

23 October 2007

Member Service Centre 1300 794 000

online@nswfarmers.org.au

Single Desk update in Junee tomorrow

Wheat Export Marketing Alliance (WEMA) Chair Graham Blight and NSW Farmers' Association's Grains Committee Chair John Ridley will address farmers at the Junee District Council's Single Desk information meeting tomorrow, Wednesday 24 October.

Topics up for discussion include plans for the Single Desk post 2007/08, the current season and harvest outlook, grain contract and swap washouts, and the grains industry and the Federal election.

The meeting will be held at the Junee Ex-Services Memorial Club, starting at 7.30pm. For more information contact Ralph Billing on 02 6927 5171.

North Coast council meeting this week

NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie will meet with north coast farmers in Coffs Harbour this Thursday 25 October at the Region 13 Council meeting and Member forum.

Jock Laurie will give an update on the Association's current lobbying activities and the forum will give Members the opportunity to have their say on key issues impacting on their business and community.

The meeting will be held at the Coffs Harbour RSL Club from 10am -3pm. Please RSVP by Wednesday 24 October for catering purposes to Deborah Willis on 6556 7215.

Daylight saving – country people say no!

The NSW Farmers' Association opposes the Standard Time Amendment (Daylight Saving) Bill 2007 which is currently before the NSW Parliament.

Under the Bill, daylight saving would start on the first Sunday in October (rather than the last Sunday in October) and end on the first Sunday in April (rather than the last Sunday in March) in the following year. [Click here](#) for more.

Pork industry welcomes inquiry

The Association welcomes the announcement by the Australian Government that the Productivity Commission will undertake a safeguards inquiry into the impact of imports of pig meat on the Australian pork industry.

The Association says the industry is currently facing a crisis, with record imports of pig meat driving down domestic prices and record high grain prices forcing local growers out of the industry. [Click here](#) for more.

Rural Alliance identifies key drought issues

Increased mental health support, rate rebates and funding and job security for Rural Financial Counsellors and Drought Support Workers have been identified as key drought issues by affected councils, businesses and industry.

The Rural Alliance, consisting of the NSW Farmers' Association, NSW Business Chamber, Country Women's Association of NSW, Local Government and Shires Association and the Australian Livestock and Property Agent's Association, has released this list of priority projects based on suggestions floated at the recent Rural Drought Crisis Summit in Parkes. [Click here](#) for more.

Executive Council next week

Farming representatives will converge on Sydney next week to debate the biggest issues facing farmers and rural communities at the NSW Farmers' Association's Executive Council, to be held from Tuesday 30 – Wednesday 31 October.

Federal Election campaign

Drought, managing climate, research and development, transport, trade and quarantine are some of the priority issues for the NSW Farmers' Association and the National Farmers Federation in the lead up to the Federal Election on 24 November.

To view the NFF's 2007 Federal Election Policy Platform head to www.nswfarmers.org.au

Free workplace relations workshop in Albury

Don't miss the Association's free workplace relations workshop on dismissals in Albury this Thursday 25 October.

The workshop will be held at the Albury Convention Centre in Swift Street from 1-4pm. Please RSVP to the Member Service Centre on 1300 794 000.

RAS 2008 Rural Achievers Award

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW is encouraging farmers aged between 20 and 27 to nominate for its 2008 Rural Achievers Award.

Entries close Wednesday 31 October. [Click here](#) for more details on the award and how to apply.

Association training courses

For information about training, dates and locations, please email training@nswfarmers.org.au. Please note that registration in Chemical Card or Senior First Aid is required 7 days prior to the workshop date to allow for delivery of home study materials.

Upcoming Region Specific Meetings & Events

Region 2 – New England

8 or 9 Nov – Armidale 'Meet the Candidates' forum Ex Services Club. Date To Be Confirmed

14 Nov – Legume Weeds Identification Day. Legume Hall 10-3pm. In conjunction with DPI.

1 Dec – Wollomombi Farm Family Gathering BBQ lunch and entertainment (FREE). Great chance to have a Community get together before Christmas.

For more information call Regional Service Manager Gennie Gittoes on 0429180560

Region 3 – Central and North West

23 Oct- Narromine- Drought Of All Droughts Farm Family Gathering – Golf Club
12.00-2.30pm. Free - Contact James Hamilton on 6889 0151
29 Oct - Coonabarabran- Chemical Card – Initial & Refresher
1 Nov - Mendooran- Chemical Card – Initial & Refresher
1 Nov - Narromine- DPI-Con.Farming (Extension day) – contact Ray Pratt 6845 443

For more information contact [Rick Bremner](#) on 6845 3842

Region 4 – Lower New England and Liverpool Plains

30 Oct – Tamworth - Biological soils series. On the agenda is biological agriculture, carbon credits, improving soil structure and life in the soil. Tamworth Community Centre from 9am, and later in the field. Contact Col Easton on 6764 5940 for bookings or more information.

