

FACEY CONNECT

LEADING, INSPIRING, SUPPORTING AND CHALLENGING
OUR LOCAL FARMING COMMUNITY



August 2021



**Facey Findings:
WH&S Update
Briefing**

**Register for the
Spring Field Day**

**Animal Health:
Campylobacteriosis**

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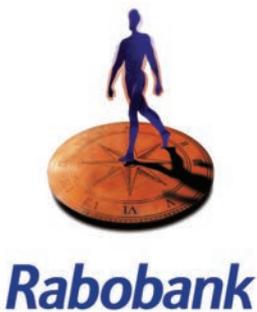
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Major Sponsors



The Facey Group would like to acknowledge and thank our valued sponsors Agrimaster, Australian Grain Technologies, CSBP, Elders Insurance, Elders Wickepin, Ewen Rural Supplies, Farm Weekly, Grain Growers, Planfarm, and Tincurrin Rural Services.

A Note from the EO

Hi everyone, I hope the season is progressing well for you.

This month we held a very well attended Legal Briefing and AWI Lamb dinner. Thank you to AWI and all who supported these events.

First up, was eminent Industrial Relations Lawyer Greg Smith from Wayland Legal. Greg talked us through the new Work Health & Safety Act, coming into effect Jan 2022, and it's potential implications for frontline supervisors and small business owners (aka farmers) - the most vulnerable to prosecution. Helen Duncan has put together a great summary in this newsletter- please take the time to read. The take home message is that safety records are critical and if we are to implement a safety system we MUST integrate it into our daily systems and use effectively. The Facey Group is excited to keep working with Greg into the future and we welcome any feedback on the next steps for us as a group.

Following the challenging safety talk, we segued into our Australian Wool Innovation Future Wool dinner with the very clever and passionate AWI WA-Lead Ellie Bigwood. Ellie took us on a fantastic journey demonstrating the incredible things AWI is working on for levy payers and reminding us of the significance of the Facey Group region to the states wool crop. We learnt so much about local and international marketing, research and development for improved practice on farm as well as R&D beyond the farm gate to ensure our product is keeping current and front of mind in industry and fashion houses.

We are also very excited to host our annual Spring Field Day on the 8th Sept. Unfortunately, our Keynote Speaker John Gladigau couldn't make it



Dr Kelly Pearce, Facey Group Executive Officer

over from SA but hopefully he will be able to attend trials night in March 2022. Please see the flyer for more details but we will visit the Elders trial site near Wickopin, head out to Geoff Poultney's place and finish with a sundowner at Yealering. Hope to see you all there.

Facey Group are also the State Coordinators for the GRDC Harvester Setup workshops across the state. After the Spring Field Day, we will take the workshops on a roadshow with the likes of Ben Newman from the Kondinin Group, Peter Newman from Planfarm and many other industry experts. The nearest site for Facey members is Kondinin and all members are welcome. See flyer for further details.

Best wishes, till next month.

Facey Findings

By Helen Wyatt (Duncan)

Workplace Health & Safety Update & your obligations

We were lucky enough to have Greg Smith from Wayland Legal come and speak with regards to new legislation changes, for those who couldn't make it or forgot to take notes I will try to summarise. The examples I've given are by no means the only ones to consider – more used to try and illustrate, and don't take this as legal advice – I'm certainly not qualified for that!

In essence, what was the OSH Act is moving to the Work Health and Safety Act – and basically sees an increase in penalties where those with a duty of care (employer/person conducting a business) have a workplace incident (death/serious injury or illness/dangerous incident) involving a worker (employee/contractor/apprentice/volunteer).

Penalties are being increased to both companies and individuals, new penalties added for company officers and increased/additional jail time for individuals and company officers. In the case of Death or Serious harm the penalties may now be up to \$3.5Mill for the company, \$680K and 5 yrs jail for company officer, and/or \$340K and 5yrs jail for an individual's first offence. If you are a signatory for your company you are a company officer, even if you have no active role on farm in managing risk/safety.

Worksafe may find you liable if:

- hazards in your business have not been identified
- if controls were not developed for known hazards
- if the controls you had in place were not followed
- safety systems were not enforced

Sounds scary, so what should you do:

- Know your minimum mandatory requirements as regulated by law – these are specific and prescriptive – i.e. Truck licenses, forklift licenses (there are some new ones coming later in the year so maybe wait until then)
- Identify your real high risk hazards – these are specific duties with discretionary requirements. What are the real nasty things in your business/habits that you know are not safe i.e. quadbikes, old tractors with no brakes, PTO shafts – what are your workplace requirements – Training? Wearing safety equipment? Limited use? Guards? Is it time to just get rid of it/stop it all together?
- Develop a general safety management description document – create a proper system. This doesn't have to be complex, the more you include the more you are obligated to complete. Will you actually do a daily pre-start check or is a weekly/monthly more realistic? It may be better to just show workers in an induction process that machinery must always be looked over/checked before and during operation – aim to create a safe habit and culture.

Your safety document should include

- How safety is managed
- Summary of key risks and controls

Facey Findings cont.

