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Sugar Research
Australia

eNewsletter

Friday 26 May 2023

It's that time of the year again! Plenty to see at our Field Days and Workshops with three scheduled for next week in the Herbert, the Burdekin and northern NSW. Plenty of interest to read in this year's Variety Guides, too.



Field Days + Variety Guides = busy fortnight!

Presentations, displays, tours and friendly chats with your SRA experts are promised at Field Days in the Herbert and Burdekin districts next week (30 and 31 May respectively), along with 'hot off the press' copies of the 2023/24 Variety Guides.

When better to head to your local SRA Station and get to know the SRA team working on your local District Productivity Plan? – for your benefit.

Left: Variety Officer Herbert Juan Briceno and seasonal worker Sonia Balanzategui are excited to have the 2023/24 Burdekin Variety Guide in their hands.

They look forward to welcoming you to the Burdekin Station next week.

For the Field Day agendas and to RSVP click on the relevant button.

[Herbert Field Day
Tuesday 30 May](#)

[Burdekin Field Day
Wednesday 31 May](#)

Get your 2023 Variety Guide

Variety Guides for 2023/24 are now available online for the Burdekin, Northern and Herbert districts. Hard copies of the guides will be landing in levy payers' mailboxes any day now. If you don't receive yours, please contact your local District Manager or Variety Officer. Central, Southern and NSW guides will be available soon.

[2023/24 Burdekin, Herbert and Northern Variety Guides now online](#)

NSW advanced herbicide workshop next Wed 31 May

If you'd like to get a more in-depth view about why your herbicide did not work as well as you'd hoped or why it caused damage to your cane, please don't miss this half-day advanced herbicide workshop in northern NSW next week.

SRA's Weed Scientist Emilie Fillols and representatives from Nufarm and Croplands invite you to learn more about effective weed management.



(Above): Weed Scientist Emilie Fillols presented the advanced herbicides workshop at Rocky Point this month. More workshops are planned.

[Register for NSW Advanced Herbicide Workshop](#)



A bus to Mareeba - thanks to the Murray project

Tully and Murray growers escaped this week's Far North rain for a day to visit the Rotary FNQ Field Days in Mareeba. North Queensland's largest agricultural field day did not disappoint, with a range of exhibitors and events showcasing the latest technologies and new products.

Growers enjoyed seeing a huge variety of ag machinery, which included an autonomous tractor and spray drone display.

The trip was organised through the Mobilising the Murray project by SRA Agronomists, Nancy Rincon and Erin Headon and enjoyed by all - including the happy faces above (*from left to right*) Roray Zamora, Cameron Flegler, Len Collins, Ray Zamora and Leo Pennisi.

[More about the Mobilising the Murray Project](#)

Achieving good cleaning to boost harvesting results

SRA Project Officer Matt Schembri in Mackay (pictured) has some ideas about optimising cane trash separation to improve harvesting results which growers might like to consider.



[Read about achieving good cleaning](#)



Southern RSD management booklet launched

The Ratoon Stunting Disease (RSD) Extension Package (pictured left) for Growers and Contractors for the Southern Region was launched last week at the Rocky Point Productivity Day.

Other highlights included a presentation from Machinery Specialist Phil Patane on *Harvest Mate*. District Manager Southern Lisa Devereaux discussed the [District Productivity Plan](#) for Rocky Point while Agronomist John Pannitz, Morrisey Ag, presented results of district surveys for Pachymetra and RSD and Molecular Pathologist Chuong Ngo outlined the latest diagnostics for and management of RSD.

[Download your Southern Region RSD Extension Package booklet](#)



Have you checked your weather forecast?

With the crushing season upon us, now is a good time to review the weather outlook for your region. The Agri-Climate Outlooks program is delivered by the Bureau of Meteorology and designed to provide the industry with tailored weather and climate information for growers.

