

# The On-Farm Trial Guide 10 Point Plan

From "The On-Farm Trial Guide" Stone, Pearson & Bendall 2003. Crop&Food for LandWISE and FAR

Step	Procedure	Questions to ask	✓
1	Getting the concepts right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are you clear on what you want to know?</li> <li>• Are you clear on why you want to know it?</li> </ul>	
2	Getting the treatments right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will a head-to-head comparison of high and low fertiliser rates give the information you need?</li> <li>• Do the two rate treatments differ by at least 20%?</li> <li>• Can you accurately apply these rates of fertiliser?</li> <li>• Have you calibrated your fertiliser gear to be sure?</li> </ul>	
3	Getting the measurements sorted out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have before trial measurements been planned?</li> <li>• Have during trial measurements been planned?</li> <li>• Have end of trial measurements been planned?</li> <li>• Have after trial measurements been planned?</li> </ul>	
4	Getting the design right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you chosen the best place for the trial?</li> <li>• Are there 4 replicates of each treatment?</li> <li>• Have the treatments been randomised?</li> <li>• Have the plots been arranged to get the best from the site?</li> </ul>	
5	Getting the site right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you walked the trial site and marked out the plots?</li> <li>• Have before trial measurements been made?</li> </ul>	
6	Getting the trial underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is fertiliser being applied at the right place and uniformity?</li> <li>• Have you made records of site conditions planting time?</li> </ul>	
7	Monitoring the trial - enacting your operational plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you checked that correct rates of fertiliser were applied?</li> <li>• Have during trial measurements been made as planned?</li> </ul>	
8	Finishing the trial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you selected and marked the harvest area?</li> <li>• Do you have accurate harvest equipment?</li> <li>• Do you have data sheets prepared?</li> <li>• Is the harvest procedure clear to all participants?</li> <li>• Are data sheets complete?</li> </ul>	
9	After the trial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have grain samples been saved for quality analyses?</li> <li>• Are flow-on effects of different rates of fertiliser important?</li> </ul>	
10	Analysing the trial results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the data complete and accurate?</li> <li>• Are the data entered?</li> <li>• Have you statistically analysed the data?</li> <li>• Have you recorded the results and conclusions?</li> </ul>	

Collect the full set of ticks and you win a completed rate of fertiliser trial!