



# GROWER GROUP ALLIANCE

**Together we grow**

## RECENT ACTIVITIES

### FARMANCO 'IN-KIND' SPONSORSHIP AND ROUND 2 OPEN

SEVEN GGA member initiatives have been supported to the value of \$27,500 via Round 1 of the Farmanco 'In-Kind' Program. GGA Network members can access a range of Farmanco expertise and capability to implement ideas or activities beyond the reach of their group's resources. Details of the Round 2 application process closing July 31, 2023, and examples of the previously supported activities can be seen on the Farmanco 'In-kind' Program page on the GGA website.



### FARMERS TO BENEFIT FROM 18 FUNDED PROJECTS

FARMERS in the South-West WA region will benefit from exciting new extension and adoption projects which were recently funded by the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund (FDF).

The SW WA Hub team provided strong assistance to applicants during the grant round, facilitating 40 project ideas involving more than 70 organisations and individuals, and speaking with many additional stakeholders.

From 18 winning projects in the national \$13 million Extension and Adoption of Drought Resilience Farming Practices Grants program, seven collaborative projects worth \$4.6 million will undertake activities or extend information in WA.

Grant recipients include SW WA Hub Consortium Partners Stirlings to Coast Farmers, which will implement a digital weather and soil moisture monitoring technologies project, and Western Beef which will help producers to adopt best use hay and silage practices.



### GRANTS AND GOVERNANCE TRAINING DELIVERED

SINCE May GGA has run three training opportunities for more than 90 participants across the courses including a Grant Writing masterclass, Reading Financial Statements workshop, and a 1 Day GGA Not-for-profit Governance Workshop. All three are part of an extensive annual program of training delivered to the GGA network aimed at supporting groups to have higher impact. Visit the Capacity Building section of the GGA website to see what's available next quarter.

### HUB SCIENCE TO PRACTICE WORKSHOP A SUCCESS

PRODUCERS and industry representatives recently gathered for a workshop at Manjimup hosted by the South-West WA Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub (SW WA Hub).

Focused on the latest research outcomes relating to precision agriculture technology and water management, the free face-to-face event complemented the national Future Drought Fund (FDF) Science to Practice Forum.

A total of 45 producers and industry representatives attended the Manjimup workshop which was supported by the Southern Forests Food Council and South West NRM – the SW WA Hub's Manjimup and Bunbury Regional Node Leads.



> SW WA Hub Science to Practice Forum Workshop participants inspect a perennial grass species trial at the DPIRD Horticultural Research Institute with manager Ian Guthridge.

### 'LET'S TALK GOVERNANCE' PODCAST

THREE new episodes have been recorded and released in GGA's 'Let's Talk Governance' podcast which is designed to assist new or experienced Board members and staff to lead not-for-profit groups with impact, confidence and compliance. The three new episodes feature conversations with governance expert Caroline Robinson on the 17 most Frequently Asked Questions she received whilst delivering GGA's governance e-course. Listen in at the GGA website.

Stay abreast of all GGA activities and subscribe to its ag industry newsletter "Newswire" & statewide calendar at [gga.org.au](http://gga.org.au)

Follow GGA on Twitter & LinkedIn



GGA enquiries to Stakeholder & Communications Manager Kallista Bolton 0421 623 406 [kbolton@gga.org.au](mailto:kbolton@gga.org.au)

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### A & E TRAINING ATTRACTS BIG NUMBERS

A HIGHLIGHT of this year's GGA Capacity Building program has been an Extension and Adoption training program series facilitated by the new South-West WA Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub's Adoption team. The program had 176 registrations for the six sessions of which four were delivered online and two in person. The six-part program was designed for members of the GGA network and industry looking to continue professional development, ready to take their skills to a higher level to support on-farm learning and adoption of industry practices.

