

Brigalow Bites

Edition 13 Tuesday 24th February 2026

Last week I was fortunate to attend the GRDC Research Update in Perth (after visiting my Mum for her 80th birthday). Having never been to Optus Stadium, it was quite an experience and gave me plenty of time to reminisce with old friends and colleagues. Importantly I was able to walk away recognising how holistically we approach weed management here in Queensland and the logistical complexities of summer and winter cropping. So many I spoke to said they wouldn't be able to manage the workload! Anyway, I'm back now and the real work begins again.



In agriculture, we can all relate to the idiom “if it doesn't rain, it pours”. Well, that is exactly the situation we were facing next month with two events planned for one day, just a few kilometers apart. However, with a bit of negotiation, we've been able to reconfigure the two single events into a road-train and averted the head on!

So, if exploring crop options and machinery sound exciting, lock yourselves in for a full day of action on Thursday 12th March! Starting with...

PIGEONPEA FIELD WALK – 9:00AM THURSDAY 12TH MARCH

Head along to Wade Bidstrup's for an in-field discussion about pigeonpea with the DPI and Woods Seeds. See the drought hardy crop in the paddock and discuss the opportunities this crop presents as an alternative summer growing legume. The main presentations will be wrapped up by 10:00am to allow people to move onto the Winter Planter Setup Field Day (see details below)

RSVP to Bruce Winter 0419 652 243
bruce.winter@dpi.qld.gov.au



Pigeonpea Field Walk

Please join us at our pigeonpea trial site at Warra on Thurs 12 March 2026

QDPI and Woods Seeds with investment from GRDC and the assistance of MCA Ag Research, are conducting pigeonpea variety and agronomy trials at a joint site at Warra.

Interested growers and agronomists can see pigeonpea in the field and understand the opportunities and issues with growing pigeonpea.

RSVP & enquiries:
Bruce Winter
0419 652 243
bruce.winter@dpi.qld.gov.au

Date:
Thurs 12 March 2026

Time:
9.00am – 10.30am

Refreshments
provided

Address:
Corner Haystack Rd
& Ehlna Boundary
Rd, Warra.

Location:



WINTER PLANTER SETUP FIELD DAY – 10:15AM - 5:00PM THURSDAY 12TH MARCH

Similar to our summer crop planter discussion in August, this event focusses on optimising planter and air cart setup for successful winter crop establishment. NSW-based agronomy and research providers AMPS have organised a fantastic line up of static machinery displays from a range of manufacturers and will provide reminders about seed quality, the investment decision and safety. This GRDC supported event is free to attend but please RSVP directly via the QR code on the flyer or to www.trybooking.com/DJTMD

Winter Planter Setup Workshop

GRDC
GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

WINTER PLANTER BAR BASICS - AIR CART SETUP - WINTER CROP ESTABLISHMENT

NORTHERN REGION
MARCH 2026

12th March
10.15AM - 5.00PM

amps

Brigalow

Venue: Inveral Hall, 1911 Warra Canaga Creek Road, Tuckerang QLD

Grain growers, planting contractors and industry stakeholders are invited to participate in one of a series of GRDC 2026 Winter Planter Setup Workshops.

The workshops, hosted by AMPS Research, will include a range of local winter planter bars and air carts. Hear from independent and industry experts on effective planter bar and air cart set up to improve winter crop establishment, crop establishment fundamentals, adjusting to local conditions, benchmarking and financial considerations, as well as keeping safe during planting.

PRESENTERS

Brett Asphar - Independent Specialist
Matt Gardner - AMPS Research
Kim Bowman - AgriPath
Paul McIntosh - WeedSmart & Pulse Australia Agronomy
Industry representatives - Planter bars & Air carts

Program

- Seed testing, purchases and calculations – managing your most critical input at planting
- Managing variability in local soil and seasonal conditions at planting
- Winter planter bars – setup and maintenance & review of local implements
- Air carts – setup and maintenance & review of local implements
- Benchmarking and financial decisions for winter planters & air carts
- On farm safety at planting time



Or register via the link here:
www.trybooking.com/DJTMD

For further information,
contact Sarah Ball 0429 263 364

GRDC Project code: AMP24102-001SAX

CROWN ROT AND NEMATODE COLLABORATION

Fusarium crown rot and nematodes are often overlooked as causes of yield variability, but a new GRDC project called the Soilborne Disease Initiative is supporting growers to explore options to reduce their impact on grain yield and quality. Researchers Kirsty Owen and Cassy Percy from UniSQ are our local connection in this National project and are looking for collaborators who are struggling with known crown rot and nematode infections. If you have a paddock and are prepared to host a trial or demonstration to explore the management of crown rot and root-lesion nematodes, drop me a message and I will link you up with Kirsty.

