

AUSTRALIAN GRAIN STORAGE & PROTECTION CONFERENCE

MEETING MARKET REQUIREMENTS

NWPGP

National Working Party on Grain Protection



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE NATIONAL WORKING PARTY ON GRAIN PROTECTION

17-18 JUNE 2026

SOFITEL MELBOURNE ON COLLINS, VIC



CONFERENCE REPORT



NWPGP BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



The Australian Grain Storage and Protection Conference is convened by Grain Trade Australia and chaired by National Working Party on Grain Protection (NWPGP) which is funded by Grains Australia Limited.

MEETING MARKET REQUIREMENTS

The Australian grain industry came together in Melbourne on **17-18 June 2026** for the **53rd Australian Grain Storage & Protection Conference**, continuing its long-standing commitment to safeguarding market access and maintaining the industry's reputation for providing clean, safe grain.

NWPGP Chair Gerard McMullen described the event as a cornerstone of the industry calendar. He mentioned that The NWPGP Conference supports the vital role of science combined with stewardship across the supply chain, helping enhance the global reputation of Australian grain as a high-quality, safe product.

Over 35 speakers and industry experts provided information to 200 delegates on a range of research findings, communication and extension activities conducted and supported by various industry and government organisations such as the Australian Pesticides & Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), Grains Research and Development Corporation's (GRDC) Grain Storage Extension Team and state Government agencies.

Grain Trade Australia has a long association and history with the NWPGP conference and is proud to be a conference organiser. **GTA Chair Ole Houe** opened the 2026 conference and emphasised that despite the industry facing many challenges, the industry continues to manage market access.

The cooperation of many sectors in managing ongoing issues is highly regarded and should continue to place the industry in a position to manage future challenges.

Without that cooperation, the industry would not be as efficient as it is today.

That is why events like NWPGP matter. As market expectations increase and become more demanding there is a requirement for both industry and government to consider how to ensure supply chain participants are capable and adequately trained in the necessary steps to be compliant.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS



CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS



CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS



CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

39
Speakers

192 Delegates



Conference
APP & Polls

2 day
Program

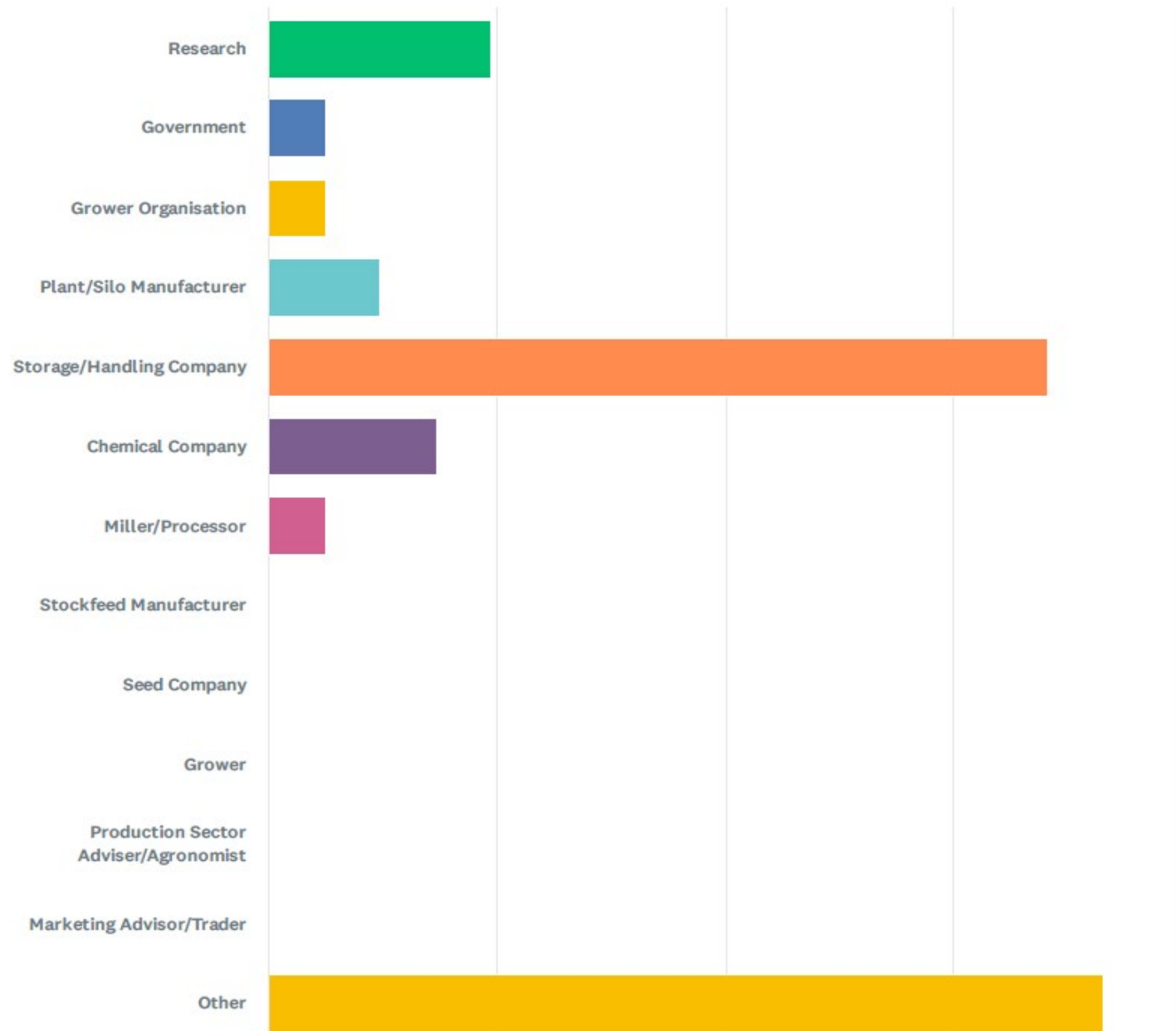
Established
venue

11 Gold
Sponsors

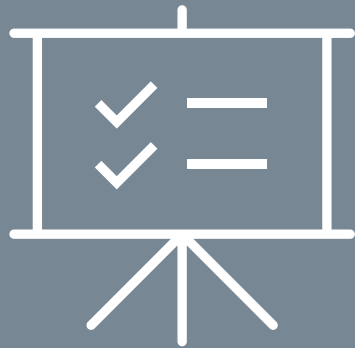
Maintained
attendance

Virtual
Access

DELEGATE PARTICIPATION INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN



CONFERENCE PROGRAM & SPEAKERS



AUSTRALIAN GRAIN STORAGE
& PROTECTION CONFERENCE

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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NWPGP CONFERENCE PROGRAM 2026
**Program is subject to change without notice. All times are AEST.*

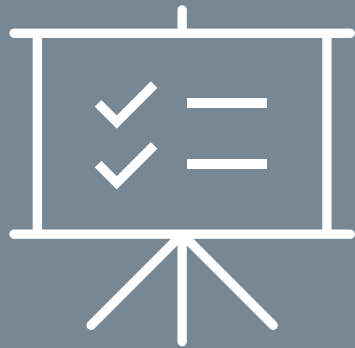
DAY 1 – 17 June 2026

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter/Lead
	Registration and tea/coffee	
	Official Welcome	Ole Houe, Chair Grain Trade Australia
	2026 meeting formalities	Gerard McMullen, Chair NWPGP
	Latest Market Requirements	
	Update from APVMA on activities and AUS chemical review	Nial Gursansky, APVMA
	Codex Update	James Deller, NRS
	Security Challenges for the Australian Grains Industry	Stuart Kearns, Plant Health Australia
	Port market pre-shipment quarantine treatments / in-transit	Adrian Reginato, Cargill
	Session – Gold Sponsor	Any sort
	Break - Sponsored by Grains Australia	
	Insect Status, Control & Research	
	Update on insect resistance & Insect Resistance Strategy update	Manoj Nayak, QLD DPI
	Trends	Floor Input
	Grain / grain treatment – good and bad	Floor Input including a Panel Session – Cain McGregor Cargill, Alex Conway GRDC Grain Storage Extension Team
	Use of Sulfuryl Fluoride on canola and	Barbara Nead-Nylander, Douglas Products
	Actions for Market Access	
		Syensqo
		Tristan Coram, ACB
		Michael Whitehead, ANZ
	Distance management: Compliance for the future	Raj Jagadeesan, QLD DPI
	Panel session – where does AI	Panel session Raj Jagadeesan QLD DPI, Anna Faulkner Cropify, Chelsea Heinrich GTA U30s, Courtney Heagney GTA U30s

