

# Annual Report 2022



Grain Producers Australia is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. It is governed by a Board, elected by its members. The GPA Board is directly accountable to grain producers in the same way a corporate Board is accountable to its shareholders. The charter of the GPA Board is to provide representation for Australia grain producers and to foster a culture of service within GPA.

GPA fulfils its role as a national Representative Organisation (RO) for the grains industry in accordance with the Primary Industries and Energy Research Development Act 1989 (PIRD), with responsibilities under the Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999 and the Primary Industries (Customs Charges) Act 1999.

GPA is supported by Grain Levy Payers in Australia, direct grower membership, State Farming Organisations and affiliates.

Grain Producers Australia Limited  
ABN: 63 111 059 995



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# CHAIR'S REPORT

This past year provided another steady period of growth for Grain Producers Australia, to help bolster our work representing growers on national policy, for our members.

A clear sign and benefit of this growth was the strong advocacy and strategic engagement we delivered on our 2022 federal election policy priorities document. We also delivered several new projects, and managed other strategic initiatives, to benefit the productivity of growers and our industry.



## GPA 2021 Highlights

- Implemented national policy plan and advocacy on skilled labour shortages, with Operation Grain Harvest Assist
- Targeted engagement/advocacy on ACCC market study/2022 federal election policy priorities
- Implemented new GPA management and organisational structure, to enhance strategic policy development and advocacy and strengthen member, stakeholder and grower engagement
- Enhanced communications/media engagement on GPA activities and policy advocacy
- Development of GPA Biosecurity Committee to boost engagement with members/stakeholders
- Delivery of ZP50 mouse bait emergency use permit, to enhance grower crop protection
- Re-signed project partners TMA and SPAA to deliver autonomous farm machinery project
- Launched GPA Training safety partnership with GrainCorp and Qube Agri on site delivery inductions
- Launched farmer mental health initiative with Nufarm and project partners, to boost awareness
- Launched Ukraine fundraising appeal to provide targeted humanitarian recovery support

This increased growth and activity over the past year also occurred whilst a record 62 million tonne national grain crop was produced, valued at an estimated \$26 billion. Given our industry contributes an estimated \$13 billion in value on average per year to the national economy, this was a remarkable result. Australian growers were central to this success and this needs to be recognised.

This is especially true given these record returns came despite significant production challenges and ongoing disruptions across our industry and supply chain. Record high grain prices were tempered by skyrocketing input costs, ongoing impacts of COVID-19, severely restricted labour supply, mouse plagues, frost events and severe storms and wet weather reducing crop quality and values at harvest.

Reflecting on these big challenges, it's somewhat of an understatement to say it's been a very busy time for GPA and our members. Keeping up with a hefty workload – managing what needs to be done in our own business, and representing growers – is always a fine balancing act.

It's a credit to everyone's commitment and dedication that we've also been able to deliver some good results, despite these unwanted influences. I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge everyone's efforts and work during this past year. I'd like to thank all of our professional staff and the leaders and staff members from our State Farming Members, and of course other members of the GPA board.

We always face a few challenges in any given year, but working together to deliver good results and kick a few goals for growers, is what it's all about. Despite these recent challenges and global pressures, the mood among growers and our industry remains optimistic.

This sense of anticipation has been supported by a strong start to the season, with good rains underscoring planting in most grain producing regions throughout Australia. When we gather for GPA's next AGM, let's hope we're reporting on another strong production year, where different challenges surfaced but were managed accordingly.

And again, as we've done on the back of this year's harvest around our 2022 election priorities, we're

*India's Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal (left), the then Federal Trade, Tourism and Investment Minister, Dan Tehan MP and GPA Chair, and WA grain producer, Barry Large, at a round-table involving key agriculture and mining stakeholders who met with Minister Tehan and Minister Goyal and his negotiating team in WA in April 2022.*



able to prosecute a positive conversation with key stakeholders, such as the Federal Government, Grains Research and Development Corporation, Plant Health Australia etc, about where to invest some of these record levy returns, to implement new projects and initiatives that can help to grow the profitability and sustainability for Australian grain producers, regional communities and the national economy.

An issue GPA is acutely aware of is the current and future impact of high input costs on Australian grain producers. Russia's invasion of Ukraine caused a sharp increase in global grain prices, which drew an immediate link to our industry in subsequent media reporting and commentary.

In responding to this media interest, it was important to also ensure a balanced view was provided, so the other side of this story could be clearly understood by the broader public and decision-makers. That being – our production risks also spiked due to the war, with rapid increases in the costs of fuel, fertiliser and chemical. In providing public comment, it was also critical to remind people that it still needs to rain for Australian growers to actually harvest grain and realise any of these high grain prices. GPA will continue to monitor these impacts closely listening to what our members say, seeking to work with the new government and others, to find solutions where needed.

The past 12-months has seen a successful transition in the way we operate at GPA, working closer and strategically with our State Members, to represent the interests of growers on national policies. Firstly, Andrew Weidemann stepped down as Chair at last year's AGM and received due recognition for the incredible contribution he's made representing growers and our industry.

After being GPA Deputy Chair to Andrew for eight years, it was my time to step up and take the lead. I've thoroughly enjoyed this leadership role and look forward to getting a few more good results along the way. We've been extremely fortunate that Andrew has remained on the GPA Board. In fact, he's had a new lease of life and energy and that's been reflected in the way he's approached his roles as GPA's RD&E Spokesperson and Special Projects.

Gerard Paganoni, also a grower representative from the western region, and independent directors, Mitch Hooke and Peter Bridgeman, have continued to provide value contributions to the board. Northern director Andrew Earle has also been great support as Deputy Chair, along with his work on the Grains Australia steering committee. The addition of Matthew Madden as Northern Director, and Mark Schilling as Southern Director, has also added new insights and experiences, to inform our board discussions.

Neil White's work as GPA Company Secretary often goes unnoticed but cannot be underestimated. Neil's knowledge and experience has been critical to support this smooth business transition, and the appointment of Colin Bettles as GPA's inaugural Chief Executive.

The Chief Executive's role has also been important step, to support this period of strategic growth, and coordinating the needs of our board, policy council, member sub-committees and project delivery. In particular, GPA's policy advocacy and political engagement has been elevated, to complement this new role. More and more growers and industry leaders are telling me that they're noticing GPA's work in the community and seeing more of what we're doing for growers.



This increased strategic focus was clearly reflected in the production of GPA's first election policy priorities document. This work was spearheaded by our prime policy request – before, during and after the federal election campaign – calling on the ACCC to conduct an independent 'health check' of competition issues in the Australian grains supply chain.

Working with our State Members to gather their views and feedback was also central to delivering this policy, while putting it at the forefront of decision-making around the election campaign. This market study request, and other policy policies, are now in a good strategic position to succeed, working with the new government.

The GPA Biosecurity Committee also continued to evolve this past year, to enhance engagement and knowledge-sharing on national biosecurity responsibilities, working with our members. Again, I'd like to thank all committee members for their contributions, and industry professionals who've presented at our meetings, such as the Inspector-General of Biosecurity, Rob Delane, and PHA's experts and leaders. Whilst others

are only just starting to realise the importance of biosecurity as a representative responsibility, to safeguard growers and protect the Australian grains industry from the potential devastation of pests such as Khapra beetle, it's important to know GPA's role and action in this space has been strong and consistent.

We've been working for growers and engaging with Plant Health Australia and other industry and government stakeholders for many years, getting the job done. This strong partnership has led to the delivery of practical initiatives such as the Grains Farm Biosecurity Program, which improves the management of, and preparedness for, biosecurity risks in the grains industry at the farm and industry levels. However, we understand more can be done to work in partnerships and achieve results. We aim to further develop this committee's role to act as a national conduit for engaging views and driving good policy and outcomes on biosecurity, to benefit all growers.

I'd also like to thank and acknowledge Dr Rohan Rainbow for the work he contributes to GPA, benefiting all of our members and supporting on-farm productivity. We're extremely fortunate to have access to Rohan's professional expertise, working on contract to GPA, providing his experience, expertise and advice on matters that directly impact grower profitability and sustainability.

As is the case with GPA's involvement with PHA, much of his work, and many of these outcomes, are achieved working quietly and steadily behind the scenes, sharing knowledge and engaging members in policy discussions and outcomes. This is especially important for management of complex regulatory matters that may involve the APVMA and to support the various projects we deliver, such as the emergency-use permits GPA manages. His understanding and thinking on big picture global technology developments and ag industry trends, is also greatly valued.

Rohan has also continued his work delivering the Code of Practice for Agricultural Mobile Field Machinery with Autonomous Functions in Australia, working with our project partners – the Tractor and Machinery Association of Australia and Society of Precision Agriculture Australia.

The Code was completed and presented to the WA Government last year for formal adoption.

We're continuing those discussions, before looking at rolling it out nationally, with other states. TMA and SPAA have also re-committed to this exciting project for another four years.

We're in a strong position to develop this project further, and engage other partners, recognising this technology is on the cusp of commercial release.

This will deliver multiple benefits for Australian grain producers, and was demonstrated by John Deere’s announcement in January.

As we look towards a year moving beyond COVID-19, we can now plan ahead with greater certainty, especially securing more overseas labour supply, such as machinery operators, and the reliable movement of harvest workers from state-to-state later in the year. Even organising face-to-face events, such as GPA’s AGM and Policy Council meetings, can now be managed with improved reliability, along with added flexibility of virtual meetings, to help save time and travel. However, we can’t afford complacency.

Compound impacts of the global pandemic over the past two years, and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine earlier this year, will continue to cause turbulence and present unexpected challenges for GPA and our industry to manage. This heightens the importance and need to work together more cohesively, to develop good policy for growers and resolve any problems that arise.

We need to work smarter, not harder, to represent growers more effectively in future. This cohesion and working in partnership with others is vitally important, given the recent change of government. The more we can collaborate and engage strategically, to ensure a strong, inclusive and empowered voice for growers, the better outcomes we can deliver for all.



**- Barry Large**

*GPA Chair Barry Large and PHA CEO Sarah Corcoran, at the Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative Symposium in Adelaide.*





## ABOUT US

### - Our Mandate

To represent Australia's grain producers nationally and internationally in advocating policies and practices for an innovative, competitive & sustainable grains industry.

### - Our Strategic Purpose

The advocacy of public policies and institutional arrangements and on and off-farm practices conducive to a world class industry that is safe, productive, internationally competitive, innovative, and environmentally and socially responsible attuned to producers and market needs, and community expectations.

