



# GRAIN PRODUCERS SA

The voice of South Australian growers



- ANNUAL REPORT -

2021-22



Photo sources: GPSA.  
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# CHAIR'S REPORT

## - Adrian McCabe -

It is a pleasure to present to you the 2021-22 Grain Producers SA (GPSA) annual report and I would like to thank you for your support over the past 12 months in my role as Chair of GPSA.

While South Australian grain producers have enjoyed above average seasons for the last two harvests, the challenges have not always been weather related with COVID-19 being a major disruptor in the supply chain.

During the last financial year, we farewelled previous CEO Caroline Rhodes, who was appointed to the position of CEO of Primary Producers SA. We thank Caroline for her valuable contribution to GPSA over four years and growing our organisation to where it is today. She will continue to contribute to agriculture while leading the state's peak cross commodity organisation.

Our new CEO Brad Perry joined in January and has hit the ground running. You will have already noticed strong engagement with growers across a number of platforms and consistent presence of GPSA on social media and in other areas. The GPSA team continues to work tirelessly on behalf of industry.

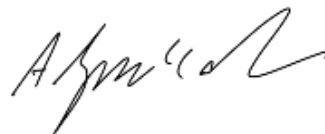
Over this reporting period, there was both a state and federal election and for the first time, GPSA engaged with grain producers in key cropping regions to hold state election forums. At a federal level, it was important to see our Board and the GPSA team provide input to our peak national body to formulate election priorities.

In September last year, GPSA launched a new 56-page guide to marketing grain, produced by grain marketing experts Thomas Elder Markets

and funded by the State Government and we've continued to run heavy vehicle education workshops and promote the 'Hit Your Target' campaign. We also successfully ran taskforce meetings on Sustainability and Mental Health, in conjunction with the Research, Development and Extension Committee.

This year we will further see succession at the board level with Eyre Peninsula Director Dion Woolford stepping down and South East Director David Malpas reaching his maximum term. I would like to thank Dave and Dion for their contributions and commitment to GPSA during their time on the Board. This year, three of GPSA's seven Member Elected Directors will renew their terms. I am delighted that Nick Hillier, John Gladigau and James Heaslip will continue to serve on GPSA's board after nominating unopposed. I thank all directors for their work, particularly as they balance their contribution to GPSA with their work and family life.

I look forward to another proactive and positive year with GPSA delivering for growers.



**Adrian McCabe**  
Chair



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- Brad Perry -

The 2021-22 South Australian cropping season was a mixed bag with many regions enjoying an above average harvest and others waiting for rain that didn't eventuate. Grain prices rose but so did input costs and severe weather events caused some crop loss.

The challenges of the 12 months in this reporting period further demonstrated the importance of strong advocacy for grain producers through Grain Producers SA (GPSA). When storms hit parts of the Eyre Peninsula cropping regions, GPSA visited the impacted growers, lobbied government and advocated for support.

I began my role as Chief Executive Officer of GPSA in January 2022 at the back end of COVID-19 restrictions and it has been important to continue engaging with grain producers, particularly where we can face-to-face.

GPSA is undertaking a mountain of work to better understand the ongoing challenges our growers face with the seasonal variability and, based off market, consumer, and business demand, we are looking to better understand the thoughts of our growers on sustainability. There are several facets to grain producers increasing their profitability and productivity, but we know technology advancement and research and development investment are both critical elements.

We continue to deliver on the Grain Industry Blueprint and the target of becoming a \$6 billion industry by 2030. Engagement with our growers remains an integral part of delivering policy that will make lasting change at the farmgate.

The 2021-22 cropping season was the first in which

grain producers were able to grow Genetically Modified (GM) food crops in South Australia, following the work of GPSA in advocating to lift a 16-year moratorium on mainland South Australia in 2020. The first season of GM canola being planted in South Australia was extremely positive and demand has increased and will only grow from here.

GPSA's emphasis on providing services and education to growers is demonstrated through the 'Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy' workshops which continue to run across South Australia and are consistently well attended by grain growers and heavy vehicle operators more generally.

I would like to acknowledge the work of our small but dedicated team at GPSA and the Board for guiding the organisation in 2021-22. I look forward to seeing you on my journeys throughout 2022-23 as we engage and further understand issues important to grain producers.

Sincerely,



**Brad Perry**  
Chief Executive Officer



GPSA CEO Brad Perry talking all things grain with Kangaroo Flat grower Josh Krieger



# Background

Grain Producers SA (GPSA) is the peak industry body for South Australian grain growers. GPSA is non-political and represents producers to government, the community and industry, including grain marketers, exporters, storage and handlers, researchers and farm input suppliers.

## Our Purpose

- Representing the views of South Australian grain producers to government, industry and the community on grain-related issues.
- Working with an effective state farming organisation and other commodity groups to represent South Australian grain producers on cross-commodity issues.
- Working with government and industry to develop policies which create and maintain an efficient, accessible and cost-effective supply chain.
- Working with government, industry and institutions to improve the technical and business skills of South Australian grain producers.
- Working with research, development and extension organisations to identify and disseminate research priorities in grain production, handling and management.
- Supporting an effective national representative organisation to work with government on national initiatives to support the grains industry.
- Providing a program to include and develop young farmers to be prepared to take on leadership roles within the SA grains industry.

## Our Mission

To ensure a profitable and sustainable grains industry in South Australia, through advancing the interests of grain producers.

## Our Vision

The South Australian grain industry will become a \$6 billion industry by 2030

## Our Core Functions

GPSA develops and implements policies and projects that promote the economic and environmental sustainability of South Australian grain growing businesses, advancing these initiatives through:

- 1. Advocacy.** GPSA advocates on behalf of SA grain producers, representing their interests to decision-makers in all levels of government, the SA Parliament, and to commercial and other groups across the value chain.
- 2. Leadership.** GPSA engages industry stakeholders regarding policies we believe will promote the economic and environmental sustainability of grain production, providing leadership and influencing outcomes.
- 3. Industry Development.** GPSA informs grain producers on matters of importance to their business and champions the contribution we make to the South Australian community by engaging positively with the public.