PRESENTATIONS & SESSIONS



CONFERENCE PROGRAM & SPEAKERS



SPEAKERS



Gerard McMullen
Chair - NWPGP



Pat O'Shannassy
CEO - GTA



Ole Houe
Chair - GTA



Amy Koschella
GRDC



Adrian Reginato
Cargill Australia



Barbara Nead-Nylander
Douglas Products



Manoj Nayak
QLD DPI



Tristan Coram
ACB



Chris Warrick
GRDC Extension Team



Nial Gursansky
APVMA



James Deller
NRS



Cain McGregor
Cargill Australia



Alex Conway
GRDC Extension Team



Michael Whitehead
ANZ



Anna Faulkner
Cropify



Ben White
GRDC Extension Team



Dylan McFarlane
VSICA Research



Brock Dembowski
GRDC Extension Team



Raj Jagadeesan
QLD DPI



Amita Ahuja
National Residue
Survey

SPEAKERS



Vince Grace
Action Steel



Jonathan Banks
Grainsmith



Stuart Kearns
Plant Health AUST



Rain Tang
Anysort



Mark White
Adelaide University PhD
Candidate



Rod Martin
Polytex



Mark Swift
Grower



Joel Ellis
Ellis & Sons



Chris Dunn
Nutrien Ag Solutions



Justin Tumambing
Syensqo



Kerry Miles
Grain Protect



Ian Cass
UPL



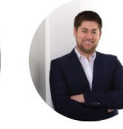
Chelsea Kennewell
GTA U30s



Courtney Heagney
GTA U30s



Faheem Ahmad
QLD DPI



Johannes Kolb
FrigorTech



Alex Donnelly
GrainCorp



Leigh Burgess
Riordan Grain



Kyla Davie
CHS Broadbent

NWPGP



GRAIN TRADE
AUSTRALIA
Facilitating Trade

CONFERENCE INSIGHTS



- Codex Update
- Biosecurity Challenges
- Insect Infestation Trends
- Use of Technology and Digital Transformation
- Breeding for the Future
- Sustainable Actions for Market Access
- GRDC update
- Storage Management
- Market Access issues
- National Residue Survey
- Industry & On-Farm Activities
- Structural Integrity of Silos
- New technologies and updates from sponsors



15,490 impressions on LinkedIn
1,271 engagements on LinkedIn



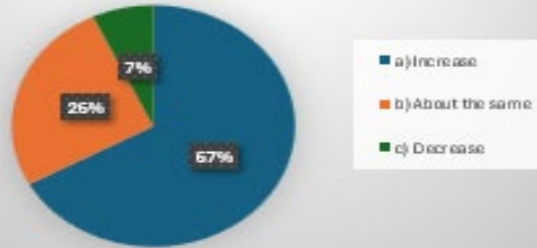
8 EDMs sent (email campaigns)
Average open rate 37%
12,809 email opens

LIVE POLLING

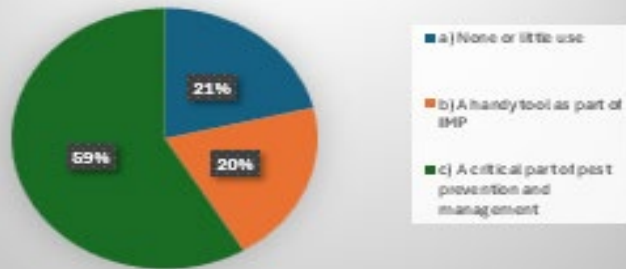


- Live polling of delegates was used to capture the mood on many key points throughout the 2-day event. This was conducted through Conference App
- These polls, collected anonymously and live from the audience, presented an invaluable opportunity to get insights into the industry participant's position and opinion on many important topics.

