

Minutes of WDM RAC Meeting – 3 Sept, 2010
Goondiwindi RSL, Goondiwindi

meeting commenced at 9:35am

1. Chairman's Welcome and Confirmation of Agenda

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the members and guests.

2. Attendance

N. Boland (Chairman), V. French, C. Nason, J. Sturgess, T. Kapcejevs, Meiqin Lu
Nominees: R. Taylor (GRDC), D. Scanlan (GRFL) A. Ward (DEEDI), L. McIntyre (CSIRO)
Guests: C Douglas
Co-ordinator: L.Webb

3. Apologies

E. Hill, J. Crocker, P Banks, M. Dieters, D. Poulsen, M. Duffield, A-M. Bach.

4. Confirmation of Minutes (25/03/2010)

Confirmed

5. RAC Members' Reports

The Chairman invited members to raise issues for general discussion. Items put forward included:

- Moisture seeking techniques favoured better soil types & there was a need for poorer soil techniques.
- There was a lack of varieties for a wider sowing window & depth of sowing etc. It requires new ideas not rehash of old.
- Chickpeas offer capacity to utilise sub soil moisture
- There is a Press Wheel Pressure Issue
- "Gregory" matures earlier than label and it appears there is little alternate variety.
- Rainman remains a good reference
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• Grains Producers Association.

Damien Scanlan, Chairman GRFL, gave an outline of progress in the formation of GPA advising that it will be formally established on 27 Aug. 2010. He stated that it was with full GRFL support that Mr Mailler of GRFL, had taken a lead role in the formation and that GPA will become the Peak Body of national Grain Growers whose representation and voting rights will reflect their level of production. It was noted that the constitution was likely to be very similar to that of GRFL. He expected that there remained a meaningful role for state bodies.

Future GRFL Direction and Funding

D Scanlan Chairman GRFL advised that GRFL would continue the role of coordinating RAC's in line with existing MOU's in place with AgForce and the State Gov. and current processes. The research matters arising from the void left by the Gov. will be prominent as will the need to develop a relationship with GPA. The matter of funding was a difficult issue that has prominence. The matter of the Leslie Research Centre and potential new site replacement was likely to require close involvement.

6. Guest Speaker

Col Douglas, Mung Bean and Chickpea Breeder DEEDI, Warwick

Mr Douglas presented an extensive slide presentation on the developments in Mung Bean breeding which indicated some improved lines had been identified having better disease

resistance than current commercial lines and that improvements in yield were significant also (up to 20%).

He thought a 100,000 tonne market existed. Current production was about 50,000 tonne

7. RAC nominees' reports

The Chairman invited members to raise issues for general discussion. Items put forward included:

- Coal Seam Gas Industry encroachment is a concern
- Crown Rot, Stripe Rust, Mice, Grasshoppers etc are major issues
- "Hatrick" coming under rust pressure
- QAAFI -UQ and QDPI are developing QAAFI in order to strengthen agricultural research in Queensland, get better industry outcomes, attract additional funding (up to 40%), and increase student numbers. QAAFI will formally be established 1 Oct 2010, with approximately 40 QDPI staff expected to become UQ staff (that being about 10% of Deedi staff). QAAFI will focus on three main areas: plant science (including grains), animal science and food technology. QAAFI will be a "virtual centre", with no new infrastructure being built to house the Institute.
- Long coleoptile germplasm exists at NSW Uni
- Desecration issue utilising Roundup in Mungbeans
- Spray drift likely issue- round up shows up at harvest.
- CSIRO 3 Pillars –yield potential, yield fixing, yield protection
- AGT prime selection change from Quality to Yield
- Sun440H release imminent

8. Next meeting

Date: 8/03/2011

Venue: Miles Bowls Club

Speakers: TBA

9. Closure

Meeting closed at 2:35pm