

# Regional Landcare Update

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

Issue 25: 25th January 2011

## Flooded Farmers Offered Assistance

Those who may have suffered damage as a result of the recent flooding are advised there are a number of forms of assistance which will be available to assist in the recovery process. These include:

### 1. Natural Disaster Relief Recovery Grant

<http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/natural-disaster-relief/loans>

### 2. Natural Disaster Relief Loans

<http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/natural-disaster-relief/grants-information-and-application-forms>

### 3. Centrelink Disaster Income Recovery Subsidy

[http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/emergency/severe\\_weather\\_dec10\\_dirs.htm](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/emergency/severe_weather_dec10_dirs.htm)

### 4. Freight subsidies for fodder and livestock transport

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/emergency/flood>

Flood affected landholders are also urged to make contact with their local Rural Financial Counsellor, to ensure they have access to all assistance available.

Landholders can also phone the Rural Info Line on 13 23 16.

## New Coordinators for Flood Recovery

The NSW Government has appointed 3 new flood recovery officers to manage clean up efforts following December and January floods. Maureen Chapman will oversee the flood recovery effort in the Northern Tablelands area. The coordinators will work closely with communities, small business and primary producers.

## Property Planning Info Sessions

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA will roll out a series of information sessions on their Property Planning course. The brief sessions include a morning / afternoon tea. Dates and times for the sessions are: Croppa Creek 8th Feb, 9am  
Gurley 8th Feb, 4pm  
Warialda 9th Feb, 3.30pm  
Glen Innes 10th Feb, 10am  
Inverell 10th Feb, 3.30pm  
Bundarra 11th Feb, 9am  
Gravesend 14th Feb, 9am  
Delungra 14th Feb, 3.30pm

For further details on the course and the information sessions, contact Alyson Foster 67288045.

## GRDC Update at Warialda

Grains Research and Development Corporation will conduct a one-day Grains Research Update on 25th

February at Warialda. The agenda includes speakers on a range of grains industry issues, such as nematodes, getting nutrition right, dual purpose canola and Chris Guppy (UNE) will discuss livestock and compaction in cropping country.

Cost is \$45 per person, which includes a dinner courtesy of Grain Growers. To RSVP, phone John Cameron 9282 4930.

## Young Farmer Challenge

Are you a young farmer? Are you up for a challenge? If so, then Sydney Royal Easter Show Young Farmer Challenge is the ultimate test!

A headline event of the Show's inaugural Youth in Agriculture Day, Saturday 16 April, the Young Farmer Challenge is a highly entertaining event that pits teams of four young farmers against each other in a quest to find out who has the full suite of rural skills.

Now in its third year, the Challenge is about showcasing the skills of rural youth through a competition that combines the everyday skills, new technology and safe work practices that are required by farmers today.

In this marathon of farming skills, up to 80 young farmers will tough it out over eight events designed to test

Contributions to the Landcare Update are welcome.  
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different skills. Events include everything from milking a cow to changing a motorbike tyre, fencing to hay bale stacking and assessing soil samples for physical and chemical properties.

Competition heats kick off at 9am on Saturday 16 April in front of some 20,000 Show-goers.

To keep up to date with the Young Farmer Challenge and other RAS Youth Group initiatives, join the Youth Group Facebook group "RAS Youth Group". If the Young Farmer Challenge sounds like a test you're willing to take, please contact Paige Cape [pcape@rasnsw.com.au](mailto:pcape@rasnsw.com.au) Alternatively, entry forms are available at <http://www.sydneyroyal.com.au/YoungFarmer.htm>.

## Rural Shows Gear Up

It's Show Time in the New England-North West. Support your local community and show society by getting involved.

Dates are:

Bundarra 29-30 January  
Tenterfield 4-6 February  
Glen Innes 11-13 February  
Uralla 5 February  
Guyra 18-19 February  
Ashford 19-20 February  
Inverell 24-26 February  
Armidale 4-5 March  
Barraba 5-6 March  
Walcha 11-12 March

Manilla 12-13 March

## Flood Assistance Forums

The Rural Financial Counselling Service will run a series of information forums regarding flood recovery assistance and succession planning. Dates:

Wee Waa 27th Jan, 10-12noon  
Narrabri 27th Jan 2.30-4.30pm  
Boggabri 28th Jan 10-12noon  
Gunnedah 28th Jan 2.30-4.30pm  
Merriwa 2nd Feb 10-12noon  
Coonabarabran 2nd Feb 2.30-4.30pm  
More information from Julie Roy 67924798.

## Regional Awards Time

This year, the Regional Landcare Awards will be hosted by New England-North West Landcare, with the support of Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA. Entry forms are now available from Landcare and CMA offices throughout the Border Rivers-Gwydir region and available online.

The 2011 awards presentation in Border Rivers-Gwydir region will coincide with the annual Landcare Adventure on 16-17 March. Award categories include:

- Individual Landcarer
- Community Group
- Indigenous
- Local Government
- Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices
- Primary Producers
- School Education

- Young Landcare Leader
  - Urban Landcare
- Nominate yourself, a neighbour or colleague. Non Landcare members are welcome to enter the awards.

## A Snapshot of Landcare in NSW

Landcare NSW has posted a Summary Report of their recent state wide survey of grassroots Landcare. The report reveals 2128 groups in NSW with the majority of groups nominating weed control and revegetation as priority issues. Total members of registered Landcare groups in the state is 57268. Further findings of the survey can be found online at [www.landcarensw.org.au](http://www.landcarensw.org.au)

## Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA Seeks Volunteers

In response to the recent floods, Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA is working to connect volunteers with landholders who need a hand to clean up farms. CMA and Landcare staff have already joined the clean up near Bonshaw and have sent out a challenge to the broader community. Anyone who is able to volunteer their time is asked to contact Annabelle Monie on 67288032. In addition, any flood affected farmers who would like volunteer assistance is asked to contact Annabelle on the above number.