



Sugar Research
Australia

eNewsletter

We know it is the busiest time of the year with the crushing season now under way but there are still some SRA events on which we hope will grab your attention.



Round 3 funding now open for the Burdekin Irrigation Project

The call is out for sugarcane growers in the Burdekin who want to improve their irrigation management practices, and enhance productivity and sustainability.

Woods Pastoral farm manager Chris Richards (pictured left with SRA Project Officer Armin Wessell) was a recipient of funding in the first round of the Burdekin Irrigation Project (BIP) in 2021 and said the project has helped improve the farm's management systems.

“After the BIP team made their assessment, we installed a computerised irrigation system to automate the water change process. As a result, we’ve seen positive outcomes that have allowed remote irrigation changes and shutdowns, reduced labour costs and increased on-farm water-use efficiency,” Chris said.

For more information or to express your interest in this opportunity for Burdekin sugarcane farmers, contact SRA’s Project Officer Armin Wessel at Brandon on 0436 937 555 or Terry Granshaw on 0457 650 181.

- Completed EOI forms are required by Friday 8 July 2022.
- Please note this may be the last call for expressions of interest.

[More about the BIP and the EOI form](#)



StoolZippa UV demonstration

Growers in Mackay are invited to an on-farm SRA/MAPS event next Monday evening, 27 June, from 5.30-6.30pm designed to show how to improve imidacloprid (Confidor) applications using a StoolZippa.

Because it is difficult to see the liquid imidacloprid in the soil after application we will be using a fluorescent dye added to the imidacloprid solution to show the location of the applied imidacloprid. As with all machines, a StoolZippa must be set up correctly to do its job. The evening’s event aims to show you what happens when the spike closing wheels aren’t set in their optimum position.

[RSVP](#)



Gearing up for Burdekin Field Day

Join us for presentations, demonstrations and stalls hosted by Sugar Research Australia, Burdekin Productivity Services and Farmacist at SRA's Brandon Station on Friday 15 July.

Interact with researchers, extension staff and the community by visiting the stalls on site. The action-packed program will include a demonstration of drone-based phenotyping for variety development.

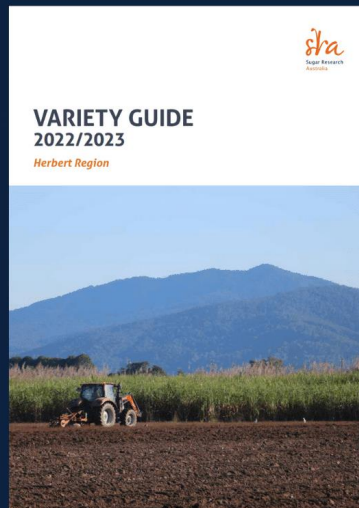
[See the full program](#)



SRA Board meets in far north

SRA's Board of Directors has continued its series of regional meetings in sugarcane districts, meeting at Meringa in Far North Queensland this week. Directors and members of SRA's executive team also attended a stakeholder event at Mourilyan, and met with local growers and milling representatives over lunch to discuss local issues. The Board's next visit is scheduled for Tully during July.

Above: Peter Russo, SRA Board Director, Audit and Risk Committee (left) with Joe Marano, Canegrowers Vice Chairman. Thanks for the hospitality, Joe.



AVAILABLE NOW ONLINE print versions coming soon ...

New variety guides now available online for the Herbert and Southern regions

Printed copies will be mailed to our distribution list in the coming weeks. Watch out for yours in the mail or contact your local SRA station for a copy. Note: there will be no NSW Variety Guide produced this year.

[View the 2022/23 Variety Guides online](#)



SIX EASY STEPS in Mossman and the Murray

In recent weeks, growers and advisors from the Murray, Kennedy, Ingham, Mossman and Tablelands have gathered for a SIX EASY STEPS workshop facilitated by SRA Agronomist

Danielle Skocaj (pictured above at the MRT7 Workshop). If Danielle has one message its Test, Test, Test and yes she's talking about soil but the day involved much more than that.

With advisors attending having experience ranging from nutrient management to plant pathology, growers were able to talk one-on-one with these experts and discuss their farming practices with each other over lunch.

In a feedback survey. participants were asked what their next steps after the workshop would be. "Test more – keep fine tuning," said one. "Follow up with Danielle," said another.

SIX EASY STEPS



Please map your job in agriculture!

The Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment has partnered with the National Careers Institute to develop a digital map of traditional, new, and emerging career opportunities in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries.

Please take 10 minutes to complete the survey (link is below) and help others discover a rewarding new career.

Please do it today!



Search on for two new SRA Board Members

Sugar Research Australia is seeking to appoint two Non-Executive Directors to join its board. The board is required to have a balance of skills across a number of key selection criteria.

See the full expression of interest advertisement for more information about the required skills and experience (button below). Expressions of interest close at 5pm on Friday 24 June 2022.

[EOI Board Positions SRA](#)



Farm cash incomes up, says ABARES

Favourable conditions and booming commodity prices are driving up livestock and cropping farm cash incomes, according to the latest ABARES figures.

Cropping farm cash earnings are up an estimated 28 per cent to average \$619,000 per farm in 2021-22. The largest 10 per cent of broadacre farms produced around half of total output.

[Read more](#)



Check out the SRA job board

Would you like to work with us? Current vacancies exist for:

- [Casual Laboratory Assistant/Field Hand – Meringa](#)
- [Seasonal/Casual Field Hand Opportunities – Mackay](#)
- [Variety Officer Bundaberg – Fixed Term](#)

A full list of vacancies can be found here:

[All SRA vacancies](#)



Have you planned for the future of your agribusiness?

[Queensland Farmers' Federation](#) and [Jobs Queensland](#) have launched Workforce Planning Connect, a set of workforce planning tools designed to support small to medium-sized agribusinesses with building a sustainable future.

The tools are free and cover topics like understanding the benefits of workforce planning, building knowledge, and tools to grow capability in this area.

[Download the tools](#)

SRA Upcoming Events

See SRA at upcoming regional shows and events:

[Mackay StoolZippa UV demonstration - 27 June](#)

[Innisfail Show - 7-8 July](#)

[Burdekin SRA Field Day - 15 July](#)

[Sarina Show - 30-31 July](#)

[See details of all SRA events](#)

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