

Media Release

17 April 2008
PR/069/08



Farm Day fun for all

The NSW Farmers' Association is encouraging farmers to play host for a day to spread understanding, education and enthusiasm about farming around our cities.

NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie says people who are willing to participate in Farm Day 2008 over the weekend of 24 – 25 May can create more than just friendship.

“One of the things the agricultural sector constantly struggles against is misconceptions, myths and legends about what we do,” Mr Laurie said.

“By becoming part of Farm Day, you will host a city family for a day of real hands-on experiences and a greater understanding of the day-to-day life of the farming family, which is very positive for all involved,” he said.

Farm Day aims to foster a greater understanding of farming among urban families and began in Victoria in 2006. In 2007 more than 200 families took part nationwide, including a large number from NSW.

Mr Laurie says the experience provides a chance for urban families to see how the modern farmer operates.

“The innovation, creativity and commitment that goes into managing farms and their associated business needs as well as the environment really has to be seen to be believed,” Mr Laurie said.

“By encouraging city families to see it all, little by little we can counter negative or old fashioned ideas about life on the land,” he said.

“It is a really simple, wonderfully effective concept, and organiser Deb Bain must be congratulated. The NSW Farmers' Association is very happy to be involved in supporting this initiative,” Mr Laurie concluded.

The host farm and their guests will be personally matched together based on criteria such as distance they are willing to travel, ages of children and special interests. To learn more, or to sign-up for Farm Day 08, farmers should visit the official Farm Day website at www.farmday.com.au or call 1300 367 036.

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