



MEDIA RELEASE – Tuesday 1st June, 2010

SEPWA and Summit combine to offer study tour

The South East Premium Wheat Growers Association and Platinum Sponsor, Summit Fertilizers have combined to offer SEPWA members an opportunity to look at farming and research beyond the Esperance Port Zone.

The participants of the study tour will visit the Dowerin Field day as well as trial sites, other farmers and will catch up with other grower groups as well as take in an AFL football game.

Summit Fertilizers Senior Area Manager for the South-East Region, Nick Donkin said the purpose of the tour is to find out what some of the innovative farmers in the wheatbelt are doing, to look at Summit Fertilizers' trials and to visit some of SEPWA's sponsors at the Dowerin Machinery Field days".

The participants will visit the Summit Fertilizers trial at Ben Hyde's farm near Holt Rock to view various nutritional trials and it will also be an opportunity to meet Holt Rock Group members, some of whom are SEPWA members as well.

At the WA No Till Farmers Association (WANTFA) site at Cunderdin participants will be able to ask WANTFA researchers about the six trials with genetically modified (GM) canola including: National Variety Testing (NVT) trials and the comparison of Triazine Tolerant (TT), Clearfield GM canola and conventional varieties.

Other trials include crop tolerance of Roundup Ready (RR) canola plus herbicide efficacy trials in stubbles; crop vigour with discs; crop tolerance with tynes/discs; stubble orientation and the long term rotations trial which is the biggest agronomic trial in WA.

Colin Hutchins' property near Cunderdin will be another highlight of the trip where participants will be able to find out more about the Harrington weed seed destructor. Colin is also into controlled traffic and permanent tramlines and he will discuss how he makes use of all available moisture.

The tour will visit the annual Dowerin Machinery Field Day which will give participants a unique opportunity to see and acquire information on machinery, production methods and associated farming lifestyle products in one arena.

Tour participants will also tour one of the largest on-farm, privately owned grain storage facilities in the country at Joe Candeloro's farm at Toodyay. Last year Joe invested millions of dollars in a 37,000 tonne grain storage and handling facility and participants will get an insight into why the Candeloros built the facility and how they manage the marketing of their grain.

The tour will then roll onto Perth where the participants will visit Little Creatures Brewing in Fremantle where Chief Brewer, Alex Troncoso will explain the brewing process and utilise the opportunity to find out more about Esperance Port Zone barley.

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The tour will conclude with the hospitality of Summit Fertilizers in the corporate box at the Fremantle Dockers versus Carlton game at Subiaco on Saturday 28th or Sunday 29th August, the date is yet to be confirmed.

The tour will depart Esperance on Tuesday, 24th August and return on Sunday, 29th August.

The cost of the tour is \$900 for SEPWA members and \$1200 for non members and this includes transport, accommodation, a rugby jumper, a football ticket, entry to Dowerin Field day and some meals.

If the AFL game occurs on Sunday then there will be an extra charge of \$100 to cover an extra night of accommodation.

Tour numbers are limited to 20 people. A registration form is available on the SEPWA website at www.sepwa.org.au or for further information contact SEPWA Executive Officer, Gemma Walker on 9083 1134 or Nick Donkin at Summit on 0428 715 045.

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