



Holt Rock Group

Number of members: 22 farm businesses

Founded: 1987

Location: Shires of Kondinin, Kulin, and Lake Grace

As a closed grower group, the Holt Rock Group is a small close-knit group that looks to provide the best service for its members by providing a forum for discussion and information sharing. The group's membership never exceeds 25, and is invite-only, with a pre-requisite that all members are to contribute to the group by taking turns on the committee and by participating in discussions as part of the group. Any information that is shared regarding member's business' is kept strictly within the group itself.

The group's main source of income comes from membership fees and sponsorship by Rabobank. These monies sustain the group, often without the need to partner in publically funded projects, keeping the jobs within the group to a minimum, but still allowing them to participate with willing industry partners to host trials and discussions. It also allows them to keep in line with their aim, which is to improve the sharing of information within the agronomy group to improve their farming businesses. Based in the far south east wheatbelt area around Hyden and Varley, Holt Rock Group members are interested in many areas related to agronomy, grain marketing, community welfare, sustainability and business structure.

Attracting researchers to the remote region to assist with their trials program is a common issue faced by the group, and the group do seek industry partners to address local issues.

“Despite being a closed group, the Holt Rock Group will openly communicate their activities, their plans and reasons for why their unique grower group structure has worked for them over the years”





With a small committee of five plus a part-time co-ordinator, Holt Rock Group tries to maintain good succession within the group with the electing of two new committee members each year. This ensures the sharing of group duties and a mixed representation of the group.

Holt Rock Group host field days throughout the growing season, attracting guest speakers to speak on relevant topics, in the past including herbicide resistance, breeding programs, mental health and more. Another common activity are study tours, such as visits to the University of Western Australia, where members get one-on-one time with researchers at the cutting edge of new agriculture technology. They also take time to visit other grower groups across the grain growing region, and continue building linkages with other groups for future study tours.

The Holt Rock Group continues to be an active member in the Grower Group Alliance network, participating in activities such as the Annual Forum, regional meetings, sponsorship opportunities and training workshops. Despite being a closed group, the Holt Rock Group openly communicate their activities, their plans and reasons for why their unique grower group structure has worked for them over the years.

For more information on the Holt Rock Group visit their page on the GGA website, www.gga.org.au.

