



Social Media In Agriculture



FACT SHEET

EPARF spray technology day

The Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation is a farmer driven organisation set up to support and provide direction to research, development and extension on the Eyre Peninsula, particularly to that which occurs out of the Minnipa Agricultural Centre. The centre has nearly 100 years history, and has been key to the development of sustainable farming systems in the region. The videos described here summarises the annual EPARF members day in 2012 where the focus was on making you spray dollar go further.

Spray technology – the EPARF members day

Each year the Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation (EPARF) host a member's day to reward those who have committed to the operations of the Minnipa Agricultural Centre. EPARF, through its 290 farmer member base, supports the research, development and extension activities of the Minnipa Research Centre for the benefit of farm businesses on the Eyre Peninsula. This year's members day is about spray technology, which is considered one of the most challenging parts of farming operations, which can make or break the farming system. Listen to the EPARF chair, members and sponsor representatives about their view of EPARF and the members day.

<http://youtu.be/MfptKxBGV9w>



Herbicide application – Re-thinking Delta T

Delta T is the relationship between temperature and relative humidity that gives a score for deciding when best to apply sprays on crops. John Both from NuFarm at the Eyre Peninsula Agricultural



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Research Foundation (EPARF) members day held at the Minnipa Agricultural Centre discusses Delta T for making spray decisions. In the summer Delta T can often be high during the day, resulting in spraying occurring in the morning or evening. These are times when inversion layers are most likely resulting in drift issues. Research has shown that high Delta T's in summer can still give good weed control so long as the weeds are actively growing. Delta T is a good guide but you can consider other factors when making spraying decisions to reduce the risk of drift and achieve good weed control.

<http://youtu.be/HjbRG0q3VhI>

Herbicide pathways – an overview

For a herbicide to effectively kill weeds it needs to get inside the plant, it needs to get to the tissue where the herbicide can work, and it needs to inhibit the active site. Dr Chris Preston from the University of Adelaide explains how herbicides work at the Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation (EPARF) members day held at the Minnipa Agricultural Centre. The movement of herbicides in plants and soils depends on soil type, plant conditions and herbicide chemistry. Water solubility and soil properties are important for the activity of soil-applied herbicides whilst herbicide chemistry is important for leaf-applied herbicides.

http://youtu.be/f_2vUZmWsNw

Near infra red weed detection technology

NIR technology detects weeds so that only weeds are sprayed and not the whole paddock resulting in significant savings. Brendan Williams from WEED it explains the technology at the Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation (EPARF) members day held at the Minnipa Agricultural Centre. Near infra light is reflected from growing plants turns on the nozzle in front of the [plant to give coverage. Chemical usage can be reduced by up to 90%.

<http://youtu.be/H6h2PGQzWR4>

Spray quality and effect of adjuvants

Spray nozzles have a significant impact on spray quality, but adjuvants also play an important part. Jorg Kitt from Nufarm explains the use of adjuvants to reduce spray drift at the Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation (EPARF) members day held at the Minnipa Agricultural Centre. Adjuvants should be part of the spray operation solutions to quality by using the right nozzle with the right adjuvant.

<http://youtu.be/RmMqhDYTSaI>

Spray application – Factors to consider

Selection of the nozzle is the most critical factor in all spray application. Craig Day from Spray Safe and Save discusses the factors to consider to ensure safe spray application at the Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation (EPARF) members day held at the Minnipa Agricultural Centre. Inversion layers are the biggest risk factor for spray drift in Australia. Nozzles must operate within their correct pressure range. This is affected by ground speed, terrain, the size of the spray rig and the size of the tractor towing the rig.

<http://youtu.be/KOaXSGptHwc>