



AIR EP

Ag Innovation & Research
Eyre Peninsula



**2025/26
ANNUAL REPORT**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT AIR EP.....	1
CHAIR'S REPORT.....	2
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES	7
FARMER FOCUS.....	8
EXTENSION.....	9
PARTNERSHIPS.....	10
FUNDING & RESOURCES.....	12
MARKETING & COMMUNICATION.....	15
GOVERNANCE.....	16
LEADERSHIP.....	18
2025-26 PROJECT SUMMARY.....	19

ABOUT AIR EP

Agricultural Innovation & Research Eyre Peninsula (AIR EP) was officially incorporated on 26 May 2020, with the aim of creating a single entity for farmer driven applied research, local validation and extension of agricultural technologies and innovations on the Eyre Peninsula.

AIR EP is a not-for-profit incorporated association governed by a Board and RD&E activities are driven by members of the Low and Medium Rainfall RD&E Committees and other grower groups across Eyre Peninsula.

AIR EP attracts investment from a range of sources including the Australian and SA Government, Research & Development Corporations, SA Grains Industry Trust plus annual sponsorship and membership fees to facilitate agricultural RD&E activities on Eyre Peninsula.

PURPOSE

AIR EP is a farmer driven organisation, leading the on-farm validation of research and the adoption of innovative practices to advance agriculture on the Eyre Peninsula

VISION

Farming systems on the Eyre Peninsula that are productive, profitable and fit for the future

VALUES

- Relevance
- Independence
- Collaboration
- Innovation





CHAIR'S REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I present the AIR EP Chairperson's Report for the 2025/26 financial year.

What a season so far! From record breaking rainfall to record high livestock prices, major tax announcements, to diesel and urea supply uncertainty - there's been no shortage of obstacles and challenges thrown at EP farmers and the Australian agricultural sector this season.

I've heard reports from some upper EP growers saying this is the best season they've experienced in many years.

While crops and livestock look spectacular across the state and further afield, and rain continues to fall across all parts of the Eyre Peninsula, it was hard to ignore forecasts of a dry season ahead throughout the year. There's plenty of stored moisture available for crops across the region, which (with the exception of a few frost events) will see some exceptionally good yields this year. Confidence in the sector has shifted from a pretty low spot in February to a good level now, with a level of nervousness about capitalising on the high level of investment into growing crops this year.

Our region's hallmark volatility - ranging from dry seasons to bumper seasons - continues to test the resilience, resources and capacity of our farmers and broader communities. In this context, the work of our organisation has never been more relevant or more urgent. The risks involved in intensive cropping systems mean we need to capitalise on the good years in order to ride out the often extended tough drier seasons and droughts.

Local research, development and extension programs are not only helping Eyre Peninsula farmers navigate seasonal variability, but also contribute to managing the upside and downside risks we take to remain profitable in our region.

Prior to the state elections, we again raised the issue and arguments to support the installation of a Doppler Radar for EP. Farmer surveys were conducted and a report, developed by Ken Webber and Mark Stanley, was reviewed by the AIREP Board and circulated to politicians. This report was made available to the current review being undertaken by GPSA to further progress such an investment. We are still one of the very few coastal regions with a significant population not serviced by this technology.

Farmer Focus

AIR EP is led, governed and supported by farmers, ensuring activities and deliverables reflect the priorities of Eyre Peninsula farmers, with support from trusted research and advisor expertise.

The delivery of timely and relevant research and extension activities is very much informed by our Low and Medium Rainfall RD&E Committees. Our voluntary Committees are critical in providing ideas and highlighting issues that affect them to help us develop locally relevant projects and events. I'd like to thank each of the members on both Committees, for their time, dedication and commitment they make in guiding research, development and extension priorities for Eyre Peninsula farming systems.

In addition, we rely on the intel from our partners, in particular our independent and retail consulting fraternity who are in the paddock and talking to innovative farmers on a daily basis. Confidence in the investments we make comes from repeatedly observing, listening and engaging with growers on specific topics that they are thinking about.

Farmer priorities were further reinforced by the Eyre Peninsula landholder survey results released in November 2025. Responses from 432 landholders identified water security (86%), access to important local services and infrastructure (85%), support for new and young farmers (79%), and declining soil health and/or productivity (73%) among the leading issues.



Support for new and young farmers has been a high priority for AIR EP in recent years, with groups now established near Rudall, Lower EP and the Far West. As we write this report, the Rudall Young Farmers are participating in a study tour to Western Australia, and the Lower EP Young Farmer group have toured the Yorke Peninsula looking at lentil production and farming practices.

This evidence, together with direct input through our RD&E Committees, member events and farmer-led project groups, provides a strong basis for shaping locally relevant investment and extension.

Extension

AIR EP translates research and development findings into practical knowledge, skills and on-farm decision support. This is central to the Strategy 2026-2030 Extension priority, which aims to turn R&D into practice change that improves productivity, profitability and fitness for the future.

