



Liebe Group

Number of members: 120 farm businesses

Year of inception: 1997

Location: North Central Wheatbelt; Shires of Dalwallinu, Coorow, Perenjori and Wongan-Ballidu



It was concerns of isolation from existing agricultural research and development (R&D) that sparked the beginning of the Liebe Group in 1997, when a group of progressive growers got together to improve sustainable and profitable farming systems with their own grower-driven R&D. Since then, the group has expanded to include 120 farm business members covering more than one million hectares in the north eastern wheatbelt, making it one of the biggest groups in the Grower Group Alliance (GGA) network.

Alongside the committee, Liebe Group staff aim to work together to improve rural profitability, lifestyle and natural resources, remaining 'grass roots' driven to ensure the group remains relevant, timely and valuable to the local farmers and the grains industry. Members are located across the shires of Dalwallinu, Coorow, Perenjori and Wongan-Ballidu.

“The Liebe Group aim to improve rural profitability, lifestyle and natural resources, remaining ‘grass roots’ driven to ensure the group remains relevant, timely and valuable to the local farmers and gains industry cooperation.”

The Liebe Group runs an impressive annual trials program. In 2012, the group will harvest results from more than 60 trials and demonstrations, focusing on topics such as soil biology, nutrition, varieties, water use efficiency, disease and weed management, crop rotations and more. On top of the short-term activities, the Liebe Group also has a long-term trial site, dedicated to assisting growers and researchers to better understand soil health and crop productivity over numerous seasons.





The Liebe Group work closely with their research partners, including the CSIRO, the Department of Agriculture & Food and the University of Western Australia to ensure research is pertinent to the area and is conducted with sufficient scientific rigour. This allows the group to generate important information that supports its members decision making. The Liebe Group is supported through project funding by the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC) and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and has also developed many corporate partnerships with agribusiness organizations.

One of the Liebe Group's main achievements has been the quality and amount of information it has been able to present through field days, workshops, annual R&D results and results from project work conducted since its inception. The group hosts three major events per year, including a Spring Field Day, Women's Field Day and Crop Updates. Many other events fill their calendar including a post-seeding field walk, beer & burger night, long-term research site field walk, a trials review day and other field walks and workshops as required.



For more information on the Liebe Group, visit their website, www.liebegrup.org.au.