# Corporate governance

## History

GPSA is a company limited by guarantee. GPSA's ACN is 154 897 533.

GPSA membership is open to all active South Australian grain producers who have contributed to the Primary Industry Funding Schemes (Grain Industry Fund) 2012 (PIFS Grain).

GPSA continues to grow its producer member database. The total database now stands at 1407. Our reach extends across the entire sector through our work funded by grower contributions to the Grain Industry Fund.

Grain Producers SA was established in March 2012. It was formed out of the need for an organised and well-funded lobby group to be a voice for South Australian grain growers beyond the farm gate. GPSA succeeded the former South Australian Farmers' Federation Grains Council, as the peak representative body for the State's grain producers.

The Grain Industry Fund has provided a sustainable and secure source of funding to GPSA to fulfil its charter to represent South Australian grain producers both locally and nationally.

GPSA has demonstrated industry linkages and networks, including affiliations with relevant industry organisations locally and nationally, and is recognised as the peak representative body for South Australian grain producers.

GPSA is one of six peak commodity groups in South Australia – each covering grain, dairy, horticulture, livestock, winegrapes, and forestry. These groups feed into an overarching policy council called Primary Producers SA (PPSA), which in turn holds membership of the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) on behalf of South Australia.

At a national level, GPSA is a member of the peak body Grain Producers Australia (GPA), while it works closely with GrainGrowers Limited on matters relevant to South Australian producers.

## Board of Directors

The structure of the Board ensures that GPSA has the capability and the capacity to provide strong representation and advocacy for the benefit of South Australian grain producers.

A seven-member Board of Directors is elected by GPSA members from across the grain growing regions of South Australia, which provides direction and vision.

Member Elected Directors are elected for a two-year term by GPSA's producer members. They bring skills and knowledge from many areas of interest including crop production, crop research, marketing, storage and transport and logistics.

In addition, the GPSA Board has the power to appoint up to two independent directors to bring additional skills and experience to the Board. The two positions are currently occupied by Professor

Wendy Umberger and Dr Steve Jefferies AM.

The Board meets approximately eight times each year. Directors are paid an annual fee and reimbursed for meeting expenses including travel and accommodation.

Policy is determined by the Board after considering input from industry, through close involvement with grain producers, grain production groups, grains sector groups and the conduct of regular regional and state industry forums.

Copies of GPSA's constitution, can be found at [www.grainproducerssa.com.au/about/](http://www.grainproducerssa.com.au/about/)

As at 30 June 2022, GPSA's non-executive directors were:

NAME	TERM OF SERVICE
Adrian McCabe, Chair	21- Oct -2016 - present
John Gladigau, Deputy	24-Aug-2020 - present
James Heaslip	24-Aug-2020 - present
David Malpas	11-Sep-2014 - present
Dion Woolford	11-Aug-2017 - present
Peta Willmott	23-Aug-2021 – present
Nick Hillier	24-Aug-2020 - present
Dr Steve Jefferies AM	23-Jul-2020 - present
Prof. Wendy Umberger	15-Dec-2017 - present



# GPSA Staff

A small, professional team of staff are responsible for administering day-to-day operations of GPSA, under direction of the Board.

The GPSA team is led by the Chief Executive Officer and works to implement the Board's strategic direction and to deliver measurable outputs from GPSA's investments. Staff members bring a range of skills and experience in project work, policy, advocacy, commercial operations, law, stakeholder relations, communication and administration.

As at 30 June 2022, GPSA's secretariat staff were:



**Brad Perry**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Officer**



**Shane Gale**  
**Regional Field Officer**



**Andrew Lehmann**  
**Policy and Stakeholder**  
**Engagement Manager**



**Carla Rech**  
**Executive Assistant**



**Rowan Thomas**  
**Policy and**  
**Communications**  
**Manager**



**Alex Newbold**  
**Intern**

# Board of Directors



## **Adrian McCabe - Chair**

MAICD

Adrian's family has been farming in the Mid North since 1956. They also have property on the western slopes of New South Wales. Adrian was appointed to the GPSA Board in December 2016, holding the position of Vice Chair from 2018.

Adrian is passionate about promoting the grain industry as a major contributor to the state's economy.



## **John Gladigau - Vice Chair**

John is a partner in Bulla Burra, a collaborative farm which crops 8,500ha annually to cereals and legumes in the Northern Mallee region of SA.

He is also a 2007 Nuffield Scholar, a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has been a member of the SA Grain Industry Blueprint Steering Committee.



## **Dion Woolford**

BHumanMov, GCertAgBus

Dion farms with his wife Chelsea and his parents near Kimba, cropping 4500 hectares to mostly wheat, barley and vetch for feed and running 5000 sheep under the prefix Karawatha Park.

In 2019 Dion undertook the Company Directors Course run by the Australian Institute of Company Directors. In addition Dion has a Graduate Certificate in Agribusiness.



## **Peta Willmott**

Peta and husband Dean farm between Kimba and Wudinna. She is a well-respected member of the grains industry and regional community and has an enormous wealth of experience and expertise, particularly in the area of governance. Peta is a councillor with the District Council of Kimba, treasurer of the Buckleboo Farm Improvement Group and president of the Kimba Country Education Foundation.



## **James Heaslip - Company Secretary**

GradDipCA

As a sixth-generation farmer, James is passionate about the agricultural industry and the opportunities it provides. Through his pathway into the agricultural industry, he has developed a broad range of professional and technical skills, which will be highly relevant to serving on the GPSA board. James brings sound financial literacy through three years spent working as an external auditor and attaining a Diploma in Chartered Accountancy.



