

# Ian Macdonald

Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Mineral Resources  
Minister for State Development



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## **New variety of durum wheat for Southern NSW launched at Henty Field Days**

A new variety of durum wheat has been launched for farmers in Southern NSW, Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald said today.

The Minister inspected the new variety, *Caparoi*, as part of his visit to the Henty Machinery Field Days event at Henty near Wagga Wagga.

“This variety of durum wheat has been developed for all the main durum producing areas of Australia, it also provides an excellent opportunity for growers in Southern NSW, because it has outstanding yields under irrigation,” Minister Macdonald said.

“Caparoi is high yielding and has excellent disease resistance.

“Durum wheat is traditionally grown in Northern NSW and is often referred to as a pasta wheat, compared with common bread wheat, and is known for its hardness, protein, intense yellow colour, nutty flavour and excellent cooking qualities.

“Caparoi was bred by Industry & Investment NSW’s (I&I NSW) durum breeding team at Tamworth as part of a national program, with support from growers through the Grains Research Development Corporation.

“Durum wheat is a highly sought after crop around the world, so this new variety is an exciting opportunity for all farmers, especially southern irrigation growers.”

The variety is commercially available through AWB Seeds.

Mr Macdonald also inspected the Government’s field day site, which is providing valuable advice on agricultural issues and includes five acres of demonstration trials.

He also announced \$10,000 for the purchase of a transportable cool room to be used by I&I NSW staff at the annual Henty field days, as well as other field day, extension and drought related activities throughout southern NSW.

“This year’s demonstration trial plots include the latest cereal and pulse varieties, perennial pastures, annual clovers and an increased area of Round-up ready and Clearfield canola varieties with their respective herbicide treatments,” Mr Macdonald said.

“We have drought support workers, staff from the Rural Assistance Authority and Centrelink available, as well as the very popular men’s ‘Pitstop’ health check.

“Our experts are also on hand to provide information on how to make the best use of available stock feed and advice on fruit flies and cattle production.”

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