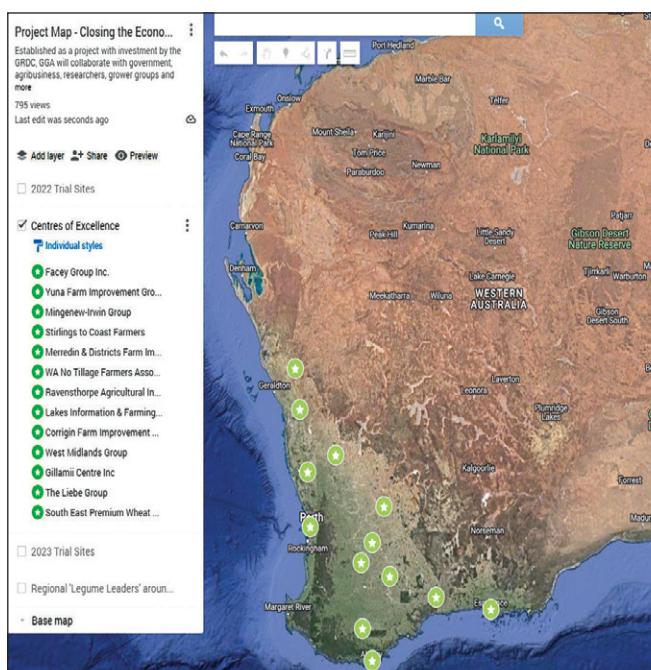


### WA RESEARCH COLLABORATION'S FIRST PROGRAM LAUNCHED

THE WA Agricultural Research Collaboration announced the launch of its first project in late May. The Collaboration's Cropping Enabled Cattle project valued at \$6 million to be delivered over three years falls under the Collaboration's Northern Agriculture program - Program 1, in a series of programs to respond to the needs of WA industries. As one of seven participants in the new collaboration initiative, GGA brings its producer insights, industry networks and funding to help drive research extension and adoption across the State. Read more in the media release via the GGA website.



### R&D PROJECT NEWS



### 13 GROWER GROUPS CLOSING THE ECONOMIC YIELD GAP OF GRAIN LEGUMES IN WA

THIRTEEN WA Grower Groups from Yuna to Esperance are working on 'Closing the Economic Yield Gap of Grain Legumes in WA'. The GRDC invested, GGA-led initiative looks at locally relevant grain legumes and research questions. Each group's 2023 trials are in the ground. Those which have joined the project for the season are looking directly at legume research whilst some which ran trials in 2022 are looking at the impacts of this break crop on cereals sown this year. Sign up to follow the trial work and find out more about how the project is closing the economic gap of grain legumes on the GGA website.

### WATERSMART DAMS SITES IMPLEMENTED & DATA CAPTURE UNDERWAY

THE University of Western Australia's Centre for Water Spatial Sciences' team has been busy in the South West region instrumenting sites for three grower groups involved in the Watersmart Dams project; Compass Agriculture Alliance, Southern Dirt, and the Fitzgerald Biosphere Group. The Jacup Community Dam site exploring run-off enhancement using second-hand CBH tarpaulins was executed with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. The other sites are focused on water capture and retention using different methodologies. Water quality sampling is also happening at the Merredin and Districts Farm Improvement Group's sites to address the issue of water quality for herbicide efficacy. The GGA



through the South-West WA Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub is collaborating with the Department of Primary Industries (DPIRD) and the University of Western Australia (UWA) in the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund supported project.

## R&D PROJECT NEWS (CONTINUED) .....

### SWEET LUPIN ASSOCIATION LAUNCHED

THE Sweet Lupin Association (SLA) has been established to spearhead the promotion of 'Australian lupin bean' as a sustainable and healthy food source. Establishment of the SLA, which is led by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), has been supported by the SW WA Hub via the Australian Government's Agricultural Innovation Hubs Program. Despite being predominantly grown in WA for stock feed or on-farm use, Australian lupin bean – also known as Australian Sweet Lupin (*Lupinus angustifolius*) – remains relatively unknown to the global food industry and consumers. The SLA aims to address this hurdle by raising awareness about its unique nutritional and health benefits.

