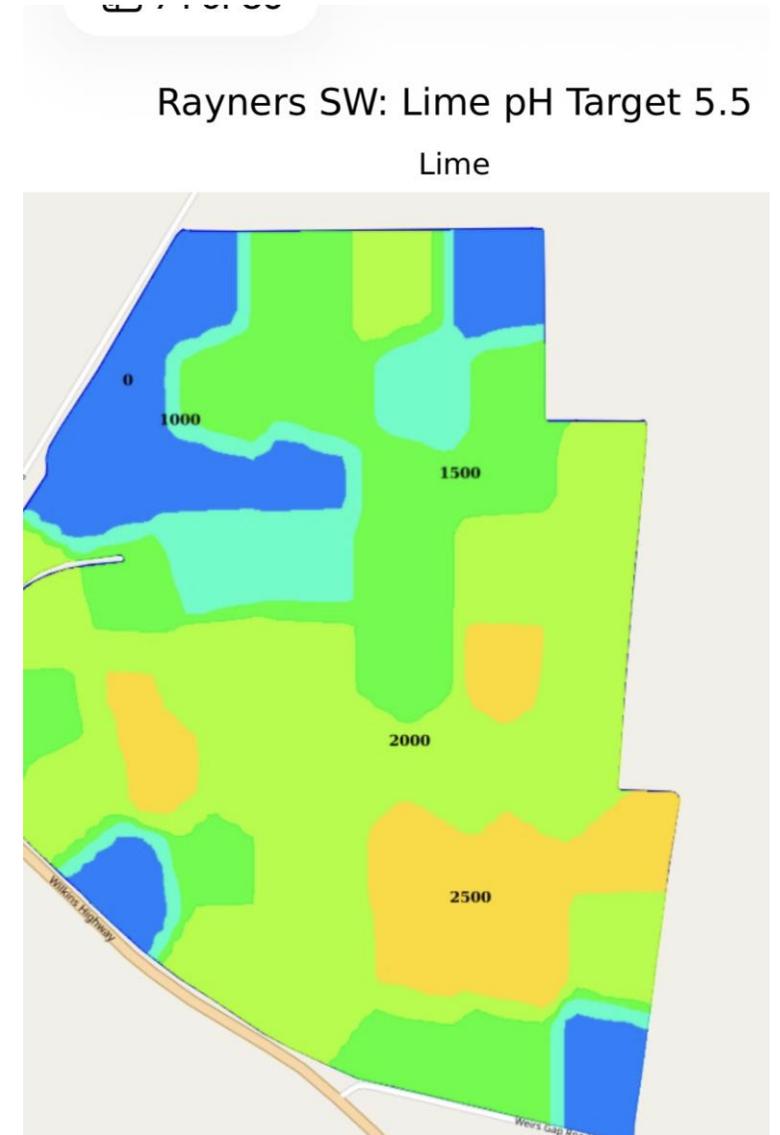
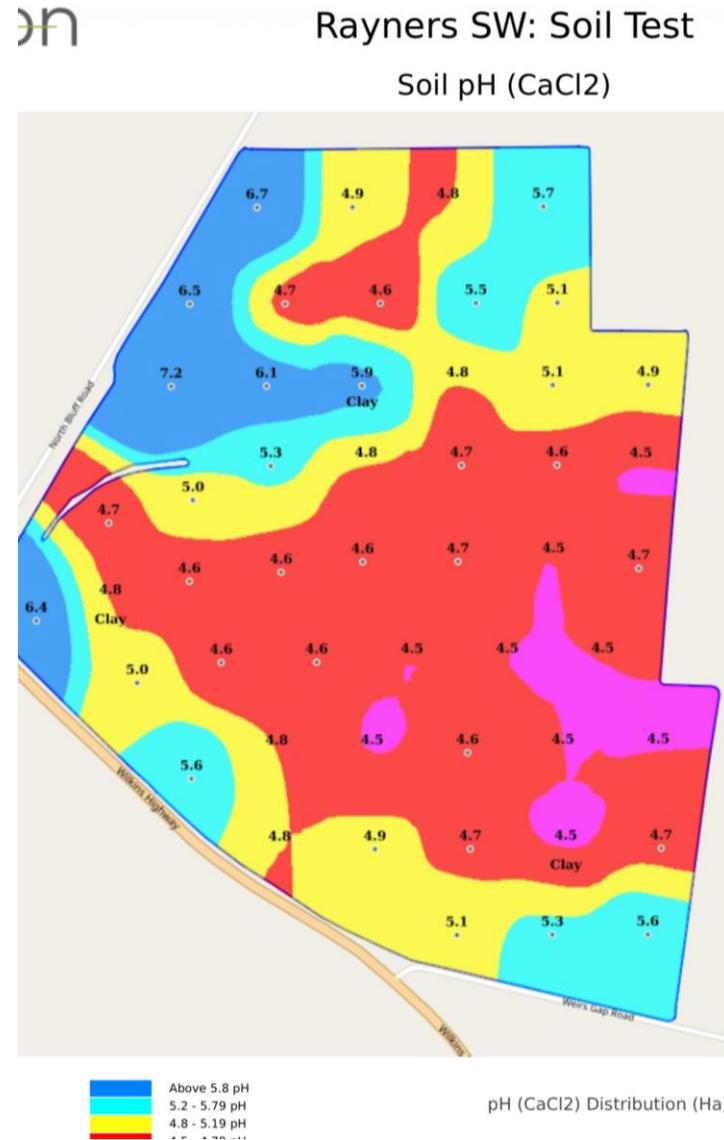
-Increases significant after Shelbourne introduced in 2016.
- Also created other issues in the rotation.