If you are utilising a purchased pre-set safety program then it is deemed that you are committing to follow it – understand what is actually included in it and if it doesn't fit your business/risk profile/systems and you won't actually follow it then discuss with your provider to change it – a system that is not followed may create greater liability.

Keep Records of the following

- Training and information
- Hazard reports and response
- Inspections and checks

Hopefully that sums up what you should be considering when managing safety in your business, at the end of the day we all want to get home to loved ones and keep our businesses in successful operation. If you are just completely overwhelmed Facey Group would love to hear your feedback on how we can work to help you with this going forward? Would you like us to hold more workplace health and safety training events? As always, get in touch to let us know what you'd like to be presented to keep ahead.



AgREC Update

By Amy Bowden

As we welcome the onset of spring, we also welcome the abundance of field days, ram sales and industry events.

On Wednesday the 8th September, Facey Group is hosting our annual Spring Field Day. Topics to be covered include:

- Herbicide comparisons in wheat and canola
- Overwatch review – mechanism of damage and crop safety moving forward
- Soil health research and update
- Canola hybrid production and retention
- Grain market update
- Bednar Terralund amelioration
- Wheat and barley variety launch
- National variety trials
- Crop nutrition



Followed by a sundowner overlooking the Lake Yealering!

There will be two bus collection points for attendees – Wickepin and Yealering, with registration commencing from 9:30am. The field day will provide a great opportunity to expand your knowledgebase and kick the dirt with other local producers and industry representatives.

To register, please follow attached link: <https://www.trybooking.com/BTGSL>

We are also now beginning to organise the 2022 Spring Field day. If you are interested in hosting next years field day site, please do not hesitate to get in touch and let us know! We look forward to seeing you all out and about over the coming weeks.

Spring Field Day



8th September 2021

Sessions on the agenda:

- National Variety Trials
 - Crop Nutrition
 - Producer Priorities
- Cereal & Canola Weed Control Comparisons
 - Soil Amelioration
 - Overwatch Review

Members \$30

Non-Members \$60

Food & refreshments provided

Register at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BTGSL>

Registrations Open 9:30am

40 Wogolin Rd, Wickepin

Sundowner to finish

at Yealering Hall

Bus departing at 6pm

Or RSVP to Amy Bowden

agrec@faceygroup.org.au 0409 868 514 OR 9888 1223



The Facey Group would like to acknowledge and thank our valued sponsors Agrimaster, Australian Grain Technologies, CSBP, Elders Insurance, Elders Wickepin, Ewen Rural Supplies, Farm Weekly, Grain Growers, Planfarm, and Tincurrin Rural Services.

GRDC Western Region Harvester Forums



GRDC
GRAINS RESEARCH &
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



“These small field days are invaluable – you can talk to other growers, to understand what their challenges are and talk to the operators who are using these machines.”

WA Grower Tim Barndon

Goomalling

Tuesday 14th September

9:00am - 1:30pm

Register: trybooking.com/BSLXD

Address on registration

Morowa

Wednesday 15th September

9:00am - 1:30pm

Register: trybooking.com/BSLXR

Address on registration

Darkan

Tuesday 21st September

1:30pm - 5:30pm

Register: trybooking.com/BSLXX

Address on registration

Kondinin

Wednesday 22nd September

1:30pm - 5:30pm

Register: trybooking.com/BSLYE

Address on registration

Ongerup

Thursday 23rd September

1:30pm - 5:30pm

Register: trybooking.com/BSLYW

Address on registration

GRDC is hosting free half-day forums in your region to help growers reduce harvest losses, improve harvest weed seed control, improve sample and data quality and prevent harvest fires in 2021.

Join us for an interactive event and learn about:

- Understanding the impact of harvest loss, how to measure it and how to change your harvester to reduce losses
- HWSC latest information, how to set-up for effective HWSC using Mills systems (iHSD, Seed Terminator, Redekop SCU) Chaff Decks and Chaff Lining
- Reducing the risk of harvester fires
Improving sample data, quality and calibration
Harvest operations, productivity and economics

Forum leaders:

Peter Newman (Planfarm)
Brett Asphar (Seed Terminator)
Peter Broley (Primary Sales)
Ben White (Kondinin Group)

Alongside demonstrations by industry representatives and manufacturers.

Contact Facey Group

Kelly Pearce:

eo@faceygroup.org.au OR 0428 882 828

Animal Health Update

Campylobacteriosis

If your lamb marking percentage was not where you expected this year, you may have experienced a silent Campylobacteriosis infection.

Ovine Campylobacteriosis is caused by a naturally occurring bacteria, *Campylobacter fetus* ssp. fetus, and infections can cause ewes to abort or give birth to weak, non-viable lambs. Outbreaks are most common amongst maiden flocks, due to the limited opportunity they have had to develop a natural immunity. When a ewe becomes infected during pregnancy, the bacteria proliferates in the placenta, infecting the placental membranes and causing subsequent abortion one to three weeks following initial infection.



