

GRAINGROWERS FLAGS HISTORIC CONSTITUTION CHANGES

13 August 2026

As Australian grain growers battle rising input costs, increased regulation and an uncertain geopolitical climate, GrainGrowers is proposing a new membership category for the first time in its history.

At its Annual General Meeting on 7 October, GrainGrowers members will be asked to vote on constitutional amendments to create a new category of membership to enable State Farming Organisations to apply to become members of GrainGrowers.

GrainGrowers Chair Rhys Turton said the proposed changes followed grower member feedback and approaches from NSW Farmers and Grain Producers South Australia, which were both seeking representation on national issues.

“Growers have consistently told us they want to see a stronger and more united voice on national grain industry issues. This proposal provides a way for like-minded organisations to work more closely together while ensuring GrainGrowers remains firmly grower-led,” Mr Turton said.

“The issues facing Australian grain growers are becoming more complex, from rising costs and regulation through to trade and market uncertainty. By working together, organisations with shared objectives can amplify and increase our collective influence on issues that matter most.”

“This is what prompted NSW Farmers and GPSA to engage with GrainGrowers and we have since signed Memorandums of Understanding, which have enabled us to work together in the meantime.”

“GrainGrowers is a strong advocate on behalf of its grower members. With the introduction of an SFO membership category, we can better harness the expertise, networks and advocacy strengths of complementary organisations.

“Together, we can deliver a stronger, more coordinated voice for Australian grain growers at a national level.”

Under the proposed changes, any State Farming Organisation admitted as a member would hold a single vote as a membership entity.

"These changes do not alter the voting rights of existing grower members in any way," Mr Turton said.

"Every grower member retains exactly the same rights they have today. The proposal is about bringing organisations together around shared goals, not changing who governs GrainGrowers."

"The Board's firm view is that the organisation must remain grower-led, grower-governed and focused on delivering outcomes for grain growers. This proposal strengthens our ability to advocate on behalf of growers while preserving those foundations."

GrainGrowers will be consulting with members at events taking place across the country over the coming weeks. There will also be an online webinar for members who can't attend in person.

GrainGrowers will then hold its Annual General Meeting on 7 October where growers will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed amendments.

ENDS