

GRAINS RESEARCH UPDATE 2026



Maitland Golf Club
2 Gardiner Terrace, Maitland SA 5573

Wednesday 5 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 Burra GRDC Grains Research Update.

Topics:

- **Alternative N sources**
Sean Mason, Agronomy Solutions
- **Mice: reduce feed supply and improve control**
Ben White, BM White
- **Good decisions with clarity under pressure**
Dr Jane Foster, Emotional Resilience Training
- **Pulse root disease**
– what are the issues and what are our options?
Blake Gontar, SARDI
- **Protect your most perishable asset**
– latest tips on grain storage
Ben White, BM White

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2026

Alternative N sources

With increasing pressure on urea availability and pricing, growers are exploring alternative nitrogen sources. This session will examine results from organic amendment trials and assess the nutrient value, reliability and fit of manures and other non-urea options within southern cropping systems.



Mice: reduce feed supply and improve control

Mouse populations are closely linked to food availability, particularly grain left behind after harvest. Ben will focus on how header losses contribute to feed supply over summer and drive mouse numbers. The session will also cover how lowering feed availability improves the effectiveness of baiting programs, helping growers take a more proactive and integrated approach to mouse control.



Good decisions with clarity under pressure

Seasonal variability and tighter margins are increasing pressure on farm decision-making. This session will introduce practical approaches to improve clarity under pressure, including recognising emotional responses, structuring decisions and applying simple tools to manage stress and support more confident outcomes.



Pulse root disease – what are the issues and what are our options?

Pulse root diseases are a constraint to yield across the southern farming system. Blake will outline the main root diseases affecting pulse crops, how they develop, and the conditions that increase risk. The session will focus on practical management options, including crop rotation, variety choice and paddock selection, helping growers reduce risk.



Protect your most perishable asset – latest tips on grain storage

Grain storage is an evolving space. Ben 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.