This year, we strengthened our focus on farmer-driven research, collaborating closely with farmers, industry partners, and government agencies to ensure our work remains locally relevant and scientifically robust. Key highlights included:

- 2025 Lentil Field Day at Lock attracted more than 180 people for practical discussion on lentil agronomy and economics, challenging soils, storage and marketing, and useful tools and technology.
- 2025 Lower EP Crop Walk brought together more than 50 farmers, agronomists, researchers and industry stakeholders to visit trial sites across Yallunda Flat, Cummins, Edillilie and Coult.
- 2026 Pre-Sowing Member Days at Wangary, Wirrulla and Rudall attracted 187 farmers, researchers, advisers and industry representatives around the theme 'Tight Budgets, Big Yields', combining local research, market intelligence and farmer experience.

The success of these projects lies not only in the data generated but in how that knowledge is being translated into practice – through field days, workshops, trial site visits, and small group extension support.



Communication

Clearly communicating our work, value and impact to local farmers, delivery partners and funding bodies remains critical to the success of AIR EP being recognised as the 'go-to' organisation for extension of applied research and development on the Eyre Peninsula.

During 2025/26, AIR EP worked closely with media and engagement experts Commshake, to develop a social media strategy which included the launch of the organisation's LinkedIn page.

Our People

Building local capability has been a major strategic priority for the organisation.

In March 2026, AIR EP welcomed Hannah Gordon as Livestock Coordinator to lead the 18-month Climate-ready Livestock project, working with a producer-led Steering Committee to deliver a range of livestock extension activities and resources to support EP livestock producers.

In May 2026, the Ken Schaefer Eyre Peninsula applied grains research internship welcomed its sixth annual intern, Anna Osmond, through the partnership with SARDI Minnipa Agricultural Centre, SAGIT and SA Drought Hub.

These appointments strengthen research and extension capacity on the EP and reflect the Strategy's Our People foundation: a skilled, supported and values-aligned team, with succession planning and professional development built into how we work.

We have also recently advertised a new Extension Specialist role to build our extension and engagement capability and to ensure we continue and improve the work we deliver to farmers.

The AIR EP team work hard for the benefit of the organisation and farmers across the Eyre Peninsula, and I would like to thank Naomi, Rowena, Amy, Rebekah and Alanna for their ongoing dedication and commitment.

Governance

At the October 2025 AGM we farewelled inaugural AIR EP Board member and Deputy Chair, Ken Webber and Minnipa farmer, Matthew Cook. Both Ken and Matt provided invaluable contributions and local insight whilst members of the Board, and we wish them both well in their future endeavours.

Two new members were elected to the Board with Cleve agronomist and farmer, Marty Lovegove and Poochera agronomist, Jake Hull joining the Board. We are thrilled to have representation from the Eastern Eyre and Western regions of Eyre Peninsula.

In addition to member changes, the Board voted in favour of a Constitutional change to increase from 5 to 7 Board members. In preparation for advertising board vacancies, AIR EP conducted a formal review of Board member skills and experience. I'm happy to confirm that the AIR EP Board maintains a diverse range of skills and experience required to deliver the organisation's strategic purpose, vision and values.



The AIR EP Strategy 2026-2030 was adopted in October 2025 following the Board's comprehensive review of organisational direction, industry priorities and community needs. It provides a clear framework for the work described throughout this report.

- Farmer Focus - activities and deliverables shaped by local farmer needs, goals, vision and voices, with strong farmer input and ownership.
- Extension - translating R&D findings into practice changes that improve farming productivity, profitability and fitness for the future.
- Partnerships - effective, mutually beneficial relationships with committed partners and RD&E providers.
- Funding & Resources - adequate and sustainable financial resources, diversified funding streams and protection of core organisational capability.
- Marketing & Communication - stronger farmer and partner awareness of AIR EP and its work, reinforcing AIR EP as the 'go-to' organisation for applied agricultural RD&E on the Eyre Peninsula.

These five priorities are underpinned by two strategic foundations - Our People and Governance.

Thank you to all members of our Board, who bring a wealth of experience and insight to our governance. Their ongoing dedication and commitment ensures we remain an accountable, transparent, and farmer focused organisation.

Looking Ahead

Looking towards 2026/27, I'm feeling inspired by the release and adoption of new technology by our sector. With every crop walk or workshop I attend, I'm continually amazed by the innovations in agriculture and look forward to embracing this rapidly changing, ever evolving space.

We are seeing the first of the driverless tractors and implements appear on EP and more farmers in the wet regions are already using drone technology to apply pesticides. Artificial intelligence that sits behind the tech allows rapid progression and also has a big role on its own to aid complex decision making at the farm level.

The 2026 program has created a strong pipeline for the year ahead, including work on drought and climate-resilient livestock systems, risk management, nutrition, sustainable agriculture, innovative soil technologies, supporting our Young Farmer networks, and capacity building for the region.

Our task in 2026/27 will be to keep turning these investments into practical, farmer-led outcomes, while measuring impact against the Strategy 2026-2030 priorities and success measures.

I wish everyone a safe and prosperous harvest season ahead.



Bill Long

Chairperson

Ag Innovation & Research Eyre Peninsula

September 2026

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The strategic priorities identified in the AIR EP Strategic Plan 2026–2030 provide a clear direction for the organisation over the next five years, ensuring its activities remain relevant to the changing needs of Eyre Peninsula farmers and the broader community.

These priorities will help AIR EP focus its resources, partnerships and investment where they will have the greatest impact, while strengthening collaboration across industry, research organisations, government and the broader agricultural sector.