### HARVEST LOSSES IN 2022/23 SEASON EXCEED ACCEPTABLE THRESHOLDS

FINDINGS from the 12-month GRDC investment have been compiled from a study conducted across 65 sites for eight crop varieties during harvest 2022/23. Research measuring the scale of grain and profit lost during the 2022/23 harvest found Western Australian growers left an estimated \$320m of grain in paddocks from front and other machine losses across cereal, canola and grain legume crops. Read more at the project page on the GGA website.



### SOILBORNE PATHOGENS IN WINTER CEREALS PROGRAM NOW COMPLETE

THE national extension Soilborne Pathogens in Winter Cereals program is now complete. Led by FarmLink and assisted by GGA in WA, the project aimed to develop resources and manuals for growers through the targeted diagnosis of soilborne pathogens. A full list of resources can be found within the Project Updates on the GGA project webpage.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

#### GGA FORUM23 TICKETS ON SALE NOW

EARLYBIRD tickets are now on sale for GGA Forum23, to be held on July 27 to 28 at Joondalup Resort. Forum is GGA's bi-annual flagship event open to both industry and the GGA network. The program starts with a big Welcome Cocktail Party on Thursday evening, with the main conference day on Friday - tickets start from \$130 with a new Friday conference \$65 student rate. GGA's Forum is where today's ag leaders connect with tomorrow's, and where the GGA network connects with each other and the wider industry. Not to be missed, register via the GGA webpage.



#### GROWING LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP

#### 2024 APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

APPLICATIONS are open for the 2024 Growing Leaders Scholarship. The renowned scholarship program supported by CBH group is an opportunity for two grains industry participants to be placed in Leadership WA's 10 month Signature Leadership program. The program aims to guide senior leaders to develop their authentic leadership style, and self-mastery. Applications close September 4 for this intake. Apply via the GGA website.



#### GOVERNANCE E-COURSE

A SELF paced e-course ideal for new or experienced committee members or staff of not-for-profit groups will commence on August 1. The online governance course comprising six modules and around 12 hours of content is split over six weeks. The course is aimed at not-for-profit Board members that struggle to get out of the regions for training and prefer smaller portions of home-based learning. Supported by the CBH Group the course is also open to regional not-for-profit community group volunteers. Registrations are open now. Find out more about the course and enrol via the GGA website.



#### GROWERS - EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST IN STUDY TOUR

ARE you a grower interested in thinking 'outside the box' while viewing new approaches to soil and water productivity, different ways of unlocking plant potential and examples of efficient input use? Then you are invited to express your interest in joining a five-day study tour organised by the SW WA Hub - looking at innovative approaches to drought resilience in South Australian broadacre agriculture - from Sunday, September 17, to Friday, September 22. For more information and to express your interest, go to the Hub website accessible via the GGA webpage.



#### WELCOME TO GGA NEW MEMBERS

Browse all our members by heading to the 'Grower Groups' tab at [gga.org.au](http://gga.org.au)

#### CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

The Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association is a not-for-profit association formed under the Associations Incorporation Act 2015, providing declared pest control assistance for land managers throughout Shark Bay, Carnarvon, Exmouth, Murchison, and Upper Gascoyne Shires, along with those pastoral properties below the State Barrier Fence in the Shire of Northampton and City of Greater Geraldton (Locality of Mullewa). More at <https://www.crba.org.au/>

#### EASTERN WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY GROUP

Established in 2000 then transitioned to a recognised Biosecurity group in 2015. The Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group now covers eleven shires of Merredin, Nungarin, Westonia, Yilgarn, Trayning, Mukinbudin, Kulin, Kondinin, Narembeen, Lake Grace, Mount Marshall. Controlling Wild Dogs and Declared Pests in the Eastern Wheatbelt has been a focus plus the removal of a large number of cats and foxes from the control area which has led to a resurgence of native animals and birds in the control area. More at <https://www.ewbg.com.au/>