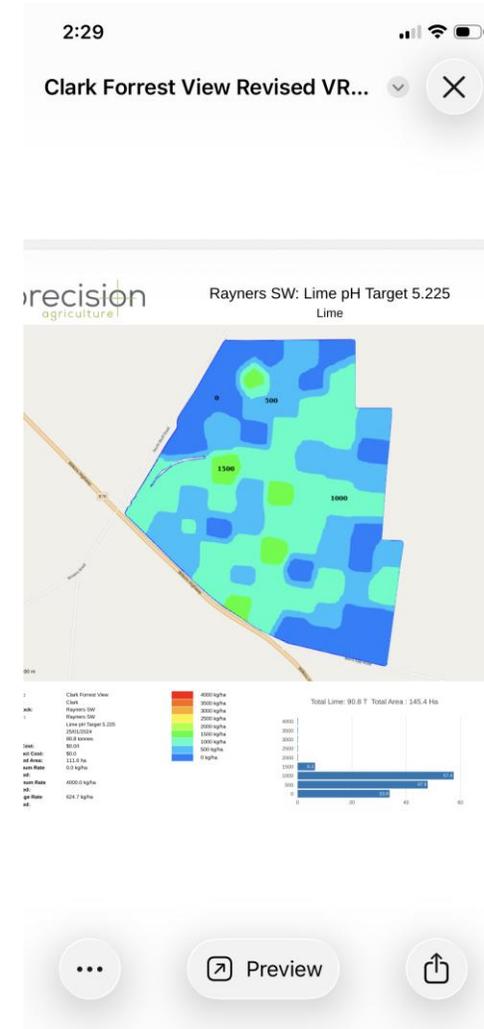
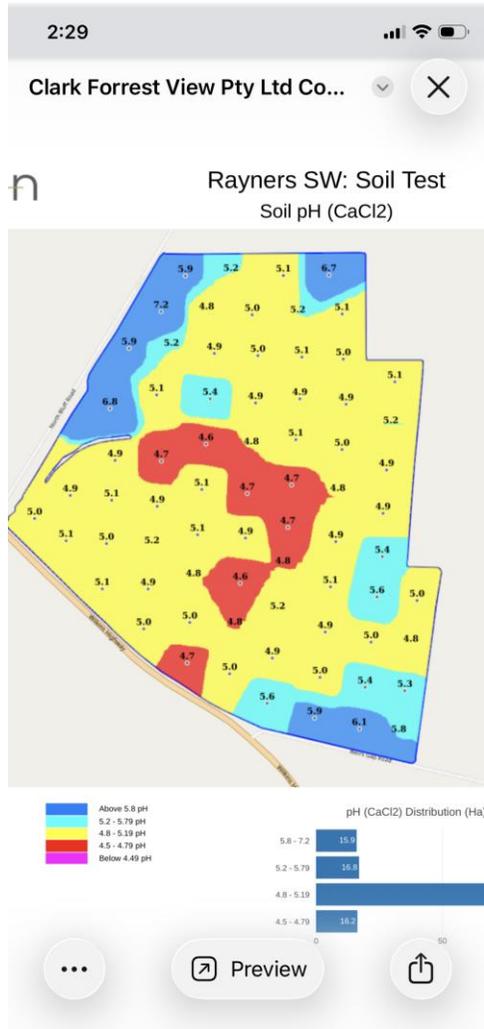
- Snails, Millipedes, mice, slaters on small canola.
- Would be nice to pick and choose when to use the Shelbourne.



