

GLENRAC

Newsletter

January/ March 2017

Where to find us - National Parks & Wildlife
Services Building, 68 Church St
Office Hours - Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm

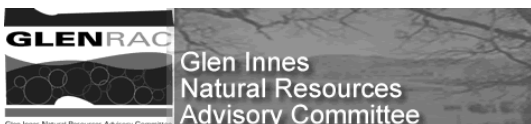
Inside This Issue

- Bright Ideas
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GLENRAC display @ the Annual
GLEN INNES SHOW

Fri 17/02/2017 to
Sat 18/02/2017

Come and see our wonderful
display and meet our team.



Local Land
Services
Northern Tablelands



Local Land
Services

Community Grants to Increase Community Resilience

GLENRAC successfully applied for five Community Resilience grants, one joint grant with GWYMAC Landcare and contributed towards the Glen Innes RSPCA grant

The successful grants include:

NENWNLP-1617-24: Communication & Negotiation Skills for Landcare Leaders. GLENRAC will host a one-day workshop in Glen Innes where Allan Parker of Peak Performance Development will deliver a Communication and Negotiation workshop to improve the skills and confidence of current and future Landcare and community leaders for our community.

NENWNLP-1617-26: Learning together to conserve the flora and fauna of our Endangered Ecological Community (Eucalyptus pacuiflora) at Glen Elgin. Glen Elgin Eco Carers (GEEC) will learn species identification skills (flora and fauna), and understand the interconnectedness of the species that make up the Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) we are conserving. Presenters are highly respected local botanist/ecologist Dr David Carr and regional herpetologist/ecologist Alex Dudley.

NENWNLP-1617-28: Good Governance Supports Great Outcomes. GLENRAC will deliver training to build skills and the capacity of community organisations across the Glen Innes district to be able to better achieve their goals and objectives through improved governance, better board member competence and effective meetings.

NENWNLP-1617-29: Paddock Plant Walks for Glen Innes land managers. GLENRAC will host four paddock plant walks across the Glen Innes Severn district in the summer months of 2016/2017 to assist land managers in identifying common paddock plants including introduced and native grasses and legumes and noxious and environmental weeds.

NENWNLP-1617-30: Focus on Feral Animal Forum - Northern Tablelands. GLENRAC will host a Pest Animal Forum bringing together land managers, both public and private land, technical experts and pest animal control practitioners from across northern NSW to share information, experience, techniques and new technologies.



GLENRAC News

Hello GLENRAC members,

We hope Christmas and New Years were fun and restful for you. The Glenrac office opens again on the 9th of January and we have lots of events lined up for you from February onwards—have a look on the back page for dates.

As mentioned on the first page, we were successful in obtaining a number of projects and will be rolling them out in the next 6 months. There are also a number of funding opportunities for students and others.

Apps for the phone are becoming an easy way to look up or store farming information, as well as pest animal and other biosecurity ideas—see below for more information.

Regards, GLENRAC Staff—Kylie, Lucy, Tanya, Jennie & Kelly



Bright Ideas

Rabbit biocontrol mapping

Nearly 800 landholders and community groups have now signed up to be part of the national release of an additional strain of RHDV (Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus) called RHDV1 K5. Proposed for autumn 2017, it will be the first time in more than 20 years a new rabbit biocontrol will be released, and it is receiving strong community and industry support. You can get involved by viewing the Rabbit Biocontrol Tracker map; <https://www.feralscan.org.au/rabbitscan/map.aspx?mapMode=rhdv> To learn more <http://www.pestsmart.org.au/report-rabbit-numbers-disease-dead-rabbits/>

On-farm biosecurity - there's an app for that..

A new phone app called **FarmBiosecurity** has been developed from Plant Health Australia and Animal Health Australia that aims to help take biosecurity planning to the next level. The free app is available for Android and Apple devices and allows livestock and crop producers to create their own personalised biosecurity plan. To find out more go to <http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/on-farm-biosecurity-theres-an-app-for-that/> Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline: 1800 675 888 Exotic Plant Pest Hotline: 1800 084 881



THERE are hundreds of apps in the marketplace designed to help farmers save time, energy and money. Do a search next time you have a moment...

The Land's agribusiness reporter Jessie Davies asked mixed farmers what their favourite apps were and here's what popped up:

AgWorld is a farm management app which can be used by farmers and agronomists. The two can even connect to share information. Farmers can use the app as a mapping tool to keep track of their crop rotations, pest burdens, inputs and outputs. Farmers can log onto the app and see what their advisor has recommended to apply.

AgWorld comes with a monthly subscription fee but you can trial it for 30 days before committing. Another app, **BackPaddock**, is similar to AgWorld but farmers can also keep track of their soil test results.

