



Rabobank

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Rabobank's Young Farmers Day – agribusiness experts present in Moree

The complexity of the global economy and ongoing market volatility will be key factors influencing agricultural markets, according to Rabobank's general manager for the bank's Food and Agribusiness Research division (FAR) who presented to local farmers at the Young Farmers Day in Moree on Wednesday August 20.

Presenting on 'Big picture issues for Australian agriculture', Mr Sherrard discussed Asian demand, carbon and the Australian dollar – and how these issues will be key considerations for tomorrow's farmers.

"These are big issues in the backs of people's minds – structurally higher commodity prices, Asian demand, carbon and climate change, and the rising dollar – and they're going to affect peoples' operations in the short to medium-term," Mr Sherrard said. "It's important people understand what this means for business in terms of opportunities and risks."

Mr Sherrard is head of the Food and Agribusiness Research and Advisory division at Rabobank's head office in Sydney. He covers the agri-commodity markets and the analysis of broader macroeconomic trends and their impact on global agriculture along the various supply chains.

"Productivity growth is just so important in terms of maintaining Australia's competitiveness in global markets, given the higher dollar and the increase production costs," he said.

"The agricultural world is quite complex and its becoming more complex. This means more volatility in agri-markets so we need good knowledge to manage farming business."

Also presenting at the event was Rabobank grains and oilseeds analyst Dean Smith who provided the bank's current price outlook on soft commodities and discussed the impact that corn is having on the feed grain sector. Rabobank succession planning manager Kim Lee also presented on 'What succession really means'.

The young farmers group heard from Precision Cropping Technologies' Andrew Smart who discussed spatial mapping, yield monitoring and variable rate application. Lastly, Agripath Services' benchmarking specialist Simon Fritsch presented on the benefits of benchmarking in the region and the results that farmers are achieving.

Rabobank Moree branch manager Hugh Humphries, who helped coordinate the Young Farmers Day said it's an ideal opportunity for local farmers to gain exposure to experts in their field. "This event gives young farmers a chance to learn about how technology and



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global trends are shaping agriculture and how these issues might impact them on-farm here," Mr Humphries said.

"We hope the day offered some inspiration to the next generation of farm business owners and operators – its important, that as a leading agricultural bank with a big focus on knowledge, we help share that with our clients so they can take that knowledge back to their businesses."

The world's leading food and agribusiness bank, Rabobank is one of Australia and New Zealand's largest rural banks and a major provider of corporate financial services to the region's food and agribusiness sector. Rabobank opened its branch in Moree in 1997 and has a team of eight servicing the region.

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Rabobank Australia & New Zealand is a part of the international Rabobank Group, the world's leading specialist in food and agribusiness banking. Rabobank has more than 110 years' experience providing customised banking and finance solutions to businesses involved in all aspects of food and agribusiness. Rabobank is structured as a cooperative and operates in 48 countries, servicing the needs of more than nine million clients worldwide through a network of more than 1600 offices and branches. Rabobank Australia & New Zealand is one of Australasia's leading rural lenders and a significant provider of business and corporate banking and financial services to the region's food and agribusiness sector. The bank has 93 branches throughout Australia and New Zealand.

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