### - Our Values

- Integrity and trust
- Gender and racial diversity
- Individual accountability
- Mutual respect
- Pursuit of excellence
- Collective responsibility

### - Our Pillars








- Trade and investment
- Innovation
- Resource management
- Product integrity

### - Our Goals

1. Reduce barriers to trade and subsidised competition
2. Secure international market access to herbicides and fungicides
3. Competition policy for the provision of grain handling, storage and infrastructure transport services
4. Increased supply chain transparency and accountability
5. Establish and promote grain quality characteristics for end product consumer markets
6. Develop specific new target market strategies to grow market share and diversify customer base
7. Research, development and extension initiatives responsive to the needs of producers and markets
8. Review of Australian research and development corporations (RDCs)
9. Strategies to improve functionality and accountability of Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC)
10. Land management
11. Agricultural pesticides – access and use
12. Human resources
13. Water access and management
14. Biosecurity and phytosanitary risk management
15. Establishment and monitoring of grains chemical residues



## OUR MEMBERS

	<p><b>AgForce Queensland</b></p> <p>AgForce Queensland is a peak organisation representing Queensland's rural producers, which strives to ensure the long term growth, viability, competitiveness and profitability of broadacre industries of cattle, grain, sheep and wool in Queensland.</p> <p><a href="#">Visit Website</a></p>		<p><b>Victorian Farmers Federation Grains Group</b></p> <p>The Victorian Farmers Federation is an active, powerful lobby group dedicated to the interests of farmers and making a difference to communities.</p> <p><a href="#">Visit Website</a></p>
	<p><b>Grain Producers South Australia</b></p> <p>GPSA is a not for profit organisation that represents all grain producers who have contributed funds through the Wheat Marketing Act or through the Primary Industries Funding Scheme</p> <p><a href="#">Visit Website</a></p>		<p><b>WA Farmers Federation</b></p> <p>WAFarmers represents the voice of farmers throughout Western Australia and is continually working towards a more viable, profitable and sustainable future for the agricultural industry.</p> <p><a href="#">Visit Website</a></p>
	<p><b>NSWFarmers</b></p> <p>NSW Farmers is a lobby group for the farming sector, championing the rights of farmers and rural communities at all levels of government and with industry stakeholders. We are apolitical, independent from government, and our policy is driven from the grassroots up.</p> <p><a href="#">Visit Website</a></p>		<p><b>WA Grains Group</b></p> <p>WAGG is a self-funded grower group working to secure a profitable and sustainable grain industry in Western Australia.</p> <p><a href="#">Visit Website</a></p>
	<p><b>Tasmania Farmers and Graziers Association</b></p> <p>The Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA) is the peak body representing the interests of Tasmanian farmers at a state and national level.</p> <p><a href="#">Visit Website</a></p>		



# MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS 2021



Jun 2

IN THE NEWS

## THE WEEKLY TIMES | Brad Hogg the face of new mental health program for farmers

With farmers struggling around him, and a community recovering from suicides, Barry Large enlisted a big sporting name to topple the ...



May 16

IN THE NEWS

## THE WEEKLY TIMES | Labor backs ACCC grain price inquiry

Grain grower groups have welcomed an announcement the Labor Party will back a "long overdue" inquiry into Australian grain pricing, and...



May 12

MEDIA RELEASE

## EVERY DAY IS PLANT HEALTH DAY FOR GPA

Grain Producers Australia says a strong biosecurity system is critical to underpin the growth and sustainability of the Australian grains...



Apr 17

IN THE NEWS

## THE AUSTRALIAN | Australian grain farmers to rescue of Ukrainian counterparts

After watching Russia's brutal invasion, Aussie grain farmers have launched a fundraising appeal to deliver humanitarian support to...



Mar 30

**IN THE NEWS**

### FARM ONLINE | Low grain prices locally under the microscope with grower groups

GRAIN grower organisations are calling for action to combat market dynamics that currently see Australian grain prices as the cheapest in...



Feb 9

**IN THE NEWS**

### FARM ONLINE | Australian croppers' emissions among lowest in the world

AUSTRALIAN grain growers will be able to sell their agricultural greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions credentials with confidence according to...



Jan 7

**IN THE NEWS**

### PARKES CHAMPION POST | Grain growers apprehensive of production costs in 2022

IN SPITE of grain prices hovering at near record levels and many Australian grain growers having a big 2021 crop, the production sector...



Nov 19, 2021

**IN THE NEWS**

### GRAIN CENTRAL | Drive to encourage careers in agriculture on National Ag Day

GRAIN Producers Australia (GPA) is celebrating this year's #AgDayAU by highlighting some of the exciting and diverse opportunities to...



Nov 13, 2021

**IN THE NEWS**

### ABC RADIO| Veterans pulling in the harvest

Throughout the Covid pandemic Australian farmers have struggled to find enough workers to help with harvesting. In a unique collaboration...

# GROWER REPRESENTATION IS IN GPA'S DNA

Over the past year GPA has delivered an enhanced strategic communications program, to develop greater engagement, awareness and understanding of the depth and scope of our work and policy advocacy, representing Australia's grain producers. In particular, this includes highlighting GPA's responsibilities under federal legislation representing all levy-paying growers in core business areas, to boost farm profitability and sustainability.

These responsibilities include accountability and oversight of the Grains Research and Development Corporation as a Representative Organisation, biosecurity protection and prevention, and emergency management processes through Plant Health Australia membership, and grain market access and chemical use, via the National Residue Survey.

GPA's governance model includes state members and direct members, to support these roles and responsibilities with an inclusive voice. This also extends to representation on GPA's Policy Council and sub-committees such as biosecurity and pesticides and technology. These processes empower the collective voices of those growers who chose to be paid members of State Farming Organisations, supporting their grass roots governance and accountability processes, along with professional policy management and staff.

These individual organisations connect with GPA's processes to deliver national policy and advocacy which ultimately delivers a stronger collective voice for Australian growers. This enhanced strategic communications program has led to a notable lift in GPA's media releases, media comment, social media presence, engagement with members of the federal parliament and policy staff, and engagement across government and industry stakeholders.



Mar 28

**IN THE NEWS**

### FARM ONLINE | GPA nominates risk and cost management as keys to election wishlist

IN THE lead up to this week's federal budget grain grower peak body Grain Producers Australia said policies that help farmers manage ...



Dec 1, 2021

**IN THE NEWS**

### FARM ONLINE | SA grower on GPA board

THE REPLACEMENT South Australian director at Grain Producers Australia to replace the retiring Steve Ball has been elected. Yorke...

# PUTTING GROWER LEVIES TO WORK

## GRDC Consultation

As a Representative Organisation (RO) under the PIRD Act, GPA plays a critical role representing the views of levy-paying grain producers on GRDC activities. This engagement is focussed on performance and investment of about \$200 million per year in RD&E project, with matching Commonwealth Government funding. Meetings with the full GRDC Board and Boards of the ROs, and other meetings with the GRDC Executive team and those of the RO's, provide an opportunity to discuss grower views and provide direct input into GRDC's strategic activities, financial management and performance.

These RO consultative processes provide GPA members direct engagement opportunities to address issues directly impacting their members, as per legislative requirements. This is also supported by ongoing engagement and discussions between GRDC and GPA on specific matters and priorities, as they arise.

GRDC Board members and executives are also invited to attend GPA Policy Council meetings and other forums, to progress matters as part of these processes. During the past 12-months these RO forums included executive consultation meetings by video conference in July 2021 and January 2022 (mostly focussed on briefing on GRDC's Australian Grains Greenhouse Gas Baseline and Mitigation Assessment Project with CSIRO), another via online and in-person in April 2022 and a consult meeting involving the boards of all groups in September 2021, held online and in-person, which included discussion about performance, including finances and operational performance.

### Summary of Key Issues

- GRDC Managing Director Recruitment Process and Appointment
- Changes to Enhance Outcomes for National Grower Network and National Variety Trials
- Grains Australia – Ongoing Implementation Process
- Agricultural Innovation Australia – Implementation Progress
- Use and Capacity of GRDC's Levy Payer Register Database
- Australian Grains Baseline and Mitigation Assessment Project (CSIRO-GRDC funded)
- R&D to Inform Policy Research Project Opportunities
- Consultation on GRDC's next RD&E Plan (set to commence on 1 July 2023)
- Dedicated Grains Research for Community Trust Project

## National Residue Survey (NRS)

GPA's engagement with the NRS program helps to ensure relevance, adequate funding, and that the program is meeting the expectations of growers, traders and our markets. GPA provides advice and annual confirmation to the NRS on the sampling regime and list of chemicals included. In addition to supporting trade and market access, the NRS survey also supports the Australia grains industry's continued access to chemicals under regulatory review, through supporting data on use and residues.

GPA continued to engage with the NRS on specific matters relevant to these responsibilities over the past 12-months. This also included collaboration with other industry members and supply chain stakeholders as required, with relevant expertise. The GPA Pesticides and Technology Sub-Committee plays an important role coordinating and engaging members' views, to complement this work and deliver outcomes to drive grower profitability and sustainability.

## Plant Health Australia

As the Australian grains industry's representative to Plant Health Australia, GPA has important roles and responsibilities representing levy-paying grain producers on matters concerning biosecurity protections and preventative activities.

GPA are signatories to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed which means we represent producers in various PHA processes and management committees such as the National Management Group.

This connects the voice of growers directly with leading Federal and State Government biosecurity officials and other experts in prevention and eradication management. Should a declared pest under the legislation enter a post-border detection, the Deed enters into cost sharing arrangements with the government and affected industries, with GPA representing grain producers.

This engagement with PHA supports the delivery of pragmatic solutions and risk-management activities for growers such as the Grains Farm Biosecurity Program. This provides practical tools, information and services to improve on-farm biosecurity management and preparedness.

GPA's Biosecurity Committee also continued to evolve over the past year, to support engagement and improved communication of GPA's long-standing representative responsibilities, as member of PHA since 2004. GPA's professional engagement with PHA reflects our focuses on activities that strengthening the plant biosecurity system for the benefit of the Australian grain industry and as a result the broader economy, environment and community.

This year, despite the various state lockdowns as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the ongoing efforts of the Grain Biosecurity Officers has seen information and training provided at over 60 industry workshops and events, the distribution of over 400 biosecurity gate signs and the release of 20 media and 'Ground Cover' articles relating to grain biosecurity.

