



## **Soil and Plant Analysis Workshop – new thinking, extra value**

*Convened by members of the Australasian Soil and Plant Analysis Council (ASPAC).*

**Date:** Wednesday 21 November 2018

**Time:** 13:30-15:30

**Venue:** Hyatt Hotel Canberra

**Cost:** Complimentary

*Please note:* This workshop is complimentary to delegates attending all or part of the rest of the conference. Please indicate your interest in attending during the registration process. Single or two day delegates do not need to select Wednesday as an attending day as the ASPAC sponsored workshop is only for 2 hrs.

This general interest workshop will be conducted by ASPAC. It is free for ASPAC members to attend and members are encouraged to attend their AGM commencing at 4 pm.

The workshop structure will include both presentations and group interaction. There will be three Managers from major soil and plant testing facilities that cover commercial, government and university sectors. Each will give their perspective of existing and emerging techniques and tests, future challenges and the value their laboratory offers to the soil and plant testing Industry. An experienced Agronomist will discuss sampling and interpretation of results for soil fertility purposes. The final presenter will give an overview of ASPAC's objectives and achievements including demonstrated improvement in the quality of both soil and plant testing due to the proficiency testing programs and training workshops that ASPAC run.

## **Program**

- 13:30-13:35 Welcome and Introduction – Dave Lyons, Chair of ASPAC.
- 13:35-13:50 Chris Gendle, CSBP Laboratory, Perth, Western Australia.
- 13:50-14:00 Questions and Group Interaction.
- 14:00-14:15 Rob De Hayr, Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane, Queensland.
- 14:15-14:25 Questions and Group Interaction.
- 14:25-14:40 Graham Lancaster, Southern Cross University, Lismore, New South Wales.
- 14:40-14:50 Questions and Group Interaction.
- 14:50-15:05 Jim Laycock, Incitec Pivot, Cowra, New South Wales.
- 15:05-15:15 Questions and Group Interaction.
- 15:15-15:20 Dave Lyons, Chair of ASPAC.
- 15:20-15:30 General Discussion/Close.
- 15:30-16:00 Afternoon Tea/Refreshments.
- 16:00-17:00 ASPAC AGM.

## WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

**Chris Gendle, Operations Manager, CSBP Soil and Plant Laboratory, Perth, Western Australia.**



Chris is the Operations Manager at the CSBP Soil and Plant Laboratory which is a major commercial testing facility in Australia. Prior to his current role, Chris had roles as a Laboratory Technician and Chemist at the same Lab. He has been a member of the ASPAC Executive Committee for six years and is a current member of the ASPAC methods committee, which provides technical assistance for the soil and plant testing industry.

**Rob De Hayr, Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane, Queensland.**



Rob manages the DES Chemistry Centre laboratories at the EcoSciences Precinct in Brisbane. His laboratory experience ranges over the past 40 years starting as a soil grinder working his way through technical roles analysing soil, plant, fertiliser and water samples. Rob has also spent time as a research scientist studying biogeochemical processes in groundwater-surface water interactions and the fate of particulate nutrients emanating from erosion processes. The Chemistry Centre laboratories support

Government and collaborative research, survey, extension and monitoring programs aimed at environmental protection particularly in the Great Barrier Reef and sustainable agricultural production with an emphasis on soil security.

**Graham Lancaster, Southern Cross University, Lismore, New South Wales.**



Graham has been manager of the Environmental Analysis Laboratory within the Southern Cross University at Lismore for more than 25 years. His primary interests are in biological and organic farming, along with sustainable agricultural practices. Graham is also involved in extensive research into environmental contamination and remediation options.

**Jim Laycock, Incitec Pivot Temperate Farming Systems Agronomist Cowra, New South Wales.**



Jim has been involved in Australian agriculture since 1975. For the past 23 years he has been employed by Incitec Pivot focusing on understanding plant nutrition, soil fertility and nutrient management and identifying soil and nutrient management practices that maximize productivity and profitability while maintaining or enhancing the productive capacity of the soil and quality of the environment.

**Dave Lyons, Chair of ASPAC, Sunshine Coast, Queensland**



Dave is the current Chair of ASPAC (Queensland representative) and has been a member of ASPAC's Laboratory Proficiency Committee for over 10 years. He is 6 years into "retirement", after 44 years of work in all operational aspects of soil, plant and water laboratory testing, as well as running research trials covering a range of crops and agronomic approaches. He does voluntary work as a technical assessor for NATA when required, and has done voluntary stints in East Timor setting up a soil testing facility there.