



POPPY GROWERS TASMANIA INC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 27th June 2019

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Presented by

Philip Loane

Proudly sponsored by



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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my President's Report for the period January to December 2018.

Given that we have a full agenda, particularly with the industry forum – “Poppy Growing Essentials – From the Ground Up” scheduled to commence at 6:00 pm it is not my intention to provide a detailed report as a number of important matters will be covered during this forum.

Instead I would like to provide a summary of the extensive range of matters managed by the association on your behalf over the duration of the reporting period.

- Tasmanian Fire Service
 - *Machinery Operation Guidelines on Days of Total Fire Ban*

We did not lose any harvesting time during 2018 and only one day in 2019 due to a total fire ban. An excellent outcome in my view and congratulations to the Tasmanian Fire Service.

- Submission – National Heavy Vehicle Regulations
- Submission – Changes to Codeine Prescriptions
- Submission – Gene Technology Regulator
- PACB – New License Conditions
- Meeting – Australian Ambassador to United Nations
- TasTAFE – Centre of Excellence
- UTAS – Agricultural Science Degree
- TAPG – Precision Agriculture Project
- Submission – Water Management Planning
- Bio-Security – Inter Governmental Agreement
- Meeting - with state Treasurer prior to State Budget
- Rabobank – Presentation re Poppies
- DPIPW – Agricultural Competitiveness
- Poppy Companies – Sowing Agreements
- Cost of Poppy Production – Pro-Advice
- Systemic Mildew Research

- Tasmanian Racing Integrity – Contaminated Horse Feed
- Research and discussions with UN, US and Australia regarding overuse of prescription medication
- Global Media always wanting to do sensational stories re- Tasmanian Poppy Industry
- Legislative Council re: Tasmanian Irrigation
- Attend to roadside regrowth issues
- Meeting with Federal Minister for Small Business
- Arranged for new Minister Barnett to inspect harvest
- Government Grants – Productivity
- Contract Negotiations
- Drilling Inspections
- Harvest Inspections
- Follow up on any/all grower concerns regarding poppy crop, i.e:
 - Lontrel-Plant Back
 - Seed contracts
 - Assay testing
 - Eve – low assay
 - Morphine – low assay
- In A Capsule – Official Newsletter
- Attend United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs Meeting
- Manage Poppy Growers Tasmania Inc in a professional manner. At all times in accordance with policy and direction of the Committee of Management.

I am sure you would agree, a very full agenda.

In closing, I have some thank you's...

I would particularly like to thank all the company field officers and contractors for their valuable advice, assistance and professionalism in the manner in which they go about their respective businesses and deliver their services.

Also the PACB field officers for their diligence and cooperation when administering our world class security procedures.

All are an essential part of this vanguard global industry.

To the Committee of Management for their commitment and support over the past 12 months; it is not always an easy or pleasant task, particularly when there is a need for a frank and robust discussion on behalf of our members.

I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to new Committee members Phillip Partridge and Stuart Coles and in doing so recognise the contribution and support of retiring members Jerrod Nichols and Corey Spencer.

And last but not least to our growers, thank you for your ongoing support.

My best wishes for a successful 2019/2020 Season.

Finally I am pleased with the outcome of the 2019/2020 contract negotiations.

I know we still face numerous challenges in the global market place, however the positive outcomes for 2019/2020 provide me with confidence that better times lay ahead and I remain totally committed to this world class Tasmanian industry.

A Tasmanian poppy industry that has and will continue to be at the vanguard of global poppy production.

With that, I would like to Move that my report be accepted.