

GRAINS RESEARCH UPDATE 2026



Kaniva Community Hub
132 Budjik Street, Kaniva

Thursday 13 August

Registration:

9.00 am to 1.00 pm followed by lunch
(doors open at 8.30 am for a 9.00 am start)

Cost:

Free

Morning tea, lunch and
proceedings included.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

**Discuss the latest farm-ready information to
improve profit with researchers, agronomists
and growers at the Kaniva GRDC Grains
Research Update.**

Topics:

- **Managing surface pests: what's working, what's not and what we're learning**
Kate Muirhead and Lucas Hearn, University of Adelaide
- **Get best bang for buck on canola fungicides**
Alec McCallum, University of Melbourne
- **Industry panel – pushing pulses for better crops**
Audrey Delahunty (Agriculture Victoria), Jason Brand (GEM Agronomy) and Amanda Pearce (SARDI)
- **Getting N decisions more right more often. Fresh results from a national network of trials.**
Yolanda Plowman, BCG
- **Protect your most perishable asset – latest tips on grain storage**
Chris Warrick, Primary Business

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Managing surface pests: what's working, what's not and what we're learning

Surface-dwelling pests such as slaters, earwigs and millipedes are an increasing challenge for crop establishment in southern farming systems. Kate and Lucas will outline the key species, their behaviour and the conditions that drive population build-up and crop damage. They will discuss how these pests affect establishment and early growth, and why control can be difficult once damage begins.



Get best bang for buck on canola fungicides

Fungicide decisions in canola can be costly, and returns are highly dependent on timing, disease pressure and seasonal conditions. Alec will explore getting the most value from fungicide by timing application to most likely deliver a return on investment. The presentation will also highlight the role of variety and integrated management approaches to help growers make more confident, cost-effective decisions.



Industry panel – pushing pulses for better crops

Pulse crops are being pushed into more unconventional environments as growers look to diversify rotations and manage weeds, disease and nitrogen. This panel brings together local research and hands-on agronomic experience to discuss the opportunities and challenges of expanding pulses in the Wimmera. Panel members will share insights into crop selection, agronomy, seasonal risk and paddock suitability, as well as lessons learned from recent seasons.



Getting N decisions more right more often. Fresh results from a national network of trials.

Nitrogen input decisions are critical to both yield and profit yet remain one of the hardest inputs to manage. Yolanda will draw on GRDC RiskWi\$e research to explore how different nitrogen strategies perform over time. She will focus on making decisions that are 'more right more often'. The presentation will highlight how to balance profit and risk, and how tools can be used to review and improve decision-making over the long term.



Protect your most perishable asset – latest tips on grain storage

Grain storage is an evolving space. Chris will cover the latest understanding around best on-farm grain storage, focusing on practical and proven management. Topics will include the main risks to stored grain such as insects, moisture, temperature and poor sealing, along with obtaining airtight storage and correct phosphine fumigation. The session will emphasise preparation, monitoring and early intervention, helping growers protect grain quality and avoid costly mistakes.