## **Nick Hillier**

Nick has operated a mixed family farming business in the South East for nearly 30 years. The Hillier farm utilises irrigation and runs 2,000 Merino ewes and a prime lamb enterprise. With tertiary qualifications in agricultural science and his own independent consulting business, Nick brings technical skills and expertise in RD&E activities, and agricultural chemical regulation.



## **David Malpas - Company Secretary**

David operates a mixed farming enterprise with his wife Angela, near Lucindale in the South-East, comprised of cropping, sheep, and cattle.

David is a past member of the SAFF Grains Committee and former treasurer. David believes grain producers need an efficient and competitive environment to be able to remain profitable as a farming enterprise.



## **Prof. Wendy Umberger**

PhD, MS, BS

Professor Wendy Umberger brings a range of skills in board governance, knowledge of global agricultural markets and trade policy, and agricultural extension to GPSA. She is the University of Adelaide's Professor of Agricultural Economics and Food Policy and Executive Director of its Centre for Global Food and Resources. Wendy was previously an Associate Professor at Colorado State University and was raised on a beef cattle and cropping property in South Dakota.



## **Dr Steve Jefferies AM**

AM, BAgSc, PhD, D.Sc, FTSE, GAICD

Dr Jefferies previously served as the Managing Director of Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) and has over 30 years' experience working in the Australian grains industry. Steve was CEO of Australian Grain Technologies, Australia's largest and market-leading wheat-breeding company, from its inception in 2002 until June 2016.

# Advocacy, Policy & Decision-making

## Policy setting

GPSA develops and implements policies that ensures a profitable and sustainable grains industry in South Australia, through advancing the interests of grain producers.

Policy is decided by the Board, after considering input from a range of areas. From time to time, the Board establishes specialised policy and issues-based taskforces to draw in expertise from all sectors of industry. GPSA regularly consults through close involvement with grain producers, grain production groups, grains sector groups and the conduct of regular regional and state industry forums.

## Policy Forums

GPSA has several advisory groups whose purpose is to focus on priority policy areas. Each group is led by a GPSA director and includes growers and may include industry stakeholders who work together on issues and, at times, provide recommendations to the GPSA Board.

As at 30 June 2022, the sole permanent policy sub-committee in operation was the Grains Research, Development & Extension Committee (RD&E). The RD&E Committee is established by resolution of the Board to provide advice and recommendations to the Board on matters relating to research, development and extension at a national and state level that have an impact on South Australian grain producers.

Membership was comprised of:

- Nick Hillier (Chair)
- Tanja Morgan
- David Malpas
- Mark Modra
- Penny Schulz
- Craig Davis
- Mark Schilling
- Nat Sommerville
- Steve Ball

Andrew Lehmann (GPSA Policy and Stakeholder Engagement Manager) has served as committee secretary.

GPSA establishes 'taskforces' to focus on single policy issues in response to the evolving

legislative priorities of the Parliament and broader government agenda. The following operational taskforces were active in 2021/22:

- Sustainability
- Mental Health and Wellbeing

By establishing sub-committees or taskforces, a broad range of views and expertise can be sourced in the development of policy to support GPSA's work program, and provide an opportunity for industry-wide participation in projects supported by the Grain Industry Fund.

## Memberships

GPSA advances policy by working with state and national representative organisations, through making a direct financial contribution in fees and through investing significant staffing resources and other forms of in-kind support. GPSA seeks to influence policy deliberations of these bodies in the interests of South Australian grain producers.

## Grain Producers Australia

Grain Producers Australia (GPA) represents Australia's broadacre, grain, pulse and oilseed producers at the national level. Broadly stated, GPA was created to foster a strong, innovative, profitable, globally competitive and environmentally sustainable grains industry in Australia.

The objectives of GPA are:

- To establish a strong independent national advocate for grain producers based on a rigorous and transparent policy development process;
- To engage all sectors of the Australian grains industry to ensure operation of the most efficient and profitable grain supply chain; and
- To facilitate a strategic approach to Research, Development and Extension intended to deliver sound commercial outcomes from industry research.

GPA plays an important role in the oversight of Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC) on behalf of grain producers, as well as providing direction to Plant Health Australia (PHA) on plant biosecurity matters.

GPA is appointed by the Federal Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, as the

“Representative Organisation” for the GRDC under the Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989. As part of this role, the Board of GPA, including GPSA representatives, attend the regular, six-monthly consultation meetings with the GRDC board and senior staff.

GPA also holds membership of Plant Health Australia on behalf of Australian grain producers and is a signatory to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

GPA’s responsibilities include:

- biosecurity planning and implementation at the national and farm levels
- liaising with federal and state governments on trade issues
- funding and supporting biosecurity initiatives
- participating in national committees and response efforts in an emergency.

GPSA maintains membership of GPA on behalf of grain producers in South Australia. In 2021/22, GPSA participated in GPA’s Biosecurity Policy Committee and Pesticides and Technology Sub-Committee. GPSA also represented GPA on the ACCC Agriculture Consultative Committee.

### **Primary Producers SA**

Primary Producers SA (PPSA) is a coalition of peak bodies representing primary producers in South Australia. GPSA is a founding member and has nominated a councillor to the PPSA Council, to ensure grain production matters are considered in deliberations.

The purpose of PPSA is:

- To vigorously represent the interests and concerns of primary producers to government and the community;
- To present one voice to government and the wider community on cross-commodity issues affecting primary producers in South Australia;
- To promote the importance of primary production in South Australia and ensure that the contributions and achievements of primary producers are acknowledged and appreciated; and
- To work with and assist stakeholders and suppliers to primary production where such assistance will ultimately benefit primary producers.

GPSA participates in PPSA’s cross-commodity policy sub-committees, including the Educating Kids About Agriculture Kids About Ag Steering Committee and Transport and Supply Chain Committee.

GPSA provides policy support to PPSA on cross-commodity issues of importance to

grain producers and otherwise as required. In 2021/22, GPSA represented PPSA on the Bushfire Prevention & Management Committee, SAPOL’s Fire Prevention Strategic Alliance Committee and the CFS System Testers Group.

