

Minutes
SEQ Grains RAC Meeting
held Friday 27th July 2007
At JBPRS Kingaroy
Commencing 9.00 am sharp

1. Opening & Welcome by Chairman

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests

2. Attendance

W Learmont
J Kingston
I Crosthwaite
A Cruickshank
J Cross

P Enkelmann
J O'Shanesy
T Rook (part of meeting)
P Harden

Nominees

E Colson (QDPIF)
G Wright (GRDC)
D George (UQ)

J Obst (RAC Coordinator)

Guests

R Hansen (PCA) B MacLean (GRDC)
Dr M Ryley (QDPIF) R Williams (QDPIF)
Dr RCN Rachaputi (QDPIF) W Weller (grower)

3. Apologies

Apologies received from R Coe, G Mills, N Jorgensen, C Clark, A James

Accepted

4. Confirmation of Agenda

Confirmed

5. Election of Chairman for next 12 months

Agreed to defer until later in the meeting

6. Confirmation of Minutes (23rd February 07)

Agreed that the minutes were a true and correct record of the meeting.

Agreed

7. Business from Minutes

7.1 Chairman's report on meeting with NP GRDC

The Chairman reported on the meeting he attended with the NP GRDC in Sydney on 4th July 07. Some points of interest included:

- NP member Di Bentley had recently resigned (GW reported that it is intended for this vacancy to be filled for the remainder of the term)
- A Bidggood NVT reported on recent changed to the NVT program.
- Need for the RACs to be very specific with the wording of their Priority Issues
- RAC Chairmen were each asked to nominate 3 highest priority issues and to speak about these.
- Some common Priority Issues included hard copy of technical notes, soil health and nutrition, grain insect control,

Minutes of this meeting will be circulated when available.

7.2 Dr M Bell: Red Soils Program

The Chairman referred to the letter to and from GRDC regarding on-going funding for this program. GW indicated that funding has been extended to July 2008 with the program being considered in new funding initiatives for 2008-09.

7.3 Name change to RACs

The Coordinator advised that GRFL has agreed to include the word "Grains" in the RAC title whenever possible.

8. Correspondence and Business (not covered elsewhere on agenda)

8.1 Letter to and from Jack Twyford

Noted

9. RAC Members Report

- No irrigation water allocation for region
- Some winter crop planted on marginal water. Record cold temperatures
- Silver leaf white fly has been a problem but cold weather helping to reduce
- Wild pigs becoming increasing problem

- Some winter crops in good condition.
- Prolonged weather extremes are a real problem
- Dryland peanut production on 2006-07 was very poor. Irrigated crops scrapped through
- Although water allocation very limited in 2007-08 still should be a similar peanut planting.
- Still scope on yield improvements with the new varieties released by QDPIF.
- Legume weed in grain legume crops becoming a problem
- Marketers still wanting increased peanut production
- Opening rains are the major factor for good crop yields
- Based on seed sales the approx winter crop planting is 33/33/33 for wheat/ barley/ oats
- Industry needs to considering developing 'protocols' for testing for aflatoxin in retailed stubble. QDPIF had put out some guidelines in the past.
- Central storage being built in Isis area for receipt of local soybean production
- 1837 tonnes of soybean produced in the Isis area with \$1.126 Million value. 80% of crop was food quality grade.
- Both soybean and peanuts becoming crucial components of the sugar fallow management strategy.
- Isis growers continue to explore cropping options with barley and seed canola being grown this season. Also navy beans, chick peas and mung beans being considered.
- General interest in rip stripping and adoption will increase when outlook improves
- Big improvement with stubble cover with yields going from failure to 1.5 tonnes acre.

10 Research Presentations

- 10.1 Dr G Wright DPIF reported on the latest developments / research for aflatoxin in peanuts
- 10.2 Dr RCN Rachaputi QDPIF report on BMP for the management of aflatoxin in peanuts. Dr M Ryley QDPIF reported on other soil borne peanut diseases.
- 10.3 R Hansen MD PCA reported on the international peanut market prospects and scope and opportunities for Australian domestic production.
- 10.4 MacLean GRDC reported on the future direction of the GRDC funded peanut breeding project. The aim is to introduce private sector investment into peanut breeding to support the investment by GRDC and QDPIF.

