



Media release - 22/4/2020

Download fact sheet on mechanical options for stubble management

A fact sheet which includes case studies on mechanical stubble management options trialled on some Esperance port zone properties is now available to download. The publication is the culmination of a South East Premium Wheat Growers' Association (SEPWA) project funded by the Council of Grain Growers Organisation (COGGO).

Over three years, SEPWA evaluated some of the mechanical methods of crop residue management currently available to WA grain growers in response to some growers in higher yielding areas purchasing specific equipment to deal with increasing stubble burdens.

Between 2017 – 2019, SEPWA project officers worked with five growers who helped to establish sites to demonstrate multiple machinery options for crop residue management and make an objective assessment of each machines' strengths and weaknesses over multiple seasons.

Some of the equipment SEPWA has access to via its member growers were: Speedtiller, Trashcutter, Top-Down, Swifter Disc, Joker, and various makes of slashers and headers. SEPWA worked with these growers to make infield assessments of the mechanical functionality and overall effect on trash flow come autumn seeding.

Originally the project was set for 2 seasons of field trials and assessments, however the 2017 summer was hampered by floods for much of the region. The project was extended for another year, and in 2018, the port zone had a dry summer and autumn and 2019 unfortunately again resulted in a dry start and ended with drought and frost. However many lessons were still learnt along the way.

This project has resulted in an information resource with case studies for all WA growers to download by going to the SEPWA website:

www.sepwa.org.au/phocadownload/Publications/Trash%20Choices_final.pdf



For more information, please contact SEPWA Executive Officer, Niki Curtis on E: eo@sepwa.org.au or M: 0447 908 311.