Throughout the year, Officers also supported an increased focus on stored grain pests with surveillance activities expanded to over 85 traps monitored across the Southern and Western regions. While these efforts remain important in protecting our future, it is worth noting that biosecurity starts on-farm through grower awareness and simple biosecurity practices will help keep farm properties, and the wider industry, free from pests and diseases. Grain producers throughout Australia benefit from access to biosecurity advice specifically for their industry from these Biosecurity Officers. Each of the Officers can work one-on-one with growers to explain simple yet effective ways they can reduce the risks posed by pests, weeds and diseases.

GPA's continued commitment to biosecurity includes:

- Biosecurity planning and implementation at both a national and on-farm level.
- Liaison with federal and state governments on trade issues associated with biosecurity or phytosanitary concerns.
- Funding and supporting biosecurity initiatives and projects; and
- Participating in national committees and response efforts in an emergency.

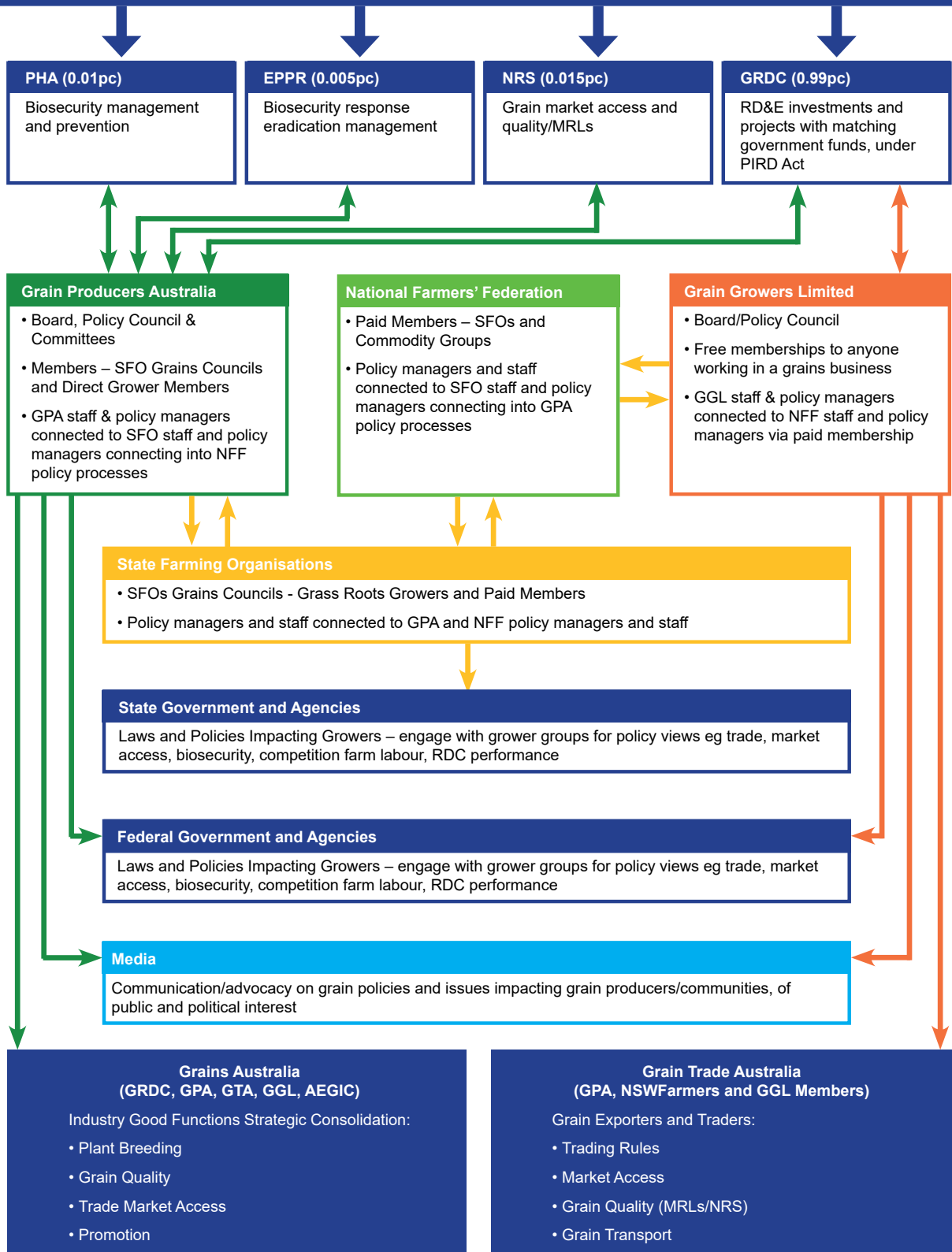


*GPA Northern Director Matthew Madden, NSW Farmers Grains Committee Chair, Justin Everitt, and Victorian Farmers Federation Grains Council President, Ash Fraser, at a post-harvest review meeting with GrainCorp in early 2022, involving GPA and other grains industry representatives.*

# Responsibilities for 22,500 Australian Levy-Paying Grain Producers

\$13 billion national grains industry impacted by government policy, investments and decision-making.

Growers who contribute 1.02pc of crop sale value towards funding GRDC, PHA, NRS & EPPR, under federal legislation.



# GRAINS AUSTRALIA



GPA has continued to engage with stakeholders over the past year, to advance the development of Grains Australia. This work aims to consolidate 'industry good' functions and deliver commercial benefits and operating efficiencies for growers and the Australian grains industry. GPA continues to play a key role in formal, strategic processes which enable progress to deliver these outcomes. GPA Southern Director, Andrew Earle, is a member of the Grains Australia Advisory Committee and GPA Chair Barry Large and Chief Executive Colin Bettles are members of the Grains Australia Industry Reference Committee.

Inaugural Grains Australia CEO, Jonothan Wilson, stood down at the start of 2022 and was replaced by non-executive director Andrew Young as the interim CEO. A replacement is being sought and other appointments were made, with General Managers for Classification and Trade & Market Access, to support the organisation's development. Since 2020, a number of commodity companies and functions have been transferred into Grains Australia (as below, taken from Grains Australia's Strategic Plan 2022/23 to 2024/25) with more to follow.

GPA continues to participate in these processes, to highlight priorities for growers and support the resources, transition and consolidation that's needed, to deliver pragmatic outcomes and ultimately add value to the bottom lines of Australian grain producers.

Grains Australia is a subsidiary company of Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC).

Grains Australia operates as the industry good organisation that delivers services and functions on behalf of the entire grains value chain.

The operations and business of Grains Australia are governed by a skills-based Board of Directors that has a formal link with an Advisory Committee comprising representatives from GRDC, GPA, Grain Growers Ltd (GGL), and Grain Trade Australia (GTA).

Grains Australia delivers value to the Australian grains industry by:

1. Engaging and communicating with key industry stakeholders to develop priorities for the whole of the grains industry in relation to our key areas of operation
2. Establishing and maintaining a market-driven grains variety classification system(s)
3. Providing services to maintain or improve trade and market access
4. Analysing market and consumer trends to understand demand and identify priorities
5. Ensuring technical support and training for customers and stakeholders.



*GPA Deputy Chair Andrew Earle (right), with GPA directors Andrew Weidemann (centre) and Matthew Madden (left). Mr Earle represents GPA on the Grains Australia Advisory Committee.*



Since 2020 Grains Australia has:

- Established the Grains Australia Board
- Confirmed multi-year funding with the support of GRDC
- Transferred commodity companies and functions into Grains Australia including:
  - Wheat Quality Australia (WQA)
  - Barley Australia
  - Grains Industry Market Access Forum (GIMAF)
  - National Working Party on Grain Protection (NWPGP)
- Established the executive capability of Grains Australia to support core functions including Classification and Trade & Market Access
- Successfully secured external funding for industry market access priorities under the Federal Government's ATMAC program
- Finalised its Strategic Plan 2022/23 to 2024/25.

## GPA POLICY COUNCIL

COVID-19 has again prevented GPA Policy Council members from being able to meet face-to-face and discuss issues of importance to Australian grain producers and our industry over the past year. After being restricted in our capacity to travel and move about freely due to lockdown requirements, we now welcome the opportunity to re-connect at our first in-person Policy Council meeting in two years, following this year's AGM. Whilst COVID-19 has significantly impacted many areas of our lives and grain producing businesses and industry, it has shown national policy development can be delivered with a combination of virtual and face-to-face meetings, when and where it's needed. We can act swiftly to hold talks about national policy matters that need to be addressed, and also complement these forums with in-person meetings. This flexibility is particularly important for supporting national policy development and advocacy, allowing GPA's State Members and professional staff to come together from different parts of Australia's grain growing regions with time-saving benefits and other efficiencies.

This approach is also important to support ongoing engagement in other areas of national representation including GPA's sub-committees and consultation on policy matters with government and other important stakeholders. This is especially beneficial to support GPA's roles and responsibilities under federal legislation representing all levy-paying Australian grain producers to provide accountability on RD&E, biosecurity and chemical use/grain market access.

As well as ongoing impacts of COVID-19, another large, record harvest, also had a significant impact on our members. This created an added workload that needed to be managed accordingly throughout the past year, and balanced with the individual needs of our members and leaders whose voices are integral to our work representing Australian growers, to deliver good policy and outcomes. These processes were again supported by ongoing communications and collaboration between GPA staff and state policy managers, in addition to regular, monthly meetings where policy issues and other matters are discussed and actioned accordingly. A harvest review meeting was also held in January, where issues were raised for talks among members and actioned accordingly. A meeting was also held in March involving state leaders and professional staff to gather feedback on GPA's 2022 Federal Election Policy Priorities document, before it was released ahead of the federal election campaign.

Despite these challenges, GPA successfully managed and advanced talks and outcomes on important policy priorities over the past year, with inclusive processes that engaged state members and harnessed their grass roots members' views, including; grains sustainability; national plan to address labour shortages/skilled workers; grain market competition and request for an ACCC market study of the Australian grains supply chain; certification of Australian grain sustainability/ISCC scheme; mouse plague management/chemical access and regulations through the GPA Pesticides and Technology Sub-Committee; and strengthening biosecurity protections, via GPA Biosecurity Committee.

Consensus decision-making with the inclusion of grass roots grower views via state representative organisations continues to be a hallmark and strength of GPA policy development and advocacy. This past year also saw a transition with policy development now being supported by increased advocacy and engagement across government. This has been spearheaded by the appointment of an inaugural Chief Executive, and engaging in specific projects with expertise and collaboration as needed, to address identified policy priorities eg the ACCC market study and election priorities.

