

Online Newsletter

26 February 2008



Member Service Centre 1300 794 000

online@nswfarmers.org.au

Executive Council March 2008

The NSW Farmers' Association March Executive Council (EC) will be held in Parkes, following a motion from the last EC.

The return to a country EC meeting will see over 80 farmers from around NSW descend on the town on March 4 & 5 to discuss current issues and decide the way forward for Association policy.

Attendees to the EC dinner on the Tuesday night will hear from Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy, Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate.

Wheat Meetings – we want you there!

The NSW Farmers' Association is urging all grain growers in and around the Young, Narrandera, Parkes and Narrabri areas to attend meetings this Thursday and Friday which aim to inform Members and farmers about the proposed changes to Wheat Export Marketing.

Chaired by NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie, the meeting will also hear from NSW Farmers' Association Grains Committee Chair John Ridley and Chairman of the Wheat Export Marketing Alliance, Graham Blight.

Given the urgency for decisions about the upcoming harvest the Association is aiming to ensure growers have all the information they need. For full details, [click here](#).

Use broadband guarantee

The NSW Farmers' Association is reminding farmers that all people in NSW have access to metro-comparable broadband internet, either via a commercial provider or via a subsidy under the Australian Broadband Guarantee (ABG).

Many people in NSW are not taking up the opportunities available under the 'ABG', which was set up last year by the Federal Government so that all rural and regional residents can access broadband services including wireless and satellite from a range of potential providers.

Many regions now have a choice of Internet Service Providers (ISP's), and farmers should seek to gain information on the ISP's in their area and the plans that they offer before signing on to a new contract.

Farmers can get information regarding broadband internet options at www.nswfarmers.org.au.

Climate change announcement welcome

The NSW Farmers' Association welcomes NSW Minister Ian Macdonald's release of the discussion paper *Climate Change Research Priorities for NSW Primary Industries*, and the establishment of the office of Rural Greenhouse Gas Studies within the DPI's Innovation Centre.

The paper identifies three key areas where further research is needed: climate modelling, mitigation and adaptation. The Association has long been calling for better climate modelling and practical tools for predicting and managing climate risk for individual farm enterprises.

Farmers have a proud history of rapid adaptation to new conditions and can contribute significantly to Australia's national climate change effort if the policy settings are right. For more information, [head here](#).

Break the 'female drought' in the bush - take the plunge!

While Sydney is facing a 'man drought', it seems rural NSW has a 'female drought' and farmers now have an opportunity to do something about it.

NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie has put out the call to single young farmers across NSW to apply for a spot on the hit TV show, *The Farmer wants a Wife*.

Freemantle Media are searching nationally for real farmers aged between 25 and 45, who are looking to meet their one true love. Bachelors must be working farmers.

The Farmer wants a Wife begins production in April and will air on the Nine Network later this year.

Interested men should drop an email with an introduction to Nicola@mcgregorcasting.com or call McGregor Casting on 02 9557 2844.

Upcoming Region Specific Meetings & Events

Region 1 – North West

28 February - Delungra – 7.30pm, Delungra Bowling Club – Inverell DC meeting
29 February - Narrabri – 10am – 12.30pm, Narrabri Bowling Club – Regional Elected's meeting followed by lunch with Namoi CMA Board representatives (all DC and Branch office bearers from across the region are welcome and encouraged to attend)
29 February - Narrabri – 2pm, Narrabri Bowling Club – Narrabri DC meeting
29 February - Narrabri – 3pm, Narrabri Bowling Club – Wheat Export Marketing Meeting, to be chaired by Jock Laurie. Contact the Member Service Centre to RSVP on 1300 794 000
7 March, Moree – FREE Financial Skills workshops