31 Oct – Kelvin Hall (near Gunnedah) - Biological soils series, agenda above. Starts 9am.

1 Nov – Gunnedah – Public Forum on Depression at the Rugby Club. Professor Chris Tennant, Hon. Prof of the University of Sydney and John Konrads, Olympic Gold Medalist will contribute to the forum. Free BBQ starts 6pm; forum begins 8pm.

For more information contact [Darren Greentree](#) on 0427 411 214

Region 7 – Sydney Basin

8-9 Nov – Camden, Dairy Symposium. Contact: Angus Gidley Baird 1300 794 000

9-10 Nov – Clarendon, Small Farm Expo. Contact: Member Service Centre 1300 794 000

13 Nov – Vineyard, Hawkesbury Horticulture Branch Meeting, 7pm start. Contact Joe Danastasi 0418 210 547

1 Dec – Cobbitty, Camden Horticulture Branch Meeting, 5.30 pm tour of Uni Sydney PBI followed by 7.30pm meeting. Contact Glenn Fahey 0408 426 061

For more information on Region 7 events contact Regional Services Manager [Frances Vella](#) on 0428 228 818

Region 8 – Lower Central West and Slopes

23 Oct - Cootamundra - Succession Planning workshop

For more information on any events in Region 8 contact RSM [Geoff Knight](#) on 6369 1701

Region 9 – Southern Murrumbidgee

24 Oct- Deniliquin - IR Seminar

1 Nov- Cancelled - Association President Jock Laurie to visit Griffith DC

1 Nov – Griffith - Regional Climate Change Forum – DPI at Griffith Exies Club ph 69601300

For more information on any events in Region 9 contact [Ben Poynter](#) on 6962 9926

Region 10 - Southern Central

23 Oct - Gundagai - drought meeting for community service providers

24 Oct - Junee - wheat growers meeting (guest speaker - Graham Blight) 7.30pm
Junee Ex-services club

25 Oct – Wagga- breakfast information meeting for Solicitors, Accountants and Banks

25 Oct – Albury, NSW Farmers Association IR Seminar, RSVP essential, Justin Crosby 02 8251 1874

25 Oct - THERE IS NO WAGGA DC MEETING THIS MONTH - POSTPONED TO DECEMBER

6 Nov - Urana - The drought bus will be in town from 1.30pm

For information on any events in Region 10 contact RSM [Deb Charlton](#) on 6922 9297.

Region 11 – Southern Tablelands, Monaro, South Coast

25 Oct – Goulbourn - MLA More Beef from Pastures Regional Expo - NSWFA Will have a display at this Expo

26 Oct- Nowra - Free Workcover ‘Managing for Safety’ workshop, 9.30am-2pm

29 Oct- Moruya - Free Workcover ‘Serious about Safety’ workshop, 3.00pm-6.00pm

3 Nov- Windellama Small Farms Field Day

7 Nov- Ulladulla - Free Workcover ‘Serious about Safety’ workshop, 9.30am-12.00pm

15 Nov – Bombala – Chemical Card Training

19 Nov- Bega - Free Workcover ‘Managing for Safety’ workshop, 9.30am-2.00pm

30 Nov- Queanbeyan - Free Workcover ‘Managing For Safety’, 9.30am-2.00pm

For more information visit the Region 11 Webpage or contact Liz Young on 6453 7111.

Region 12- Western Division

27 Oct - Mini Field Day at Oxley Station. 10am Start. For more information call Andrew McFarland on 03 5744 3782.

2 Nov- Balranald Branch Meeting - Hatfield Hall. Meeting will include a wool/meat session with guest speakers discussing sheep genetics, mulesing and ram breeding. A meat buyer will also explain what buyers want. Tea to follow. All welcome. Contact Joy Harris 03 5020 6887.

For more information contact Regional Service Manager [Dougall Roberts](#) on 0428 411 221.

Region 13 – North Coast

25 Oct- Region 13 meeting - Coffs Harbour RSL Club, 10.00am start, with President Jock Laurie and Chief Executive Shaughn Morgan as Guests.

1 Nov- Far North Coast District Council Meeting, Casino RSM Club, 7.30pm start

3 Nov – Casino - Free Farmers Night Out, Casino RSM Club, 6.30pm start.

12 Nov- Wauchope, Chem Card Course, Please contact Robyn at NSWFA training on 68848822

19 Nov – Casino - Free Financial Skills Workshops for young farmers, 8.30am start, Please contact Robyn at NSWFA training on 68848822

20 Nov – Grafton - Free Financial and Business Skills Training for young farmers, 8.30am start, Please contact Robyn at NSWFA training on 68848822

21 Nov – Wauchope - Free Financial Skills Workshops for young farmers, 8.30am start, Please contact Robyn at NSWFA training on 68848822

22 Nov – Kempsey Chemical Card

For information on any events in Region 13 contact RSM [Michael Burt](#) on 6564 2355