

Regional Landcare Update

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

Issue 34: 20th May 2011

Beetles, Buffalo Fly + The Bottom Line

Gwymac and Upper Gwydir Landcare Association will host a field day at 'Brooklyn', Gravesend, owned by Ron Caccianiga, who was recently recognised at the Regional Landcare Awards.

The event includes dung beetle ID, benefits and tips for dung beetle friendly farms. Other topics include tropical grass establishment + harvesting, farm forestry and buffalo fly control. Includes various guest speakers, paddock tours and lunch.

Thursday 9th June, 9am-2pm. BYO Chair, RSVP to Gwymac 67211241. If there's enough interest, a bus will run from Inverell for the event.

Pestivirus Program

North West LHPA is looking for landholders to participate in a Pestivirus program which will identify the prevalence of pestivirus in local herds and its impact. Pestivirus threatens herd health and also productivity. 40 herds will be sampled through the project which targets landholders in the Croppa Creek, Yetman and Boggabilla areas, with herds over 100 breeders.

If you are interested in the program and located in the target region, contact Vet Ted Irwin at NW LHPA (Warialda) 67291528.

Lyn Sykes @ Deepwater

Rural Biz will host a community information day at Deepwater 9th June (10am-3pm). Lyn Sykes will be on hand to discuss improving communication skills, resolving conflict and maximizing your potential. Event also features displays from Glenrac, LHPA, NSW Farmers' Assoc and Rural Financial Counselling Service. RSVP 1st June to 68848812 or admin@ruralbiztraining.com.au

Joint Project Makes its Mark

In a joint project between Landcare (Gwymac + UGLA) and Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA, more than \$698,000 has been injected into farms across the Myall Creek and Inverell subcatchments. The funding is a result of the Improved Water Quality program and landholders in the area are progressing well with implementation of the project. Activities funded during the program include erosion control, fencing to land capability, off-stream watering points, salinity remediation and tree planting. A total of 29 landholders took up funding through the program.

NR CMA Incentives

Funding is now available for on ground works and planning projects that contribute to the achievements of catchment targets in the Northern Rivers region. Applications are invited

from individuals, groups and others. Applications close 10th June 2011. More information available at www.northern.cma.nsw.gov.au

Beef Production Workshop

NSW Department of Primary Industries will host this workshop in Tamworth on 15th June. Speakers include Meat Standards Australia, industry staff and marketers. The workshop will focus on tooling up your profits through beef specifications and improving genetics. Contact Alistair Rayner 67631100.

Energy Grants

Organisations in the Northern Rivers region can apply for up to \$2000 as part of the inaugural Lighting Up Your Community Grants Program. The grants support local organisations that provide support and assistance to the greater community. Closes 24th June. More at energywatch.com.au/community

Informed Farmers

Informed Farmers is a website to provide free, quality farming information to landholders and those supporting the farming industry. The site features editorial space for your network to publicise success stories from your region. Email your news and jpeg file photos to

Contributions to the Landcare Update are welcome.
Email to Fiona Adams at gwymacgg@bigpond.com



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



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editor@informedfarmers.com
and view the site at
www.informedfarmers.com

Mobile Muster is Back

To celebrate World Environment Day on 5th June, MobileMuster and Landcare Australia have launched *Old phones, more trees*. This program encourages the recycling of mobile phones between 1st June and 30th September.

The program aims to collect 250,000 handsets plus accessories during the period. MobileMuster will provide up to 25 grants of \$2,000 to Landcare groups to plant up to 25,000 trees.

To be involved and start a collection point, contact www.mobilemuster.com.au to obtain your collection kit.

NSF in the South

Burnett

South East Burnett Landcare Group will host a Natural Sequence Farming field day with Peter Andrews on Sunday 5th June. The event will be held 8.30am-4.30pm at Boobyjan Hall, Burnett Hwy, Boobyjan. The event includes plenty of time for questions and also a tour to a NSF demonstration site at Boobyjan, owned by the Lawless family. \$50 per enterprise or \$40 per enterprise for Landcare members. Contact Belinda Pennell 07 4168 6064.

Grazier Update

NSW Department of Primary Industries will host an information session for graziers in the New England on 1st July at Kentucky. The focus of the event will be issues effecting your enterprise and what allows you to capitalise on wool and meat markets. Contact Jim Meckiff 67388505 or 0428 968 159.

Beef Production Workshop

NSW Department of Primary Industries will host a workshop in Tamworth aimed at tooling up profits for beef producers. Presentations include Meat Standards Australia, beef marketers, the value of genetics, how to keep the herd healthy and more about beef specifications. RSVP by 10th June to 67631266.

Mulcher Demonstration

Gwymac will host a machinery demonstration on Wollemi, McLean's Rd (nr Inverell Saleyards) on Friday 3rd June from 2pm. Machinery demonstrated includes a flail mulcher, which has been used successfully to control the likes of African Lovegrass, Coolatai Grass and other invasive species. Other benefits include improving soil moisture retention and soil temperature. The event will showcase a new unit available for hire. Contact Gwymac 67211241.

Vertebrate Pest Conference

The 15th Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference will be hosted by the Invasive Animals Cooperation Centre and NSW DPI in Sydney on 20-23 June. Anyone working in the area, or interested in animal control should plan on attending this event. Explores new tools and methodologies as well as community aspects of pest animal control. www.avpc.net.au/

Grasslands Conference

The 2011 Grasslands Society Conference will be held in Bathurst 26-28 July. The theme of this conference is 'Grasslands Farmers— Opportunities, Threats and Realities'. The event includes farm tours and the opportunity to hear from farmers and scientific speakers on a range of topics. Earlybird discounts on registration applies until 30th June. www.grasslandsnsw.com.au

Fishing Calendar Comp

NSW Fisheries has launched the 2012 Recreational Fishing Photo and Calendar Competition. This is your chance to have your photo among those featured in the 2012 Recreational Fishing Calendar. Entries close 31st July 2011, with great prizes on offer. www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries

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