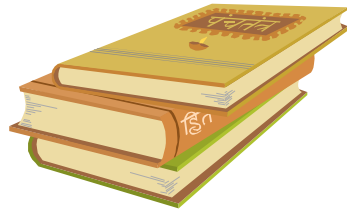
The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority has released an app (search **APVMA**) which makes information about agricultural and veterinary chemicals registered in Australia instantly accessible. Simply type in the product's name and the app will generate the label.

Another handy app to keep track of your chemicals is **Industry Inventories**. Designed by mixed farmer Richard Thompson, "Ballantyne", Cassilis, this app helps users keep a record of what chemicals they have on their farm. Simply scan the barcode on the chemical's packaging and it will record all necessary information in the app with ease.

The **WeedSmart** app is a new tool to help farmers with an old problem. Be smart about weeds. Hone your weed management techniques with WeedSmart.

Keep an eye on storms with the **WeatherZone** app. The Weatherzone app uses a combination of Bureau of Meteorology and Weather Zone meteorologists to produce accurate forecasts. Rural retailers Landmark and Elders have their own apps, too.

New Books



50 Kids' Activities from CSIRO

Edited by: Sarah Kellett, David Shaw, Kath Kovac

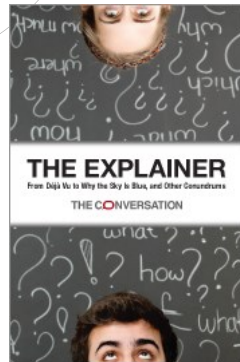
Discover more about the world of science through fun DIY science activities using easy-to-find,

everyday materials. - See more at: <http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7556#sthash.FCSgUOv6.dpuf> Paperback - September 2016 - AU \$24.95

The Explainer: From Deja Vu to Why the Sky Is Blue, and Other Conundrums

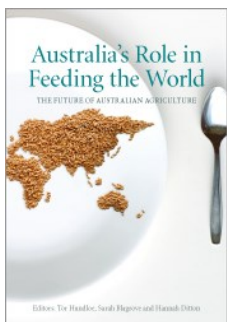
CSIRO Publishing. Paperback - October 2013 - AU \$19.95

A collection of The Conversation's 'Monday's Medical Myths' and 'The Explainer' articles, answering the questions on everyone's mind. - See more at: <http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7165#sthash.SbZLg6vz.dpuf>



Interpreting Soil Test Results What Do All the Numbers Mean?

Third Edition. Pam Hazelton, Brian Murphy Paperback - November 2016 - AU \$59.95 A practical reference enabling readers to better understand and interpret a range of soil test methods. - See more at: <http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7386/#sthash.EPg1uzc0.dpuf>



Australia's Role in Feeding the World

The Future of Australian Agriculture

Edited by: Tor Hundloe, Sarah Blagrove, Hannah Ditton.

Could Australia, in particular northern Australia, really become the 'food bowl' of Asia? - See more at: <http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7544/#sthash.v5TgltvC.dpuf>

Quote of the month: ...
"Life has no remote control. Get up and change it yourself." ...

2017 Tocal Training Course Calendar for Workforce Skills Training in the New England

Course Name	days	Date	location
Quad bike handling	2	6th & 7th3/	Tenterfield
Quad bike handling	1	8/03/2017	Glen Innes
Quad bike handling	1	9/03/2017	Inverell
Quad bike handling	1	10/03/2017	Armidale
SMARTtrain® chemical application (Level 3)	2	16/03/2017	Glen Innes
SMARTtrain® Level 3 reaccreditation	1	17/03/2017	Glen Innes
Chainsaw - Trim and cut felled trees (Level 1 chainsaw operation)	2	3/04/2017	Glen Innes
Chainsaw - Fall trees manually (basic)	2	5/04/2017	Glen Innes
Biological control of weeds	1	11/04/2017	Tamworth
Off-road four wheel drive (4x4) training	2	1/05/2017	Armidale
SMARTtrain® chemical risk management (Level 4)	1.5	28/06/2017	Armidale

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/content/agriculture/profarm>
Lauren Witten Workforce Skills Course Coordinator (02) 67631276

Subsidised quad bike training available locally in 2017

Tocal College together with Safe Work NSW are rolling out subsidised quad bike safety training to eligible farmers and farm workers at various locations across NSW until June 2017. This one day practical course will help farmers and farm workers apply safety measures around the use of quad bikes on farms. The course will be delivered through Tocal College, is accredited and tailored to the experience level of attendees.

