Exploring the potential areas of research to increase drought resiliency of agricultural industries in Australia

Md Aminul Islam, Geoff Slaughter, John McVeigh
SQNNSW Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub, UniSQ

Introduction

Drought:

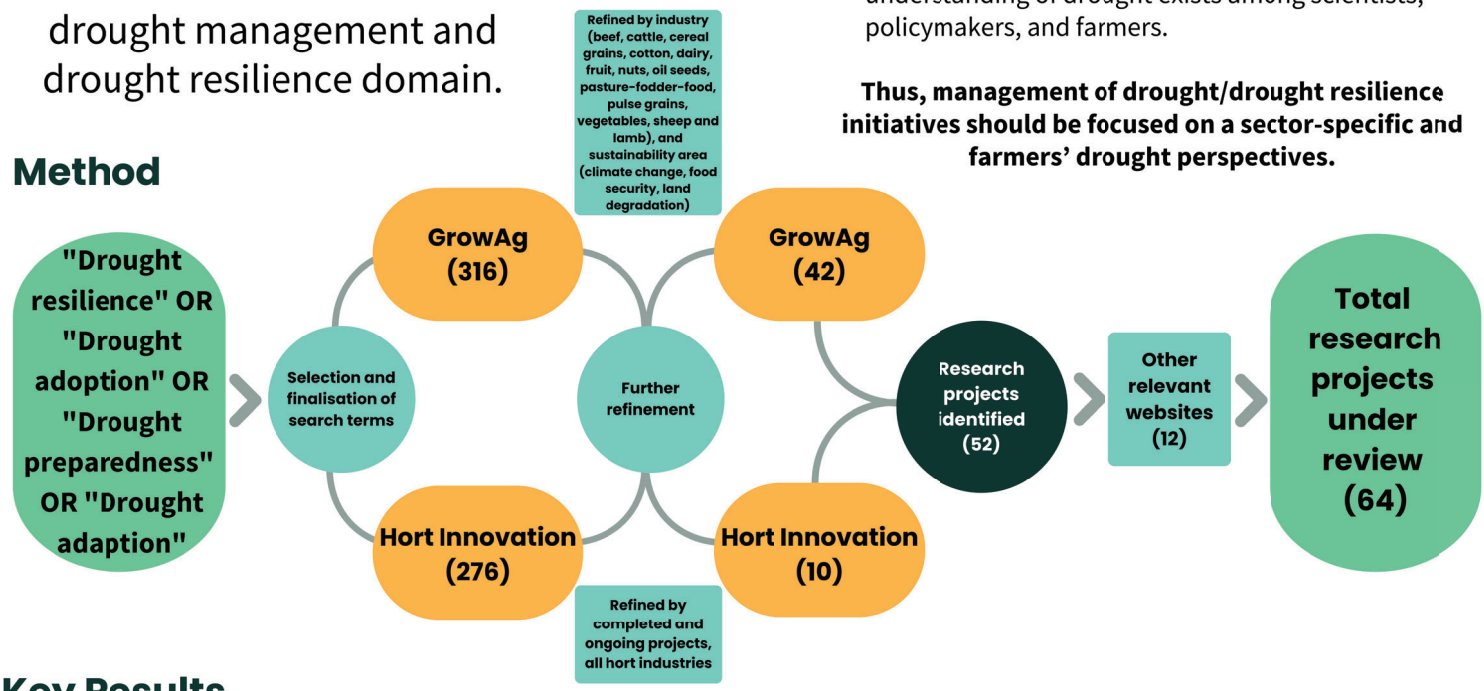
- A recurrent problem and becoming an inevitable feature for the Australian agricultural industries
- Projected variable climate change scenarios make Australian agricultural industries more vulnerable to drought
- A wide range of uncertainties and variations in understanding of drought exists among scientists, policymakers, and farmers.

Thus, management of drought/drought resilience initiatives should be focused on a sector-specific and farmers' drought perspectives.

Objective

To explore key potential research areas in the drought management and drought resilience domain.

Method



Key Results

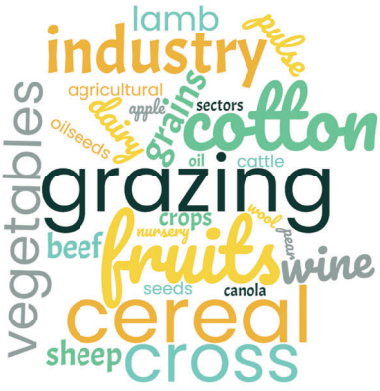


Fig. 1 Dominant industry focus in drought research

Fig. 2 Dominant research outcome/communications

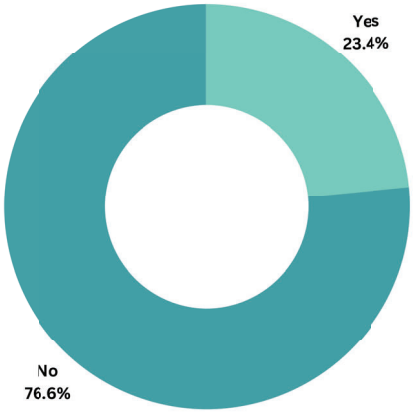


Fig. 3 Farmers' involvement in the research activities

Conclusions

- **Highly top-down approach and is predominantly influenced by the scientists' perspectives**
- **Vegetable crops got the least attention in the existing research activities when addressing the drought problem**
- **More research-extension network building is required to sustain drought management initiatives**

Md Aminul Islam
SQNNSW Innovation Hub
University of Southern Queensland
amin.islam@usq.edu.au
SQNNSWhub@usq.edu.au
unisq.edu.au/sqnnswhub
sqnnswinnovationhub
@sqnnswhub

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Future Drought Fund
University of Southern Queensland
SQNNSW Innovation Hub
The SQNNSW Innovation Hub receives funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.