#### HILLS ORCHARD IMPROVEMENT GROUP

With its 120 members, the Hills Orchard Improvement Group is still growing and focused on highlighting the agricultural area of the Perth Hills and other areas of Western Australia. Its members know the value of having something locally grown for their local community and wish to share it with the broader community. More at <http://perthhillsfestival.org.au/>

### GGA NETWORK

#### GROWER GROUP MEMBERS

Agricultural Women Wheatbelt East (AWWE)  
Association for Sheep Husbandry Excellence Evaluation & Production Inc (ASHEEP)  
Certified Organic Biodynamic Western Australia Inc (COBWA)  
Compass Agricultural Alliance  
Corrigin Farm Improvement Group  
Esperance Zone Innovation Group (EZI)  
Facey Group  
Far Eastern Agricultural Research Group (FEAR)  
Fitzgerald Biosphere Group  
Future Food Producers Group  
Gascoyne Catchments Group  
Gillamii Centre  
Hills Orchard Improvement Group  
Kimberley Pilbara Cattlemen's Association  
LIEBE Group  
Lower South West Grower Group  
Merredin & Districts Farm Improvement Group (MADFIG)  
Mingenew Irwin Group  
Moora Miling Pasture Improvement Group  
Morawa Farm Improvement Group  
Mortlock Ag Focus Group  
Mullewa Dryland Farmers Initiative  
Noongar Land Enterprise Group  
North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources  
Northern Agri Group  
Nyabing Farm Improvement Group  
O'Connor Research Group  
Oil Mallee Association of Australia  
Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network (RAIN)  
Society of Precision Agriculture Australia (SPA)  
South East Premium Wheat Growers Association (SEPWA)  
Southern Dirt Incorporated  
Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance  
Stirlings to Coast Farmers  
Sweeter Banana Co-operative  
Three Springs Farm Innovation Network (3FIN)  
Toodyay Agricultural Alliance  
Turf Growers Association of Western Australia (Inc.)  
WA Hemp Growers' Co-op Ltd  
WA No-Tillage Farmers Assoc (WANTFA)  
WA Regenerative Livestock Producers  
West Midlands Group  
Western Australian Lot Feeders Association  
Western Beef Assoc Inc  
Wheatbelt Integrity Group (WIG)  
Women in Farming Inc  
Yuna Farm Improvement Group

#### ASSOCIATE GROUP MEMBERS

Broomehill Cropping Group  
Bruce Rock Land Conservation District Committee  
Dumbleyung Land Conservation District Committee  
Holt Rock Group  
Jerdacutup Top Crop and Pasture Improvement Group  
Lakes Grower Group  
Lakes Information & Farming Technology (LIFT)  
Living Farm Grower Group  
Northern Australia Crop Research Alliance Pty Ltd (NACRA)

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

AgZero 2030  
Australian Association of Agricultural Consultants (AAAC WA)  
Bee Industry Council WA (BICWA)  
Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association Inc  
Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association  
Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group  
Gascoyne Food Council Inc  
Gate 2 Plate Inc.  
Goldfields Nullarbor Rangelands Biosecurity Association Inc  
Grain Industry Association of Western Australia Inc (GIWA)  
Julianne Hill  
Northern Biosecurity Group Inc.  
Peel Harvey Biosecurity Group  
RegenWA  
Rural Edge  
South West NRM  
Southern Biosecurity Group  
Southern Forests Community Landcare  
Southern Forests Food Council  
Torbay Catchment Group  
TrialCo Pty Ltd  
VegetablesWA  
WA Citrus  
WA Future Food Network  
Wagin Woodanilling Landcare Zone  
Western Australian Livestock Research Council (WALRC)  
Wines of WA

#### NETWORK PARTICIPANTS

Bugs & Biology  
East Wagin Top Crop Group  
Evergreen Farming  
Munglinup Local Farmer Group  
Neridup Soil Conservation Group  
North Mallee Farm Improvement Group  
The Sheeps Back  
Wandering Productivity Group

To connect with your local grower group visit [gga.org.au](http://gga.org.au)