

Regional Landcare Update 17

The fortnightly e-news of the New England-North West Landcare Network

Issue 17: 2nd September 2010

Soil Secrets at Stanthorpe

Border Landcare Organic Group and Granite Borders Landcare (Tenterfield) will host a 2-day Soil Secrets workshop with special guest Hugh Level - a renowned consultant on organic and biodynamic agriculture. Workshop fee is \$99 and the weekend based workshop will be held 18-19 September. The focus will be on enhancing soil microbial health through composting. Follow up field days will take place on 22-23 October. Register with Granite Borders Landcare 67363500.

Positions Vacant

New England North West Landcare Network Chairs Inc seeks to employ four (4) highly motivated people to fulfil the role of Regional Landcare Facilitators.

Positions will be based at Walgett, Moree, Gunnedah, and on the New England Tablelands / North West Slopes (location negotiable).

The successful applicant for each position will work with a local steering committee of community, industry and government representatives to develop and implement an annual workplan of activities relevant to the local community and investing partners, so as to meet the objectives and outcomes of the Australian Governments Regional Landcare Facilitator Initiative.

A Job Application Package containing individual Position Descriptions and the Project Schedule, developed by the Australian Government, is available at www.snelandcare.org.au. Applicants must download this package and address the selection criteria listed Applications Close 5pm, 9th September 2010.

2010 Landcare Muster

The 2010 NSW Landcare Muster will be hosted by Little River Landcare in Wellington on 3rd November.

The Muster will be held ahead of the Central Western Landcare Forum, which commences on 4.11.2010. The Muster will address issues such as local level issues for Landcare, attracting new Landcarers and issues / ideas for policy makers. More available at www.landcarensw.org.au

Rural Women's Award

Are you a rural woman ready for a new challenge, or know someone in rural Australia who is? Then why not apply for the RIRDC Rural Women's Award. Applications for the 2011 Award opened on 1 August 2010 and close on World Rural Women's Day-15th October 2010.

The Award encourages rural women's contribution to primary industries, resource development and rural Australia. The Award is an initiative of RIRDC in

partnership with state and territory agencies. Application forms available from RIRDC 02 6271 4100 or at www.ruralwomensaward.gov.au

Landcare Week Next Week

This year's Landcare week will be celebrated 6-13 September. This Landcare Week, Landcare Australia is giving every Australian the opportunity to help scientists across the world study the impact of climate change by monitoring and collecting data from their own backyards. There is still time to register at www.landcareonline.com.au

Farming Ahead Conference

September 21-22, Sydney. *Farming Ahead 2010* conference is a cutting-edge two-day event providing a unique opportunity for grower groups, research, development and extension organisations to come together to build highly-effective knowledge networks for the future.

Much of the Conference program will be delivered by grower groups and there will be plenty of opportunity for networking, sharing information and seeing how others do it. Details and event cost at www.kondinin.com.au/events

Holistic Management Course

Judi Earl of AIMS will be presenting the Holistic Management Course in Inverell with the first module starting 28-29 September. The course offers a practical framework to

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Email to Fiona Adams at gwymacgg@bigpond.com



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improve your business and regenerate your land. Over half the training will take place on farm where participants can see the benefits of applying the principles of holistic management and get a true appreciation of what can be achieved with grazing animals. Farm Ready approved. For more information or to register contact Judi at judi@aimsag.com.au or phone 0424 225 397.

How Sustainable Are We?

New England Sustainability Strategy Executive (Armidale) will host a Stakeholder Round Table to develop a Sustainability Scorecard and Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Framework for the New England Region.

The outcomes from this Round Table will form the basis for the measuring and monitoring the sustainability of the region. NESS is an especially unique whole-of-region multi-stakeholder approach to sustainability, which brings together the wide array of interests, organisations and people.

Date for the discussion is 20th September, cost \$35. RSVP by 15.9.2010 to Adam Blakester 0419 808900 or 6775 2501.

AIMS Workshop at Armidale

AIMS agriculture is offering this popular 3-day workshop at Armidale starting on the 5th October at no charge. The main objective of the introductory course is to

increase the productivity of grazing enterprises through changes in pasture and grazing management, soil fertility, water use and animal feeding strategies.

The resulting increased pasture growth allows for greater stocking rates without taking many risks. Participants learn simple, quick and effective ways to monitor pasture and how to use this information to improve their grazing business. Register with Judi Earl 67792286 or Lewis Kahn 67711273.

Celebrate Landcare Week with a Champion

National Landcare Award winner Kate McLaren and Liverpool Plains Land Management will host a field day on Thursday 16th September at Moonbi. Venue for the field day is Kate McLaren's property 'Piney Ridge'. The day includes local conservation experts, a tour of the McLarens' property and Kate's story. A bus will travel from Tamworth for the event. RSVP by 10.9.2010 to LPLMC 67418365 or Rachel.hill@lplmc.com.au

Other Landcare week events hosted by LPLMC include:

- Peel Wetlands Eco Festival, Peel High Wetlands, Wednesday, 8th September
- Gunnedah Urban Landcare Group Tree Planting Activity and BBQ, 18th September 10am- 2pm, Mullibah Lagoon, Gunnedah.

Carbon Farming Conference

26-29 October in Dubbo. Hosted by Carbon Farmers of Australia, this year's event will focus on maximising on-farm carbon cycles for profit, production, and protecting the future. It also incorporates the *Carbon Cocky Awards* and *Carbon Farming Expo*. Guest speakers will encompass the likes of food security, soil carbon offsets, making money in the new carbon economy and growing extra carbon. To register for the conference or the *Carbon Farming 101* seminar, go to www.carbonfarmingconference.com.au

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA Photo Competition

The Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority is holding its first ever photo competition in the catchment with prizes up to the value of \$500 on offer.

Our Catchment...Caught on Camera! has now officially started and has 3 categories of entry: Junior (<18), Open (over 18) and Professional. The aim of the competition is to capture the essence of our diverse catchment from its ever changing landscapes and wildlife to its unique people. Prizes up to the value of \$500 are available. Details and forms at www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au Closes 29 October 2010.



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FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

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