

the link

FarmLink Newsletter Spring 2016



FarmLink CEO Cindy Cassidy inspects the CSIRO Soil Water Project equipment in one of the trial paddocks which will be showcased at the FarmLink Open Day on September 2.



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Catch up with CEO Cindy Cassidy

Spring is (nearly) sprung! Hopefully this will mean the end of continuously wet feet for our crops and livestock.

You will see that this is the Open Day edition of The Link. For us Spring is all about showcasing the agricultural innovation from across the region. We have another great program for the 2016 FarmLink Open Day to be held Sept 2nd at TAIC. We have drawn from the many partnerships and projects that we are involved in to deliver for you, innovations in crop, livestock, biosecurity, soil moisture and nitrogen management as well as precision agriculture and the use of drones. The ladies' tour remains a feature of the day along with our informal cut out! You can read all about it in the Spring Link.

I have a bit of a confession to make - I was away during July when the bulk of the cold and wet, wet weather was happening. My July was consistently 25-35C and dry and included long walks and swimming in the Mediterranean. During July I travelled to France and Italy where part of my time was spent with the EU's Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) and the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). I met with representatives of the OECD and FAO as part of my RIRDC Rural Women's Award project to learn more about international approaches to agricultural innovation (RD&E).

It was really fascinating to meet with two very different organisations with very different philosophically points of view (economic rationalism versus sociology and common good) and to realise that they share the same ultimate objectives - profitable, sustainable food production and stable societies. Different starting points, different routes – same destination?

It crystallised for me that the innovation path we take in agriculture very much depends on where we want to be 10, 20 and 100 years from now. Do we accept that rural and regional development is explicitly dependant on profitable, sustainable agricultural industries? Do we value rural and regional communities? Do we accept that farmers are more than business people producing food? Farmers have a critical social and environmental function too. Farmers use doctors, hospitals & schools, support local businesses and community organisations – they are (part of) the fabric of local communities. And farmers are generational managers and protectors of vast tracts of the landscape – their own and that surrounding them. They play a huge role in the ongoing health of our soils and water. Does our vision for the future include vibrant rural communities as well as reliable and sustainable food production?



You never know where a FarmLink member sign might pop up. Even at the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

A key message for me is about farmers being at the centre of the innovation system. Not recipients of R&D outputs delivered via a linear path by technical experts. Rather, as participants in the iterative process of design, delivery and implementation of new ideas and technology where key inputs are the needs, constraints, opportunities and desires of farmers themselves. It is only when farmers are imbedded in the innovation that change is fully realised.

Here is a truism for you - nothing changes on a farm unless a farmer changes it.

Of course after straining my brain that much I was glad to immerse myself in the Mediterranean on the northern Italian coast for a few days of R&R.

Since returning we have had our members and partners' annual dinner. This year the dinner was held at the Marrar hall and we had a great attendance. There was a bit of fun had. It is our plan to go back to the tradition of taking the dinner to different local centres each year, embracing the fact that FarmLink is about its people and their communities.

Best wishes for the business end of the season and see you at the Open Day!

Cindy

Board of Directors

Each member of the FarmLink Board of Directors brings their own unique skill set to the organisation, combining business, governance management and agricultural skills to ensure a positive direction into the future.



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Open Day a blend of innovation



The 2015 Open Day crowd gathered before the morning session

From within the soil beneath us to flying overhead, this year's FarmLink Open Day has a raft of innovative agriculture developments covered in a full day format which will give participants the choice of following themes most relevant to their farming operations.

Two sessions – morning and afternoon – will be split by lunch at the Open Day HQ, around the TAIC offices area and an opportunity to catch up with friends and view the assembled trade stalls.

The day's program has been expanded to host six separate themes, with participants having the opportunity to follow two of their choice – one in the morning session, then another in the afternoon.

Theme 1 - Agronomic Innovations in WHEAT

Theme 2 - Overcoming CANOLA Production Barriers

Theme 3 - Managing SOIL Moisture and Nitrogen

Theme 4 - Profitable and Sustainable LIVESTOCK Production

Theme 5 - Applying DRONES in Agriculture

Theme 6 – Ladies' agronomy tour

The only exception is those choosing to join the Ladies' Agronomy Tour, which has been scheduled to pick-up various topics from each of the other five themes and run for the full day.

