

Field days showcase Big N precision

By Brett Priebe, Incitec Pivot Limited

Precision agriculture was a key theme at a series of field days Incitec Pivot held throughout New South Wales and Queensland earlier this year.

As in previous years, growers were hungry for information on BIG N fertiliser application options including minimum till implements, variable rate and precision application technologies.

We continue to see growers upgrading their application equipment and fertiliser practices to move towards precision agriculture, as they start seeing the benefits.

BIG N is an integral part of that movement. BIG N is used in some of the most advanced and efficient ferti-

liser application systems around today. As a liquid under pressure, it is ideal for accurate and precise variable rate applications.

Along with presentations from BIG N specialists, agronomists, growers and other guest speakers at the field days, Incitec Pivot's unique minimum till application rig was put through its paces. The rig is set up with a variety of disc and mid row implements and runs a

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Drew Penberthy, from Bellata, gave a growers' perspective on variable rate application for attendees of the Incitec Pivot field day at 'Ivandale' near Brookstead.



Many of Incitec Pivot's 15 field days held earlier this year were very well attended, with growers receptive to the new ideas and technologies presented.

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◀23...SHOWCASING PRECISION FIELD DAYS

Raven Viper and Raven flow controller for precision application.

The Raven Viper utilises GPS technology to allow



growers to change the rate of fertiliser applied across the paddock to match zonal nutrient management plans.

The advanced technology in the Viper is capable of controlling five products at once, in a user-friendly operating system. It has its own console built into its system, but can also be operated with existing consoles.

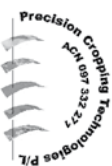
Several guest speakers contributed to the field days, including Graeme Betts from ASK GB and Bellata grower, Drew Penberthy. Drew gave growers attending the northern New South Wales and Darling Downs field days an overview of his personal experiences with precision agriculture and some insights into GPS efficiency.

Farm Works representatives also attended a number of field days, explaining how to get data from the paddock to the computer when compiling information for variable rate applications.

Information on Incitec Pivot's extensive range of fertilisers, including Granulock SuPreme Z and EASY N fertilisers was also available to growers at the field days.

The field days began in the Riverina in early February and moved through central and northern New South Wales later that month. Four field days were held on the Darling Downs in early March.

Paul Hanlon, 'Ivendale' near Brookstead, (centre) hosted an Incitec Pivot field day with Wayne Gordon (left) and Craig Burke, Field Service Specialists with Incitec Pivot.



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