

Birchip Cropping Group Partnership



Birchip Cropping Group Main Field Day

To ensure that the NCLLEN Agricultural Project was embedded in the community and formed connections that are ongoing and sustainable, we formed a partnership with the Birchip Cropping Group.

Broad acre cropping is a key agricultural industry in our region and the work of the Birchip Cropping Group showcases the diverse elements of careers in agriculture.

See media report below:

Birchip Cropping Group Welcomes Local Students

Birchip Cropping Group's Main Field Day was held on Linc Lehmann's farm in amongst the rolling mallee crops at Kinnabulla West. This is an important day on the annual calendar for north west farmers, as it showcases the latest trials and research.

This year there was a specific invitation to local secondary students to attend the Field Day. Partnering with the NCLLEN, the Birchip Cropping Group provided a student stream to run alongside the farmer program. Students were able to inspect the many trial sites and listen to the research and science that had gone into each plot.

Additionally, there was a careers panel consisting of BCG staff -Yolanda Plowman, Grace Hosking, Farmer - Tim Rethus, and Nutrien agronomist - Rik Maatman. BCG staff also created a treasure hunt for students, encouraging them to talk to staff member and farmers.

Over 130 students attended the field day and many of these enthusiastic agriculture students will now see BCG as a part of their future journey in agriculture whether that be through employment or as an essential resource in their own farming careers.

The day featured some hotly contested competitions.

Winners of the Treasure Hunt were Isabelle Morrison and Hollee Vinnicombe(East Loddon) Frederick, Alby Bear, Jack Potter and Josephine Ceballos (Boort) Kelly Hogan and Tessa Sheahan(Wycheproof).

The student who most closely guessed the weight (43.28t.) of the lentils on Sait's B-Double was Ebony Twigg(East Loddon). And the closest guess to the number of sheep (621) on Fitzpatrick's truck was Hollee Vinnicombe (East Loddon).

The students also found time to research the vast variety of careers on display. The winner of the competition to find five different agriculture careers was Glenn Pearse (Donald)





BCG MAIN FIELD DAY STUDENT PROGRAM

7km west of Kinnabulla on Kinnabulla
West Road

WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

10am

**Welcome, Overview of BCG, Treasure
Hunt**

Marquee

Tour with BCG staff

10.30

Students join Yellow, Red or Black tours

See main program

11.30

**Careers panel facilitated by Fiona Best (BCG CEO) with Yolanda
Plowman (BCG), Tim Rethus (Wimmera Farmer), Grace Hosking and
Thomas Jones (BCG), Rik Maatman (Nutrient Ag agronomist), Mallee
farmer (TBC)**

Marquee

Midday

Free time to complete Treasure Hunt

12.30

Lunch - available on site and paid for by the NCLLEN

Free time.

1.30

Students join marquee sessions and depart as arranged by their school

Marquee

