



NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST LANDCARE

REGIONAL UPDATE

Issue 99, 16th January 2014

BRED WELL FED WELL WORKSHOP

Meat & Livestock Australia are holding a hands-on workshop focussed on breeding and feeding sheep to make more money. Topics include :

- Improving ewe nutrition
- Developing a breeding goal
- Developing a feed budget
- Breeding better ewes

This workshop will be held on Tuesday 21st January 2014 9am to 3.30pm at Yarraford, 911 New England Highway, Glen Innes. Cost \$50 per participant. RSVP to Mark Pietsch on 02 67321844 or 0417 616823.

NORTH WEST DROUGHT TRIP

The Department of Primary Industries will be touring the Cobar, Coonamble, Pilliga and Moree areas from 20 January 2014. For further information please contact your NSW Farmers Regional Service Manager <http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/about-us/information/regions> for more details.

By completing the NSW Farmers Association online survey <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KM75HZM> you help gather evidence to lobby government and identify areas of need. To keep up-to-date with drought information visit the NSW Farmers website at <http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/home/farming-in-nsw-current-situation>.

LLS OPERATIONAL

Local Land Services (LLS) commenced operations on 1 January 2014. The LLS will fill the remaining local LLS board positions through elections on 12 March 2014. You have an opportunity to influence the makeup of your LLS board but need to enrol to be part of the process. Information about enrolling and nominating is available via the NSW DPI website at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/locallandservices>

GLEN INNES RCS KEEP IN TOUCH (KIT) DAY

On Friday 7th February 2014 RCS (Resource Consulting Services) are holding a free Keep In Touch (KIT) day and welcome you to join the RCS Team and the Faithfull family at "Redbank" Glen Innes.

Thank you to Tom, Lucy and Sam for hosting what will be a value-packed day for like-minded producers in the beef industry.

Discussion will be facilitated around:

- Water scheme planning, development and implementation
- Electric fencing do's and dont's
- Moving cattle in a way that reduces stress and improves production
- Effective cow and calf management
- Plus other topics relevant to producers on the day

RCS KIT days are free to attend (BYO chair, water, rain/wind coat, lunch). Please RSVP to RCS by calling 1800 356 004 or email Katie Crozier at kcrozier@rcs.au.com

LEARD STATE FOREST PUBLIC FORUM

Thursday 16th January 2014 at 7pm in the Heritage Room, Darling Street Community Centre.

Come and hear about why people are protesting to save the Leard State Forest.

Speakers:

Phil Spark will explain the problems with the ecological aspects of mines impact assessment.

Nicky Chirlian will explain the health impacts of living and working near coal mines.

Hear what motivated protestor Ray McLaren to take action.

Learn about what is so special about Leard State Forest and how the you can help.

Tea and biscuits will be provided at 9 pm closing.

SURVEY ON \$5 CATTLE TRANSACTION LEVY

Federal Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce recently announced an inquiry into the \$5 grass-fed cattle transaction levy. To help NSW Farmers input into the process please fill in the short survey here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/cattlelevy>. The more responses gathered, the stronger the response will be to government. The survey is open to non members as well and is a great opportunity to input into the policy development process of NSW Farmers.



AWI CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) invites organisations to submit project proposals for on-farm and off-farm research and development.

To help you identify the type of projects AWI would like to invest in, it has prepared a table here <http://www.wool.com/projects>. AWI also welcomes proposals for any project that will help it meeting its 2013/14-2015/16 strategic objectives.

Applicants must submit a full proposal by noon 3 February 2014 using the project proposal response form which can be downloaded from AWI website <http://www.wool.com/projects>.

STRATEGIC TILLAGE IN NORTHERN GRAINS REGION

The Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) is surveying growers to assist research into whether use of strategic tillage is detrimental to the long term improvements achieved through zero tillage farming.

The survey will provide GRDC with a better understanding of farmers' attitudes and perceptions of strategic tillage within the northern grains region. The survey is open until 27 January 2014 will take 10-15 minutes to complete. Click here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9VJKWKX> to take the survey.

NSW FARMERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS NOW OPEN

Applications for the 2014 NSW Farmers tertiary scholarship program are now open. This year there will be five (5) scholarships available with a value of \$4000 each. All current members or children of members studying at the tertiary level are encouraged to apply. The applications will remain open until mid February 2014. See the NSW Farmers website <http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/our-services/member-services/tertiary-scholarship-program> for further information.

INSPIRING WOMEN LEADERS - TURIA PITT

Upper Gwydir Landcare Association are hosting inspiring burns survivor, endurance athlete and author Turia Pitt in Bingara on Thursday 13th March 2014 from 6pm at the Roxy Theatre. Cost for the event is \$15 per person including glass of wine & canapés.

Bookings:

Online: @ www.trybooking.com (search Turia Pitt)

In person: @ 35b Maitland St, Bingara

By mail: @ PO Box 108, Bingara NSW 2404

For more information please contact the office 02 6724 2052 or ugla@gwydir.nsw.gov.au or cs0@gwydir.nsw.gov.au

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR HORIZON SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for the Horizon Scholarship Program close on 31 January 2014. The program is open for undergraduate students in their first year of study in an agricultural related degree at university.

The scholarships are worth \$5000 each per year of study and also include professional development workshops, industry work placements and networking opportunities. For more details visit <http://www.rirdc.gov.au/research-programs/rural-people-issues/horizon-scholarship>.

HOTHOUSE WORKSHOP

All community groups and Landcare groups are invited to attend a FREE half-day workshop in Bingara on Wednesday 26 February 2014 all about increasing skills in corporate governance.

The 4 sessions provided will be focused on Corporate Governance and Reporting Obligations; Work Health & Safety; Communications; and Roles and Responsibilities of the Committee

The workshop will also provide resources such as template-policies for Community and Landcare groups, checklists for good governance and tips on keeping internal systems ship-shape.

Registration open 15th January 2014 and forms can be obtained from UGLA website. Please return via email ugla@gwydir.nsw.gov.au