



SPRING EDITION  
**2017**



# CROP ROTATION

## WHY SHORT ISN'T SWEET

How often can you say you “nailed it” in every paddock in a given season? Generally, there are paddocks that underperform for one reason or another. Whether it is due to soil physical or nutritional issues, diseases, pests or weeds, there is often a reason for it that could have been avoided with a better systems approach to a rotation.

The less area of a crop grown in a rotation, the better it can be grown. That is, the longer and more diverse a rotation is, the more suited a crop type can be for the conditions in a paddock. For example, it is commonly known that a wheat crop sown after a canola or lupin crop is better than wheat grown on wheat stubble. Taking that further, a wheat crop sown on canola stubble which was sown on lupin stubble will be better again. With a well-planned ten-year rotation, you can effectively be preparing a paddock for 9 years to go back to the same crop again. Over this period of time there will be disease, pest and weed reduction, even manipulation of stubble/mulch levels to suit the following crop.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

Crop rotation is a form of risk management via a number of avenues:

- Having crops sown, flowering or harvested at different times mitigates risk for adverse weather events. Less or smaller machinery can be used to cover the same area when sowing /harvest windows are wider.
- A more diverse cropping rotation spreads marketing risk.
- Growing pulse crops or a legume based pasture can reduce nitrogen input requirements, therefore reducing inputs required for the following crop.
- Having a pasture phase and running livestock allows for additional income streams.

### DISEASE MANAGEMENT

A long rotation in particular sequences will reduce the incidence of certain diseases through depriving pathogens of hosts. The longer non-host plants are grown in a paddock, the less a pathogen is able to reproduce, and the less inoculum is present to infect the following susceptible host crop. In contrast to this, hosts plants grown in consecutive years allows inoculum levels to increase putting the crop at risk of yield losses as well as extending the period required to break this disease cycle.

### WEED MANAGEMENT

A diverse rotation with extended periods between like crops is required to maximise the longevity of herbicide efficacy. In many cases we have seen the demise of Group B pre-emergent chemicals, ryegrass generally being resistant to this group nowadays. To prevent other



pre-emergent chemicals from being added to the list, we need to extend the length of time between using each group of active. By adding diverse crops to the rotation, a more diverse range of pre-emergent chemical use can be achieved.

Weeds become accustomed to growing under certain conditions. By growing crops at different times of year or including pastures in a rotation, reduces the repetitiveness of the weed control methods. This in turn reduces the chances of a weed becoming resistant to a chemical. For example, doing a knockdown with glyphosate in April/May every year not only promotes glyphosate resistance, it selects for later germinating weeds which emerge after the knockdown.

### SOIL PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

Using a crop to manipulate soil characteristics for the following crop can be done in many ways. Below are just a few.

- Growing a legume crop before canola will reduce the stubble load for the germinating canola crop, which will reduce the risk of slater or slug damage.
- Pulse crops or legume based pastures fix nitrogen for the following crop/s.
- Growing barley to produce high stubble loads for a long fallow through to a summer crop which thrives under these conditions.
- Pasture phases assist with building soil carbon, which enables higher nutrient holding capacity and increase the soils ability to mineralise nitrogen.

A long rotation doesn't suit all situations, particularly operations that are reliant on covering large areas in small timeframes. However, the long term sustainability of these operations may suffer due to a lack of diversity. Whether it is a weed problem that becomes unmanageable or a rundown of soil carbon or a number of other reasons, the productivity in real terms will be on a downward trend. A long and diverse rotation will assist with getting you on track to “nailing it” in every paddock every year.

**Contact our agronomy team to discuss further.**





## MORE MEAT IN THE BANK

### MAXIMISING MEAT QUALITY AND YIELD

How livestock are managed in the pre-transport and slaughter period has a significant impact on the net return obtained from these animals. Understanding how to maximise saleable yields is vital.

High levels of stress are experienced by livestock at times of transport, selling and slaughter. This stress has a huge potential economic impact on the net return from these animals, with up to 10% liveweight loss not being uncommon. Correctly preparing your stock prior to these events can limit these losses.

Pre-slaughter transport and handling stress is often compounded by rapid changes in feed, water and temperature. This triggers a series of major physiological changes in the animal – of which can cause noticeable economic and welfare implications, for both the producer and processors alike.

