

# Regional Landcare Update

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

Issue 37: 6th July 2011

## GVESHO Grants Open

The Federal Government's Grants to Voluntary, Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations are now open. GVESHO grants help eligible organisations with administration costs and grants can also be used to assist with salaries and salary on-costs for executive and administration staff, office rental, training and essential office supplies. Community groups are encouraged to access the details at [www.environment.gov.au/gvesho](http://www.environment.gov.au/gvesho). Closes 29.7.2011.

## Food Inc: The Movie

Upper Gwydir Landcare Association (Bingara) is sponsoring a screening of *Food Inc* at The Roxy Cinema in Bingara. This powerful documentary will be screened Saturday 9th July, 7.30pm. The film's producers vow those that see the film will never look at food the same way again!

## FarmReady Re-Opens

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Joe Ludwig has announced FarmReady grants have re-opened. The program has been expanded to also include agritourism and food tourism training programs, to assist the rural sector further. Primary producers and wild game harvesters are able to access the grant, which reimburses up to 65% of the

costs of approved courses (up to \$1500). Indigenous land managers can claim 100% of the cost of approved training courses. More at [www.daff.gov.au/farmready](http://www.daff.gov.au/farmready)

## Subsidised AIMS Course in Armidale

AIMS and Northern Rivers CMA are joining forces to offer a fully-subsidised 3-day AIMS workshop in Armidale. Delivered by Judi Earl and Lewis Kahn on 26-28 July, day one of the workshop is dedicated to pasture and grazing management, day two to feed budgeting and supplementary feeding and day three to grazing planning. The workshop aims to answer how productive are your pastures, how efficiently is rainfall converted to pasture and how effectively stock use the pasture you grow. More details available from Judi 0409 151 969 or Lewis 67711273.

## Intentional Innovation

A series of these community workshops will be held in the North West over the coming month. Hosted by Unison Idea Development, these events empower individuals to harness and direct collective action for development of ideas. Speakers include representatives from Penn State University (USA), UNE and the NSW Government. Those interested in the future of our

region and concerned about long term prosperity of our communities are encouraged to attend. Dates + venues:

<b>Armidale</b>	20th July
Follow up session	28.7.2011
<b>Tamworth</b>	22nd July
Follow up session	1.8.2011
<b>Moree</b>	19th August
Follow up session	29.8.2011
<b>Narrabri</b>	23rd August
Follow up session	1.9.2011

Workshops run 10.30am-3pm and include lunch. RSVP to Kate Schwager 67992477.

## Hugh Level Course

This 6-day course will be hosted at Coffs Harbour 31st July–6th August. Teacher and soil consultant Hugh Level will guide participants through this advanced course of Quantum Agriculture with Captain Douglas Fox. This course is for serious farmers, soil consultants and agriculture innovators. A portion of each day will be devoted to questions and answers. FarmReady has been applied for and is pending. \$1250. Register with Shabiri Bird 02 6779 1136 or view [www.quantumagriculture.com](http://www.quantumagriculture.com)

## Advanced Diploma on Offer

RuralBiz Training has an opportunity to apply for funded placed through DET for the Advanced Diploma of Agriculture and Diploma of

Past editions of the Update are available at [www.landcarensw.org.au/nenw-docs](http://www.landcarensw.org.au/nenw-docs)

Contributions to the Landcare Update are welcome.  
Email to Fiona Adams at [gwymacgg@bigpond.com](mailto:gwymacgg@bigpond.com)



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**Agriculture.** This opportunity is ideal for land managers who want to tone up skills without leaving the farm. There are no prerequisites and units on offer encompass all aspects of farm management.

More details from Robyn Diamond 6884 8812 or [admin@ruralbiztraining.com.au](mailto:admin@ruralbiztraining.com.au)

## Heritage + Environment Review

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage is reviewing its program on sustainability education and engagement in NSW. Have your say by participating in a 15 minute survey at <http://surveys.ipsosinteractive.com/wix/p1055200253.aspx>

This is a great chance to provide feedback on the role of Landcare in increasing community awareness of sustainability—both within the broader community and with school groups.

## One for the Girls

Rural Primary Health Nurse Christine Connors from Warialda will run a series of Ladies Education Days across the north west, over the next month. The events are a way to learn more about women's health issues as well as a chance to pamper yourself with demonstrations including a guest beautician, jewellery making and wrought iron art. Gwymac Landcare will also be

on hand to talk about the work of their network and new women's group Ag n Chat. Dates include:

**Warialda** 14th July (Thurs)  
**North Star** 26th July (Tues)  
**Croppa Creek** August date, TBA  
Cost \$10, includes morning tea and lunch. Gwymac 67211241.

## Subcatchment Funding Launch

Building on the success of last year's project, Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA, Upper Gwydir Landcare Association and Gwymac will again form a partnership to roll out funding in Myall subcatchment and Inverell subcatchment. The two priority subcatchments will provide incentives to landholders to improve water quality. Eligible projects include those that reduce livestock impact on watercourses, off stream watering points and improving water quality entering streams and rivers. Further details are available from UGLA 67242052 and Gwymac 67211241.

## People's Choice Award

Voting for the 2011 NSW Landcare People's Choice Award is now open. The People's Choice Award is one of the 13 categories of NSW Landcare Awards. The Landcare Australia website has a page dedicated to all nominations, where you can vote for a winner. View all nominees now at

[www.landcareonline.com.au/?page\\_id=4880](http://www.landcareonline.com.au/?page_id=4880)

## Sustainable Energy Farms Workshop

This workshop, Cert IV in Planning for a Sustainable Energy Efficient Farms, will commence 20th August at Coffs Harbour TAFE. For more information, phone 66593000 or email [ian.hazell@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:ian.hazell@tafensw.edu.au)

## MDU Launches 2011 Competition

Inverell based NRM group, Macintyre Development Unit has launched the 24th annual Resource Management Competition. Sponsored by Caring for our Country Community Action Grants and Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA, this competition recognises excellence in all aspects of farm management. Winners of the event receive the Black-Woods Shield and host the annual Resource Management Field Day in October. Details and entry forms now available from Gwymac 67211241.

## Soil Food Web Course

Southern Cross University will host this course in Lismore, 22nd August-2nd September. \$2860pp (student price \$1680). This two week course also includes home study. FarmReady approved. For more information, visit [www.soilfoodweb.com.au](http://www.soilfoodweb.com.au)