



Maize Association of Australia

Media release

National Maize Yield Competition

The Maize Association of Australia is launching the “National Maize Yield Competition”.

The MAA chair Harley Bligh wants to encourage Australian Maize growers to push their yield goals and outcomes higher.

The current Australian record maize yield was recorded during the 2004/5 season at Boort in northern Victoria, with the hybrid, Pioneer 3335, officially yield tested at 21 tonnes per hectare at 14% moisture. This was an irrigated crop, grown using sub-surface drip irrigation.

The association firmly believes that the genetic yield potential of Australian maize Hybrids has not yet been reached. The idea behind our yield competition is to reward the farmers that produces the highest irrigated yield and Dryland yield in Australia.

The USA run a very prestigious yield competition that has seen an increase in record yields for many decades. As a consequence, the winners have set new yield goals for many growers to aspire to and achieve.

Harley Bligh has said “As the success of our competition grows, we may expand the competition into several categories as the USA has done, but for now we want to keep things simple for the first year. This will be a truly national competition unlike any previous maize competitions.”

In conjunction with independent volunteer scrutineers, Pioneer seed, Pacific seeds and HSR have kindly agreed to help facilitate the weigh binning of the best entrants. The MAA has produced a strict set of criteria that must be adhered to when entering the competition. The criteria will be freely available on our web site <http://www.maizeaustralia.com.au/> or through one of the afore mentioned commercial Maize seed companies

This will be an exciting event for growers over the coming season, with both dryland and irrigated maize growers encouraged to enter their best performing crop.

The “National Maize Yield Competition” will consist of two categories:

- 1) Irrigated, and 2) Dryland

If you are a current MAA member, one entry to the competition is free. For non-members the entry fee is \$125/entry (includes MAA membership).

A Perpetual Shield will be presented to the winner in each category at an award dinner to align with MAA AGM.

The first prize in the Irrigated Category, sponsored by Netafim, will include Airfares and Accommodation to the value of \$5,000 to attend an event overseas to increase your knowledge of maize growing/marketing or storage.

While the first price in the Dryland Category, sponsored by the MAA, will include Airfares and Accommodation to the value of \$2,500 to attend an event either domestically or overseas to increase your knowledge of maize growing/marketing or storage.

For more information please see the attached Guidelines or contact the MAA Executive Officer, Liz Mann on 0427 857 578 or email: lizmann.ag@gmail.com



Photo Caption: Nick Hutchins and Tony Sawers in the current Australian record maize yield crop from 2004/05 season

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