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## Consultant appointed to review GRDC governance

Independent consultant Marsden Jacobs have been appointed to undertake a governance review of the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), Grains Producers Australia (GPA) and GRDC announced today.

GRDC Chairman Richard Clark said the review aims to ensure the most effective GRDC framework to deliver benefits for the future of the Australian grains industry.

“The GRDC is committed to delivering the most possible value to Australian grain growers and the Board wants to make sure that we’ve got the best structural model in place to achieve that now and in the future,” Mr Clark said.

“This industry led review seeks to ensure GRDC has a governance structure that will deliver robust, accountable and commercial RD&E to levy payers in a changing operating environment”.

The review steering committee — comprising representatives of key industry organisations — is chaired by GPA Director Mr Terry Enright and will oversee the review of GRDC’s governance structure which has remained unchanged for 20 years.

“There will be a broad consultation program with industry – particularly grain growers – using a wide range of mechanisms to seek feedback including through industry representative organisations,” Mr Enright said.

“It is essential that all industry players help to inform this review as it will shape GRDC and its ability to deliver research, development and extension outcomes to grain growers for the future.

“The consultants will identify issues and opportunities, including what structure might best allow GRDC to capture increased international (and private) investment in R&D, as well as provide an analysis of available governance structure options, including an overview of best practice,” Mr Enright said.

The report is due in June 2014.

**Grain Producers Australia (GPA)** represents Australia's broadacre, grain, pulse and oilseed producers at the national level. Broadly stated, GPA was created to foster a strong, innovative, profitable, globally competitive and environmentally sustainable grains industry in Australia.

The objectives of GPA are to establish a strong independent national advocate for grain producers based on a rigorous and transparent policy development process; engage all sectors of the Australian grains industry to ensure operation of the most efficient and profitable grain supply chain; and facilitate a strategic approach to research, development and extension (RDE) intended to deliver sound commercial outcomes from industry research.

[www.grainproducers.com.au](http://www.grainproducers.com.au)

The **Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC)** is one of the world's leading grains research organisations, involved in planning and overseeing more than \$180 million worth of research, development and extension each year. With the primary aim of making sure that every dollar invested delivers the best possible return to its primary stakeholder – the Australian grain grower – the GRDC is able to achieve large-scale production improvements, sustainability and profitability across the country, by partnering with the best scientific expertise.

The GRDC manages around a thousand projects every year as part of its investment in research, development and extension related activities that benefit Australian grain growers, industry and the wider community.

[www.grdc.com.au](http://www.grdc.com.au)

### For Interviews

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