

Media Release

Friday December 18, 2009

Grain growers, agri-business representatives and others involved in the Queensland grains industry are being challenged to nominate for vacancies on Queensland's four grains Research Advisory Committees (RACs).

Grains Research Foundation Limited (GRFL) chairman Damien Scanlan said the RACs offer grain growers and others involved in the grains industry an excellent opportunity to have a significant influence on grains research.

"The four grains RACs have direct involvement with the GRDC, the Queensland Primary Industries Department, CSIRO, universities and researchers in private companies, so they have an important say in what research is undertaken for the benefit of the Queensland grains industry," Mr Scanlan said.

"Grain growers make a significant financial contribution to RD&E through the compulsory research levy they pay on each crop."

"It is only logical that they have an opportunity to have a say on what problems should get research funding."

The four RACs are based in distinctive grain growing regions: Central Queensland (Dawson/Callide and Central Highlands), Western Downs and Maranoa, Darling Downs, and South East Queensland (Burnett, Lockyer and coastal region).

Mr Scanlan said many past RAC members say they not only appreciated the opportunity to help shape the grains research program but gained personally through their interaction with other growers, researchers and industry representatives.

"This is a great opportunity to have your say and contribute to the industry and as each committee meets only twice a year the demands on your time are not onerous," he said.

The membership term runs from February 2010 to December 2012.

Mr Scanlan is encouraging men and women involved in the grains industry in Queensland to send in an application for RAC membership by 25 January 2010.

Application forms and further information about how to nominate to become a member of a grains RAC are available on the GRFL website: www.grf.org.au ; or contact Nicole Jensen, GRFL Executive Officer on 0447 763 852 or email admin@grf.org.au ; or Damien Scanlan, GRFL Chairman on 07 4675 1140 or email dam.scanlan@bigpond.com .

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