ONLINE CLEARING SALE

BFG is excited to partner with Eastern Rural Dalby in an online clearing sale that will go live via Auctions Plus on Monday 13th April. This is a fantastic opportunity for our members and associates to collectively offer 'pre-loved' items for sale, with the convenience of not having to move equipment to a central auction point. And we get to work with a company that has been running clearing sales for over 26 years and knows what works!

Thank you to those who have already indicated they have items for sale. Andrew Kirtley from Eastern Rural will be in touch shortly to organise a visit to photograph items for sale.

But it's not too late to register additional items. Just drop me a quick text or contact Andrew directly to ensure your sale items get the benefit of a full advertising program.

- Advertising in QCL and online forums for three weeks starting 26th March
- Auction opens Monday 13th April 10.00am
- On-farm inspection days Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th April 10.00am to 1.00pm
- Auction closing timer starts Thursday 16th April 6.00pm
- Collection days Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th April 10.00am to 1.00pm
- Sale is hammer price plus GST (no buyers premium)

For more information or to register items for sale contact Andrew Kirtley 0400 598 866 or Roger Lyne 0427 698 866.

WOOD AG SPONSORSHIP

We are proud to announce Wood Ag as the first Platinum Sponsor of Brigalow Farming Group.

Established in 2013 by Chinchilla agronomist Russell Wood, Wood Ag operates out of stores in both Chinchilla and Miles and services the area's agricultural, horticultural, and livestock industries. Providing quality agronomic advice and inputs, on-farm delivery and a wide range of general merchandise, Wood Ag are committed to supporting the local community. Within the BFG network, Russ, Mark and Corey never shy away from supporting agronomy discussions, providing valuable technology for meetings and as a sounding board for event planning.

In addition to their agronomic support and financial sponsorship of BFG, Wood Ag has generously offered BFG members a 25% discount across the core Yeti range of products and 10% discount on the seasonal range of products. If you're looking for anything in the Yeti range, pop into Wood Ag Chinchilla or Miles and stock up. Thank you, Russ, and team Wood Ag.



SORGHUM Paddock ANALYSIS

Harvest of the early crops is drawing to a close so now is a good time to pull the paddock records together and review the results achieved.

Attached is the excel spreadsheet we used last year to collate the Group's production figures, and we would like to do this again. Please complete for your paddocks and return them to admin@brigalowfg.org.au. Alternatively access the spreadsheet [here](#). A reminder that results are anonymous and used to learn not to compare.

HARVEST SUPPORT

As detailed in the last Brigalow Bites, we are happy to share the details of businesses affiliated with BFG who have trucking capacity and may be available to assist with grain transport. If you require trucking services, please contact the business directly.

Business Name	Contact	Services offered
Brownhalls Transport	Steven – 0429 432 638 Rodney – 0427 587 893	A-double, B-double, single haulage On-farm or to market
Darby Harvesting and Haulage	Peter – 0459 022 377	Bulk tipper road trains 25t spreadable step deck
JTSG Contracting	Jack - 0491 109 599	A-double, B-double, single haulage On-farm or to market

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Details	Contact
12 March	Pigeon Pea Field Walk	9.00am	Bruce Winter 0419 652 243 bruce.winter@dpi.qld.gov.au
12 March	Winter Planter Setup Workshop	10:15am – 5:00pm Inverai Hall	Sarah Ball 0429 263 364 sarah.ball@ampsagribusiness.com.au
12–16 April	BFG Online Clearing Sale	Eastern Rural Sale through Auctions Plus	Andrew Kirtley 0400 598 866 andrew.kirtley@easternrural.com.au
17 April	BFG Half Day Meeting	TBA	Vicki Green 0408 759 395
21 August	BFG Full Day Meeting	TBA	Vicki Green 0408 759 395
27 November	BFG AGM	TBA	Vicki Green 0408 759 395

OTHER BITS...

- Members wanting to purchase the seed generously donated by our Sponsors, should contact Vicki (refer to Member Memo)
- Footprint Survey responses are still wanted (also in the Member Memo)

Until next time, take care...