

Contact us

MEMBER SERVICE CENTRE

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NSW FARMERS' ASSOCIATION STAFF

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Past Presidents meet

The NSW Farmers' Association this week hosted a meeting of past Association Presidents as part of our 30 Year Anniversary celebrations.

NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie joined with all bar 1 of the past Presidents to discuss industry issues and the future of agriculture.

This is the first time such a meeting has been held, and is part of commemorations of the amalgamations of various farming organisations to form the NSW Farmers' Association.

Drought

Drought figures for May showed a worsening in conditions, with 48.4% of the state now 'in drought' (up from 42.9% in February 2008), with a further 23.6% of the state considered 'marginal' (up considerably from 11.6% last month).

It should be noted that only 28% of the state is considered 'satisfactory' from a climate perspective, much less than the 45.4% reported last month.

Farmer of the Year Field Day

This Thursday is your chance to see the property that 2007 Farmer of the Year, Rob Sinnamon manages, Yulgilbar at Baryulgil.

The day, to be held at "The Broadwater Division", Yulgilbar Station, Baryulgil, will feature a range of information displays and speakers on Biosecurity, the Farmer of the Year initiative and current beef cattle research projects.

To come along please contact Rob and Lorraine Sinnamon, Yulgilbar Station, Baryulgil phone: 02 66472101, fax: 02 66472232 or email: yulgilbar@bigpond.com

Applications for the Farmer of the Year Awards will be available on the day, or you can find them at www.nswfarmers.org.au.

Mackellar extension

Journalists, and Members wishing to nominate journalists, now have until the end of the month to get their entries in for the Mackellar Media Awards.

The awards recognise excellence in rural journalism, and the Association is very keen for Members to nominate their own local heroes.

You will find the details at www.nswfarmers.org.au – the prizes are fantastic!

Forums!

Goat

Goat producers, or anyone interested in becoming one are welcome to come to a Goat Forum in Wangaratta at the end of May.

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The forum, being jointly run by the NSW Farmers' Association, Victorian Farmers' Federation and Meat & Livestock Australia is being held on Friday, 30 May between 9:30am and 4pm at the Quality Hotel Gateway, 29–37 Ryley Street, Wangaratta, Victoria. The cost of the forum is \$10 and lunch is provided. Registrations are essential and can be made by phoning the NSW Farmers' Association Member Services Centre on 1300 794 000.

Dairy

Dairy farmers are welcome at the 2008 Combined Annual Conference of the NSW Farmers' Association Dairy Committee, the NSW Dairy Industry Association (DIAA) and the Dairy Industry Development Company (DIDCO).

With a theme of "Results Through Relationships" this event will bring together dairy farmers, processors, suppliers and others from across the dairy industry, and is one of the premier events for the NSW dairy industry calendar, which includes the combined industry annual gala dinner and NSW DIAA Dairy Products Awards, the NSW Farmers' Association Dairy Committee Annual Meeting and the DIDCO Members Council.

Kicking off on 11 June with a golf day and welcome function, the joint conference will run over 2 days on 12 and 13 June.

To register please complete a registration form, which may be down loaded here www.diaa.asn.au. Alternatively contact the organisers: Aim Higher Marketing, Tel: 61 2 9680 9311 or email murrayt@aimhighermarketing.com.au

Region 11 Convention

Change – the Stone Age didn't end because we ran out of stone. This exciting convention will hear from NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie, Dr Wendy Craik, CEO Murray Darling Basin Commission, Professor Don Aitkin AO, author, political scientist and climate change agnostic and many others.

The Convention will be held on Friday 20 June 2008 at the National Press Club in Canberra. Early bookings are essential. Enquiries to Howard Crozier, Secretary, Ph 02 6238 1134 Fax 02 6238 0057 email: crozierh@nswfarmers.org.au, Russell Deane, Chairman, Ph 0427 900 592 or find the registration form here.

Training

Course	Location	Date
Chemical Card- Initial & Refresher Accreditation	Goondiwindi	30/05/2008
	Crookwell	30/05/2008
	Molong – funded	02/06/2008
	Cobar	04/06/2008
	Moree	06/06/2008
	Scone	10/06/2008
	Leeton	16/06/2008
	Boggabri	17/06/2008
	Tullamore - funded	19/06/2008
Chemical Card Refresher	Online 1pm – 4pm	11/06/2008
	Online 1pm – 4pm	30/06/2008
Farm Succession Planning	Tamworth	29/05/2008
Farm Safety Management	Lightning Ridge	05/06/2008

For bookings: please contact Robyn or Kathy on 02 6884 8822, or at

training@nswfarmers.org.au

Note: Please book at least 7 days in advance for Chemical Card and First Aid training to allow time for delivery of the home study materials.

