



Seizing Opportunities in a Changing Grains Research and Development Environment

*John Harvey – Managing
Director, GRDC*



GRDC

**Grains
Research &
Development
Corporation**



**“... driving the discovery,
development and delivery of world-
class innovation in the Australian
grains industry”**

Your GRDC working with you

WATER USE EFFICIENCY



“In 1980, Dad had a crop that he didn’t harvest at all after receiving 156mm for the year and 144mm during the growing season. In 2010, we had similar rainfall to 1980 (160mm) and we were out there taking off 1.3 tonnes a hectare of wheat. Not marvelous, but still a crop” - *Andrew Todd, Dowerin, WA.*

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JADE-AU



“Giving growers a variety that is likely to produce high yields in seasonal conditions ,when diseases are prevalent, could improve the overall consistency of national production” *Dr Merrill Ryan, QDAFF*

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PRECISION AGRICULTURE TRAINING



“We had all the equipment but attending a training day helped me to start making use of this technology and identify what else was required” *Chris Hunt, Mildura*

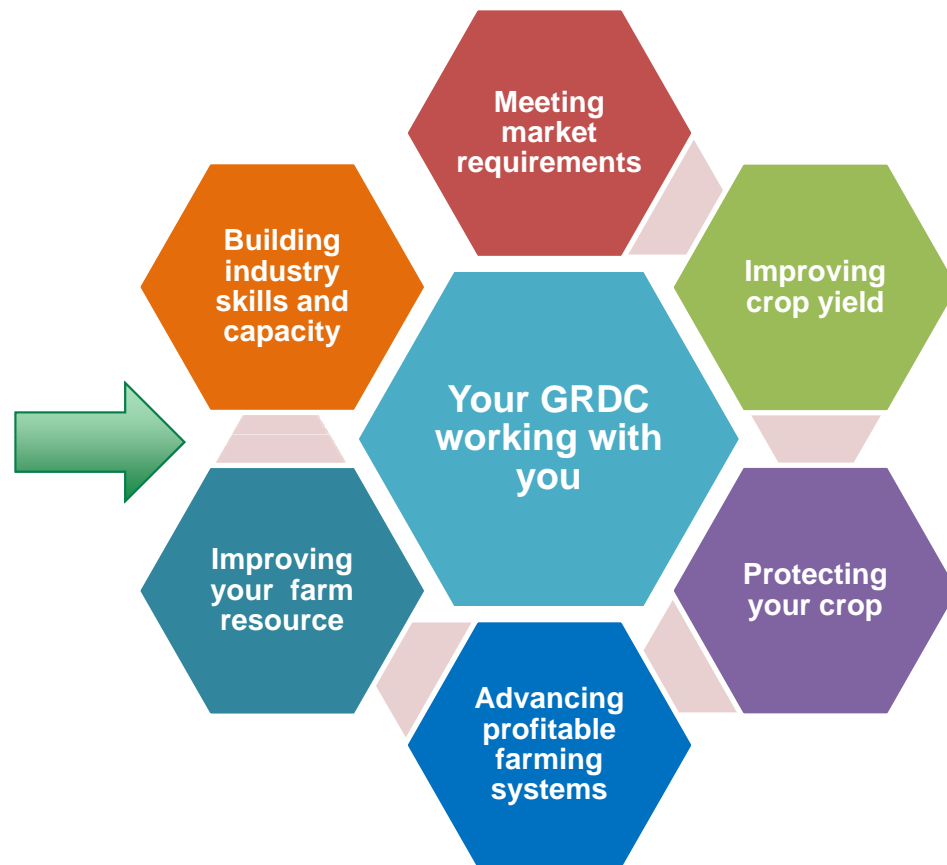
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**Research and
development is
critical in
delivering
productivity
and
profitability**



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GETTING THE STRATEGY RIGHT TO CREATE VALUE



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MEETING MARKET REQUIREMENTS

- **Wheat Quality Australia**
- **New germplasm for dough strength combined with yield**



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IMPROVING CROP YIELD

- National Variety Trials – 84% of advisers use the NVT website to provide variety recommendations and 70% of growers use the website to make decisions about what to sow
- AGT – new varieties with optimal traits are being introduced to Australian growers
- Australian Grains Genebank – a collection of genetic resources for improved crop varieties



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PROTECTING YOUR CROP

- First ever inoculation for modern cereal species



Image sourced from www.soilquality.org.au



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ADVANCING PROFITABLE FARMING SYSTEMS

- **Making Better Fertiliser Decisions for Cropping**



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IMPROVING YOUR FARM RESOURCE BASE

- New forecasting and diagnostic apps – **CliMate, POAMA, Soil Water Express and SoilMapp**



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BUILDING INDUSTRY SKILLS AND CAPACITY

- Ongoing capacity building projects – scholarships, awards, conferences and training programs



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GETTING THE RIGHT INPUT

- GRDC's Regional Panels advise the Board about investment priorities in each region
- Grower Groups (Regional Cropping Solutions Network in the South and West and Northern Grower Alliance) ensure that research and development is regionally targeted



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BENEFIT TO GROWERS FROM RESEARCH

Aggregate Analysis of 38 Project Groups

Investment Criteria	38 Project Groups excluding Cereal Rust Control Project Group
Present value of benefits (\$m)	2,456.65
Present value of costs (\$m)	433.41
Net present value (\$m)	2,023.24
Benefit cost ratio	5.67 (range 1.13 to 43.49)
Internal rate of return (%)	36.0% (range 5.1 to 506.1)

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BUT WE LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD...