March 2017 dates for New England are Tenterfield 6th & 7th; Glen Innes 8th; Inverell 9th and Armidale 10th. For more information call Kim Griffiths on 02 4939 8881.



Beware of fatigue this Summer – NOT just for harvest

Fatigue can lead to serious risks for Farmers. Fatigue can have both physical and mental causes and can be described as a feeling of constant tiredness or weakness. It's not the same as feeling drowsy, or tired after a busy day. It's more a feeling of pushing yourself through the day, every day. Farmers, particularly during busy times of the year, often work long hours, don't have time to unwind and then have problems sleeping when they do get to bed. This cycle can lead to fatigue; however, it can also be caused by many other issues.

Keep in touch

Farmers often work alone, this, combined with fatigue, can be a dangerous combination. It is important to keep in touch with family, neighbours or colleagues.

Every farm business should have reliable communications equipment and a regular system of checking on isolated workers, as well as an emergency plan, should anyone come to harm. Working on a farm can be dangerous and fatigue can lead to accidents. Remember to look after your body as well as your farm.

Symptoms

Some symptoms of fatigue include:

- Headaches, dizziness, blurry vision
- Slow reflexes and reactions, poor concentration
- Feeling irritable, moody and short tempered
- Aching, weak muscles
- Feeling tired all over or sleepy
- Micro-sleeps

Causes

Fatigue can be caused by:

- Not getting enough sleep
- Working long hours eg. during harvesting, shearing
- Stress
- Depression
- Not eating well
- Grief and loss
- Some illnesses or medications
- Alcohol or drug use

If you are sleeping and eating well but still feel constantly tired, it's important to seek medical

advice because it could be caused by an undiagnosed illness which may require treatment.

Tips that may help

- Aim for a good night's sleep every night
- Have reliable communications equipment and a regular system to check isolated workers
- Get some regular physical exercise
- Eat healthy food and drink plenty of water
- Limit or avoid alcohol and other drugs
- Reduce caffeine intake (tea, coffee, cola etc)

Fatigue—Can have medical reasons

Fatigue can mean feeling tired, sleepy or lacking energy. Fatigue may be due to medical causes, lifestyle or emotional concerns or stress. Depression, anxiety or grief can all cause fatigue. Too little or too much sleep can cause fatigue. Medical causes of fatigue may include flu, glandular fever, anaemia, sleep disorders such as sleep apnoea or restless leg syndrome, CFS/ME (formerly known as chronic fatigue syndrome or myalgic encephalopathy), hypothyroidism, heart problems, cancer and other conditions.



<http://www.farmerhealth.org.au/page/health-centre/fatigue>

<http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/health-and-safety/safety-topics-a-z/fatigue>

Phone 13 10 50

BETTER PEST MANAGEMENT BY WORKING AS A GROUP

THE term 'vertebrate pest' refers to animals that have reached a population that causes problems of an economic, social or environmental nature. In Australia, our most common pests are introduced species including rabbits, foxes, mice and rats, wild dogs, feral pigs, feral cats, and many other species that simply do not have a place in the Australian ecosystem.



These introduced species cost the Australian economy hundreds of millions of dollars annually through lost production, spoilage of products and foodstuffs. The costs at an environmental level are almost impossible to quantify, however, it is safe to say that introduced predators such as foxes, cats and wild dogs have directly contributed to the extinction of many of Australia's unique marsupial 'mammal species over many decades.

The European fox, *Vulpes vulpes*, is one of the most successful predators in the world and poses an enormous threat to Australia's fragile ecosystems.

Biology of the fox

Foxes breed once a year in late winter. Breeding females wean about four cubs.

Every summer, young foxes disperse and can move up to 30 kilometres away from their natal dens.

Typical fox family 'home range' is from 30-1,000ha, but individuals can make excursions of more than 10km and have been recorded 50km from their known location. This will see an increase in sightings and road toll as these new foxes are not as 'human aware' as older foxes.

Summer, therefore is one of the best times to undertake baiting and control operations.

As cubs are not as 'human aware' as older foxes and are seeking out their patch of territory and learning to scavenge for feed, they are more likely to take bait.

As you would suspect, a group approach is the best way to cover as much territory as possible and therefore control as many foxes as possible. Each group member can assist in the control campaign by physically laying baits at strategic locations, monitoring for fox sign or bait take and then replacing any baits taken.

Conversely, if one of the group is unable physically to undertake the baiting, they can indemnify another member to undertake the baiting process on their behalf.

Best results are obtained using a co-ordinated group control program over a set period of time.

The use of prepared 1080 baits is the most common method of Fox control. However, if you are in a sensitive ecological area or are worried about non-target species poisoning (such as canines) the use of canid ejectors may be a better option.

