Consultant on SANTFA board

t the 2011 SANTFA AGM, held in ABordertown, Matt Gready was elected as a board member. Matt works as an Agricultural Consultant for Dodgshun Medlin and runs his own property just over the border in Victoria. Please say G'day to Matt if you see him out and about, especially if you're one of our Riverland members.

Matt, Tell us about your background.

I'm originally from near Horsham in Victoria. I was educated at Longerenong College and have spent the past 15 years farming with my wife and father. We've been no-tilling since 1993.

What's your current role and focus at work, and what part do you like best?

I'm currently working full time as a consultant for Dodgshun Medlin Ag Management in Loxton, servicing clients in the SA Mallee and Riverland.

For me, the best part of my job, and the main reason I work where I do, is the satisfaction I get from helping great people get better outcomes in their business. Having the opportunity to help them gain confidence in new technology and farming concepts, and seeing how they react when the right outcome eventuates, is fantastic.

Why did you decide to join the **SANTFA board?**

I decided to join the SANTFA board to help me keep abreast of the latest in technology and concepts, and also hopefully to contribute to the growth of SANTFA, as more growers look to change their farming systems.

What do you think you can give, and what do you expect to get out of it?

As a farmer who has been no-tilling for 15 years, I feel as though I have some experience to pass on to those who are

just getting into the system. Having said that, agriculture always has and always will evolve, so continually learning about new concepts, passing these onto others and helping them integrate them successfully is another reason for wanting to be involved with SANTFA.

Do you have a particular area of interest?

My area of particular interest in agriculture is risk management, particularly in low rainfall environments. That may mean helping farmers reduce the risk of weeds and disease through better herbicide and rotation decisions, or helping match their nutrition to their farm potential so they don't miss out in a good season.

What do you do outside work?

Away from my employment I run my farm at Lubeck, about 40 kilometres east of Horsham, and spend time with my wife and three young children.



ALEX MILNER-SMYTH

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