

Forum Program

Innovation in Agriculture - Opportunities and Constraints



	Description	Presenter
8:00 am	Registrations open	
8:30 am	Welcome	Dr Michael Robertson, of CSIRO, and Forum Organising Committee Chair
8:45 am	Opening	Hon Ken Baston Minister for Agriculture and Food
Topic 1: Technology development and its uptake; innovations by producers Chair: Dr James Fisher, of Desiree Futures		
9:00 am	The nature of the adoption process in agriculture	Professor David Pannell, UWA Head of School of Agricultural and Resource Economics
9:30 am	Grain producer's perspective – the value of peer learning and benchmarking in driving practice change	Chris Reichstein, Esperance grain grower and Nuffield Scholar 2014
9:50 am	Livestock producer's outlook – how I have innovated on my farm	Craig Forsyth, Dongara cattle producer and Mingenew-Irwin Group Chair
10:10 am	Cropping farmer's point of view – the role of grower groups in fostering innovation	Erin Green, cropping farmer from the Northern Agricultural Region
10:30 am	Questions for panel members	
10:45 am	Morning tea	
Topic 2: How science fosters innovation; the role of RDCs Chair: Dr Kelly Pearce, of Murdoch University		
11:15 am	Consultant's view - how does innovation happen on farm?	Danielle England, agricultural consultant and RIRDC winner 2013
11:35 am	How does science foster innovation?	Dr David Ireland, CSIRO General Manager of International, Precincts and Innovation Systems
12:05 pm	R&D investment to drive innovation and industry growth - issues for funders and researchers	Mark Sweetingham, Department of Agriculture and Food WA – Grains Industry Executive Director
12:25 pm	Questions to the panel	
12:40 pm	Lunch and displays	
Topic 3: What are the constraints to innovation, and how serious? Chair: Prof. Bob Belford, of Curtin University		
1:30pm	Reaping the benefits of innovation - the Australian cotton industry story	David Hamilton, AIA Chair
1:50 pm	Public sector Rural Development and Extension (RD&E) - is it fostering innovation or getting in the way?	Mick Keogh OAM, Australian Farm Institute Executive Director
2:20 pm	Building the evidence and the rigour – combining science and experience	Dr Bill Ryan, GRDC western panel member
2:40 pm	Questions for the panel	
3:00 pm	Afternoon tea	
3:30 pm	Breakout groups to discuss principles and recommendations	
4:15 pm	Findings and conclusions	
4:30 pm	Close of forum	Emeritus Professor Lynette Abbott, of UWA, and AIA (WA Division) President
4:45 pm	Cocktail function	Short presentation by AEGIC Chief Executive Officer David Fienberg