



## Save the date - GPSA AGM & Growing SA 2019

Monday 26- Tuesday 27 August, Adelaide Hills Convention Centre

# Chain of Responsibility Workshops kick off

**The first three Chain of Responsibility workshops have been held with full houses at Loxton, Kingston on Murray and Tanunda.**

Feedback from participants has shown that the workshops are overwhelmingly beneficial for primary producers seeking to understand their obligations and risks in the CoR chain. These participants will now receive ongoing support and advice from industry experts Natwide Personnel, valued at \$1500.

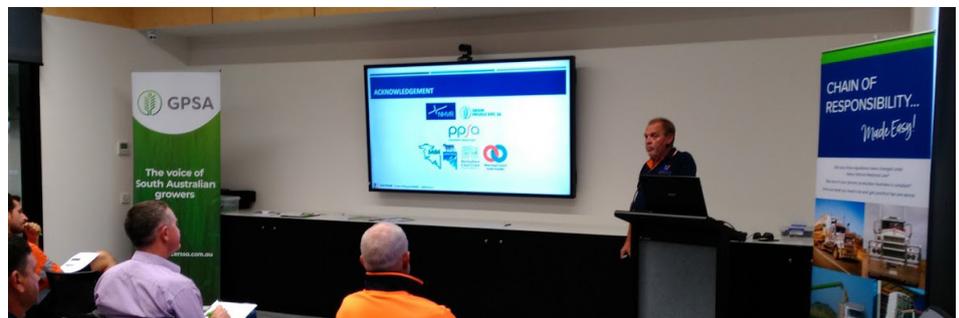
Many workshops are nearly full, while others are filling quickly with lots of interest from producers across the state. These workshops are free for all GPSA and Primary Producers SA commodity group members.

Upcoming workshops include:

- 9:30am, Wednesday 6th February: Murray Bridge
- 8am, Tuesday 19th February: Cleve
- 8am, Wednesday 20th February: Cummins
- 8am, Thursday 21st February: Wudinna
- 9am, Wednesday 27th February: Maitland

This program has been made possible by support from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative Program.

Don't miss out! Full details, more workshop dates, and registration is via the website: [www.tinyurl.com/EasyCoR](http://www.tinyurl.com/EasyCoR)



## Chinese authorities seek grower information

**GPSA is working together with peak national body Grain Producers Australia (GPA) and other state farming organisations to respond to two allegations made by China, regarding Australian barley sold in China.**

Growers would be aware that, in late 2018, Chinese authorities initiated a claim against Australian barley growers, alleging they were dumping barley in China at a price below the cost of production. In January they initiated

a second investigation into subsidies paid to Australian barley growers by the Australian Government. On behalf of members GPA has registered as an interested party to both investigations.

GPA, together with GrainGrowers Limited, and the trading companies, are working together to respond to the two allegations. GPSA will continue to work with GPA to ensure Australia responds respectfully, but forcefully, to these allegations.

**If growers are contacted regarding this issue, please do not provide any information without contacting**

**GPSA.** The situation is a sensitive one, please take the opportunity to inform yourself of the ramifications of providing information to inappropriate parties.

In 2017-18, China imported around 2.2 million tonnes of Australian barley. Any decision to impose a tariff on Australian-grown barley destined for China would impact Australian barley growers.

We will keep you informed of developments in this matter as they come to hand. Should you require further information, please contact GPSA via email:

[info@grainproducerssa.com.au](mailto:info@grainproducerssa.com.au)

## Drought support information

Information on dry conditions support and assistance measures can be found on GPSA's website at [www.tinyurl.com/drought2018](http://www.tinyurl.com/drought2018)

# GPSA members urged to have their say on changes to CFS powers

**GPSA members have been allocated a dedicated time to voice their concerns to a Select Committee over proposed amendments to the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 as part of upcoming hearings at Port Lincoln and Balaklava.**

Many growers would be aware that the South Australian Government have introduced amendments to the Act which would allow CFS officers to direct the cessation of harvesting and other activities if they pose a fire risk based on weather conditions.

This would allow, for example, a CFS officer to direct that harvesting stop even if the weather conditions are acceptable under the Grass Fire Danger Index (GFDI). While GPSA understands that the intent of the proposed changes is to prevent high-risk activities such as welding and angle grinding, there are concerns over whether growers may be adversely impacted even if they are doing the right thing.