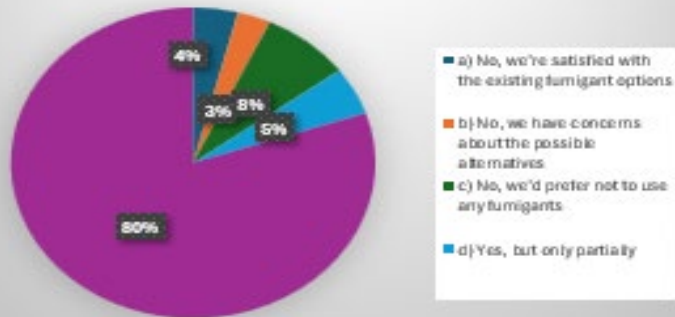
1. Over the past year have you seen insect pressure:



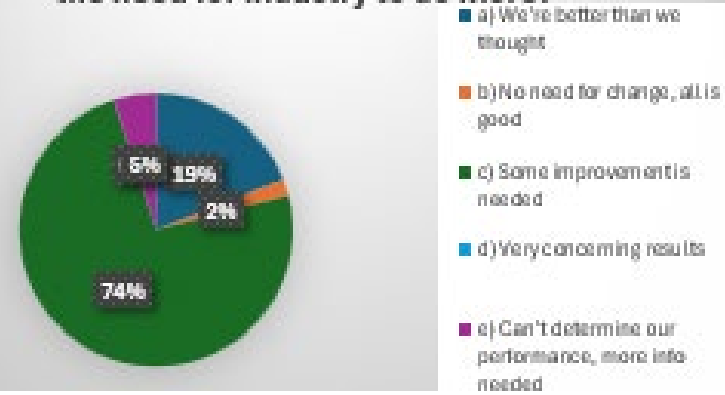
2. What's your organisations current level of reliance on protectants:



3. What do those residue results tell us about the need for industry to do more?



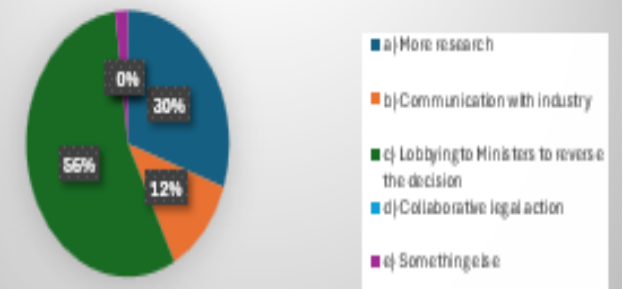
4. What do those residue results tell us about the need for industry to do more?



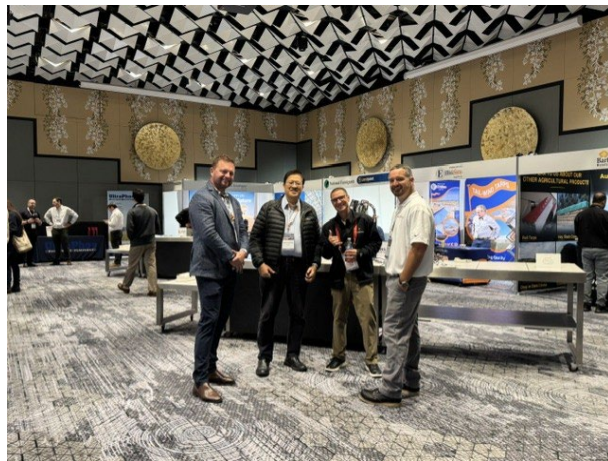
5. Where's the greatest opportunity to improve on-farm storage integration in the supply chain?



6. If there was something everyone in the grains industry could be doing better right now to manage this change, what could it be?



