



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

# News

NOVEMBER 2020

## GM ban lifted across mainland SA



**The ban on the commercial cultivation of genetically modified crops has been officially lifted across the mainland of SA, providing certainty for the industry in time for the 2021 season.**

The decision to lift the GM moratorium across mainland SA was announced by the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on 2 November 2020. Restrictions on the commercial cultivation of GM crops will continue to apply on Kangaroo Island indefinitely.

Councils were given a once-off opportunity to apply to the Minister to be recognised as an area where no GM food crops can be grown. Applications could only be considered on trade and marketing grounds.

## Is your grain Market Ready?

**GPSA is proud to announce the launch of the Market Ready campaign, a new trade and market access initiative of the SA Grain Market Access Group.**

South Australia has an excellent reputation for providing premium agricultural products and working closely with trading partners to ensure their needs are met. By continuing to uphold high grain hygiene standards, South Australian grain growers will have access to a large range of markets across the world for their grain.

The Market Ready campaign aims to increase grower engagement and knowledge regarding market requirements, standards, quality assurance and compliance practices. Market Ready also strongly aligns with the Biosecurity and Market Access Pillar of the South Australian Grain Industry Blueprint.

As part of the campaign, GPSA will run a series of trade and market access workshops in early 2021, which will aim to educate growers in their obligations and role in the value

The statutory six month window for councils to apply to remain GM-free has now closed. No mainland councils were designated by the Minister as non-GM food crop areas under the Act, following a recommendation by the GM Crops Advisory Committee. This means the commercial cultivation of GM crops, approved by the OGTR, is now lawful across mainland SA.

This decision is the culmination of years of advocacy by GPSA and the broader industry.

GPSA recognises that responsible stewardship of GM technology is critical moving forward.

GPSA strongly recommends that growers undertake GM crop accreditation courses offered by technology providers. These courses cover details on agronomic management and stewardship obligations, and must be undertaken before growers can access GM varieties.

GPSA will be rolling out an education campaign in advance of the 2021 season to help growers better understand this process and support the coexistence of both GM and non-GM production systems.

Download GPSA's latest GM Crops grower fact sheet for more information, which is available at [www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-GM](http://www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-GM)

chain under the Industry Management Plans (IMPs).

Further information on workshop locations, program and guest speakers will be provided when registrations open in early 2021.

Resources to help ensure your grain is Market Ready are available now on the GPSA website via [www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-market-ready](http://www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-market-ready)

*Market Ready is an initiative of the South Australian Grain Market Access Group. It is delivered by Grain Producers SA with the support of the Federal Government's Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation Program.*



**KNOW  
YOUR  
CODE**

## GPSA reminds growers to Know Your Code!

Grain Producers SA is reminding growers to familiarise themselves with the South Australian Grain Harvesting Code of Practice.

GPSA has compiled resources and information relating to the code, including flyers and case studies with other growers, which is available at [www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-KYC20](http://www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-KYC20)

## GPSA staffing changes

**After two and half years, GPSA has farewelled Leighton McDonald Stewart as he departs to practise law at Adelaide legal firm, Piper Alderman.**

Since joining the team in 2018, Leighton developed considerable experience in advocacy, research and communications while completing his studies.

Leighton played an essential role in developing high quality submissions to support GPSA's work, including lifting of the GM moratorium and for a better balance of competing land uses through SA's Mining Law review. He also played a leading role in GPSA's constitutional reforms in 2019.

In addition to leading policy development, Leighton also served as Company Secretary, helping to strengthen GPSA's corporate governance and risk management systems. The Board thanks Leighton for his dedication, hard work and commitment to GPSA, and wishes him ongoing success in the next chapter of his career.

**In December, GPSA will welcome agribusiness professional Andrew Lehmann, to fill a newly created position as Policy Director.** Andrew was a participant of the GPSA Emerging Leaders Program which provided him with a greater understanding of advocacy, effective communication, industry networking, research, innovation, and insight into the political landscape.

Andrew's passion for the grains industry began at a young age, growing up on his family's mixed property at Gulnare in the Mid-North of South Australia. This introduction led him to studying Agricultural Science at the University of Adelaide. For more than 8 years Andrew worked at AgXtra as Broadacre Manager and his hands-on experience in agricultural research and development is a great addition to the GPSA team.

Andrew will manage GPSA's new trade & market access projects, while developing new opportunities for implementing the SA Grain Industry Blueprint. He will also lead the RD&E committee, putting his extensive experience to good use in developing policies to support grain production.

## Jonathan Wilson appointed CEO of Grains Australia Ltd

**GPSA welcomes the appointment of Jonathan Wilson as the inaugural chief executive officer of Grains Australia Limited (GAL).**

GPSA members will be familiar with Jonathan through his role as project manager of the SA Grain Industry Blueprint on behalf of GPSA and the SA Government.

The formation of GAL is an initiative of the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), Grain Producers Australia (GPA), Grain Growers Ltd (GGL) and Grain Trade Australia (GTA). GAL will consolidate a multitude of industry-good functions in one, national organisation.

GAL's functions will include trade and market access, commodity variety classification, market information and export and domestic education.

GPSA congratulate Mr Wilson and look forward to working with him in his new role, commencing December 2020.

**New podcast alert!**

# BEYOND THE SILO

## GPSA kicks off grain marketing project with 'Beyond the Silo' podcast!

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GPSA is proud to launch the Grain Marketing Operations and Diversification Project in partnership with Grain Trade Australia. The education campaign will support growers understanding of grain marketing with aim to support market diversification.

To kick-start the project GPSA has released a new podcast series called Beyond the Silo – Grain marketing tips for growers.

Join host Drew Radford and independent consultant Jonathan Wilson as they discuss different aspects of trading grain – from basis to foreign exchange to contracts – to help growers make more informed marketing decisions.

The project will also include several grower workshops to be announced in 2021, with details to be announced in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, tune in to Beyond the Silo on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or Soundcloud, accessible via the GPSA website at [www.bit.ly/GPSA-BTS](http://www.bit.ly/GPSA-BTS)

*This project is proudly supported by the SA Government, Regional Growth Fund.*

**Industry relevant COVID-19 updates are available on the PIRSA COVID-19 and primary industries portal via [www.pir.sa.gov.au](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au)**