



Central West Farming Systems

FARMERS ADVANCING RESEARCH

PO Box 171 CONDOBOLIN NSW 2877 Ph. 6895 1001 Fax. 6895 2688
Email – catherine.evans@agric.nsw.gov.au sharon.taylor@agric.nsw.gov.au

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED – Feb 2005

CWFS AGM 9th March 2005

**3:00 pm at the Condobolin
ARAS**

Please come along, consider a
role on the Executive and
support CWFS.

Compendium Update

CWFS will be putting together the annual research compendium soon. This year the compendium will include information from the farming systems comparison trial, regional site trials and articles from other farming systems groups. The compendium will also include information from our regional atlas, which was mentioned in the last handout. CWFS aims to have the compendium out by June.

Regional Site Update

On the 14th February the CWFS Executive Committee held a meeting to talk about our GRDC project proposal and to discuss the plans for our regional sites in 2005. The GRDC project proposal is due on the 25th February and will have a project term of 5 years.

Currently the regional sites are not being funded by the Grain Growers Association (GGA) and they are not likely to be in the future, due to the GGA shift away from research. We know the importance of our regional sites to our members, so the executive committee have decided to provide funds, from membership fees and grain receivals, to support the operation of some of these sites for 2005. Sharon will give details to each group.

How these funds will be used by each site will be decided at regional site planning meetings, to be

held over February and March. If you would like to have a say about your regional site plans please attend these meetings, which will be advertised locally by each committee.

Young Farmers Forum

In the last handout we included information about the Young Farmers Forum to be held on the 10th and 11th of March, in Dubbo. The Forum has been organised by the NSW Farmers' Association and the Royal Agricultural Society to bring together government and agricultural speakers to provide young farmers with the tools they need to stand out from the rest.

For further information, the agenda and a registration form please contact the NSWFA Young Farmers Forum Secretariat on 02 9241 1478, email:

youngfarmersforum@eventplanner.com.au,
website: www.nswfarmers.org.au/young_farmers

Euabalong Snap Shot

- P fertiliser at 20 kg P/ha should be applied to wheat for best yields
- Field peas are the best performing pulse
- Chlorsulfuron herbicides may cause yield decreases. If so addition of P and/or Zn will not reverse the damage.

Gunning Gap Snap Shot

- P fertiliser at 20 kg P/ha should be applied for best wheat and canola yields
- Zn fertiliser does not increase wheat yields
- Optimum wheat plant density is 100-120 plants/m²
- Soil amelioration may not produce yield increases
- Chlorsulfuron herbicides may cause yield decreases. If so addition of P and/or Zn will not reverse the damage.

Sharon and Cath

BOOK PROMOTION - 'Useful Tress and Shrubs for Central West NSW'

In the December Your Questions Answered Handout, CWFS included a flier about a fantastic tree and shrub book, this book has been put together by Peter Milthorpe and Margaret Wynne. Our handout offered members with the opportunity to purchase the book at an early bird price. We are happy to let those who have ordered the book know that they should be available by the end of **March**.

For those of you who are interested in purchasing the book, please contact CWFS on 02 6895 1001 for an order form.

The price per book is \$28 + \$3 postage and handling

Winter Crop Variety Sowing Guide

The latest 'Winter crop variety sowing guide 2005', produced by NSW DPI, is now available. If you would like a copy of this publication please contact your local district agronomist or go into your local NSW DPI office.



PO Box 171
Condobolin NSW 2877

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

Early sowing and stripe rust risks

As we are getting closer to sowing farmers need to start thinking about the implications of sowing early and the risks of stripe rust. Over the past two years the high incidence of stripe rust has caused varietal tolerances to be reassessed. Steven Simpfendorfer, NSW DPI, said in a Grains Research Update that when choosing your varieties for 2005 select varieties that have the right balance of tolerance for the potential diseases in your farming system. He also indicated that when choosing a variety susceptible to stripe rust that farmers need to budget for a seed dressing and possibly one or two fungicide applications.

To help reduce the risk of stripe rust farmers can control the green bridge from late summer to early autumn, use seed dressing (such as Baytan and Jockey) on susceptible varieties and use a seed dressing on early sown grazing wheats. For further information regarding variety selection and stripe rust please contact your local agronomist.