



COMPOST FOR FARMS AND GARDENS

The Ben Lomond Landcare group are hosting a **Compost field day** on Thursday 21st June. Luke Bowman "Break it Down Composting", Manilla, will lead us through the processes of compost so we can feed our plants and more importantly our soils.

The day will be all about **Controlled Microbial Composting** and Luke will be covering humus compost production, compost site preparation, building a compost windrow, testing the compost, compost turners, compost tea production and very importantly hand composting for gardeners. There will be a free bus from Glen Innes with morning tea and lunch provided. For more information & to RSVP, contact **GLENRAC by Monday 18th June** on 02 6732 3443 office@glenrac.org.au

NATIONAL TREE DAY!

Planet Ark is calling on Landcare, Coastcare and other local environment groups to register their National Tree Day event and inspire their communities to reconnect with nature. Since 1996, more than 2.8 million volunteers have put over 17 million native plants in the ground as part of the nationwide initiative. National Tree Day is on Sunday 29th July 2012 and Schools Tree Day is on Friday 27th July, but you can register a site or activity

on any day that suits you and your local environment. Be part of the country's largest nature care event and officially register your activities and/or event at treeday.planetark.org or call our dedicated Hotline on 1300 88 5000. Tree Day activities can also include plant maintenance, weed control, bush regeneration and seed collecting activities, as well as guided walks, gardening workshops, and plant or mulch giveaways.

2012 RABBIT CONTROL PROJECT

Please contact Brooke Kelly for an Expression of Interest form for the 2012 Rabbit Control project. The project can involve fumigation, traps, deep ripping, supply of baits or supply of chemical for harbour removal. The EOI's need to be back to Brooke by Friday 22nd June 02 6424 2052 or ugla@gwydir.nsw.au

BONSHAW FERAL ANIMAL CONTROL FIELD DAY

Pest animal impacts on biodiversity and industry as well as the effective control of pest animals will be a topic of Bonshaw's field day. Studies have shown that the most effective way of controlling pest animals is through using a range of control techniques and taking part in a coordinated program. Co-operative community control efforts reduce the rate of pest animal reinvasion and

landholders save time and money by planning coordinated action. **Wednesday 20th June 9.30am to 3.30pm.** To register please contact GWYMAC on 02 67 211 241.

FAIRFAX MEDIA CLOSING DOWN AG PUBLICATIONS

Fairfax Media has closed three titles in its agricultural media division, including 109-year-old *Australian Horticultural Magazine*, and others are said to be under review. *Australian Farm Journal* (AFJ) and the online-only *Australian Landcare Magazine* have also been shut down as of May 31, with the current, June, issue to be the final one of each. Former AFJ editor Patrick Francis said he was leaving the company and that the magazine's advertising manager had been made redundant. Mr Francis told Media he had been informed the magazine was being closed "for commercial reasons". "Put another way, it's non-profitable," he said. "It is disappointing to close after such a long period of time because we had a niche area of media publication in the agricultural sector, but things need to pay their way." *Information courtesy of The Australian*

A FARMER'S GUIDE TO MANAGING CLIMATE RISK

Develop your risk management skills by learning how to monitor and effectively





incorporate climate information into your decision-making. This one day workshop is invaluable for managers of agricultural businesses and rural land, or anyone seeking to understand weather and climate risk management. Date - Wed 20 June @ Tamworth or Thur 21 June @ Narrabri. Cost - \$275 pp (GST Free) To register or for further information – Phone Cassie Gardiner 6763 1276 or Julie Chapman 6763 1285 or email - tamworth.profarm@industry.nsw.gov.au

DEMAND INCREASE FOR CANOLA OIL

KFC is switching from frying poultry pieces in Malaysian-sourced palm oil to locally grown canola oil — the demand from KFC's 610 stores for the high-oleic oil will generate tens of millions of dollars in the farm sector – international canola prices are already nearly 3 times wheat prices due to a sharp rise in the demand from China and to European demand for biodiesel - this is leading farmers to plant a record canola crop *AFR 140512*.

BRG CMA'S KELLY COLEMAN TO PRESENT AT AG N CHAT

Gwymac Landcare will host the next round of Ag-n-Chat gatherings for rural women funded by NSW Environmental Trust in June. These events will be held at Warialda on Tuesday 12th, Bundarra Thursday 14th and Kings Plains

Tuesday 19th June. Kelly Coleman from the BRG CMA will run a workshop on native seed collection and propagation to support restoration of native habitat. Local photographer Kate Black will also attend and present how to capture simple natural beautiful images. Any rural women, who would like to attend, please contact Gwymac for more information and to register on 6721 1241 (admin@gwymaclandcare.net.au)

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR FARMING PROJECTS

\$150,000 in funding is being made available to farming groups and organisations to support projects that will improve water use, nutrient management or the carbon footprint of farming through the Woolworths Fresh Food Future program. Individual grants of up to \$15,000 (excluding GST) will be awarded to projects that best fit the criteria of the program. The Woolworths Fresh Food Future program is a collaboration between Landcare Australia and Woolworths to develop, improve and encourage sustainable farming practices across Australia. All farming groups and organisations are eligible to apply for the grants, along with Landcare groups who wish to undertake sustainable farming projects in any primary production industry. Applications close on Monday,

2nd July, and further information, criteria and application forms can be found on www.landcareonline.com.au For more information, please contact: Trish O'Gorman, Public Relations Manager, Landcare Australia P 02 8440 8811 (trish.ogorman@landcareaustralia.com.au)

WANTED FERAL PHOTOS

The 2012 Feral Photos competition is **NOW OPEN!** It's a free photography competition open to all members of the public, proudly brought to you by the NRM Liaison & Engagement Project of the Invasive Animals CRC. We are looking for the best original photographs of pest animals, pest animal damage, and pest animal control or monitoring activities in Australia. Along with great prizes the winning entries will be featured in our next Feral Photos calendar!

All entries (max 3 per person) must be provided in electronic or printed form, together with a completed entry form available at: www.invasiveanimals.com/feral-photos Send your entries to: annette.brown@dpi.nsw.gov.au or by mail to: Feral Photos 2012 - Invasive Animals CRC, Annette Brown, Locked Bag 6006, Orange NSW Australia 2800. Competition closes 30th September, 2012. If you have any questions, please contact annette.brown@dpi.nsw.gov.au or jessica.marsh@dpi.nsw.gov.au