Importantly, they provide a framework for responding to emerging challenges and opportunities, supporting innovation and practical, regionally relevant outcomes that contribute to a productive, resilient and sustainable future for agriculture on the Eyre Peninsula.

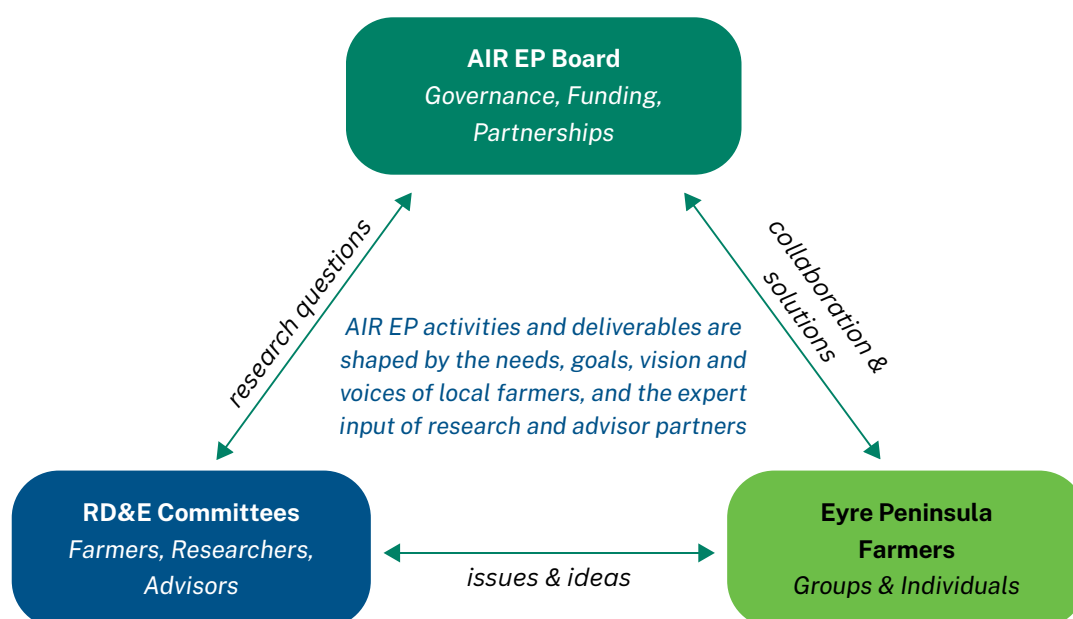


FARMER FOCUS

AIR EP is led, governed and supported by farmers, ensuring activities and deliverables reflect the priorities of Eyre Peninsula farmers with support from trusted research and advisor expertise.

The Board is supported by two RD&E Committees, one with a focus on the medium rainfall zone (Lower EP) and one on the low rainfall zone (Upper EP).

These committees focus on setting priorities for RD&E investment in the region, reviewing projects and providing input into events for farmers.



Medium Rainfall RD&E Committee

(as at 30 June 2026)

Covers lower and parts of Eastern Eyre Peninsula. Members are:

Daniel Adams (Chair & Board Deputy Chair)

Farmer Representatives

Dustin Parker, Lochie Siegert, Nic Gale, Mark Modra

Research Representatives

Jacob Giles, Brett Masters

Agronomy Representatives

Denis Pedler, Jonathan Forrest, Luke Wilkins, Daniel Puckridge, Angus Bubner

Low Rainfall RD&E Committee

(as at 30 June 2026)

Covers central, eastern and western Eyre Peninsula. Members are:

Symon Allen (Chair)

Farmer Representatives

Matthew Cook, Chris Lymn, Rhys Tomney, Leigh Scholz, Bruce Heddle

Research Representatives

Andrew Ware, Rhiannon Schilling, Amanda Cook

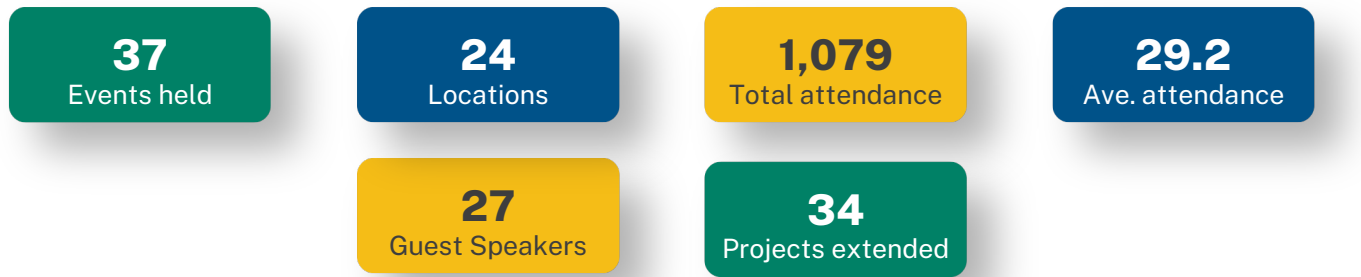
Agronomy Representatives

Andy Bates, Jake Hull (*Board Member*), Kevin Dart, Fabio Arsego, Giles Kearsley

EXTENSION

AIR EP translates research and development findings into practical changes that improve farm productivity, profitability and resilience.