Campylobacter spreads through infected water and pasture. When a ewe aborts a lamb, she produces a discharge that is highly contaminated with the bacteria and is a common cause of transmission throughout a flock. The aborted foetus and placenta are also highly infectious. Aborted foetuses are usually not detected in the paddock, with the first signs commonly noticed including low lamb marking percentage or high newborn lamb mortality in the paddock. Campylobacter infections can be cyclical, causing a producer to experience an abnormally low marking percentage in one year, then have one or several years without issue, before the infection re-appears.

Campylobacteriosis can be zoonotic (transmissible to humans) resulting in gastro-intestinal illness. Therefore, it is recommended to avoid skin contact and follow appropriate hand hygiene if coming into contact with potentially infected lambs/aborted foetuses and birthing fluids.

A vaccine is available to prevent Campylobacteriosis infections in your flocks. Coopers Campyvax can be used, with two doses required for maiden ewes. Initial vaccination can conveniently occur pre-joining or as the rams are introduced to the ewes, with a second vaccination occurring when rams are removed. A single pre-joining dose may be provided to ewes prior to their second mating. However following this, it is not usually economical to continue vaccinating into subsequent breeding season, as the ewes should have developed a natural immunity.

For further information on Campylobacteriosis, contact your vet or local ag supplier.

Further info from DPIRD: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-biosecurity/ovine-campylobacteriosis-formerly-ovine-vibriosis>

NEWS from Our Partners



agrimaster[®]
Agribusiness accounting software

Budget Roadshow



Dates & Locations

2nd Sept - Geraldton
7th Sept - Dalwallinu
8th Sept - Merredin
9th Sept - Northam
14th Sept - Kojonup
15th Sept - Gnowangerup
16th Sept - Narrogin
22nd Sept - Esperance
24th Sept - Perth

Time: 9:30am - 3:30pm
Cost: Free

[Register here.](#)

Join us at the Budget Roadshow to learn how to use budgeting as a key strategic tool in your business to mitigate risk and optimise financial return.

With these practical examples you will learn:

- The hidden power in budgeting
- How to use budgeting when market forces and production variations affect your farm business
- Budgeting, forecasting and budget control best practice
- How to setup budgeting rhythms

Please note this workshop is not training and you will not be setting up a budget. You will learn how to adjust a demo budget with real-life scenarios to show you how budgeting can help your farm business grow with confidence.

Who is this event for

This event is for all current customers and non Agrimaster customers.

Non-customers can sign up for a 30 day trial for the event with no locked-in obligations.

Prerequisites

- Laptop and charger
- We recommend completing the [Full Budget Webinar Training](#)

Registrations will be limited and are open to non Agrimaster customers.

NEWS from Our Partners

CBH Grass Roots Community Grants are now open!

Our community grants are now open with cyclone recovery funding available.

CBH Group's Grass Roots Community Grants opened 1 August 2021, with regional community clubs and groups invited to apply for up to \$250,000 in available grants.

CBH opens its community grants program twice a year in August and February, offering up to \$150,000 each round to local clubs and groups who need a helping hand.

As announced in April, this funding round will have an additional \$100,000 set aside for community groups and local governments that were impacted by Tropical Cyclone Seroja and located within the declared disaster area.

The extra grants funding allocation is in addition to the \$150,000 that CBH donated to the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund Tropical Cyclone Seroja Appeal.

As per the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund and CBH grain growing regions, the declared disaster area includes the following Local Government areas: Carnamah, Chapman Valley, Coorow, Dalwallinu, Dandaragan, Greater Geraldton, Irwin, Koorda, Mingenew, Morawa, Mount Marshall, Northampton, Perenjori and Three Springs.

For more information and to apply visit: <https://www.cbh.com.au/community/grass-roots-community-grants>



NEWS from Our Partners

Weather pain, Aussie wheat price outlook gain

Editorial August 2021

Ongoing dry and hot weather in the US has driven a further rise in grain prices as the “market digests what the disappearing spring wheat crop could mean for global wheat supply”, says Rabobank senior commodities analyst Cheryl Kalisch Gordon.

CBOT wheat increased by five per cent in July to close out the month at just over USc 700/bushel, she says, as worsening conditions for spring wheat and canola in North America led to “a steady flow of reports of sizzled crops being made for hay”.

“This saw the high-protein MGEX spring wheat price reach above USc 900/bushel, its highest level since 2012,” she said.

“And with 99 per cent of the US spring crop now drought-affected, further downgrades beyond the USDA’s July cut are on the cards, which supports MGEX wheat staying at least where it is.”

Protein looks to be squeezed in Europe too, Dr Kalisch Gordon says, with heavy rain and flooding limiting harvest prospects and increasing the possibility of a lower-protein winter wheat crop in western Europe, while drought is a cause for concern for the Russian and Kazakhstan spring wheat crops.

“These northern hemisphere weather concerns have seen us lift our wheat price forecast,” she says, “with CBOT wheat expected to trade above USc 700/bushel out to mid-2022 before easing slightly to USc 680/bushel.”

