



Local Branch News (Nov/Dec 2011)

Guyra District Council- Theileriosis

The Guyra District Council held a meeting in November and James Jackson (Guyra Chair & Executive Councillor) voiced his concerns about the spread of **Theileriosis** headlined discussions. There has been a reported case around the Guyra district and other outbreaks have occurred in the Dorrigo region and the mid north coast. Since March this year, the NSW Farmers Exotic Disease, Plant Health and Quarantine Committee has been involved in a Theileriosis working group set up to advise levy based industry bodies on appropriate research projects. Right away two highly urgent priorities were obvious.

1. The availability in Australia of an effective therapeutic agent (medicine) to treat affected animals.
2. A vaccine to prevent infection in susceptible (non immune) animals.

Along with other members of 'the working' group, NSW Farmers has endeavoured to facilitate the importation into Australia of a treatment already available overseas. The hurdle has been a suitable time period being set as the minimum withholding period, so that residues do not enter the human food chain in meat or milk.

NSW Farmers is seeking to hear from members or vets who have experienced the effects of bovine Theileriosis in their districts to assist our efforts in lobbying and hasten the introduction of treatment and the further development of a suitable vaccine. This can be done by writing to: Dr Peter Carter (NSW Farmers Exotic Disease Committee) GPO Box 1068 Sydney NSW 2001, or policy@nswfarmers.org.au.

The **state of the local roads in the Guyra Shire** was another major issue (recurring theme for all Branches) and also a mention that it has been heard that some old bridges in the Shire may only be replaced with causeways. We hope not!

Inverell District Council- Inverell Local Environment Plan

Inverell Shire council is proposing changing some lot sizes from a **minimum 200 hectares to minimum 800 hectares in their 20 Year Strategic Land use Plan**. This concerns some of our Members. The Inverell District Council Joint Chair Bob Moore and Members from Bonshaw and Yetman met with the Council's Director of Civil & Environmental Services and explained their concerns about the proposal. NSW Farmers have asked for the Submission date to be extended to the end of January due to many Members not being fully aware of the implications of the Strategic Land Use Plan.

Armidale Branch

Armidale Branch Member Keith Moen has had recent media exposure over his view on the **clogging of the rail system to port by coal** trains. Keith outlined how the transport of wheat from Werris Creek to the port of Newcastle was being adversely affected by the rail line being clogged by coal trains. He had told the media that it was \$16 per tonne cheaper to transport wheat by rail than by road.

Armidale DC is also concerned about an article in the local paper calling for the **ban of 1080** by the RSPCA.

Ashford/Bonshaw Branch- Native Vegetation meeting

The Office of Environment and the Borders Rivers CMA held a Native Vegetation information meeting at Ashford. It was well attended and concerned farmers had the opportunity to send a clear message about a review of the Native Vegetation regulations to the Minister Robyn Parker Office of Environment & Heritage. Thanks to Bob Moore & Andrew Baker (Joint Chairs of Inverell DC) and all local members that contributed. We raised pertinent, to the point issues to be passed onto the Minister. Afterwards the Ashford Branch hosted a Christmas Barbecue at the show grounds to cool everyone down. It was great to meet the Members from Ashford. Thanks to Karen Brunt & Andrew Baker and all those behind the scenes.

Strategic Regional Land Use Policy Meetings

NSW Farmers had asked that we meet with our local MPs to voice concerns about implementation of the Strategic Regional Land use Policy and increasing mining and coal seam gas activity. Uralla based Executive Councillor **Chris Laurie** has already had a productive telephone conversation with **Richard Torbay Member for Northern Tablelands** to highlight widespread community concern over the direction that the Strategic Regional Land Use Policy is currently taking. Mr Torbay stated that he fully supported the concerns of farmers and if there is any information that needs to be tabled in Parliament he would be happy to do so.

If you are concerned about the Strategic Regional Land Use Policy, contact Richard Torbay our local state Member – we need to be vigilant! Richard's contacts Ph 02 67 72 55 52 Fax 02 67 72 50 26 Email

northerntablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Friday 2nd March 2012 “Workplace Health & Safety Seminar” Armidale Ex Services Club

NSW Farmers is hosting a information forums on the new Work Place Health and Safety (WHS) regulations, which comes into effect in January next year. A WH&S forum has already been held in Guyra and there will be one in Armidale on March 2, 2012. The aim of the forum is to introduce the new WHS Act and regulations which will replace the current OH&S Act. If anyone is interested in having a seminar in their district please let me know.

Wednesday 14th of March “Region 2 Forum” Armidale Ex services Club

We encourage all our Members & their friends to attend. Thanks to those that completed the survey. We have collated the results and are in the process of organising our presentations. We have **Charlie Lynne** MLC as guest speaker who will talk on **“The Spirit of Survival & Seeking out the Positives”**. Charlie is ex Australian Army serving our country in Vietnam, a Liberal MLC and in his spare time takes groups on walks on the Kokoda trail and is the founder of Network Kokoda. (Website www.charlielynn.com.au)

General News

Procedure for motions

NSW Farmers would like to encourage members to use their Branch/DC meetings and Regional Forums as the avenue to prepare any motions they want delivered to the Association. You do not need to wait until your AGMs to develop motions. If there is an issue, develop the motion at first opportunity and send it forward to the next scheduled Executive Council (EC) meeting. The process for getting motions to EC is:

- One month prior to EC a letter is written to all Branch/DC Chairs and Secretaries to advise them the deadline to submit business/motions.
- When the motion is received it is forwarded to the relevant committee.
- The committee then advises if it is outside of their realm, already policy or whether they need additional information on the issue
- If the motion is to remain it is then forwarded back to the General Manager of Policy to ensure it is included on the agenda and the movers are notified.

The proposed dates for the EC meetings are; 7th/8th February and 15th/16th May 2012

Member Benefits

CHEP (Pallets)

CHEP are a new Business Partner and we are doing a joint **Pallet Muster** so they can recoup missing pallets. For every pallet returned NSW Farmers' receives a rebate. We have been asked to organise some drop off points across the region. If you know of a suitable drop off site in your area and/ have a couple stashed away please contact me?

NAB Agribusiness

Our business partner NAB offers special benefits for Members so be sure to mention your membership with NSW Farmers!

Fee free transactional banking for a 12 month period, inclusive of debit card & internet banking

Free NAB financial planning consultation to discuss potential superannuation and succession planning strategies

50% reduction on the Farmer's Choice Package fee (saving of \$250). Introductory interest rates for deposit funds larger than \$10k

Contact NAB Agribusiness banker: Armidale Rob Haynes Phone: (02) 6773 4913 | Mobile: 0410 446 844

rob.m.haynes@nab.com.au

Mitsubishi

Order a Triton, Challenger or Pajero from the 1/11/2011 to 31/12/2011 and have it delivered in this time to receive National Fleet pricing + \$1200 off. Proof of membership will be required. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your local Mitsubishi dealer or myself

Please don't forget our other major partners WFI, Prime Super and Essential Energy.

Stuart Murdoch

Regional Services Manager

M 0427 437 103

E murdochs@nswfarmers.org.au

Member Service Centre

Level 25 66 Goulburn St Sydney NSW 2000

PO Box 1068 Sydney NSW 2000

P 1300 794 000

F (02) 8251 1750

E emailus@nswfarmers.org.au



If you no longer wish to receive information from NSW Farmers' simply [click here](#) to unsubscribe...

If you are having difficulty unsubscribing from this page please email us on msc@nswfarmers.org.au and we will remove you from our lists.