

Australia's GRDC extends platform for Agri-tech innovators with improved grain farming practices

29 February 2024 | News

The 12-week accelerator program helps companies seeking support and guidance in go-to-market commercialisation and investment



The 12-week accelerator program helps companies seeking support and guidance in go-to-market commercialisation and investment

Australia's GRDC is inviting innovative agtech solution who are at the forefront of agricultural technology to redefine grain growing in Australia. Innovators that meet the following eligibility and criteria are encouraged to apply. The program also includes an industry Demo Day event where innovators demonstrate their solutions to potential investors and growers.

Expressions of interest are now open for the GRDC GroundUp Program and startup founders with innovative, real-world solutions to improve grain farming productivity and practices are encouraged to apply.

The GroundUp Program, a partnership between the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) and Agtech and Logistics Hub, is part of a suite of GRDC investments aimed at accelerating agtech innovation for the Australian grains industry. The program is calling for innovators to work directly with growers to ground-truth their potential commercial solutions before going to market.

GRDC business development manager Tim Spencer says industry being involved from an early stage will ensure results are tailored to the needs of grain growers and provide real-world solutions.

“The GroundUp program is looking to help support innovators to take their technologies to the next level and deliver solutions for grain growers,” Spencer says.

Agtech and Logistics Hub Director Thomas Hall says the accelerator was crucial given the importance of grain growers to Australia's economy.

"The grains industry is our largest agricultural sector, with more than 22,000 grain farms across the country. It's important for grain growers to have access to new technologies that can improve their environmental practices, while increasing productivity and profitability. Last year's program accelerated some incredible technology, including advanced drones - capable of locating pests and diseases bigger than five millimetres, and revolutionary spray technology from a company that has just signed an agreement to distribute to Australian and New Zealand growers. "We look forward to seeing what this year's GroundUp innovators bring to the table and seeing how we can provide them with an opportunity to work with industry to advance their solutions" explains Thomas Hall.