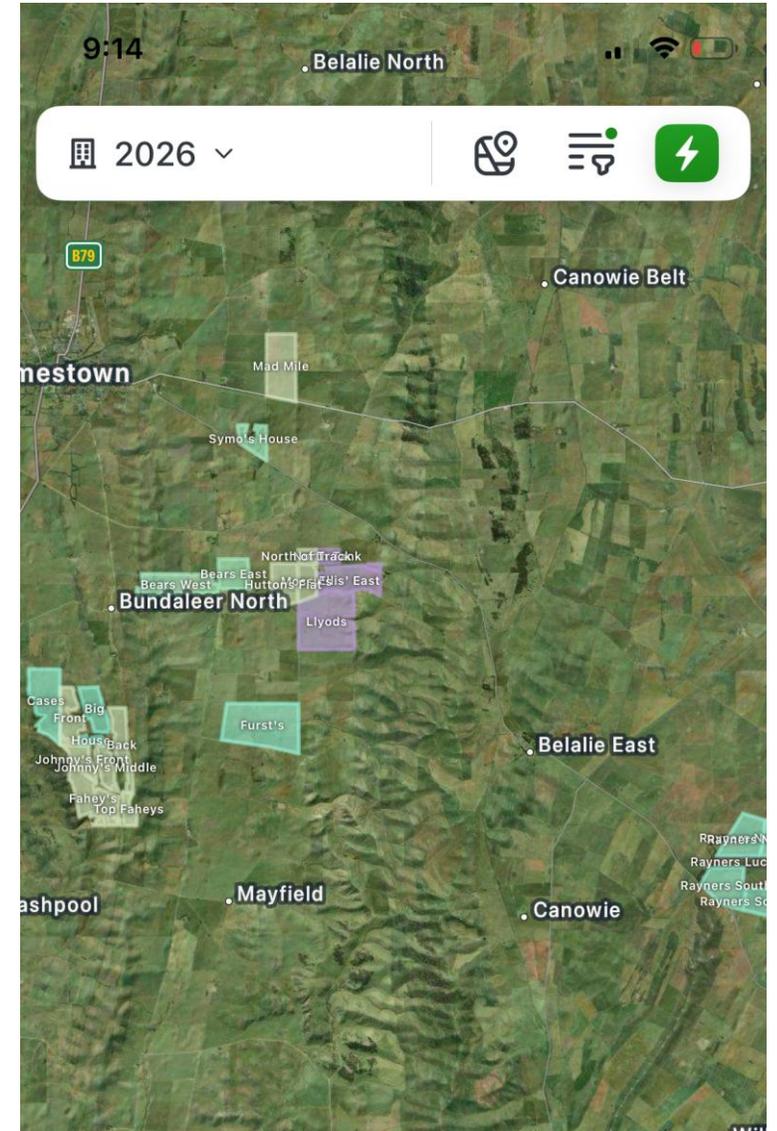
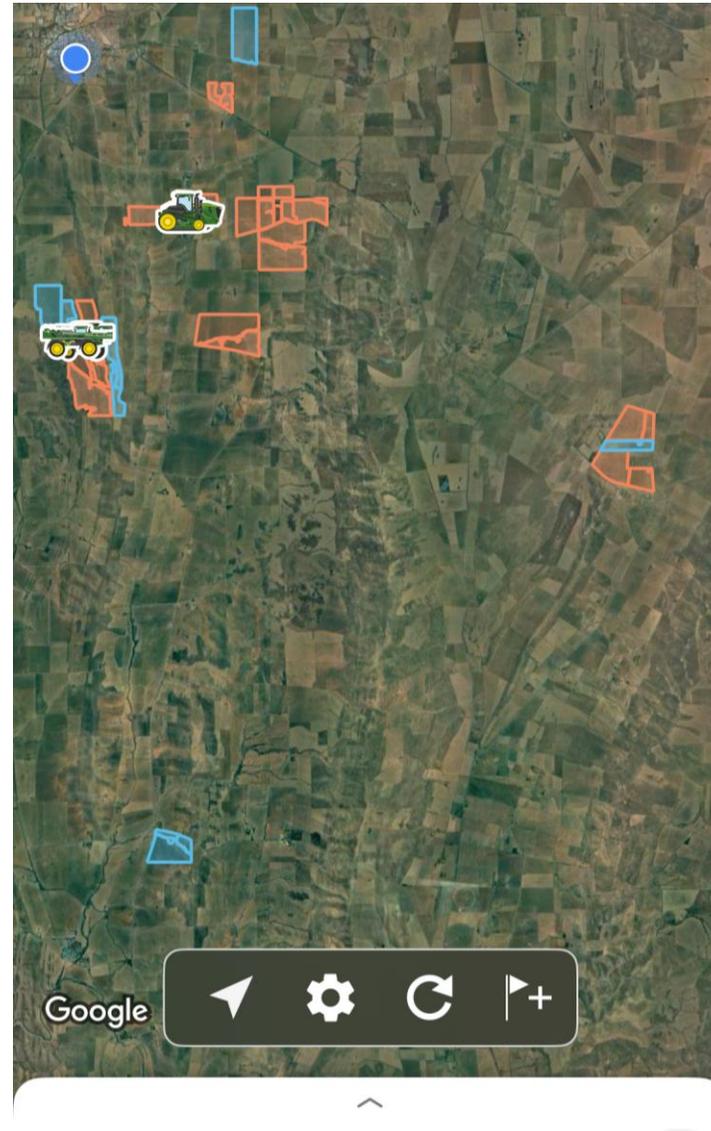
An example of PH on purchased land. The resulting VR prescription of Lime

