



GGA to receive four years of funding

The State Government, through the Royalties for Regions Agricultural Sciences Research and Development Fund, will provide \$1.2 million in funding over the next four years to the Grower Group Alliance (GGA).

The funding was announced, along with the \$17.4 million in grants to grower groups for research and development, at the Dowerin Field Days last week. The Fund is part of the \$300 million Seizing the Opportunity Agriculture initiative.

GGA Strategic Advisory Group Chairman Clancy Michael said the funding would ensure that grower groups would continue to play a central role in delivering locally relevant research to their members but also enable them to take hold of new opportunities beyond the farm gate.

“This funding will provide grower groups with the opportunity to pursue projects that have the ability to significantly transform farming business in their local area.”

“It is also an acknowledgement of the critical role group play in their local communities, not only as a platform for the extension, but in many cases as a vibrant social hub that brings regional communities together,” Clancy said.

Grower groups are independent, self-directed, and mainly focused on local on-farm RD&E and supporting their local community. They are driven by dedicated grower members who want to improve the production systems appropriate to their local environment, and increase profitability of their businesses.

Groups have built reputation and established themselves on the basis of their outputs, services and relevance to their members and communities, and believe strongly in maintaining these by delivering outcomes. They look to partner and collaborate with appropriate organisations and stakeholders.

The GGA brings all groups together for sharing ideas, broking collaboration, building capacity and leadership, and overall supporting improved productivity of farm businesses across the agrifood sector.

The Grower Group Alliance is a non-profit, farmer driven organisation connecting grower groups, research organisations and agribusiness in a network across WA. There are currently 43 grower groups within the GGA network.

The GGA project is hosted by the Grains Industry Association of WA Inc (GIWA).

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Photo Caption: Agriculture Minister Ken Baston, Regional Development Minister Terry Redman, GGA Strategic Advisory Group Chairman Clancy Michael and GGA Project Leader Rebecca Wallis at Dowerin Field Days.