

Benchmarking Service – Free to MFMG members

Exciting New Farm Benchmarking Service – Supported by the GRDC – Free To MFMG Members

MacKillop Farm Management Group believes that increasing income uncertainty (due to volatility in rainfall and commodity prices) and rising costs of production (fertilizer and chemicals) is making it more challenging for farmers to achieve the success (and profits) they are striving for.

It is important to know the financial implications of your management decisions to ensure that your business performance trends are still heading in the right direction during these years of fluctuating prices and yields.

Participating in farm business performance analysis (ie benchmarking) will confirm how your management decisions stack up with others within the same region to give you peace of mind and information to fine-tune practices.

As part of MacKillop Farm Management Group's commitment to helping your business prosper, we would like to help facilitate your participation in an exciting new benchmarking service with Ag Profit.

Ag Profit is supported by the Grains Research Development Corporation (GRDC) and is part of a national initiative to help farmers better understand and manage their business risks.

100% FREE FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS

We are hoping to get the majority of our farming members onto the benchmarking service which would provide one of the largest benchmarking databases in our regional farming area.

Benefit And Outcomes Of Your Participation

- 100% Free for the next two years and thereafter only a minimal fee proposed.
- 100% confidential and your privacy is guaranteed – no other participants will know your individual results.
- Benchmark your results against an extensive data group compiled in the Limestone Coast region (also other regions if required).
- Review up-to-date farm business performance analysis via the web application (almost in real-time). No waiting for months to access the data – once the data is entered and verified by Ag Profit it is then ready for you to review
- Individual client season electronic reports (pdf) provided to you each year with the opportunity to discuss with your accountant.
- Invitation to an annual farm business discussion workshop each year.

What do you need to do to participate?

Sign the attached Data Consent Authority to allow Ag Profit to contact your accountant to upload your financial data (including last 5 years of tax return data) required for analysis.

Clients To Sign Up By 30th June 2012

To participate in the 2011/12 season analysis, we require that you complete and return to our office the Data Consent Authority by the 30th June 2012.

This is a unique opportunity to participate in a national farm benchmarking service for free.

GRDC Updates and MFMG AGM



29th August
Naracoorte



Further information on both of these event will be available in the near future

Have you considered becoming a member of the MacKillop Group Management Committee?

We encourage you all to consider nominating for a position on the committee to assist with management of the group and planning of trials and events for the coming seasons.

Please contact an existing committee member, who will be able to answer all your questions

Making Better Nitrogen Decisions

Making Better Nitrogen Management Decisions

This is the key focus of a project being run in the Upper SE, funded by DAFF through Caring for our Country.

6 moisture probes have been located in the Upper SE on 3 very different soil types (Red-Brown Earths, Sand over Clay and Black Clay soils) under both no-till and simulated conventional farming systems.

This data is being combined with various soil and rainfall measurements that are being fed into Yield Prophet to try and fine-tune Nitrogen management decisions, and thereby reducing some of the risk around post-em N applications.

A workshop will be held at the end of July at Bordertown to discuss post emergent N-management on these paddocks, and the implications that some of the issues may have on your farm.

The soil moisture data is available through a link on the MacKillop website – to access this data, or for more information about the project, please either phone or email Felicity who will provide you with login details (Mob: 0400 299 087), Email: mf.turner@bigpond.com



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Future Farmers Network

AWI WoolClip Forum - Naracoorte Hosted by the Future Farmers Network

FFN provides the catalyst for engagement, support and communication amongst youth in agriculture.

- Date:** Friday, 17 August 2012
- Time:** 9.30pm – 4.30pm, followed by a casual networking BBQ
- Venue:** Naracoorte Town Hall
Degaris Place, Naracoorte SA
- Cost:** Free – morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea included
- RSVP:** Friday, 10 August 2012
admin@futurefarmers.com.au

Topics:

- Keeping Flies, Lice and Worms Under Control
- Breeding for Profitability
- AWI Wool Market Outlook
- New Markets for Australian Wool
- Profitable and Practical Merino Ewe Management
- Profitability of Merino Enterprises

FFN AWI WoolClip Naracoorte Forum is made possible with the help of Event Partner AWI

FFN is also proudly supported by Corporate Partner Landmark - working together to develop and network young people in Australian agriculture, and Platinum Partner Rural Press.

FFN would also like to acknowledge supporting event partners: Mackillop Farm Management Group, Mid North Young Guns and Making More From Sheep



LANDMARK



Rural Press Limited

South East Prime Livestock Achievers



"Profiting from Prime Livestock Production"

SEPLA AGM


to follow this seminar

Smart Phone Apps

Ag Excellence Alliance have produced a booklet—Smart phone Apps for Smart Farmers. Most of the apps in the booklet have been downloaded and road-tested to a degree. However, their inclusion is not necessarily an endorsement of them, they are simply letting you know what is out there.

