

online newsletter



02.12.08

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Hail and Wind Damage

Following recent adverse weather across the Central West part of NSW, during the week the Association worked closely with the NSW Department of Primary Industries to determine the level of damage incurred to horticulture enterprises. Hail damage occurred in the Orange region to lower parts of the district while snow fell in areas above 950m.

A natural disaster relief application has been submitted to the NSW Government to assist affected producers to access funding through the natural disaster relief scheme. The Association is seeking the timely consideration of the application by the NSW Government.

Opal Mining Tour

The Western Division Council hosted an Opal Mining Tour on 25 November 2008. The tour included the Director General of Department of Primary Industries, Dr Richard Sheldrake, DPI Advisors, and Association representatives.

The tour visited OPA 3 near Lightning Ridge to view a range of issues, primarily covering enforcement, access, public liability insurance, rehabilitation and natural resource management issues. The Association will develop a list of issues and proposed outcomes to submit to the Director General to further progress matters surrounding Opal Mining.

Boost your future

The Association is encouraging tertiary students to apply for the 2009 Tertiary Education Scholarships Program, with applications for the scholarships opening this week. The scholarship program, which is now in its 16th year, is a wonderful opportunity for students from rural and regional areas to boost their education and further their careers.

To read more click [here](#).

Grain merger must benefit growers

The NSW Farmers' Association notes the disclosure of merger talks between two of Australia's major grain traders, AWB Ltd and ABB Grain Ltd.

Association Grains Committee Chair Richard Clark said a merger would create one of the country's largest integrated grain companies, managing grain from the farm gate to domestic and export end users.

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To read more click [here](#).

On the wireless

Primary Report is the NSW Farmers' Association's weekly radio program that has been broadcast, under various names, for over 50 years and is the longest running produced radio program in Australia. It is produced in-house by the Association and, while it is an opportunity to let farmers and rural communities know what the Association is doing, the program also discusses everything in terms of what issues mean to the average farmer and how they might be impacted.

On this week's edition:

- Executive Councilor Reg Kidd – Sale of Hurlstone Agricultural High School
- Business, Economics and Trade Chair Susan McLeish – Rex cuts flights to regional NSW
- Bureau of Meteorology's Dr Perry Wile - Summer weather forecast

To hear the current edition of Primary Report click [here](#).

On the web

For regular updates by NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie on the issues important to farmers, visit Jock's online blog at www.blognow.com.au/jocklaurie

In the news

To view the October edition of Farm Post click [here](#). Edition 29 is due out in early December.

Regional events

Region 1 North West Alicia Harrison

- 26 November 3pm onwards @ "Keytah", Moree: **Innovation in Irrigation field day**. Contact Michael Murray (02) 6752 1399
- 26 November 10am – 2pm @ Warialda Golf & Bowling Club: **Workplace Safety Essentials OHS Workshop**. Contact Mark Chillingworth ph. 0458 226 388. Free
- 27 November 9am – 3pm @ Walgett: **Rural Women's Gathering**. Tickets will be available soon from the Walgett Tourist Information Centre
- 28 November 6pm onwards @ Ashford Showground: **Christmas Family BBQ**. Contact Andrew Baker (02) 6725 4085 or Karen Brunt (02) 6725 8740. Free (BYO, and ladies please bring a salad)

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Region 2 New England Gennie Gittoes