NETWORKING FUNCTION



CONFERENCE SURVEY RESULTS

95%

Would recommend to a colleague in the industry

93%

Thought conference was good value for money

92%

Agreed Conference met their expectations

92%

Found value in the networking event

98%

Said registration process was simple & streamlined

100%

Would attend future events

CONFERENCE SURVEY RESULTS

95%

Thought Program was relevant and appropriate

100%

Agreed venue was suitable for the event

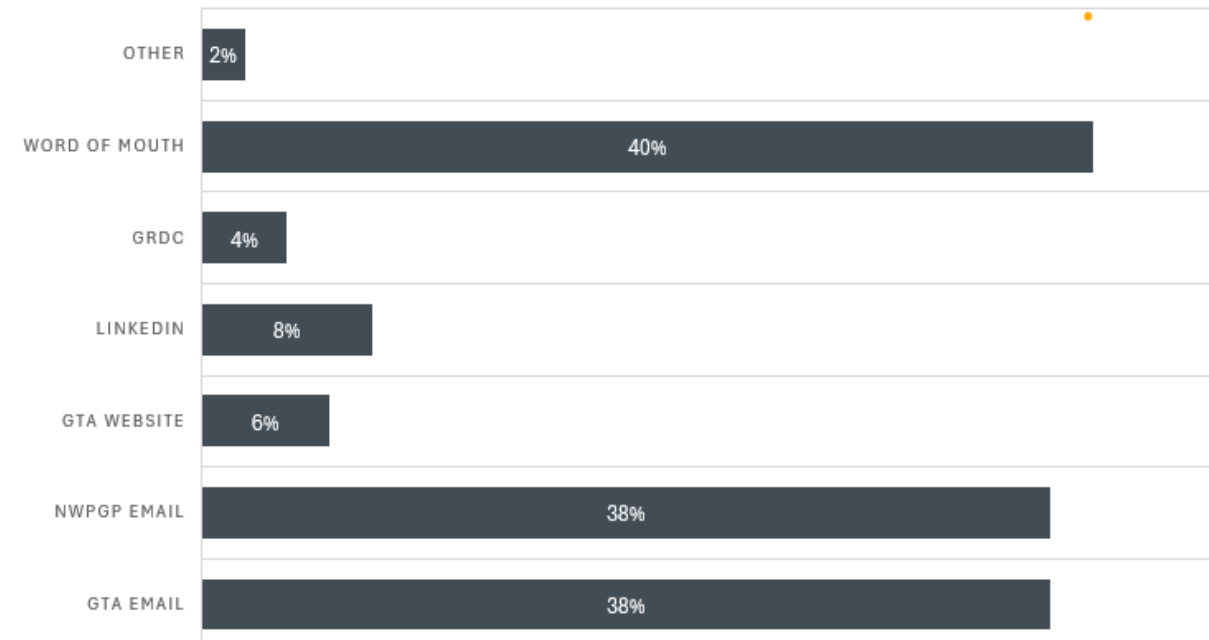
76%

Attended this conference previously

24%

New attendees this year

REFERRAL SOURCES



** Most attendees heard about the conference from promotional email or a colleague/word of mouth.*

CONFERENCE FEEDBACK



Well attended and well organised event. Congratulations to NWPGP members and especially to Gerrard and Pat for their great work.

Well presented, well thought out, fast paced conference that was engaging and informative. In particular the speakers were inciteful and knowledgeable. Other conference organisers could take a leaf out of the NWPGP play book on how to conduct an engaging conference.

I found this years conference to be the best one yet I have been to 3

Great conference! Thank you to the entire team for all the hard work that goes into making it such a success. I really enjoyed it and appreciate everything that was done behind the scenes. Looking forward to next year!

The next meeting will be under a new chair and a few months into the new WEL values and how the industry has adapted. Interesting times, as usual.

I think would be good to include more of the Under 30's to this conference if possible. We are all starting to get a lot more younger representation at these events and to have more younger people for them to interact would be great.

Loved the phosphine discussions and the way there was info presented by each of the panel beforehand and then lots of time for audience questions. Was great to have so much more info on where things are up to and what industry is doing about it.

Everything went smoothly, well organised and professional.

Would be good to get some variety next year there is always good work done from grdc programs but if there isn't anything ground breaking rather than an update it would be good to get other people from different industries up to chat. Even outside of grain? Almonds? Pistachio? They do some wild stuff very similar to drying grain. Would love to see a bit of that.

Special Thanks to Gerard, Janene, Julia and Christine - Outstanding Event.

well run for a Tech conference- need a good replacement for Gerard.

The venue was great, big improvement on 2 years ago

In the networking sessions - first hour can be used for asking questions to presenters - or this session can be channelised more allowing more information exchange, if that is possible

Very good conference with good range of presenters.

Loved Michael Whitehead - he was hilarious and a good change up. I think this year was such a great mix up and some of the new speakers