11 Degree of alignment of current RDE program with SEQ RAC Priority Issues

Members were asked to indicate their view on the degree of alignment of the SEQ RAC Priority Issues with their understanding of the current RDE program. Following is the result of those completing the task sheet. Results are as follows:

< -----not satisfied-----> <---satisfied---> <---very sat--->

Line of Business	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Varieties				xx	x		xx	xxx	xx	xx	
Practices		x			x	xx		xxxx	xxx		
New Products				xx	x	x	xx	xxx	xx		
Communications & Capacity Building							xxxx	xxxx	xx		x

12 Identify gaps in current RDE program

The members were placed into 3 Groups to report back on possible GAPS in the current RDE Program. The Group results were as follows:

Line of Business	Group A	Group B	Group C
Varieties	Dryland & Irrigated Peanut Varieties		Need for varieties of other grain legumes for dryland and irrigation
	Grain legumes including mung, navy, azuki. Also evaluation possibly using a combined program to provide R&D economy of scale.		Develop and invest in oilseed crops including those with biofuel potential
Practices	Registration of chemicals for minor crops	Registration / promotion of chemicals for weed control	More investment in weed control research for minor crops (in particular approval for 2,4DB / Broadstrike for legumes where not presently registered.
	Etiella management in peanuts	Minor use registrations	More funding for Entomology research to

	AWM Program for insects		support AWM Program (including Etiella in peanuts)
New Products	Biological control of Etiella		
Communication and Capacity Building	Hard copy of crop management notes	GRDC to help educate communities about the role of grain producers	Need to re-form some Top Crop Groups with facilitator (adoption still lags in key areas)
	Skill up consultants and agribusiness to provide services previously delivered through QDPI (incl Top Crop)		

13 Identify gaps in current SEQ RAC Priority Issues

The members were placed into 3 Groups to report back on possible GAPS in the current Priority Issues List. The results were as follows:

Line of Business	Group A	Group B	Group C
Varieties	Combined R&D project on minor grain legume (mung, navy, azuki, pigeon)		Re-write PI to emphasise selecting grain legume varieties for high value markets and disease resistance
	Identify dryland oilseed options for bio-fuel (peanuts, brassicas)		Include Multiple disease resistance for winter cereal breeding
Practices	Control of legume weeds in grain legume crops eg Phasy bean & siratro	Control of legume weeds in grain legume crops	Revise peanut breeding objective to mention drought and FDR
	Maintain capacity to investigate emerging insect and disease issues in coastal farming systems		Under Soil Amendments add reference to mineral fertilisers
	Develop management systems to avoid herbicide resistance particularly glyphosate and to find alternative herbicides		Add packymetra and nematodes to grain legumes
New Products			Add reference to foliar diseases in peanut disease point
			Crops for Bio-diesel
Communications & Capacity Building	Encourage students to enter agri training	Attract and assist students into agriculture training	Need alternative for glyphosate to spread risk
			Succession problems on-farm need addressing
			Top Crop Groups with facilitator to address recalcitrant issues such as nutrient removal in hay etc.

14 Nominees' Reports

14.1 DPI:- Dr E Colson (QDPI report attached)

Dr Colson reported on the following:

- EGA Wheat Breeding
- Engagement of a feed wheat breeder
- Engagement of a maize breeder
- Stored grain insect control project
- Succession planning within QDPIF

14.2 UQ:- Dr D George

Dr George reported on the following:

- Use of coal-ash as a soil additive
- Rubber plant for latex
- Modelling of maize for dryland production
- Precision weed control
- More student in animal studies than plant studies

14.3 GRDC:- Dr G Wright

Dr Wright reported on the following:

- GRDC has released its Strategic Plan 2007-2012
- Approx budget for 2007-08 is \$110 Million
- New soybean breeding project including GRDC, NSW DPI is nearing finalisation
- Red Soils project has been extended to July 2008 with new project to be considered in the 2008-09 investment round
- Need for RAC members to keep in touch with NP GRDC members

15 General Business

15.1 RAC Activity Funding

The Coordinator advised that GRFL provides \$1000 annually to each of its Queensland RACs.

It was agreed that 4 allocations of up to \$250 be made available to SEQ RAC grower members annually to attend seminars etc that would benefit the RAC subject to the Chairman's approval. Any member receiving funding must submit an invoice to GRFL for remittance and provide not less than a one page written report within one month of attending any approved event.

It was agreed that Mr Enkelmann be reimbursed \$250 for attending the Healthy Soils Forum at Maroochydore in July 07 subject to a report being received.

15.2 Ute Guides

The Coordinator was asked to provide the Catalogue Ute Guide to RAC members

15.3 AgForce Grains Grain Industry Awards

The Coordinator outlined the Awards available for nominations with winners to be announced on 10th August 2007 at the Awards Dinner.

5 Cont. Election of Chairman

Nominations were called for the position of chairman of the SEQ RAC for the following 12 months. P Enkelmann accepted nomination. There being no further nominations Mr Enkelmann was declared Chairman.

16 Next Meeting

16.1 Date: 26th February 2008

16.2 Venue: Childers (Coordinator to check the availability of members to travel to Childers approx one month prior to the meeting. If necessary the meeting may need to be held in Kingaroy.

17. Closure

Meeting closed at 4.00pm