

Stock Journal Article due 13 July 06

SAGIT BACKS GROWER UPDATES

By Geoff Thomas, SAGIT Project Manager

The South Australian Grain Industry Trust in conjunction with SA Farmers Federation and GRDC, is again supporting the Grower Updates across the State.

The Updates will be at Loxton on 25 July, Jamestown on 27 July, Wangary on 1 August, and Cleve on 2 August.

The updates provide an ideal opportunity for farmers to learn about the latest results from research and to discuss many other issues of current importance. The programs are established with input from local farmers.

It is hardly surprising that this year the common themes are:

- Cost effective Farming, using the farmer view
- Increasing farm profits - reducing input costs but not profit, using new technologies, and intensive cropping vs traditional cropping/livestock.
- Precision farming – use of paddock zoning to manage inputs and increase margins
- Leaf diseases and management strategies
- Effective weed control and managing herbicide resistance
- Biofuels and what farmers can do
- End Point Royalties

SAGIT has been active in funding research in many of these areas, especially no till farming, precision agriculture and leaf disease and weed control.

These are not just important days for farmers but are designed to also benefit consultants, and those in agribusiness and banks who advise farmers.

Nor is the flow one way, those attending have plenty of opportunity to put their views and in that way shape future research and extension programs.

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