

Help available to navigate multi-peril policies

From the CEO

With **DARREN ARNEY**



Late last month, the Federal Government announced a new program that will help producers negotiate taking out multi-peril crop insurance to manage drought and other production and market risks.

The *Managing Farm Risk Programme* allows eligible farm businesses to access a once-off rebate for costs incurred gaining professional advice on multi-peril crop insurance and applying for a new policy.

Rebates to cover half of the costs of accessing advice are available, at up to a maximum of \$2500, with \$20.2 million on offer over four years.

Grain Producers SA welcomes the incentive and encourages growers who are considering multi-peril insurance to access the government assistance.

Eligible farm businesses can apply for a rebate for costs of engaging a suitably qualified service provider to carry out one, or more, of the following:

1. Undertaking an assessment required by an insurance provider prior to, or within 12 months of, the provider offering an insurance product
2. Compiling historical farm financial performance and production data
3. Preparing an analysis of insurance options in the context of a whole-of-farm risk assessment specific to the farm business applicant over successive seasons.



While insurance has long been available for fire and hail damage, growers are being encouraged to take-up grants that will help them investigate multi-peril crop insurance.

Minimum pay rates

GPSA has welcomed news that legislation will be introduced to Federal Parliament later in April to delay the introduction of new minimum pay rates for trucking industry contractors until January 1, 2017.

This is a national issue, and GPSA is working with Grain Producers Australia, to have views of our grain growing members heard.

While we are seeking more information on exactly what the changes will mean for grain production, at face value, it will significantly impact the transport costs in an already-expensive supply chain given that with closure of rail lines, grain is mostly transported by road.

Details: For more information on the government's grants, visit www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/assistance/mfrp

Multi-peril crop insurance

- Single-peril insurance (such as for fire or hail) is widely available to farm businesses.
- More commercial products are becoming available as the insurance market matures in Australia. These include multi-peril and parametric insurance products, which can be used to manage drought and climate risk.
- The government's Managing Farm Risk Program aims to support farmers by encouraging a more diverse and mature insurance market in Australia to meet the varied needs of all farm businesses.

New SAGIT projects announced for 2016-17

The SA Grain Industry Trust has announced the research projects successful for funding starting in 2016-17. SAGIT received 46 applications for research and extension projects in SA and has awarded \$2.3 million to fund 22 projects. The total value of all applications submitted was \$5.6 million.

| Company | Supervisor | Title |
|---|--------------------|---|
| Agbyte | Leighton Wilksch | Hi-Tech crop monitoring stations |
| AgCommunicators | Belinda Cay | Seed to Store YouTube Clip Competition |
| Ag Institute Australia | Glenn McDonald | Support for workshop on data presentation and interpretation |
| Agriculture KI | Jenny Stanton | Improving Nitrogen Use Efficiency via Legumes in High Rainfall Cropping |
| Agronomy Solutions | Sean Mason | Efficiency of various fertilizer N products on sandy soil types |
| Agronomy Solutions | Sean Mason | Time of sowing influence on phosphorus requirements and soil testing |
| Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation | Naomi Schulz | Eyre Peninsula Farming Systems Summary 2016-2018 |
| Hart | Sarah Noack | Long-term cropping systems trial: Effect on soil biology and nitrogen mineralisation |
| PIRSA | John Heap | Silverleaf nightshade – long-term management effects of annual herbicide applications |
| Rural Solutions | Brett Bartel | Publication of the 2017 Farm Gross Margin Guide for SA |
| SARDI | Andrew Ware | Using soil water information to make better decisions on Eyre Peninsula |
| SARDI | Dili Mao | Improving weed control in new herbicide tolerant lentils |
| SARDI | Naomi Scholz | Burning of weed seeds in low rainfall farming systems |
| SARDI | Liz Farquarson | Optimising legume inoculation for dry sowing |
| SARDI | Kathy Ophel-Keller | Grain Research Internships |
| Southern Australia Durum Growers Association | John Green | Agronomic evaluation of durums for crown rot resistance |
| SPAA | Nicole Dimos | Sharing Knowledge of Agricultural Innovations: Precision Ag EXPOS and Symposiums |
| Trengove Consulting | Sam Trengove | Increasing lentil productivity on dune and swale soils |
| University of Adelaide | Glenn McDonald | Novel genes for improved P efficiency and yield in barley |
| University of Adelaide | Michael Zerner | New field-based tools to rapidly assess crop nitrogen and stress status |
| University of Adelaide | Graham Lyons | Identification of sodicity tolerant oat varieties |
| Upper North Farming Systems Group | Ruth Sommerville | Upper North Time of Sowing and Yield Loss from Frost / Heat Stress |

Save the date

WHAT: 2016 GPSA Annual General Meeting
WHEN: Wednesday, August 10 from 3-5pm
WHERE: Eyre Peninsula Field Days

Entries open for young producers to attend AGIC

TWO young South Australian grain producers could win sponsorship to attend this year's Australian Grain Industry Conference, valued at \$2500 each.

The conference will be held in Melbourne from July 25-27. It is a high-level market event that brings together the Australian and global grain industry to network while providing the latest information on international grain markets.

The sponsorship is a professional development opportunity for producers under 35 to develop industry networks and contacts that could benefit their farm business and gain insight into what local and international customers want from South Australian grain.

The sponsorship includes the conference registration, return airfares, travel and accommodation – all the recipients have to pay for is meals not included at the conference and travel to and from their nearest airport.

GPSA Chairman Garry Hansen says the conference represents a great opportunity for two of the industry's young grain producers to gain a broader perspective of the industry's key players and make some new contacts within the supply chain.

To enter:

Applicants must be 35 or under at the time of the conference and be available to travel to Melbourne on July 25.

Applicants must submit up to 400 words outlining their experiences, study or opinions on the grain industry supply chain and why they would benefit from attending the Australian Grain Industry Conference. This is very broad and could include on-farm operations, their own or tertiary-related study, or other observations of the supply chain.

Entries will be assessed by GPSA. The two applications that best articulate the entry question (above) will receive the conference sponsorship.

Applications close at 5pm on Friday, June 3, 2016.

Details: Download an entry form at www.grainproducerssa.com.au under the 'News & Information' or contact Trudy Huczko, 0499 734 001. Visit www.ausgrainsconf.com for more information on AGIC.