

# Agenda

- Surveys/Reviews & Congratulations!
- National Issue Register
- NGN Initiative & Future
- Feedback on interacting around NGN forums & regional priorities
- Contracts, performance
- Q&A



# National presence with a regional focus

Six GRDC offices across Australia's grain growing regions



**Peter Bird**  
Senior Regional  
Manager



**Rowan Maddern**  
Manager – Sustainable  
Cropping Systems



**Uys Lourens**  
Manager – Sustainable  
Cropping Systems



**Georgia Megirian**  
Crop Protection  
Manager



**Isabelle Rogers**  
NVT Manager



**Luke Dawson**  
Grower Relations  
Manager



**Berin Gibbons**  
Grower Relations  
Manager

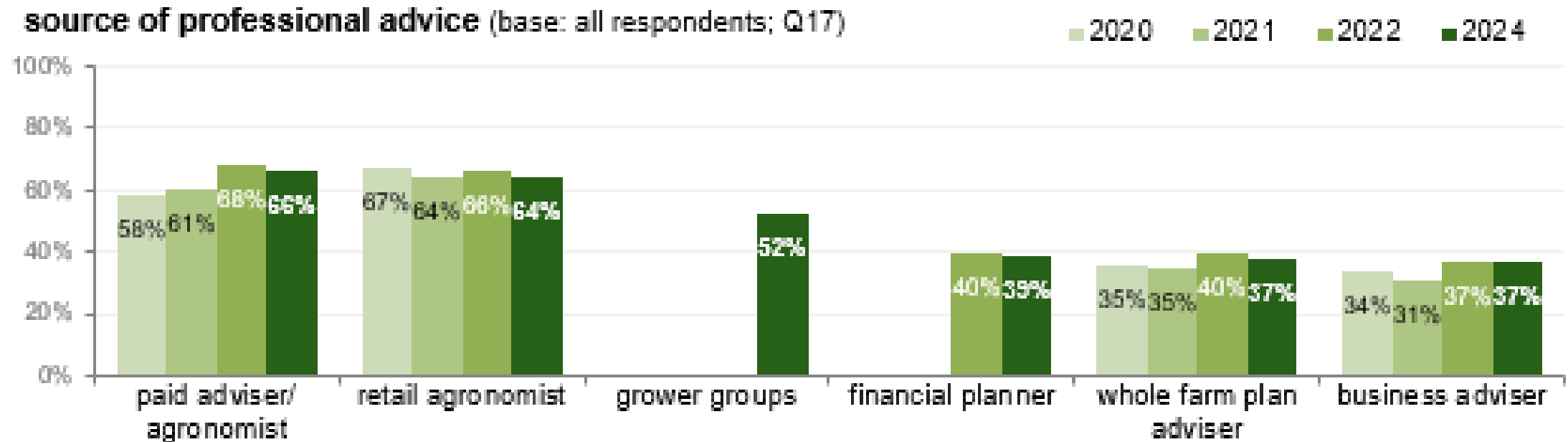


**Danielle Gault**  
Communications  
Manager

# 2024 GRDC Grower Survey

## Grower Groups included in this question:

*Do you currently receive professional advice from any of the following people?*



*Notably, receiving professional advice from grower groups varies significantly by region (63% in the west, 56% in the south and 43% among those in the north).*





