

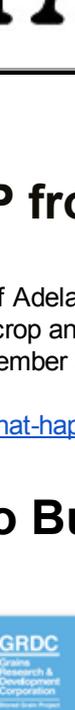
Friday, 3 July 2015 – Issue: 9/2015

## What happens to P from crop residues?

Annie McNeill from the University of Adelaide talks about the challenges in understanding what happens to the phosphorus returned to the soil in crop and break crop residues. Recorded at the National Soil Science Conference at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, November 2014. To listen to be recording visit the following web link:

<http://www.extensionaus.com.au/what-happens-to-p-from-crop-residues/>

## Grain Storage: Silo Buyer's Guide



**GRDC**  
Grain Research & Development Corporation  
Investing in the future

MARCH 2015

**GRAIN STORAGE FACT SHEET**

**SILO BUYER'S GUIDE**

The decision of which silo to buy can be daunting, mainly because it's a 20+ year investment and not a purchase that is easily returned or traded-in if it proves unsuitable. The following information will help identify the key features to look for when purchasing silos.

**KEY POINTS**

- Buying silos is a significant, long-term investment – take the time to make the right choice.
- Consider the storage requirements for the next 20 years – not just the next season.
- For reliable insect control and grain quality maintenance, choose a gas-tight sealable storage, which also has aeration.
- Gas-tight sealable storage must meet the Australian Standard AS2628.

**Quality in – quality out**

Maintaining grain quality during storage relies on the ability to control humidity, temperature and insects. It makes sense to look for storage with aeration cooling as well as being gas-tight sealable for effective fumigation.

While aeration cooling won't reduce grain moisture significantly, it will prevent moisture migration and lower grain temperatures. Properly managed aeration cooling provides cool, uniform conditions throughout the storage, which discourages pest infestation and mould growth and maintains grain quality. An added benefit of aeration is that it can be used to ventilate a silo after fumigation in one day, rather than waiting five days.

**Insect pest control**

Western Australia has given up access to contact pesticides long ago and the eastern states are under increasing pressure to follow suit to protect our markets. The only insect pressure on fungicides, mainly phosphite, to control pests during storage. In order to control pests at all life stages (eggs, larvae, pupae, adults) and prevent further resistance, phosphite and other fungicides are only effective in a gas-tight storage.

**A little maintenance goes a long way**

In the same way that all farm machinery needs regular maintenance to keep it working reliably, so do silos, especially gas-tight sealable silos. A small gas leak can mean the difference between a successful fumigation and insects surviving, leading to losses being rejected upon receipt.

Grain hygiene is the other important maintenance component. Well designed silos won't have areas that trap grain and dust making them quick and easy to clean.

**Find a safe bet**

The GRDC (previously CRDC) spotlight continues to shine on agricultural industries and is undoubtedly here to stay. Consider silos that meet state GRDC requirements and more importantly can be safely operated by everyone on site. While some silos come without ladders, mould and insects are often found in the top of a silo before they can be removed at ground level. The main systems are to have an RHD compliant ladder, use a safety harness or build a system that spans along the top of a line of silos.

**Safety saves lives** Consider the safety features of a silo, a little extra investment could save a worker or your life.

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### Key points

- Buying silos is a significant, long-term investment – take the time to make the right choice
  - Consider the storage requirements for the next 20 years – not just the next season
  - For reliable insect control and grain quality maintenance, choose a gas-tight sealable storage, which also has aeration
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- See more by using the following web link or ask for a copy of the GRDC Fact Sheet at your local North West Ag store.

<http://www.grdc.com.au/GRDC-FS-SiloBuyersGuide#sthash.aBieaQ80.dpuF>

## New Registration for Lontrel Advanced

**Lontrel™ Advanced**  
HERBICIDE

Lontrel Advanced has always been the first choice for the control of capeweed, thistles and volunteer legumes in winter cereals, canola, pastures and fallow, due to its unsurpassed efficacy and exceptional selectivity to the crop. In a further expansion to the product, Fleabane control has now been added to the label. The registration covers winter cereals and certain fallow situations.

For more information on this new registration speak to your local North West Ag store.

## Nutri-Facts: Calcium

Calcium (Ca) nutrition plays a vital role in the production of high quality crops. It also has an important function as a valuable soil amendment in many situations.

For a fact sheet that covers the basics of Calcium as a nutrient and a soil ameliorate, follow this web link:

<http://www.northwestag.com.au/archived.site/info/Farmtalk/NutriFacts-NA-5%20Calcium.pdf>

## EOFY Winter Savings Catalogue OUT NOW



Look out for a copy of the new North West Ag catalogue in your local newspaper or in your next statement, and come in store to pick up a great deal!

## Tyres at Woomelang



Did you know the North West Ag Woomelang branch can assist you with any of your tyre requirements? Passenger, 4WD, light commercial, truck and ag tyres. Call in to Woomelang branch and have a chat to our friendly staff or call 5081 2131 to get the best deal in the Mallee!

And while stocks last you could pick up a Free 59 can Coleman esky when you purchase two Alliance tractor tyres (rim diameter 32" to 54").