Muscle is meat, and the degree of an animals' physiological stress response will largely determine the yield, colour, eating and keeping qualities of the final product. In particular, stress is recognised as a key contributor to the development of dark cutting carcasses – leading to reduced MSA grading and profit losses.

Stress on cattle and sheep activates the sympathetic nervous system and triggers the release of abnormally high levels of stress hormones – known as the 'fight or flight' response. This also causes an increase in the activity level of muscle cells and the rate of muscle contraction. At a

cellular level, stress leads to the depletion of critical energy stores and disrupts the normal balance required to maintain tissue health and volume.

Issues such as dark cutting and carcass shrinkage cost producers large reductions in profit, as carcasses are condemned and/or do not grade. However, these losses can be significantly reduced by adopting a simple but specialised pre-transport and slaughter stress management nutrition system in the last 36 hours prior to transport. This ensures the depletion of critical nutrients are kept to a minimum, and the animals stay calmer, reducing stress response, and boosting your returns at the abattoir.

How will managing transport stress benefit your system? (Based on lambs)

**TRADERS:** Lambs need to hit the ground running straight away after purchase to be viable and profitable.

- Most trade lambs, after the stress of being yarded and transported, will lose up to 4kg liveweight in the first week.
- Preventing that loss gives weight gain from the start with no setback and lost time. This is particularly important in feedlot systems.

#### COST BENEFIT (LAMBS):

Prevent 4kg loss @ \$5.50/kg =	\$22 gain/hd
Cost of treatment (1 week of treatment) =	\$1.42/hd
Return on investment =	\$20.58/hd

**LONG DISTANCE TRANSPORT:** Lambs transported long distances to slaughter (>200kms) exhibit most benefit from managing stress:

- Reduction in carcass shrinkage – generally by 3-4%
- Less dark cutting due to decreased stress = higher MSA grading.

#### LET'S LOOK AT THE NUMBERS:

25kg carcass weight where 4% =	1kg carcass weight
\$5.50 per kg - \$0.61 stress treatment =	\$4.89/hd
Return on investment =	801%

Results in cattle are very similar, making this management an essential step in the pre-transport & slaughter period. Animals stay calmer, reducing stress response, and boosting your returns at the abattoir or sale.

**Contact our Animal Production team to find out more.**



# GUY WEBB

## TEDx TALK

One of our resident agronomists, Guy Webb, recently spoke at TEDx held in Sydney on the 16th June 2017. Guy is a passionate advocate for capturing soil carbon, and his efforts haven't gone unnoticed. Not only did he talk in front of a crowd of 4,200 people, he also won the People's Choice for the talk and now has received a marketing fund from Change.org to fund his soil carbon project, SoilCQuest.

**Congratulations Guy, this is a fantastic achievement!**



### Indications\*:

- ◆ For the treatment and 100 day control of sensitive strains of gastrointestinal roundworms and lungworms in sheep.
- ◆ Reduces pasture contamination with worm eggs for at least 100 days.
- ◆ Provides a selenium and cobalt supplement for sheep raised in selenium and/or cobalt deficient areas.
- ◆ Significantly delays the development of resistance.

The **DYNAMAX Controlled Release Capsule** provides treatment against established infections of, and prevents reinfection for 100 days with, susceptible strains of the following endoparasites.

### Gastrointestinal Roundworms:

Barber's pole worm — (*Haemonchus contortus*\*)  
 Small brown stomach worm — (*Teladorsagia circumcincta*\*, *T. trifurcata*\*)  
 Stomach hair worm — (*Trichostrongylus axei*\*)  
 Black scour worm — (*T. colubriformis*\*, *T. vitrinus*\*)  
 Small intestinal worm — (*Cooperia curthei*, *C. oncophora*)  
 Thin necked intestinal worm — (*Nematodirus spathiger*\*, *N. filicollis*\*)  
 Large mouth bowel worm — (*Chabertia ovina*)  
 Nodule worm — (*Oesophagostomum columbianum*)  
 Large bowel worm — (*O. venulosum*)  
 Whipworm — (*Trichuris spp*)  
 Intestinal threadworm — (*Strongyloides papillosus*)

\*Including inhibited L4 larvae

**Lungworms** — (*Protostrongylus rufescens*, *Dictyocaulus filaria*)

The capsule also prevents pasture contamination with nematode eggs for at least 100 days.

