



**GRAIN  
PRODUCERS SA**  
The voice of South Australian growers

# News

APRIL 2020



## Deadlock broken on SA's GM moratorium

**Growers on mainland SA will soon have the freedom to choose to grow the cereal, legume and oilseed varieties that best fit their farming system following a breakthrough in SA Parliament.**

The Government and the opposition have agreed on a compromise framework to allow councils to apply for a designation as a GM-free area if they can demonstrate a trade and marketing benefit. All applications would be assessed by the expert GM Crop Advisory Committee, with the final decision made by the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Under the framework, growers in a GM-free area would be prevented by cultivating GM crops, but there would be no restrictions on the transportation or research of GM material in that area.

GPSA CEO Caroline Rhodes said that while the framework is not in absolute alignment with GPSA's preferred policy

position, it represents an acceptable compromise to enable the commercial cultivation of GM crops from 2021.

"GPSA has been working diligently with both the Government and the Opposition in order to bridge the political divide and to provide SA growers legislative certainty," she said

Unfortunately, GPSA was not able to secure support for the moratorium on Kangaroo Island to automatically expire in September 2025. This means that growers on the Island will be locked into the moratorium until Parliament votes to remove it.

Amendments to establish the compromise framework have already passed the House of Assembly and will go to a vote in the Legislative Council in coming weeks.

GPSA will provide a detailed fact sheet to members once the legislation passes the Parliament.



## Applications now open for SAGIT Group A Trustee

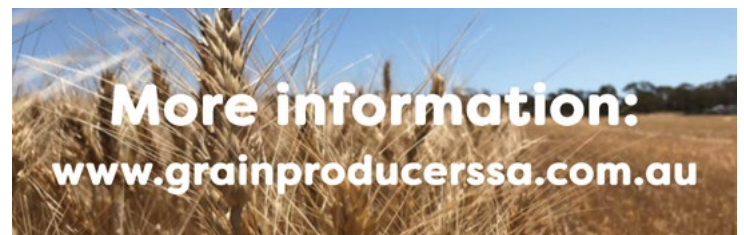
**GPSA is seeking applications to fill a vacancy on the South Australian Grain Industry Trust Fund, following the retirement of Michael Treloar after three terms as Trustee.**

GPSA chair Wade Dabinett commended Michael for the way he led SAGIT during his time as chairman and for his contribution to research benefitting South Australian growers.

"SAGIT is the jewel in the crown of the South Australian grain industry and is the envy of other states," he said.

"To have South Australian growers investing directly in research to benefit the state is a wonderful thing and is something we should be proud of.

"We have a diverse and dynamic grain industry in South Australia and I strongly encourage growers who reflect these values and have a passion for driving our industry forward to apply for the position of Group A Trustee."



**Save the date: GPSA AGM to be held on 24 August 2020**

ROADWORTHY  
HEAVY VEHICLES... *Made Easy!*

## 'Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy!' Webinar for Eyre Peninsula workshop registrants

**GPSA has been working with the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator to deliver a webinar for Eyre Peninsula growers whose 'Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy!' theory workshops were postponed due to COVID-19.**

Webinar participants can then attend a practical workshop to receive valuable hints and tips heavy vehicle maintenance and roadworthiness.

When we are permitted to conduct regional meetings, GPSA will be in contact with more details on returning to the 'Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy!' program

The Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy! campaign has been funded by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator's Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative Program, with the support of the Federal Government.

Primary producers who attend the workshops will receive training and knowledge which will be essential in helping them to develop a tailored approach to heavy vehicle maintenance, inspections and compliance on vehicles involved in their farm businesses.

For more information on 'Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy!' visit GPSA's website at [www.grainproducerssa.com.au](http://www.grainproducerssa.com.au)



**CANCELLED**  
**RETURNING**  
**IN 2021**

## GPSA's Shane Gale appointed to ACCC Agriculture Consultative Committee

**SA growers will have a direct voice to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission after GPSA's Shane Gale was appointed to the ACCC's Agriculture Consultative Committee (AgCC) as a representative of peak body Grain Producers Australia.**

The AgCC provides advice and information to the ACCC on issues affecting the agriculture sector, and provides a forum where competition and consumer law concerns related to the

agriculture sector can be considered and addressed.

Following concerns raised by the AgCC, the ACCC launched an inquiry focusing on warranties and protections for agricultural machinery, as these purchases frequently exceed the \$40,000 threshold for protection under the Australian Consumer Law.

GPSA will keep members updated on Shane's work on the AgCC, as well as the ACCC's inquiry into ag machinery.

## GPSA receives new grant to tackle snail export risks

GPSA has successfully received funding for the first project developed as a result of the South Australian Grain Industry Blueprint, with the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment awarding GPSA a grant under Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation program.

GPSA and the SA Grain Market Access Group will be coordinating a new project to assist South Australian grain producers to comply with technical and phytosanitary trade measures that restrict the presence of snails in grain exports to China. GPSA believes that this will help to break down barriers to trade and secure new and improved access to premium markets.

Maintaining trade and market access is one of six pillars of the Blueprint, as end users of SA grain continue to demand greater assurance in the integrity of their food and its supply chain.

Growers in affected regions will be able to attend one of six on-farm workshops in the second half of 2020. These workshops will help to build grower involvement with the Industry Management Plan which outlines standards for snail pest management and the requirements of wheat and barley exports to markets including China.

Adhering to trade requirements and maintaining market access to China is also increasingly important thanks to favourable opening rains across many areas of SA meaning that there is the potential for an exportable surplus of grain in the coming season.

If you're looking for more information on grain hygiene and handling, you can check out the SA Grain Market Access Group's Clean Grain campaign at: [www.tinyurl.com/CleanGrain](http://www.tinyurl.com/CleanGrain)