

GLENRAC

Newsletter

July August 2011

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Dung Beetles capture the limelight

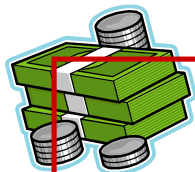
Dung beetles were all things grand and interesting in June when Glenrac acting CSO Mahri Koch presented a field day segment on the benefits of these innocuous invertebrates to landholders at Gravesend.

The day was a combined presentation on how to strike the balance in farm diversification by Gwymac and Upper Gwydir Landcare Associations, enticing some 45 locals and not-so-locals to check out management techniques at "Brooklyn", owned by Heather and Ron Caccianiga, recent Regional Landcare Award winners. A paddock walk focussed on the integration of native trees into a

grazing enterprise, while updates on Pestivirus and the cost to production of buffalo fly infestations were key information sessions provided by Livestock Health & Pest Authority Inverell. Participants got to search through dung for beetles and practise identifying what they found. Glenrac intends to run a dung beetle program in the coming financial year so keep an eye out and join in the adventure!

Right: looking for beetles in cow pats at "Brooklyn".

Below: Participants hear from Dr Mahri Koch how to identify and promote dung beetle populations.

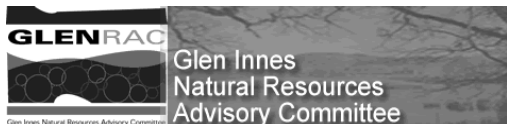


Community Action Grants NOW OPEN

Got a project that benefits our Environment that your community group Would like to run?

Closing 1st August

<http://www.nrm.gov.au/cag/index.html>



Glenrac News



It's been a hectic time here in the Glenrac office as staff work to write funding applications for the many programs that have opened during the past 2 months. This has been the first year that all of the major funding bodies have opened their annual programs at the same time of year.

Many landholders have been successful also in receiving disaster relief funding from both the Rural Assistance Authority and CMA based relief grants to help farmers rebuild fences, remove flood debris from pastures, and reconstruct access roads across properties.

Returning to Glenrac during the first week of July is Community Support Officer Kylie Falconer. Kylie is warmly welcomed back to her role and will be available as usual at the Glenrac office. Kylie will be heading to Parkes with Greg and Sally Chappell in September to compete in their respective categories of the finals of the NSW State Landcare awards. We wish them all the best of luck on this adventure.

Be sure to participate in the community consultation meeting Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA is holding 22nd July at Glen Innes and District Services Club. It will be an opportunity to present your thoughts on the important assets within this catchment that need to be managed during the next 5 years.

Mahri Koch

Wanted: local people with local knowledge

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA is holding a community meeting in Glen Innes to help identify the local natural resources and agricultural assets that are valuable for economical, environmental, cultural or social reasons.

This information will be used for managing the CMA's new Catchment Action Plan review.

When: 22nd July, 10am-1pm

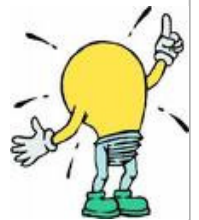
Where: Glen Innes RSL Club

RSVP to Wendy Miller on 6728 8020



Bright Ideas

If you would like to be added to the Glenrac database for eflashes of information, events, & funding opportunities please call and register your email address with our staff.



Native Title Forum 2011

When: 29-31 August

Where: Brisbane

- Cultivate mutually beneficial relationships with
- effective negotiation models.
- Contribute to the social and economic development of communities where you live.
- Integrate Indigenous culture into your business plan.

Register online with www.TonkinCorporation.com or call 02 92246060.

Privet in the urban environment

Submitted by David Nixon, Glen Innes Severn Council Weeds Officer



Health Affects

Privet can produce serious allergic reactions to many people which occur commonly during spring and early summer when privets produce masses of flowers. Allergy-like symptoms such as asthma, hay fever and irritation of mucous membranes affect some people and in extreme cases can cause hospitalisation.

Privet berries and leaves have also been reported by overseas sources to be poisonous to humans and livestock if ingested; however no known cases have been reported in Australia.

It is important to be a considerate neighbour and control Privet infestations so as to limit the health concerns associated with privets.

Impact

Established Privet can almost totally replace a diverse mix of native tree and shrub species. It invades pastures and waste areas, reducing access and causing difficulty in stock movement and impacts on biodiversity.



The three Privet species included in Council's Privet Management Plan are:

- Broad Leaf Privet** (*Ligustrum lucidum*),
- Narrow Leaf Privet** (*Ligustrum sinense*)
- European Privet** (*Ligustrum vulgare*).

All three species are considered to be serious environmental weeds throughout Australia. Infestations threaten biodiversity, including endangered plant and animal species and ecological communities. Dense stands of privet prevent other vegetation surviving or establishing.

Broad Leaf Privet is the most common species found in the Glen Innes Severn Council area. A mature shrub can produce one million seeds.

Land Owners/ Mangers and Council's Obligations

For large infestations allowances have been provided for a gradual eradication process:

The extent of the infestation must be reduced by a minimum of 25% annually. This allowance will be determined by the inspecting Council officer.

The *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* makes provision for compliance. This will be achieved through property inspections, the issuing of Penalty Infringement Notices, fines and undertaking court proceedings when necessary for non compliance.

Privet Control

Chemical- Privet is to be treated effectively with a herbicide registered for its control, in the manner specified on the label.

Manual - Small Privet plants and saplings may be hand pulled or maddocked/spaded.

Mechanical

Privet may be removed by mechanical means at anytime of the year.

Hedging- Privet may be hedged. To appropriately maintain a formal privet hedge, it must be pruned each year before full development of the flowers. At times follow up pruning may be required to prevent flowering and seeding within the hedge.

The Glen Innes Severn Council's

Privet Management Plan has a particular emphasis on the control of privet within close proximity areas where community meetings and gatherings occur, both on Council and private land. There is also a major focus for control within the Glen Innes town, Council's rural villages and along high conservation roadside vegetation corridors.

RECYCLED AUSTRALIAN
Made Plastic Fencing posts
from
SAMM Industries

Samples now at
the GLENRAC
office



GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2010/11

CHAIRMAN - Jim Benton

TREASURER - Peter Smith

SECRETARY - Dr Eric Sinclair

LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

North Eastern : Greg Chappell South Eastern : Tony Hollis Southern: Winsome Quilty

Northern : Mark Pietsch Western : Brian Winter

Glen Innes Severn Council : Graham Price Department Industries & Investment : Jeff Lowien

National Parks & Wildlife Service: Peter Croft Livestock Health & Pest Authority : Rob Munro

Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Lands Council: Karen Potter

For all questions relating to funding and funding applications, contact

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NSW 2370



To the **LAND** Owner



Coming Events:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 22 July | BR-G CMA catchment Action Plan review community meeting Glen Innes |
| 31st July | National Tree Day—Planet Ark |
| 1st August | Community Action Grants close |
| August | Mann River project field day at Shannonvale |
| 29-31 August | Native Title Forum at Brisbane, QLD |

