

Crop Consultants Australia Celebrate 30 Years

By Leisl Coggan, Crop Consultants Australia Inc.



Crop Consultants Australia Incorporated (CCA) recently held the first of its two annual Cropping Solutions Seminars in Moree and the positive response from the attendees to two days was overwhelming.

Current CCA president Dallas King said that continual two-way communication is the key to the success of the Seminars.

"Our members find our agendas relevant because the content is set by our members for our members. It is not just driven by the results of current research projects," Dallas said.

"As a result we are able to address current issues as they are impacting on the industry, and give our members the tools to manage these challenges."

Dallas was one of the almost 140 attendees at the Seminar which was held over two days in Moree on the 4th and 5th of May. The diverse agenda included a range of speakers who covered topics such as cotton quality, herbicide resistances, pulses, nutrition and even industrial relations issues.



Dr Greg Constable receives Honorary Membership from CCA President Dallas King

One of the new features of recent Seminars has been the inclusion of panels of experts covering various perspectives of topics that are considered highly topical to members. In Moree, these panels covered the topics of herbicide resistance and cotton quality. The "Q and A" style of presentation, allows for information delivery by the presenters, but more importantly, allows attendees to actively engage in conversation with the presenters and ask relevant questions. This style of presentation has proven hugely popular with attendees.

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As a professional development organisation which operates specifically for Crop Consultants, CCA offers members the opportunity to improve their skills in all aspects of their business. The list of take home messages for attendees was long. Most however commented that they found the panel on Herbicide Resistance particularly relevant.

Attendees of this session were reminded that just because they had not seen resistance in their areas, that they should not be complacent, and needed to be prepared. They were encouraged to become familiar with the processes set out online by their relevant state department of agriculture, including the process for sampling for seed and whole plant testing. It was highlighted by all speakers in this session that herbicide resistance is a 'whole of agriculture' issue which needed to be combated on a landscape scale.

This year CCA is celebrating its 30th Anniversary, and as a lead up to these celebrations, dinner attendees in Moree were treated to an entertaining recollection of days gone passed by well-known consulting identities Peter Birch, Jeremy Kitchen, Steve Warden and Craig Lockhart amongst others.



The 30 year celebrations will culminate at a formal dinner held at the second Cropping Solutions Seminar scheduled for 19th and 20th of July in Toowoomba. For more information, visit www.cropconsultants.com.au/events.