



# Pulse-ating talk

By JESSICA GRIMBLE

A HORSHAM pulse researcher will join industry representatives in an inaugural Australian Future Grain Leaders Program.

Department of Primary Industries pulse pathologist Helen Richardson is one of 15 researchers, growers, traders, consultants and agribusiness representatives selected in the Grain Growers Australia program.

Participants will visit industry leaders, tour businesses, meet leading entrepreneurs and hear about the latest research as part of the program.

Participants also receive communication, media, advocacy and management training and learn from each other through teleconference and online networking activities.

Ms Richardson said participants

worked towards their own leadership project during the program, which runs from October 13 to May 30 next year.

She meets other participants at a two-day conference in Albury next month.

“This is an opportunity for me to get involved and make a change in the pulse industry. It is still a relatively new industry,” Ms Richardson said.

“I will be looking at developing a communication strategy among other researchers and share information which hopefully leads to better informing growers and other researchers.

“Communication is not very effective at the moment and we need something a bit more structured.

“Hopefully people will be more

keen to be involved in the industry if we have that structure.”

Ms Richardson said the Grain Growers Association helped to fund projects.

Association chairman John Eastburn said other projects included influencing industry development and increasing active involvement in industry groups, promoting research and introducing young people into the industry and identifying different asset management models.

“These 15 future leaders will have a tremendous opportunity to develop their leadership skills and gain a better understanding of the Australian grains industry,” Mr Eastburn said.

“The demand for well trained, effective leadership in our industry has never been more critical.”