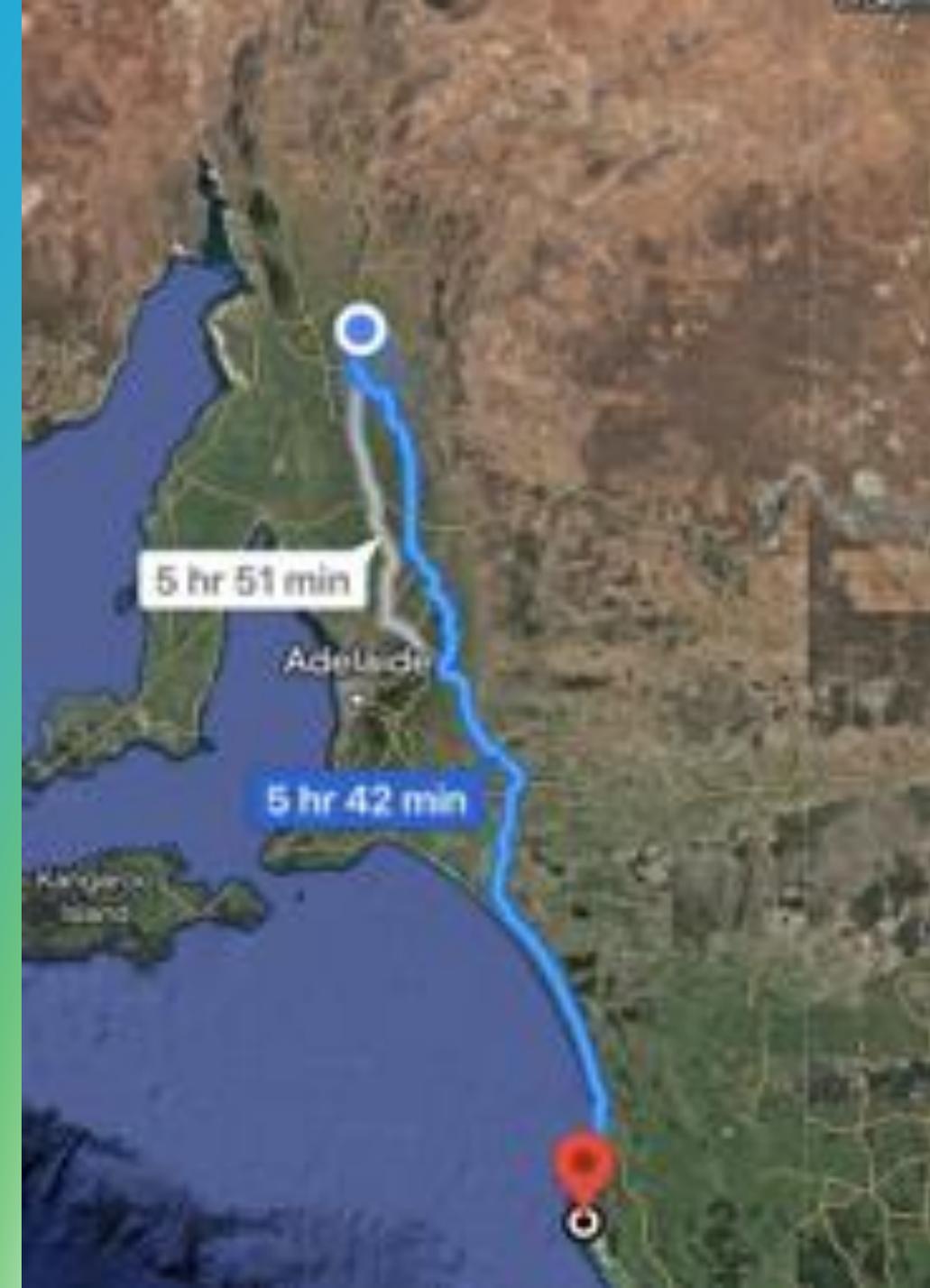


The follow up test and resulting prescription

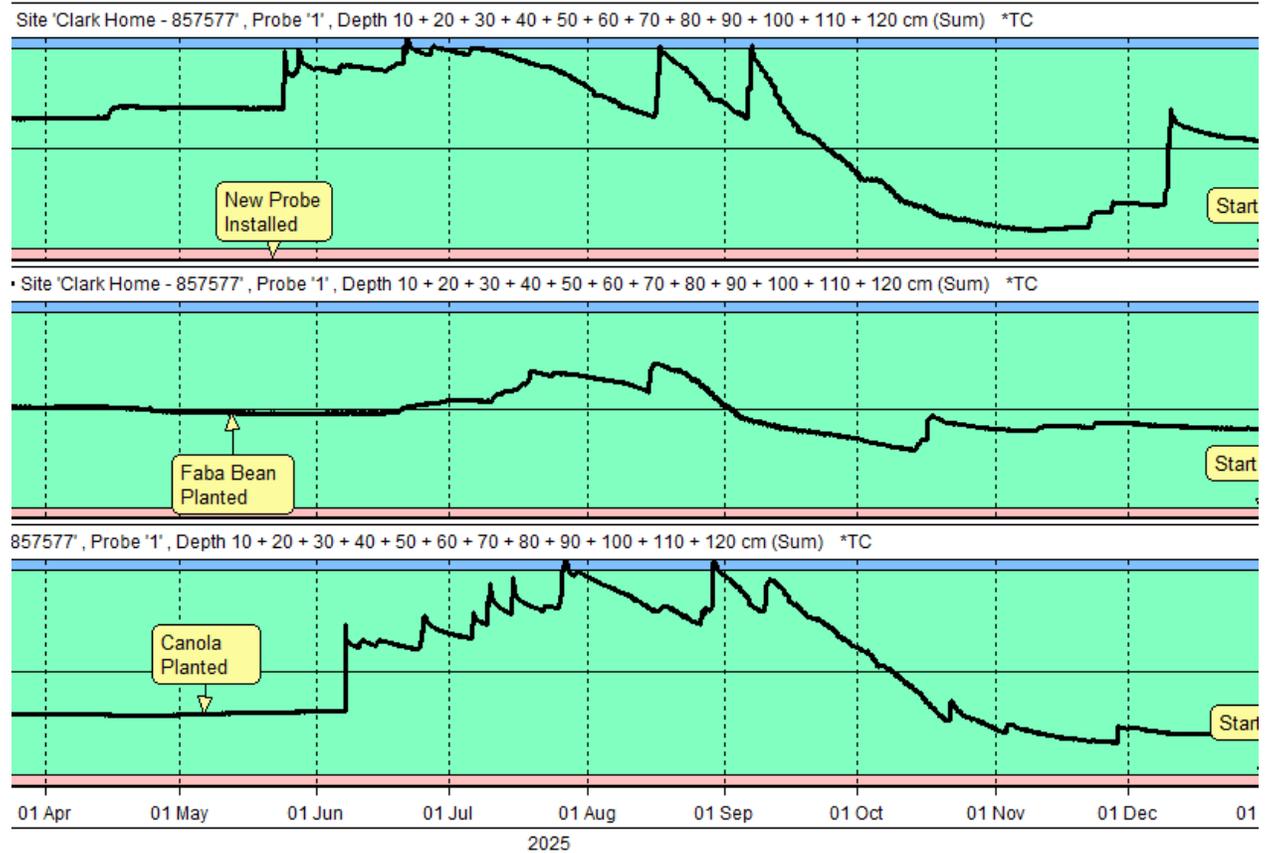


- Poor photos showing boundaries and recording in JD My operations.
- Synced with Agworld.
- All machines have MTG's so no operation/cost is missed.
- We both have roles, but the decisions are \$/Ha based.
- That can be in season or post season.
- Budgets can be done with agronomist in Agworld, figures moved into MYOB or any program for accurate cashflows.

