

# Ag Excellence Annual Forum

## *Project Management*



**Sarah Noack**  
*Hart Field-Site Group*



# My Transition

## Postgrad student



## Farming systems group

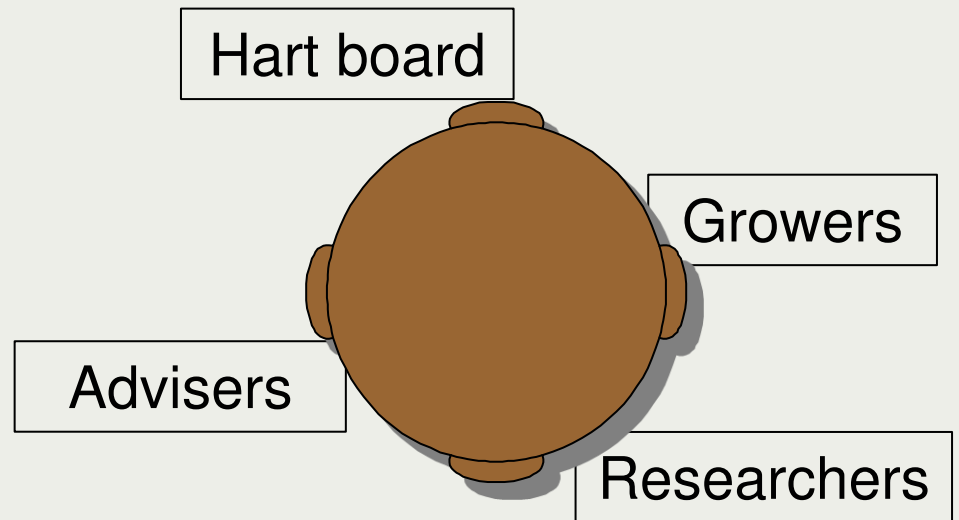
- One project with 2-3 experiments/year
  - Reporting to 1 funder, 4 supervisors
  - Experiments and field work all carried out by me
  - 2.5 hrs morning tea time/week
- A number of large funded projects and overseeing 30 trials/year
  - Reporting to multiple funders, Hart board (12), research teams
  - Managing trials, working with contractors, technicians and many researchers to put together a range of trials
  - Maybe coffee in the car...



# Project Management

- Initiating
  - The project team - researchers, advisers, other grower groups and growers
  - Braining storming ideas

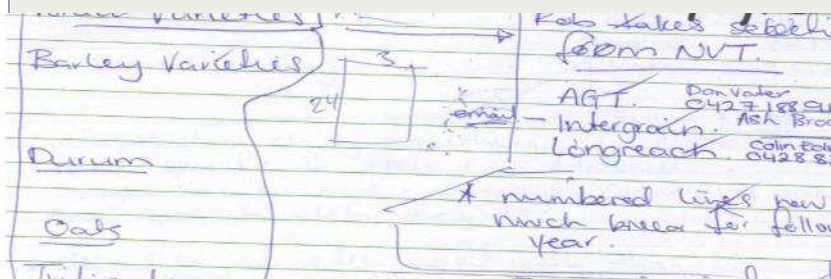
***This primarily occurs at our research group meeting early in the year. Also when specific tenders are released during the year.***



Hart Field Site Group



# Project Management



ROWS	REP 1	REP 2	REP 3
1	Buffer	Buffer	Buffer
2	TOS 1 herb 1 rate 1	TOS 1 herb 2 rate 1	TOS 1 herb 2 rate 2
3	TOS 1 herb 1 rate 2	TOS 1 herb 3 rate 2	TOS 1 herb 1 rate 1
4	Buffer	Buffer	Buffer
5	TOS 2 herb 1 rate 1	TOS 2 herb 2 rate 2	TOS 2 herb 2 rate 1
6	TOS 2 herb 1 rate 2	TOS 2 herb 3 rate 2	TOS 2 herb 3 rate 1
7	TOS 2 herb 2 rate 1	TOS 2 herb 1 rate 1	TOS 2 herb 3 rate 2
8	TOS 2 herb 2 rate 2	TOS 2 herb 1 rate 2	TOS 2 herb 1 rate 1
9	Buffer	Buffer	Buffer
10	Buffer	Buffer	Buffer
11	TOS 1 herb 2 rate 1	TOS 1 herb 1 rate 1	TOS 1 herb 3 rate 1
12	TOS 1 herb 2 rate 2	TOS 1 herb 3 rate 1	TOS 1 herb 1 rate 2
13	TOS 1 herb 3 rate 1	TOS 1 herb 2 rate 2	TOS 1 herb 2 rate 1
14	TOS 1 herb 3 rate 2	TOS 1 herb 1 rate 2	TOS 1 herb 3 rate 2
15	Buffer	Buffer	Buffer
16	TOS 2 herb 3 rate 1	TOS 2 herb 2 rate 1	TOS 2 herb 1 rate 2
17	TOS 2 herb 3 rate 2	TOS 2 herb 3 rate 1	TOS 2 herb 2 rate 2
18	Buffer	Buffer	Buffer

N →

Trial Name: Fertiliser additive or replac

Aim:

- To compare the effectiveness of replacement products with urea
- Includes a sulphur dose response

Treatments

80 kg/ha urea ONLY  
59 kg/ha urea + 50 kg/ha DAP  
51 kg/ha urea + 15 kg S/ha (as gypsum)  
51 kg/ha urea + 15 kg S/ha (as gypsum)  
80 kg urea + 15 kg S/ha (as SOA)  
80 kg urea + 30 kg S/ha (as SOA)  
Entec urea @ 80 kg/ha

16 treatments x 3 replicates = 48 plots + buffers

Fertiliser & Seeding System: As outlined above.

Assessments:

- (1) Soil test 0-10 cm (DGT-P, S and N)
- (2) Dry matter production
- (3) Grain yield and quality (protein and screenings)

Design: Randomised complete block design

Plot Width: 1.75m

Plot Length: 1

Replicates: 3

Number of Plots: 54

Trial Length: 31.5 m

Trial Width: 36 m

Comments & Notes:

Background  
Aim

Treatments

Measurements

Design

Communication





# Project Management



***Project manager oversees all task on and off-site.  
Group effort in compiling information to be released.  
One person responsible for proofing, distribution and co-ordination of events***



# Project Management

## Monitoring

- Check, measure and review project performance
- Budget on track
- Identify issues
- Adjust plans if necessary
- Inform the project team
- Reporting to funders (6 monthly, yearly)

***Monthly board meetings (short report on all trials and specific updates for larger projects)***

***One person responsible for keeping track of project reporting deadlines and compiling reports.***



# Project Management

- Conclusion
  - Compete project tasks and final report
  - Final communications of project outcomes to members
  - Make time to reflect on the project and outcomes with the research team
  - Will you pursue further funding?
  - Be prepared for unexpected tasks (articles, economic analysis of the project)

***At a board level we review projects after completion and discuss if further work is required.***



# Acknowledgements

Sandy Kimber and Peter Hooper