Agri-Climate Outlooks is a four-year program to improve and enhance seasonal outlook services provided to Australian farmers, fishers and foresters. Sugar Research Australia is an investor in the cross-sectoral program which is facilitated through Agricultural Innovation Australia (AIA) and co-funded by ten rural research and development corporations.

The Bureau is keen to hear your feedback on the forecast's content and format – send your feedback to agriculture@bom.qld.gov.au

The latest Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook briefing from the Bureau of Meteorology is now available for your region: Issued 25 May 2023

1. Far North - [Video click here](#) & [PDF click here](#)
2. North - [Video click here](#) & [PDF click here](#)
3. Burdekin - [Video click here](#) & [PDF click here](#)
4. Central - [Video click here](#) & [PDF click here](#)
5. Southern (QLD) - [Video click here](#) & [PDF click here](#)
6. Southern (NSW) - [Video click here](#) & [PDF click here](#)

Jobs available in the sugar milling sector

The Australian Sugar Milling Council (ASMC) has launched a new digital campaign to coincide with the start of the annual sugarcane crushing season in Queensland. This highlights the training and apprenticeship opportunities available throughout regional Queensland and the industry's significant economic and social contributions to the State.

[ASMC campaign - Training and apprenticeship opportunities](#)



APPS Qld Seminar Series email
Rebecca Roach

RSD focus of keynote address

The keynote presentation at the Plant Pathology Seminar hosted by the Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS) yesterday was SRA's Molecular Pathologist, Dr Chuong Ngo (pictured right), who discussed the management of Ratoon Stunting Disease (RSD) in sugarcane.

He was joined by Moutoshi Chakraborty (pictured left) who is a PhD Candidate at Griffith University funded by SRA. She spoke about the advanced technology available for the detection of bacterial disease of sugarcane.

The APPS Queensland Seminar Series is held multiple times a year at a different location in the State to present the plant pathology research currently underway.



Jobs available at SRA

Join our highly dedicated and passionate people working on interesting and industry-critical activities to deliver economic, social and environmental outcomes for the sugar industry and surrounding communities. We embrace diversity and seek to attract, develop and retain the highest calibre talent regardless of gender.

- Plant Breeding Technician (Crossing) - Meringa
- Plant Breeding Technician - Meringa
- Casual Field Hands - Meringa
- Pathology Technician - Woodford.

Are you an SRA member? Do we have your correct membership details?

As a sugarcane levy payer you are entitled to membership of Sugar Research Australia,

Being an SRA member ensures you have easy access to the latest information and updates from across the industry.

If you are a member, it is important we have your correct postal address details so you will receive our printed information such as our quarterly *Cane Matters* magazine and *Annual Report*.



TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS
SCAN THE QR CODE -
OR GO TO THIS LINK
- [LETS STAY CONNECTED.](#)

[If you're not a member, find out how to become one HERE](#)

Events

Herbert Station Field Day - 8.00am - 3.00pm, Herbert Station, Tuesday 30 May

Burdekin Station Field Day - 7.00am - 1.00pm, Burdekin Station, Wednesday 31 May

Advanced Workshop on Knockdown Herbicides - 8.00am - 1.30pm, Harwood Community Hall, Wednesday 31 May

Hear the latest in variety development in FNQ - various venues & times, Mareeba, Mossman, Babinda & Gordonvale, 7-8 June

DATE CLAIMER - Bundaberg Station Field Day - Thursday, 20 July - [book today](#)

Industry

Free Train-the-Trainers on-line workshops are now being offered in June. RSVP by 31 May. These are for service provider and extension staff to help growers manage the risks posed by weather and climatic events. The Forewarned is Forearmed (FWFA) Train-the-Trainer workshops are the final stage of a five-year project that saw the Bureau of Meteorology develop the five new climate tools. SRA worked with the team to identify contexts where the tools are relevant. There are three time slots to choose from - download more information below or contact Esmée de Loeff, edellooff@pinionadvisory.com M: 0473 676 613.



[FWFA Train the Trainer online workshops June 2023](#)

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