

Minutes
DD RAC Meeting
Held 23rd August 2012
University of Southern Queensland Toowoomba
Meeting commenced at 9.30am

1. Opening – welcome by Chairman

Chairman, Wade Bidstrup opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.

2. Attendance

Members: Julieanne Farrell (stand in for Chris Joseph), Daniel Skerman, Mark Sutherland, Shane Pfeffer, Vicki Green, Bede O'Mara, Wade Bidstrup, Mal Wood, Joe Eyre, John Thompson, Chris Hornrick, Todd Jorgenson, Ben Coleman, Cheryl McCarthy.

Nominees: Vicki Green (GRDC)

Co-ordinator: (Acting) Damien Scanlan

Guest Speaker:

Prof Mark Sutherland –Crown Rot, Breadwheats, Durum

Dr Cheryl McCarthy – Spray Technology

3. Apologies: Chris Joseph, Brian Warren, Lindsay Berry, Mike Burgis

4. Confirmation of Agenda

5. Confirmation of Minutes (1st September 2011) Previous Minutes read and approved

Moved by Mark Sutherland, Seconded by Chris Hornrick Carried

6. Business arising from Minutes (not covered elsewhere on Agenda)

Chris Hornrick spoke about lack of water allocations, Pigs still a huge issue

6.1 Investment Incentive for smaller growers for Murray/Darling water. ***Letter to Agforce Grains***

6.2 Shatter cane in sorghum variety

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6.3 Explosion in wild pig numbers

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6.4 Mungbean agronomy

Letter to DEEDI

7. Correspondence and Other Business (not covered elsewhere on Agenda)

Nil

8. Northern Region PIP

8.1 NRPIP 2012: Published and copies sent to key research agencies and all RAC members as well as approx. 150 Qld Grain Growers. Also posted on Company website

8.2 Qld Grain Research Consultative Meeting held Dalby 6th July 2012. 4 RAC' Chairs met with senior reps of key research agencies (DAFF, QAAFI, CSIRO, and GRDC). The NR PIP 2012 formally handed over to research agencies.

Chairman Report:

The Chairman endorsed the consultative meeting and had the view that it was a very worthwhile opportunity to put the RAC major priorities in front of the broader field crops research group.

9. RAC's

9.1 Review: The Foundation engaged Mr Chris Bazley to conduct external Review-the first since 1995.

9.2 RAC Membership: 3 Year term membership under the Charter of Operations. The current term ends 30th Sept 2012.

9.3 Co-ordination- GRFL is currently assessing the Co-ordination role.

10. RAC Members' Reports

- Wade explained a letter to the Director General which was a response to Dalby Forum.
 - Rex commented on summer pulse program - DAFF has picked up on Pigeon Pea as a priority.
 - Sorghum and corn supplies difficult which will make a spring plant difficult /seed shortages result of commercial decision on inventory which could limit uptake.
 - Fertilizer demand massive, 200 BD's per day leaving port for Downs, huge N supply problems,
 - soil test showing low nitrogen
 - top dressing of wheat happening
 - S demand high
 - farmer community .com (website hosting Apps)
 - wet start, water logging floods
 - chickpeas slow to come out of ground
 - net blotch in Sheppard Barley
 - aphids issues /spray out
 - Yellow spot in wheat/ Stubble burnt - better crop
 - Asia - 20 % Mungbeans to China through Vietnam, new Crystal type to be released in 2013, 3 Green Diamond types coming as well.
 - Breeders brought back lines from OS for the first time
 - Guar still about
 - pigeon pea can be split, Faba Beans about at Warra

 - Chick peas –phytophthora- spray out some blocks
 - aphids and blotch in barley,
 - yellow spot also due to low N, evidence of YS even without rain
 - Some corn planted with sorghum to follow.

 - Mice plague prediction model Qld, Vic, SA & NSW / Rodenticide product Study –test for hormone effects which inhibits product releases

 - Coal Seam Gas about to drill, pigs a problem, need to co-ordinate baiting now,
 - spray drift issues, 600 acres wheat and chick peas gone
 - late wheat fertilizer application
- Water levels in bores increased since flood which is positive
- GPS upgrade is working really well
 - cotton crop largest ever 3b/ac dry and irrigated
 - values came off, but quality good-sent to China
 - grain values up

- Pre breeding adaptive parent lines- nematode resistant
- GRDC project (5 parental lines) which have good resistance to Pratalancis thorni
- aim to improve Gregory and Whyllie for P. T & N
- crop rotational trials are under review
- sorghum increase resistance to nematode
- Mungbeans less resistance
- chickpea resistance work required
- VAM called AMF can improve Phosphorous greatly.
- Nicki Seymour could pursue the VAM work

- Dry August, lots of frosts, YS is wheat, late plant in July Wheat
- dry land cotton down/ sorghum increased planting
- last season corn deficiency issues, moisture and insects
- Demand for sealed Silo up

- Restrictions to registrations for chemicals/pesticides
- Less Federal staff -slowing chemical registration down

11.0 Guest Speakers

11.1 Dr Cheryl McCarthy USQ Mechatronics. Wed identification in crop via colour and shape difference. Vis for colour and NIRR sense depth (XBOX) connect. Smart phone with apps to take remote time lapse images and remotely send. Time lapse/process image on phone then notify of central location (image or message) if movement detected.

11.2 Prof Mark Sutherland – Crown Rot Infection .Presentation available fro Mark

13.0 Nominees Reports

GRDC –Vicki Green

Extensive expenditure on Weeds \$450,000 weed ecology etc. 5 year project/\$200,000 over 3 years
 NGA - 20% summer weeds/30% winter

Joe Eyre

African work is coming back to Australia.

Mungbeans ½ half biomass for same yield

Rex Williams

National Genetic Resource in Horsham Vic. Changes are a great outcome

Australian Grains Bank. Biloela close

Dry land maize pre-lines given to commercial partners. Dry land 4 tropical Hybrid Programs

In breed lines

Sorghum going well - Gates Foundation. Fallow Fertility

Yash aflotoxin in Maize.

Good buy-bad buy being guide for Pulse

Prof Mark Sutherland

Appointment of new Vice chancellor of the University.

More research perhaps more money.

Future looks bright

Damien Scanlan

Acting Co-ordinataorGRFL