

# TILLAGE SEEDING SPRAYING



## Constant improvements at Hydra

BEVERLEY Hydra Boom owner Eddie Peart takes time to talk to clients about individual spraying requirements.

Mr Peart said Beverley Hydra Boom was continually striving to improve the machine, and the input of WA farmers was an important part of that process.

"The 10,000L Hydra Boom released at last year's Dowerin field days was developed due to farmer interest," he said.

"By dealing directly with the end-user we can build the type of machine that they want."

The 37m 10,000L tractor-drawn boomspray comes complete with all the standard features expected on a Hydra Boom, with an upsizing of the fresh water tank to 1200L.

The larger tank sizes increase the actual time spent spraying with less refilling required during the day.

Hydra Boom machines are fitted with the latest Farmscan controller, the 24V1, which is fully GPS compatible.

The company's big range of sprayers includes the flagship Titanic II.

More information: Beverley Hydra Boom, phone 9646 1218, fax 9646 1581 or email [hydraboom@bigpond.com](mailto:hydraboom@bigpond.com)



## New inoculant technology benefits

RESEARCH and development company Alosca Technologies' range of clay based granular legume inoculants has been providing significant seeding operation benefits not afforded by more traditional inoculation methods.

WA-based Alosca Technologies, now in its third commercial season, has seen a rapid adoption of its inoculant delivery products.

Alosca technical manager Chris Poole said growers had identified the advantages of the system, which was underpinned by the product's characteristic to activate on the same seasonal triggers as the sown legume.

"The viability of the Rhizobia bacteria is therefore maintained until required for the initiation of nodulation when germination conditions are favourable," Mr Poole said.

From a seeding operation perspective Mr Poole said feedback from a recently concluded grower survey and this season's regional autumn update meetings had highlighted two key advantages.

"Growers now have the option to sow legumes early with the confidence that inoculant viability will be maintained leaving the ideal seeding window clear for the cereal program," Mr Poole said.

"The ease of application and flexibility are the other things growers are harnessing.

"The granules can be mixed with the seed and/or fertiliser, which are proving popular, or standalone from a third or unused seed-bin.

"The dry granule format also alleviates the



need to sow within 24 hours to moist soils to maintain viability as with the slurry inoculants."

On-farm blending or mixing with fertiliser has been a frequent point of discussion at recent grower meetings.

"I've been urging growers not to over-mix the product before transferring it to the seeder," Mr Poole said.

"Grower experience had shown adequate mixing has been achieved through the regular transfers of fertiliser from the shed to the 5-in-1 bin and then onto the seeder.

Alosca fertiliser mixes should then be delivered single shoot and not banded separately to the seed."

For general inquiries contact ALOSCA Technologies' office on (08) 9446 1533 or visit [www.alosca.com.au](http://www.alosca.com.au)

For more specific technical information phone technical manager Chris Poole on 0429 815 638.

## Revise herbicide use: Planfarm

EVERY season brings with it a new challenge and the 2007 season looks unlikely to break tradition.

Planfarm managing director Greg Kirk said volatile grain markets, high fuel prices and rapidly increasing fertiliser costs should be forcing farmers to look critically at all aspects of their operation this year.

"The yield that must be achieved to return a profit is determined by how much you spend and a high input strategy in a high cost/variable price year can easily lead to disaster," Mr Kirk said.

"When it comes to chemical application, revision of your program each year is vital.

"Just because a strategy was effective in one year does not mean it should be adopted across all paddocks in all situations.

"Decisions to use strategies such as double knock, adding insecticide and fungicide use should be based on need and good sound data."

Mr Kirk said it was easy to become hooked on a system, where everything received a double knock or a fungicide, or a three-way tank mix plus insecticide, but which could dramatically increase weed and pest control costs.

Mr Kirk said in years like this one it was essential to question everything that went into the tank.

"Ask yourself, 'what is its purpose and will it

add to my profits or just my costs?'"

The 2007 Planfarm Herbicide Guide is a must for those looking to fine tune their chemical programme this year.

The guide is designed to outline the options available to farmers in all stages of winter crop growth for weed, pest and disease control.

It covers knockdowns, the application of herbicides on cereals, canola, legume crops and pastures, insecticides for pest management and fungicide application.

This year's updated guide is on sale May 10, and includes a handy reference CD containing labels of the major chemicals.

While the 2007 Herbicide Guide is full of the latest products and useful tips, when it comes to chemical application some things remain the same:

- Read the label
- The most expensive chemical is the one that does not work
- Beware of equipment contamination
- Operator safety is paramount
- Apply chemicals under suitable conditions and rotate chemical groups.

To secure a copy of the Planfarm Herbicide Guide send a cheque for \$120 to Planfarm Pty Ltd, PO Box 501, Wembley, WA 6913.

More information: Planfarm, phone Jo on 9284 1044 or visit [www.planfarm.com.au](http://www.planfarm.com.au)

### Q: IS THE COST OF NITROGEN KILLING YOUR BUDGET?



At the end of the day, the cheapest nitrogen available is grown by you

### A: IT'S SIMPLE, USE ALOSCA GRANULAR LEGUME INOCULANTS.

#### Easy

Replaces slurry legume inoculation, simple preparation no limitations for time to sow\*\*

#### Flexible

Apply mixed with seed or fertiliser, sow dry or to moisture with/without seed dressings

#### Effective

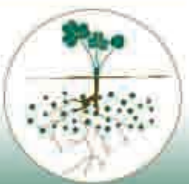
Reliable nodulation with moist or dry seeding. Inoculant viability maintained during unfavourable seedbed conditions

\*\*when mixed with fertiliser, ALOSCA inoculants should be sown within 4 weeks

### Your on-farm fertiliser plant

Enquiries & orders contact ALOSCA Technologies Pty Ltd  
PH: (08) 9446 1533 Fax: (08) 9446 1599  
or contact your local stockist • website: [www.alosca.com.au](http://www.alosca.com.au)

ALOSCA Technologies Pty Ltd



## THE 2007 PLANFARM HERBICIDE GUIDE

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