Region 3 Central and North West Rick Bremner

Region 4 Lower New England and Liverpool Plains Darren Greentree

Region 5 Central West Hannah Williams

Region 6 Central West Tablelands Graham Blatch

Region 7 Sydney Basin, Lower Hunter & Port Stephens Frances Vella

Region 8 Lower Central Western Slopes Liz Young

- 3&4 December 8.45-3pm @ Glen Innes: **Shaping Our Futures Together (SOFT) course for women**. Limited places. Mary Hollingworth (02) 67325264. Free.
- 5 December 10am-2pm @ Walcha Sports Club (Hamilton St): **“Walcha Womens Secret Business”** networking with other women and enjoy health and wellbeing programs. RSVP Bronny Hodgson on (02) 67661394. Free including lunch.
- Late Nov/Early Dec (TBA) 8 half day workshops held throughout the year to cover all seasonal variations @ Guyra area: **Prograze workshops**. Contact Matt McKiernan (02) 6730 1941 or 0400 351 866. Cost Normally \$500 but with CMA funding only \$160/business.
- 21 November 6.30pm @ Comobella: **Rural Family Support evening**. Contact Pip Brown NSW DPI 0429 396 697.
- 25 November 9am-3pm @ Warren Sports Centre: **Warren Rural Women’s Day**. Contact Pip Brown NSW DPI 0429 396 697.
- For more information on events in Region 4 contact Regional Service Manager Darren Greentree on 0427 411 214
- 17 December Wednesday 6:00pm @ Central West Livestock Exchange: **Farm Family Gathering**. Enquires to Elly Tom on (02) 68631108. Free.
- 20 December Saturday @ Vermont Hill: **Farm Family Gathering**. Enquiries to Pat Hurley on (02) 6896 2219. Free.
- 21 December Sunday @ Euabalong West. **Farm Family Gathering**. Enquiries to Jean Coles on (02) 6895 2688. Free.
- 16 December 7.00 pm @ Robin Hood Hotel: **Christmas Meeting**. Contact Reg Kidd or Graham Blatch.
- 27 December 7.00pm @ Beresfield bowling club: **Newcastle/Hunter branch meeting**. Contact Peter Cashman 0428 882178 or Gary Ekert 0428 689656.
- 2 December 10.00am @ Fort Dodge, Baulkham Hills: **NSW Chicken Meat Council meeting**. Contact Lorraine Wilson 0417 451764.
- 5 December 7.30pm @ Blacktown Workers club: **Red Lea Chicken growers meeting**. Contact Peter Cashman 0428 882178
- 9 December 12.00pm @ NSWFA Head Office: **Contract Poultry Group Meeting**. Contact Peter Cashman 0428 882178
- 11 December Thursday 7pm for 7.30 @ Murrumbateman Inn: **Yass District Council Christmas Meeting**. Guest speaker Fiona Leech (DPI). RSVP 8 December Alison Nicholls (02) 48451265. Cost \$20 Members/\$35 non-Members.

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**Region 9 Southern
Murrumbidgee**

Ben Poynter

- 2 December Tuesday 7.30pm @ Blighty Hotel: **NSWFA Blighty Branch Meeting**. Contact Peter Middlebrook 0428959273. Free.
- 5 December Friday 1.30pm @ O'Donnells Restaurant: **NSWFA Office Christmas Party**. Contact Ben Poynter 0427773584. TBD Invitation Only
- 9 December Tuesday 9.30- 4.30pm @ Griffith Exies Club: **Community Economic Development Workshop**. Contact Lani Houston (02) 69645540
- 11 December Thursday @ Corowa: **Sam Bailey FFG**. Contact Don Burrowes (02) 60334245. Free. Bookings Essential.
- 15 December Monday 6.30pm @ Gunbar Hall: **Farm Family Gathering and BBQ**. Contact Stephen (02) 69652311. Free. Bring a chair or Blanket. RSVP Required
- 16 December Tuesday 6.30pm @ Warrawidgee Hall: **NSWFA Griffith Branch Farm Family Gathering & BBQ**. Contact Lou Revelant DPI 0419601313. Free. Bring a chair or Blanket. RSVP Required
- 12 February Thursday 8.30am - 4pm @ Griffith Coro Club: **Carbon Trading Workshop**. Contact DPI (02) 69601300. Cost \$10.

**Region 10
Southern Central**

Liz Young

- For more information on events in Region 10 contact Regional Team Manager Liz Young 0428 411 218

**Region 11 Southern
Tablelands, Monaro
and South Coast**

Liz Young

- 10 December Wednesday 9.30am to 2.30pm @ Marulan Community Hall, Marulan: **Feel and Look Fabulous Day**. A day to re-charge in the company of like-minded women, Step out with confidence - invigorate your self-esteem with our colour & style consultant, motivate yourself through setting some realistic life goals and discuss women's health matters. Free includes lunch.

**Region 12
Western Division**

Dougall Roberts

- For more information on events in Region 12 contact Regional Service Manager Dougall Roberts 0428 411 221

Region 13
North Coast
Michael Burt

- 2 December Tuesday, 6.30pm @ Macksville Chinese Restaurant: **Nambucca River branch annual Christmas Dinner**. Contact Geoff Gough (02) 6569 1382.
- 2 December Tuesday, 7.30pm @ Casino RSM Club: **Casino branch meeting**. Contact John Seccombe (02) 6663 3127.
- 3 December Wednesday, 7.30pm @ Lismore Workers Club: **Lismore/Alstonville Christmas Dinner**. Contact Kath Robb (02) 6628 1110.
- 4 December Thursday, 7.00pm @ Bonalbo Bowling Club: **Tabulam branch Christmas dinner**. Contact Marilyn Grundy (02) 6665 3290.
- 8 December Monday, 7.00pm @ Coffs Harbour Catholic Club: **Coffs Harbour branch Christmas Dinner**. Contact Michael Burt (02) 6564 2355.
- 12 December Friday, 7.30pm @ Exchange Hotel: **Kyogle branch Christmas dinner**. Contact Russell Bonney (02) 6636 6100.
- 13 December Saturday, 7.00pm @ Venue TBA: **Maclaey Valley branch Christmas dinner**. Contact Susan Ramke.
- 15 December Monday, 7.00pm @ Wingham Golf Club: **Wingham branch Christmas Dinner, Association CEO Shaughn Morgan as guest**. Contact Deborah Willis (02) 6556 7216

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