

Member Service Centre 1300 794 000

online@nswfarmers.org.au

Grain growers must be included in wheat marketing future

Wheat growers across the State overwhelmingly expressed the need to be fully consulted by the Federal Government in the development of all its wheat export marketing proposals, following meetings held by the Association last week.

More than 400 growers attending the meetings and all want clarity about the future of their industry.

The Association is seeking clarification from the Federal Government as to how it intends to maintain the benefits which are provided through a Single Desk for wheat export marketing.

Executive Council in Parkes underway

Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy, Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy will address Executive Council in Parkes tonight.

Debate is now underway, with Executive Council discussing issue including, flood assistance, Exceptional Circumstances (EC), electricity privatisation, pre-school transport, food prices and irrigation bore licences.

Emergency Drought Funds

The NSW Country Women's Association of NSW has more than \$1million to distribute as drought relief funding, following Woolworth's National Drought action Day on 15 February.

Grants of up to \$2000 per household are available to help meet essential household expenses. Application forms and further information are available from www.cwaofnsw.org.au or by phoning 02 93582923.

Farmbis to finish asap

The Federal Government has confirmed that the Farmbis program will be terminated as soon as possible. Registrations and approval of training courses will no longer be accepted.

FarmBis subsidies are to remain available only to courses completed up to and including 29 February. The Association is pursuing this issue with the Federal Government in conjunction with the National Farmers Federation (NFF).

Rhiannon motion supports grains industry

The NSW Farmers' Association is supporting calls by Upper House MP Lee Rhiannon to have the Government commit to ensure the existence of an effective grain rail network as part of an overall integrated transport strategy for the movement of grain.

The Association is seeking the same commitment from the NSW Government following the decision by Pacific National to only maintain some flour mill grain haulage contracts and withdraw its rail services for the transportation of export grain in NSW. Click [here](#) for more information.

Giving city kids a taste of the bush

NSW Farmers' Association is welcoming a busload of city kids to Central West NSW this week, in the hope they will consider a career in the bush.

More than 35 students from Sydney's Hurlstone Agricultural High School will tour an olive grove, orchard, cotton property, sheep station, Fletchers International – Dubbo, and zoo.

It's the third year the NSW Farmers' Association has sponsored the tour, which is all part of "Cross the Divide" – the Macquarie Valley Farming Festival.

Upcoming Region Specific Meetings & Events

Region 1 – North West

7 March, Moree – 8.30am – 4pm, FREE Financial Skills Workshops, call the Training Department for further details

28 March, Inverell – 8.30am – 4pm, Inverell Town Hall – Climate Change Forum

For more information contact Region 1 Service Manager Alicia Wilson 0427 437 103

Region 2 – New England

1 Mar & 8 Mar- UNE Armidale Chemical Card Accreditation

5 Mar – UNE Armidale Careers Evening 6pm Wright lecture Theatre followed by BBQ and drinks venue TBA

6 Mar – Bundarra Farm Family Gathering and Information (“Make More Money From your Mgt Decisions”) 2pm onwards at the Bundarra Sports and Rec Club. Speakers Clare Edwards, District Agronomist, Alistair Rayner, Beef Officer, Michale Lollback followed by a FREE family BBQ. drinks with entertainment (bush poet).

11 Mar – Barraba - Succession Planning Workshop 9-4pm FREE for members Ph Robyn 68848822

12 Mar – Tenterfield - Soil, Health and Carbon Day Ph. Kylie on 67323443

13 Mar – Glen Innes - Soil, Health and Carbon Day Ph. Kylie on 67323443

21 Mar – Inverell - Climate Change Forum and Expo Ph 67211241

For more information contact Region 2 Service Manager Gennie Gittoes on [0429180560](tel:0429180560).