# GRDC National Grower Network

## National Issue Register

Search



Issue count: 77

\*Data from 01/07/2023

Date Range

19/07/2023

28/01/2025

Event Region and Sub Region

West

| Date of Forum | Forum                         | Region | Sub Region   | Issue Number | Issue   | Short Description  |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------|--------------|--------------|---|--|
| 09/01/2024    | NGN Forum - Busselton 2024    | West   | Kwinana East | NGN0430      | Weed control in oats  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to decision making</li> <li>Educational opportunities on how to use and then analyse variable rate data</li> <li>There is only one Imidazoline tolerant oat variety - problem with early sowing and brome grass control</li> <li>General lack of grass control options in oats</li> </ul> |
| 16/01/2024    | NGN Forum - Bremer Bay 2024   | West   | Albany       | NGN0431      | Herbicide Resistance Management   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ryegrass resistant to glyphosate and paraquat: Better strategies to deal with problem paddocks</li> </ul>   |
| 16/01/2024    | NGN Forum - Bremer Bay 2024   | West   | Albany       | NGN0432      | Soil amelioration in highly variable soil types.                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil types south of the Great Eastern Highway are more variable than the northern region where soil amelioration is more widely used</li> </ul>   |
| 16/01/2024    | NGN Forum - Bremer Bay 2024   | West   | Albany       | NGN0433      | Profitable rotations with legumes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to grow lupins on heavier soil types - it would allow more hectares to lupins</li> </ul>  |
| 16/01/2024    | NGN Forum - Bremer Bay 2024   | West   | Albany       | NGN0434      | Stubble management, impact on crop disease, nutrition in following years      | [Added during a discussion of the priorities at the Bremer Bay NGN sub-regional Summer Forum] While not high in votes, this topic was deemed suitable for responsive extension via existing communications and publications  |
| 26/03/2024    | NGN Forum - Kellerberrin 2024 | West   | Kwinana West | NGN0435      | Why aren't we seeing significant results when deep ripping duplex soil types? | Soil amelioration has been a widely researched and adopted practice across WA, however growers at the Kellerberrin NGN forum identified a gap in existing research and extension regarding ameliorating complex and variable soil types  |
| 26/03/2024    | NGN Forum - Kellerberrin 2024 | West   | Kwinana West | NGN0436      | Chlorpyrifos is currently under review by the APVMA.                          | At the Kellerberrin NGN forum growers were concerned about the APVMA review of chlorpyrifos  |
| 26/03/2024    | NGN Forum - Kellerberrin 2024 | West   | Kwinana West | NGN0437      | Canola NVT time of sowing data does not reflect current district practice     | With increasing farm scale and improved seeding technology growers are sowing earlier, especially for grains like canola   |
| 26/03/2024    | NGN Forum - Kellerberrin 2024 | West   | Kwinana West | NGN0438      | End Point Royalty (EPR) costs creep.  | Growers raised concerns at the forum that new variety seed costs are increasing  |
| 23/07/2024    | NGN Forum - Mukinbudin 2024   | West   | Geraldton    | NGN0449      | Green on green technology   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camera set ups - spot spraying, ROI</li> <li>Subscriptions, implementation, contractors</li> <li>Would help with plant back and resistance</li> </ul>   |

Select an Issue

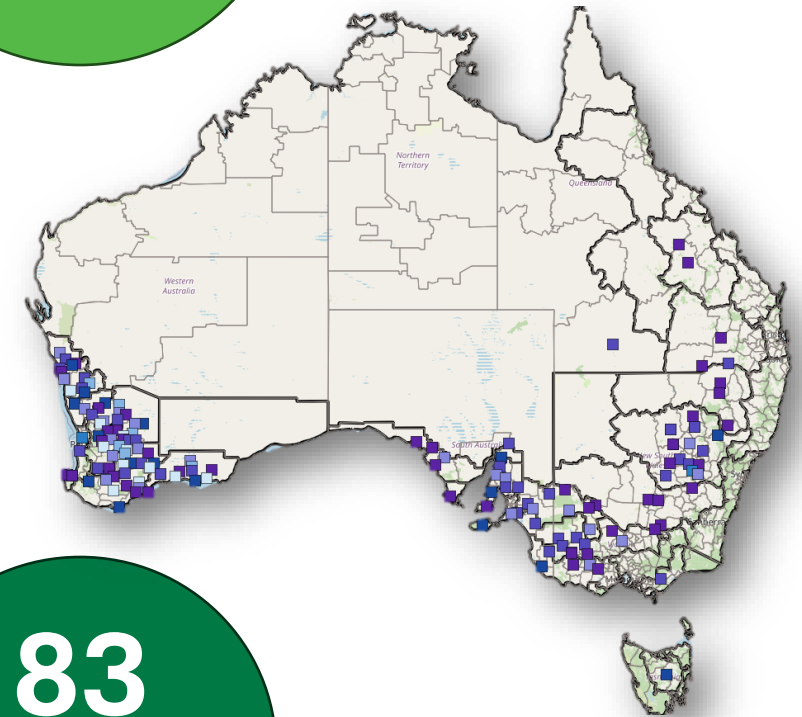
# NATIONAL GROWER NETWORK (NGN) 2024



A community of growers & grain industry stakeholders designed to:

- Support meaningful (2 way) engagement
  - Improve GRDC's understanding of local issues
  - Assist the development of investments with local relevance and on-farm impact.
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- **DTER external review and MJA impact report undertaken in 2024**

**38**  
Forums held



**83**  
Responsive Actions Taken

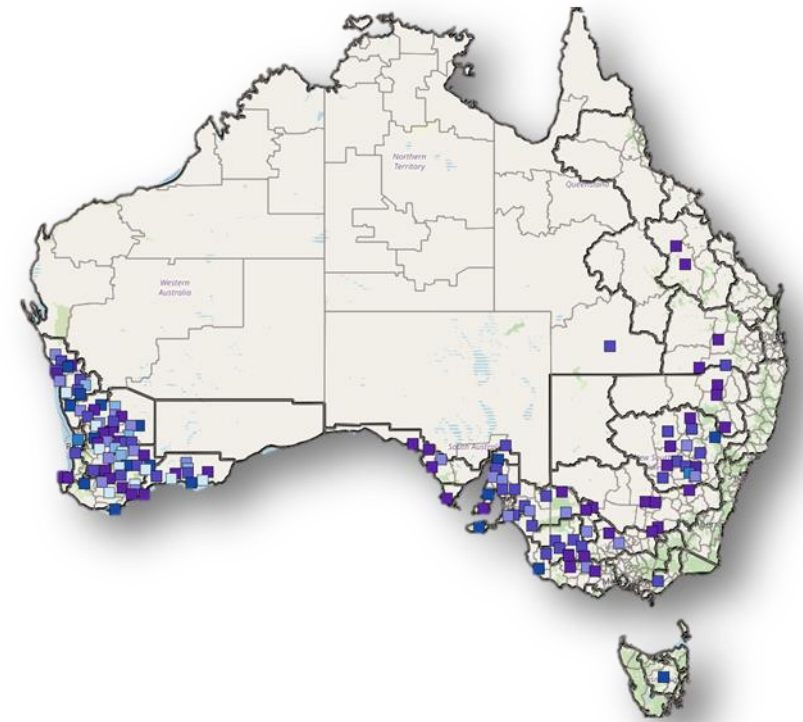
**897**  
Growers and Stakeholders engaged

# Some areas to focus on and the plan moving forward:

- The program is fit for purpose, responding to local issues effectively and efficiently, with some variation in impact of individual projects
- There are opportunities to use targeted evaluation tools to help maintain and improve program performance (M&E)

## Continue expanding NGN's reach by:

- Face to face forums to continue (key speakers/locally relevant research)
- Surveys, young grower diaries, text messages etc. to capture feedback from non-attendees – 'Utilising tech'
- Collaborating with grower/adviser groups, as well as young grower/adviser and women's networks



Short-term, responsive investments direct from NGN delivered

**\$81.6m**  
benefits

# Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

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- A Nationally consistent method to monitor project performance
- This may replace some of the detailed written reporting
- What measures are there to assess increased grower awareness in the continuation of the adoption process?
- How do we capture this data without more surveys?

# NGN Investments vs. Larger Investments

Increased Complexity and scrutiny related to larger \$\$\$ Invested, NGN built to be easier and more streamlined

|                         | NGN Investment          | Larger Investment          |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Application to Contract | 2 - 3 weeks             | 2 - 3 months               |
| Scale of reach          | Single Port Zone/Region | Multiple Regions/National  |
| Milestones per year     | 2-3                     | 3-6                        |
| Reporting               | 10 pages                | 100+pages                  |
| Scrutiny                | Medium                  | High                       |
| Organisations involved  | Relatively simple       | Often complex and multiple |



# Performance - General Principles

- What do you think GRDC would view as good performance?
- Does it matter?
- Past performance/Track record is taken into account when assessing tenders
- On time, on budget
- Communication when things just don't go right – no surprises
- 'We're humans too





# Q&A