### Trace Element Provision

**DYNAMAX Controlled Release Capsules** also provide a selenium and cobalt supplement for sheep raised in selenium and/or cobalt deficient areas. Mineral supplementation will last for at least 210 days for selenium and for 100 days for cobalt.

### Dosage and Administration

One capsule per animal weighing 40 kg to 80 kg.  
 Dose animals over 80 kg with 2 capsules each.

Liveweight	Dose	100 capsule pack treats	500 capsule pack treats
40 - 80 kg	1 capsule	100	500
Above 80 kg	2 capsules	50	250

Available in a 500 capsule pail (5 bags x 100 capsules):

**WITHHOLDING PERIODS\***

**Meat:** 125 days  
**ESI (Export Slaughter Interval):** 164 days

### The Powerful Benefits of Capsule Technology:

- ◆ Peace of mind for farmers knowing they have provided 100 days of broad-spectrum parasite control.
- ◆ Help weaners reach target weights faster — earlier sale of lambs.
- ◆ Reduced parasite contamination of lambing paddocks by treated ewes.
- ◆ Better utilisation of pastures post weaning — cleaner pastures.
- ◆ Prevention of dag formation.
- ◆ Less crutching of ewes and lambs.
- ◆ Reduced tail enders in mob.

### A Single DYNAMAX Treatment Can:

- ◆ Ensure energy and protein allowances are efficiently channelled into milk production, improving ewe condition and liveweight, and not wasted fighting off worm infections.
- ◆ Ewes will better utilise available feed, more effectively feed their lambs, and require less weight gain to reach optimal joining weight after weaning.
- ◆ Reduce pasture contamination by removing existing worm burdens and preventing reinfection from newly ingested larvae for 100 days.
- ◆ Ensure lambs get the most benefit from available ewe milk whilst delaying and minimising their exposure to larvae on pasture.



\*See product label for full claim details. Merial Australia Pty Ltd, Level 6, 79 George Street, Parramatta NSW 2150 (ABN 53 071 187 285). \*VONMEC Maximizer and OPTAMAX are registered trademarks and DYNAMAX is a trademark of Merial. \*EXTENDER SeCo is a trademark of Argenta Manufacturing Limited. ©2010 Merial Limited. All rights reserved. DYNA-10-004



## Next Generation

**COMBINATION SHEEP CAPSULES**

## EARLY WEANING

### WHAT'S THE BENEFIT?

With feed prices increasing, keeping a dam and progeny unit together can be an expensive exercise. However, there is a way to save on feed costs, maximise productivity and have progeny that are very efficient at converting their feed to weight - early weaning is the answer.

Past 17kg of live weight for lambs (at which most are approximately 6-7 weeks old) and 140-150kg for calves (approximately 5-7 months of age), young stock doesn't require milk from their mothers to survive. At these weights, progeny are able to consume enough high quality feed to produce a decent growth rate. Past this point, milk actually inhibits the development of the rumen.

#### NUTRITION

Excelling rumen development in young animals via early weaning presents the producer with the opportunity for influencing growth rates, lifetime feed efficiency, stocking rate potential, and reproductive efficiency in dams.

The more papillae (projections from the rumen wall that absorb nutrients) that develop, the greater the surface area that rumen has, and the more efficient that animal will be at converting feed to weight. Feeding starch to young animals is key to stimulate the growth of papillae in high numbers. The picture bellows demonstrates the significant difference between young animals that are early weaned and not:



## CONSIDER THIS

It takes 40% less feed to maintain a dam and her progeny separately, than it does to keep them together.

What does this mean for your bottom line...?

#### HEALTH

It is very important to ensure that early weaning incorporates a sound and complete health program. Nutrition and health go hand in hand, and one cannot be achieved without the other. At weaning, young stock must be given a booster 6in1 clostridial vaccination, a vitamin B12 vaccination (which is now available as a combination with 6in1), a vitamin ADE injection, and a drench. This ensures that the animal has no challenge on their immunity and health, leading to improved efficiency.

When managed correctly with the right nutrition, health and system, early weaning can deliver both economic and production benefits that far outweigh 'traditional' weaning. What would lifetime feed efficiency, higher and consistent weaner growth rates, the potential the increase stocking rates, and greater reproductive efficiency in dams, mean for your enterprise's profit and productivity?