The day will start at the Open Day HQ with registration from 8.30-

9am, with entry of \$30 for FarmLink members and \$40 for non-members, followed by a welcome by FarmLink Chairman Darryl Harper and an address by Professor Chris Blanchard, Director of the ARC Training Centre for Functional Grains, CSU. Tim Harvey, General Manager Regional and Agribusiness Banking, NSW will also talk about innovation in banking and agriculture.

The Riverina Local Land Services Applying Drones in Agriculture complimentary morning tea will be enjoyed before everyone is directed to buses for the morning session to begin at the various sites around TAIC, including the trial paddocks and shearing shed. The Coffee Bar on Hoskins trailer will be on-site for those looking to buy an espresso.

The morning session will run from 10.30am to 12.30pm when buses will return to the Open Day HQ and a barbecue lunch will be available for purchase. No presentations or demonstrations have been scheduled over the one hour lunch break, giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy the drinks courtesy of the Commonwealth Bank and view the range of trade stalls which will be set-up on the day.

The afternoon sessions will then run from 1.30-3.30pm, when everyone will return to Open Day HQ to enjoy Cut-out drinks and sausage sizzle thanks to AGT until 4.30pm.

Everyone involved in, or with an interest in, agriculture in Southern New South Wales is invited to join in the FarmLink Open Day, with an opportunity to learn from the scientists and researchers behind the projects which are helping farmers to change, adapt and prosper.

WHEAT – Agronomic Innovations in Wheat



Allan Rattey of Dow Seeds, pictured at sowing time in the TAIC Irrigated Crop Breeding Precinct, will talk about the breeding program being undertaken in Temora.

Wheat is the major grain crop produced in Southern New South, playing an important role in both mixed and continuous cropping enterprises. Improved variety performance and agronomic management practices have resulted in long term yield gains.

The range of speakers developed for the WHEAT theme of FarmLink's Open Day, to be held in the TAIC trial paddocks, will look at new variety and agronomic innovations and how you can include them in your farming system. As with all themes on the Open Day, the WHEAT theme will be conducted in the morning and repeated again in the afternoon session.

Andrew Lockley of Landmark will open the WHEAT theme talking about a large range of new wheat varieties and the impact of time of sowing. With the prolonged wet conditions, we have seen marked differences in variety performance under excess water stress. He will take participants through the variations to be considered to ensure successful integration of different wheat varieties into the cropping program to maximise production.

AGT Marketing and production manager, James Whiteley will be talking about the suite of new AGT varieties in commercial production across Southern New South Wales and will also take the opportunity to announce the release of their new variety which is a higher yielding alternative to Gregory, with improved lodging tolerance, so having a fit for late April into May sowing.

Geoff Minchin of Riverina Local Land Services will then discuss Crop Health – Biosecurity and Pest Management and the initiatives which can be easily introduced to your property to minimise any

potential impact to productivity through introduced biosecurity threats. With the emergence of Russian Wheat Aphid in Australia for the first time this year there will also be an opportunity to talk about identification and management.

TAIC's Irrigated Cropping Precinct, which was developed early in 2016, will be showcased as Dow Seeds' Allan Rattey explains the Dow Seeds Wheat Breeding Program which has been relocated to Temora along with the particular focus his program has on the developing new winter dual purpose grazing varieties.

Participants will then move on to the GRDC Stubble Project, where CSIRO's Tony Swan will discuss the Effect of Management Strategies to Maintain Stubble in Contemporary Disc and Tine Cropping Systems. The research is being undertaken as a part of the ongoing GRDC funded National Stubble Initiative. The focus of the many streams of activity in this project is to maintain profitability within stubble retained systems. The last decade has demonstrated the importance of moisture conservation to crop productivity and the role that retained stubble can play in that. As stubble retention has become an established practice new obstacles and opportunities for innovation have presented themselves.



**Local Land
Services**
Riverina

CANOLA – Overcoming Production Barriers



The NDF seeder featuring seed singulation technology which was used to plant a sowing strip trial at TAIC earlier this year. Adrian Roles will evaluate the trial at this year's FarmLink Open Day as a part of the CANOLA theme.

