



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

News

MAY 2020



China's tariff measures - what's next?

GPSA is working together with Grain Producers Australia (GPA) to respond to China's decision to impose 80.5% tariffs on Australian barley sold to China.

The tariffs are a result of anti-dumping and countervailing investigations initiated by China's Ministry of Commerce in 2018, and will likely cost the Australian grain industry \$500 million on this season's crop, with early estimates of a 12 million tonne production.

'Dumping' refers to the claim that Australian barley was being sold at a lower price than our domestic market, causing harm to China's domestic production.

The Chinese Government imposed the tariffs despite detailed information, evidence and independently verifiable data being provided by Australia in response to the claims. The tariffs are imposed on all barley for the next 5 years.

While growers will need to carefully manage price risk in the coming months, this also provides an opportunity to diversify SA's grain exports.

South Australia produces high quality barley, very consistently and relatively close to major malting and brewing centres.

GPSA's Grain Industry Blueprint has identified risks in our overexposure to individual markets like China, highlighting the necessity of long-term strategic thinking in our industry.

The Australian Government and industry have expressed their disappointment in the decision taken by the Chinese. Industry has called on the Australian Government to pursue dispute settlement through the World Trade Organisation.

GPSA will continue to work with national organisations including Grain Producers Australia and the National Farmers' Federation on behalf of SA growers. GPSA will update growers as this situation develops.

The latest information for growers is available at GPSA's website.



Freedom of choice restored for South Australian growers

South Australian growers have the certainty they need to choose to grow GM crops in the 2021 grain growing season following the passage of changes to the state's GM laws through State Parliament.

GPSA has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that the changes achieve a commercially viable outcome, and to inform the political deliberations of both the Government and Opposition.

As a result of the changes, local councils have six months to apply to be designated as 'GM-Free' zones for trade and marketing purposes.

The final decision on council applications will reside with the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Despite GPSA's objections, growers on Kangaroo Island will remain GM free for the foreseeable future.

GPSA encourages all growers to consider undertaking GM accreditation programs, even if they don't plan to grow GM varieties, to familiarise themselves of industry stewardship protocols that will support coexistence with non-GM grain.

Growers looking for further information on what the changes mean for them should read GPSA's GM crops grower fact sheet: www.tinyurl.com/MayGMfactsheet



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

ROADWORTHY HEAVY VEHICLES... *Made Easy!*

ROADWORTHY HEAVY VEHICLES... *Made Easy!* This program has been funded by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator's Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative Program, with the support of the Federal Government.



Heavy Vehicle workshops return!

Thanks to easing restrictions and changes in Government health advice, GPSA are in the process of rescheduling our remaining 'Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy workshops, which are now likely to be held in August 2020.

Growers that have already registered should keep an eye out for an email update regarding amended workshop times in the coming weeks.

All PPSA commodity group members can register your interest in attending one of the remaining workshops. For more information or to register, visit GPSA's website at www.grainproducerssa.com.au

Consultation on mining regulations to open

Growers will be able to provide input to the Department for Energy and Mining on draft regulations as part of changes to SA's Mining Act, which was passed by Parliament in October 2019.

The draft regulations will be released in three blocks throughout August 2020. These regulations will include key issues for growers, including land access and exploration licences.

Through its input, GPSA will continue to advocate for a better balance between competing land use interests. While the regulations must be consistent with the framework set out in the Act, GPSA believes that there is scope for these regulations to improve the process through which mining and exploration occurs on agricultural land.

In 2019, GPSA was able to secure government support for an independent mining advisory service, to be called the Landowner Information Service. The Service is set to commence in July 2020 and will be delivered by advisory group Rural Business Support.

The Service will provide free, independent information to landowners, farmers and other rural community members on any exploration, mining or related activities that may affect them. This will provide a trusted information source for growers and regional landowners on mining and land access issues.

Growers will have until mid-September 2020 to provide feedback on the draft regulations following their release in August.

GPSA will continue to keep members updated on the development of the regulations via our website: www.grainproducerssa.com.au

You can also register directly for updates on the regulations at:

www.tinyurl.com/MiningConsultation2020



Industry Blueprint podcast

GPSA is proud to launch the Six Pillars Podcast, a seven-part series which talks about the vision behind the goal to make grain a \$6 billion industry by 2030 through the South Australian Grain Industry Blueprint.

Throughout the series, host Drew Radford discusses the challenges and opportunities arising out of the Blueprint with the man behind its development, Jonathan Wilson.

Episodes of the Six Pillars Podcast are now live and can be listened to via the Apple Podcasts app, Spotify or Soundcloud.

During the next few weeks, keep an eye on your emails as well as GPSA's Facebook and Twitter pages for more information about how you can have your say on the Blueprint.

Looking for seasonal workers just became a whole lot easier!

Seasonal Jobs SA is a new website which connects seasonal workers to essential agricultural jobs in South Australia.

Seasonal workers are vital to keeping South Australia's supply chains flowing, fulfilling a range of agricultural roles from pickers to packers, processors to operators.

The jobs board is now live and employers can list their available positions for free – a good one to note in the lead up to harvest later this year!

For more info head to www.seasonaljobs.sa.gov.au