We help farmers apply R&D insights across whole farm systems to capture long-term benefits.



PARTNERSHIPS

AIR EP will build and maintain strong, mutually beneficial partnerships that support its purpose and vision.

We will strengthen existing relationships while fostering new partnerships with research, delivery and extension providers.

AIR EP's work is supported by our regional delivery partners:



AIR EP's work is also supported by our strong network of extension partners:



RiskWi\$e

– the National Risk Management Initiative

GROWER | ADVISOR | EXTENSION GROUPS



RESEARCH PARTNERS



ACTION RESEARCH GROUP LEADS



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



NATIONAL PROJECT LEAD

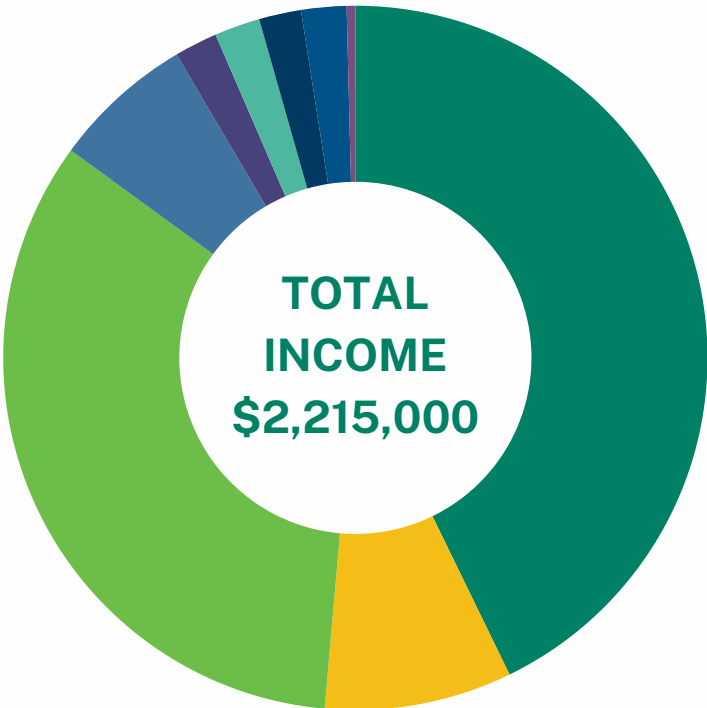


FUNDING & RESOURCES

AIR EP will maintain sustainable, diversified funding to support current and future work, with a focus on extension and adoption.

We will protect agreed reserves and ensure project funding contributes to AIR EP's core management and governance.

2025/26 Finance Report



GRDC	\$947,800
SA Drought Hub	\$190,600
Australian Government	\$745,100
SAGIT	\$143,900
Minor Project Income	\$43,700
Membership	\$46,300
Sponsorship	\$42,800
Interest	\$46,000
Other Revenue	\$8,800



Project Expenses	\$1,491,700
Employee Costs	\$82,600
Administration Costs	\$38,600
Board Expenses	\$54,100
Communications & Consultancy	\$23,700
Motor Vehicles	\$13,500

Membership

AIR EP offers three annual membership types, providing options for businesses of differing size and scale. Current categories available:

- Individual: \$150 + GST
- Business: \$200 + GST (up to 10 members)
- Future Farmer: FREE for school and tertiary students

Memberships expire at 12 months and can be renewed via the *Become A Member* section on the AIR EP website.

Note: As of 30 September 2023, memberships run from March to March annually.



Individual

\$165 per year (incl. GST)

Free Entry to Member Days and AIR EP events

Subscription to the AIR EP enews



Business

\$220 per year (incl. GST)

Add up to 10 members for your business

Free Entry to Member Days and AIR EP events

Subscription to the AIR EP enews



Future Farmer

FREE

For university & school student ONLY

Free Entry to Member Days and AIR EP events

Subscription to the AIR EP enews

AIR EP is well supported by a variety of organisations, with over 70% of members made up of farming businesses on the EP. The remaining 30% of membership is comprised of local, interstate and national organisations ranging from researchers, grain exporters and handlers, consultants and advisors, to financial agencies and support agencies.



Business Members	300
Individual Members	82
Sponsor Members	50
Total 2025/26 Members	432

Annual Sponsorship

Sponsorship is a valuable part of AIR EP, enabling strong partnerships that support locally relevant research, innovation and practical outcomes for Eyre Peninsula farming businesses. Working closely with sponsoring organisations expands AIR EP’s networks, strengthens knowledge sharing and creates opportunities for new connections, collaboration and future initiatives.

Many thanks to our sponsor organisations for their ongoing, valuable support of AIR EP.

