

## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 23 August, 2024

# Hart Field Day 2024 program launched

The program for the 2024 Hart Field Day has been officially launched and the event on Tuesday, September 17, promises to have something for all grain growers.

Sponsored by Rocky River Ag, this year's field day features 20 rolling sessions, enabling attendees to customise their own itinerary.

With some of Australia's foremost grains researchers and industry representatives presenting across the day, it provides a unique opportunity for growers to speak with them direct, and ask questions specific to their own cropping program.

Hart chair Andre Sabeeney said his team had worked hard to offer a diverse range of topics on the program, addressing both this year's specific challenges, and broader agricultural research.

"Sessions such as 'Emergence and rainfall: getting to the basics' will explore the impact of soil moisture on seed quality, germination, and crop establishment," Mr Sabeeney said.

"The sessions on 'Crop establishment after a dry start' will offer field evaluations of cereal and canola crops, providing practical insights under current conditions.

"Additionally, the program will cover essential topics such as nitrogen-efficient fertilisers, oaten hay agronomy and export markets, and advancements in technology to support better on-farm decision-making."



Mr Sabeeney said the field day program had been designed to appeal to a wide audience by balancing traditional trial work on wheat, canola, and barley varieties with newer research discoveries.

"These include sessions on broadleaf weed management in lentil and chickpea crops and innovative strategies for tackling lentil diseases," he said.

New technologies will feature, with three different tech demonstration sessions including:

- Eyes in the Sky: Drone imaging in agriculture. Explore how cutting-edge drone technology revolutionises horticulture with high-resolution imaging and data collection. The University of Adelaide Uncrewed Research Air Facility (URAF) will showcase how drones provide precise aerial views of crops, enabling large-scale

monitoring and spectral imaging for crop health. Learn how this technology enhances decision-making and boosts productivity.

- Digging Deeper: Ag-tech for soil analysis. Join speakers Joe Marks and Luke Mosley (University of Adelaide) as they introduce useful tools for assessing soil health and composition. They will demonstrate how simple and advanced sensors and probes offer real-time insights into soil moisture, nutrients, and structure, helping optimise soil management.
- Precision Farming: autonomous Trektor, with speakers Lei Chen and Luke Mosley (University of Adelaide). Discover the future of farming through the autonomous Trektor and its precision soil sampling techniques. This session highlights how automation and advanced analytics streamline field operations, reducing labour costs and enhancing soil health management.

The Hart Field Day will be held on Tuesday, September 17, with gates open at 9am and official opening at 10am. First sessions start at 10.30am sharp.

Admission is \$45 (students \$15), including access to all sessions and guest speakers, as well as a Hart Field Day Guide with articles and information from each of the sessions.

Full catering is available throughout the day (some vendors taking cash only).

The Hart trial site is 10 kilometres north of Blyth, just off the Blyth to Brinkworth Road.

Bus and group tours are welcome and are encouraged to contact organisers now for bookings.

Tickets on sale from August 26, and early purchase is encouraged.

Sales will remain open online until lunchtime on the 17th, so sign up before you arrive and fast track your way through the gate.

For tickets, or for more information head to the Hart Field-Site Group website [www.hartfieldsite.org.au](http://www.hartfieldsite.org.au) (look for Events/Hart Field Day in the main menu), or contact Sandy Kimber on 0427 423 154, or email [admin@hartfieldsite.org.au](mailto:admin@hartfieldsite.org.au)

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