**Contact our Animal Production team to find out more**





Your CRT Local Bloke knows...

# Spring Savings

Visit Your Local AgriWest Store for Great Savings

## FORBES

6-8 Camp Street, Forbes NSW  
p: 02 6851 4200  
f: 02 6851 4338  
e: forbes@agriwestrural.com.au

## PARKES

20 Clarinda Street, Parkes NSW  
p: 02 6862 1066  
f: 02 6862 1583  
e: parkes@agriwestrural.com.au

## PEAK HILL

110 Caswell Street, Peak Hill NSW  
p: 02 6869 1449  
f: 02 6869 1592  
e: peakhill@agriwestrural.com.au

## BATHURST

142 Russell Street, Bathurst NSW  
p: 02 6331 1144  
f: 02 6331 2624  
e: bathurst@agriwestrural.com.au

## HUSQVARNA LC 19A

Purchase any product from the Ridleys range at an AgriWest store between 1st October 2017 - 17th December 2017 and go in the draw to win a Husqvarna LC19A lawn mower valued at \$749.

One mower to be won at each store!

**\$749.00**  
Rec. retail price  
incl GST

Husqvarna



**DISCLAIMERS:** AgriWest Pty Ltd ABN 29 076 454 192 (AgriWest) has produced this promotional material for your participating AgriWest store. This promotion starts on Sunday 1 October 2017 and finishes on Sunday 17 December 2017. Bonus offers promoted in this material are only redeemable through participating AgriWest stores for product purchased through AgriWest. Bonuses and special offers are available only while stocks last. All pricing referred to in this catalogue is GST inclusive. For all other prices, please refer to your participating AgriWest store. To the maximum extent permitted by law, AgriWest gives no express or implied warranty in relation to any of the bonus products (prizes or items) offered in this catalogue and will not accept any return on these products. Please refer to your AgriWest store for pricing applicable on discounted products. Not all advertised products are stocked or available in all stores.

AgriWest  
A RURALCO PARTNER



## BAYER COMMUNITY GRANTS

We love being able to give back to our communities that support us. Thanks to our partnership with Bayer Crops Science, we are able to do just that.

This year, we chose to donate to the Forbes Auto Club and the Peak Hill Golf Club - two great clubs that are very deserving due to the great work they do in our towns.



## MARIST UNDER 7'S

The photo captures our Parkes Branch Manager Mitch Leckie, with the Parkes Marist Junior Rugby League Under 7's team who we are proud to be sponsoring this year.... such a cracking team of kids!

## FACEBOOK RECAP

Looking for more insights? Our Facebook page is a great way to stay informed. Regular product information and specials, seasonal insights, community events and branch updates – it's all there at your fingertips! In the last couple of months we posted about the Bayer Community Support Program, State of Origin - Mars promotion, the Chep pallet return promotion, Lupins, Water Tank installation, Sclerotinia and much more... Check us out and share your thoughts!



AgriWest is also on Instagram! **Visit us at** @agriwestrural



## STAFF PROFILE



### BEN WILSON

**NAME:** Ben Wilson

**NICKNAME:** Willo

**ROLE:** Merchandise assistant

**STORE:** Agriwest Peak Hill

**TIME AT AGRIWEST:** 2 weeks

**HOMETOWN:** Peak Hill

**INDUSTRY HISTORY:** Mixed farming and Sheep scanning

**INTERESTS:** Fishing and spending time with the Kids

**FAVOURITE FOOTBALL TEAM?:** Manly

**FAVOURITE BAND/SINGER?:** Imagine Dragons

**FAVOURITE MOVIE?:** The Equaliser

**WHAT ARE YOU ENJOYING MOST ABOUT YOUR ROLE WITH AGRIWEST?:**  
Being able to provide a good service to farmers in my home town

## STATE OF ORIGIN COMPETITION WINNERS

We would like to congratulate our four lucky winners from our State of Origin competition. Our winners, John Boyd, Todd Clements, John Bliss and Stirling Francis all received an official State of Origin NSW Blues jersey, scarf, cap as well as a promotional ball.



**JOHN BOYD**  
PARKES WINNER



**TODD CLEMENTS**  
BATHURST WINNER



**JOHN BLISS**  
PEAK HILL WINNER



**STIRLING FRANCIS**  
FORBES WINNER