

Seed and Nutritional Technology Development PGP Programme

Quarterly Progress Report Summary January – March 2014

All projects are on track and are making good progress towards the desired outcomes.

The field performance data from our Biological Seed Additive (BSA) trials are variable but have shown improvements in establishment yield of up to 111% at the site with high drought and disease stress. We have also made progress in developing the BSA into a viable seed treatment. This seed treatment will now be the focus of our expanded field evaluation programme for the remainder of 2014.

We have chosen our candidate endophyte based on improved bioactivity, strong transmission and storage results. Our chosen endophyte is exhibiting strong performance in agronomic trials, and is giving good animal safety and performance results in our grazing trial.

The new hybrid brassica has shown strong performance across a number of locations and a trial to measure the improvement in water use efficiency under drought-prone conditions is nearing completion. We hosted a visit by the Minister for Primary Industries and various media representatives to the water-use efficiency trial on 19 March 2014. An animal grazing trial has been initiated to assess the nutritive value of our new hybrid compared to existing supplementary crop options.



Above: Hon. Nathan Guy viewing the harvesting of the new hybrid brassica trial at Ashley Dene.

Below: Water use efficiency trial at Ashley Dene.

