

FARM BUSINESS UPDATE 2026



High performing farms



GOONDIWINDI, WEDNESDAY 22 JULY

Goondiwindi Community Centre, Cnr Russell & Short Sts, Goondiwindi QLD 4390

8:30am for a 9:00am start, finish 2:40pm

GRDC Farm Business Updates are different! While agronomy, soils, farming systems and nutrition are all critical to your business, it's how you deploy all resources at your disposal that determines if you will be profitable. Farm Business Updates focus on the business and people skills needed to manage a profitable grain production business – and the speakers are awesome!

The GRDC Farm Business Update in Goondiwindi on Wednesday 22 July 2026 features a stellar line up of topics and speakers identified as priorities by grain growers.

Financial resilience – the management of OpEx (operating expenditure) and the impact on profit & the economics of machinery replacement & assessing when investment is warranted

Simon Fritsch from Agripath will outline ways to strengthen financial resilience by managing operating costs more effectively and understanding how this influences profit. He'll break down the economics of machinery replacement and provide clear guidance on how to assess whether new investment is justified. Helping you make confident, financially sound decisions in a tight operating environment.



Positive, productive communication language and techniques – developing skills and emotional resilience in management and staff for both the good and the less than good times

Jane Foster from Emotional Resilience Training will share practical communication techniques that help managers and staff stay positive, productive, and steady under pressure. She'll explore the language and behaviour that support strong teamwork in good seasons, as well as the skills needed to navigate conflict, stress, and difficult conversations when times are tougher. Gain usable tools to build emotional resilience and communicate more effectively across your business. Dr Foster's sessions are very highly rated by grain growers.



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Managing risk around infrastructure and machinery purchase decisions

Ben White from Kondinin Group explores the risks growers need to consider when making major infrastructure and machinery purchases, focusing on the practical questions that matter most: Do we really need this asset now? Will it genuinely improve efficiency or profit? What are the financial and operational downsides of not investing? And is buying, leasing, or contracting the lower-risk option? Ben will discuss considerations to help decision making in a challenging operating environment.



GUEST SPEAKER

BEN WHITE



GUEST SPEAKER

JARROD AMERY



GUEST SPEAKER

ANDREW WHITELAW

Grain price outlook, and global and domestic drivers

In recent years, there has been a huge uncertainty in grain markets, from the invasion of Ukraine to now Iran. But what are the experts seeing? Andrew Whitelaw from Episode3 discusses the issues and likely impacts.

Strategies for resilience and success in grain production, What does it take to build and maintain a successful farm business?

Forbes farmer and Nuffield Scholar Jarrod Amery, shares insights from his Nuffield Scholarship from leading farm businesses around the world on the common threads of success.

Biases that influence farm management decisions – how recognising them can help you make more balanced, informed choices

Rick Llewellyn (CSIRO) shares insights from the GRDC RiskWi\$e project on the behavioural biases that quietly shape everyday farm management decisions. How common thinking patterns can influence planning, investment, and risk assessment, often without you realising it. By recognising these biases, growers can make more balanced, informed choices that improve business resilience and decision making under uncertainty.



GUEST SPEAKER

RICK LLEWELLYN

Registration: 8:30am for a 9:00am start. Finish 2:40pm.

Cost: Free (registration essential for catering). Morning tea, lunch and workbook provided.

(Agenda subject to change)

To RSVP or register, or further information or agenda, please contact Andrea Mathers or Erica McKay on 02 9482 4930, email andrea@icanruralm.au or register online at www.icanrural.com.au



Scan the QR code to register or learn more.