Hosted by AWB, counteracting the potential negative impacts of disease and weeds on canola production is the aim of this year's CANOLA – Overcoming Production Barriers theme at the FarmLink Open Day. This focus is particularly timely given the very wet conditions over winter and the likelihood of above average rainfalls into spring.

Breeding, disease, genetics, weeds and precision planting will be touched on during the five different topics which make up this year's CANOLA theme. It will kick off during the morning session, and as with all of the day's themes will be repeated in the afternoon.

Breeding Strategies to Overcome Disease Constraints will start the CANOLA theme, with Laura Maher, canola breeder with Cargill talking about the genetic and other resources available to combat canola disease – particularly blackleg. New varieties coming out of the Cargill program will benefit from the innovative approach being taken.

Angus MacLennan (Bayer) will talk about Using Genetics and Fungicides to Combat Blackleg in Canola, particularly the contribution genetic resistance plays in protecting canola against blackleg, whilst also examining some exciting new chemistry in the fight against this increased threat.

Following on the disease theme is Kurt Lindbeck Plant Pathologist with NSW DPI as he talks on Sclerotinia Management in Canola. Another threat to canola, which may be particularly relevant this season considering the environmental conditions, options for

Sclerotinia management will be addressed.

The competition posed by weeds and the growing concern of resistance will be the target of a joint presentation by Greg and Kirrily Condon of Australian Herbicide Resistance Initiative (AHRI) as they address Weed Control Strategies to Reduce Resistance. This is especially relevant given the role that canola often plays as a break crop for used to manage both weeds and disease.

Adrian Roles of JMAJ Farming will wrap the canola theme up with an Evaluation of Precision Planting Technology, a follow up from a sowing strip trial established at TAIC using an NDF disc seeder set up with seed singulation technology, which compares different seeding rates using precision and standard planting techniques to assess cost and yield impacts.



NEW HOLLAND T7 HEAVY DUTY RANGE

Designed with the modern farmer in mind



The new T7 Heavy Duty tractor from New Holland is a true farmers' tractor. Designed with the modern farmer in mind every feature of this range is the result of extensive global customer consultation. Delivering more power, the ability to lift and carry larger loads, and all in an ergonomically designed cab providing comfort for long days in the field.

Manufactured at the Basildon factory in the UK, the new T7 Heavy Duty meets World Class Manufacturing best practices, with every T7 Heavy Duty tractor built to the most rigorous standards ensuring it delivers day in day out. The T7 Heavy Duty range encompasses the essence of a high horsepower tractor in a standard frame within two models: the T7.290 and the T7.315. These two models offer 6% higher lift capacity than the standard T7 range, lifting up to 11058kg, enabling users to work with the largest of implements. The 11cm longer wheelbase delivers even greater high speed stability and draft performance. When coupled with the wider tyre offering, including the ultra-low compaction tyres, the T7 Heavy Duty range takes productivity to the next level.

The T7.315, recently awarded 2016 Machine of the Year in the L Category at Agritechnica, meets the needs of farming operations requiring the power of a large-frame tractor with the versatility and agility of a small frame machine. The T7.315 delivers versatility without equal for performing a wide range of field and haulage jobs, from row crop work, baling hay or mowing to hauling manure and other big chores. It also features the revolutionary IntelliCruise™ tractor-baler automation that enables New Holland's BigBaler

to control the tractor's speed to maximize productivity and bale consistency, making it the ultimate baling tractor.

The addition of the T7 Heavy Duty models to the extended T7 family means there is a New Holland T7 tractor to match any specific farming needs. The Heavy Duty's cousins have rated powers spanning from 140 to 240 horsepower, the ten-model T7 model line-up offers a choice of semi-powershift, full-powershift or continuously variable transmissions (CVT), with the T7.225, T7.270, T7.290 and T7.315 only available with Auto Command™ CVT transmissions

The T7 Heavy Duty offers numerous built in strengths. Providing more power with up to 313hp on tap the T7's strength allows it to work with even the most power hungry implements.

Offering sophisticated features that are easy and intuitive to access including the SideWinder™ II armrest users can easily access all key controls. Throttle, transmission and hydraulics. Fitted with up to 20 LED work lights the T7 Heavy Duty can keep operators working around the clock and with its ultra-comfortable seat and industry leading Horizon™ cab long days in the cab are never an issue.