### **National Farmers’ Federation**

The National Farmers’ Federation (NFF) is the peak national body representing farmers and, more broadly, agriculture across Australia. It is one of Australia’s foremost advocacy organisations at the national political and community level.

Since 2017, PPSA has joined NFF as the only South Australian-based member of NFF.

GPSA makes a co-contribution to PPSA’s membership to NFF. In turn, GPSA can nominate representatives to a range of sub-committees and may participate in national policy forums convened by NFF. In 2021/22, GPSA directly participated in the NFF’s Trade Committee, Economic Policy and Farm Business Committee, Farming Systems Committee, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Committee, Telecommunications and Social Policy Committee, and NFF’s NHVR Working Group.

GPSA staff also attended the NFF Conference ‘Sustaining the Nation’ in Canberra, from 5-6 April 2022.

### **External committee membership**

GPSA also advances policy work through making representation to external parties, including other industry associations and affiliated bodies in agriculture. Staff regularly attend workshops, meetings, forums and hold several committee positions to advance policy positions and gather information to support evidence-based research. The outcomes from these activities are reported to the GPSA Board and/or taskforces, as well as communicated to the broader grain industry. In 2021/22, GPSA advanced the interests of grain growers through the following committees:

- Port Adelaide Container Terminal Monitoring Panel
- Grain Trade Australia Commerce Committee
- ACCC Agriculture Consultative Committee
- Department for Infrastructure and Transport’s (DIT) Heavy Vehicle Reference Group
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) Southern Region Working Group
- National Mouse Group
- PIRSA Grain Tech Committee
- drumMuster Industry Advisory Committee

### **Advocacy**

GPSA engages with decision-makers of all tiers of government, and statutory bodies responsible for policy or programs relevant to grain production

businesses in South Australia. GPSA represents the interests of grain producers to the South Australian Parliament, and where appropriate, on State issues relevant to the Federal Parliament.

In accordance with its constitution, GPSA remains strictly non-party political.

In the lead up to the 2022 State Election, GPSA promoted a policy agenda to all candidates and Parties that outlined key priorities to unlock increased profitability and sustainability in the grain industry for the benefit of all South Australians.

GPSA's 2022 State Election priorities were informed by GPSA's 'Grower Priorities' survey results and the SA Grain Industry Blueprint, in support of our industry goal to become a \$6 billion industry by 2030.

The Grower Priorities Survey highlighted the key issues impacting SA grain growers' productivity, profitability and sustainability, including:

- Regional road, telecommunications and supply chain infrastructure
- Rising cost of inputs
- Climate change, drought resilience and sustainability
- Market access
- Biosecurity
- Skilled and seasonal labour shortages

GPSA will continue to work closely with all sides of government to advance the interests of South Australian grain producers.

### **Industry Partnerships**

GPSA recognise the need to work constructively with industry, government and the broader community to facilitate programs designed to encourage communication and cooperation between grain producers and other bodies associated with the grain industry.

GPSA is in regular contact with marketers, exporters, storage and handlers, researchers and farm input suppliers on behalf of growers.

GPSA will actively seek opportunities to provide leadership to industry forums for the benefit of grain producers. GPSA has continued to take the lead role in coordinating the South Australian Barley Advisory Committee (SABAC) on behalf of the industry. As mentioned above, GPSA is also a member of the NHVR Southern Region Working Group and DIT's Heavy Vehicle Reference Group.

### **Communication**

In seeking to communicate our work to producers, GPSA develops targeted material to support the dissemination of information relevant to grain industry, including:

- Media releases
- Social Media including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube
- Newsletter
- Grain Producer magazine
- Email blasts (single issues)
- Website updates
- Podcasts
- Traditional media (opinion pieces, feature articles, interviews)
- Advertising in state and regional newspapers
- Regional grower and board meetings
- Exhibitions at field days and industry events
- Industry surveys
- Attending conferences, workshops, grower updates and similar industry activities.

GPSA continued to bring a number of communication activities in house and significantly increased the frequency, consistency and flexibility of our direct communication with members in 2021/22. As an example, GPSA has increased our social media presence to keep members, industry and the broader community updated on GPSA's activities on behalf of SA grain producers.

### **Annual Conference**

GROWING SA is the annual conference of South Australia's grain and livestock industries, co-hosted by Grain Producers SA and Livestock SA. GROWING SA is an opportunity for primary producers to hear the latest in policy developments, farm business tips and commodity research while networking with each other and industry service providers and policy decision-makers.

Unfortunately, following advice of the Australian Government in response to COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 GROWING SA conference was cancelled.

After a three-year hiatus, the GROWING SA Conference is back in 2022, to be held over two days at the Adelaide Hills Convention Centre, Hahndorf, on Monday 29 August and Tuesday 30 August 2022.

GROWING SA 2022's theme is sustainability and the conference program focuses on requirements integral to achieving this on-farm such as innovation, taking advantage of opportunities, planning for challenges and building skills for a prosperous future. Special guests at the event will include Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Hon Clare Scriven MLC, National Farmers' Federation Chief Executive Officer Tony Mahar, Food Agility CRC's Dr Madeline

Mitchell and Australian Farm Institute's Katie McRobert.

More information is available via [www.growingsa.com.au](http://www.growingsa.com.au)

### **Grower Education**

GPSA acts as a conduit for grower education and information on issues that may require a change in practice or heightened awareness at key times (such as harvest) for the industry good. This activity may also arise from a change to regulation, or emerging threats to our industry's long-term sustainability, productivity and profitability, such as information pertaining to market access, biosecurity, rural mental health and wellbeing, and climate change.

In 2021/22 GPSA led several highly successful campaigns and projects to improve the understanding and awareness of grain producers on particular matters. See key achievements and activities for campaign details.

### **Consultation**

Growers are encouraged to have input on the organisation's policies by contacting the GPSA Chief Executive Officer, a Board member or attending any of the forums which GPSA hosts.