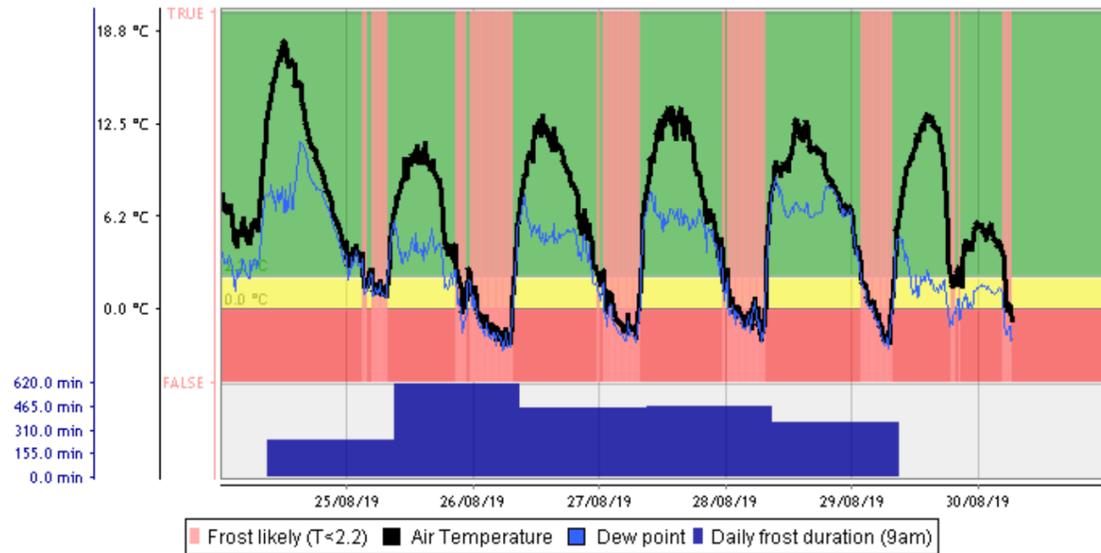




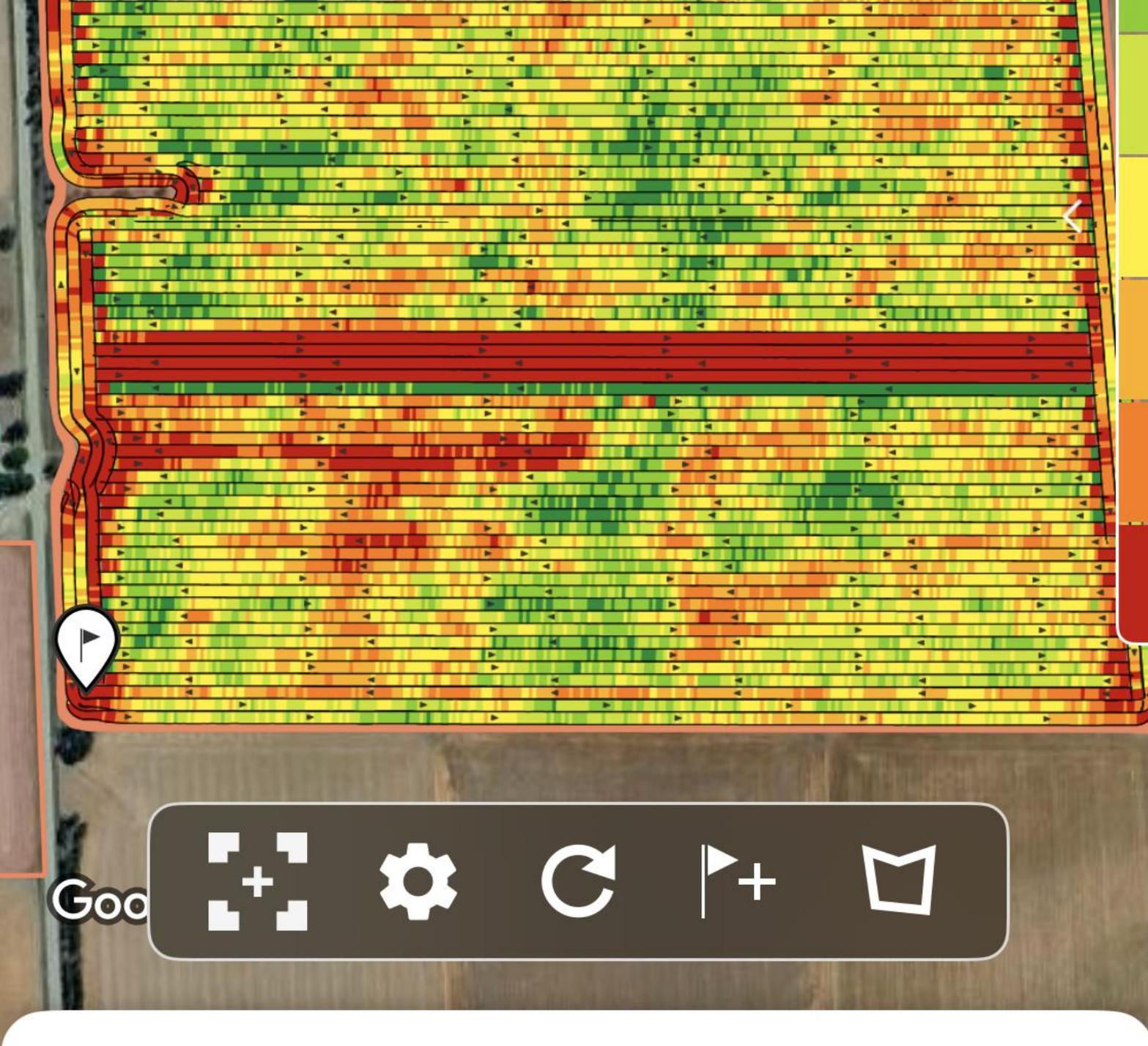
- Focus on Quality Data and Products.
- 5 weather stations and 7 Moisture probes.
- Fuel gauge for the season, first one installed in 2013.
- Disc system requires quality Lime product, less tonnes more results.



