

MEDIA RELEASE

29 February 2024



Successful 2024 COGGO research projects announced

The Council of Grain Grower Organisations Ltd (COGGO) have announced the successful recipients of their annual Research Fund.

The COGGO Research Fund will support the following projects commencing January 2024:

- Barley Council, Grain Industry Association of WA (\$15,000 over one year) **“Development of a business case that quantifies the need for research to establish appropriate receival standard(s) as a measure of malt barley storability”**.
- Farmanco (\$65,000 over two years) **“Preparing our people for natural disaster mental health management”**.
- Stirlings to Coast Farmers (\$103,852 over two years) **“Measuring herbicide residue and the impact on subsequent grain crops under high rainfall conditions”**.

A fourth research project is under final negotiation before being announced.

COGGO Chairman, Rhys Turton, said the 2024 projects provided a holistic look at the Western Australian grain industry and extended into areas of markets and mental health.

“This year’s projects address a growing need to acknowledge the administration of our grain enterprises as well as the growing of the crops themselves,” Mr Turton said.

“It is critical that the health of both our farmers and our business practices match the health of our crops, and COGGO is pleased to be able to support these initiatives through targeted research over the next couple of years.”

COGGO has a long history of providing catalytic funding for new R&D ideas and have seen many past recipients make a significant impact on returns for WA grain growers.

“COGGO members voluntarily contribute 0.5% of their net farm-gate returns to the Research Fund, for which we are grateful and enables us to support new early-stage research,” Mr Turton said.

“30 expressions of interest were received for the 2024 funding round, from a cross section of industry, government, grower groups, universities and research organisations, indicating the demand for funding of small stimulus R&D projects of relevance to grain growers in WA.”

Established in 2000, the purpose of the COGGO Research Fund is to invest in innovative new research and development projects from across the whole supply chain, and that can demonstrate a direct benefit to WA grain growers.

FOR INTERVIEWS

Rhys Turton, Chairman
COGGO
M 0417 412 565
E rhysturton@westnet.com.au

MEDIA CONTACT

Dean McKenzie, Company Secretary
COGGO
M 9480 0406
E admin@coggo.net.au

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2024 COGGO Research Fund supported projects

- **Barley Council, Grain Industry Association of WA “Development of a business case that quantifies the need for research to establish appropriate receival standard(s) as a measure of malt barley storability”:**
The project aims to develop a strong business case to justify investment, by government and industry bodies, into research to identify the best methodology to use, at the point of grain receival, for assessing the likely duration of high germination of malting barley in storage.
- **Farmanco “Preparing our people for natural disaster mental health management”:**
The project aims to provide agricultural professionals working in rural areas with the necessary skills to effectively communicate and support farmers who are experiencing high levels of situational stress, in the aftermath of natural disasters or major weather events.
- **Stirlings to Coast Farmers “Measuring herbicide residue and the impact on subsequent grain crops under high rainfall condition”:**
This project aims to provide growers with new data on how certain herbicides of concern (i.e., IMIs, Sakura, Overwatch and Mateno Complete) may be continuing to impact crops outside of the ‘labelled’ plant-back periods in higher rainfall environments or in years of higher rainfall, particularly where waterlogging occurs. This information will not only be useful to growers and advisers in these high rainfall zone environments, but it will also be applicable to the entire WA grain belt in years of high rainfall.

About COGGO

Council of Grain Grower Organisations Ltd (COGGO) is a public company limited by guarantee, with a mandate to invest in Research and Development for the benefit of grain growers in Western Australia. Grower members voluntarily contribute 0.5% of their net farm-gate value of production for investment in Research and Development through COGGO. This contribution has played a significant part in assisting the Western Australian grains industry to maintain its market competitiveness. A further round is expected to be advertised in July/August 2022 for potential projects to commence in 2023.

The COGGO Research Fund is administered by the [Grain Industry Association of Western Australia \(GIWA\) Inc.](#)

For more information, please visit <http://www.coggo.net.au/>.