GPSA staff attend a variety of industry meetings throughout the year on behalf of the organisation, and are available to discuss issues with growers by contacting the office on 1300 734 884.

GPSA attends major field days as an exhibitor. GPSA attended the Yorke Peninsula Field Days in September 2021 and the South East Field Days in March 2022.

In January 2022, GPSA provided additional support to Eyre Peninsula growers impacted by significant storm damage by working with the Tuckey Ag Bureau and Buckleboo Farm Improvement Group to host two days of farm visits with about 45 grain growers in attendance. This project was supported by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions.

GPSA runs surveys every year – to further understand issues important to grain producers in South Australia. In addition, GPSA promotes surveys from Primary Producers SA and other relevant national bodies.

GPSA is ultimately accountable to all grain producers through the ongoing support for voluntary contributions made to the Grains Industry Fund each year.



Flood damage from the January storms on the Eyre Peninsula

# Achievements & Activities



## **2022 State Election Advocacy Activities**

In the lead up to the 2022 South Australian state election, held on 19 March 2022, GPSA undertook a strong advocacy campaign on behalf of South Australian grain growers.

## **2022 State Election Priorities**

In early February 2022, GPSA launched our 2022 State Election Priorities which highlighted a raft of key projects to increase the productivity and profitability of the South Australian grain industry.

GPSA's 2022 State Election Priorities was compiled following a 'Grower Priorities Survey', which found market access, drought resilience, climate variability and biosecurity were the top policy issues affecting South Australian grain growers.

GPSA sought that all political parties and candidates commit to the initiatives the grain sector put forward as part of the March 2022 State Election.

GPSA's key priority asks included;

- \$10 million Grain Growth Program.
- \$20 million Agricultural mobile blackspot funding round.
- \$4.2 million for a sustainable weather station network.
- \$250,000 for subsidised PPE equipment packs for farmers fighting fires.
- \$700,000 for a new agricultural bag recycling

program.

- Introduction into SA Parliament of a new Biosecurity Act.
- \$6 million grain export and market entry program.
- Four-year maintenance fund to address the state's road maintenance backlog.
- \$4 million for retraining into agriculture initiative.

GPSA's 2022 State Election Priorities will continue to inform GPSA's advocacy in the coming years. You can read GPSA's State Election Priorities at [www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-StateElection22](http://www.tinyurl.com/GPSA-StateElection22)

## **Regional State Election Forums**

In late February and early March 2022, GPSA held a series of regional State Election Forums to allow grain producers and rural community members the opportunity to hear from candidates on matters important to them.

GPSA held forums in the electorates of Flinders (in Cummins), Chaffey (in Loxton), and Narungga (in Maitland) where a large portion of grain producers farm.

The forums were well attended and included similar discussions on investment in grains infrastructure, road maintenance and heavy vehicle access, mobile blackspot funding, agricultural and regional workforce shortages, rural mental health

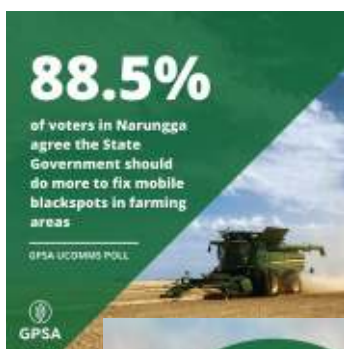


providers, agricultural education, weather station networks, land access and mining legislation, and drought and disaster preparedness.

Those unable to attend but interested in hearing from local candidates on agricultural and regional issues were encouraged to watch the forums which were live streamed on GPSA's Facebook page.

### Phone surveys

GPSA commissioned phone surveys in the electorates of Narungga, Chaffey and Flinders to demonstrate, to all political parties and candidates, the strong regional support for issues which impact SA's grain industry. You can find some highlights from our regional polling below:



### SA Grains Industry Blueprint

The SA Grain Industry Blueprint was launched by the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on 24 August 2020.

The Blueprint establishes the vision that our industry will become a \$6 billion industry by 2030, through six pillars – market opportunities; biosecurity and market access; building industry capacity; capturing value; innovation; and infrastructure.

In 2021-22 the implementation of the Blueprint continued to drive GPSA's policy and project objectives. This can be seen in our 2022 State Election advocacy and Blueprint aligned projects such as Market Ready and Beyond the Silo.

As part of Blueprint initiatives (Market Opportunities and Capturing Value) GPSA supported a successfully announced funding application for the establishment of three plant protein manufacturing facilities in South Australia as part of a \$378 million project.

Adelaide-based meat processing giant Thomas Foods International has joined forces with Australian Plant Proteins and Australian Milling Group to make South Australia a plant protein powerhouse.

### Market Ready

The Market Ready campaign was launched in November 2020, with aim to increase grower engagement and knowledge regarding market requirements, standards, quality assurance and compliance practices. Market Ready strongly aligns with the Biosecurity and Market Access Pillar of the South Australian Grain Industry Blueprint. The campaign included the development of Market Ready resources, such as fact sheets, check lists and a webpage.

GPSA continued to promote Market Ready resources in 2021/22, particularly to ensure growers' awareness of the importance of grain hygiene and market requirements over the harvest period.

Upcoming project activities include working with Grain Australia on updating the Industry Management Plans, desktop research to assess and identify the market risk associated with snail contamination with regard to the new exotic species and further grower communication materials in connection to the market access threat of lens snail.

*The Market Ready campaign is an initiative of the SA Grain Market Access Group, delivered by GPSA with the support of the Federal Government's Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation Program.*



RD&E Committee visiting the Lens Snail eradication site at Largs North

### Beyond the Silo

Grain Producers SA partnered with Grain Trade Australia to deliver the Grain Marketing Operations and Diversification Project. The project, proudly supported by the South Australian Government through a \$75,000 grant from the Regional Growth Fund, helped growers better understand grain markets to support diversification. This project captured a key priority of the SA Grain Industry Blueprint, launched in August 2020, which is to increase business resilience and sustainability in the grain production sector.

