

Field days generate 'up to \$8M'

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EXCITEMENT is building ahead of the 2025 Yorke Peninsula Field Days, with president Greg Stevens highlighting the event's major economic impact on the region.

Running from September 30 to October 2 at the Paskeville site, the biennial field days is the largest event held on Yorke Peninsula. Mr Stevens said it generates between \$5 and \$8 million through accommodation, food, fuel, exhibitor site fees and other local spending.

"If 25,000 people come through the gates and each spends about \$100 at the field days, there's \$2.5M," he said.

"In addition, there are major orders that might be placed at the field days.

"If someone buys a header, there's \$1.7M.

"There's probably close to \$200M worth of plant and equipment on show at the field days and if you got 5 per cent of that, you're talking up to \$10M in sales."

Mr Stevens said there was a flow-on effect after the field days finished.

"Small farmers who may not be able to buy a brand-new header can buy a traded-in one," he said.

"The reason they can do that is because someone else has bought a new header at the field days."

Mr Stevens said orders for new equipment often continued after the field days and one of the exhibiting local machinery dealers had booked an area at the site for demonstrations after the field days finish, so their clients can see new items of machinery in operation.

Field days chief executive Peter Anderson said the event was on track to have 500 exhibitors booked and he expected online ticket sales to pick up in the next three weeks.

Members of eight agricultural bureaus on Yorke Peninsula support the event by serving as committee members and volunteering to clean and prepare the site before each field days.

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– Greg Stevens, Yorke Peninsula Field Days, President

They are the agricultural bureaus of Arthurton, Boors Plains, Bute, Moonta, Paskeville and Petersville, plus the Arthurton Women's Agricultural Bureau and Cunliffe Women in Agriculture and Business.

"Volunteer numbers vary each week, but on average we have about 25 per week come to assist with the setup of the site, with a multitude of tasks to be performed," Mr Anderson said.

"Weekly working bees will continue right up until the field days."



MAKE IT LOUD... Alex Clift and Ian Gates put up loudspeakers around Paskeville field days site. They are among many volunteers from local agricultural bureaus working to get the site ready for the 2025 field days.



HEAR THIS... Alex Clift of Petersville Agricultural Bureau plugs in one of the 80 loudspeakers around the field days site, while Ian Gates operates the telehandler on behalf of Paskeville Agricultural Bureau.



NO REST... Trevor Correll of Paskeville Agricultural Bureau cleans up one of the rest areas at the Yorke Peninsula Field Days site.



NUMBERS GAME... Bute Agricultural Bureau members Allan Axford, John Axford, Mark Weedon and Milton Green sort exhibitor site numbers ready for marking individually at the site.