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WE LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD

- Deregulation
- Globalisation
- Fewer, larger and more sophisticated grain growers



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WE LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD

- Declining investment from traditional public sector partners
- Globalisation of grains research
- The growing importance of private sector in grains research



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WE LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD

- Better informed advisers
- The growing importance of private sector in delivering the outcomes of research to growers.

	Private sector			Public Sector
State	Retail advisers	Independent advisers	Total	State Governments
QLD	166	89	255	5
ACT	2	3	5	0
Nth NSW	177	102	279	30
Sthn NSW	318	141	459	
VIC	365	183	548	24
SA	434	172	606	4 *
TAS	37	33	70	2
Sub-total	1,361	727		
W.A.		95	95	20 *
Total			2,183	85

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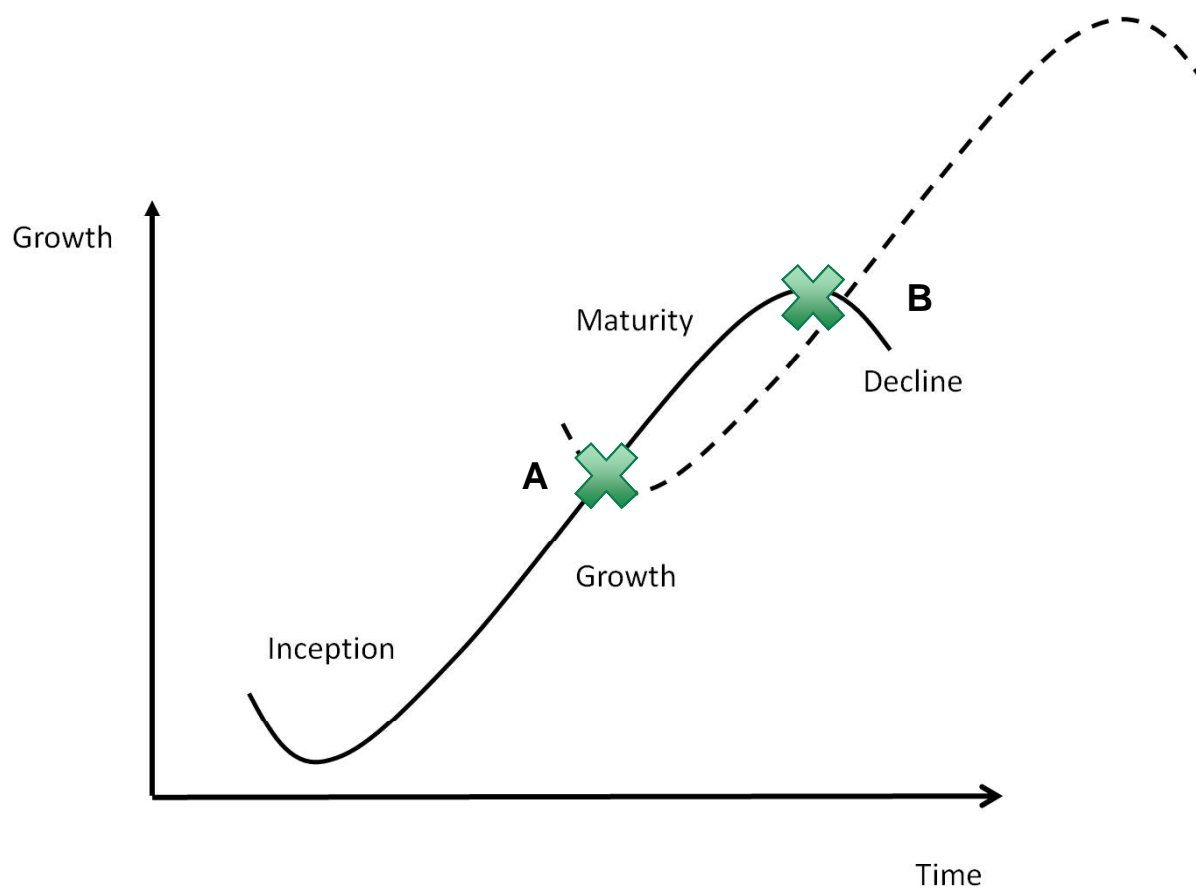
WE LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD

- Continued growth in GRDC's relative position and influence
- Changes to governing legislation



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WE CAN'T BE COMPLACENT



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PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE - GOVERNANCE REVIEW

- Grains industry representatives attended the first consultative meeting in June 2013
- Agreed to a review to assess the need for, and opportunity to change



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**We are
committed
& passionate
about the
Australian
Grains
industry.**

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