Dr Kalisch Gordon says a tightness in the global corn balance sheet, which caused the corn price to double over the past 12 months, has also been supportive of wheat prices trading higher this year.

“Global corn stocks are at their lowest level since 2015/16 following the fourth consecutive year of consumption exceeding production,” she says. “This year’s deficit is due to some marked changes in imports and export availability from some of the world’s largest corn-market participants.

“China increased its import of corn by 240 per cent in the 2020/21 season diminishing stocks in the US, the world’s largest corn-producing nation.

“On top of this, drought severely affected the corn harvest in Brazil, the world’s second-largest corn exporter,



Dr. Cheryl Kalisch Gordon
Senior Analyst – Grains & Oilseeds; Head of
RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness – Australia &
New Zealand

NEWS from Our Partners

and there is reduced export availability from Europe and the Black Sea region.”

With stocks so low, Dr Kalisch Gordon says “wheat prices have come along for the ride” because corn, which accounts for 70 per cent of the grain used in feeding livestock globally, has become so expensive that alternative feed grains are being sought.

“And this has also translated into increased demand and higher prices for wheat.”

Domestically, “APW prices have been keeping in step with CBOT wheat this past month” despite firming 2021/22 crop prospects and offloading of stored grain ahead of harvest, she says.

“Our CBOT wheat price outlook, expectations of further AUD weakness and a strong competitive position into Asia mean we continue to see APW prices holding above AUD 300/tonne for the rest of the year and into the first quarter of 2022,” she says.

“The disappearing Canadian canola crop supports our expectations that AU non-GM canola will trade between AUD 680 and AUD 720/tonne, even with the positive outlook for Australian tonnes this year.”

Dr Kalisch Gordon said with local wheat protein spreads starting to open in response to the developing global wheat protein squeeze, a wet spring and run into harvest in Australia could trigger a further significant opening of the APW-AH-APH spreads.

To find out more about other Rabobank research, contact **Rabobank Narrogin** on 08 9890 0600 or subscribe to **RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness Australia & New Zealand** on your podcast app.



Rabobank

Upcoming Opportunities

Upcoming Workshops

**RURAL
EDGE**

Rural Edge Upcoming Online Courses

Farm Safety: Safeguarding your People and Business:

- Tues 21 September and Thurs 23 September (9:30am-12:30pm)
- Tues 12 October and Thurs 14 October (9:30am-12:30pm) [Register here.](#)

Team Dynamics for your Farm Business

- Tues 7 September and Thurs 9 September (9:30am-12:30pm) [Register here.](#)

Paperless Farm Office

- Run over three sessions: Mon 13 September (9.30am-12:00pm), Wed 15 September (9.30am-11.30am) and Fri 17 September (9.30am-11.30am) [Register here.](#)

Drought Resilience Innovation Grants up for grabs for drought resilience ideas

There is more than \$34 million on offer for innovative projects that manage and prepare for the impacts of drought. [For more information and to apply.](#)

Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program

Be part of a national network of mentors and mentees, sharing knowledge and learning from others to support and strengthen the agriculture sector and regional Australia. Applications Now Open. [Apply here.](#)

Grain Growers Leadership program

A new leadership program for grain industry people aged 21 to 35 is open for applications. The Australian Grain Leaders Program (AGLP) is a 12 month program spanning leadership knowledge, skills development, enterprise and industry engagement. The AGLP is an ideal opportunity for people who want to embrace the challenge of leading and driving change both on a personal and professional level in the grains industry. [Applications](#) close 8 October.

Breeding Leadership - Applications Open Now.

Breeding Leadership is a national program for young people in all facets of the wool industry and aims to develop the leadership and professional skills of young people involved in the wool industry. Funded by AWI and delivered by Pinion Advisory, Breeding Leadership forms a key part of AWI's growing commitment to education in the wool industry.

The week covers a range of topics including

- Strategy (understanding your business and industry),
- Understanding yourself (personality typing),
- Working in teams (accountability, communicating expectations, decision making)
- The future (entrepreneurship, innovation and managing change)

There is a full day bus tour to allow participants the opportunity to visit local leaders in a range of industries.

"It gave me a mandate to improve many aspects of my business management. Good communication in day to day running of the farm while also being an owner leader and expanding into industry leadership." - Ian Cameron from Jerilderie, NSW participated in Breeding Leadership in 2020.

The program develops skills and knowledge in personal leadership as well as strategic planning and team leadership. It also provides an excellent opportunity for participants to network with 25 other like-minded people from across Australia, as well as the skilled program deliverers and others from the wool industry.

The next Breeding Leadership course will be held in 2022 in Clare, SA. [Apply HERE.](#)



Industry NEWS

GRDC Summer weed survey 2019-21

By Andrew Storrie

Abstract from Final Report - The full report can be found here: <https://www.farmtrials.com.au/trial/32309>

Summer weeds continue to be highly prevalent in the Western Australian cropping region and reported as an issue by multiple grower networks. Declining winter and increasing summer rainfall in southern Australia increases the chances of summer weeds becoming an increasing problem for grain growers trying to conserve falls in summer.

