



NEW ENGLAND
NORTH WEST
LANDCARE

REGIONAL UPDATE

Issue 65, 14th September 2012

REGENERATING AGRICULTURE AND PROFITABLE GRAZING

Young graziers in the Glen Innes District who want to improve farm production and protect their natural resources, are being encouraged to take advantage of subsidised training to attend a 2 ½ day sustainable grazing workshop. "Pasture to Pocket" begins 23rd October and is presented by Resource Consulting Services at the heavily discounted price of \$100 per person (normally \$1,000). It involves a mix of "in room" theory discussions as well as a field trip focusing on applying the principles and tools discussed.

The Pasture to Pocket program links property development, grazing management and pastures with animal nutrition and reproduction for a sustainable and profitable business. This course helps the farmer know with confidence, when to graze and when to rest paddocks. Add in the other topics of property development, nutrition, reproduction and economics, and the farmer is equipped to run a sustainable farm business to suit their circumstances.

To register, contact GLENRAC 6732 3443 (office@glenrac.org.au) by the 19th October

WETLANDS AND WOODLANDS EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

High Country Wetlands and Woodlands is an exciting new project being undertaken by Southern New England Landcare. It extends the recent HiCUB project well beyond the

towns into grazing country and woodland areas. The project focuses on conserving and increasing the resilience of three nationally listed endangered ecological communities that occur across the northern tablelands. These are Box, Gum Grassy Woodlands, New England Peppermint Woodlands and Upland Wetlands (Lagoons). The project runs until May 2013. For more details please contact Nic Cobcroft or Bec Ballard at SNECC 6772 9123 or nic@snelcc.org.au Closing date for registering interest is 21 September 2012.

4 DAY CERTIFICATE IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Upper Lachlan Landcare in conjunction with Nutri-Tech Solutions is holding a 4 day Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture Course.

Location: Breadalbane NSW

Date & time: 22-25 Oct 2012, 8.00am – 5.15 pm each

Cost: \$699 (inc GST) – includes seminar manual, morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea.

The Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture features the NTS Management Approach where biological agronomists cover every aspect of microbe, soil and plant nutrition (and protection). The four days feature Mineral Management, Microbe Management, Plant Management and Pest Management with Human Health Management interspersed throughout.

The four day certificate course includes comprehensive

presentations. The human health workshop is both entertaining and informative with patrons receiving a comprehensive report card on their personal health.

For more information contact Mary Bonet on 0459 352 892

YEAR OF THE FARMER CELEBRATIONS IN INVERELL

Legendary Eels Rugby League player Nathan Hindmarsh will join the NSW Minister for Mental Health, 2009 Farmer of the Year from Walgett, and local Senator John Williams to celebrate the 2012 Year of the Farmer in Inverell.

Proud to be farming will be the key theme on the day, and Farm-Link and the Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (CMA) invite anyone with an interest in farming, agriculture, rural mental health or footy (and not necessarily in that order!) to book a seat now for an entertaining and thought provoking morning at the Inverell RSM Club.

The Australian Year of the Farmer 2012 is a celebration of the vital role farmers' play in all of our lives, supplying food, clothing and other essential commodities, as well as being very much a part of our Australian identity, a significant part of the social fabric of our rural communities and wonderful stewards of the landscape.

"We hope to contribute to fostering greater connections between those living and working on farms and others in



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the rural and metropolitan communities. Discussion will focus on how farmers respect, value and meet their responsibilities as managers of the land, with an emphasis on the future and the sustainability of farming practices and industries," explained Meg Perceval.

"We also want to raise awareness about the importance of health, and in particular mental health and wellbeing for people living in rural communities. The importance of help-seeking and how to connect to others for the benefit of all will be a key theme for our guest speakers."

Tickets are available at: Landmark Inverell and McGregor Gourlay Inverell or RSVP to Meg Perceval

on 0427 072 105 (meg.perceval@newcastle.edu.au) or Andrew Biddle on 0427 825 725 (Andrew.biddle@lhpa.org.au).

THE CARING FOR AGEING RURAL AUSTRALIANS PROGRAM

(CARA) is a targeted small grant program for projects that assist in caring for the aged in rural and remote Australia. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for projects and activities that directly benefit the ageing population in their community and help redress disadvantage caused by remoteness. Applications are invited from not-for-profit, incorporated community organisations. Organisations should have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate.

Application close 5th October 2012. For more information go to www.frrr.org.au

HEALTHY SOILS WORKSHOP

On the **20th September**, GLENRAC will be hosting a "Healthy Soils" workshop in Glen Innes. The workshop is aimed at Landholders in the region with an interest in improving soil health on their properties. The workshop will be delivered by well known training organisation Resource Consulting Services, and will expand understanding of the linkages between healthy soils, healthy animals, healthy people and an ongoing healthy profit.

The Healthy Soils Workshop content will also include the Principles of Sustainable Grazing, how plants operate and the Ecological Management Model. The knowledge gained in this workshop will empower participants to increase the overall health, productivity and value of their land.

This is the second time this year we have run this workshop with lots of positive feedback and people wanting to do it again. This workshop is supported by the Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority's Sustainable Agriculture Grants program, through the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program.

Usually \$200, this workshop is offered for just \$20 per person.

Numbers are limited so please be sure to register early as once maximum is reached no further

registrations will be accepted.

The workshop will start at 8.00am for 8.30 start.

To register visit website www.glenrac.or contact GLENRAC 6732 3443 by the 18th September

GET INVOLVED WITH LANDCARE. GET INVOLVED WITH LIFE

Landcare is celebrating the strength and breadth of the grass-roots movement through an exciting and colourful new campaign called LIFE – Landcare Is For Everyone.

The campaign uses 3D animation to illustrate the diversity of Landcare, demonstrating how working to preserve the land sustains the very species that live on it, and the variety of different ways that people can get involved.

"You can be a Landcarer in many different ways – either as an individual or part of a group. People can easily get involved by attending events like National Tree Day or Clean Up Australia Day, working on their own properties, planting a veggie garden, going out with a group of volunteers to clean a local beach or by integrating sustainable farm practices into their operation, and these are only a few of the options out there." she explained.

"The key point for people to recognise is that Landcare is about caring for the land to help it sustain us into the future and it's up to everyone to get involved."

Landcare is LIFE. Landcare Is For Everyone.

For more information visit www.landcarelife.com.au