

HGA Conference 16/17th October 2010

Speakers

Key-Note Speaker

Alison Laing – Climate Research Officer, CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems

Alison's current research focuses on examining a range of climate and other environmental variables that have an effect on farm productivity. The focus of her work is to identify potential practical adaptation options appropriate to farms across a range of agro-climate zones.

Astrid Hughes – Horticulture Australia Ltd (HAL)

Astrid Hughes is an Industry Services Manager with HAL. Her portfolio of responsibility includes both Hazelnuts and the Australian Nut Industry Council. HAL provided funding for a complete revision of the Hazelnut Growers Handbook. Astrid will officially launch the Handbook.

Alan Davey – Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation

Alan Davey is Senior Research Manager, New Plant Products with RIRDC and was involved with the hazelnut research which was funded by RIRDC for 10 years. He will officially launch the final report on the 10 year research project.

Yann Guisard – Charles Sturt University

Dr Yann Guisard has been conducting research into water use by horticultural crops and is about to embark on a 5-year study of water use in a young hazelnut orchard. Yann will speak about methods of measuring soil moisture and water stress in plants as well as the new research project.

Cliff Gray – Antonio Carraro Tractors

Our gold sponsors for the HGA conference are Antonio Carraro Tractors. Cliff Gray is the Area Manager of Antonio Carraro Oceania and he will speak about the range of horticultural tractors produced by the company. Delegates will have the opportunity to see some of the tractors on Saturday. On Sunday morning there will be field demonstrations during the Farm Walks.

Basil Baldwin – Fourjay Farms and Charles Sturt University

Basil has been involved with RIRDC funded research on hazelnuts since its inception. Basil brings a wealth of knowledge on hazelnut growing in Australia and has had the opportunity to visit most hazelnut growing regions of the world.

Wayne Haslam – Truffle Growers Association

Wayne Haslam is a truffle producer near Canberra and will talk about the mysteries of truffle growing and the challenges of managing a trufferie.

Colin Carter – Truffle Growers Association

Colin Carter is a propagator of inoculated truffle trees, both oak and hazelnuts.

Lester Snare – NSW Industry and Investment

Lester was involved with the RIRDC-funded research and managed the research site at Orange NSW Industry and Investment (formerly DPI) in Orange. He will speak on his experiences with the hazelnut sites at both Orange and Bathurst.

Sunday morning – Orchard Visits

Stewart and Dianne Deans – Nuts about Bungendore

Stewart and Dianne have a small property near Lake George where they grow hazelnuts and chestnuts. In order to combat bird problems, they decided to erect permanent netting over their orchard which was a big undertaking. Stewart will talk about how successful this has been.

Les Beresford – Riverview Partnership near Hall

Les and Robyn Beresford operate their hazelnut orchard as a pick-your-own business. Les will talk about how this works for them.