Most weed surveys have been conducted along roadsides and the last in-paddock survey in WA was conducted in 2006 over a single season. In response, the Summer Weed survey of WA cropping districts commenced. In-paddock surveys were conducted in 197 paddocks over the summers of 2019-20 and 2020-21 to identify the diversity and abundance of summer weed species present across the GRDC Western region. Surveys covered the 6 agro-ecological zones (Agzones).

Over the two annual surveys 57 broadleaf, 16 grass and one monocotyledon weed species and 13 volunteer crop and pasture species were identified. Volunteer crop and pasture species tended to be the most abundant and had the highest incidence as was observed in the 2006 survey. Eight weed species identified in 2019-20 were not found in 2020-21. Eleven weed species found in 2020-21 were not found during the previous survey.

Weed abundance and diversity varied between years and Agzones. There were fewer species identified in 2020-21.

Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) and annual ryegrass (*Lolium rigidum*) were consistently the most frequent grass species followed by the native weed species stink grass (*Eragrostis cilianensis*) and small burgrass (*Tragus australiensis*). Grass diversity was generally lower than that of broadleaves, although inter-zone variability was less. Grass abundance was lower in 2020-21. Agzone 1 was the least diverse with four grass species while Agzone 4 was the most diverse with 12 species.

The five most abundant broadleaf weeds were capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), mintweed (*Dysphania pumilio*), paddy melon (*Cucumis myriocarpus*), Afghan melon (*Citrullus amarus*), and small-flowered mallow (*Malva parviflora*). In both years, the majority of flaxleaf fleabane (*Conyza bonariensis*), wireweed (*Polygonum aviculare*) and jersey cudweed (*Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum*) were large plants that had established in spring in the previous winter crop and had not been controlled prior to harvest.

Species that had a more northern distribution include tarvine (*Boerhavia coccinea*), sandplain lupin (*Lupinus consentinii*), button grass (*Dactyloctenium radulans*) and mulla mulla (*Ptilotus polystachyus*). Species more common towards the south include blackberry nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*), fleabane, sowthistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*) and common heliotrope (*Heliotropium europaeum*).

This research has shown that a wide range of climatic and environmental factors dictate the occurrence for specific weeds. Differences in the surveys between years shows the importance of multi-year projects involving weeds. This project also highlights the paucity of good information on the effects of stubble cover over summer on weed germination and establishment and reinforces the importance of management of

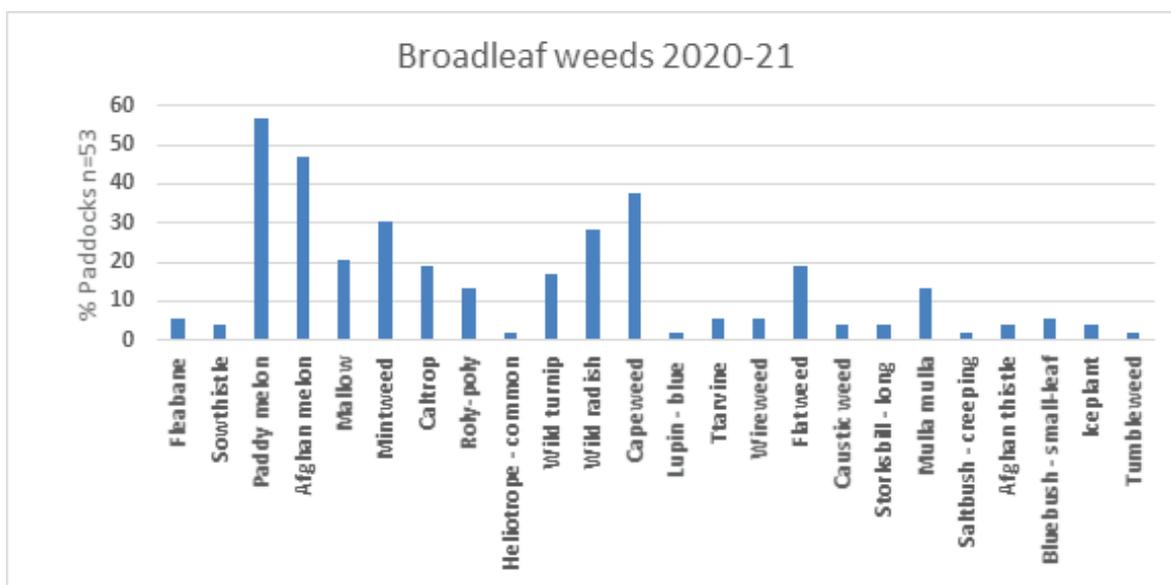
green bridges in summer, highlighting the need for a GRDC extension effort on green bridge management. Other outcomes include the training of five early career DPIRD agronomists in weed identification and survey technique.

Distribution maps of the seven most common and one potential problem weed species were also produced and found in the full report.

