

# CARBON NEWS Issue 12



## Spring Edition

The winter is now finally easing and harvest is rapidly approaching. Hopefully the frosts have been kind to your farm and your crop yields have reached their potential.

WANTFA has held a lot of events in the previous months, so I hope you have caught up with us and had a chat.

The Nutrition-Compaction-Rotations workshops have been completed. If you missed the one in your area but would still like some information please get in contact with us so we can send something out to you.

### **Last Event to watch out for:**

**Deep Ripping and Organic Matter Inclusion on Morrel Soils - Beacon - 18th Oct**

---

## **Making Fertiliser Decisions Pay**

Research has shown that growers don't fully consider the input costs and producers are not just focusing on maximising their profits. They are focussing on trying to achieve a target yield.

A new spread sheet model (called LEAP2MPCN) was created through GRDC-DAFWA More Profit from Crop Nutrition (MPCN) II project led by Dr Imma Farre DAFWA Grains Industry soil productivity researcher and Amir Abadi at the GRDC- supported Centre for Crop and Disease Management (CCDM).

The aim of the tool is to help farmers determine the economic optimum nutrient rates and the break even rate. To read more about this model click [HERE](#)





## Changing Clouds

Between the 1980s and the 2000s there has been many different independent satellite records taken where patterns between cloud changes have been seen. These models were initially developed to monitor weather and they have thought to lack stability to monitor cloud movement and patterns. However these predications are actually occurring in nature. For more information and images of the cloud patterns with the models simulations of climate with recent historical external radioactive forcing.

To read more click [HERE](#)

---

## Root diversity improves soil structure

Researchers from Europe have found that the key to having well-structured and resilient soils is to grow a range of legume or grass varieties, as they have different root structures and work differently. A legume's tap root helps get water into the soil quickly whilst the grass varieties have fine root structures which enhance the stability of the soil.



To read more about this click [HERE](#)

---



## Frost occurrence and wheat risk

Frosts are estimated to cost the Australian broadacre agricultural industry \$120 million to \$700 million per year. A CSIRO analysis shows the threshold for frosts at ground level is roughly 2°C or below. In their work CSIRO has found the frost season has increased in length by 26 days and finishes 4 weeks later than in the 1960's.

To read more click [HERE](#)

---



## Summers getting longer and winters getting shorter

Summer has on average increased by 13 days and winter decreased by 20 days over the last 36 years. These substantial results compared with previous studies have been found by Evan Kutta and Jason A. Hubbart

To read more click [HERE](#)

---



## Constraints and opportunities to adapt with climate change in broadacre cropping

Australian broadacre farmers and families are constantly adapting to constraints of the Australian climate and changes. A study has recently been completed across Australia in a range of rural communities. Farmers considered that low equity and limited capital constrained adaptation while high soil productivity and low rainfall variability enabled them to adapt to climate change quicker.

To read more click [HERE](#)



---

## Managing Land and Fertiliser to Reduce Emissions

### Webinar recording

This one hour webinar outlines activities and resources produced by Fertcare. It discusses key messages on how to optimise productivity while minimising greenhouse gas emissions.

To hear the recording click [HERE](#)

---



## WANTFA Project: Carbon Farming

Visiting our [website](#) is a great way to learn about carbon farming, the Emissions Reduction Fund and find information relevant to WA.

The resources created by this project over the last two and a half years are all available on the website. This includes webinars on the life cycle analysis of farm inputs, livestock management to reduce GHG emissions and soil carbon in long term no-tillage systems, as well as fact sheets on carbon farming activities and the methods that are relevant to WA farmers. Past newsletters and WANTFA journal articles are also kept here.

If you are a farmer you can gain benefits by participating in carbon farming activities such as:

- **Improved productivity**
- **Efficiency gains**
- **Better soil health and decreased salinity**
- **More efficient water use**

Your local environment and community will benefit as well.

To read more click [HERE](#)

You can always follow us on Twitter: @WANTFA\_Carbon and @WANTFA\_farming

---

*Copyright © 2016 WANTFA, All rights reserved.*

This newsletter is produced as part of WANTFA's Carbon Farming Extension and Outreach project. This project is supported by funding from the Australian Government.

**Our mailing address:** WANTFA, Private Bag 5, Wembley WA 6913

**Phone:** 08 93837630

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)