Strong enough to deal with draft work, tillage applications, baling, transport - the T7 Heavy Duty has everyone's needs covered.

To find out more about the New Holland T7 Heavy Duty Range or other products from the range visit your New Holland dealer, Temora Truck and Tractor at their stand at the FarmLink Open Day on September 2, or check out the website at www.newholland.com



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LIVESTOCK – Profitable and Sustainable Production



Murray Long of Clearview Consulting with the Satellite Flock at Temora Ag Innovation Centre.

Whether 100% sheep production is your farming preference or producing livestock within a mixed farming system is your current enterprise, the LIVESTOCK theme at the September 2 FarmLink Open Day will offer you a range of learning opportunities.

Focusing on innovations in livestock production systems this session targets improved profitability and therefore sustainability of livestock systems. Murray Long of Clearview Consulting currently including livestock operations at Temora Ag Innovation Centre undertaking a range of mini projects looking at sheep nutrition and fertility. Murray has also bought to TAIC the Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) Satellite Flock project which is an exciting development contributing to a nationwide project focussing on genetic selection.

The LIVESTOCK theme will begin in the TAIC Shearing Shed and has been developed as a combination of presentations and practical demonstrations across the five topics in the session. Like all other Open Day themes, the LIVESTOCK session will be run in the morning and the afternoon.

Richard Apps, Sheep R&D Program Manager with MLA will open the session with a discussion on Innovation in the Sheep Industry as MLA embarks on an exciting time of further innovation.

Murray Long of Clear View Consulting will speak about New Technology Maximising Sheep Production, including significant digital and genetic technologies developed over the last decade such as the Satellite Flock, and smart technology.

Supplementary Feeding of Sheep – Reproduction and Finishing will be the second topic Murray Long will focus on during the session. Following on from research undertaken at TAIC in 2015, Murray will work through the critical attention required to the level of nutrition provided to sheep to ensure the highest levels of production.

From there, the session will move outside, where Rahul Shankar and Liz Braddon of Riverina Local Land Services will discuss Ovine Brucellosis – Palpation Equals Biosecurity Plan in Action, including a practical demonstration of ram palpation. Biosecurity has a huge role to play in protecting and maximising the profitability of your livestock enterprise. LLS have information and grants available to help you manage pest and disease incursions on your farm.

Finally, is a demonstration of innovation and smart technology developing in the livestock industry, with Brendan Nolan of Shearwell showing how Electronic Identification Tags and Automated Sheep Handling can improve efficiency and productivity. This will be an opportunity to see the ease with which critical sheep productivity information can be captured and stored for later analysis and decision making.

CommonwealthBank



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DS PASCAL

Genetic gain towards improving preharvest sprouting tolerance

With good rainfall this season, Australia's wheat crop is set for an exceptional year. However, if rainfall continues during grain ripening and harvest, it could have devastating effects and reduce growers' returns due to pre-harvest sprouting (PHS). 2010 was the last widespread 'wet harvest', with GRDC estimating losses of approximately \$100 million due to PHS.

PHS in wheat is where the germination process begins within the spike before harvest (Fig. 1). During germination, enzymes begin to break down starch, which reduces applications for which the flour is useful. The impact of PHS of grain is assessed as low falling numbers at receival points. Whilst sound grain will have a falling number >350, grain affected by PHS is lower. If the falling number is <300, the grain is graded as 'feed'. If an APH line has a falling number of 300-350, this also causes a quality down grade. Therefore, low falling numbers due to PHS will significantly reduce the value of delivered grain.

PHS occurs with prolonged rainfall, high humidity and/or low drying conditions when the grain is harvest ripe. There are several methods for estimating PHS, with germination index (GI) the most common. GI is estimated on harvest ripe seeds in a Petri dish and assessed for sprouting over a number of days; lower GI indicates better tolerance to PHS.

High levels of grain dormancy, or reduced PHS effects, should be seen as an 'insurance' to limit the impact of PHS. Currently, limited genetic tolerance to PHS exists amongst Australian wheat lines. Graph 1 shows data sourced from a GRDC project at University of Adelaide. Amongst lines with similar maturity, Graph 1 highlights the market leading PHS tolerance of DS Pascal via significantly lower GI than other lines.



