



Media Release

Wednesday 19th September, 2018

REAP THE BENEFITS OF DRONE TECHNOLOGY

Tasmanian farmers will get the know-how and confidence to benefit from drone and satellite technology at an event in Longford next month.

Held at the historic Brickendon World Heritage site on October 4, the afternoon will feature demonstrations from a range of commercial providers, including how to achieve variable-rate spreading from an aerial image.

NRM North's Land Program Manager, Adrian James, said the day is designed to give farmers practical knowledge and skills that will improve farm production and the management of inputs.

"We will demonstrate, getting a plant-health image of a paddock at Brickendon, turning the image into a fertiliser zone map and loading it into a spreader to see variable-rate spreading in action," said Mr James.

Jointly hosted by the Ag Institute and NRM North, the event will also hear from UTAS drone/pilot researcher Stephen Harwin and Tasmanian farmer Michael Nichols who has achieved record yields through adopting this technology.

"Using NDVI images as the crops are growing to vary the rate of nitrogen has allowed for yield increases across most crops. Last year our fertiliser bill was reduced by \$25,000 by using this technology," said Mr Nichols.

Sponsored by AK Consulting, RMCG and Plant Health Diagnostics - DPIIPWE, the event will provide plenty of networking opportunities with drinks and dinner following the afternoon demonstrations.

Ticket prices are \$80 per person, \$45 for Ag Institute members and students. The event starts at 2:00pm and finishes at 9:00pm.

The event flyer including ticket options are available at nrmnorth.org.au

The event is supported with funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

Ends

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