



Central West Farming Systems

FARMERS ADVANCING RESEARCH

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YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED June 2005

It has rained!!!

Isn't it just great to see that rain has finally arrived and we can start sowing our crops and regional sites trials. To date we have sown the trials at the Tottenham, Euabalong, and Merriwagga Regional Sites. By the end of the month we also aim to have the trials sown at Nyngan and Rankins Springs. Wirrinya, Gunning Gap and Alectown will be sown as soon as they dry out.

Our Farming Systems Comparison Trial (core site) has not been sown as yet, with continual showers delaying us from starting. As soon as it dries out we will be sowing Chara and Drysdale wheat in all the cropping systems and Parafield field peas as the pulse and green manure in the continuous cropping system and as the cover crop for conventional pastures.

Paddock 20 this year is going to be a large scale pulse demonstration. We will be sowing 5 field pea varieties, Yarrum, Parafield, Morgan, Kaska and Excell, in strips that are 3.6 ha in size. This same trial will be located at the Condobolin Airport on the Trundle Road, opposite the front gates of the Condobolin Agricultural Research and Advisory Station. At this site there will also be a row spacing demonstration for peas. The spacings to be used are 250mm (10 inch), 500 mm (20 inch) and 750 mm (30 inch)

New DA in Nyngan

The Nyngan area has a new District Agronomist, Tim McNee. Tim is well known to most of our Regional Sites as he operated the Mobile Crop Evaluation Unit based at the Condobolin Agricultural Research and Advisory Station from 2000 to 2004. During the past 13 months Tim has been with the DPI in Tamworth working as a Technical Officer with the Northern Barley and Breeding agronomy

project. Tim is now the DA in Nyngan and he is looking forward to working with the Nyngan Regional Site group.

Livestock Officer in Forbes

A new Livestock Officer for our area has been appointed to start in Forbes later this year. Jane Mason is currently training at the DPI in Cowra and she is very excited about starting work in our area. We will be providing many opportunities for you to meet Jane at our Regional Site Field Days to be held again this year during September and October. She has also been offered the opportunity to provide information to you via this handout.

Membership

It is that time of year again with CWFS memberships due. In the next week you will receive a letter and an application form in the mail. Please fill them in and return them to us as soon as possible.

2004-05 Compendium

The 2004-05 Annual Research Compendium is currently being put together at the printers and it will be in the mail in early July. So keep an eye out in the post.

Farewell to Cath

On behalf of CWFS, I would like to say Farewell and Good luck to Cath as she leaves CWFS at the end of this month. Cath's passion has helped see CWFS through the hard times and her dedication and expertises have helped develop the credibility of this organisation, not only in the farming community but also in the scientific community. CWFS and our members will greatly miss you Cath and we wish you all the best in the future.

Sharon



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