#### **GPA Policy Council:**

- Chair – Barry Large/GPA Board
- AgForce Grains – Brendan Taylor
- Grain Producers SA – Adrian McCabe
- NSWFarmers Grains – Justin Everitt
- TFGA – Rob O’Connor
- VFF Grains – Ash Fraser
- WAFarmers Grains – Mic Fels
- WA Grains Group – Doug Smith/Alistair Falconer

## **GPA BIOSECURITY COMMITTEE**

GPA’s Biosecurity Committee continued to evolve over the past year, to improve strategic communications and engagement, and enhance policy development and outcomes for growers. This underpins GPA’s long-standing representative responsibilities and advocacy for Australia’s levy-paying grain producers. under federal legislation, as a signatory to the Emergency Pest Plant Response Deed and as a member of Plant Health Australia, since 2004.

GPA represents all Australian grain producers in various PHA processes and management committees such as the EPPRD and the National Management Group. This connects the voice of growers directly with leading Federal and State Government biosecurity officials and other experts in prevention and eradication management. This engagement also supports pragmatic solutions and risk-management activities for growers such as the Grains Farm Biosecurity Program which provides practical tools, information and services to improve on-farm biosecurity management and preparedness.

A key policy priority for this Committee is to deliver advocacy and outcomes that can help strengthen biosecurity protections for Australian grain producers. Tougher preventative measures helps to safeguard growers, rural communities and the national economy against the social and economic impacts of devastating pests such as Khapra beetle, which could cause an estimated \$15.5 billion damage over 20 years and loss of access to important grain export markets.

The GPA Biosecurity Committee Chair is nominated by the GPA Board, and GPA Policy Council is ultimately responsible for biosecurity policy. GPA Policy Council can refer matters to the GPA Biosecurity Committee for further research and discussions, to help inform decision-making and promote engagement across industry and with relevant stakeholder groups and experts. Members of the GPA Biosecurity Committee are nominated representatives of GPA’s State Members with relevant expertise and experience in grain production and biosecurity, supported by professional policy managers and staff. Meetings are periodic, as determined by members, and decisions must be consensus based.

Over the past year, the GPA Biosecurity Committee met four times in online forums, to address important matters and provide expert advice and information for members, to help inform policy development. The Committee aims to meet every two months, and meetings are also determined by members, as needed. Expert presentations over the past year included PHA General Manager, Emergency Response, Dr Susanna Driessen and PHA National Manager, Preparedness and RD&E, Stuart Kearns. Dr Driessen spoke to members about the Deed’s operations and essential functions, as a formal legally binding agreement between PHA, the Australian Government, State and Territory governments and national plant industry body signatories (including GPA). It covers the management and funding of responses to emergency plant pest incidents, and formalises the role of plant industries’ participation in decision making, as well as their contribution towards the costs related to approved responses.

Inspector General of Biosecurity – Rob Delane – also made two presentations. One was an overview of his national oversight role and specific work on biosecurity and the other was a detailed summary of the findings of his report into Khapra beetle. Stuart Kearns also provided members with an overview of the Grain Farm Biosecurity Program, along with the Biosecurity Officers who work in each of the states.

Grain Growers Ltd also participated in the Committee’s activities this year, including presenting about their recent work on biosecurity matters, recognising its importance to growers and industry. An invitation has been extended to GGL to engage on biosecurity issues through the GPA Biosecurity Committee, and to collaborate on projects which can avoid duplication and deliver outcomes to benefit all growers. This will include an invitation to participate in the PHA Grains Industry Biosecurity Plan.

GPA’s Biosecurity Committee also connected GPA members to opportunities such as funding, training (including with PHA experts), and feedback into strategic work and projects by the federal government such as the consultation process to draft the national biosecurity strategy, over the past year. The strategy is being developed by the Australian, state and territory governments, through the National Biosecurity Committee, with industry, environmental groups, community and other stakeholders. GPA also supported an application for funding of projects in the federal government’s Biosecurity Innovation Program.

This included proposing a strategic investment platform to deliver on practical solutions outlined in the National Grain Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy (2019-2021) and bring together stakeholders across the Australian grains industry. This strategy was developed by grains industry representatives, recognising the need to modernise early detection and surveillance activities, with access to new technologies, while boosting leadership, coordination and shared responsibility and accountability, across the grains sector.

Biosecurity was also a key pillar of GPA’s 2022 Federal Election Policy Priorities document, calling for an increased focus on preventative biosecurity measures to protect Australian grains. GPA Chair, Barry Large, also highlighted the importance of strengthening biosecurity systems to help protect growers, industry and the national economy, in his speech at the Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative Symposium in Adelaide, in May 2022. Industry stakeholders also benefitted from hearing about biosecurity from his perspective as a grain producer and why it’s important to protect his own farm business, and safeguard grain market access.

**GPA Biosecurity Committee:**

- Chairs - Andrew Weidemann/Barry Large
- AgForce Grains – Brendan Taylor/Phil Crocker
- GPSA – Nick Hillier
- NSWFarmers – Matthew Madden/Justin Everitt
- VFF Grains – Ash Fraser
- WAFarmers – Jessica Wallace/Trevor Whittington
- WA Grains Group – Alastair Falconer



## GPA PESTICIDE AND TECHNOLOGY SUB-COMMITTEE

GPA's Pesticides and Technology Sub-committee continued to serve our members' needs during the past year, to help manage increasingly complex global and local challenges associated with maintaining chemical use for Australian grain producers and the broader grains industry.

The Sub-committee also works to ensure access to new technologies and addresses emerging issues and the stewardship needs of growers. It also identifies areas of priority and opportunities to engage collaboratively, to ensure good outcomes for growers, such as maintaining grain market access. The Sub-Committee's work is supported by the professional expertise of Dr Rohan Rainbow, to coordinate and engage professional staff and leaders of GPA and our State Members.

This high-level scientific knowledge and regulatory expertise also supports the ongoing engagement that's needed across government and industry, and with relevant agencies such as GRDC, APVMA, NRS, Grains Australia, on critically important policy issues, to support the profitability and sustainability of growers and industry. Most of this work goes on unnoticed and continues without recognition, but growers, industry and other stakeholders would certainly be acutely aware, if it didn't happen.

### AgVet Policy Reforms

Since GPA became active in 2014 making submissions to the Australian government on Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendments, over 85 per cent of key GPA proposals have been delivered through either proposed reform options, legislation or regulation changes or partially delivered through Department or APVMA programs.

The most recent reforms detailed in the AgVet Chemicals Legislation Amendment (APVMA Board and Other Improvements) Bill 2019 that passed the Senate in December 2021, only address a small number of the AgVet technology access issues GPA has identified, or in some cases has addressed new issues created through previous rounds of poor legislative reforms. There is clearly a need for major legislative reform to deliver technology access outcomes for Australian grain growers and ensuring the industry is internationally competitive. GPA will continue to be actively engaged on these issues.

GPA has been engaged for many years in cross industry discussion in relation to increasing market failure of commercial investment in agricultural pesticides and veterinary medicines (AgVet) in Australia. As detailed in nine formal submissions to the Australian government over the past eight years, GPA has recognised that Australia is no longer on the global priority list for pesticide and veterinary medicine investment in commercialisation, as it was 20 years ago.

It's essential that unnecessary legislation, reviews and red tape doesn't further erode Australian AgVet investment and resulting productivity through reduced technology access for producers.

GPA has engaged regularly with the Agriculture Minister's office, and his departmental staff, on industry challenges with Agvet technology access and potential options for improving investment to benefit Australian growers.

GPA has also actively participated on an industry consultative committee engaging with an independent panel conducting a first principles review of the AgVet chemical regulatory framework.

GPA has continued to respond to the Independent Review Panel - Draft Report of the Independent Review of the AgVet Chemicals Regulatory System. The Draft Report details 139 recommendations.

Within those recommendations there are:

- Several that GPA considers may be potentially useful, if appropriately implemented, in improving regulatory efficiency and improving access to a wider range of global AgVet technologies.
- Many proposed reforms which will erode consumer and market confidence in the Australian AgVet system,
- A number of proposed reforms which will disincentive and therefore force a further winding back of the already hampered investment by commercial pesticide companies.

Any actions to diminish the role of the APVMA such as the proposed establishment of an AgVet commissioner as the lead pesticide product regulator in Australia would significantly undermine the agricultural sectors, consumer and international trade confidence in both historical and future regulatory decisions.

*Grain Producers SA CEO, Brad Perry, SA Grains Farm Biosecurity Officer, Shafiya Hussein, and GPA Southern Director, Andrew Weidemann AM, who gave a valuable update and grower perspective on the review of AgVet Chemical Regulations at the Australian Grain Storage & Protection Conference this year.*



GPA considers that there are three main outcomes required from reforms to the AgVet system in Australia:

- Increased investment and technology access
- Increased transparency of science-based decisions that are internationally recognised
- Increased Australian public and international trade confidence in the regulator

### **Industry pesticide permits and trade support**

GPA has worked closely with the Grain Industry Market Access Forum (now within Grains Australia) on trade issues related to the proposed phase out of key chemical maximum residue limits (MRLs). GPA engagement in Australian Government trade discussions was also instrumental in achieving acceptance for the use of grain phosphine treatment for exports to India.

GPA has supported the Australian grains industry with access to eight new pesticides and expanded label use through submissions to the APVMA trade advice notices (TANs) and public release summaries (PRS).

