## Contents

GRDC foreword ............................................................... 1
Eyre Peninsula Farming Systems Summary 2015 .................. 2
Minnipa Agricultural Centre update ................................. 5
Minnipa Agricultural Centre staff and roles ....................... 7
Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation sponsors 2015 8
Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation report 2015 9
Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation members 2015 11
MAC Events 2015 ............................................................ 15
Eyre Peninsula seasonal summary 2015 ............................ 16
MAC farm report 2015 ..................................................... 20
LEADA summary 2015 ..................................................... 23
Understanding trial results and statistics ............................ 24
Types of work in this publication ...................................... 26
Some useful conversions .................................................. 26
Eyre Peninsula agricultural research sites 2015 .................. 27

### Section 1: Cereals ...................................................... 28
Port Kenny, Franklin Harbour, Elliston and Wharminda wheat and barley variety trials in 2015 28
100 years of wheat breeding at Roseworthy: the Eyre Peninsula impact 32
Early sowing in SA - results from 2015 and a summary of two years of trials 36
Understanding the effects of heat stress on grain production 40
Mechanisms that lead to yield loss after grazing across agro-ecological regions 43
Economics of phosphorus applications to wheat and barley varieties at three contrasting field sites 46
Cereal yield performance tables ........................................ 50

### Section 2: Break Crops .............................................. 57
Break crop performance tables ........................................ 59
Reducing risk in canola ................................................... 61
Maximising canola yield by getting establishment right 63
Nitrogen applications to maximise canola yield .................... 66
Evaluating alternative pulse options for low rainfall regions 68
Assessment of alternative fungicides for improved blackspot control in field peas 71
Improving herbicide tolerance in pulse crops ...................... 74
Comparing break crop performance in the SA Mallee ......... 78
Vetch for grain and hay on EP .......................................... 82
Green Cumin - is it a new break crop for the Eyre Peninsula? 85

### Section 3: Disease ................................................... 87
Cereal variety disease guide 2016 .................................... 87
Crown rot management in-crop in bread wheat .................. 93
Eyespot - variety tolerance and fungicide efficacy .......... 97
Spot form net blotch on the Eyre Peninsula - what are the losses? 101
How current cereal cultivars affect multiplication of root lesion and cereal cyst nematodes in the field 107
Impact of soil openers on *Rhizoctonia* fungicide wheat yield responses 110
Fluid delivery systems and fungicides in wheat ................ 114
Fluid delivery systems in canola .................................... 118
### Section 4: Farming Systems

- Farming systems projects of Eyre Peninsula in 2015: 120
- The value of break crops in low rainfall farming systems: 122
- Maintaining profitable farming systems with retained stubble: 127
- Impact of retaining stubble in low rainfall farming systems: 128
- Herbicide efficacy in retained stubble systems: 131
- Grass weed management in pasture: 136
- Crop establishment on non-wetting soil: 140
- Establishing pasture into stubble at Mount Cooper: 143
- The impact of livestock on paddock health: 145
- Profitable crop sequences on upper Eyre Peninsula - the final year: 147

### Section 5: Weeds

- Barley grass management in retained stubble systems - farm demonstrations: 149
- Ryegrass management in a retained stubble system - farm demonstration: 155
- Seeding rate by row spacing for barley grass management: 159
- Row orientation and weed competition: 163
- Overdependence on agrochemicals - UNFS barley grass trial: 166
- Managing clethodim-resistant ryegrass in canola: 171
- Onion weed control in medic pastures - a herbicide evaluation: 175

### Section 6: Livestock

- Reducing sheep methane emissions through improved forage quality on mixed farms: 178
- Livestock grazing behaviour in large Mallee paddocks: 181
- Mallee grain and grazing oat evaluation: 185
- The response of lactating and non-lactating ewes to human presence and lamb handling: 188

### Section 7: Soils

- Stubble and nutrient management trial on increase soil carbon: 190
- How does changing management practices influence soil carbon stock and other production factors?: 193
- Will controlled traffic improve crop production outside the wheel tracks?: 197
- New opportunities for soil wetting agents on repellent soils: 200
- Overcoming subsoil constraints to increase soil carbon on Eyre Peninsula soils: 205

### Section 8: Pastures

- Identifying the causes of unreliable N fixation by medic based pastures: 209
- Improving medic pastures in low rainfall mixed farming systems - how to get the most ‘free’ N: 214

### Section 9: Sharing Info

- Water security - make every drop count: 209
- Farmers leading the way with emissions reduction: 219

- Chemical product trademark list: 222

- Contact list for authors: 223

- Acronyms and abbreviations: 225