



NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST LANDCARE

REGIONAL UPDATE

Issue 69, 9th November 2012

FREE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLANNING COURSES STILL AVAILABLE

Do you need to better plan your working hours around the farm? Do you need to think about ways to alter your business operation to make it more profitable, or compatible with your family life? The Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is now offering Farm Planning advice and workshops at no cost to land managers, throughout the New England Tablelands. The aim of the workshop is to make farming more profitable and take some of the stress out of running the business.

Farm Planning is about better management strategies, such as using natural resources for best results, maximising the use of limited financial reserves and getting the best from the people on your farm. "In the middle of a drought or a flood, it's difficult to plan. Now is the time to develop and implement strategies to minimise the impact of the next crisis. Farm Planning can help you to work out a long term

strategy for your business to survive and thrive. It can help you to build a resilient farm business", said CMA Farm Planning Officer Scott Graham. Farm Planning takes a holistic approach to running your business, considering your circumstance and goals. The CMA will provide you with:

- * a satellite image of your property
- * study manuals

- * catering
- * course administration support

Farm Planning takes a minimum of six days, with times and dates negotiated to suit participants. Courses are expected to start in January 2013. The course is available to all landholders regardless of where your property is located. If you are interested in completing a property management planning course contact Scott Graham at the BRG-CMA for more information on 02 6728 8049.

GWYMAC CELEBRATES

Gwymac Landcare will celebrate its past 12 months of activities in the community on Thursday 15th November from 5pm at the Inverell Club, Evans Street, Inverell. Refreshments + finger food will be provided with the AGM following. The evening will include Gwymac's annual presentation of RJ (Dick) Walker Memorial Landcare Award.

Please RSVP to the Gwymac office on 67211241 or email admin@gwymaclandcare.net.au

ALL WELCOME

THE 2013 ROUND OF THE SCIENCE & INNOVATION AWARDS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES & FORESTRY

The awards aim to encourage science, innovation and technology in rural industries and to help advance the careers of young scientists through national recognition of research and ideas.

The awards are open to people aged between 18 and 35, who can apply for up to \$22,000 to fund an original project on an innovative or emerging scientific issue to benefit Australia's rural industries.

There are twelve award categories: cotton, dairy, fisheries and aquaculture, grains, viticulture and oenology, animal welfare, red meat processing, pork, new and emerging rural industries, meat and livestock, sugar and horticulture. Each category is generously supported by the research and development corporations.

And there is an additional award for one outstanding project—the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's Award. This award provides an additional \$33,000 to one recipient of the industry awards to extend their project.

Visit the website for more details or contact scienceawards@daff.gov.au

CATTLE HERD HEALTH FIELD DAY

NSW DPI, NE LHPA & MLA will host an information day for all cattle producers looking to maximise herd productivity. Topics covered on the day will include -

- Selecting heifers for genetically improved reproductive performance,
- Minimising the effects of infectious infertility diseases
- Recent finding for cattle worm control
- Buffalo fly control / management strategies.

When – 12th November from



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

Send your news for the Landcare Update to
Sarah Legge at sarah@gwymaclandcare.net.au



9am to 3pm

Where – Glen Innes Research & Advisory Station

This event is free to attend and morning tea & BBQ lunch will be supplied. To attend contact Beef Officer Jason Siddell on 0459 162 295 by the 12th November 2012.

UGLA AGM

It's that time of year again!!!

The date of the meeting is set Wednesday 12th December 2012 starting at 4pm @ the Imperial Hotel.

Everyone is welcome and following the meeting there be a light supper and Christmas refreshments. Please RSVP on 6724 2052 or email cs0@gwydir.nsw.gov.au

THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA FUND (RDAF) ROUNDS 3 & 4

The Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) supports the infrastructure needs of regional Australia. Nearly \$1 billion has been allocated to the program over five years and is designed to boost economic and community development as part of the Australian Government's commitment to regional Australia. The program funds capital infrastructure projects which are identified as priorities by local communities.

The program is administered by the Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport (the department).

Round Three will support small towns (population of less than 30,000) with \$50 million in grant

funding to be provided. Grants of between \$50,000 and \$500,000 are available.

Round Four will support strategic infrastructure projects and is modelled on the successful RDAF Rounds One and Two. \$175 million in grant funding will be provided. Grants are available of between \$500,000 and \$15 million for eligible applicants.

Go to www.regional.gov.au/regional/programs/rdaf.aspx for further information.

2013 SUSTAINABLE & REGENERATIVE FARMING TOUR TO THE USA

FIRST-HAND ACCESS TO
LEADING PRODUCERS AND
CONSULTANTS

If you are interested in sustainable and regenerative agriculture, health and connections to food and tasting great local food, then this have a look at this study tour to the US. After a highly successful tour in 2012, the 2013 tour has been released with every day of the tour packed with great visits and great food to teach and inspire you as either a producer or as a consumer of great healthy food.

"As a biological/organic farmer this trip has been a watershed as far as opening my eyes to the possibilities of how much better we can both farm our land, and market what we produce." Warren Pensini – Blackwood Valley Beef, WA

For further information and Itinerary visit www.quadrantaustria.com or ring 1300 301 128

PROGRESSING DROUGHT REFORM

[Reform of Australia's drought](#)

[policy](#) is another step closer with Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments agreeing on the framework for a national drought package.

The new national framework, scheduled to be implemented from 1 July 2014, will help farmers proactively address risks and prepare for challenges associated with drought.

Ministers from across the country agreed at the Standing Council of Primary Industries meeting in New Zealand that a new package should include:

- a farm household support payment;
 - promotion of Farm Management Deposits and taxation measures;
 - a national approach to farm business training;
 - a coordinated, collaborative approach to the provision of social support services; and
 - tools and technologies to inform farmer decision making.
- Minister Ludwig said programs included in the new package will be available at all times, without the need for a drought or Exceptional Circumstances declaration.

"Until the new programs are implemented there will be assistance available to farming families suffering hardship including the Transitional Farm Family Payment, Exceptional Circumstances assistance, Farm Management Deposits Scheme and through the Rural Financial Counselling Service," Minister Ludwig said.