Agzone 2 results

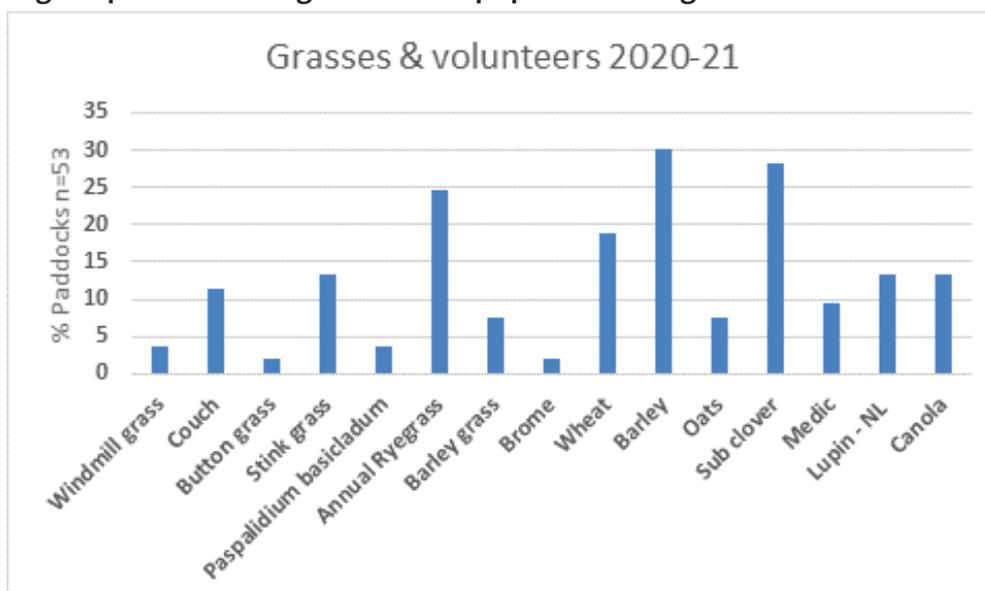
The most widely distributed broadleaf weeds in Agzone 2 (Table 1) are prickly paddy melon, Afghan melon, mintweed, capeweed, mintweed and wild radish.

Table 1. Percentage of paddocks in Agzone 2 with populations of broadleaf weeds 2020-21.



Once again, summer grasses were far less common than broadleaf weeds with stink grass, couch and windmill grass being the most common.

Table 2. Percentage of paddocks in Agzone 2 with populations of grass weeds and volunteers 2020-21.



Industry NEWS

Consumers now more positive on GM food The hip pocket and well-articulated benefits are key factors in public support for genetically modified foods, according to an international study. CropLife Australia CEO Matthew Cossey said it was important Australian farmers were able to choose innovative, safe and approved technologies such as GM crops. Subscribe to view story [here](#).

UWA Institute of Agriculture 2021 Industry Forum attracted a full-house crowd to the 15th annual event. Opened by The Hon Minister for Regional Development, Agriculture & Food and Hydrogen Industry Alannah MacTiernan MLC, explored the topic “Future-proofing WA agriculture: Maximising opportunities for a resilient food production system”. It was heartening to see so many members of the WA agriculture industry, research institutions and farming community coming together to watch our expert presentations and share ideas and innovation for the future. Watch the full event recording [here](#).

Getting to the root of profitable barley production For a century, Australian barley growers have focused on what happens above the ground in terms of adapting barley to diverse production environments. Now a new project is targeting promising root genes to offer Australian barley growers more stability in the face of water stress, and increased yields across seasons. Read more [here](#).

Gene-edited produce makes its case to consumers Gene-edited food is different than GM in several ways, and maybe most importantly, how it’s being communicated to consumers. Estes pointed out that while there are GMO products used in the fresh produce industry now, such as Arctic Apples, J.R. Simplot’s Innate potatoes, and Del Monte’s Pinkglow pineapples, there are no gene-edited ones right now. Baker said his company will introduce a seedless blackberry and a leafy green product into the market in the next few years, and the plan is to brand them to differentiate them in the market. Read more [here](#).

Study Reveals Gene Involved in Stem Rust Resistance in Wheat Researchers from CSIRO, together with 2Blades Foundation, reported a gene in the stem rust fungus that triggers resistance in the host plant, providing a clue for scientists to develop disease-resistant wheat varieties. Their findings are published in Nature Plants....A proof-of-concept study has been conducted showing the efficacy of gene stacking of five cloned resistance genes to combat wheat stem rust. Read more [here](#).

Gene editing – A tool to tackle climate change and to achieve food security in Asia Pacific The agriculture sector is facing the most negative consequences of unpredictable and severe climatic conditions; therefore, needs to have innovative and scientific solutions to ensure higher, diseases-free and nutrient-rich crop production. For the Asia Pacific region, which is home to 12 out of 46 Least Developed Countries, achieving food and nutrition security is extremely critical. Read more [here](#).

Laser technology steps up weed fight Australian Herbicide Resistance Initiative (AHRI) are developing the new system to detect where weeds are in a paddock at harvest time and report that back to farmers. Read more [here](#).