### **GPA minor and emergency use permits**

GPA has expanded support to the Australian grains industry through extending the scope of APVMA emergency and minor use permits. GPA permits held during the reporting period include:

- Permit PER91513 – ARYSTA SELECT XTRA HERBICIDE (Clethodim) and GRAMOXONE 360 PRO Herbicide (Paraquat) / Summer Fallow / Feathertop Rhodes grass, windmill grass, Barnyard grass - 24 January 2022 to 31 January 2025
- Permit PER 90223 - Product for control of various weeds in fallow in conjunction with optical spot spray technology - 1 December 2021 to 31 December 2026
- Permit PER 90799 - Chemical product for control of mice in certain crops and pasture - Updated permit with additional products - 7 May 2021 to 31 October 2022
- Permit PER 91156 NSW Only - Products with the spray drift management tool (SDMT) for the recalculation of buffer zones - 14 July 2021 to 31 July 2022

### **Agvet Policy Submissions, APVMA and OGTR in 2021**

GPA response to - proposed regulations and order to improve access to agricultural and veterinary chemicals: consultation paper 27 August 2021

APVMA Trade Advice Notice and Public Response Summary Submissions

GPA response to APVMA Trade Advice Notice on chlorantraniliprole in the product E2Y45 Insecticide for use on pulses APVMA product number 89966 – 7 April 2021

GPA response to APVMA Trade Advice Notice on imazamox and imazapyr in the product Nufarm Intercept Herbicide for use on faba beans – APVMA product number 69353 – 7 April 2021

GPA response to APVMA Trade Advice Notice on fluxapyroxad and mefentrifluconazole in the product Revystar Fungicide for use on wheat, barley, oats and canola APVMA product number 89744 – 27 April 2021

GPA response to APVMA Trade Advice Notice on fludioxonil and pydiflumetofen in the product Miravis Star Adepidyn Technology Fungicide for use on canola and pulses APVMA product number 89771 – 13 May 2021

GPA response to APVMA Application for Bromadiolone Emergency Use Permit for crop perimeter baiting – 11 June 2021

GPA response to Public Release Summary on the evaluation of the active constituent aclonifen in the product Mateno Complete Herbicide APVMA product number 89959 – 22 December 2021

GPA response to APVMA Trade Advice Notice on glyphosate in the product Nufarm CRUCIAL Herbicide for use on lupins APVMA product number 86761 – 22 December 2021

GPA response to Public Release Summary on the evaluation of the active constituent florylpicoxamid in the product Telbek Adavelt active Fungicide – 8 February 2022

GPA response to APVMA chemical review of anticoagulant rodenticides – 2 February 2022

Joint GPA submission with other industry Stakeholders - APVMA chemical review of anticoagulant rodenticides – 2 February 2022

OGTR DIR 178 BASF Commercial release of canola genetically modified for herbicide tolerance and a hybrid breeding system – 12 August 2021

OGTR Register 003: Inclusion of dealings with MON-00073-7 canola, genetically modified for herbicide tolerance, on the OGTR GMO Register – 31 March 2022



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**IN THE NEWS**

### QUEENSLAND COUNTRY LIFE | GPA spray drift program underway

WITH substantial summer rain over much of the nation's cropping belt spraying and control of summer weeds to conserve moisture is in full...



## Farms Advice Podcast

GPA is proud to be partnering with the Farms Advice Podcast in 2022.

Hosted by Jack Cresswell, Farms Advice brings together the leaders and innovators of agribusiness each Tuesday to discuss new development in Australian farming.

[Learn More](#)

# GPA ADVOCACY

## ISCC Certification with Sustainable Grain Australia

GPA continued to raise growers' concerns about the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC) scheme, and Sustainable Grain Australia's auditing processes against EU government regulations, to provide market access for not only the European oilseed market but the scheme's expansion to now include other Australian grains and markets. This advocacy led to a roundtable of industry stakeholders in early 2022 by the Australian Oilseeds Federation and subsequent establishment of a technical working group involving grains industry stakeholders, to continue efforts to resolve these concerns. AOF describes the ISCC scheme as a voluntary sustainability certification scheme enabling participants to demonstrate they are producing biomass in a manner which meets community expectations for environmentally, socially and economically sustainable production.

Growers understand the increasing need and importance of certification schemes to help provide market access, with grain buyers/customers seeking proof of sustainability practices on-farm, as part of increasing Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) requirements, and other influences. However, GPA members are also continuing to advocate a policy approach which ensures any certification program – not excluding recalibration of the ISCC scheme – can properly acknowledge the unique circumstances, provenance and world-leading sustainability practices of production systems already used by Australian growers, to add value for the grains produced by Australian growers. Such an Australian based accreditation scheme also needs to be efficient in providing broader market access to increase value, by ensuring on-farm auditing processes are not duplicated or burdensome. Grains Australia has been identified as the logical entity to manage and advance an Australian-owned and controlled certification scheme to protect growers' sovereign interests and capture optimal value.



## ACCC Market Study to Optimise Competition in Australian Grains Supply Chain

GPA's advocacy to prosecute our long-standing policy for the ACCC to conduct a market study of competition in the Australian grains supply chain was fine-tuned in late 2021 and ramped up during the recent Federal Election campaign, as part of GPA's policy priorities document. This process started with re-submitting this policy request to then Coalition Government Agriculture Minister, David Littleproud, in response to his request to delay a scheduled review of the Port Terminal Access (Bulk Wheat) Code of Conduct (the Code) by two-years. The Minister responded saying he was 'sympathetic' to growers' concerns about competition issues in the grains supply chain, but he wanted evidence, or 'evidence of the need, in order to justify the ACCC investigation or similar study. Taking immediate action, GPA appointed an independent consultant, working on contract, to produce this report, leading up to and during the 2021 harvest, interviewing a comprehensive range of industry participants and stakeholders to gauge their views on these matters. Among a range of serious findings regarding competition failures and lack of transparency, the report found that about 25 million tonnes of grain was expected to be exported from the last harvest at a \$50 per tonne discount, equating to \$1.25 billion loss to growers for the 2021/22 harvest.

This pricing shortfall was also the number one concern raised by GPA State Members at a harvest review meeting, in January 2022. GPA members also provided feedback on the draft report before it was finalised and officially presented to the former Minister.

This policy request was also a key pillar of GPA's 2022 election policy priorities document and backed by responses in GPA's pre-election grower survey. GPA's advocacy on this policy request was also bolstered by heightened media commentary of grower concerns with this pricing disparity.

This intense interest and media inquiry was further exacerbated after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which caused global grain prices to spike rapidly. GPA briefed members of parliament, political advisers, departmental officers and relevant stakeholders as part of an ongoing program of engagement, to further explain our policy position.

These briefings included grain traders and bulk handlers. In addition, GPA wrote to both major federal political parties, and minor parties and independents, seeking their formal responses and commitments to GPA's 2022 election policy priorities. Both major parties responded during the campaign in writing, with Labor stating that they intended to listen and further discuss the ACCC market study policy, if elected, to better understand the current concerns of growers and industry, on why it's needed.

GPA has subsequently followed up with this commitment, formally writing to the new Agriculture Minister, Murray Watt, seeking these discussions and meetings. This commitment was also reinforced at an initial Roundtable meeting of national grains industry representatives with the Minister shortly after the election. GPA is now looking forward to continuing these discussions to resolve these matters for growers and engage with the new government to help deliver solutions.

Whilst holding serious concerns about market competition failures and lack of transparency, GPA also believes it is beneficial for growers, industry, and government to conduct a proactive 'health check' of the market. Such a study would assess competition issues, using the ACCC's special investigative powers, and deliver reforms to help optimise competition for all participants. This analysis hasn't been done since Australia's wheat export market was de-regulated in 2008. A clear need exists to conduct this study, using these powers, to help resolve lingering debate.



Mar 31

IN THE NEWS

### WEEKLY TIMES | Federal budget: Grain growers call for price inquiry, roads funding

Grain industry leaders are pushing for more funding towards competition in the grains industry and roads in the wake of the Federal...



May 18

IN THE NEWS

### NSW COUNTRY HOUR | GPA welcomes Labor support for ACCC inquiry

NSW Country Hour host Michael Condon interviews Grain Producers Australia CEO Colin Bettles about the Labor Opposition's support for an...



## Farm Labour



Last year, after WAFarmers raised urgent concerns about critical workforce shortages facing members ahead of the record national harvest, GPA developed a national policy action plan working with our state members. This plan included short-term and long-term policy actions – and was backed by ongoing advocacy and engagement with media, industry and relevant ministers and members of federal parliament. It focused on the core issue of skilled worker shortages for grains, during peak surge periods (harvest and seeding), caused by ongoing impacts of COVID-19. In particular, the chronic loss of backpackers from the northern hemisphere with the skill and experience needed to do the job effectively and efficiently, without added training. GPA also engaged with other like-minded groups feeling these pressures, such as the Australian Custom Harvesters Association, to prosecute solutions.

GPA's work with WAFarmers was instrumental in the establishment of a National Roundtable being held which involved grains industry stakeholders and relevant government departments, including Agriculture, Immigration, Skills and Border-force, where core issues and visa options were discussed. A working group was subsequently established to follow up on these issues and – Chaired by GPA Board Director, Matthew Madden – and has met twice since the initial Roundtable, and can be reconvened to drive outcomes for grain producers.

Whilst GPA's national policy action plan looked at various solutions to overcome the loss of overseas workers, it also identified and called for other localised solutions such as training, tax concessions to incentivise retirees and students to work in not just grains, but rural communities. It also called on rural businesses such as stock agents and agronomists – eg Elders and Nutrien Ag, to consider allowing staff members to take leave without pay, to work on-farm during harvest and periods where surge capacity is required. In addition, GPA worked with State Members, with WAFarmers playing a leading role, to make a submission to the Federal Government's process to update the Agricultural Sector Occupations in ANZSCO, with targeted solutions for the grains industry. "The ANZSCO occupations lists need to be substantially amended in order for them to be even remotely applicable to modern grain farming," it said.

On 23 November 2021, former Agriculture Minister David Littleproud announced the outcomes of this process, saying the ANZSCO update, developed in partnership with the Australian Bureau of Statistics, would bring a more targeted approach to meet agricultural workforce demands. GPA also participated in processes to design the ag-visa, raising the need for suitable options to provide skilled workers for the grains sector, from countries targeted in this policy work.

In addition, GPA worked with its State Members, especially WAFarmers and AgForce, to establish and coordinate Operation Grain Harvest Assist which helped to provide former ADF members to work on grain farms at harvest throughout Australia. OGHA National Facilitator, Garry Spencer AM, has estimated 200-300 veterans answered the call to assist growers during the 20221 harvest which saw a record 62 million tonne grain harvest produced. The program saw two Facebook pages set-up to help connect workers with farmers and was managed by volunteers, with support of professional staff from SFOs. These former ADF members provided skills and experiences from their service, which enabled them to perform the necessary tasks, complemented by on-farm specific training.

This program also provided a unique opportunity to highlight workforce issues impacting the grains sector due to COVID-19, in the media, and show state and national grains leaders had worked together to deliver a self-help solution. Mr Spencer says many of these workers may be looking to return to work on farms this year and he's also exploring options for training and other ways to further progress this initiative to deliver mutual benefits. GPA's policy advocacy on farm labour solutions was also a key element of our 2022 Federal Election Policy Priorities document, and will continue to remain a focus given it has also been identified as a high priority, for the new Labor Government.