Contact Local Lands Services 02 6732 8800 about setting up a group control program in the New Year.

• By Glen Walker, business development officer, Tocal College, Trangie Ag Research Centre. •Visit



New video on Canid Pest Ejectors (CPE)

Canid Pest Ejectors (CPEs) use is increasing in popularity, and our new video highlights why, and how to best use them.

CPEs were first developed in the USA in the 1930s as a spring activated device for the control of coyotes. In the USA, the device was first called the 'Humane Coyote Getter (HCG)' and subsequently known as the 'M-44'. Over many years they have been adapted and improved to achieve the delivery of toxins directly into the mouth of a target animal. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3p1nFr9ZHEo&utm_source=Invasive+Animals+CR+C+subscriber+list&utm_campaign=df58960fb5-FeralFlyer_Test_1_12_2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_dca65e59c7-df58960fb5-93547097

Roadside Weeds Update

Submitted by New England Weeds Authority

Chilean Needle Grass

Chilean needle grass, named for its sharp pointed seed, is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia.

Chilean needle grass is a perennial tussock grass which grows in dense clumps up to 1m in height. It is highly drought resistant, relatively un-palatable, can cause injury to livestock, contaminates wool and reduces biodiversity by outcompeting native species.



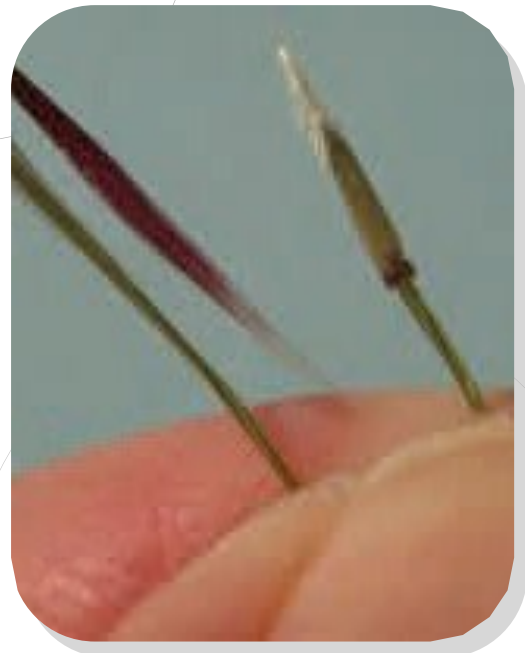
Chilean Needle Grass in full seed

As the name suggests, Chilean needle grass is native to South America. It has been known to exist in Australia since the 1930's but due to its relatively slow spread has only recently been recognised as a serious weed. The issue lies in how difficult it is to control. Chilean needle grass can produce more than 20,000 seeds per square metre. The seedbank can persist for many years even when further seeding is prevented. An unusual feature is that in addition to its distinctive purplish seedhead, it produces hidden seeds which form at nodes along the stem and at the base of the plant.



Once established, Chilean needle grass is difficult to manage. The best outcome is early identification and physical removal before the plant can get established. Once a high level infestation is established a combination of control approaches will need to be used over a number of seasons including herbicides and grazing management.

Preventing the spread of seed is the key to preventing further spread of Chilean needle grass. In known infestations we ask that great care is taken when moving stock or machinery to other areas.



Chilean Needle Grass seed showing the distinctive corona

NEWA: Weed Officers are on hand to assist with your noxious weed identification, management and control. Visit us at www.newa.com.au

call us on 6770 3602,

or call James Browning on 0428 211 314



Funding Opportunities

For more information on the grant below visit the GLENRAC website or call in at the office to discuss.

BRUSSELS SUMMIT OFFER

Bayer and Future Farmers Network are offering 18-25 year olds the opportunity to win a trip to Belgium to attend the 2017 Youth Ag Summit in Brussels, where 1000 like-minded individuals will come together to discuss agriculture. Applicants must submit an essay.

More? <http://youthagsummit.com/home/>

AGRIBUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

The Rural Bank 2017 scholarships provide \$5000 for the first year of study to nine first-time undergraduate students in the Australian agribusiness sector. The scholarships can contribute to the costs of accommodation, course materials, equipment and tutoring. The funding will also be extended to support the second year of studies, subject to academic performance. **Deadline 27 January 2017.**

More <https://www.ruralbank.com.au/about-us/scholarship>

HELP FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

RIRDC's \$5000 a year Horizon Scholarships are offered to Year 12 students who will study agriculture at any university. **More?** <http://www.rirdc.gov.au/docs/default-document-library/horizon-terms-conditions-form.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL STUDENTS