Figure 1. Sprung wheat

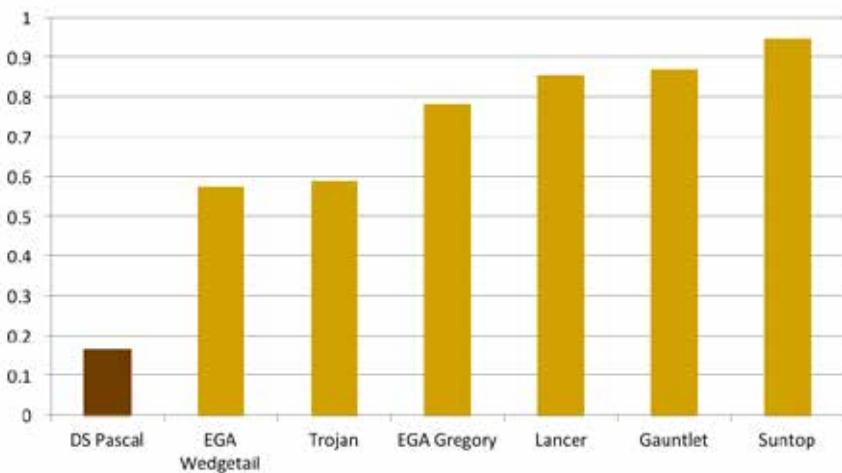
The falling number of Pascal was sufficient to attain AH status across both trials, whilst Chara would have been downgraded to feed on both occasions. Sunvale was downgraded to feed once and EGA Wedgetail would not have been eligible for APH status as its falling number was <350.

Graphs 1 and 2 illustrate how DS Pascal has greater genetic potential for seed dormancy than other current varieties. DS Pascal is an early season variety that has been classified APW for SNSW, Vic and SA; an upgrade application to AH in SNSW will be lodged in 2016. It is best suited to medium to high yield potential areas, and is excellent under irrigation. DS Pascal also has excellent standability and harvestability, with strong yellow leaf spot (MRMS) resistance.

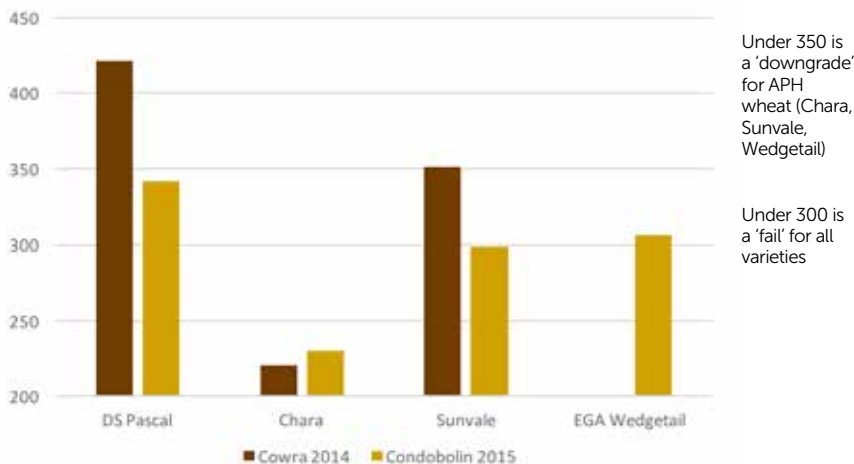
PHS tolerance in DS Pascal is the result of targeted, intensive phenotyping. This involves multiple rounds of selection under a rain simulator, along with sourcing and introgression of novel germplasm. Through this process, Dow Seeds now have a robust suite of alleles underpinning superior PHS within our breeding programs. Whilst DS Pascal marks our first launch of the PHS trait, we aim to launch a new variety during 2016 for 2017 seed sales in Northern Australia.

The release of DS Pascal in 2016 provides growers with a new benchmark for PHS tolerance, which brings the potential of saving growers significant grain quality downgrades due to PHS in wet harvests.