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

Region 2 – New England

1 & 8 March – Armidale – UNE Chemical Card Accreditation
5 March – Armidale - UNE Careers Evening 6pm Wright lecture Theatre followed by BBQ and drinks venue TBA
6 March – Bundarra - Farm Family Gathering and Information ("Make More Money From your Mgt Decisions") 2pm onwards at the Bundarra Sports and Rec Club. Speakers Claire Edwards, District Agronomist, Alistair Rainer, Beef Officer, Michael Lolbeck followed by a FREE family BBQ, drinks with entertainment (bush poet).
12 March – Tenterfield - Soil, Health and Carbon Day Ph. Kylie on 67323443
13 March – Glen Innes - Soil, Health and Carbon Day Ph. Kylie on 67323443
21 March – Inverell - Climate Change Forum and Expo Ph 67211241

Region 3 – Central and Northwest

26 February – Trangie – GRDC Update – 8.30am to 4.00pm – costs \$35 pp, \$30 add. Person/ farm Contact John 9482 4930
26/27 February – Trangie Research – Stipa- Advanced Pasture Cropping. Contact Angela 6845 1044
27 February – Dubbo- GRDC Advisor (+Growers) Update- 9.30am rego- Two days \$235, Wed \$145, dinner \$60, Early Bird Available - Contact Erica 9482 4930
28 February – Dubbo – GRDC Advisor (+Growers) Update- 8.30am start- \$145 details as for 27 Feb
29 February – Parkes – Wheat Export Marketing 8.30-10.30 Services & Citizens Club Short Street
29 February – Coonamble – GRDC Update (Growers) – 8.30 to 3.45pm – costs \$35 pp, \$30 add. Person/ farm Contact John 9482 4930
5/6/7 March – Dubbo – Beef Spectacular
7/8 March – Coonabarabran – Working Dogs Show

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

Region 4 – Lower New England & Liverpool Plains

28 February – Tamworth - Suicide Safety Network Meeting 10am to 12pm at Centacare offices. Contact Darren Greentree on 0427 411 214 or greentreed@nswfarmers.org.au
28 February – Tamworth - Egg Producer Seminar, 28th February, 7pm @ Tamworth Towers

For more information contact Darren Greentree on 0427 411 214 or greentreed@nswfarmers.org.au

Region 6 – Central West Tablelands

27 February - Wellington - DC Meeting
16 March - Rural Community Family Day at Orange Botanic Gardens. Free Buses from Grenfell, Forbes, Eugowra, Cowra, Canowindra, Wellington, Cumnock, Condobolin, Bogan Gate, and Parkes. All locals welcome. Contact 0427 411 220 to get booking information

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

Region 7 – Sydney Basin

27 February – Penrith, Egg Producer Seminar. RSVP Ms Sue Freeman - NSW DPI - 02 6391 3162
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
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

3 & 4 March – Parkes - Executive Council meeting
6 & 7 March – Dubbo - Beef Spectacular
7 March – Galong - International Women's day at St Clements Monastery. Ring Gabbi Cusac on 0427 011 782
13 March – Harden - South West Slopes RFS meeting
16 March – Orange - Farm Family Day sponsored by the Rural Services Network
25 March – Forbes - Sam Bailey Dinner and Inspirational talk – Forbes Inn. Tickets \$30. Ring 02 6851 9500
31 March – Orange - Vertebrate Pest Management Course at Orange Agricultural Institute – Forbes Road. Ring 02 6391 3800

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

Region 9 – Southern Murrumbidgee

28 February – Narrandera - Wheat Export Meeting 2pm – 4pm
27 February - Irrigation Water info Meeting, b 10am Griffith Ex Services Club

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

Region 10 - Southern Central

28-29 February – Wagga - Young Farmers Forum, farmers aged 18-35 to register contact 1300 794 000
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

29 February – Brewarrina - Branch Meeting. Contact Dougall Roberts For more Information.
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.
8 March – Broken Hill – St Pat's Races

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

Region 13 – North Coast

05 March - Coffs Harbour branch AGM & Meeting, Nana Glen Hall, 7.30pm start
06 March - Far North Coast District Council meeting, Casino RSM Club, 7.30pm start
11 March - Coraki Paddock Plants workshop, Further information regarding the workshop please contact Richmond Landcare Services on (02) 66323722, 0429 320012 or 0428 270123

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