

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **INTERNATIONAL GRAIN BUYERS' NEED FOR TRACEABILITY MET BY *GRAINCARE***

"The *Graincare* on-Farm quality assurance (QA) program enables growers to give Australian marketers and processors of grain the ability to trace their product back to the paddock," Mr Lindsay Spencer, General Manager of Industry Services *australia* (ISa) said today.

ISa has taken over the administration of the on-farm quality assurance program, *Graincare*, previously run by the Grains Council of Australia.

"International and domestic buyers of grain are rapidly moving to require their suppliers provide them with assurances on the contaminant-free status and full traceability of their grain back to the source," Mr Spencer said.

He noted in particular that the malting barley industry is very much the focus of attention at present, with a number of major international brewing companies seeking QA accredited grain from Australian malting companies.

Companies seeking QA accredited grain see the *Graincare* program as fulfilling their needs.

*Graincare* is an industry-developed code of practice for protecting food and feed safety, and sets out agricultural practice standards for use of chemicals, crop management, harvesting and harvesting equipment, and document control.

Mr Spencer said, "Most importantly, *Graincare* enables growers to verify their practices and demonstrate their 'due diligence' in producing safe food and feed grain. At the same time, as an externally audited program, it provides the marketers and processors with an independent assurance as to the fitness of their products."

"By adopting *Graincare*, growers will be able to keep all their marketing options open, as buyers become more selective about their purchases," Mr Spencer said.

Growers interested in learning more about the *Graincare* program can access information on the *Graincare* website at [www.graincare.com.au](http://www.graincare.com.au) or telephone 1300 781 411 (NSW 02 9428 6144).