

Media Release

“Proud to be new chair”

Rob Proud of United Farmers is the new chair of Oilseeds WA, replacing Jon Slee after 5 years.

Rob said “some of the major issues that immediately face the WA canola industry are crop diversification – especially our dependence on TT canola, GMO's and the Government's back flip on tax legislation relating to biodiesel which has been a cruel blow to a fledgling industry.”



Rob also mentioned WA's strong contribution to Australian Oilseed production and export and to smaller degree domestic consumption. “WA has produced half of Australia's canola in the last few years and this has been the major contributor to oilseed exports from Australia. This year it could export canola to the East Coast to add to their likely imports of oilseeds from overseas countries. Hence the production in WA this year will become even more important to the nation.”

Rob Proud is the Regional Manager for United Farmers at Dowerin. Rob also has a family interest in farming at Dowerin.

Rob was formerly the Grain Pool's Canola Marketing and Trading Manager and has been on the Oilseeds WA Executive for the last 5 years.

Rob said “Jon Slee's efforts for Oilseeds WA over the past five years have been terrific.”

“Following his election in 2001 Jon led the dramatic evolution of Oilseeds WA from the Canola Association. Jon's vision and leadership has molded this small industry group to its current leading position for the oilseed industry in Australia as well as WA. Jon has also forged a strong relationship with Australian Oilseeds Federation which Oilseeds WA is part of and represents here in WA.”

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