

**AUGUST 2010**

Dear Member

Welcome to your August Western Division Update. Rains continue to fall across our region and I can report a good body of feed and some very healthy looking crops throughout the Western Division. It is great to see and Spring looks like shaping up to be one of the best we have had for some time.

## MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN SURVEY

**The NSW Farmers' Association is committed to working with Government on water reforms that embrace triple bottom line sustainability principles.**

However, the Association is greatly concerned that the Murray Darling Basin Authority's approach to developing the Murray Darling Basin Plan does not embrace these principles.

The Association needs your help to better understand the potential impacts of the Murray Darling Basin Plan on farmers and rural communities.

You can help us by completing a

short survey, which should take you **no more than 10 minutes to complete.**

The survey can be found online at:

[www.nswfarmers.org.au/surveys/mdb](http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/surveys/mdb).

If you don't have access to the internet please give me a call and I will fax one to you.

I urge you to complete the survey to allow the Association to develop a response that reflects the needs of your region.

## 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE: THE VALUE OF AGRICULTURE

**A change to the Program saw this year's NSW Farmers' Annual Conference being one of the most successful to date.**

Annual Conference is where Members set the Policy direction of the Association for the coming year.

This year the Board undertook to see that all motions submitted and accepted by the Agenda Committee were debated at Annual Conference. Several changes to how the Annual Conference procedure of debating motions were instigated with great success

The changes meant that all 185

motions, including the AGM motions were debated by Delegates over the 3 days.

A big thank you to our Western Division Delegates who attended this year's Annual Conference.

Delegates play an important role in representing your Region by ensuring there is a 'voice at the table'. This year's Delegates participated in a number of debates and took advantage of a number of the Departmental and Business Partner sites at Conference.

Further details of the 2010 Annual Conference can be found in the upcoming edition of *The Farm Post*.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **NYMAGEE BRANCH'S WATER SYMPOSIUM**  
*Wed 25 August @ 9.00am*
- ◆ **WENTWORTH SHOW**  
*Sat 28 & Sun 29 August*  
*The LHPA will also give locust updates at various times at the Exhibitors site*
- ◆ **CHEMICAL CARD REFRESHER — ONLINE COURSE**  
*Tues 31 August*
- ◆ **HERMIDALE LOCUST UPDATE**  
*Tues 31 August @ 12.30pm*
- ◆ **BALRANALD BRANCH MEETING, LOCUST UPDATE & 'MATE HELPING MATE' EVENING**  
*Wed 1 September @ 3.00pm*
- ◆ **CHEMICAL CARD INITIAL & RE-FRESHER COURSE, BALRANALD**  
*Friday 3 September @ 8.30am*
- ◆ **WALGETT LOCUST UPDATE**  
*Wed 8 September @ 10.30am*
- ◆ **FREE FARM GAS CALCULATOR WORKSHOP WITH MICK KEOGH, WALGETT**  
*Thurs 16 September @ 1.00pm*
- ◆ **DUST OFF DROUGHT WOMEN'S FORUM, DUBBO**  
*Thurs 16 September @ 9.30am*
- ◆ **BROKEN HILL SHOW**  
*Thurs 16—Sun 19 September*
- ◆ **HENTY MACHINERY FIELD DAYS**  
*Tues 21—Thur 23 September*
- ◆ **AUST. RANGELAND SOCIETY CONFERENCE, BOURKE**  
*Sun 26—Thurs 30 September*
- ◆ **KILFERA FIELD DAY, IVANHOE**  
*Wed 29 September*
- ◆ **WENTWORTH RURAL WOMEN'S GATHERING**  
*Fri 29—Sun 31 October*

## PROPERTY RIGHTS—FOUR KEY AREAS

**NSW Farmers' Association President Charles Armstrong says the property rights of farmers are critical to ensure food security for all Australians.**

"Property owners need just terms compensation, where the cost of community benefit has been transferred to them," Mr Armstrong said.

The Association has identified four key areas in regarding the property rights of farmers: Just Terms Compensation; Native Vegetation; the Murray-Darling Basin Plan; and, Mining.

The continuation of farming as a vital part of the Australian economy and production of safe food and fibre for all Australian families is paramount to the NSW Farmers' Association.