Redlegged earth mite research Are you a grower or advisor in Australia who has encountered the redlegged earth mite? Cesar Australia is conducting a national survey on the redlegged earth mite. Your answers will help to increase understanding of current control strategies, and improve how the redlegged earth mite is managed across Australia. The survey takes about 10 minutes, and can be found [here](#). It’s open until October.

The state of play for blockchain and why ‘tech stacks’ help drive adoption. Focusing on supply chain collaboration instead of competition, is the core focus of AgriDigital and Geora’s recent integration, designed to give grain growers more control of their digital assets. Here we explore how tech stacks are helping users to overcome the barriers to adoption for blockchain and create value beyond the farm gate. More [here](#).

Industry NEWS Cont.

Blotch fungicide resistance warning. WHEAT growers are being urged to monitor the effectiveness of fungicides after the common wheat disease, Septoria tritici blotch (STB), was discovered to be resistant to Group 11 fungicides (strobilurins). More [here](#).

WORKSHOP: DIY chainsaw chains

Chainsaws have been one of the most popular Workshop topics over the years, especially sharpening chainsaw chains. View full report [here](#).

Pest plants and animals cost Australia around \$25 billion a year – and it will get worse. Shamefully, Australia has one of the highest extinction rates in the world. And the number one threat to our species is invasive or “alien” plants and animals. More [here](#).

Western consumers have positive attitudes toward gene-edited foods, two new studies find. Western consumers tend to have a generally positive view about genome-edited foods, though new studies have found that their awareness of the technology remains low. Whole article [here](#).

The global perspective: the UN Food Systems Summit. In July, the Land Use Futures team convened a United Nations Food Systems Summit Independent Dialogue. The panellists explored Australia’s unique challenges and opportunities in supporting food systems transformation. A key theme in the discussion was that raising ambition and accelerating positive trends towards a sustainable future requires a combination of coordinated public policy, market solutions, strong institutions and measurement and valuation of nature. You can watch a recording of the webinar [here](#).

Concern about an increase in mouse numbers in the Geraldton and Kwinana West port zones also prompted GRDC to organise an online Q&A with CSIRO researcher Steve Henry recently. The well-known specialist shared tactics for reducing the mouse threat now and into harvest. Watch a recording [here](#).

Agtech Company Showcase Australia- 30 of the best. These are the companies that are shaping the future of agriculture in all types of farming. Worth checking out! [HERE](#).



Photography by Jackie Cooper

Podcasts of the Month



Life On The Land

Episode - Tracey Hayes is one tough woman, who's seen it all. Tracey's resume is incredibly impressive. She was the first female CEO of the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association. She has been a vital, driving force behind the watershed class action against the Federal Government's 2011 live export ban to Indonesia - which has won the unwinnable, with an expected \$600-million in compensation for producers and beef businesses. She has been named one of Australia's 100 Women of Influence, owns and runs a successful small business and is the mother of four sons who are sixth generation Territorians. She has also known unbelievable tragedy and grief. But tough country calls for tough people and resilience was interwoven in the blueprint of Tracey's childhood. Listen [here](#).



agtech...so what?

Episode - Is the future of farming Hands Free?

For some, the concept of hands-free farming is terrifying; for others, the prospect is game-changing and exciting. But, is fully autonomous farming really possible? In this episode, we chat with Kit Franklin, senior lecturer in agricultural engineering at Harper Adams University in the UK, who in 2016 set out to prove an entire crop cycle could be done autonomously. The project was called Hands Free Hectare, which later expanded into Hands Free Farm after garnering worldwide attention and for producing what is believed to be the first crop to be planted, cultivated, and harvested - completely autonomously. Listen [here](#).



The Signal

Episode - How iron ore welds China to Australia.

Australia's trade war with China is an instructive tale, and at the G7 meeting in Cornwall this week it was again front of mind. So what are the key lessons that the world is taking from the dispute? And why, after months of trade fights with China, has one key commodity been so far quarantined? Today on The Signal, we're teaming up with Matt Bevan, host of the ABC's new podcast China If You're Listening, to find out. We hear about this year's G7, and about how, despite the trade war, steel still welds China and Australia together. Listen [here](#).

CBA Captain[Ⓢ] (tested as CICA1521)

Agzone 2 WA

September 2021, prepared by NSW DPI

- CBA Captain[Ⓢ] is a broadly adapted desi chickpea variety with an erect plant type (like Genesis™836).
- CBA Captain[Ⓢ] has a good height to lowest pod and good lodging resistance. These attributes combined provide excellent harvestability – far superior than PBA Slasher[Ⓢ] and PBA Striker[Ⓢ].
- CBA Captain[Ⓢ] is mid flowering and early to mid-maturing in WA growing environments.
- CBA Captain[Ⓢ] has been evaluated in WA NVT testing since 2017. CBA Captain[Ⓢ] has consistent long-term yield gains over Genesis™836 in all Agzones, and consistently yields above the site mean yield in Agzone 2 (Table 1). Please see <https://app.nvtonline.com.au> for location specific yield data.