In 2021/22, the Beyond the Silo project presented high quality and relevant education resources for SA growers.

In September 2021, GPSA launched the latest Beyond the Silo resource 'A guide to marketing grain: Understanding why the market moves, and what you can do about it.' The Guide was developed in conjunction with Thomas Elder Markets and provides the reader with a greater understanding of the grain marketplace, which can be used as a reference guide.

GPSA promoted Beyond the Silo resources over the 2021/22 harvest period, including the Beyond the Silo podcast series and 'producer guide to selling grain using grain contracts booklet' adapted specifically for South Australian growers.

In March 2022, GPSA held an additional Beyond the Silo project in collaboration with the Nelshby Ag Bureau in Warnertown, featuring Andrew Whitelaw, Thomas Elder Markets, and partnered with Grain Trade Australia to offer GPSA members a free online workshop on selling grain using GTA contracts (valued at \$150).

More information and Beyond the Silo project resources are available on the GPSA website.

# BEYOND THE SILO

Grain marketing tips for growers

### **Mining on agricultural land**

GPSA has continued to advocate for the need to balance agriculture with competing land uses such as mining, to protect the sustainability of agricultural production for future generations.

GPSA welcomed the establishment of the Parliamentary Select Committee and provided a comprehensive submission to the Committee in June 2021, available via [www.grainproducerssa.com.au/submissions/](http://www.grainproducerssa.com.au/submissions/).

GPSA formally presented to the Select Committee in July 2021.

The Select Committee tabled its final report in November 2022. The committee's six broad recommendations strongly align with GPSA's policy position, and many directly reflect GPSA's recommendations.

The recommendations, if implemented, could improve outcomes for landholders, farming families and rural communities. They include, for example, that a mining ombudsman be established, to address concerns regarding the dual role of the Department of Energy and Mining as both promoter and regulator. Additionally, the committee suggested that work be undertaken to inform standalone legislative protection of agricultural land in South Australia, which would strengthen the rights of agricultural landowners and better recognise the scarcity of South Australia's agricultural land.

GPSA sought commitment from all sides of politics to implement all recommendations from the Select Committee on Land Access' Final Report in the lead up to the 2022 State Election. GPSA will continue to advocate the need to protect land used for food production in South Australia.

You can find a summary of the Select Committee's recommendations and download the full report via the GPSA website, at [www.grainproducerssa.com.au/advocacy/](http://www.grainproducerssa.com.au/advocacy/)

### **Moving Ag Machinery... Made Easy**

Representatives from primary production, machinery retail, logistics and government have come together as part of a project led by GPSA with the united goal of improving road safety and making compliance easier for primary producers.

The 'Moving Ag Machinery ... Made Easy!' project will gather feedback from across the commodity spectrum to help inform improvements, training and resources aimed at primary producers who access the NHVR Portal for permits.

GPSA Regional Field Officer Shane Gale is managing the project. As Shane said: "As farms increase in scale, so too does the size of machinery. This presents issues for not only motorists unfamiliar with slow moving agricultural machinery but also for machinery dealers and producers if they cannot access the appropriate exemptions to operate that machinery on public roads in a timely manner."

GPSA is currently collecting information from growers who utilise the 'The National Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle and Combination Mass and Dimension Exemption Notice 2020 (No.1)' and NHVR Portal.

The project will also provide an important feedback mechanism for all levels of government to understand the issues facing everyone moving agricultural vehicles and combinations to meet statutory requirements.

The 'Moving Ag Machinery ... Made Easy!' campaign has been funded by the NHVR's Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative Program, with the support of the Federal Government.

More information on the project is available on the GPSA website.



GPSA's Shane Gale at Warnertown with Nelshaby Ag Bureau delivering a safety workshop

## Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles 'Made Easy' Workshops

In early 2020, GPSA presented the 'Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles... Made Easy' Project which offers free, interactive theory and practical workshops for PPSA commodity group members to assist their understanding of road safety and their compliance and maintenance responsibilities for a roadworthy heavy vehicle. This project has continued throughout 2021-22.

The project has achieved all milestones. To date, over 450 primary producers have attended more than 30 theory workshops and 100 practical workshops across South Australia, in locations ranging from Streaky Bay to Bordertown.

Theory and practical workshops are designed to help SA primary producers understand road safety and their compliance and maintenance responsibilities for heavy vehicle roadworthiness, including their responsibilities under the NHVR Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual. Officers from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator also made themselves available at some workshops to raise awareness on safety management systems.

In 2021, GPSA extended the project which will now continue to deliver practical and theory workshops for primary producers throughout 2022. More information about the workshop program is available on GPSA's website.

*This program is funded by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator's Heavy Vehicle Initiative Program, with the support of the Commonwealth Government.*

## Know Your Code

The 'Know Your Code' campaign provides a simple checklist for growers to ensure they are adhering to the on-farm actions of the Grain Harvesting Code of Practice.

GPSA developed and promoted an easy-to-read poster and other campaign material that sets out 5 simple steps that producers can take to help reduce the risk of harvester fires. These are:

1. Preparation,
2. Maintenance,
3. Monitoring,
4. Safe operations, and
5. Communication.

The Code took on new importance following changes to the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005, which provide Police with the power to prevent recalcitrant farmers from harvesting or conducting other operations where that activity might cause a fire, or cause a fire to get out of control. Adherence to the Code will be a critical factor of determining whether conditions are safe to harvest in.

GPSA continued to support and promote this campaign to growers over the 2021/22 harvest period.





Inspecting the damage from the January storms on the Eyre Peninsula

### **GPSA support for Adelaide Agricultural Students**

In 2021-22, GPSA continued to provide undergraduate students enrolled in a tertiary agricultural degree the opportunity to develop professional skills, build industry networks, and undertake work experience through a paid internship.