Below is an extract from that booklet—for the entire range of apps please visit the Ag Exc website

www.agex.org.au

PRODUCTION - Tank Mix								
	Chemical Safety Data Sheets	<p>This app displays International Chemical Safety Cards [ICSC] produced by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Labour Office (ILO), and the World Health Organization (WHO).</p> <p>An ICSC is very similar to an Material Safety Data Sheet [MSDS], a standard reference document from the manufacturer for chemical information and is required, for safety purposes, to be kept in any place where workers face possible exposure to those chemicals.</p> <p>Use the information in this app to augment occupational health and safety when working with the applicable chemicals as an adjunct to MSDS or when MSDS are unavailable.</p> <p>Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully indexed and searchable chemical list by Name, CAS# or RTECS# Saved history of previously viewed chemicals Email and Airprint capability No Internet connection required 	Click here then click "View in iTunes"	Free	8.7Mb	Internet not required	Works with iPad	Not available for Android
	Spray	<p>Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replaces the manual spray log Records & Stores Spray sheets in one place Exports data in CSV format Stores Chemical details Stores all historical chemical applications Filing Cabinet in the iPad Live feed of information from the operator as it happens Dropbox upload support <p>Free Free Version available here</p>	Click here then click "View in iTunes"	\$549.99	13.3Mb	Internet required for some sections	Works with iPad	Not available for Android
	Tank Mix by DuPont	<p>The DuPont TankMix Calculator App allows you to easily calculate the amount of product you will need to treat a specific field area, the amount of product you need to apply to a specific tank size, the amount of water you'll need to treat a specific field area or the amount of product you need to get the desired Volume to Volume ratio.</p> <p>It offers a wide selection of Units of Measure to make it useful anywhere in the world and it gives you the flexibility to enter information using both decimals or fractions.</p>	Click here then click "View in iTunes"	Free	0.7 Mb	Internet not required	Works with iPad	Not available for Android
	Tank Mix Calculator	<p>This app allows a farmer to use a mobile device to quickly and easily generate a tank mix. Just enter your acreage, tank size, and carrier volume, then select your chemicals from the list or add your own. Tank Mix Calculator will then provide you with the number of loads required to spray your acreage, along with full and partial load mixes of the chemicals you selected.</p>	Click here then click "View in iTunes"	Free	20.7Mb	Internet not required	Works with iPad	Available for Android
	Yara Tank Mix	<p>This app allows better planning of spray programmes and spraying opportunities with most of the YaraVita™ range. As tests are made, the on-line database is instantly updated and using the guide is simple. All that needs to be done is to enter the site, read and accept the contents of the disclaimer and select a country to access the appropriate product range. From here the partner spray material can be selected either by trade name or active ingredient.</p>	Click here then click "View in iTunes"	Free	6.3Mb	Internet required	Works with iPad	Available for Android

Ag Profit Financial Data Provision Consent Form

To participate in the Ag Profit farm business analysis service, key business information is required to be collected. An integral component of this data is the business financial performance data. In order to minimize your effort required to provide this data, Ag Profit has developed a capacity where we interface with your accountant so they can electronically upload this data directly to us.

For this to occur, we require your consent for your accountant to provide this data to Ag Profit.

Rest assured, Ag Profit respects your privacy and is strongly committed to protecting all personal information which you may provide to us.

We are only seeking to collect this data so we can provide business analysis feedback to you so you can gain a better understanding of the dynamics of your farm business.

If you have any queries regarding any of this information, please contact Matthew Bryant from Ag Profit on:
T: (03) 5444 2600
E: info@agprofit.com.au

Consent

If you are willing to allow your accountant to provide the required recent business financial data information to Ag Profit for the purposes of farm business performance analysis, please sign below:

Signature: _____ Business Name: _____
Name: _____ Contact Mobile: _____
Date: _____ Contact Email: _____

Accountant Details

Can you please provide the following accountant contact details:

Accounting Firm: _____
Town: _____
Accountant Contact Name: _____



Irrigating in 2012

How can you reduce your cost of production?

The MIMG (MacKillop Irrigation Management Group) are currently planning information sessions on the following

Understanding your Soil, Water quality and crop requirements

Overcoming limitations in your Irrigation system

(24th July)

and

Understanding your system

Pivot (7th August) and Surface Irrigation (14th August) specific sessions

Flyers and booking form included with newsletter —please make it a priority to attend



Something to think about:

A recent desktop study of irrigation water use in the SE region suggested some \$2-300 million of farm gate produce is lost each year to irrigation infrastructure not being able to manage root zone soil moisture effectively.

Could we be increasing our productivity by simply managing our infrastructure better?



Irrigating in 2012

**Reserve your place now to ensure you can reduce
your irrigating costs**

\$200 per farm business

Session 1 on 24th July

Understanding your soil, water quality and crop requirements

Overcoming the limitations in your system

Session 2—please mark session(s) you will be attending

- Centre Pivot / Lateral Move (7th August)*

- Surface Irrigation (14th August)*

Name(s) of Attendees:

Contact Mobile:

Email:

Trading Name for Invoice:

*Please forward to
Krysteen McElroy
MacKillop Farm Management Group
Nyroca Road, Padthaway 5271
Email: mfng@bigpond.com or fax: 08 87655229*