Your Association will continue to lobby Government on these issues and if you have any queries please contact me on 02 6756 2459 or [kellym@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:kellym@nswfarmers.org.au)

## WILD DOGS — DARLING & WESTERN LHPA DISTRICTS

**The Wild Dog Destruction Board (WDDDB) and LHPA is promoting wild dog baiting programs in a three way partnership with graziers in the Darling and Western LHPA Districts.**

It is expected that with an increase in rain and good seasons to follow, combined with sustained flood damage to parts of the dog fence, wild dog numbers could increase. The WDDDB rectified the damage as soon as possible and undertook continual aerial and ground baiting programs to reduce the risk of wild dog incursions from outside the fence.

Ideally, wild dog baiting should be undertaken twice yearly around April/May and again in September/October. Dog baits are twice the strength of fox baits and therefore will kill both foxes and wild dogs.

The WDDDB and LHPA are urging you to participate in a combined program for Spring 2010. Meat baits can be supplied at cost or alternatively, grazer supplied meat can be injected with 1080 free of charge.

**For further assistance please contact your local LHPA Ranger.**

## LOCUSTS—VIGILANCE IS THE KEY

**We are all aware that the upcoming spring may bring with it large hatchings of plague locusts. It is therefore essential to report hatchings to your local LHPA Office as soon as possible.**

Locust information sessions have been scheduled across the State with a number coinciding with local Branch Meetings. You are urged to attend one of these meetings so that you may have your questions answered.

Dates for local Locust Information sessions are listed on the Association's website:

<http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/events>

The NSW Farmers' Association is actively working to counteract the expected outbreak and has established a network of farmer across the State to provide on-ground reports on the season and feedback to the Association on any issues as they arise.

Situation reports, together with links to information on withholding periods for livestock and cereal can be found on the Association's website at: <http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/locusts>.

## MEMBER BENEFITS UPDATE

**Long time Business Sponsor of NSW Farmers' Association, WFI, has developed Early Bird Crop Online providing farmers with an alternative way to manage their crop insurance policies.**

The site is free and simple to use and is available to renewing Early Bird Crop Policy Holders from the Winter 2009 season.

Once registered, Policy Holders can access their Early Bird Crop Insurance Information whenever they choose.

WFI are currently offering people taking out new Early Bird Crop Insurance Policies the opportunity to win one of four prize packages for an Australian holiday to 'discover your own backyard'. IF you are already insured with WFI have your crop declaration in by 15 September 2010 for your chance to win.

WFI offers a range of Insurance Packages for Farms and Business and provide a personalised service with Area Managers visiting your home to save you the hassle of heading into town during your busy times.

Details about WFI, and the range of Member Benefits and Services can be found at:

[http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/benefits\\_services](http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/benefits_services)

## NSW FARMERS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

### Current Membership Specials

**To coincide with the 2010 Field Day season, the Association is offering current Members who refer a new Member, an extra 3 months added to their Membership when they renew at no extra cost.**

With each new Member the Association's lobbying power grows and we are asking you to help us in encouraging other farmers to join the Association.

In addition, new Members who sign up during this period will not have to pay until January 2011.

This Membership offer runs until Friday 19 November 2010.

### Young Farmers for 18-35 Yr Olds

**The number of Young Farmer Members continues to increase in the Association.**

Anyone qualifying in the Young Farmers category receive their first 12 months of Membership for free, followed by a 50% discount in their second year and then full cost of Membership after that.

Young Farmers have their own Committee and hold a number of events throughout the year.

The Association also has a register of Full Producer Members who will take on young people wishing to undertake work experience.

*Do you have an event that you would like listed in the September Edition of the Western Division Update? Please let me know.*

*If you would like any further information about anything that has appeared in this newsletter or have an issue you would like assistance with please don't hesitate to contact me on 02 6756 2459 or email :*

[kellym@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:kellym@nswfarmers.org.au)

### Contact Us

**Michelle Kelly**  
**Regional Membership Coordinator**  
**Western Division**  
 PO Box 150, WALGETT 2832  
 T 02 6756 2459 M 0428 411 221  
 F 02 6756 2503  
 E [kellym@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:kellym@nswfarmers.org.au)

### Member Service Centre

Level 25 66 Goulburn St Sydney NSW 2000  
 PO Box 1068 Sydney NSW 2000  
 T 1300 794 000  
 F (02) 8251 1750  
 E [emailus@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:emailus@nswfarmers.org.au)  
[www.nswfarmers.org.au](http://www.nswfarmers.org.au)

If you no longer wish to be on our mailing list simply [click here](#) to unsubscribe...

If you are having difficulty unsubscribing from this page please email us on [mcs@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:mcs@nswfarmers.org.au) and we will remove you from our lists.