Additionally, GPSA is a gold sponsor of the Adelaide University Agricultural Students Association (AUASA) in 2022. GPSA continues to provide extensive in-kind support to AUASA activities, including participation in the AUASA mentoring program, AUASA career and networking functions, and attendance at industry events such as AUASA's Growing the Future 2021 and 2022.

### **Hit Your Target**

GPSA promoted its 'Hit Your Target' campaign in early 2022 to encourage growers to reduce the likelihood of spray drift and off target damage.

Following reports of damage to vineyards in Clare and the Riverland, GPSA reminded growers that deliberately ignoring spraying guidelines could see them fined up to \$35,000 per offence.

You can find best practice information in the form of hints, tips and resources on GPSA's website.

### **Lens Snail eradication**

On behalf of grain producers in South Australia, GPSA has been working with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions to eradicate lens snail (*C. lenticula*) in the state. The eradication has been successful to date and GPSA continues to take tours to the site to educate grain producers on the process and for them to better understand the potential impacts had it not been contained.



### **Rural Health and wellbeing – ifarmwell partnership**

ifarmwell is an online tool kit to help farmers cope effectively with life's challenges and get the most out of every day.

ifarmwell aligns with the health and wellbeing section of the SafeWork SA Farm Safety Guide by providing farmers with free, practical online tools to optimize their own wellbeing. Farmers can also use ifarmwell to help them to adhere to their duty of care to ensure the psychological health of their workers, by encouraging their workers to complete the five, short modules.

GPSA continued to promote ifarmwell's resources to members throughout 2021/22. Via media, our communication platforms, and particularly to mark National Farm Safety Week in July 2021. GPSA supported ifarmwell's attendance at industry events, such as the Yorke Peninsula Field Days and the Ag Institute of Australia's SA Division meeting in September 2021.

### **Planning reform**

Along with other PPSA commodity group members, GPSA continued to work with the State Planning Commission to ensure that primary producers' interests are considered as part of the planning and development process.

Incompatible land uses have been recognised as an issue for primary producers, particularly around SA's mid-north and the urban periphery surrounding Adelaide and regional centres.

Through 2022 State Election Priorities, GPSA advocated for the appointment of an experienced agricultural representative on the South Australian Planning Commission. GPSA also included priorities pertaining to buffer zones, reducing red tape and costs for retiring farmers to subdivide productive farm land for sale, and enabling a fast-tracked planning process for the development of on-farm accommodation for seasonal workers.



# Financial Reporting

GPSA's Board has a strong focus on demonstrating industry leadership through sound corporate governance, recognising that exemplary corporate governance and diligent monitoring of the organisation's compliance with its legal obligations, are vitally important to the fulfilment of its mission.

The Board's commitment to sound corporate governance has also resulted in the development of a suite of corporate policies which establish processes, delineate responsibilities, and ensure oversight of key business functions.

GPSA recognises that all funds received from the Grain Industry Fund must be applied for the benefit of grain producers in South Australia who make contributions, as required by terms of the current Management Plan released by the Minister for public consultation.

For this reason, GPSA has robust systems to manage advances from the Grains Industry Fund and for reporting on the expenditure of monies received, with strict oversight of the Audit and Finance Committee, and the Board of Directors.

In order to demonstrate both transparency and accountability to grain producers who make contributions, a periodic compliance and reporting schedule for the payment of Grains Industry Fund contributions has been developed through the approval of PIRSA.

## **Auditing and Reporting**

GPSA's financial year runs 1 July to 30 June in alignment with the financial year for the PIFS Grains scheme. GPSA reports to grain producers on the spending of monies to its members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The last AGM was held on Monday 23 August 2021 at the Adelaide Hills Convention Centre, Hahndorf.

The 2022 AGM will be held on Monday, 29 August 2022.

GPSA also reports on monies spent of the PIFS Grain fund to the Minister on a Quarterly Report basis. Quarterly reports are submitted to the Minister by 7 November, 7 February and 7 May each year with a detailed annual report to be submitted by 14 September.

As a company limited by guarantee, GPSA lodges a copy of its financial statements annually with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC).

Following an open tender process, the GPSA Board appointed Bentley's as auditors in 2018.

## **Audit, Finance & Risk Committee**

The GPSA Board established the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee to strengthen the oversight of GPSA's operations and to provide confidence to both the Minister and grain producers that funds are appropriately managed and reporting obligations are met.

The objective of the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee is to provide independent assurance and assistance to the Board on GPSA's risk, control and compliance framework, and its external accountability responsibilities.

James Heaslip chairs the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee and Adrian McCabe, John Gladigau and GPSA CEO, Brad Perry are members.

The Audit, Finance & Risk Committee has established delegated authority (maximum) limits that govern the payment of monies within the organisation.

## **Fraud and risk management**

GPSA's fraud and risk management framework includes processes for project, program and portfolio-level risk management, general compliance and operational risk management and financial risk management, and guidelines for external projects.

## **Monitoring performance**

GPSA monitors, measures and evaluates its performance to continually improve its effectiveness and efficiency. The publication of an annual report documents key achievements and outcomes.

## **External accounting services**

GPSA sources external accounting advice from William Buck, including the preparation of company returns to the company regulator, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC).

GPSA outsources bookkeeping functions and relies on cloud-based accounting software platform Xero to enable streamlined internal controls and approvals by authorised users, including GPSA's external accountant and Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee.

### Audit process

Independent internal and external audits are applied to finances.

GPSA maintains accounts and records of transactions and affairs in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, and with other legislative requirements, applicable to entities reporting under the Corporations Act 2001.

In order to promote auditor independence in the preparation of the annual financial statements, the GPSA Board elected to rotate the auditor in 2018. GPSA re-appointed Bentleys SA Pty Ltd to audit GPSA's the 2021-22 financial statements.