Frost one of our biggest issues.



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
🌡️ AVG (°C)	23.9	22.8	19.1	17.8	10.4	7.3	8.2	8.7	8.6	15.5	16.3	17.2	14.4
🌡️ MIN (°C)	5.1	4.0	2.8	3.2	-2.3	-3.7	-4.3	-4.3	-5.8	-3.9	-1.3	5.9	-5.8
🌡️ MAX (°C)	42.3	39.6	36.0	35.5	23.4	18.4	20.8	21.2	25.1	34.5	33.7	31.9	42.3
☁️ SUM (mm)	11.2	2.6	6.2	9.2	25.0	35.6	20.8	53.6	7.2	8.0	45.2	9.0	233.6
💧 AVG (% RH)	43.6	44.7	50.0	52.7	70.3	73.7	68.4	68.1	64.3	52.7	54.9	57.4	58.6
💧 MIN (% RH)	7.2	10.2	10.7	13.6	24.3	24.5	20.8	23.9	15.9	13.3	10.8	17.0	7.2



- Sometimes your own research is the best.
- Dark green line is one of our main varieties.
- Results in yields between 1.95- 0.35t/Ha



- Have tried wide row legumes/Canola at 20", our environment is too cold with late breaks.
- Used VR P from 2008-13, yield maps reversed in poor/good years, stuck with blanket rates.
- Liquid system from 14-22, fixed a need for a period, results not equating to yield. Not required anymore.

- Irrigation trial at Hallett.
- 4.5 circles of 13ha each.
- Lucerne based, just enough water, essentially a top up.
- weeds love water, should have cropped it more often to “Clean up” before planting lucerne.
- Security for stock in poor years, or 2 hay cuts and seed or more hay, market dependant in normal years.
- Started with trailed type irrigator, 100km/day driving in and out to move, settled on pivot, full control from phone, alerts by text message, turn on/off remotely.



- Has been extremely dry out there.
- More a supplement to rainfall.
- Sodic clay slow on infiltration.
- A work in progress, results slow but it is promising.



- Summary, every farm, paddock, area is different.
- Find varieties/crops/rotations that suit your paddocks or farms.
- Layer data for long term trends, can add up chasing quick fixes.
- Get the basics correct first, add from there to fill in the gaps.

