



AARES

AUSTRALASIAN AGRICULTURAL &
RESOURCE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

NSW BRANCH SEMINAR

Dr Jason Crean & Dr Anthony Clark
(NSW Department of Primary Industries)

A new approach to monitoring drought in NSW - the Enhanced Drought Information System (EDIS)

NSW and Australia have always had a variable climate with extremes like drought having large economic, social and environmental impacts. Effective monitoring of drought can be used to help mitigate the severe impacts of drought by supporting actions of farmers and government agencies. There is a global research effort dedicated to improving drought monitoring and the application of that information to public policy and planning. While Australia has generally opted for single meteorological indicators or agronomic indicators, an alternative approach is to accommodate competing definitions through the integration of multiple drought indicators.

This presentation will focus on the development of the NSW Enhanced Drought Information System and specifically around the development of a Combined Drought Indicator (CDI). The CDI is a multi-indicator framework that objectively represents meteorological, hydrological and agronomic indices. Testing under Australian conditions across the State reveals that the CDI addresses many of the technical challenges to improved drought monitoring in Australia. Consistent application of the CDI will provide the NSW Government with the capacity to monitor drought more effectively and engage stakeholders constructively at key times.

Jason is the Director of Climate R&D in the agricultural branch of the NSW Department of Primary Industries. He has 20 years' experience as an agricultural economist working with NSW DPI and its predecessors in extension, research and policy positions. His own research interests have focussed on the management of climate variability and the value of seasonal climate forecasts to agriculture. Jason manages a research team that is responsible for state-wide seasonal conditions reporting and the development and evaluation of adaptation and mitigation technologies aimed at improving the productivity of agricultural industries in NSW.

Thursday 9 November 2017

Seminar 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Sydney Institute of Agriculture, Sydney University

Level 4 Seminar Room, Biomedical Building (C81)

1 Central Avenue, Australian Technology Park

Eveleigh NSW 2015

This is a free seminar and non-members are encouraged to attend.

Please **RSVP** to the AARES NSW Branch Secretary, Adam Briggs by 7th Nov.

Email: adam.briggs@horticulture.com.au