



**SOUTHERN REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP AREA incorporating the District Councils of
ALBURY, BEGA, BOMBALA, COOMA, HENTY, HOLBROOK, GUNDAGAI and MOLONGLO**

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Motions that are to be debated have been issued to all Members. If you would like to discuss these motions with representatives from your District Council who will be attending and voting on your behalf, the following Members have registered as Delegates. Please feel free to contact them or give me a call if you need their details:

Delegates

Executive Councillors	Sam Archer (Board Member), Bill McDonnell, Rod Hatty, Peter Roberson, Ian Cargill, Mark Horan, Sue Haslingden, Alix Turner
Bega DC	Noel Watson
Bombala DC	John Rumph, Damian Murphy
Cooma DC	Craig Mitchell, Ian McGufficke, Geoff Litchfield, Michael Green, Howard Charles
Molonglo DC	Russell Deane, Howard Crozier, Matt Crozier, Tony De Salis, Vern Drew, Brett Falkiner
Gundagai DC	Kevin Malone, Ken Skinner, Nick Keatinge, Ian Horsley
Holbrook DC	No Delegates
Henty DC	Peter Campbell
Albury DC	No Delegates

“COUNTRY IN THE CITY” 18-35’s Cocktail Party

The NSW Farmers' Association's Young Farmer Council invites you to attend "Country in the City" a cocktail/networking event in Sydney on Tuesday 20 July 2010. This event is open to young people aged between 18-35 who are working in, or have an interest in the agricultural sector. This event will enable young professionals who have moved from country areas to the city to meet with young farmers in a relaxed atmosphere that facilitates networking and provides professional development opportunities. As part of the one ticket, guests are also invited to attend the NSW Farmers' Association Regional Food Fair afterwards which showcases superior regionally-grown produce. Attendees at the Regional Food Fair meet and mingle with farmers, producers and food-lovers in a social setting where exceptional produce is recreated into gourmet dishes. **PLACES ARE LIMITED SO BOOK NOW!!!! BOOKINGS CLOSE 12 July 2010!!!!** Tuesday 20 July 2010, 5pm-9pm, 1822 Bar, Southee Complex, Sydney Olympic Park, \$20. Please contact the NSW Farmers Association on 1300 794 000 for more information or to make a booking.

POLICY INFORMATION

Conversions of Crown roads to freehold

The Association has been successful in obtaining an extension of the current concessional arrangements for Crown road conversions, including the maintenance of the concessional rent scheme for a further year. The announcement, made on 28 June 2010, by the Minister for Lands, the Hon. Tony Kelly MLC, followed lobbying from the Association. The continuation of the concessional arrangements provides the opportunity for those who have not already lodged their application to consider their options without the added pressure of dealing with the drought. The Association also raised concerns regarding the lengthy delays many landholders are experiencing with their conversion applications, with some Members having submitted applications a number of years ago. The Association has requested that the department investigate ways to speed up the process.

Local Environmental Plans

The CRM Committee has updated the Association's briefing note on Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) to include a suggested checklist for Members who are reviewing their draft LEPs. All Local Governments in NSW are in the process of developing their LEPs. Members should be alert to the potential for environmental zonings created under the new LEPs to restrict current and future land use. New LEPs may also affect controls on subdivision. The Association encourages all Members to review this important briefing note, and in particular the Association's recommended actions. The briefing note is available by following the links to 'Local Environmental Plans' from the 'Hot Issues' menu on the Association's homepage at www.nswfarmers.org.au.

Have a look on our website for updated information on:

- Drosophila suzukii fruit fly risk
- Spencer v The Commonwealth
- National Grains Australia
- Dairy Farm Audits



Drought

- **Exceptional Circumstances Areas Announced**

On 29 June 2010 the Federal Government announced that the Exceptional Circumstances applications for the Eurobodalla region had been approved. The areas identified however did not include the buffer zone around the northern part of the Eurobodalla application, located within the Shoalhaven LGA. If you would like further information about assistance available please call me.

- **NSW Drought Support Extended**

The NSW Government announced an extension to the NSW drought support measures on 24 June 2010. The measures include payroll tax relief for 2010/11, 75% waiver on Western lands rents and the extension for 3 months of the 50% drought transport subsidy. Importantly funding for Drought Support Workers will be extended for 12 months rather than the normal 6 months.

OF INTEREST

Funding Available

Community Action Grants are now open for projects between \$5 000 and \$20 000. The grants are targeted towards established community based organisations which have sustainable farming or protecting and enhancing the natural environment as their principal objective. Examples of eligible projects include those that aim to:

- "reduce the impact of invasive species, particularly rabbits, feral pigs and wild dogs, and Weeds of National Significance" (serrated tussock)
- "increase the uptake of sustainable farm and land management practices"
- "increase the number of farmers adopting activities that contribute to ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity"

For more information on Caring for Our Country Community Action Grants please visit: www.nrm.gov.au. Applications close Tuesday 31 August 2010.

Mulloon Creek Natural Farms – The Fundamentals of Soil

Monday 2nd August 2010, 8.30am to 5.00pm (near Bungendore)

This one day course taught by Dr. Christine Jones and Colin Seis will teach the fundamental mechanisms of how crops and pastures get nutrition from soil, how nutrients can be unlocked from soil and how more water can be stored in soil to reduce the effects of drought. The day will also provide an overview of how farming practices like pasture-cropping, grazing management and shelter belts can harness these mechanisms.

Fees (FarmReady Approved) \$330.00 per person, inc.GST, \$220.00 per person, inc.GST for additional attendees (family/colleague) *Bookings - Contact Donna* Phone: 0413 535 957 Email:

donna@mullooncreeknaturalfarms.com *Course information – Contact Sue* Phone - 0419 546 079

Email - sue@themullooninstitute.org. Or call me (Liz) - I have a detailed 2 page flyer/program I can send if you would like further information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

12th Aug 2010 Chemical Card Course Initial & Refresher – Online

16th Aug 2010 Chemical Card Course Initial & Refresher – Nowra

For more information, phone our Member Service Centre on 1300 794 000.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further information on issues or events in the Southern area.

Contact Us

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