

## Pasture Paramedic Case Study:

### Vic Patrick, Eden Valley

A group of dedicated producers braved the wintery, 6oC and rainy conditions (in late October!) to learn about pasture monitoring using the MLA Pasture Ruler and the new Pasture Paramedic Tool.

The Pasture Ruler measures the total quantity of pasture in Kg/ Dry Matter per Hectare, by relating the height of the pasture to the quantities listed on the ruler tool. The pasture was measured at Vic Patrick's in Eden Valley at 2,200 kg of Dry Matter per Hectare.

The Pasture Paramedic Program uses a tool to facilitate management decisions in perennial pastures. This involved determining the percentage of clovers, grasses and weeds and comes with a handy booklet to help with identification of the plants.

Vic's pasture was determined to have a high percentage of perennial grasses, and lower clover levels, which could be manipulated to improve the productive capacity. (However, the pasture was only measured in one place given the rainfall at the time!)

The tool is used in spring and late summer to provide an overall view of the pasture's productive capacity. The group will come back together in late summer to find more information.

