

GROWER FORUM

LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA:
TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER



You are invited to attend a GRDC Grower Forum at Hadspen, near Launceston, Tasmania. Come along and contribute your suggestions for future GRDC investments in research, development, and extension.

The forum will gather grass roots input into local GRDC investments and give you the opportunity to talk to GRDC representatives and researchers working on GRDC projects.

The forum is free of charge and will be led by GRDC Grower Relations Managers Randall Wilksch and Tom Blake, who will provide insights into current research and extension projects.

A facilitated workshop session will identify factors impacting farm productivity and profitability and review opportunities for local GRDC research, development, and extension.

Participants will also get an update on a GRDC funded project to tackle waterlogging in barley crops, which is a problem for one in every five seasons in the high rainfall zone and cuts yields by about 20 per cent. The project is led by Professor Meixue Zhou, from the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture and the University of Tasmania, who will outline how the project aims to breed a barley variety that is tolerant of waterlogging, utilising a gene discovered in a wild-type barley.

Trials show that adding this gene into the malting barley variety RGT Planet delivered an extra 20 per cent grain yield, equivalent to one to two tonnes per hectare, in waterlogged conditions. If results from further trials are promising, commercial barley varieties containing this new gene could be available to HRZ growers in the next three years.

All growers, advisers and industry representatives are welcome to the forum. Note that registration is essential to ensure a COVID safe event.

Please bring your laptop or tablet for use during the workshop session. Devices will also be provided.

LOCATION

HADSPEN, NEAR LAUNCESTON

TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER

**Venue: Entally Lodge, 28 Rutherglen
Road, Hadspen, Tasmania
9am–12:30pm (lunch provided)**

| AGENDA | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| TIME | TITLE | PRESENTER |
| 9.00am – 9.15am | Welcome and introduction | Randall Wilksch, Tom Blake GRDC Grower Relations Managers - South |
| 9.15am – 9.45am | Update on GRDC investments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snapshot of regional and national research, development and extension | Randall Wilksch, Tom Blake GRDC |
| 9.45am – 10.30am | Tackling waterlogging in the high rainfall zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of waterlogging tolerant genetics • Trials results for new barley variety • Use of fertiliser to alleviate waterlogging damage | Professor Meixue Zhou Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture, University of Tasmania |
| 10.30am – 10.45am | MORNING TEA | |
| 10.45am – 11.30am | Review and identify factors impacting farm productivity and profitability | Randall Wilksch, Tom Blake GRDC |
| 11.30am – 11.45am | Review and identify factors impacting farm productivity and profitability | Randall Wilksch, Tom Blake GRDC |
| 11.45am – 12 noon | Review priority opportunities for local research, development, and extension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of potential GRDC investment support. • Define local RD&E needs | Randall Wilksch, Tom Blake GRDC |
| 12 noon – 12.30pm | LUNCH | |

REGISTRATION

To register click here:
bit.ly/TasGrowerForum

Registration is essential to ensure a COVID-19 safe event.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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*A note on participant safety

We wish to reassure participants that your health and safety is our number one priority. Registration is essential and subject to the density limits specified in the venue COVID-19 safety plan. Each participant is requested to follow density, social distancing, hand hygiene and food safety practices as implemented by the organiser and venue. A reminder on these safety measures will be distributed to participants prior to each workshop. In the event the delivery of these workshops is postponed or cancelled due to an increase in COVID-19 restrictions, the content will be delivered in an alternative format.