



on track to improved profit and lifestyle

CTF UP-2-DATE newsletter

Autumn 2009 highlights

- CTF, Machinery and PA workshops in NSW
- “Witta” joins the team
- Grains BMP
- CTF in Tasmanian horti – what can happen after a storm
- CTF09 date claimer
- Var-rate – will it pay in heavy clay soils of Qld?
- 2009 winter season satellite imagery cost remains at \$0.50/ha + GST, min 5000ha.

CTF09 Date claimer

7th Australian Controlled Traffic Farming Conference
Rydges Lakeside, Canberra

7 - 8 September 2009.
Contact Sally Brown

sally.brown@uq.net.au

CTF, Machinery, and PA workshops for Lachlan CMA

Wayne, Don, Jeff and Tim have been very busy delivering workshops through central and southern NSW over the past 6 months. Hundreds of farmers have now completed workshops on CTF, Precision Ag and Machinery as part of the Lachlan CMA's Sustainable Farming Systems training series. Many farmers in the area were certainly challenged, but response has been positive, with CTF Solutions now helping farmers to implement changes to their individual farming system.

“Witta” joins the team

Many of you will know Andrew Whitlock from Victoria. Andrew trained with us in 2003 as part of the graduate recruit program for the Victorian DPI, and has since been working for the department and travelling the world. Andrew will be looking after southern Australia customers as part of the business. He is particularly interested in helping people decide on whether PA (including vari-rate) will pay. So if you have a stack of old yield maps lying around, send Andrew an email: Andrew@ctfsolutions.com.au

GrainsBMP

Tim has been on the road delivering GrainsBMP (Best Management Practice) workshops for a project led by QDPI, AgForce, and the Fitzroy Basin Association. Modules were developed on “Farm Design and Layout” and “Making Best Use of Rainfall”, and then 5 workshops were completed throughout Central Qld. If you are interested in this concept contact Rod Collins, GrainsBMP coordinator Rodney.collins@dpi.qld.gov.au

CTF in Tasmanian horti

Don and Jeff recently obtained a project through Qld DPI to work with horticultural growers in the Lockyer and Fassifern valleys. Before this we have completed projects on CTF for Horticulture for Tasmanian DPI and Burnett Mary Regional Group.

John McPhee, from TIAR in Tasmania, whom Tim has been working with for several years, sent some photos of their CTF project after a heavy rainfall event on 16/4/2009. Both the CTF plots and random traffic plots had little stubble cover after potatoes which were harvested a month ago. The photos clearly show the impact of compaction on runoff.

CTF



Random traffic



CTF

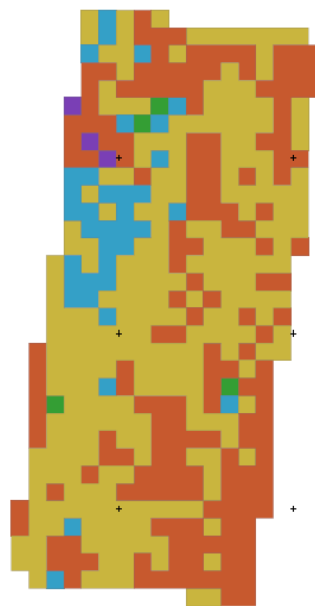


Random Traffic



Vari-rate – does it pay??

One of our top clients asked if variable rate will pay on his heavy clay soils in Southern Qld. He invested around \$15,000 on a yield monitor / anhydrous variable rate controller, and Tim completed the analysis to replace Nitrogen after sorghum for this years' wheat crop. A replacement map was derived, (below) which will vary the Nitrogen rate between 70 and 120kg anhydrous ammonia/ha.



As he already works on a nutrient replacement policy, variable rate was not going to reduce the total amount of anhydrous used on the paddock (11.5t vs 11.7t anhydrous using vari-rate). However, we hope that the better areas (which will receive more Nitrogen) will grow better, thereby increasing profits.

2009 satellite imagery cost

Satellite imagery remains @ \$0.50/ha + GST this winter season, min. 5000ha (0.8m pixel)

If you need to contact a member of the team directly please see details below. Our website is regularly updated

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Do not use a Stieger for pulling down old silo's!!!

