



## ANNA BINNA update

### May 2017 Update

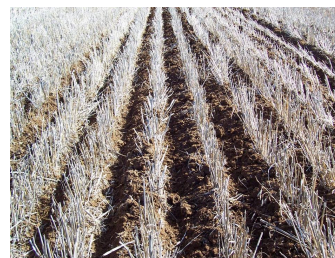
The late finish to our harvest, combined with the deluge of summer rain, has increased our workload significantly. Locally, some areas have received huge rainfall events with totals ranging from 40 to 70 mm. Unfortunately, we've only received about 5 mm recently, which has just settled the dust, so we kicked off seeding in mid-April in dry conditions.

This year we've been sowing through very high stubble loads, which can be a challenge. The stubble generally flows through well when it's dry and we've only been getting a few blocks in some patches that were down and tangled last year.

The boom spray has certainly been busy to keep the summer weeds under control. With many crops leaning over and lodged last season, we have been forced to slash a lot of paddocks to ensure we can sow through last season's stubble. There was also a lot more grain left in the paddocks from the harvest and the mice numbers were very high, particularly in the coastal areas. We applied mice bait to these paddocks, which reduced the numbers, and now we only have isolated pockets that



Danny sowing Scepter wheat in lentil stubble



Massive stubble loads & leaning crop from last year can block the seeder

may require a follow-up application.

The forage sorghum we sowed in some of the waterlogged areas has proved very successful. We've slashed it down three times to increase the organic matter in these areas that would have otherwise been bare. The sorghum plant's root systems go down around two metres, breaking up the clay layer and enabling better infiltration for moisture during the winter.

As always, when not in the fields, our staff work hard to improve and maintain their skills and keep necessary equipment licences up to date. Tim, Marco, Simon and Derek all received their forklift licences at Safe Ag Systems a few weeks ago. With our front-end loader and telehandler qualifications already completed, we're good to go for the season.

### Harvest results

The 2016 record-breaking harvest from South Australia delivered over 11 million tons of grain. This provided plenty of work for our truckies and rail providers to move this grain to local ports for our bulk handlers to ship grain to overseas markets. What a great result for the South Australian economy!

As we roll on into the 2017 cropping program, the long range weather forecast suggests it could be an average winter, and then perhaps a drier than average spring. It's certainly not an exciting forecast but we'll see how it plays out. As always, we thank you for your support and your trust in our team to manage your properties.

Regards,  
Ben Wundersitz



Considering the dry conditions, the lentil stubble keeps the dust to a minimum



Tim slashing sorghum. The roots break up the clay in preparation for wheat



Our team receives their forklift licences



Loading with fuel, seed & fertiliser, and a quick check over before the night shift



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