For more information regarding DS Pascal, contact your local agronomist, your local Dow AgroSciences representative on 1800 700 096 or visit www.dowseeds.com.au



Graph 1. Germination Index of similar maturity wheat varieties



Under 350 is a 'downgrade' for APH wheat (Chara, Sunvale, Wedgetail)

Under 300 is a 'fail' for all varieties

Graph 2. Falling number for southern wheat varieties over two seasons

SOILS – Managing Moisture and Nitrogen

When you think about Managing soil moisture and nitrogen it is usually water that is the limiting factor. This season due to the higher than usual rainfall the region has received, a lot of crops may be facing a nitrogen deficit. This theme focuses on the often unseen – SOILS – how we can understand our soil's moisture holding capacity and moisture levels to better manage the groundcover and crop productivity.

Some timely partnerships has placed FarmLink in the unique position to offer Open Day participants the opportunity to learn from a range of speakers who will 'drill down' into a selection of topics which will provide a better understanding of what lies beneath and how it effects your mixed farming operation.

Securing funding under the National Landcare Programme Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants has allowed FarmLink to deliver the Landcare Soil Moisture Education Soil Moisture Education for Landowners to Avoid Erosion and Achieve Productivity Outcomes Project.

The project, supported by funding from the Australian Government, is designed to improve landholder understanding of soil moisture conditions through the use of raw data, the establishment of yield modelling and data analysis and interpretation. This information will be communicated to landholders at a workshop to support the development of seasonally appropriate management strategies optimising agricultural productivity and environmental outcomes.

The SOILS theme will be held in TAIC's paddock 11, the site of CSIRO's Soil Water Project - a field scale project that will develop innovative satellite based systems help farmers make better crop management decisions using soil water information.

Five topics will be covered in the SOILS theme, which will operate in the morning session and then repeat in the afternoon, giving Open Day participants two opportunities to join in the session.

Paul Hutchinson of Hussat will open proceedings as he discusses innovations in Moisture Probe Technology for dryland farming. He will look a why different technology suits specific conditions or individual farm requirements.

Soil Characterisation – water holding capacity and Plant Available Water (PAW) – will be the focus of the second address, presented by Mark Glover of CSIRO; followed by fellow CSIRO researcher, Ben Macdonald, who will discuss New Technology to assess soil moisture.

Chris Minehan of Rural Management Strategies will then target Understanding Soil Water to Improve Nitrogen Decision Making, which is the focus of FarmLink's Weather or Not publication.

The final topic for the theme will be presented by Rob Norton, explaining Nitrogen Application Strategies in High Rainfall Years. Rob's work is part of the National GRDC funded Initiative "Making More Profit from Crop Nutrition" and FarmLink is assisting Birchip Cropping Group to deliver key messages from the project locally.



CSIRO's Ben Macdonald will be a key presenter in the SOILS – Managing Moisture and Nitrogen theme at FarmLink Open Day on September 2.



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Ladies' Agronomy Tour



A huge hit last year, the Ladies Agronomy Tour, is a program of presentations from across all the Themes – WHEAT, CANOLA, SOILS, LIVESTOCK and DRONES. A cross section of presentations has been selected and great speakers to ensure that there is something relevant to every farming situation.

The tour will be guided by one of our committed FarmLink members with passion and knowledge of agricultural R&D and the sessions will provide participants with plenty of opportunity to ask any of those questions you have been saving up.

The tour is hands on from the start with a discussion about Brucellosis in rams. Brucellosis seriously impacts ram fertility and spreads easily. The good news is that prevention is as simple as checking rams prior to purchase. Riverina Local Land Services vets, Rahul Shankar and Liz Braddon, will be on hand to demonstrate the process and talk about general strategies to protect your farm biosecurity. Brendan Nolan from Shearwell will also demonstrate the use of electronic ear tags and auto weighers to simplify the

capture and storage of critical data about your sheep flock.

The tour then heads up the paddock to link with three of our industry experts in canola disease management – Laura Maher, canola breeder with Cargill, Angus MacLennan, technical advisor with Bayer and Kurt Lindbeck, plant pathologist with NSW DPI. Between these three you will hear about chemical, genetic and agronomic strategies to reduce the incidence and impact of two important canola diseases, Black Leg and Sclerotinia.

After lunch the tour resumes in the trial paddock with Kirrily and Greg Condon looking at weed management strategies to reduce resistance and Andrew Lockley talking about the impact of sowing time on variety performance.

