



New projects coming in 2022

Confinement feeding strategies – Producer Demonstration Sites

SCF is pleased to announce that we were successful in our application to Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) to host a Producer Demonstration Site (PDS) project on Confinement Feeding Strategies. Confinement feeding differs from feedlotting in that all classes of sheep may be confined, not just lambs as with feedlotting, and the purpose is to feed to maintain animal weights, not increase. Other benefits include improved knockdowns on cropping paddocks as weeds have more leaf area to absorb sprays, reduced feed required per head due to less energy expenditure, improved animal health monitoring and quicker feed times. In dry years where dams are less reliable, confining generally also means better water supplies.

This is a two-year project based around of a core group of ten producers who are already confinement feeding or looking to develop a confinement feeding program. These farmers will share their thoughts and experiences, discuss different setups, hear from industry experts on best practice and create a network of support among each other. In each of the two years, three of the group members will act as site hosts, with complementary feed and ration analysis and feedback from a qualified animal nutritionist, pasture cuts to quantify the extra pasture grown

Harvest Losses

This summer SCF will be measuring harvest losses as part of a GRDC funded, GGA led project that aims to measure and analyse grain losses across WA. The project will utilise the bushell plus system to measure both machine and front losses on a wide range of crops types. The project seeks to establish a baseline for losses and improve upon current losses in the field. This project focuses on enhancing harvest efficiency and profitability, with repeat measurements being made within the paddock to improve loss percentages.

by being able to defer grazing after the season break and an economic analysis on the costs of confining and achieving the extra pasture production. Members of the core group will visit the demonstration sites and see the different set-ups, and a possible road trip to visit some alternative designs outside the SCF area may be included. If you are interested in this project, give Livestock Officer, Kelly Gorter, a call to discuss.

For SCF members who are not in the core group, we expect to have a field day during the project to visit a site or two and share some of the group learnings where all will be welcome to attend. Keep an eye on SCF communications for notification on when this might be. All data and learnings from the project will be reported on in SCF publications and the project page on the website as the project progresses.



At the conclusion of the project, the Bushel Plus System will be made available to SCF members.

If you are looking to reduce your losses, improve yields and increase harvest efficiency, get in touch, and we can arrange to work with you this summer. Contact Dan Fay on 0498 278 177 or Nathan Dovey on 0427 468 030.