Gold



Silver



Commonwealth Bank

Bronze



Supporters

Carrs' Seeds

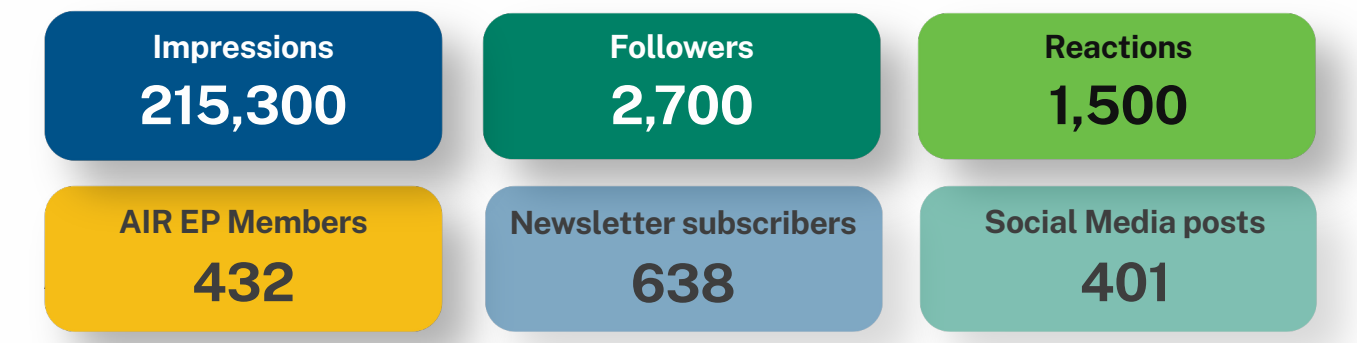
Centre State Exports

CPH Accounting

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

AIR EP clearly communicates its work, value and impact to farmers, delivery partners and funders.

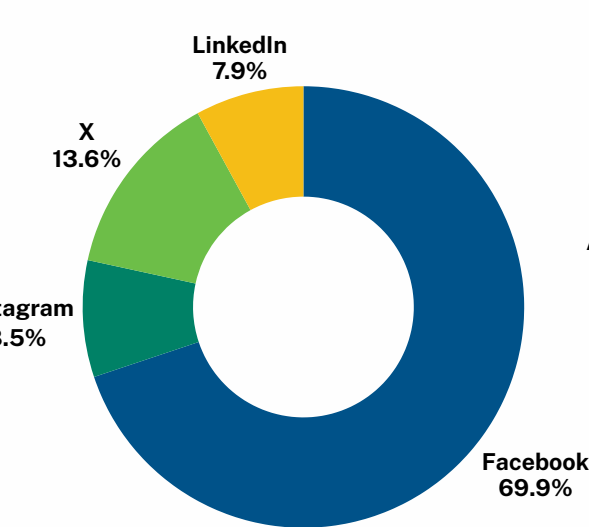
We will be recognised as the ‘go-to’ organisation for extension of applied agricultural research and development on the Eyre Peninsula.



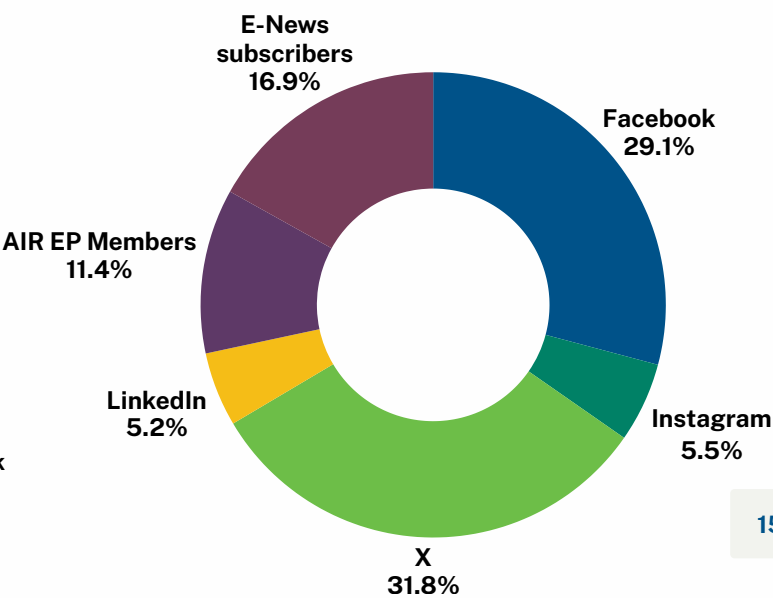
Top 5 newsletter articles:

1	Lentil ‘on row sowing’ - Learnings from the YP 9 October 2025	609 views
2	Lentils on Eyre Peninsula: Profit, Risk and the Rotation Question 5 November 2025	430 views
3	Potassium in wheat: did extra K pay its way at Ungarra in 2025? 14 May 2026	272 views
4	WA/SA Hay Run Eyre Peninsula Delivery Update 23 July 2025	264 views
5	RiskWi\$e EP: A reasonable start... but still some tricky decisions ahead 17 April 2026	217 views

Performance by social media platform:



Engagement across all platforms:



GOVERNANCE

Our Board



“I’m passionate about the grains industry and I enjoy the complexity and challenges of understanding and managing farming systems across Australia”.

Bill Long, Auburn & Cummins

Chair 2022-present

Board member since 2020



“It’s so important to have local R&D projects that test new technologies and farming solutions in our unique lower Eyre Peninsula conditions”.

Daniel Adams, Cockaleecheie

Deputy Chair since 2025, Board member since 2023

Medium Rainfall RD&E Committee Chair



“Good succession planning is critical for the future prosperity of family farming businesses”.

Greg Arthur, Tanunda

Legal Expertise

Board member 2020-present



“I am passionate about driving farmer led RD&E that delivers impact and makes a difference to regional communities.”

