



Office Use Only

Project Code	AKI117
Project Type	Grower

GROWER GROUP FINAL REPORT 2017

Applicants must read the *SAGIT Group Allocation Guidelines 2017* prior to completing this form. These guidelines can be downloaded from www.sagit.com.au

Final reports must be emailed to admin@sagit.com.au as a Microsoft Word document in the format shown **within 2 months** after the completion of the Project Term.

PROJECT CODE	: AKI117G
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EVENT TITLE	(10 words maximum)
Accu-Spread Spreader Calibration Workshop	

EVENT DURATION

*These dates **must** be the same as those stated in the Funding Agreement*

Event Start date	7th April 2017	
Event End date	7 th April 2017	
SAGIT Funding Request	2017/18	

EVENT SUPERVISOR DETAILS

The project supervisor is the person responsible for the overall project

Title:	First Name:	Surname:
Mrs	Jenny	Stanton

ADMINISTRATION CONTACT DETAILS

The Administration Contact is the person responsible for all administrative matters relating to the project

Title:	First Name:	Surname:	
Ms	Judith	McArthur	
Organisation:			
Agriculture Kangaroo Island			
Mailing address:			
Telephone:	Facsimile:	Mobile:	Email:

EVENT REPORT

Provide clear description of the following:

Executive Summary (200 words maximum)

A few paragraphs covering what was achieved, written in a manner that is easily understood and relevant to SA growers. Report on the attendance at the event, relevant photos could also be attached. A number of key dot points should be included which can be used in SAGIT communication programs

The vast majority of spreaders deliver an unacceptably high level of variation in spread pattern which compromises pasture or crop profitability as some areas of the paddock receive too much fertiliser and some areas too little. A new machine is no guarantee that an acceptable spread pattern will be achieved.

Twenty producers attended a Spreader Calibration Workshop held at the Parndana showgrounds on the 7th April led by Accu-Spread Testing Officer Russell Nichol. The 3 spreaders tested were a 3-point linkage Accord, a truck mounted Southern Spreader and a tow behind Marshall. All owners discovered that their spreaders were not spreading as wide as they thought and required additional investment to increase their spread width to that desired.

Product quality also has an influence on the spread pattern with inferior products such as those that have a lot of fines (<2mm) reduce the spreader bout width. Urea was touted as the most troublesome product to spread especially over large distances.



The Southern Spreader on a JCB truck driving across the collecting trays



Investigating the contents of the collecting trays

Overall Performance

A concise statement indicating the extent to which the objectives were achieved, a list of personnel who participated in the Event including co-operators, and any difficulties encountered and the reasons for these difficulties.

The workshop was well received by the spreader owners and attendees. Demonstration spreaders belonged to farmer Will Stanton with a 3 point linkage Accord, farmer Mark Bowden with a trailing Marshall Spreader and spreading contractor/farmer Michael Vogt owner of a Southern Spreader mounted a JCB truck.

All owners discovered that their spreaders were not spreading as wide as they thought. The owners are now aware of what distance to drive between passes (bout width) to produce an ideal spread pattern.

Perhaps the biggest difficulty/frustration on my behalf was that each machine went home with the same spread pattern as it arrived with Russell citing that each machine required additional investment to get the spread pattern to where it should be. For example, Russell suggested the Accord purchase \$1000 long veins to increase the urea spread pattern to 36m. The owner of the Southern Spreader was told his machine required a day in the workshop to pull the back end off, cut and shut and reverse the spinners. In Russells opinion the spinners and plates of the Marshall spreader were worn out and needed to be replaced so little time was spent on the Marshall after the initial run across the trays.

Application / Communication of Results

A concise statement describing activities undertaken to communicate the results of the event to the grains industry. This should include:

- *Main findings of the event in a dot point form suitable for use in communications to farmers;*
- *Publications and extension articles delivered as part of the project*

Note that SAGIT may directly extend information from Final reports to growers. If applicable, attach a list of published material.

Take Home Messages

- All demonstration spreaders did not spread as wide as their owners thought.
- An after-market bolt on kit is available for the Marshall spreader to increase its bout (spread) width while still achieving an acceptable spread pattern.
- Urea is a more troublesome product to spread over larger distances – product quality is paramount when spreading over large distances.

Attached is a report prepared for the local newspaper – The Islander. This report will also be included in the 2017 Agriculture Kangaroo Island Trials Book.

POSSIBLE FUTURE EVENTS

Provide possible future plans of your Group arising from the project including potential for further work and partnerships.

As a result of the workshop, Russell is returning to the Island to finish modifying the demonstration spreaders and also the spreaders of attendees. On the day, Russell sold 2 of his bolt-on kits for Marshall spreaders. An attendee who belongs to the Sheep Growers Academy Group run by local vet Greg Johnsson also reported back to the group and I understand that more work was generated for Russell from this referral. So a big THANK YOU from all growers - both grain and graziers on Kangaroo Island!

AUTHORISATION

Name: Jenny Stanton

Position: Ag KI Cropping Trials Manager

Signature:

Date: 21st April 2017

Submit report via email to admin@sagit.com.au as a Microsoft Word document in the format shown **within 2 months** after the completion of the Project Term.