Welcome to the 2016 edition of the BCG Season Research Results.

In 2016, BCG undertook one of our biggest trials programs ever, managing more than 140 research trials spread across a broader geographic area than in previous years, including into southern NSW. These include a record number of Members’ trials.

As usual we have chosen the most relevant and significant results for this year’s Season Research Results compendium, ranging from time of sowing to delayed harvest trials, grazing wheat, barley and oats, sowing direction impacts and more work on the GRDC stubble project with a particular focus on stubble and nutrient interactions.

In addition to our standard plot size trials, there are results from some paddock scale work on the economics of precision agriculture.

With such a wet September and high yields, it has been a terrific year for studying disease and this year’s manual includes work on assessing the impact of yellow leaf spot, spot form of net blotch and managing diseases in pulse crops, all of which were particularly relevant in 2016.

The Members’ trials identified by the BCG advisory committees on the use of gibberellic acid in lentils and vetch attracted much interest at our wet, Main Field Day at Warmur last September and results from this work can be found on page 22.

Like the rest of us, the BCG team endured a very long and tiring, but overall satisfying, harvest that finished well into the New Year. It is a credit to their dedication that they are able to analyse and compile these results in such a professional format in time for Trials Review Day in February (not to mention the ‘hot off the press’ results we get during harvest). I thank them for their hard work and great effort in putting these results together.

I hope you enjoy reading the 2016 Season Research Results and it aids you in your decision-making and planning for 2017.

Caroline Welsh
Chairman