

**KAROONDA DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB
THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2008**

Theme:

“Reducing input costs without reducing profitability – putting science behind the decisions”

8.55	Welcome	<i>Ian Farley, SAFF</i>	5
9.00	What’s driving world grain markets	<i>Ron Storey, independent grains industry analyst</i>	30+10
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current prices – how long will they last? • What are the key indicators for change? • Taking a position – without risk • What the new marketing regulations mean to Mallee farmers 		
9.40	Phosphorus – putting science behind your decisions	<i>Sean Mason, Uni of Adel</i>	30+5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New test to determine cost effective rates • How much P is just enough? • Free P from mineralisation? • P placement 		
10.15	Matching P rates to your soil including new MSF trial data	<i>Chris McDonough, Rural Solutions</i>	15
10.30	GRDC at the cutting edge	<i>Richard Konzag GRDC Southern Panel</i>	10
10.40	<i>Break</i>		30
11.10	Nitrogen – Is it time to rethink current strategies	<i>Mick Faulkner, consultant</i>	40
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing pulse crops to provide free N (how much N and for how long) • Incorporating a green (brown) manure crop into an intensive rotation – is it cost effective? • Returning to medic pasture/livestock in a phase crop rotation – cost effective? • Increasing OM to provide more mineral N • Best bet strategies for post seeding N this season 		
11.50	Variable rate – is it a cost effective tool for Mallee farmers?	<i>Peter Treloar, Precision Ag consultant</i>	40
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is soil mapping really necessary? • What can yield maps tell us? • Best nutrition strategies for different soil types 		

12.30	Marketing matters	ABB	5
12.35		<i>Lunch</i>	55
1.30	Strategies for coping with a dry spring and other climate change implications	<i>Panel session including Wade Nickolls, Pinnaroo</i>	45
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What significant changes made already? • Are you cutting costs (fertiliser, chemicals etc)? • Changing livestock / cropping ratio • Reducing crop rotation intensity • Managing TOS – dry sowing • Increasing OM to retain soil moisture 	<i>Brenton Pudney, Lameroo Darryl McNeilly, Parilla</i>	
2.15	Weed Seeker technology - a cost effective way of controlling summer weeds	<i>David Brownhill farmer Spring Ridge NSW</i>	45
3.00	Seasonal forum – Least cost best bet decisions for 2008. Issues to include:	<i>Mick Faulkner, consultant Chris McDonough, Rural Solutions Richard Saunders, Rural Solutions Tanja Morgan, Rural Solutions</i>	30
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nitrogen post seeding • Rust and other leaf diseases • Thresholds for weeds • Fluid trace elements? • Spray toppings to avoid seed/rot diseases • Branched broomrape – Agronomy Matters 		
3.30		<i>Close</i>	