## Farm Inputs – Green Fertilisers – Lower Emissions

Throughout the past year GPA increased our advocacy focus on the importance of boosting local manufacturing, to help mitigate the supply risks and lower costs of key farm inputs. Whilst grain prices were high, so too were the prices for fertiliser, chemical and fuel due to global factors – especially Russia's invasion of Ukraine. With fertiliser prices increasing rapidly, GPA hosted a national industry Roundtable involving grains industry leaders and fertiliser representatives, with leading Federal Ministers and MPs.

The Green Fertiliser Industry Roundtable was hosted by GPA and Strike Energy, a business looking to manufacture urea in Western Australia. It focussed on locally produced fertiliser being able to help lower emissions, both directly and through a smaller transport carbon footprint. GPA chair and Western Australian grain producer, Barry Large, said increasing the domestic supply of fertiliser products, by building local manufacturing plants represented a game-changer for farmers. He said lower prices and greater certainty of supply would be a massive plus for the industry. "The proof will be in the pudding ultimately, not only in the actual prices offered to producers, but increasing the supply of key inputs such as urea into the local market can only be a good thing," Mr Large said at the Roundtable. Other presenters included then then Minister for Defence Industry, Science and Innovation, Melissa Price, and then Minister for Industry, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Angus Taylor.

These concerns about high input costs and the impact on productivity and production of growers and rural communities was subsequently reinforced in GPA's media commentary and federal election advocacy. GPA's 2022 Federal Election Policy Priorities called for actions to increase government investment in local manufacturing initiatives. This included calling for the Federal Government to conduct a high-level, strategic cost-benefit analysis of the opportunity to manufacture more local supply of essential farm inputs, with targeted investment in local manufacturing facilities, versus continuing to import these products from other countries. In particular, to minimise over-reliance and risks of supply from external sources such as China and India for raw ingredients needed to manufacture farm chemicals, fertilisers etc.

GPA also called for more support for projects, initiatives and ways of incentivising investments to increase local manufacturing opportunities with value-adding potential. In particular, growing more crops such as soybeans to produce the protein concentrate needed, to help strengthen the plant-based protein product sector's capacity to source its products from Australian grown produce. This was backed by the results of GPA's 2022 Federal Election Survey where the vast majority of respondents saying the Federal Government should invest more to support local manufacturing of industries which help to increase local supply and of key farm inputs.



# GPA PROJECTS

## Agricultural Field Machine Autonomy Code of Practice



GPA's project to implement a 'Code of Practice for Agricultural Field Machine Autonomy' (COP) continued to take shape over the past year, reaching a number of important milestones. The world's first COP for guiding the safe use of mobile autonomous agricultural equipment on-farm was developed in partnership with the Tractor and Machinery Association of Australia (including John Deere, CNH, AGCO, Kubota and Nufarm Croplands) and the Society of Precision Agriculture Australia. Last year the Code was formally presented to the Western Australian Government, through the Chair of the Commission for Occupational Safety and Health WA, for their consideration of formal endorsement and adoption.

The COP was also shared with WorkSafe Australia and these talks are continuing, along with government engagement. WA MPs and Ministers of the Government were briefed on this project and acknowledged GPA for being proactive with developing work-place safety standards to meet community expectations, and support access to the use of this technology for growers and industry.

Our project partners also agreed to sign-up for Stage 2 of this forward-thinking initiative that's being led by Dr Rohan Rainbow working on contract to GPA, utilising his expertise and knowledge in farm technology and regulations. Stage 2 of the project delivers a working plan to develop targeted communication, demonstration, stewardship and training programs to ensure the job is done once and done right.

GPA is excited about collaborating with other partners in this work, and investment opportunities, recognising grain farmers won't be the only primary producers to gain benefits, such as helping to address farm labour shortages. During the past year, two presentations on the Code were also made (online) by Dr Rainbow to the OECD Tractor Codes - Sub-Working Group Meeting on Agricultural Robots, Paris France.

The COP will assist those involved with autonomous agricultural field equipment to meet their legislative obligations for work health and safety under the Safe Work Australia Model Work Health and Safety (WHS) laws. It was designed to provide guidance on developing and evaluating safe work procedures for use of mobile partially automated, semi-autonomous and autonomous mobile field equipment including scouting vehicles, tractors, sprayers, haymaking and harvesting equipment.

John Deere's announcement in early 2022 that a fully autonomous tractor is ready for large-scale production, and would be available to farmers later this year, signals we're on the right track by working proactively to create a responsible, smart pathway for accessing this technology here in Australia. This announcement generated great excitement among Australian farmers and media interest, with GPA's project at the forefront of discussions.



## Grains Industry Sustainability Framework

The Grains Sustainability Project's Steering Committee met in December 2021 which was the first time after a request to endorse the metrics behind the draft document wasn't approved by participants, including GPA. A proposal to endorse these metrics was discussed in detail at the GPA Policy Council meeting in September 2021. Members continued to support the development of this work, which was launched in August 2019. GPA Members also supported and recognised the ongoing need to be proactive with sustainability, but didn't endorse the document in its current form.

A summary of feedback from GPA members was formally presented in writing to GGL which has led this project through Policy Manager, Fiona McCredie, working with GPA, GTA, AEGIC, GRDC and Grains Australia.

GPA's involvement and support for the project has been to ensure the framework is based on celebrating the achievements of grain producers and recognising the huge steps to improve carbon capture and environmental outcomes already taken by grain producers. In setting goals to demonstrate the sustainability credentials of the Australian grains industry GPA believed it was important to acknowledge the progress that has been made during the past 30 years.

The adoption of minimum tillage agriculture, retention of stubble and controlled traffic technology have all made considerable improvements to the health of soils, water use efficiency, carbon capture and soil biodiversity. Whilst Stage 1 of the framework is complete, which includes three pillars and 12 goals, GPA is committed to working with our members to develop the appropriate metrics and targets for each goal, as part of Stage 2, and looks forward to the Steering Committee meeting again.

## Mouse Plague Management

GPA has proactively monitored the mouse plague that's been one of the worst on record, impacting many grain producing communities over the past year, and continues to threaten crop production into 2022. GPA's policy work and advocacy in this area included a number of proactive initiatives to help support growers, resulting from long-term involvement with the National Mouse Management Group.

GPA collaborated with the CSIRO's leading researchers and GRDC experts, to deliver an ecologically sound solution, via an emergency use permit issued to GPA by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority. This permit doubled the potency of current zinc phosphide in mouse bait registrations, giving farmers timely access to a more potent tool and lethal option for use in-paddock, to help control mice and protect their crops.



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IN THE NEWS

### GRAIN CENTRAL | Vigilance required as mice become active

GRAIN Producers Australia (GPA) is urging growers to be alert and prepared to take action, amid increasing reports of mouse activity...



May 30, 2021

IN THE NEWS

### STOCK & LAND | GPA says double strength zinc phosphide is the safe, pragmatic mouse solution

Australian farmers are already suffering from the devastating impacts of prolonged droughts, flash floods, the global COVID-19 pandemic....

The APVMA permit increased the concentration of zinc phosphide active from 25 g/kg to 50 g/kg of mouse bait. The product is now recognised by growers as ZP-50 and has been keenly sought after by growers. Farm chemical manufacturing companies ACTA, PCT, Wilhelm Rural, Triox, 4Farmers and Imtrade were included on the permit, to manufacture and supply product via retail agencies.

GPA applied for the APVMA emergency use permit in early March 2021, with a further extension application extending the current permit use to 31 October 2022. Work is also underway to look at options to extend the GPA permit and help meet ongoing demand among growers for ZP-50 product. The permit was based on the outcomes of new scientific research that looked at the problem of anti-feeding behaviours in mice and in response to mouse monitoring and emerging plague risks. GPA's work to help establish the National Mouse Management Group in 2010 was essential to this ongoing effort and joint collaboration with industry groups and experts such as the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions and the CSIRO's leading mouse expert, Steve Henry, to help protect the profitability and sustainability of Australian grain producers.

Dr Henry's communications and media presence, with the GRDC's support, has also been invaluable to help spread timely advice to growers on management and control options, and raise community awareness of the social and economic impacts of mouse plagues and need for action.

GPA also supported NSWFarmers with their advocacy work which led to the NSW Government's \$100 million support package being delivered last year. This included rebates for farmers and \$5 million to assist manufacturers with the costs of transporting zinc phosphide to Australia, to help secure supply of bait to growers. GPA also supported NSWFarmers with raising concerns about the environmental efficacy and safety with the potential use of bromadiolone, with a permit application that was ultimately assessed and approval denied, by the APVMA.

### GPA Training – Lifting Safety Standards

GPA Training grew in strength with a number of new initiatives delivered over the past year, to improve safety standards and outcomes for farmers and farm businesses. Firstly, new safety partnerships were unveiled with GrainCorp and Qube Agri to deliver an online grain site delivery induction course, for growers and drivers to access sites in their networks.

As part of this, a Safety Committee involving a range of representatives of bulk handling companies, GPA Training representatives and safety professionals, was convened early in the new year.

This Committee will support the ongoing roll-out of this online training, by bringing together bulk handlers to collaborate on key issues and enhance safety standards and efficiencies.

Both GrainCorp and Qube Agri have re-confirmed their commitments to continue providing this grain site induction course in 2022/23, working with GPA to deliver this training that's been designed by growers for growers and others are expected to join before next harvest.

FMC also utilised the GPA Training platform to deliver a stewardship webinar and training module for Overwatch use. GPA hosted the webinar and provided this training course as part of our commitment to stewardship.

This also helps to ensure growers have access to timely, accurate information on how to apply the product correctly, in accordance with the registered label.

A new initiative aimed at increasing farm safety education with practical knowledge and awareness among school students, with Federal Government funding support, was also announced in early 2022.

The GPA Agricultural Safety Training project will see about 200 school students in SA given access to a range of online courses on agricultural safety.



The Port Pirie Industry Training Hub, covering the Barossa, Yorke and Mid North regions, is funding the roll-out of GPA Training’s virtual training platform to a range of senior secondary agriculture students. Students who want to work in the grains and farming sector, guided by their teacher, will become familiar with key farm safety practices. Farm safety remains a priority for GPA and our members and it was great to see these education opportunities delivered to the next generation, via digital programs.

