

UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS— SYSTEMATIC DOWNEY MILDEW—POPPY EXPO

UNCND

The 60th SESSION OF THE United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held in Vienna from 13th to 17th March 2017. Our new Executive Officer, Andrew Cameron, and our outgoing CEO, Keith Rice, joined with me in what proved to be a demanding but rewarding number of days.

We were able to meet with various stakeholders including representatives from the major pharmaceutical companies and processing companies, delegates from other poppy growing countries, the International Narcotic Control Board (INCB) and relevant Department of Health officials.

The 2016 INCB Report indicates that supply is closely aligned with demand with approximately 15—18 months supply on hand. The INCB estimates that 12 months supply is adequate safety stock to meet global seasonal fluctuations.

The INCB-estimates for the coming season, indicates an increase in Australia's growing area for 2017-18, however this will be determined once we commence negotiations with the processing companies over the next few weeks.

We will provide a comprehensive report to growers following our meetings.

Systemic Downy Mildew

I am also pleased to announce that we have entered into an ARC Collaborative Research Agreement with UTAS/TIA, the State Government, the United States Department of Agriculture, Tasmanian Alkaloids and SunPharma, which will look at developing a risk management system for systemic downy mildew in poppies. PGT will contribute \$50,000 over the next four years to this project.

This four year research project will build upon the work previously undertaken. The projected outcomes will look at how to predict outbreaks, a soil testing protocol, and how to monitor airborne spores.

Unfortunately, one of the processing companies withdrew its support at the last minute and I would like to thank Tasmanian Alkaloids and SunPharma for picking up the shortfall in funding created by this late withdrawal which will allow the programme to proceed.

Poppy Expo

Overleaf is the flyer for the Poppy Expo which will be run as part of the Precision Agriculture Expo 2017 to be held on Thursday 20 April in Deloraine. This will include an update on the poppy mildew research, a look at the future of the industry, and what is best practice.

I encourage all growers to attend this important productivity Expo.

Philip Loane
President



Precision Agriculture EXPO 2017

Thursday 20th April - Deloraine

Calling all Current and Future Poppy Growers!

Poppy Growers Tasmania Inc. in conjunction with Tasmanian Alkaloids and Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Australia Pty Ltd are delighted to present a Poppy EXPO within the existing Precision Agriculture EXPO.

See Program below for full details. The balance of the PA Program outside the Poppy EXPO is also strongly recommended as deserving your attention.

Expo 2017 Program – “Tillage and Seeding” focus.



Concurrent Session One

- 9:00am** Spatial Technology displays in Rotary Pavilion -open
Machinery Exhibition on hardstand and grassed areas-open
- 9:00am** Poppy Growers EXPO in Theatre – MC Keith Rice
Welcome – Philip Loane – President PGT
Poppy Mildew Update – Dr. Jason Scott, Research Fellow, TIA, UTAS
- Tranche 1-2015/16 Research Findings from Industry/Gov. Project
 - ARC Project, next 5 years, UTAS/TIA National Grant \$500k
 - Learnings to date/Recommendations
- Industry Outlook 2020 - Doug Blackaby, CEO, Tasmanian Alkaloids Pty Ltd
- “Current World Situation”
 - “What will successful processing companies look like in 2020?”
- Panel Q & A, - Rohan Kile & Tom Radcliff
- “What will successful poppy grower’s practice look like in 2020?”
 - Three current growers join the panel.
- 10:30am** Morning Tea in Rotary Pavilion
- 11:00am** Welcome by TAPG Chairperson, Jim Wilson in Theatre
- 11:05am** Official Opening - TBA
- 11:15am** Keynote Presentation by Prof. Salah Sukkarieh
Professor of Robotics & Intelligent Systems, Director of Research & Innovation
Australian Centre for Field Robotics
The University of Sydney
- 12:00pm** Lunch and Networking
-area around Rotary Pavilion
- 1:00pm** Afternoon Sessions Commence – activities suitable for all attendees
Spatial Technology displays continue in rotary Pavilion
Field walk and interpretation through pre-planted plots in leased paddock
PA Project Reports from collaborating farmers in Marquee
Live feed demonstration from Adelaide by TOPCON in Marquee
Other related PA video presentations in Booths
Demonstration of Robotic Field Work
Live machinery demonstrations in paddock
- 5:00pm** Networking refreshments
- 6:00pm** EXPO close

Other invited Exhibitors supported by the EXPO Committee:

- Bureau of Meteorology
- Rural Alive and Well
- Safe Farming Tasmania Project
- TASSIC and Land Tasmania
- TIA – Grazing Animals PA Project



This is a **FREE** event, but to assist with catering, please RSVP to EXPO
convenor terry.brient@gmail.com