

Industry update January 2019



19
Current & contracting projects



\$2,009,435

Invested in RD&E
October - December 2018



\$7,839,326

Committed to RD&E Plan from 1 July 2018

AgriFutures™ Rice Program Advisory Panel

- Drew Braithwaite (Chair)
- Michele Groat (Deputy Chair)
- Dr Ben Ovenden
- Dr Vito Butardo
- Dr Laurie Lewin
- Garry Knagge
- Brian Dunn
- Russell Ford
- Barry Kirkup
- John Smith (AgriFutures Australia Senior Manager, Research)

Project spotlight (current): PhD student Jhoana Opena

Research Organisation: Charles Sturt University
Project ID: PRJ-010758

Growing up only a couple of kilometers from the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines meant rice was bound to be a major influence on Jhoana Opena's career prospects. Jhoana worked at the IRRI as an associate scientist under the weed science group before moving to Wagga Wagga in June 2017 to work on her PhD research. She speaks fondly of her time working with rice in the Philippines, and has been able to reflect on the nuances between the rice industry in both countries. "South East Asia is similar, but very different. The temperature and environment are very different; however, the end goal of the research is the same," says Jhoana.

Jhoana noted that the 2017 International Temperate Rice Conference in Griffith helped her to identify the gap in rice research that she could work on. Her PhD project, supported by AgriFutures Australia, is researching the impacts of pasture legume phase on seedbank, establishment and growth of barnyard grass (*Echinochloa crus-galli*) in drill-sown rice. This project is important for the rice industry as current weed control is limited with an ever-present risk of developing resistance to herbicides. Jhoana's work is looking at alternative control options outside herbicide to allow the rice industry to develop integrated weed control programs. This will allow growers to have more weed control options that will minimise and perhaps eliminate the need for herbicides.

Jhoana's highlights from her PhD research include meeting with Australian rice farmers and seeing their farms, learning about weed management and helping to alleviate weed issues.

Upcoming events

- 19-20 Feb** evoke^{AG}, Melbourne
- 20 Feb** AgriFutures™ Rice Program Advisory Panel meeting
- 1 Mar** AgriFutures™ Horizon Scholarship applications close
- 7 Mar** 2019 Rice Industry Field Day, Jerilderie
- Aug** Rice RD&E Forum, Yanco

Team update

Gae has resigned from her role as Rice Extension Coordinator. We have been very lucky to have Gae, her leadership enabled Rice Extension to develop into a well respected source of information across all sectors of the industry. She was a fantastic mentor for both Troy and Leah allowing them to develop and lead activities within the group. We wish her all the best as she moves north to be closer to her family.

Leah is also leaving Rice Extension with her final day being 18 January. We wish her all the best with her opportunities taking her to Darwin. Both positions will be refilled as soon as possible to ensure the important connection between rice growers and industry is maintained.

Current projects

Project ID	Project Name	Principal Investigator	Research Organisation	Expected completion date
PRJ-009805	Next Generation Healthy Rice	Chris Blanchard	Charles Sturt University	13 June 2019
PRJ-011506	Effect of environment on cereal phenolic composition and its chemopreventive pot	Shiwangi Rao	Charles Sturt University	30 April 2019
PRJ-011507	Factors affecting the starch digestibility of rice	Michelle Toutounji	Charles Sturt University	30 April 2019
PRJ-011505	The impact of farm practices on rice grain quality in south-eastern Australia	Rachel Wood	Charles Sturt University	30 April 2019
PRJ-011504	The Therapeutic Properties of Coloured Rice-derived Polyphenols	Esther Callcott	Charles Sturt University	30 April 2019
PRJ-011503	Exploring the health beneficial properties of rice bran	Nancy Saji	Charles Sturt University	30 April 2018
PRJ-010188	Rice Pest and Disease Biosecurity II	Mark Stevens	NSW DPI	15 May 2019
PRJ-011226	Australian Rural Leadership Program 2018 - Course 25 - Troy Mauger	Graeme Kruger	Ricegrowers' Association of Australia	15 November 2019
PRJ-010705	Post Graduate 'top-up' Scholarship - C Rixon	Charissa Rixon	Central Queensland University	16 January 2020
PRJ-010712	Post Graduate 'top-up' Scholarship - M Van Leeuwen	Matthew Van Leeuwen	University of Western Sydney	1 February 2020
PRJ-009790	Rice variety nitrogen & agronomic management	Brian Dunn	NSW DPI	15 May 2020
PRJ-009950	Australian Rice Partnership 2	Deb Slinger	NSW DPI	30 May 2020
PRJ-010696	Extension for improved efficiency and sustainability in the rice industry	Gae Plunkett	Ricegrowers' Association of Australia	30 July 2020
PRJ-010758	Post Graduate 'top-up' Scholarship - J Opena	Johana Opena	Charles Sturt University	31 July 2020
PRJ-011075	Rice Industry Leadership Program	Ainsley Massina	Ricegrowers' Association of Australia	15 August 2020
PRJ-011058	Improving mid-season nitrogen management in rice	Brian Dunn	NSW DPI	1 June 2021
PRJ-0111365	Rice Weed Management in Australia	Malcolm Taylor	Agropraisals Pty Ltd	30 May 2022
PRJ-011067	Traits of importance for aerobic 'DryRice' varieties for the Riverina region	Jacquie Mitchell	University of Queensland	10 June 2022

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PRJ-009790: Rice variety nitrogen & agronomic management.

Yanco field photo, Brian Dunn's experiment site

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agrifutures.com.au/rice