

Alliance for new wheat varieties

AN ALLIANCE has been established between Australian grain marketer AWB Ltd and Syngenta Seeds to breed new wheat varieties for Australian growers.

A memorandum of understanding has been drawn up outlining the collaboration between the companies.

The intention of the alliance is to establish a joint venture agreement in the future, which would see the two companies own a subsidiary, employing Australian scientists.

AWB and Syngenta are in negotiations on the joint venture agreement.

According to the companies, the partnership will join AWB's knowledge of grain markets and grain quality with Syngenta Seeds' proven expertise in plant science.

They plan to deliver the best wheat varieties for production zones in Australia, with quality attributes targeted at the key markets for Australian wheat.

AWB, formerly the Australian Wheat Board, is headed by chief executive Andrew Lindberg.

Syngenta Seeds is a division of Syngenta, which comprises Seeds and Crop Protection, and is a leading provider of agricultural products in Australia and the world.