

## Kwinana West Port Zone - Opportunities and Constraints

Port Zone	Title	Description	Area	Frequency	Impact /cost
Kwinana West	Options for farming without glyphosate are not well known	Farming without glyphosate: What other options are there? Has laser stacked up? If we can't use glyphosate, what can be used?	4.3	2.8	4.2
Kwinana West	Short-lived technology is increasing turn-over of otherwise good machinery	Machinery costs are growing each year, and this is in part exacerbated by the rapidly changing technologies that are built into new machines. If machinery was heading more towards constant updating technology at the cost of reliability? This ends in a short life machine with huge depreciation and no value after 10 years adding substantially to the overall cost of machinery.	4.18	3.18	3.14
Kwinana West	Lack of skilled labour supply; access to skilled labour	Growers want to see a way to upskill their staff using a labour/staff traineeship or apprenticeship s there is currently a lack of skilled labour. They believe that to help this, there could be employment contracts/inductions online as well as other resources for growers and potential staff members.	3.52	3.64	2.49
Kwinana West	Understanding potassium testing and response curves	There was still a gap in potassium knowledge, and more specifically understanding what the best testing (sample collection as well as reading results) and responses after application of K. High rate potash applications - does this have better long term benefits compared to regular applications every season? Also, how will the K shift through the profile, and length of effect? And where is the best place to sample? Depths? Row vs Inter-row? Timing? Is soil or plant tissue testing the way to go?	3.55	2.96	3.37
Kwinana West	Developing leadership and capacity in the farming community	Growers identified a need to develop leadership and capacity in our farming businesses and communities. There is an increasing scrutiny on agriculture, and this has seen the resultant need for growers to have highly developed technical skills, and a further need for development of 'soft' skills both from a farm/industry business perspective and a whole industry perspective.	3.78	3.32	2.64
Kwinana West	Maximising establishment and profitability from canola	There is a need to improve canola establishment in drier starts as has been the case for the past 2 years. Many growers are having germination issues especially with marginal rainfall starts with hot dry conditions that follow. Growers are looking to see profitability maximised in the canola rotation. There is a need to improve canola resilience in the system, including managing disease such as blackleg pod infection. Canola is not yielding as well as it should for the rainfall and nutrition it receives.	3.43	3.53	3.4

Kwinana West	Lack of rotation options; alternative break crops, legume and pastures	The lack of rotation options is needed to increase the diversity of crops available, however it isn't enough just to have a break crop for the sake of it. The rotation needs to make a profit from each crop type in the year that it is grown.	3.58	3.33	3.1
Kwinana West	Independent analysis of weed seed kill and machinery wear of the HWSC Machinery	Members would like to see independent tests of all seed destructors/mills on the market for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed seed % kill,</li> <li>• Mill wear</li> <li>• HP requirements</li> </ul>	3.18	3.09	2.73
Kwinana West	Better agronomy packages to manage brome and barley grass in the Kwinana West port zone	Management of brome and barley grass is becoming an increasing issue. Growers need a package to control these weeds and manage them long term in the face of developing herbicide resistance and no HWSC. These late starts have meant that there has been a reduction in break crops with resultant increasing weed populations and an inability to target them within a break crop. There is still control in the pasture phase, they believe that they are seeing increasing resistance issues emerging in brome and barley grass – possibly group A.	3.05	2.91	2.78
Kwinana West	Creating resilience in growers to manage poor income years.	How to build resilience in farming businesses to allow them to withstand retirement/education commitments etc in low income years.	3.14	2.46	3.05
Kwinana West	Poor germination and vigour in lupins	Members have identified that there are a lack of lupin varieties suited to their area, but they are keen to find out and understand what is causing the issues with lower germination in their lupins. Is it something that happened in the previous year? Or how they are stored? Is seed treatment incorrect/or needed? Is there an issue with the seeding conditions at seeding time? Or was there an issue on how they are harvested (eg damaged going up the header or into silos).	1.5	2.37	3.05
Kwinana West	Improved knowledge needed for aerial application of fungicides and herbicides; Spray application technology in general	Exploration of aerial application of fungicides and herbicides. There is also a knowledge gap around adjuvants, droplet size water rates etc. Members expressed frustration of inconsistency of the aerial spray application job and were concerned about resistance issues, particularly to fungicides, due to poor application. They believed that there is a lack of knowledge of the principles and best practice principally by aerial operators, and by growers.	3.08	2.85	2.45
Kwinana West	Harvest losses in canola	Harvest loss in canola must look at more than loss out the back of header ie losses from swathing and or draper fronts vs tin fronts.	4.8	4.55	3.45
Kwinana West	Nitrogen rates and response in current farming systems	How high can you go with N? Questions arising about the curve and its relevance. Variety also will change the effectiveness of response to N.	4.45	3.95	3.3
Kwinana West	Frost is still a high priority with more work needed in canola and legumes	Frost is still an issue for this port zone with discussion amongst the group that there is not enough work being carried out particularly around canola and legumes, which growers note are being impacted more frequently.	3.65	2.85	3.8

Kwinana West	Dry seeding has seen weeds become an even bigger issue	Era of dry seeding - but we somehow need to beat the weeds, not just ryegrass. Dry seeding our whole program this year highlighted the importance of pre-emergent chemicals; crop hygiene; harvest weed seed management; and rotation to minimise weeds and allow for cleaner establishment of crops	3.6	2.9	3.55
Kwinana West	Measuring nutrient loss and moisture loss on burnt paddocks	Topical after this year where high stubble loads after 2018 season saw greater than normal levels of stubble burnt.	3.05	3.75	2.6
Kwinana West	Oat agronomy particularly oat weed management	Oats are an important crop in the rotation but has a number of issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicide performance on oats.</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge around alternate herbicide options for Oat control.</li> <li>• Registration of products</li> <li>• Price (Human Consumption)</li> <li>• Quality to hit Oat1 concerns in drier regions.</li> <li>• Lack of Ryegrass weed control, need alternative registered grass weed control options.</li> <li>• No price discount for low protein.</li> <li>• Want to use Oats to mitigate frost risk.</li> </ul>	2.4	3.75	2.9