

# Agenda for Meeting 5 of the Soil RD&E Implementation Committee

**Location** Cleveland Grange, 55 Shannons Road, Lancefield.

**Date** Thursday 4th February 2016

## **Attendees**

Georgina Kelly	New South Wales Department of Primary Industries (Chair)
Neil McKenzie	CSIRO Agriculture, Canberra
Hamish Cresswell	CSIRO Agriculture, Canberra
Jan Edwards	Grains Research and Development Corporation, Toowoomba
Jennifer Alexander	Executive Officer, Bendigo
Budiman Minasny	The University of Sydney (for Alex McBratney)
Ian Anderson	University of Western Sydney, Richmond, NSW
Michael Crawford	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources, Bendigo
Paul Lawrence	Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts, Brisbane
Allan Williams	Cotton Research and Development Corporation, Narrabri
Cameron Allan	Meat and Livestock Australia, North Sydney
Michele Barson	Department of Agriculture
Felice Driver	Sugar Research Australia
Cathy Phelps	Dairy Australia
Peter Voller	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Launceston

## **Apologies**

Alex McBratney (University of Sydney), Pauline Mooney (SARDI), Iain Young (UNE), Vicki Woodburn (RIRDC), Sharon Harvey (Wine Australia), Karen Holmes (DAFWA), Warwick Dougherty (DPI), Jason Hill (DLRM), Brenda Kranz (HIA)

## Agenda

- 13:00 Welcome
- 13:05 ITEM 5.1: Minutes of last meeting and correspondence
- 13:25 ITEM 5.2: Member updates (2-3 minutes on key developments)
- 14:15 ITEM 5.3: Appointment of the Chair
- 14:25 ITEM 5.4: Round 2 of Rural R&D for Profit update
- 14:35 ITEM 5.5: R&I committee presentation on Soil Strategy
- 14:50 Other Business
  
- 15:00 Close

Soil RD&E Implementation Committee	Meeting Number: 5
	Location: Lancefield
	Date: 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2016
AGENDA Paper	ITEM 5.1
<b>Minutes of last meeting and correspondence</b>	
<b>Background</b>	
The minutes of Meeting 4 of the Soil RD&E Implementation Committee are presented for review and endorsement (Attachment 1).	
<b>Key issues</b>	
None identified.	
<b>Required action</b>	
For review and endorsement.	
<b>Resource implications</b>	
None	
<b>Preparation and consultation</b>	
Soil RD&E Secretariat.	
<b>Attachments</b>	
Minutes of Meeting 4 of the Soil RD&E Implementation Committee (separate document).	

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 5.2
<b>Member updates</b>	
<b>Background</b>	
It was agreed at Meeting 1 that members of the Implementation Committee would provide written updates that highlight key developments, challenges and emerging issues for their organization. A brief 3-5 minute verbal summary of these would be provided at the meeting.	
<b>Key issues</b>	
The intent is to provide all members with a clearer understanding of soil RD&E matters across all jurisdictions and organizations. With time, members should develop a more collegiate and integrated understanding of soil management across Australia.	
<b>Required action</b>	
Members are requested to provide a brief 3-5 minute verbal summary at the meeting.	
<b>Resource implications</b>	
Minor. Members will normally draw on existing review and reporting materials from their organization.	
<b>Preparation and consultation</b>	
Soil RD&E Secretariat with input from members of the Soil RD&E Implementation Committee.	
<b>Attachments</b>	
None	

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 5.3
<b>Appointment of the Chair of the Soil RD&amp;E Implementation Committee</b>	
<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>Iain Young was elected Chair of the Soil RD&amp;E Implementation Committee in February 2015. Iain resigned from this position in December 2015 due to commitments with his new role at the University of Sydney.</p> <p>The general role of the Chair is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chair will be independent and step back from representing their particular jurisdiction, organization or sector.</li> <li>• The Chair will take an impartial role in facilitating the operation of the committee and advancing implementation of the national strategy.</li> <li>• The Chair may wish to nominate another person to contribute to the committee to represent their jurisdiction, organization or sector.</li> <li>• The Chair will be expected to work closely with CSIRO in their role as lead agency and with GRDC (lead RDC for the strategy) and facilitate the operation of the implementation committee to fulfil its stated role.</li> <li>• The Chair will be elected for a two-year term.</li> </ul> <p>As two nominations were received in 2015 it was agreed to appoint a Chair and Deputy Chair. However, the appointment of Deputy Chair is not mandatory.</p>	
<p><b>Key issues</b></p> <p>As the previously elected Chair, Iain Young, has resigned the Soil RD&amp;E Implementation Committee needs to appoint a new Chair. The current deputy Chair, Georgina Kelly, has indicated her willingness to undertake the role. Alternatively a call for nominations could be made.</p>	
<p><b>Required action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the procedure for electing the Chair of the Soil RD&amp;E Implementation Committee.</li> <li>• Through consensus, endorse the deputy Chair in the role or call for nominees and elect a new Chair by a process of elimination through rounds of voting by secret ballot.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Resource implications</b></p> <p>None apart from the in-kind contribution of time from the home organization of the chair.</p>	
<p><b>Preparation and consultation</b></p> <p>Soil RD&amp;E Secretariat.</p>	
<p><b>Attachments</b></p> <p>None</p>	

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 5.4
<b>Round 2 of Rural R&amp;D for Profit</b>	
<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>The \$100 million Rural R&amp;D for Profit program will provide grants to RDCs for collaborative research that enhances farm-gate profitability and supports continuing innovation in Australia's primary industries. The program implements the Australian Government's 2013 election commitment to provide additional funding to the RDCs. The research is to focus on delivering cutting-edge technologies and making research findings more accessible for primary producers. It must also improve coordination and cooperation between stakeholders.</p>	
<p><b>Key issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The second round of the Rural R&amp;D for Profit program has now closed.</li> <li>• While the process for submitting soil-related proposals was more coordinated than in the first round, it is clear that further improvements are needed for any future rounds</li> <li>• Key steps to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the bidding process need to be identified.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Required action</b></p> <p>For discussion</p>	
<p><b>Resource implications</b></p> <p>None</p>	
<p><b>Preparation and consultation</b></p> <p>Soil RD&amp;E Secretariat</p>	
<p><b>Attachments</b></p> <p>None</p>	

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 5.6
<b>R&amp;I committee presentation on the Soil RD&amp;E Strategy</b>	
<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>The Research and Innovation (R&amp;I) Committee, formerly known as the Research, Development and Extension Committee, is responsible for the oversight of the development and implementation of the National Primary Industries RD&amp;E Framework. The Soil RD&amp;E Implementation Committee is required to report to the R&amp;I Committee biannually with the second report submitted by 31 December 2015. The R&amp;I Committee meets quarterly, with four Strategies invited to report on their progress directly to the Committee at these meetings.</p>	
<p><b>Key issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Soil RD&amp;E Strategy is scheduled to report in-person to the R&amp;I Committee at its first meeting in 2016 on 24<sup>th</sup> February in Sydney.</li> <li>• The key messages from the Implementation Committee need to be finalized, particularly in light of deliberations at the Annual Forum.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Required action</b></p> <p>Members are asked to provide guidance on the content and focus of the report.</p>	
<p><b>Resource implications</b></p> <p>None identified at this time.</p>	
<p><b>Preparation and consultation</b></p> <p>Soil RD&amp;E Secretariat</p>	
<p><b>Attachments</b></p> <p>None</p>	