

# NEWS

## Another one gone

High-profile wool processor, Laurence Modiano, has quit the AWI board.



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## All smiles at sunny yields

WILLOW Tree district farmer, Geoff Barwick, expects his 330-hectare crop of Aussie Gold 62 sunflowers to yield a respectable two tonnes hectare.

But although the late summer crop has been ready to harvest for several days he has been unable to strip it because of damp weather.

Mr Barwick (pictured in a 110ha sunflower paddock) concentrates on cropping on his 1000ha property, "Yarrabah", and on another 400ha of leased country.

"Sorghum is our biggest crop, but we grow sunflowers when the season suits," he said.

"We had planted two-thirds of our sorghum in summer but then it got a bit too dry."

When some good rain came in late December-early January, he decided to plant sunflowers rather than complete the planned sorghum sowing.

"Sunflowers are a bit quicker than sorghum and more frost tolerant," Mr Barwick said.

He has a hectare contract to sell the oilseed grain to Cargill, and expects to clear about \$580 a tonne on farm.

While he's still to plant his winter wheat crop, soil moisture reserves are good after above average rain.

— ALAN DICK



Photo: Michael Petew