GPA Training supports GPA’s strategic objectives to deliver initiatives in pursuit of zero harm on-farm and in the off-farm supply chain and surrounding communities. GPA will continue delivering new courses online via GPA Training to ensure we’re continually lifting the bar, to improve safety outcomes, with partnerships a key focus.

**GPA Training Committee:**

- Andrew Weidemann
- Mark Schilling
- Alison Hartman
- Paul Daniel
- Colin Bettles



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**IN THE NEWS**

**GRAIN CENTRAL | GPA offers SA students farm-safety training**

GRAIN Producers Australia (GPA) has announced a new initiative aimed at increasing farm safety education with practical knowledge and...



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**IN THE NEWS**

**FARM WEEKLY | The proper use of Overwatch, a chemical from FMC, was the focus of training**

A SERIES of training modules have been delivered to agronomists and advisers by FMC to provide an accurate understanding of key...



Nov 8, 2021

**IN THE NEWS**

**GRAIN CENTRAL | GrainCorp, Qube on board with GPA safety course**

Photo: GrainCorp

## #AUSSIEGRAIN4UKRAINE

GPA launched the #AUSSIEGRAIN4UKRAINE appeal in April 14 which was well-received, including strong media coverage and promotion across social media. A GPA farmer led sub-committee is overseeing the fundraising appeal to deliver long-term humanitarian support for Ukraine farmers and rural communities.

The Aussie Grain4Ukraine appeal was launched with a shout-out for Australian grain farmers to display Ukraine flags on their farm machinery during seeding to show Ukraine farmers that they had support all around the world. Australian grain producers can donate grain delivered from this year's winter harvest via a dedicated Grower Delivery Card, in the National Grower Register system.

The sub-committee is determining the organisations where the funds will be directed to provide this support for Ukraine farmers and their communities, which will be announced pre-harvest. Committee members have strong connections with Ukraine farmers which is also being used to inform decision-making. The Grower Delivery Card in the NGR is numbered 1500 4442 and registered to GPA.

### Sub-committee:

- James Stacey
- Andrew Whitelaw
- David Fulwood
- Simon Wallwork
- Brad Jones
- Colin Bettles



## GPA's Farmer Mates Mental Health Initiative

GPA unveiled a new national partnership this year aimed at boosting mental health awareness and suicide prevention among Australian farmers and rural communities. The initiative will see Australian cricketer legend and country born and raised Brad Hogg appointed the inaugural ambassador of GPA's Farmer Mates Mental Health program. From a WA Wheatbelt farming family, Brad is also an ambassador for Lifeline WA, where he shares important messages and his own personal experiences around mental health, with different groups and events in regional areas.

The GPA initiative will allow his work and messages to be expanded, to reach more farmers and regional communities throughout the nation. GPA's new mental health awareness initiative is being backed by a strong team featuring Lifeline, Rural Aid and Nufarm. This will support Brad's attendance at a series of forums hosted by GPA with some of their State Farming Members, at farm field days held throughout Australia this year.

GPA Chair Barry Large was motivated to take positive action and establish the new program in response to suicides felt by farmers and other members of his local community in WA last year. One of the main messages GPA will share with other farmers is the importance of mates talking to mates and doing what we can to look out for each other and make a difference.

Nufarm Commercial General Manager, Peter O'Keeffe, said his company is proud to be supporting this important initiative, to help make a difference for farmers and their communities. Nufarm believe it's important to support Brad in delivering his practical grass roots messages about the importance of mental health, working with a grass roots farmer organisation such as GPA.

Lifeline's 24/7 telephone crisis support service is available on 13 11 14

Rural Aid's Mental Health and Wellbeing Team intake line 1300 17 55 94 - Head Office 1300 327 624





# Financial Statements 2022

For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

ABN: 63 111 059 995



# DIRECTORS' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Your directors present their report on the company, for the financial year ended 31 March 2022.

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

<b>Barry Large</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Western Region Elected Director and Chairman</b> Quarantine and Biosecurity Spokesman, MAICD 27/08/2010
<b>Andrew Noel Weidemann AM</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Southern Region Elected Director</b> B.A. Dip Ag Sc, MAICD Research and Development Spokesman 25/09/2009
<b>Luke Arbuckle</b> Qualifications Appointed Resigned	<b>Northern Region Elected Director</b> B. Agr Sc 09/01/2013 09/09/2021
<b>Andrew Earle</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Northern Region Elected Director</b> Dip. Farm Mgt, MAICD 09/01/2013
<b>Stephen David Ball</b> Qualifications Appointed Resigned	<b>Southern Region Elected Director</b> B App. Sc. Ag 07/02/2016 30/11/2021
<b>Peter Bridgeman</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Board Appointed Skills Director</b> B.A. (Hon), LLB (Hons), Barrister-at-Law - Law, Public Policy 07/09/2010
<b>Mitchell Harry Hooke AM</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Board Appointed Skills Director</b> B.Rur.Sc. (UNE), MAIA, MAICD - Public policy development and advocacy, business in agri-food and resources sectors, and corporate governance 28/07/2015
<b>Gerard Paganoni</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Western Region Elected Director</b> BSc Population, Resource and Technology, MAICD 21/07/2019
<b>Mark Schilling</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Southern Region Elected Director</b> 30/11/2021
<b>Matthew Madden</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Northern Region Elected Director</b> Assoc Dip Farm Mgt (OAC) MAICD 09/09/2021
<b>Neil White</b> Qualifications Appointed	<b>Company Secretary</b> Dip. App. Sci. (Agriculture) 09/01/2013

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## Principal activities

The principal activities of Grain Producers Australia Limited during the financial year were to:

- Represent Australia's broadacre, grain, pulse and oilseed producers at the national level.
- Represent Australia's broadacre grain, pulse and oilseed producers in our role as an appointed Representative Organisation to GRDC.
- Represent Australia's broadacre grain, pulse and oilseed producers in our role as grains signatory to the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) and as the grains member of Plant Health Australia (PHA).
- Foster a strong, innovative, profitable, globally competitive and environmentally sustainable grains industry in Australia.
- Be a strong independent national advocate for grain producers based on a rigorous and transparent policy development process.
- Engage all sectors of the Australian grains industry to ensure operation of the most efficient and profitable grain supply chain.
- Facilitate a strategic approach to Research, Development and Extension intended to deliver sound commercial outcomes from industry research.
- Foster an industry leading policy council which is supported by the State Farm Organisation (SFO) members including: VFF Grains Group, NSW Farmers Association, Agforce Grains, Grain Producers SA, TFGA, WAFF, WAGG along with 3 elected growers from the North, South & Western region of Australia.
- Support the comprehensive national representation across the Australian production sector.
- Work with stakeholders to develop policies and positions on chemical regulations reform, pesticide application technologies, wheat export marketing arrangements skills and training in agriculture and research and development in chemical residues.
- Make written submissions and presentations to Senate and the House of Representative committees on wheat export marketing arrangements and skills and training in agriculture.
- Be involved in the National Working Party on Pesticide Application, Grains Industry Market Access Forum, Industry Working Group for the Code of Conduct for Port Access and the National Mouse Management Working Party.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Company's activity during the financial year.

## Short term objectives

The Company's short- and long-term objectives are to:

- Foster and initiate the development and implementation of policies that promote the economic and environmental sustainability of the Australian grains industry;
- Develop strategies that address key commercial issues and impediments to the profitable commercial operation of the grains industry to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, viability and comparative advantage of Australia's grains industry;
- Represent and promote Australia's grain growers, the policies of the Company and the interest of Australia's grain industry nationally and internationally; and
- Make representations to, and work with, governments in accordance with the roles and responsibilities of the Company under the Primary Industries and Energy Research Development Act 1989 (PIERD), the Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999 and the Primary Industries (Customs Charges) Act 1999 and grains industry signatory to the Emergency Plan Pest Response Deed through Plant Health Australia.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## Strategy for achieving the objectives

The principal activities assisted the Company in achieving its objectives by:

- Ensuring transparency and accountability to the grains industry;
- Providing effective representation to national government representatives and politicians;
- Raising the awareness of the issues facing grain producers; and
- Facilitating action on key issues facing the grains industry.

## How principal activities assisted in achieving the objectives

The principal activities assisted the Company in achieving its objectives by:

- Ensuring transparency and accountability to the grains industry;
- Providing effective representation to national government representatives and politicians;
- Raising the awareness of the issues facing grain producers; and
- Facilitating action on key issues facing the grains industry.

## Performance measures

The following measures are used within the Company to monitor performance:

- Assessing the transparency of policy development;
- Physical presence representing the views of grains industry stakeholders;
- Ensuring revenue derived is effectively being directed towards increasing the profitable commercial and comparative operation of the grains industry; and
- Assessing the impact of all these activities through policy of position change around key areas of activity.

## Members guarantee

Grain Producers Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of winding up of the company, the amount capable of being called up from each member is limited to \$2, subject to the provisions of the company's constitution.

For governance matters (at 31 March 2022) based on financial contributions, Grain Producers Australia Limited's membership – comprising direct grower members and the grower members of GPA's State Farming Organisation Members (SFOs), totals 4,076. GPA's membership collectively represents responsibilities, under federal legislation, for about 22,500 farm businesses that produce broadacre, grain, pulse and oilseed producers and pay compulsory levies on the sale of these commodities. GPA provides accountability of spending for these levies which go to fund essential industry activities such as RD&E, biosecurity and grain quality/market access, to support the profitability and sustainability of growers and Australia's \$13 billion grains industry.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 5 meetings of directors (including committees of directors) were held. Attendance by each director during the year were as follows:


	Directors' Meetings		Audit Committee Meetings		Remuneration Committee Meetings	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended	Number eligible to attend	Number attended	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Andrew Weidemann	5	5	-	-	3	3
Barry Large	5	5	1	1	3	3
Luke Arbuckle	2	1	1	1	-	-
Andrew Earle	5	5	2	2	-	-
Mitchell Hooke	5	5	1	1	3	3
Peter Bridgeman	5	5	2	2	-	-
Steve Ball	2	2	-	-	-	-
Gerard Paganoni	5	5	2	2	-	-
Mark Schilling	1	1	1	1	-	-
Matthew Madden	3	3	-	-	-	-
Neil White (Company Secretary)	5	5	-	-	3	3

## Auditor's independence declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, for the year ended 31 March 2022 has been received and can be found on page 38 of the financial report. Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:



Director: Barry Large  
Dated: 30 June, 2022



Director: Andrew Weidemann

## Accountants Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 To the Directors of Grain Producers Australia Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 March 2022, there have been:

- (i) No contraventions of the accountant's independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review of the financial reports; and
- (ii) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relations to the review.

