

Network Meeting Summary

The Kwinana East Regional Cropping Solutions Network (RCSN) met at the Bruce Rock Shire Supper Room on 23 July 2015. This meeting followed on from an RCSN open meetings held the night prior which enabled members of the general public of the port zone to come together to discuss, identify and workshop the priority areas affecting their profitability. A summary of the open meeting can be found at: www.rcsn.net.au/open-meetings.html. This RCSN meeting included a series of guest speakers including: **Shauna Stone** (Western Panel Member) who provided an update on recent GRDC activities; **Roger States** (GRDC Grower Services Manager) who provided an overview and update on the next iteration of the RCSN initiative; and **Natalie Lee** (GRDC Western Region Communicator) who discussed the frost case studies project. Additionally, the following project updates were provided by guest speakers:

- **Michael Foss (Bruce Rock)** provided an update on his learnings from his Nuffield Scholarship.
- **Greg Shea (DAFWA)** provided an update on the focus paddock project.

All of the guest presenters were well received and provided a basis for valuable discussion, reflection and information sharing. **Other activities undertaken at the meeting included:**

- Wrap up of 2015 seeding experiences and issues.
- Review of the priorities identified at the open meeting and identification of any gaps.
- Review of the progress of short term RCSN projects relevant to this port zone.
- Update on RCSN member representation on the Soils Constraints and National Variety Trials projects.
- Building on the open meeting priorities and working up of top five priority issues as ranked by the RCSN members with a view to creating future short term projects for the port zone – see table below.

Top 10 Issues (Open Mtg)	Top 10 Issues (Closed Mtg Workup)	Closed Meeting Priority Area Workup Actions of the Top 5 Closed Mtg Priority Areas.
Rainfall variability and climate (35%)	Water use efficiency (25%)	Existing national initiative on this area. However, potential for 1-3 year port zone related project activities - priority worked up at closed meeting.
Water use efficiency (26%)	Inputs (25%)	Potential for 1-3 year port zone related project activities - priority worked up at closed meeting.
Business management, staffing and succession (21%)	Rotations (23%)	Potential for 1-3 year port zone related project activities - priority worked up at closed meeting.
Acidity (20%)	Rainfall and climate variability (22%)	Potential for 1-3 year port zone related project activities - priority worked up at closed meeting.
Inputs (20%)	Weeds (20%)	Existing national initiative on this area. Potential for 1-3 year port zone related project activities - priority worked up at closed meeting.
Weeds (19%)	Business management, staffing and succession (19%)	No further workup done at this meeting.
Rotations (19%)	Machinery (19%)	No further workup done at this meeting.
Sodicity (11%)	Acidity (17%)	Existing national initiative on this area – no further workup done at this meeting.
Frost (9%)	GM (12%)	No further workup done at this meeting.
Compaction (6%)	Sodicity (10%)	No further workup done at this meeting.

All issues will continue to have visibility via the RCSN to the Western Panel. **For further details on the RCSN**, please visit www.rcsn.net.au or contact the RCSN Facilitator, Julianne Hill on regionalcroppingsolutions@gmail.com or via 0447 261 607.