

The SA Soils Scoop

with LUCY PORTER

Building networks and sharing knowledge about the health and management of South Australian soils

The SA Regional Soils Coordinator role is part of a national network of Regional Soil Coordinators (RSC), *supported by the Australian Government through funding from the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program under the Natural Heritage Trust.*

The Regional Soil Coordinators work across all levels of industry to understand stakeholder needs and engage with regional and national networks to build the knowledge base and capacity in soil management. The RSCs aim to help inform, protect and develop healthy soils within agricultural systems.

Hi There,

Over the last few weeks I have been busy gathering information and planning the development of the SA Drought Hub Drought resilient soils project: Optimising water capture, storage and utilisation in crop and pasture systems. I've begun with a desktop review of current extension resources and sent emails to many Hub Partner organisations to collate resources together. Check out the flier link here: https://sadroughthub.com.au/new-scoping-project-to-identify-project-opportunties-in-drought-resilient-soils-2/ (I've had meetings with key researchers that have shared resources with me to capture their key priorities and incorporate into the review process. I have planned three upcoming workshops across the state, which will be facilitated by Dr Melissa Fraser and Felicity Turner, check out the Eventbrite links to register: https://sadroughthub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/SADH-Soil-WUE-project-Fact-Sheet_v8.pdf if you would like to get involved or contribute, please reach out to me via email (lucy.porter@adelaide.edu.au) or join us at one of the consultation workshops in October.

I teamed up with Mary-Anne Young to record my first podcast – managing soil in dry times to discuss some of the soil management considerations relevant to our current season – check it out here: Managing erosion in dry times - SA Drought Hub

I attended the South Australian Grain Industry Trust Annual updates to keep up to date with the latest projects and hear updates on how the season is progressing across the regions through networking. Learning about the complexity and considerations of chemical use in research and the advances in the technology of research seeders for managing soil biological constraints was informative and increased my broader agronomic knowledge beyond the soil components.

I'm also beginning to plan an event for World Soil Day on Friday December 5th. The aim will be to host a networking session encouraging soil researchers and people working in agricultural extension to mingle and broaden their networks. Watch this space as it develops!

Kind regards

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Did you know:

In an effort toward improving transparency and consistency in biostimulant labelling, Fertilizer Australia has developed a voluntary Code of Practice (CoP) for the labelling of biostimulants. This industry-led initiative is designed to support growers, agronomists, and rural advisors by promoting clear, accurate, and consistent product information in a market that's growing rapidly, but often lacks clarity. Until now, there's been little standardisation in how these products are described in Australia, which create opportunities for confusion in the minds of users. For more information and to view the code of Practice, check out their website by following this link: Biostimulant

FERTILIZER AUSTRALIA

Please join the upcoming Soil Network of Knowledge (SNoK) webinar where Jeff Craak and Sofie De Meyer will discuss this, hosted by the NSW Department of Primary Industries: https://mailchi.mp/20299a10ff31/1pwg4b1c9m

EVENTS

August Events

6 **GRDC research update** – Keith
View event details

14 **AgKI Conference AgKI**
Conference 2025 | AG KI

20 **Limestone Coast Landscape Board Nutrient Management Decisions in Cropping and Grazing Workshop** – Tintinara
Nutrient decisions in grazing... | Limestone Coast Landscape Board

22 **Soil Science Australia SA 70th Anniversary Soil Pit Branch Member Day** – Lyndoch
Soil Science Australia 70th Anniversary Soil Pit SA Branch Member Day Tickets, Fri, Aug 22, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite

28 **Focus on Phosphorus Forum** – Lucindale
mackillopgroup.com.au/index.cfm?module=event&page_id=2904619

27 **Save the date: GRDC and MLA funded Sandy Soils Spring Farm Walk** - Moorlands

27-28 **Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Carbon Ready Ag conference** – Port Pirie
Landscape South Australia - Northern and Yorke | Carbon Ready Ag...

September Events

1-3 **Farmers for Climate Action National Summit** - Canberra
Farming Forever National Summit 25 - Farmers for Climate Action

9 **AIREP Lower EP Crop walk** - AIR EP Lower EP Crop Walk (9 September 2025)

10 **SARDI Minnipa Ag Centre Annual Field Day**
SARDI Minnipa Ag Centre Annual Field Day (10 September 2025)

10-11 **Save the date SA Mallee Field Days**
msfp.org.au/events/

16 **Hart Field Day Hart Field Site Group**
Hart Field Day

17-18 **Regenerative Agriculture conference, Perth WA**
Regenerative Food Systems Conference 2025 - RegenWA

21-24 **National Landcare conference and Landcare awards** - About – National Landcare Conference

23 **Save the date: Veldt Field Grass Walk and MLA funded Sandy Soils Spring Farm Walk**
Culburra and Coonalpyn

30 **YP Field days – Paskeville**
Yorke Peninsula Field Days | South Australia

October Events

1 **YP Field days – Paskeville**
Yorke Peninsula Field Days | South Australia

3 **Soil Pit Day Young in Soil and Earth Sciences**
Young in Soil and Earth Science Society Adelaide

13 **SA Drought Hub Drought resilient soils project scoping consultation workshops** - Wudinna, Wudinna Telecentre

15 **SA Drought Hub Drought resilient soils project scoping consultation workshops**
- Watervale, The Vale clubrooms

17 **SA Drought Hub Drought resilient soils project scoping consultation workshops**
- Tailem Bend, Tailem Bend Football Club

21 **Hart Spring Twilight walk**
Hart Field Site Group - Spring Twilight Walk

TBA **Mentoring Night, Young in Soil and Earth Sciences** Young in Soil and Earth Science Society Adelaide

November Events

13 **Networking night Young in Soil and Earth Sciences** Young in Soil and Earth Science Society Adelaide

25-28 **Soil Judging Competition Armidale NSW**
Soil Judging - Soil Science Australia

27-28 **APSIM Advanced Training Workshops Adelaide**
events.csiro.au/Events/2025/February/5/APSIM-Advance-Training-2025

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SMART SOILS FOR AGRICULTURE

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Future Drought Fund

SA DROUGHT HUB

THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE

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