Herries Davidson & Co

*Shawn Quinton*

Shawn Quinton  
Partner

# STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Affiliate fees		225,983	196,600
Consultations/Contracts	2	101,940	58,866
Project income	2	156,492	-
Other Revenues	2	9,156	308,685
Directors fees in lieu	2*	-	73,330
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration Expenses		(32,602)	(13,153)
Ag in Compliance Project		-	(175,000)
Audit Fees		(4,900)	(4,800)
Code of Practice Project		(1,874)	(15,000)
Consultants/Contractors		(93,173)	(60,365)
Directors fees	2*	-	(97,330)
Employment expenses		(212,357)	(176,542)
Insurance		(578)	(986)
Provision for doubtful debts		(28,559)	-
Telephone		(119)	(797)
Travel & Accommodation		(6,207)	(3,388)
<b>Profit / (Loss) for the year</b>		<u>113,202</u>	<u>90,120</u>
<b>Total Profit / (Loss) for the year</b>		<u><u>113,202</u></u>	<u><u>90,120</u></u>

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Bank balances	3	933,018	789,838
Trade and other receivables	4	-	27,500
Other assets	6	-	83
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>933,018</u>	<u>817,421</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	5	-	-
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>933,018</u>	<u>817,421</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	7	94,484	92,089
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>94,484</u>	<u>92,089</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>94,484</u>	<u>92,089</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>838,534</u>	<u>725,332</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		838,534	725,332
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>838,534</u>	<u>725,332</u>



# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

<b>2022</b>	<b>Retained Earnings</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Balance at 1 April 2021</b>	725,332	725,332
Adjustment to prior year	-	-
Profit / (Loss) attributable to members	113,202	113,202
<b>Balance at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>838,534</b>	<b>838,534</b>

<b>2021</b>	<b>Retained Earnings</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Balance at 1 April 2020</b>	634,712	634,712
Adjustment to prior year	500	500
Profit / (Loss) attributable to members	90,120	90,120
<b>Balance at 31 March 2021</b>	<b>725,332</b>	<b>725,332</b>

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Receipts from customers		488,415	559,135
Payments to suppliers and employees		(350,391)	(384,979)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	11	<u>138,024</u>	<u>174,156</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Interest		5,156	5,017
		<u>5,156</u>	<u>5,017</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		143,180	179,173
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		789,838	610,665
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	3	<u>933,018</u>	<u>789,838</u>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The financial statements cover Grain Producers Australia Limited as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Grain Producers Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee.

## 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### (a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 30 June 2022 by the directors of the company.

### (b) Comparative Amounts

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

### (c) Revenue and other income

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received. Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which, for floating rate financial assets, is the rate inherent in the instrument. Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

#### Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

### (d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

### (e) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

#### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1(g) for details of impairment).

#### Depreciation

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

#### Fixed assets class

Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings 33%

The assets' residual values, depreciation methods and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

### (f) Financial Instruments

#### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is the equivalent to the date that the company commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transactions costs, except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss' in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

#### Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest method, or cost.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) over the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying value with a consequential recognition of an income or expense item in profit or loss.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## *(i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss*

Financial assets are classified at 'fair value through profit or loss' when they are held for trading for the purpose of short-term taking, derivatives not held for hedging purposes, or when they are designated as such to avoid an accounting mismatch or to enable performance evaluation where a group of financial assets is managed by key management personnel on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in carrying value being included in profit or loss.

## *(ii) Loans and receivables*

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

## *(iii) Held-to-maturity investments*

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets that have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments, and it is the company's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

## *(iv) Available-for-sale financial investments*

Available-for-sale investments are non-derivative financial assets that are either not capable of being classified into other categories of financial assets due to their nature, or they are designated as such by management. They comprise investments in the equity of other entities where there is neither a fixed maturity nor fixed or determinable payments.

They are subsequently measured at fair value with any re-measurements other than impairment losses and foreign exchange gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive income. When the financial asset is derecognised, the cumulative gain or loss pertaining to that asset previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified into profit or loss.

Available-for-sale financial assets are included in non-current assets when they are expected to be sold within 12 months after the end of the reporting period. All other available-for-sale financial assets are classified as current assets.

## *(v) Financial liabilities*

Non-derivative financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Company has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

## **Impairment**

At the end of each reporting period, the company assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset has been impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets will be deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of the occurrence of one or more events (a 'loss event'), which has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset(s).

In the case of available-for-sale financial assets, a significant or prolonged decline in the market value of the instrument is considered a loss event. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss immediately. Also, any cumulative decline in fair value previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified to profit or loss at this point.

In the case of financial assets carried at amortised cost, loss events may include indications that the debtors, or a group of debtors, are experiencing significant financial difficulty, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments, indications that they will enter into bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation and changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost (including loans and receivables), a separate allowance account is used to reduce the carrying amount of financial assets impaired by credit losses. After having undertaken all possible measures of recovery, if the management establishes that the carrying amount cannot be recovered by any means, at that point the written off amounts are charged to the allowance account or the carrying amount of impaired financial assets is reduced directly if no impairment amount was previously recognised in the allowance account.

When the terms of financial assets that would otherwise have been past due or impaired have been renegotiated the company recognises the impairment for such financial assets by taking into account the original terms as if the terms have not been renegotiated so that the loss events that have occurred are duly considered.

## **Derecognition**

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expire or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the company no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed is recognised in profit or loss.

## **(g) Impairment of non-financial assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the company assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. The assessment will include

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

the consideration of external and internal sources of information. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another Standard (eg in accordance with the revaluation model in AASB 116). Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other Standard.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and when the company would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

## **(h) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

## **(i) Trade and Other Payables**

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the company during the reporting period which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

## **(j) Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

The directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company.

## **(k) Economic dependence**

Grains Producers Australia Limited is dependent on the support of annual member subscriptions and sponsorship from other organisations for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the directors have no reason to believe the support of members and sponsorship will not continue.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## 2 Revenue and Other Income

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	\$	\$
Revenue		
- Affiliate Fees	225,983	196,600
- Government Grant (Maintaining Quality Leadership in the Australian Grains Industry)	-	175,000
- Consultations/Contracts	101,940	58,866
- Project income	156,492	-
- Directors fees in lieu offsetting fees paid*	-	73,330
- COVID-19 ATO Subsidy	-	40,868
- JobKeeper Subsidy	4,000	57,800
- Victorian Govt COVID-19 Support	-	30,000
- Interest	5,156	5,017
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	493,571	637,481
	<hr/>	<hr/>

\* Following audit advice, GPA has adopted a new policy where in-kind contributions in relation to Directors Fees are no longer recorded.

## 3 Cash and cash equivalents

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	933,018	789,838
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	933,018	789,838
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## 4 Trade and other receivables

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	28,559	27,500
Less: Provision for doubtful debts	(28,559)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	27,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Reconciliation of changes in the provision for impairment of receivables is as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	\$	\$
Balance at beginning of the year	-	-
Additional impairment loss recognised	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Balance at end of the year</b>	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## 5 Property, plant and equipment continued

### (a) Movements in carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	<b>Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
<b>Year ended 31 March 2022</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	-
<b>Balance at the end of the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	<b>Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
Balance at the beginning of year		-
Depreciation expense		-
		-

## 6 Other assets

	<b>2022 \$</b>	<b>2021 \$</b>
Prepayments	-	83
	-	83

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## 7 Trade and other payables

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade payables	7,358	2,014
Accruals	5,500	5,500
Net GST payable	10,578	12,834
PAYG payable	11,634	12,831
Superannuation payable	-	-
Annual leave provision	12,770	12,266
Contracted funds with deliverables	46,644	46,644
	<u>94,484</u>	<u>92,089</u>

## 8 Financial Risk Management

The company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, accounts receivable and payable.

The carrying amounts for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
<b>Financial Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	933,018	789,838
Trade and other receivables	-	27,500
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<u>933,018</u>	<u>817,338</u>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	94,484	92,089
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<u>94,484</u>	<u>92,089</u>

## 9 Members' Guarantee

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$2 each towards meeting any outstanding's and obligations of the Company.

For governance matters (at 31 March 2022), Grain Producers Australia Limited membership comprising Direct Members and Australian Grain Producers (being represented by their State Affiliate Farming Organisations) total 4,076.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2022

## 10 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 31 March 2022 (31 March 2021: None).

## 11 Cash Flow Information

### (a) Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Profit/(loss) for the year	113,202	90,120
Cash flows excluded from profit		
Attributed to investing activities	(5,156)	(5,017)
Non-cash flows in profit:		
- Prior year change to profit	-	500
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of the effects of purchase and disposal of subsidiaries:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	27,500	91,767
- (increase)/decrease in prepayments	83	354
- Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	<u>2,395</u>	<u>(3,568)</u>
Cashflow from operations	<u>138,024</u>	<u>174,156</u>

## 12 Events Occurring After the Reporting Date

The financial report was authorised for issue on 30 June 2022 by the Board of Directors.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.



# DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 9 to 22, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
  - a. Comply with Accounting standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
  - b. Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 March 2022 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

The declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



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Barry Large  
Director



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Andrew Weidemann  
Director

Dated 30 JUNE 2022

## **Independent Assurance Practitioner's Review Report to the members of Grain Producers Australia Limited**

### *Report on the Financial Statements*

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Grain Producers Australia Limited, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2022, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Assurance practitioner's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements. We conducted our review in accordance with Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2400, *Review of a Financial Report Performed by an Assurance Practitioner Who is not the Auditor of the Entity*. ASRE 2400 requires us to conclude whether anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements, taken as a whole, are not prepared in all material respects in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. This Standard also requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with ASRE 2400 is a limited assurance engagement. The assurance practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making enquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained. The procedures performed in a review are substantially less than those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

### *Conclusion*

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that these financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Grain Producers Australia Limited as at 31 March 2022 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

*Shawn Quinton*

Shawn Quinton  
Partner  
30 June 2022

## GRAIN PRODUCERS AUSTRALIA

- Representing Australia's grain producers
- Growing our future, boosting sustainability and resilience
- Strong advocacy, good outcomes, grower focussed





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