Mark Stanley, Port Lincoln

Special Skills

Board member 2020 - present



“Farming is an evolving field. It’s important to test new varieties, technologies and approaches locally to see what actually works for our conditions”.

Denis Pedler, Port Lincoln

Board member 2024-present

Medium Rainfall RD&E Committee member



“I have a track record of driving strategic growth in the livestock and agribusiness sectors, and a passion for advancing animal health and productivity.”

Mary Rowe, Elliston

Board member 2024-present



“Farmers in this area are always adapting and changing. Trialing new seed varieties here under EP conditions helps us understand what’s going to work best for us.”

Marty Lovegrove, Rudall

Board member 2025-present



“It’s incredibly rewarding to bridge that gap between science and practice by turning research findings into real-world solutions for farmers.”

Jake Hull, Poochera

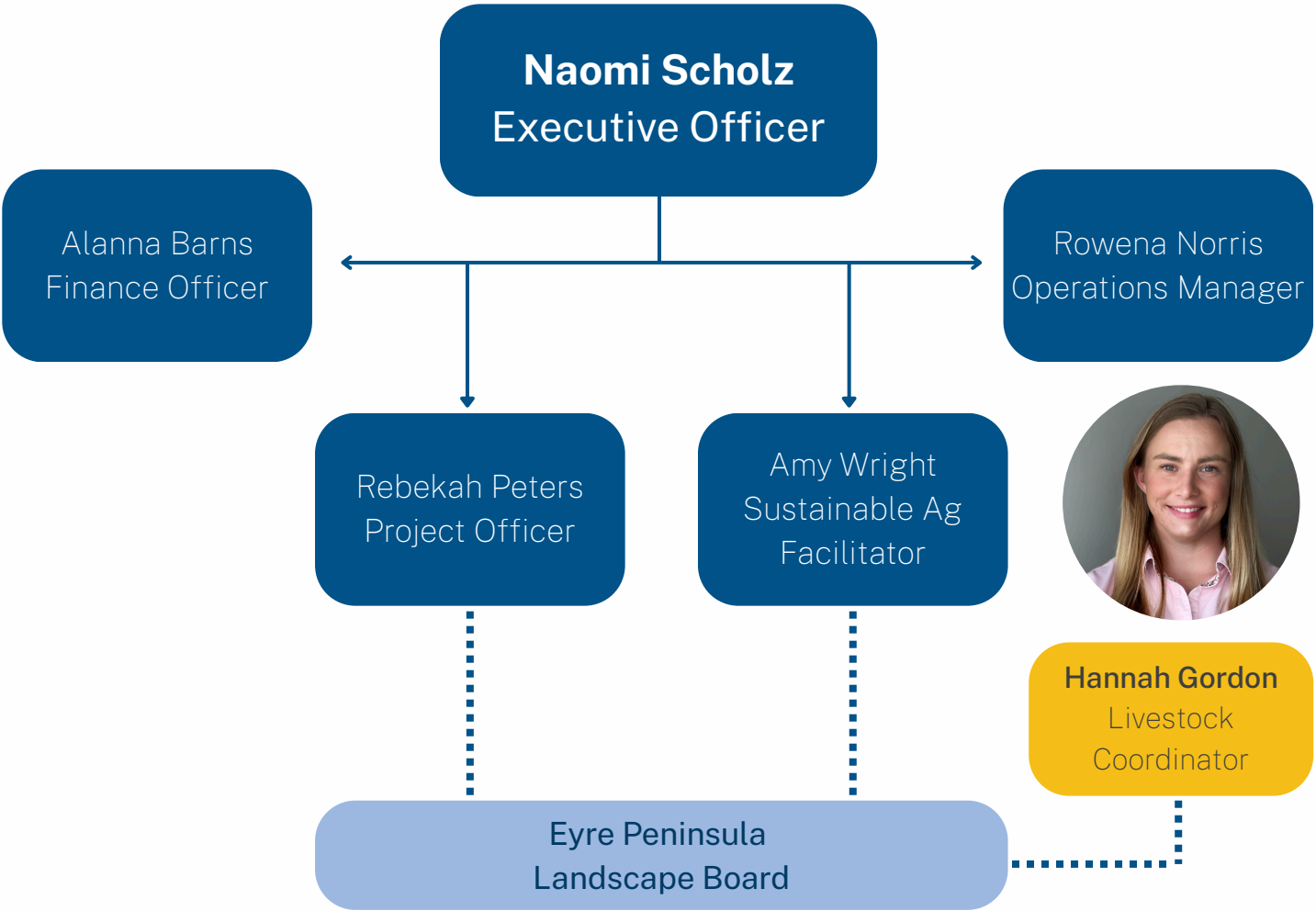
Board member 2024-present

Low Rainfall RD&E Committee representative

LEADERSHIP

Our Staff

We are a small yet dynamic team, working remotely across the Eyre Peninsula. Our collaborative approach and local presence enables us to stay closely connected to the communities we serve, ensuring our work remains responsive, impactful, and aligns with regional needs.



2025/26 PROJECT SUMMARY

Throughout 2025/26, AIR EP managed 34 projects to value of \$8 million in total.

The projects delivered are diverse in scope and content, and aim address key issues and opportunities that will increase the profitability and resilience of farming businesses across the region.