Region 1 – North West

21 May - Inverell – Landmark Rural Information Day

For more information, contact Region1 Service Manager Alicia Wilson on 0427 437 103

Region 2 – New England

For more information, contact Region 2 Service Manager Gennie Gittoes on 0429180560.

Region 3 – Central and Northwest

17 May – Yeoval – Junior Farmer & Rural Youth Reunion Dinner 6.00 for 7.00pm.

Special guests John Britton, George Bennett, and George Campbell, \$30. Contact

Audrey Tremain 6887 8338

20 May – Tullamore – Intro to Grazing Management/ Stipa, \$75 non-members. Contact

Angela 6845 1044

21 May – Tottenham – Pasture Ident. & Management/ Stipa, \$75 non-members.

Contact Angela 6845 1044

27-28 May – Narromine – Mental Health First Aid – Narromine RSL 9.00am-4.00pm

Free. Contact Pip Brown 6881 1266

19 June – Tullamore – Chemical Card / Init 8.30am/Refresh 1.30pm Free Contact

Robyn 6884 8822

For more information, contact Region 3 Service Manager Rick Bremner on 0427 773 495.

Region 4 – Lower New England & Liverpool Plains

28 June – Quirindi - Region 4 Bush Ball – Guest speaker Peter Fitzsimons. Contact

Darren Greentree for more details

26 & 27 June – Tamworth – mental health first aid course. Centacare, Tamworth.

Contact 6762 1783

For more information, contact Region 4 Service Manager Darren Greentree on 0427 411 214

Region 5 – Central West Lachlan

For more information on events in Region 5, contact Regional Service Manager Hannah Williams on 0488 009 060

Region 6 – Central West Tablelands

23 May – Rylstone - meeting

2 May – Molong - Chemical Card Free

22 May – Young - Chemical Card Free

27 May – Wellington - Chemical Card Free

For more information, contact Region 6 Service Manager Graham Blatch on 0427 411 220.

Region 7 – Sydney Basin

21 May – Bilpin - Natural Disaster Relief Assistance Meeting, 1pm start PH: John Galbraith 02 4567 1143

30 May – Richmond - Sydney Field Vegetable Demonstration Farm Official Opening by Minister Ian Macdonald, 10.30am – 2.30pm, free lunch and refreshments, University of Western Sydney-H, Southee Road. Variety comparison demos of zucchini, cauliflower,

broccoli, head & fancy lettuce, and Asian leafy Brassica's. Featuring irrigation best practices, crop monitoring and live machinery demos. PH: DPI's Leigh James 0412 429 418 or Bill Yiasoumi 4588 2107

2 June – Cobbitty - Camden Horticultural Branch AGM, 6.30 for 7pm start, Plant Breeding Institute, University of Sydney. PH: Glenn Fahey 0408 426 061

4 June – Bilpin - Fruit Bowl, Bilpin Horticultural Branch AGM followed by Biosecurity workshop,

1pm start PH: John Galbraith 02 4567 1143

10 June – Vineyard, Horticultural Branch AGM, 6.30 for 7pm start PH: Joe Danastasi 0418 210 547

For more information on Region 7 events contact Regional Services Manager Frances Vella on 0428 228 818

Region 9 – Southern Murrumbidgee

16 – 17 May –Yanco Field Days (Murrumbidgee Farm Fair).

For more information on Region 9, contact Regional Services Manager Ben Poynter on 0427 773 584

Region 10 Southern Central

3 June – Batlow - Biosecurity workshop, Batlow bowling club 10am-12pm (including lunch) RSVP essential to Lucinda McIntyre at Plant Health Australia. Email: lmcintyre@phau.com.au or phone 02 6260 4322

For more information on Region 10, contact Services Manager Debra Charlton on 0427 773 496

Region 11 – Southern Tablelands, Monaro & South Coast

28 May – Bega – National Fireweed Conference – Bega RSL Club auditorium. Details available at www.fireweed.org.au. Contact 6499 0652.

20 June - Canberra - Claiming the date - Region 11 Convention "*Change - the stone age didn't end because we ran out of stone.*" National Press Club, Canberra. More details soon.

For information on any events in Region 11 contact Regional Service Manager Liz Young 0428 411 218

Region 12 – Western Division

For more information on events in Region 12, contact Services Manager Dougall Roberts on 0428 411 221

Region 13 – North Coast

5 June- Grafton - branch meeting, South Grafton Ex-Serviceman's Club, 7.00pm start.

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