Region 3 – Central and Northwest

5 Mar – Baradine – AGM branch meeting – 7.30pm sharp Contact Linda 6843 1114

5/6/7 Mar – Dubbo – NSW Beef Spectacular - Dubbo Showground - Contact Land 6882 4364

7/8 Mar - Coonabarabran – Working Dogs Show – Coon/bran Showground

8/9 Mar- Borenore – ANFD site – Garden Expo

12 Mar – Nyngan – Stipa/ Water Supply Training- Free members, \$75 non-mem’, Contact Angela 6845 1044

17 Mar – Online – Chemical Card – 1.00-4.00pm Contact Robyn 6884 8822

28 Mar – Warren – Saltbush Establishment & Management – Merryanbone North- Members free, 6845 1044

For more information contact Region 3 Service Manager Rick Bremmner on 0427 773 495

Region 6 – Central West Tablelands

2 March EC Dinner for members at EC meeting Contact Wayne Dunford for Reservations

5,6,7 March Beef Expo Visit us on site

8, 9 March Garden and Hort expo at Orange Field day site

27 March Chemical Card at Blayney

For more information on Region 6 meetings contact Graham Blatch on 0427 411 220

Region 7 – Sydney Basin

3 March – Cobbitty, Camden Horticulture Branch Meeting, PH: Glenn Fahey 0408 426 061

4 March – Vineyard, Hawkesbury Horticulture Branch Meeting, PH: Joe Danastasi 0418 210 547

6 March – Cooranbong, Watagan AGM, PH: Mandy Allen 49 773 252

25 March – Maitland, Chemical Card Training PH: 6884 8822

For more information on Region 7 events contact Regional Services Manager Frances Vella on 0428 228 818

Region 8 – Lower Central West and Slopes

6 March – Wildlife on Farms Seminar – Cowra Bowling Club from 9.00am till 4.00PM – contact Geoff Knight on 0427 773 581

9 April – Climate Change, Carbon Farming and Trading Conference at Yass Soldiers Club from 8.30am till 4.30pm – contact Geoff Knight on 0427 773 581

For more information on Region 8 Events call Geoff Knight 0427 773 581

Region 9 – Southern Murrumbidgee

4 March Murrumbidgee Irrigation Meeting on Water Conversion 2pm Gemini Hotel

10 March Hillston Chem Card Course Contact Robyn on 68848822

17 March Corowa Chem Card Course Contact Robyn on 68848822

31 March Griffith Chem Card Course Contact Robyn on 68848822

14 March Hay RLPB FFG Contact 69931403 for details.

For more information on any events in Region 9 contact Ben Poynter on 6962 9926

Region 10 - Southern Central

6 March – Holbrook – Holbrook Branch Preseason meeting, Holbrook RSL, 9am, RSVP Janet 0427 259 004

12 March –Coolamon – Grower GRDC Update, RSVP Farmlink - (02) 6924 4633

For information on any events in Region 10 contact RSM Deb Charlton on 6922 9297.

Region 12 – Western Division

5 March Menindee Branch Meeting (Contact Dougall Roberts For more Information)

6 March Wentworth Branch Meeting. Guest Speaker Louise Burge (Contact Dougall Roberts For more Information)

10 April Region 12 Convention at Homebush. "Western Division Globally Focused" with a range of guest speakers. (Contact Dougall Roberts For more Information)

For information on any events in Region 12 contact Dougall Roberts on 0428 411 221

Region 13 – North Coast

3 Mar- Dairy BJD information workshop, The Risk Hall, Kyogle, 10.30am start

4 Mar- North Coast Flood Information meeting, Maclean, 10.00am start.

4 Mar- Macksville, joint North Coast DC and Nambucca River branch meeting, Macksville Ex Serviceman's Club, 7.30pm start

5 Mar- Coffs Harbour branch AGM & Meeting, Nana Glen Hall, 7.30pm start

5 Mar- Dairy BJD information workshop, Hilltop Hotel, Goonellabah, Lismore, 10.30am start

5 Mar- Dairy BJD information workshop, Wauchope Country Club, 10.00am start

5 Mar- Dairy BJD information workshop, Hotel Kempsey, 1pm start

6 Mar- Far North Coast District Council meeting, Casino RSM Club, 7.30pm start

6 Mar- Dairy BJD Information workshop, Casino RSM Club, 10.30am start

11 Mar- Coraki Paddock Plants workshop, Further information regarding the workshop please contact Richmond Landcare Services on (02) 66323722, 0429 320012 or 0428 270123

1 Apr- Casino branch meeting, Casino RSM Club, 7.30pm start

4 April- Region 13 convention, Coffs Harbour, 8.30am to 5.00pm followed by dinner. More details to come.

For information on any events in Region 13 contact Michael Burt on 0428 228 988