Project Name	Project Brief	Funding Sources
Development and extension to close the economic yield gap and maximise faming systems benefits from grain legume production in South Australia	Delivery of extension activities at four pulse trial sites located across Eyre Peninsula	GRDC via SARDI
RiskWi\$e: National Risk Management Initiative - Action Research Groups Eyre Peninsula	The National Risk Management Initiative (NRMi) is a GRDC initiative extending over five years that aims to understand and improve risk-reward outcomes for Australian grain growers through Participatory Action Research (PAR).	GRDC
Enterprise choice and sequence strategies that drive sustainable and profitable southern Australian farming systems	By June 2027, at least 80% of growers & advisers in the Southern Grains Region understand the water-limited production potential of their farming systems & the management strategies for new and existing performance frontiers.	GRDC via University of Adelaide
Effective control of brome grass in the southern and western cropping zones	By May 2027, the economic impact of brome grass will be reduced by 10% across the low rainfall zones, through the implementation of specific integrated weed management strategies.	GRDC via Adelaide University
Sustainable phosphorous strategies for Eyre Peninsula	The project aims to improve the profitability and sustainability of phosphorus fertiliser use on Eyre Peninsula by refining P management in variable paddocks and highly responsive soils, using spatial trials and a long-term Minnipa trial to assess crop response, residual phosphorus, the long-term value of applications, and the effectiveness of different phosphorus products and delivery methods.	FDF Long Term Trial Flinders Uni via SARDI

Delivery of the Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator (SAF) role	The SAF is a designated central contact point for farmers, landholders, industry, and community groups and will aim to support sustainable agriculture practices in Eyre Peninsula.	Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board (EPLB)
Silicon: a novel solution to reduce water use and pest damage in wheat	Quantify how silicon fertilisation increases water use efficiency & pest resistance in wheat at the field scale with agronomic practices in place, including farm settings with contrasting agricultural landscapes.	Western Sydney University via ARC grant
Further tactics to minimise frost damage on the Eyre Peninsula	Previous frost work on the EP has been well received & has assisted in filling key agronomic knowledge gaps around frost mitigation in crop, however, it has been identified that further gaps in knowledge exist. This project will build on successful work & engagement already conducted, through a number of mechanisms.	GRDC
Hyper Yielding & Profitable Cereals	By September 2027, 30% of wheat & barley growers in the medium & low rainfall zone across the Southern Region, have the information to better understand the risk and reward of employing strategic & tactical crop management decisions for a range of seasonal conditions, to maximise profitability of the cereal phase.	GRDC via CSIRO
Carbon Outreach Project	The project will deliver training & advice to empower EP farmers & land managers to be informed on carbon markets & options for incorporating low emission technologies & practices into farming operations & land management practices. This will be achieved via the appointment of a regionally embedded Carbon Outreach Officer (COO).	Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board (EPLB)
Improving crop phosphorus supply on highly calcareous soils using novel sources	This project will develop integrated solutions to improve the delivery of P in challenging calcareous soils with multiple constraints. Those solutions will be developed in a farming systems context so that practical and profitable management options can be provided to farmers and advisers.	Soil CRC & GRDC

Sustainable Agriculture: Driving growth through innovation and climate responsive practices	This project will improve land managers' ability to make short, medium & long term decisions based off the latest climate information & greatly improved knowledge & local validation of soils & sustainable practices.	DAFF via EPLB
2026 Eyre Peninsula internship in applied grains research	To improve the capacity of grains research, development & extension in the Eyre Peninsula region through the employment of an annual intern within local research organisations in 2026. Hosted by SARDI Minnipa Ag Centre.	SAGIT, SA Drought Hub via SARDI
Derisking the sowing program (2025)	Demonstrate practices to reduce herbicide toxicity & increase plant establishment in early sowing. Determine seeding opportunities & plant establishment using dry sowing, compared to sowing at the break on challenging soils? Investigate other measurable benefits to the farming system e.g. biomass production, weed control and yield from early sowing?	SA Drought Hub via SARDI
Establishing & growing lentils on challenging soil types on the Eyre Peninsula	This investment is designed to address gaps in knowledge of growers regarding agronomic management of lentils on challenging soil types such as sandy, sodic, magnesic or calcareous soils on the Eyre Peninsula. The project will deliver a series of four trials per annum across the Eyre Peninsula and will leverage the RiskWi\$e Action Research Group (ARG) for extension of outcomes and feed information into the GRDC/SARDI Lentil check groups.	GRDC NGN
Building resilience-Break Crop Suitability Across Landscapes (Stage 2)	Upper North Farming Systems (UNFS) & AIR EP have worked to bring this common theme across the 3 farming groups and 4 Node regions together into the one project in 2024. It is proposed to continue the project work and establish several paddock scale demonstration sites, tailoring each to the needs of the group region.	SA Drought Hub via UNFS
Weed Management Initiative	Delivery of one herbicide trial on EP from 2025-2029 (5 trial years), evaluating the cost of ARG in lost production sowing wheat with the absence of Paraquat relying on knockdowns prior to seeding.	GRDC via University of Adelaide

