

MEDIA RELEASE – Friday 15th March, 2013

Optimising your farm business risk

Wheat belt farmers are usually confident about managing risk in their business, but after a couple of challenging seasons this confidence can be diminished and risk awareness increased.

Risks can be managed, and the “Optimising Farm Business Risk” workshop will allow farmers and advisors to explore how they can use risk to their advantage to optimise business performance, and manage it to reduce stress levels.

The free workshops which are planned for Bruce Rock and Bencubbin this month are being offered by Grain and Graze 2 in cooperation with the GRDC Regional Cropping Solutions Network.

Grain and Gaze Project Officer, Danielle England said risk management in agriculture is more than marketing grain; it is about optimising production, financial and personal risks to allow businesses to grow and prosper at a rate that is comfortable.

The one day workshop will cover decision making, and provide farmers with the tools to assist them to make tricky decisions; business risk management; budget management for 2013 and it will provide an insight into what banks are looking for.

Danielle said the workshop will give farmers a chance to look at their personal risk profile, and the risk profile of their business.

“Our job is to manage risk in agriculture, and sometimes we need to stop and think why we are doing it, what are we doing and what could we do better.

“This workshop will give farmers the chance to do just that and have a better understanding about the risk their business faces this year and beyond

At a recent workshop held in Esperance, farmers were surprised at the realisation of how many risks are actually manageable and the importance of the cropping mix in terms of risk,” Danielle said.

The Grain and Graze 2 Optimising Farm Business Risk workshop will be held in Bruce Rock on Tuesday the 26th of March and in Bencubbin on Wednesday the 27th.

The days will kick off with registrations at 8.45 am and will finish at approximately 4 pm.

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Please note there is no charge for these workshops, and participants will be provided with morning and afternoon tea, and lunch throughout the day.

RSVP is essential for catering purposes to Janelle Smith on 0410 233 903 or via email janelle@planfarm.com.au.

These pilot workshops are proudly supported by the Kwinana East Zone Regional Cropping Solutions Network, a GRDC funded initiative.

Grain and Graze 2 is funded through Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) and the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program.

For more information about grazing crops, check out the Grain and Graze 2 webpage at www.grainandgraze2.com.au.

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