

March 19, 2020

RE: Covid-19 and impact on Grain Trade Australia (GTA)

Dear Members,

In view of the current and very fast-moving state of play in Australia and the World due the Covid-19 virus I thought it prudent to update you on the actions GTA has and is doing to alleviate any unnecessary spread of the Virus.

GTA has had contact with the Department of Agriculture and Environment (DAWE) regarding the impact of Covid19, and ask members to provide any relevant information on supply chain disruptions (outside of regular trade and contact execution) and market access issues, so that this information can be compiled to assist Government in response to Covid19.

Further, we have reviewed and enacted our Disaster and Pandemic Action Plan with the following actions below:

1. All staff to work from home where appropriate. Limited public transport to be used.
2. All International and Domestic travel to cease unless business-critical.
3. *AGIC Asia* and the *GTA Trade and Market Access Seminar* have been Postponed until further notice
4. *AGIC Australia* and the *National Grain Storage and Protection Conference* are under daily review and any decision will be based on the most up to date advice from health experts and the Government. Further information will be provided as it comes to hand. In the meantime, we will be communicating directly with our highly valued conference sponsors and exhibitors.
5. The Conference Convener and Committee are looking into Virtual Conferencing and Webinar options. In the meantime, we will be communicating directly with our highly valued conference sponsors and exhibitors. GTA will release a more general update on conferences this week.
6. GTA Monthly Board meetings to cease on a face to face basis but continue via video, (something we have been doing regularly)
7. GTA will continue to host all our Technical Committees via Tele and Video conference as usual.
8. The GTA Dispute Resolution Service will continue to operate as usual.

GTA will continue in all the important industry roles including Trading Standards, Trade and Market Access and Advisory and Advocacy roles for and on behalf of our members. The office might be closed but GTA never stops doing what is best for our Members and Industry.

So, in short, it will be business as usual, albeit different, but please check the web site <https://www.graintrade.org.au/> for updated details.

Any further enquiries, please email admin@graintrade.org.au.

The Board, Management and I wish all our members and indeed the wider Grains industry all the very best and good luck while navigating through this very difficult situation.

Best Regards,



Andrew Goyder

Chairman, Grain Trade Australia