



Sugar Research
Australia

eNewsletter

May 2024

Don't miss the events SRA has planned for the industry over the next month, before the harvest gets fully underway.



SRA/DAF Southern District Bus Trip - a winner for growers

Growers who were on the SRA/DAF Southern District Bus Trip last week have already signed up for the SRA/IPL bus tour next Tuesday (*details above*). These two action-packed bus trips have been organised to refresh the annual Field Day which is usually held at Bundaberg Station each year.

SRA partnered with the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) and Bundaberg Sugar Services this week to create an engaging full day program for growers.

The program included: a new variety farm walk & talk with Variety Development Manager Southern & NSW Dr Roy Parfitt (*pictured above*), and (*below, clockwise from top right*) a demonstration of brix results achieved for cane stalks using a Micro NIR instrument; how farmers can test their nitrogen requirements after a legume crop using DAF's Soil Post Legume Nitrogen Application Tool (SPLAT); BBQ lunch at SRA Bundaberg; a tour of a tillage trial site; review of the Bundaberg Sugar Services' One-Eye-Setts program; and visit to a soybean fallow demonstration site.





Workshop on low-cost automated irrigation for Central growers

IrriSAT launch - free online irrigation scheduling tool

- 8 am - 1 pm, Thursday 30 May
- Boardroom, CANEGROWERS Mackay, 120 Wood Street

Agricultural Economist John Eden, CANEGROWERS Mackay, has been working with the developers of IrriSAT to improve its capabilities and ease of use for local cane growers. Join the workshop to learn about the benefits of this free online irrigation scheduling tool and how to get started with it. Please bring a laptop or tablet to be able to log into IrriSAT during the workshop. Staff will be available to help you get underway.

The program will also include updates on

- CANEGROWERS Mackay's Irrigation Project
- IrrigWeb
- Irrigation Rapid Assessment Tool (i-RAT).

* Light lunch provided. *

Our thanks to CANEGROWERS Mackay for partnering with us for this event.

RSVP Dylan Wedel T 0490 029 387 E dwedel@sugarresearch.com.au



Webinar Series

From Barley to Sugarcane, Challenges and Prospects

Dr Jason Eglinton - SRA General Manager, Variety Development

31 May 2pm AEST

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SRA invites you to hear from General Manager Variety Development Dr Jason Eglinton about the technical and tactical changes made to the sugarcane breeding program over the past seven years, together with an assessment of the current state of the program and planned new initiatives.

[For more information and to register](#)



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HELP US TO HELP YOU WITH FUTURE STRATEGIES FOR WEED CONTROL

Complete the online survey to help SRA prioritise research investment

The SRA Weed Mapping Survey project aims to deliver anonymised data about the number of major weed species, their distribution and severity across the sugarcane industry. Identifying the scale and benchmarking the prevalent weed issues that impact the industry in each district will help SRA prioritise research investment for specific weed problems.

How to get started with the SRA Weed Mapping Survey

Click on the link below and follow the steps to get started. SRA recommends that growers use a tablet, laptop or computer to complete this mapping survey. Thanks to all growers for participating.

[Weed mapping survey - more information here](#)



The banner features a background image of a lush green sugarcane field with a forested hill in the distance under a blue sky. In the top left corner, the SRA logo is displayed in a white script font, with 'Sugar Research Australia' written in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. The central text, 'FOR THE WIN-WIN IN WEED CONTROL ON YOUR FARM', is written in large, bold, white, all-caps sans-serif font. At the bottom left, a teal-colored bar contains the text 'Complete our survey for your chance to WIN a drum of NuFarm Dropzone' in white. On the right side of this bar, there is a small image of a white plastic drum of NuFarm Dropzone herbicide.



The annual SRA Meringa Station Field Day was well attended by growers last month in Gordonvale. Watch the video and hear from Far North Queensland growers about the day's activities.

[Watch video](#)

10th Anniversary Research Fund - progress

The 10th Anniversary Research Fund Call will provide \$16 million over the next three-four years to foster greater collaboration across the whole research sector; build more engagement with and delivery to industry; and to increase research and development activity in the industry.

Research submissions that will go forward to Stage 2 of the Call (full proposals) have now been identified, with new projects expected to commence by September this year.

CANCELLED SRA Disease measurement & management workshop

We regret to advise that the workshop on disease measurement and management set down for next Friday 24 May at CANEGROWERS Innisfail has been CANCELLED.

Save the date: Rocky Point Growers Annual Information Day

Rocky Point growers - don't miss the 2024 Information Day which will be held this year on Thursday 6 June from 10 am to 2 pm.

The packed schedule will include expert presentations, practical demonstrations and information updates for the rest of the year.

Date: 10 am - 2 pm, Tuesday 4 June 2024

Venues: 10 am - Woongoolba Hall, Stapylton Jacobs Well Road, and from 1 pm -199 Norwell Road, Norwell

Please RSVP by 3 June to Kate Armitage, CANEGROWERS Rocky Point.

E kate_armitage@canegrowers.com.au

Watch this space for program updates

Research awards and scholarship funding rounds open

SRA's research awards and postgraduate scholarships are now open for applications.

Research Mission Manager Dr Muyiwa Olayemi said the research awards enabled participants to undertake small projects which demonstrated clear benefits to the sugarcane industry. These projects could be used to develop research skills and/or to explore new and innovative ideas about issues in the industry.

The Sugar Industry Postgraduate Research Scholarships (SPRS) enable qualified graduates to undertake Research Doctorate or Research Masters study and to facilitate research and training in areas of value to the Australian sugarcane industry. The scholarships are tenable at Australian universities and institutions for postgraduate research study.

Applications for both programs are open until 31 August 2024.

Research Awards 2024/2025

Postgraduate Research Scholarship funding round

Current vacancies

We are recruiting for the following positions:

- [Casual Field Hand - Woodford](#)
- [Casual Field Hands - Mackay](#)

[Check for more jobs](#)



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