



Welcome to the Winter 2016 edition of *CaneConnection*

With the harvest upon us for another year, this edition has a strong focus on some of the holistic research, development and extension activities that SRA is investing in regarding reducing harvest losses.

Harvest losses have been estimated by highly regarded researchers such as Chris Norris of Norris ECT as costing the Australian industry \$150 million per year. In response, the SRA Board has determined that reducing harvest losses is one of four priority Impact Areas for investment from SRA. As a result, SRA has taken a strategic approach to this investment and has prioritised a number of research projects related to reducing harvest losses. This edition provides more detail on a number of these new projects, and many of you will also have attended numerous SRA events related to harvest efficiency before the harvest.

This edition also takes a look at RD&E related to nitrogen research. We hear from a number of growers who have attended a SIX EASY STEPS™ workshop for the first time, as well as hear from leading researchers in this important area.

This June also marks 10 years since sugarcane smut was first discovered on the east coast. In this edition, we look at the progress that the industry has made in managing this disease, and in the same theme we also look at other important biosecurity research that is helping the industry to be prepared for other possible exotic incursions.

As always if you have any comments about this magazine please contact me on (07) 3331 3340 or bpfeffer@sugarresearch.com.au.

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