



## *Help shape the Grains Industry Knowledge Solution*

### *Invitation to participate in the Advisory Group*

#### **WHAT IS NGR ON FARM?**

For six years NGR (National Grower Register) has been providing the Australian Grains Industry with reliable business data, minimising paperwork for growers and ensuring grain buyers have accurate business and payment instructions available quickly and accurately.

NGR On Farm is a proposed development by NGR designed to meet the increasing demand for information about farm inputs. NGR On Farm could offer online spray diaries, paddock records, pest reporting and more; any information the Australian Grains Industry requires from grain growers can be entered to NGR On Farm or uploaded directly from on-farm software.

Some possible outputs from the project include a national, standardised QA program, a suite of tools to allow growers to demonstrate QA, or EM to multiple buyers / parties with one system and the ability to trace grain to its origin.

NGR On Farm aims for a best-of-breed approach and wishes to work with industry partners, finding ways for existing systems to work more harmoniously and productively together.

#### **WHY DOES THE AUSTRALIAN GRAINS INDUSTRY NEED ?**

Most food industries are regulated by government or by market demand. Many industries have to prove traceability for quality, specification and bio-security reasons. Many have to demonstrate best practice or sound environmental management to sell their product. To date, the Grains Industry has escaped legislation and limited markets demand these additional criteria. However climate change, GM crops and more demanding end users are all beginning to put pressure on Australia Grains to demonstrate their quality, best practice and green credentials.

NGR proposes a collaborative industry approach that will remove duplication in this area of on-farm knowledge and improve the reputation, saleability and profitability of the Australian Grain Industry. Rather than replace existing systems or force structure on the industry, NGR On Farm proposes a method of streamlined information collection and dissemination, resulting in a better quality and quantity of on farm information.

NGR On Farm aims for easy of use and adoption, two way information delivery and an “opt-in” style operation that allows the Grains Industry to demonstrate the capacity to self-regulate with a view to avoiding full regulation or compliance systems.

NGR On Farm proposes to deliver this additional intelligence without more paperwork and red tape. This is a chance for the Australia Grains Industry to take a proactive approach to information and knowledge.

## **WHAT IS THE NGR ON-FARM ADVISORY GROUP?**

The NGR On Farm Advisory group is a temporary group of experts and interested parties, who will be formed to bring a well-rounded advice panel to the Project. The Advisory Group will advise NGR on the feasibility and development stages of NGR On Farm.

The group will be in place for approximately 6-12 months during the scoping stage. The group will meet in person 1-2 times, and via teleconference every two months.

The first meeting of the Advisory Group is scheduled for the third week of April and which time a schedule and Advisory group outlook will be drafted. It is envisaged that the group will comprise of 6-12 individuals who will have a key influence on the development of NGR On Farm.

## **WHY SHOULD I BE INVOLVED?**

This is an opportunity to work collaboratively on a whole-of-industry project and have an impact on the future of Australia Grains best practice, traceability, niche markets and industry reputation. NGR On Farm Advisory Group members bring their expertise or area of interest before the group and NGR with a view to creating the best possible On-Farm solution.

## **WHO WILL BE SELECTED TO THE ADVISORY GROUP?**

You may have experience or an interest in;

Traceability, bio-security, primary production, compliance, Quality Assurance or best practices, niche grain marketing, environmental management, paddock diaries (including spray).

## **HOW DO I EXPRESS MY INTEREST?**

Expressions of interest should be no more than three (3) pages in length and should briefly outline your reasons for wishing to participate in the NGR On Farm Advisory Group and key areas of experience / interest.

Please email or post your expression of interest to;

The General Manager, NGR

NGR On Farm Advisory Group EOI

PO Box 3526, Toowoomba Village Fair

[onfarm@ngr.com.au](mailto:onfarm@ngr.com.au)

Expressions of interest close **27 March 2009**.

For general enquiries contact NGR on (07) 4631 6600