

# **Sustainable Grazing of Saline Lands Application – Monitoring grazing trials**

*<sup>A</sup>G.R. Beeston, <sup>A</sup>A.A. Leeming and <sup>A</sup>J.E. Batory*

<sup>A</sup> Department of Agriculture and Food WA, Locked Bag 4, Bentley Delivery Centre, W.A. 6983

The Sustainable Grazing on Saline Lands project (SGSL) is helping Australian livestock producers better understand and manage their saline land through a range of activities. A partnership between producers and researchers is developed and maintained through the process of forming initial ideas, collecting data, interpreting data, and communicating the results.

Collecting data to monitor the producer network trials needs to be rapid non-time consuming and straightforward due to the demands on the time of farmers and project support people. Also standard techniques need to be used across all of the 120 producer network trials throughout southern Australia so data can be compared from each trial in a meaningful way.

The SGSL web application provides a secure, direct method of maintaining and viewing collected trial observations in a central relational database. The web mapping application can viewed by anyone with internet access, and farmers, and project support people can add, edit, and delete data for their own trial sites. It allows users to upload alphanumeric observations, photographs, documents, and perform spatial data entry which are written to an Oracle spatial database.