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PRESS RELEASE

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WIN TWO TONNES OF SEED AT THIS YEAR'S HART FIELD DAY

The 28th annual Hart Field Day will be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2010, and promises to provide graingrowers with a “one-stop-shop” for information on a wide range of agronomy and crop variety topics.

And for anyone needing extra incentive to head along, two tonnes of certified seed – including 1T of Scout wheat seed and 1T of PBA Gunya pea seed - will be given away as a gate prize to farmers registering before 10am.

The field day begins at 10am (gates open at 9am) and runs through until 3.30pm with participants able to choose their own combination of speakers, dependant on individual interests.

Everything from herbicide tolerance and phosphorus fertilisers to water use efficiency and wheat varieties will be covered.

Hart Field-Site Group trials manager Peter Hooper said it was an excellent opportunity to hear the latest research and trials information straight from the researchers.

“There’s a huge variety of topics, any farmer should be able to come along and see interesting and relevant speakers,” he said.

“Even if they’re not interested particularly in the trials, all the researchers are there to have a chat with over lunch. It’s a great chance to press the flesh with the researchers and it’s an ideal opportunity to have direct access to these grain industry professionals.”

Mr Hooper said with a larger area of lentils being grown in South Australia this year, the lentil agronomy and harvesting sessions would be valuable for many growers.

South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) research scientist Larn McMurray and Yorke Peninsula lentil grower Kyle Holman will lead the sessions focussing on maintaining lentil quality and harvesting.

Fenceline weed control is another interesting topic of relevance to all farmers and will be led by Dr Chris Preston from Adelaide University.

“Chris will be looking at how we can better control weeds along fencelines and avoid herbicide resistance,” Mr Hooper said.

“There are already cases of Roundup or glyphosate resistance, so it’s about looking at what we can do to avoid that.”

Well-known researchers Trent Potter, Rob Wheeler and Jason Eglington will be welcomed back for this year’s event, leading sessions on canola, wheat and barley varieties.

Jeff Braun will have a microwave set up in the field to demonstrate how to accurately test head moisture for crop topping, and Glenn McDonald from Adelaide University will have a heat chamber to demonstrate the effect of heat stress during grain fill.

Those feeling like they might need a sit down during the day will be well informed by renowned climate researcher Peter Hayman from the Waite campus, who will give a 2010 update on climate change and where we are at.

Peter will be set up in a marquee and Mr Hooper said it promises to be a worthwhile session, relevant to all farmers.

“For those who have perhaps had enough walking around looking at trials, I’d certainly encourage them along to sit down and listen to Peter who is a very highly regarded climate researcher,” Mr Hooper said.

“He is very realistic and gives very clear explanations on the current research into climate change.”

Full catering will be available on-site.

The Hart Field Day will be held 10 kilometres north of Blyth on the Blyth to Brinkworth Road and is well signposted.

Cost to attend the event is \$30 per person, or \$5 for students. Membership available on the day. Bus and group tours welcome.

More details are available on the Hart Field-Site Group website at www.hartfieldsite.org.au or by phoning 0427 423 154.



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