

May 2006

PlantTech

Bringing seed technology to life

PlantTech Emerging NEWS

May has been a busy month for PlantTech, the highlight being the Pegasus Lucerne Launch at the Tamworth DPI. An excellent turn out to the event, with attendance from the breeders, Seedmark, PlantTech, local retailers and growers. With support from the local media the launch was a great official start to what is set to be a leading lucerne product.

We also have three new staff members who have recently joined the PlantTech team. Lachlan Broad, is our new National Production Manager, Sue Dunn is our new Logistics Manager and Simmone Muraca is our new EPR Administrator. We welcome Lachlan, Sue and Simmone aboard.

PEGASIS LUCERNE LAUNCH - The start to what will be a great product!

The recent Pegasus Launch held on the 11th May at the Tamworth NSW DPI facilities was a huge success in launching this exciting new variety. There was a very good turn out and great support from members of the Lucerne Alliance in launching Pegasus.

Dr. Nick Austin, Deputy Director - General Science and Research NSW DPI spoke specifically of the launch of Pegasus and the breeding behind variety. Mr Bryan Robertson Research and Development Manager from Seedmark spoke about the Lucerne Alliance and the future direction of the breeding and commercialisation of Australian Lucerne.

The Lucerne Alliance explained the importance of their program and the priority of providing the Australian market place with quality Lucerne varieties.

Pegasus is a highly winter active variety with a dormancy rating of 9. It has been bred for excellent production and persistence in dryland rotations.

Pegasus Lucerne seed will not be available until season 2007, however if you would like more information on this variety please don't hesitate to contact PlantTech.



Mr Bryan Robertson (Seedmark), Mr. Greg Bender (GRDC), Mr Tim Pepper (PlantTech), and Dr Nick Austin (NSW DPI) examine a Pegasus trial plot at Tamworth DPI.

PLANTTECH PROFILE - Lachlan Broad, National Production Manager

Lachlan Broad has recently been appointed our new National Production Manager. Lachie comes from Ballarat, where he studied Applied Science in Biology and Resource Management. Lachie started out at the Ag Department in Hamilton working on the Pasture Improvement Program. He then moved onto the AgrEvo GM Canola Research Program, moving through to Bayer where he set up the Australian GM program into Victoria.

Lachie is an old Fitzroy supporter, who is still somewhat bitter about the Brisbane merge, so now follows the Sydney swans. He also used to play ruck in various leagues across Victoria, but now carries a back injury. Lachie's main 'claim to fame' include a **hole in one at the Xavier Golf Course** as well as **once wearing Darren Lehman's baggy green cap**. He is a keen cricket supporter, visiting most major cricket playing countries. To top it all off, Lachie also somehow managed to get into the Silver Chair concert after party with the Sydney Swans, Heath Ledger and many others! Oh and he has also watched Michael Jordan play basketball in the US. Please make Lachie feel welcome and don't hesitate to contact him with any production enquiries.

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