



## ANNA BINNA update

### Busy time in the paddocks

It's that time of year again – it rolls around pretty quickly. It's been a busy few months with plenty going on in the paddocks. With no summer rainfall, our summer spraying program hasn't been significant. We ran the Reefinator in February again this year. It is very satisfying work busting up limestone reefs and the results look great. This year, we went a bit deeper in a few paddocks after the first pass last year and we did some new country, as well. During March, we spread a lot of gypsum for sulphur and for soil conditioning in some heavy red soils. Recently, we have been spreading some snail bait on some coastal country.

### Sharing information with the farming community

Recently, I did a presentation for 170 farmers at the "Getting the Crop In" seminar at Clare. It's one of the



Reefinator ripping up limestone reefs at Ardrossan



Simon carting gypsum from Lake Fowler

great strengths of our industry that many farmers are willing to share their experience in agriculture for the benefit of others. It was heartening to see so many young people in the audience who have chosen a career path in agriculture.

## Staffing

We are very fortunate to have a great crew of permanent and casual staff members. Recently, we were approached by a young lad named Brodie Skinner who was looking to do a Certificate III in Agriculture. Brodie did a few days' work and was very enthusiastic with great operator skills. Brodie is now signed up as a Certificate III apprenticeship for the next 16 months. He will complete training in safety in the workplace, welding, machinery maintenance and agronomy. He will get tickets to operate a loader, telehandler and forklift. He will also be ticketed in working at height and working in confined spaces. All of this will attract points to go towards passing his year 12 SACE certificate.

## Seeding kicks off

We started seeding some Planet barley this week in a very wet paddock at-home property that is often prone to waterlogging. Planet is a new long season variety that performs well in wet conditions and it has great yield potential in a longer growing season. We moved to Point Pearce and sowed the Point Paddock before shutting down for Easter. After running our last Flexicoil seeder for five years, we have replaced it with another Flexicoil. This unit is 24 metres wide (80 ft) and the air cart carries around 30 tonnes split between seed and fertiliser. Our aim is to only fill the unit every 12 hours to avoid the risk for our operators of filling during the night. The unit will cover 19 hectares (45 acres) per hour and it will sow over 250 acres on a single fill. We will continue to operate 24 hours a day, but this unit will give us a bit of extra capacity to have the option to shut down if it's dry and then to fire up again if we see rain coming.



Ben presenting to 170 farmers at "Getting the Crop In"



Tom & Brodie – great to have some youth on staff with plenty of spring in their step!



Seeding kicks off in dry conditions



New seeder will give up 25% more capacity to reduce risk

We've only had about 5 mm of rain for the year, making it the driest year I can remember. The forecasts are indicating a good chance of rain over Easter, which would be nice.

We thank you for your support of Anna Binna and hope you enjoy the rest of the Easter holiday.

Regards,  
Ben Wundersitz

in dry sowing conditions



Danny spreading gypsum for sulphur



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