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank scholarships are awarded annually to outstanding, but disadvantaged students from a rural or regional area attending university for the first time who, due to social or financial circumstances, would not have been able to further their education. Valued at \$5,000 (based on previous year amount) these scholarships are for one year with possible extension for further years. **Deadline January 27.**

More? http://www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/public/in_the_community/scholarships.asp

www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/public/in_the_community/scholarships.asp

AID FOR NSW FARMER UPSKILL

NSW farmers can take subsidised pre-approved courses through the State Government's \$45m Farm Business Skills Professional Development Program. Or farmers can apply for other professional development activities. Participants can claim reimbursement of up to 50% (GST-exclusive) up to \$5000/farmer or \$9000/farm business. Ongoing. **More?** <http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/professional-development-program>

AWI call for research proposals

Australian Wool Innovation Limited (AWI) has announced its annual Call for Proposals for organisations interested in On-farm and Off-farm research and development projects with AWI. The organisation invites individuals, companies and organisations to submit project applications that address AWI strategic priorities and programs. These are detailed in AWI's strategic plan, available from here.

To help identify the type of projects AWI would like to invest in, AWI has prepared a table that sets out the programs in each of these strategic areas as well as the AWI Manager responsible.

See <https://www.wool.com/about-awi/where-we-invest/call-for-proposals/> for more information and forms

Applicants are requested to submit a full proposal by 12pm 13th February 2017.

Proposals can be emailed to projects@wool.com or posted to:

Call for Project Proposals
Australian Wool Innovation
Limited
GPO Box 4177
Sydney 2001

If you have any questions please send these to projects@wool.com or call the AWI Office on (02) 8295 3100.



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

NSW Small Biz Connect, funded by the NSW Government offers expert advice for small businesses. **More?** 1300 134 359

Applications open for the 2017 NSW Farmers Tertiary Scholarships

As part of a long standing scholarship program, NSW Farmers will be offering five scholarships to the value of \$4000 each for students committed to helping farming and rural communities grow and prosper. Open to students in their second or subsequent year of full-time study, with a partner, parent or guardian being full members of the Association for at least two consecutive years, or a student having held a membership of any category for a period of two consecutive years. Go to <http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/our-services/member-services/tertiary-scholarship-program> to view the full scholarship guidelines. **Applications close COB Friday 3 March 2017**



Australian Government

National
Landcare
Programme



GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2016/17

CHAIRMAN - Jim Benton

TREASURER - Sam Baker

SECRETARY - Tony Corcoran

LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Andrew Campbell, Chris Leahy, Gordon Wollen, Ian Lockwood, Jane Munro, John Bavea, Mike Norton, Norman Whitaker & Rose Gettens.

Glen Innes Severn Council : Graham Price or Ian Trow & Col Price

Department of Primary Industries : Carol Harris , **National Parks & Wildlife Office**: Peter Croft

Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Lands Council: Trevor Potter

Public Officer: John Brien

For all questions relating to GLENRAC please contact our staff at -

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Ph: (02) 6732 3443

Mobile 0427 325 901

email kylie@glenrac.org.au

GLENRAC
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GLEN INNES
NSW 2370



To The Land Manager

This activity is part of the Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative



Local Land
Services

The Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative is funded by the NSW Government, and is supported through the partnership of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW.



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

Coming Events:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 28-29Jan | TWO DAY STAND OUT SHOWGIRL WORKSHOP—Contact Adi Richie 0428 451 360 |
| 2nd Feb | Paddock walk with Judi Earl— 2 per day—contact GLENRAC for more information |
| 5-9th Feb | Restore Regenerate Revegetate—contact New England Conference Co. 0408 668 664 |
| 9th Feb | Five Principles of Soil Health with Christine Jones - contact SNELC 6772 9123 |
| 16th Feb | Vertebrate Pest & Canine Pest Ejector Training 2017 nicole.miller@lls.nsw.gov.au |
| 17-18 Feb | GLEN INNES SHOW |
| 19th Feb | Glen Eglin Eco Carers Field Day—contact GLENRAC for more information |
| 23rd Feb | Paddock walk with Judi Earl— 2 per day—contact GLENRAC for more information |
| 7 March | NSW Young Farmers Business Project - Bank Ready workshop Glen Innes |
| 14 March | Glen East Landcare General Meeting & Guest Speakers |
| 22 March | 2017 Pasture Update, Glen Innes |
| 23rd March | Mischief, motivation & Attitude—Inverell—contact GWYMAC Landcare (02) 6721 1241 |
| 4-5 May | 18th New England North West Landcare Adventure, Armidale |
| 9 May | Communication & Negotiation training with Allan Parker |