While GPSA was not consulted prior to these changes being tabled in parliament, we are pleased to see the Government listened to its concerns and voted to establish a Select Committee to investigate the changes. This provides growers a proper forum to have their say on these important changes.

GPSA is currently compiling a submission to the Committee which will make the case for a more targeted application of CFS powers.

The Committee is holding hearings in Port Lincoln and Balaklava, and has given GPSA members a dedicated time to talk about how these proposed changes will impact their farm business.

GPSA members wishing to speak at one of these sessions should get in touch via email: [info@grainproducerssa.com.au](mailto:info@grainproducerssa.com.au)

## Details:

### Port Lincoln

Date: Thursday 31 January  
Location: Port Lincoln Hotel, Port Lincoln  
Time: 10.00am – 3.00pm  
Time for GPSA member session: 11.00am – 11.45am

### Balaklava

Date: Thursday 7 February  
Location: Wakefield Regional Council, Balaklava  
Time: 10.30am – 3.00pm  
Time for GPSA member session: 12.15pm – 1.00pm

In order to reduce the risk of harvester fires, South Australia has a voluntary Grain Harvesting Code of Practice which outlines the conditions under which grain harvesting and handling should occur in the paddock, including operating grain harvesters, vehicles involved in grain transport, and grain dryers and augers.

In 2016, GPSA and the CFS launched the successful Know Your Code campaign which encourages growers to abide by the Grain Harvesting Code of Practice.

# GPSA Chair & CEO hold EP forums

GPSA Chairman Wade Dabinett and CEO Caroline Rhodes have recently toured the Eyre Peninsula to meet with GPSA members and hear grower concerns on mining, the proposed CFS powers, and the future of the EP rail line.

As part of this post-harvest tour, GPSA met with growers directly affected by the proposed Iron Road mine near Wudinna. In addition to the potential for significant holdings of arable land to be lost to mining, we heard from local growers about the stress and uncertainty arising from this project, and how this has negatively impacted many families in the district.

The Mining Bill has been adjourned in parliament until February 26th next year, and GPSA will now head to the Yorke Peninsula to meet with growers to hear their concerns to take directly to government. GPSA will continue to lobby for the establishment of an advisory service, to provide free, confidential and independent advice to growers facing land access issues.

At a policy forum in Wudinna organised by GPSA Director Jared Sampson, GPSA discussed the existing measures that growers take to minimise fire risk such as community operated SMS networks. This information, as well as conversations with growers from across the state, will form part of GPSA's submission to Parliament's CFS powers select committee (see left).

Together with local member, Peter Treloar MP, GPSA also met with regional Viterra staff at the Port Lincoln terminal, to better understand the different options being assessed as Viterra continues to work with Genesee & Wyoming Australia, Government and stakeholders to ensure grain on the Eyre Peninsula is moved from upcountry sites to port in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

## Reminder: working in heatwave conditions - by Chas Cini

- > The Pastoral Award 2010 permits the ordinary hours of work to be worked at any time over seven days without penalty rates.
- > Overtime payments only apply for farm and livestock hands (other than station cooks) when an employee works more than 152 hours in any consecutive period of four weeks (at an average 38 hours per week).

### What does this mean during hot weather?

- > Growers and their employees (farm and livestock hands) can agree to an earlier work starting time and consequentially earlier finishing time to minimise heat and sun exposure.
- > Safework SA has issued a safety alert which recommends

outdoor workers who are exposed to the sun and heat modify their workloads, take breaks and ensure they are hydrated.

### Safework SA Media Release Excerpt

- > Employers with outdoor work are reminded to take measures to manage the risks associated with heat stress and solar UV radiation as South Australia's summer takes hold with hot weather forecasts.
- > Employers can minimise the risk of heat-related incidents by modifying workloads and schedules to avoid the hottest times of day, rotating or sharing 'hot tasks,' increasing rest and hydration breaks and making sure rest areas in shady or cool areas are available.

- > Employers should also provide appropriate protective gear to minimise solar UV radiation exposure. Workers should wear loose-fitting clothing covering their arms and legs, preferably made from a natural fibre and drink cool water at regular breaks to stay hydrated.

Full details: [www.tinyurl.com/heatwavework](http://www.tinyurl.com/heatwavework)