Bentleys was formally engaged to conduct an independent audit of the financial report of Grain Producers SA Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2022, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

A written report to the GPSA Board prepared by Bentleys following completion of the audit will raise any material matters or concerns that would impact the decision-making ability of the users of the financial report. This also highlights suggested changes or recommended corrective actions arising from the audit process, which may then be implemented by management.

In accordance with the reporting requirements of the Management Plan, Bentleys prepares a statement of acquittal of funds for lodgement with PIRSA, demonstrating how all monies received from the Grain Industry Fund were expended in the preceding financial year for PIRSA.

Audited financial statements for 2021-22 are published on pages 28 and 29.

### Corporate planning and reporting

GPSA's corporate planning and reporting approach incorporates three tiers of accountability:

1. Strategic Plan that sets out GPSA's high-level goals, strategies and performance measures for the year-period.
2. Annual Operational Plan that outlines the annual budget, resources and research priorities that give effect to the Strategic Plan during a given financial year. It also provides the opportunity for GPSA to respond to external drivers and changing priorities during the life of the Strategic Plan by providing revised emphasis on project theme.
3. Annual Report that provides information on project activities and their performance in relation to the goals set in the Annual Operational Plan for a given financial year.

### Insurance

GPSA maintains the following level of insurance cover through its insurance agent. Insurance cover is reviewed annually and adjusted as required.

Details of policies and cover held as at 30 June 2022:

- Association Liability (including professional indemnity): up to \$5,000,000.
- General Liability: up to \$20,000,000
- Business interruption: up to \$100,000.
- General Property: up to \$28,397.49
- General contents: \$30,000
- Theft – up to \$5,000
- Cyber Liability: up to \$1,000,000
- Motor Vehicle - comprehensive (agreed value): \$50,000



## External reporting

Transparency and accountability are integral to achieving GPSA's mission.

As the voice of the South Australian grain production sector, GPSA Directors and senior management are committed to acting with integrity in representing grain producers, discharging duties in both an ethical and responsible manner.

GPSA reports regularly to stakeholders, including through formal reporting to GPSA members, South Australian grain producers and the South Australian Government, via publication of annual reports, the GPSA website and participation in conferences, forums, workshops and other activities.

GPSA holds its AGM as a public event, open to all Grain Industry Fund contributors.

GPSA will regularly canvass its membership on policy priorities and be accountable to members in accordance with the organisation's constitution

and legal framework, as a company limited by guarantee.

In addition, GPSA is available to solicit feedback directly from GPSA members and Grains Industry Fund contributors during office hours via 1300 734 884 (for the cost of a local call).

## Tax status

Grain Producers SA Ltd (GPSA) operates as a non-profit entity, established as a company limited by guarantee under the Corporations Act 2001.

GPSA is registered for the GST and has been assigned the Australian Business Number (ABN) 43 154 897 533.

## Director attendance records

A record of attendance of directors at GPSA Board meetings held in 2021/22 is provided below.

### Director attendance records for 2021-22

Name	Director type	Applicable meetings	Meetings attended	Meetings not attended*
Adrian McCabe, Chair	Member Elected	8	8	0
John Gladigau	Member Elected	8	8	0
James Heaslip	Member Elected	8	7	1
David Malpas	Member Elected	8	8	0
Dion Woolford	Member Elected	8	8	0
Peta Willmott	Member Elected	7	7	0
Nick Hillier	Member Elected	8	8	0
Dr Steve Jefferies AM	Independent	8	8	0
Prof. Wendy Umberger	Independent	8	8	0
*with apology				

## Grain Producers SA Ltd

### Statement of Profit or Loss

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
N	\$	\$
Operating Grants	1,520,000	1,380,000
Project Income	59,415	223,492
Interest income	507	4,765
Miscellaneous income	25,274	50,000
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,605,196</b>	<b>1,658,257</b>
<b>Less: operating expenses</b>		
Employee costs - staff	(607,485)	(585,235)
Employee costs - directors	(200,545)	(148,808)
Rental Outgoings	(87,113)	(81,820)
Communications	(58,563)	(68,939)
Travel - domestic	(66,167)	(55,910)
Fringe benefits tax	(28,002)	(29,568)
Accounting	(22,734)	(27,238)
Consulting fees	(46,275)	(22,760)
Website costs	(10,709)	(23,925)
Conference, seminar and function costs	(37,227)	(18,774)
Motor Vehicle Expenses	(18,372)	(18,459)
Depreciation	(9,765)	(13,222)
Meeting costs	(7,098)	(11,286)
Telephone and fax	(6,858)	(7,247)
Computer expenses	(15,340)	(6,924)
Insurance	(5,976)	(6,455)
Auditors Remuneration	(7,459)	(5,540)
Subscriptions	(3,566)	(3,040)
Legal Fees	(13,193)	(2,590)
Impairment loss	(43,854)	-
Sundry expenses	(14,901)	(3,355)
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>(1,311,202)</b>	<b>(1,141,095)</b>
Program expenses	(242,157)	(489,094)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(1,553,359)</b>	<b>(1,630,189)</b>
<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>51,837</b>	<b>28,068</b>

Full financial statements, including notes, are available to members upon request.

## Grain Producers SA Ltd

### Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	900,352	613,667
Trade and other receivables	45,076	64,930
Investments	630,898	704,790
Other assets	4,842	2,963
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>1,581,168</b>	<b>1,386,350</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	30,243	79,932
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>30,243</b>	<b>79,932</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,611,411</b>	<b>1,466,282</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	69,809	68,472
Employee benefits	22,852	23,982
Revenue received in advance	254,299	161,214
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>346,960</b>	<b>253,668</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>346,960</b>	<b>253,668</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>1,264,451</b>	<b>1,212,614</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained earnings	1,264,451	1,212,614
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>1,264,451</b>	<b>1,212,614</b>



#### Grain Producers SA Ltd

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**GRAIN PRODUCERS SA**

The voice of South Australian growers

[www.grainproducerssa.com.au](http://www.grainproducerssa.com.au)