Innovative Soil Technologies: Fostering Resilience and Climate-Smart Crop Production in Australia	This project will use innovative soil technologies and field trials across southern Australia to improve soil water capture, retention and use efficiency, address key soil constraints, increase farm productivity, and build resilience to variable and changing climates.	NHT Climate smart program via Adelaide University
Young Farmer Peer to Peer Learning Lower EP 2025	This project will support young farmers on Lower Eyre Peninsula through three workshops focused on building agricultural, business and social skills, strengthening networks, and improving resilience to drought impacts on themselves, their businesses, families and communities.	SA Drought Hub
Drought and climate resilient sheep farms and landscapes tailor-made for low rainfall farming regions	This project aims to strengthen the resilience and profitability of sheep farming in southern Australia's low-rainfall regions by combining climate-resilient sheep with drought-tolerant pastures, shrubs and trees to improve feed supply, landscape health, animal welfare and productivity through long-term farmer-led trials.	FDF Long Term Trials via Adelaide University
Climate-Ready Livestock: Building Resilient Farming Systems on Eyre Peninsula	Supporting Eyre Peninsula livestock producers to navigate climate, water, cost and market pressures, the project will use small group workshops and producer-led guidance to develop practical strategies for adaptation, diversification and long-term resilience.	SA Gov Landscape Priorities Fund via EPLB
Drought resilience in novel emerging dryland farming practices - A scientific and economic basis (Stress Testing Regenerative Agricultural Practices - STRAP)	The project aims to rigorously study regenerative cropping and pasture management to boost drought resilience in southern Australia's dryland farming systems. It is farmer-led with scientific support from CSIRO, involving five long-term trials across key eco-climatic zones and four large demonstration trials. The data collected will be modelled to predict outcomes of different management scenarios, helping stakeholders visualize impacts on soil resilience and sustainable productivity.	FDF Long Term Trial led by CSIRO

Improving phosphorus use efficiency and return on investment in high Phosphorus (P) fixing soils of the Southern and Western Regions	Improving phosphorus management in high-fixing soils, this project will combine research review, regional paddock-scale trials and exploration of novel solutions to develop practical fertiliser strategies that improve phosphorus use efficiency and maximise grower return on investment.	GRDC via AgVic
NGN Managing and Mitigating Dry Saline Soils (Magnesia Patches) in South Australia	AIR EP is leading an investment in demonstration and extension of identification, management and amelioration of dry saline land. AIR EP & partners will deliver a program of work to address the challenges of dry saline land and support growers in identifying, managing and ameliorating these soils.	GRDC
Risky Business 2026	Improving understanding of farm business planning, how different scenarios impact on the farm business and how to prepare for these situations to increase financial resilience.	EP Drought Resilience Plan via RDAEP
Plan 2 Profit Upper EP 2026	The project aims to support at least 10 farming businesses on the Upper Eyre Peninsula to improve financial literacy, business planning and preparedness for future seasons and challenges such as drought through a series of online group and one-on-one training sessions with P2PAgri.	EP Drought Resilience Plan via RDAEP
Understanding herbicide residue on challenging soil types within the southern region.	To develop a better understanding of the nature & scope of herbicide residue issues, paddock surveys will be conducted in soil types of concern in SA. To determine phyto-toxicity thresholds, glasshouse dose-response bioassays will be conducted for these soil types for two herbicides and two crop types relevant to each region.	GRDC via SARDI
Packaging Soil CRC tools to enhance the extension and adoption of improved soil management practices	This project will support four grower groups to critically evaluate their current extension practices used to engage farmers and to identify which extension tools (developed in Program 1 of the Soil CRC) can be combined to improve the adoption of innovation.	Soil CRC with West Midlands Group

Risky decisions and addressing soil constraints on EP	Arming farmers and advisors with tools to assist in decision making that considers risk and reward, through two major extension events on Eyre Peninsula. Extending soils information to improve resilience through improved productivity in constrained areas of paddocks	SA Drought Hub
Soil CRC Adoption Activities	Soil CRC presentations at current group event - Sandy Soils Amelioration day/half day with CSIRO Soil CRC presentations at current group event - MAC Field Day	Soil CRC
Derisking the sowing program on EP – a comparison of different seeding systems and crops in 2026	The aim of this project is to compare both tyne-based and single disc seeding system's effect on crop establishment and vigor in cereal and lentils particularly in the early stages of growth. Comparison will be through a side-by-side analysis of paddock strips in a cereal paddock and lentil paddock	SA Drought Hub
Review of target values for soil performance indicators and their interdependencies	The project involves contributing local soil knowledge and resources, co-facilitating a regional workshop, providing feedback on soil indicators and management options, and helping deliver training on the soil interpretation tool using a local case study	Soil CRC
De-risking the seeding program. Adoption of key management practices for the success of dry early sown crops	The project will deliver a program that accelerates the adoption of strategic dry & early sown crop management approaches. Grower groups will tailor activities to meet the knowledge, experience, and needs of their member bases and local communities. The project aims to see practice adoption across 2 million hectares of arable land.	FDF Extension & Adoption Program via Ag Ex Alliance
Water quality in extensive sheep grazing systems	Water quality factors such as total dissolvable salts, temperature, mineral composition, pH, and microbial load can differ between their sources. This project will compare water source and quality using Hydrosmart units.	FDF Long Term Trials led by SARDI



44 Eyre Highway | PO Box 485
WUDINNA SA 5652

WWW.AIREP.COM.AU

