

wantfa 2009
conference
and annual dinner

How big
is **YOUR** bucket?



registration

Wednesday 4 March
The Vines Resort
Verdelho Drive
The Swan Valley

Conference 2009 Speakers



Rick Bieber

Farmer, South Dakota, USA

Rick Bieber is a no-till farmer from north central South Dakota, in the heart of the North American continent. He farms in a 406 mm precipitation zone on 2023 hectares of cropland and also has 2023 hectares of rangeland for

a 500 head cow/calf operation. He has been in a continuous no-till system for the past 22 years with main crops of hard red spring wheat, hard red winter wheat, corn, flax, peas, sunflowers, millet and alfalfa.

Rick is intensely interested in keeping the farm operation economically viable and gets to the heart of a problem quickly before it becomes major. He is a strong advocate of diverse crop rotations and profitability for successful no-till systems and has been a popular speaker at a number of no-till conferences throughout the Northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest of the United States over the past 16 years. His farm hosts many local tours along with international tours from Australia, Ukraine, England, New Zealand and Canada.



Luke Mathews

Commodity Strategist
B.Agr.Ec. (Hon)

Luke is responsible for monitoring, analysing and forecasting trends for the major agricultural commodities. Luke joined Commonwealth Bank in September 2008. Prior to this,

Luke worked within Westpac Agribusiness, followed by 18 months in recycled water business development and strategy at Hunter Water Corporation. Luke holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics (Honours) degree from Sydney University.



Hugh Ball

Farmer, 'Oodnadatta', Moree, NSW

The Ball Family commenced farming at 'Gorian', Burren Junction, NSW in 1992. This country was purchased in 1988 and developed from grazing to cropping in 1992. Previously the family lived in the Hunter Valley running a crossbred cattle enterprise. In 2002 'Oodnadatta', in Moree, NSW was purchased.

A total of 15,000 hectares of arable cropping land is in the family business. A further 20,000 hectares is under crop management and contract farming for external clients of Hugh's business, Ball Farm Management. This business is expanding rapidly.

The farming system is built around a zero-till controlled traffic system implemented in 1992. The system comprises of permanent 3 metre wheel centres using 12 metre planting and 36-48 metre boomsprays. Machinery and labour efficiencies are challenges. Hugh and Duncan run the farming businesses with a strong emphasis on capable core staff and external expertise (Agronomy, Business Management and Marketing).

Hugh is also a Director and shareholder in MAX Grains, a grain marketing business in Brisbane.

His strong focus is to continue to grow the business and align with like-minded businesses to better achieve viable economical and sustainable results in what is a challenging but dynamic agricultural climate.



18th Annual WANTFA Conference Provisional Program

How Big is your Bucket? The capacity of your soil to hold water

08.15 – 9.00	Registration
9.00 – 9.05	Toll Temby WANTFA President
9.05 – 9.20	Welcome Minister Terry Redman Minister for Agriculture
9.20 – 10.00	Minister Terry Redman <i>GM Policy</i>
10.00 – 10.20	Morning Tea
10.20 – 11.10	Rick Bieber <i>Water use efficiency and no-till in the US</i>
11.10 – 12.00	Hugh Ball Corporate Business Farm Management <i>Commodity marketing options and the Canadian experience</i>
12.00 – 12.30	Phil Ward CSIRO <i>Soil types and its water-holding capacity</i>
12.30 – 1.30	Lunch
1.35 – 2.15	Luke Mathews <i>Global Markets</i>
2.15 – 3.00	Mike Ashworth <i>WANTFA Trial Results 2008</i>
3.00 – 3.30	Afternoon Tea
3.30 – 4.00	Simon Tiller Local Farmer <i>Global trends in grain production</i>
4.00 – 4.30	Ty Kirby and Brady Green <i>First year with discs</i>
4.30 – 5.00	Philip Young <i>Conservation Farming</i>
6.30	Pre-dinner drinks
7.00	WANTFA Annual Dinner featuring speaker Max Walker

WANTFA Annual Dinner featuring Max Walker



In the space of five decades Max Walker has travelled an amazing journey from schoolboy sporting prodigy to one of the most recognisable faces and voice in Australia. Along the way he managed to play Test Cricket for Australia in a golden era, VFL/AFL football for the Melbourne Football Club, take centre stage in the sports media arena and be the author of 13 books. Max is also a successful entrepreneur with directorships in a number of companies. Academically, he qualified from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology with a Fellowship Diploma of Architecture and practiced as an architect for 10 years.

Max's transition from the sporting fields to the hypnotic world of media was seamless... he is a natural charismatic communicator on radio and television. An extension of that natural ability has resulted in seven No. 1 best-selling books in Australia. His aggregate book sales stretched beyond one million copies.

Max is also one of Australia's most sought-after keynote speakers and Master of Ceremonies.

Registration essential

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