



Linking grower networks



Ag Ex - the Past Year in a Nutshell



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What does Ag Ex do?



- Provides leadership, encourages collaboration and independence to the SA grower groups networks
- Ensure groups have the capacity to drive profitable farming businesses through effective development, extension and adoption.

The collective power of groups is a strong force in influencing and driving positive change in the agricultural sector.

What has Ag Ex been up to?



Mixed Cover Cropping for Sustainable Farming Systems in south eastern Australia

- Collaborative project involving 9 grower groups, 3 research orgs, SA MDB NRM
- Three funders – NLP, GRDC, DEW
- Lead by Ag Ex, SANTFA, CSIRO

MIXED COVER CROPS

FOR SUSTAINABLE FARMING

What has Ag Ex been up to?



Mid North Mesonet Project

- State-of-art network of 40 automatic weather stations
- Monitor inversions and provide advice on risk of spray drift
- Grains, viticulture, local government and grower group support
- Funded by PIRSA Regional Development fund



What has Ag Ex been up to?



Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator

- Ag Ex have hosted the position for the past 8 years in a contract with the Northern & Yorke NRM Board.
- Supports the grower group network in the Northern & Yorke Region
- Emma McInerney has taken over the role from Michael Richards to fill the position for the next five years.



- NRM reform process
- National approach for agriculture to climate change adaptation
- State and Commonwealth review of drought response
- Build community trust and social licence in your organisation and the wider food system.
- Quarterly meetings with the PIRSA executive and Ag Bureau SA in a dialogue to establish two-way communication and trust to support the grower group network (*Modern Extension Strategy*).
 - Strengthening Grower Group Network in SA to deliver R,D&E
- Supported the WoTL innovation hub workshop
- Engaging groups in the Dung Beetle R&D for Profit project led by CSU
- Governance training for the grower group network
- Ag Ex e-News and e-Calendar of Events

What's next for Ag Ex?



- Implement the findings of the “Strengthening Grower Group Network in SA to deliver R,D&E” stock take
- Rural Research and Development for Profit project bid on mixed farming RD&E
- A national approach to more effectively deliver extension that drives the adoption of innovation & sustainable farm practices in broadacre agriculture
- Extending the Mid North Mesonet concept to the Riverland and Mallee



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Thank you

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