The tour then moves to the soils theme and will hear from Mark Glover discussing how to assess your soil water holding capacity and plant available water. The group will then finish with some technology Nic Wilke demonstrating the safe and practical use of drones in agriculture.

DRONES – Applying Drones in Agriculture

From what lies beneath in the SOILS theme to looking down from above, the DRONES theme – Applying Drones in Agriculture will help everyone get a birds eye view of the opportunities available to farmers who choose to invest in aerial-based technology.

FarmLink has partnered with Riverina Local Land Services and TAFE NSW Riverina Institute to develop the DRONES theme, with practical demonstrations and an opportunity to analyse data capture available through the use of drones. LLS has also generously offered to sponsor the Open Day morning tea as a part of the Applying DRONES in Agriculture theme.

As with all Open Day themes, the DRONES session will be held in the morning session and then repeated in the afternoon.

Nic Wilke of TAFE NSW Riverina Institute will start with the basics, which apply to anyone who has already, or intends to purchase a drone as a part of their farming operation. The Drones Safety and Flying presentation will take participants through the basics of operating and flying a drone. There will be an opportunity to try your hand at getting one of Nic's drones off the ground – and of course discussion of the safety issues which need to be taken into consideration.

Taking drones beyond a fun way of seeing your farm from above will be unravelled by Andrew Whitlock of Precision Agriculture, who will talk about the serious management applications of drones and other aerial technologies as he discusses Managing Paddock Variability with Soil Maps, NDVI

Imagery and Yield Data.

The practical application of drone technology will be further explored by Andrew Watt of Hutcheon and Pearce with his talk on Farmer Ready Drones to Capture NDVI and How it Compares to Satellite Imagery. Drones might not be the only solution [no really??]. Understanding the different technologies and what you can learn from them is important in helping to make the decision whether or not to purchase a drone.

As a part of the DRONES theme, participants will be able to watch drones operating on the day, and may even have the opportunity to test fly a drone for themselves.

Out on the Farm

An update from Temora Agricultural Innovation Centre (TAIC)



Like everywhere else across the region, gumboots have been the workwear of choice at Temora Ag Innovation Centre as sodden laneways and paddocks have proven a challenge in gaining access to crops, let alone carrying out scheduled spraying and spreading.

Despite this, the majority of planned spray and urea applications have taken place in between rain. Some spraying has been done by 4 wheel motorbike as access by anything bigger was not possible. So far we have managed not to bog anything but many of the paddocks are still so wet that the CEO driving her car out there might just manage it! A few paddocks have suffered major waterlogging and the crops have suffered as a result, while others have come away from the wet period relatively unscathed and in a good position. Our lightest paddock that struggles even in normal years is actually looking the best right now.

Canola is starting to flower and farm staff will be keeping a close eye out for disease issues such as sclerotinia and blackleg in the canola paddocks, and rusts in the wheat and barley. We are trialling Aviator on some of the canola thanks to Angus MacLennan at Bayer.

The MLA Satellite Flock project has moved on to the next phase, with lambs on the ground and the weighing regime underway. All the sheep appear to be enjoying the recent sunshine.

Like this edition of The Link, focus is now on the Open Day, with preparations including laneway and fence line spraying, mowing and trial paddock maintenance to make sure TAIC is looking its best to welcome participants at the September 2 event.

See you there!

Diary

September 2

FarmLink Open Day

September 20-22

Henty Machinery Field Days

September 28-30

Universities Crop Competition

September 9

The Business of Farming workshop

September 12

Partners in Grain - Tools, Technology and Tablets workshop

Current Projects

- GRDC Crop Sequencing (CSP-00146)
- GRDC/Department of Agriculture Cropfacts Soil Carbon (CRF00002)
- GRDC Early Sowing (CSP-00178)
- GRDC Harvest weed seed control in the Southern region (2015.03.06D)
- GRDC Managing Subsoil acidity (GRDC DAN00206)
- GRDC Regional Soil Testing (DAN0000168)
- GRDC Stubble Initiative (CSP-00174)
- GRDC Strategic Tillage (DAN00152)
- Landcare Soil Moisture Education
- Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) Resource Flock Database Satellite Flock

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