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Grain Producers SA Ltd Director Retires

Grain Producers SA Ltd (GPSA) Director, Jamie Smith, has announced his retirement as a Director of GPSA, at the board meeting recently held on 7 September 2012.

Mr Smith, a grain producer from Maitland, was elected to the GPSA board for a two year at the Annual General Meeting in March 2012. Previously he was instrumental in establishing GPSA, being appointed to the steering committee in August 2011 along with John Lush, Jeff Arney and Darren Arney.

“Jamie has contributed an extraordinary amount of energy, time and experience on behalf of South Australian grain producers over three decades” said Garry Hansen, chairman of GPSA. “I wish to thank him for his dedication and pragmatic resolve to ensure South Australian grain producers have been represented, in what have sometimes been very difficult and trying circumstances” he said.

Mr Smith has served in a number of influential roles in grain producer representation both in South Australia as well as nationally. These include the SA Farmers Federation Grains Council and the Grains Council of Australia of which he served as Chairman. He has served on many other industry councils and Ministerial task forces at state and federal level and consistently tried to develop an objective and pragmatic argument, reasoning for the need for change and industry development. He has used his industry and political knowledge, contacts and negotiating skills to win important outcomes for growers.

Jamie’s retirement will enable him to pursue interests in the commercial sector which include roles in the export finance and agribusiness risk management arena, and he is currently an executive director of Australian Growers Direct a locally based grain storage and trading business.

Peter Polkinghorne, a grain producer from Penong on the Eyre Peninsula, has been appointed to the GPSA board to fill Mr Smith’s vacancy until the AGM in March 2013 at which time Mr Polkinghorne can stand for election.

“We welcome Peter to the board of GPSA and his desire to develop better outcomes for all South Australian grain producers” said Mr Hansen.

The Directors of GPSA are; Garry Hansen (Chairman), Malcolm Sargent, Max Wilksch, Gary Flohr, Mark Schilling, Brett Roberts and Peter Polkinghorne.

About Grain Producers SA Limited

Grain Producers SA (GPSA) seeks to represent all grain producers in South Australia. A poll of grain producers in September 2011, indicated 90% support from South Australian grain growers, for GPSA to be the peak grains body representing grain producers in South Australia.

GPSA is a not-for-profit, South Australian organisation, seeking to improve the profitability and sustainability of all grain producers in South Australia.

For Further Information Contact:

Garry Hansen
0427 390 626

Darren Arney
0448 186 707
darren@grainproducerssa.com.au

GRAIN PRODUCERS SA LIMITED
PO Box 745 NAIRNE SA 5252
Phone: (08) 8388 0684

Fax: (08) 8388 0745

A.B.N. 43 154 897 533
Web: www.gpsa.net.au
Email: info@grainproducerssa.com.au