

# GRAINS RESEARCH UPDATE 2026



Lake Bolac Football Club  
Lake Bolac Complex Road, Lake Bolac

**Thursday 26 February 2026**

**Registration:**

9.00 am to 1.00 pm followed by lunch  
(doors open at 8.30 am for a 9.00 am start)

**Cost:**

Free

Morning tea, lunch and  
proceedings included.

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

**Discuss the latest farm-ready information to improve profit with researchers, agronomists and leading growers at the Lake Bolac GRDC Grains Research Update.**

**Topics:**

- The future of the double knock  
*Chris Preston, University of Adelaide*
- Industry panel - growing pulses in the south west  
*Audrey Delahunty, Agriculture Victoria*  
*Darcy Warren, FAR*  
*Craig Drum, Dagro*  
*Ash Wallace, Agriculture Victoria*
- Alleviating waterlogging - which methods are the most profitable?  
*Malcolm McCaskill, Agriculture Victoria*
- Protecting your most perishable asset – latest updates on grain storage  
*Chris Warrick, Primary Business*
- Net Form Net Blotch in barley - information to protect your crops from this increasingly resistant disease  
*Darcy Warren, FAR*

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## The future of the double knock

It has become a staple tactic for managing herbicide resistant annual-rye grass however does the double knock require tweaking?

Chris will present emerging research results and discuss the evolution and enhancements to the traditional double knock in. The focus will be on evaluating the efficacy of these options, their role in resistance management, and their compatibility with current cropping systems.



## Industry panel – growing pulses in the south west

This session will explore the opportunities and challenges of increaseing and exapanding pulse production in high-rainfall zones. Discussion will cover research into improving heat and frost tolerance, strategies for adapting agronomy to variable climates, and insights from trials aimed at boosting productivity and resilience.



## Alleviating waterlogging – which methods are the most profitable?

Malcolm has conducted considerable research on managing waterlogging and is now in a position to present which approaches deliver the greatest return on investment. Malcolm will examine the financial impact of waterlogging on crop yields and farm profitability in high-rainfall zones. It will outline the effectiveness and cost-benefit of different alleviation strategies, including drainage improvements, raised beds, and agronomic adjustments, drawing on research and modelling from southern farming system.



## Protecting your most perishable asset – latest updates on grain storage

Chris has spent many years helping farmers set up and manage best practice grain storage systems. In this presentation Chris will discuss phosphine fumigation essentials and where to access support, training and resources.



## Net Form Net Blotch in barley - information to protect your crops from this increasingly resistant disease

Darcy will address the evolving challenge of Net Form Net Blotch (NFNB) in barley and the need for integrated management strategies. He will cover relevant research on pathogen resistance shifts, the role of crop rotation and varietal selection, and how fungicide programs can be optimised to maintain effectiveness. The session will provide practical insights for growers to adapt their disease management plans in response to changing resistance patterns.