Table 1. Long term yield (2017-2020) of CBA Captain[Ⓢ] and current chickpea varieties, expressed as a % of the mean yield, in NVT in Agzone 2.

		Yield (t/ha)			
		2017	2018	2019	2020
	Mean Yield (t/ha)	1.00	0.59	0.39	0.79
Variety	Trials	1	1	1	2
CBA Captain[Ⓢ]	5	107	107	101	113
PBA Striker [Ⓢ]	5	108	96	116	108
Neelam [Ⓢ]	5	100	104	113	94
PBA Slasher [Ⓢ]	5	101	95	125	96
Genesis 836	5	95	102	97	94

<https://app.nvt.grdc.com.au/lty/table/chickpea-desi/wa/agzone2/>

Disease resistance

- CBA Captain[Ⓢ] has an NVT pulse disease rating for Ascochyta blight of Moderately Susceptible in the northern and southern region.
- In WA Ascochyta blight evaluation has been performed by Curtin University, where CBA Captain performed similarly to Genesis™090 with lower disease observed than Genesis™836, PBA Striker and PBA Slasher.
- "In field trials at DPIRD, South Perth in 2019 and 2020, CBA Captain (CICA1521) showed no significant differences in ascochyta resistance to varieties Genesis 090, Genesis 836, Kalkee, PBA HatTrick and PBA Striker. In 2019, CBA Captain was significantly more resistant than varieties Jimbour, Kyabra, Moti and PBA Howzat, when inoculated with a mix of Western Australian AB isolates. In 2020, the disease severity overall was less than for 2019 and differences among varieties were less well defined, although disease for CBA Captain was still significantly lower than for the susceptible variety, Kyabra"

“ It is important for WA Growers to know that aggressive *Ascochyta rabiei* isolates (equivalent to the aggressive isolates found in Eastern Australia) are routinely found in WA and that all standard practices for chickpea ascochyta blight management should be adopted.”

Citation: Dr. Robert Lee, Pulse Pathology and Genetics, Centre for Crop and Disease Management, August 2021.

- CBA Captain[®] has an NVT pulse disease rating for *Botrytis* grey mould of Susceptible, the same as all other current chickpea varieties.

Grain quality

CBA Captain[®] has a medium seed size with a yellow-brown seed coat and angular seed shape, similar to PBA HatTrick (widely grown desi in NNSW, QLD)

Chickpea Agronomy

Please refer to the following DPIRD chickpea guides;

<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/chickpeas/desi-chickpea-essentials>

https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/sites/gateway/files/2021%20WA%20Crop%20Sowing%20Guide_Pulse%20Guide%20%28pgs%20134_186%29.pdf

Seed availability

- CBA Captain[®] has an end point royalty of \$4.50/tonne (ex-GST).



08 9651 1069



08 9045 4036

- *CBA Captain[®] was developed by the PBA Chickpea program (led by NSW Department of Primary Industries). The partners of the PBA Chickpea program were: GRDC, NSW DPI, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QLD), Agriculture Victoria and the South Australian Research and Development Institute.*



HOGGONE PIG CONTROL—FIELD DEMONSTRATION

How to set up

Pre-training pigs

Best tips for success



7th September 2021

1.30pm—4.30pm

Location TBC

Register your place now to access bait box hire

0428 231 506—wwlandcare@westnet.com.au

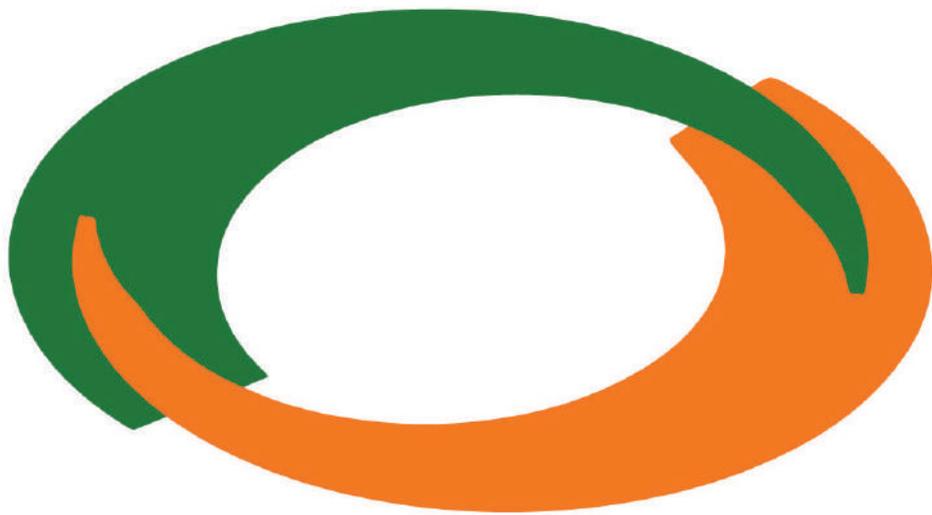
This event is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program



**natural resource
management program**



FACEY GROUP



Shaping the Future