

## Online Newsletter

29 April 2008



Member Service Centre 1300 794 000

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

### **Review must consider all factors**

The Association feels it's positive to see the Government commit to exploring social issues as well as those financial and environmental during its review of national drought policy, the importance of which can't be overestimated.

There needs to be an acknowledgement that whilst some areas finally appear to be commencing the drought recovery stage, for the vast majority of NSW a sustained recovery is a long way off, and the financial drought is far from over.

To find out more, click [here](#).

### **Sydney Catchment Board**

The NSW Farmers' Association welcomes Mr Robert Rollinson as the new Chairman of the Sydney Catchment Authority.

The Association is also pleased to see the reappointment of Association nominated member Board member Kenneth Wheelwright.

### **Deadline!**

All motions that Delegates want to be considered for inclusion at Annual Conference must be submitted by this Friday! Details must be faxed to 02 82511750 or completed online at [www.nswfarmers.org.au](http://www.nswfarmers.org.au)

### **Regional Telecommunication Independent Review Committee**

The Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee ('RTIRC') is assessing the adequacy of telecommunications services in regional, rural and remote parts of Australia.

The Association lodged a submission to RTIRC in December 2007, outlining member concerns regarding regional telecommunications in NSW.

The RTIRC is holding a number of public meetings in NSW and they are interested to hear from the community about telecommunications services in your area.

For details, head to the RTIRC site here. <http://www.rtirc.gov.au/home/news>

### **Flood damage? Tell DPI now!**

The NSW Farmers' Association is urging all farmers in the Mid North Coast region to report recent flood damage quickly, to assist in the assessment of natural disaster relief.

The DPI is currently collecting information to assess the damage caused by the floods. All farmers are encouraged to contact the 1800 814 647 number to report all damage as this will assist in the assessment of natural disaster relief. The DPI will also be conducting telephone surveys of farmers severely affected.

### **Locust Alert**

The Association is urging Members to report locust sightings to their local Rural Lands Protection Board in order to ensure that locusts and their egg laying activities are monitored. There have been reports of locusts swarms in the Southern and Central NSW and these locusts are now laying eggs prior to the winter period.

The Association is working with the NSW Department of Primary Industries to ensure that appropriate planning for ground control occurs in the event of a spring locust outbreak.

## Wool Forum – this Friday!

Wool growers will hear from their friendly competitors in the cotton industry at Friday's Wool Forum, as they outline the mechanisms used by their industry to engage effectively in the cotton market.

In the light of the contraction of the wool industry and the reduction of competition in the wool auction arena, an address from Pete Johnson, Chairman of the Australian Cotton Shippers' Association, will explain how the price of cotton is established in its international marketplace.

The Wool Forum will be held on Friday 2 May 2008 in Armidale at the Ex Services Club, Dumaresq St from 9am. For further details, contact the Member Service Centre on 1300 794 000.

## Training

<b>Chemical Card- Initial &amp; Refresher Accreditation</b>	Wagga Wagga	28/04/08
<b>Chemical Card Refresher</b>	Online 9am – 12pm	20/05/08, 11/06/08
<b>Farm Succession Planning</b>	Tamworth	29/05/08
<b>Farm Safety Management</b>	Lightning Ridge	05/06/08
<b>First Aid</b>	Lightning Ridge	09/07/08
	Cryon	10/07/08

For bookings: please contact Robyn or Kathy on 02 6884 8822, or at [training@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto: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.

## Fireweed Conference

The NSW Farmers' Association is encouraging concerned Members to attend the National Fireweed Conference on May 28 -29 in Bega.

Fireweed is a weed that is native to South Africa. It was introduced to Australia many years ago and has spread along the eastern seaboard from the Victorian border to southeast Queensland, and is of great concern to farmers.

The Bega Valley Fireweed Committee has been extremely proactive in trying to create awareness of the invasive and competitive nature of this weed, as they 'battle the fireweed menace', and the Association is keen to support action against this pest.

For the full Conference agenda, head to [www.fireweed.org.au](http://www.fireweed.org.au)

### Region 1 – North West

23 April – North Star - AGM, North Star Sporting Club, 6.30pm. Guest speaker on grains-related issues  
23 April – Inverell - DC AGM, Inverell RSM Club, 7pm. Guest speaker Federal MP Tony Windsor  
24 April - Inverell – Chemical Card initial accreditation and refresher course 9am – 4pm  
29 April – Boggabri – DC AGM - Baan Baa Hotel with guest speaker State MP Kevin Humphries, 7pm

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

### Region 2 – New England

29 April – Glen Innes - DC AGM 7.30pm New England Club  
30 April – Guyra - DC AGM 7.30pm Rafters Restaurant  
1 May– Armidale - DC AGM 7.30pm RLPB Taylor St  
2 May – Armidale – NSWFA Wool forum. From 9 am at the Ex-Services Club. A full day of events, with drinks to follow, will include a keynote address from representatives of German based company Sud Wolle, the world's largest spinners of white wool. The programme will also look at hot issues in wool including mulesing alternatives, branding, product value and many other relevant topics.

5 May – Bingara – DC AGM -guest speaker on Carbon, *Graeme Swanke* DPI Tamworth. Short AGM with motions for conference

9-11 May - Armidale - Wool Expo - a NSWFA stand in main tent great prizes giveaways and updates  
10 May – Armidale – “Cut out Party” for the young farmers. 8pm at Wool Expo site Faulkner St. Dance to great band “Shameless”, food and drinks. PLUS chance to win 2400 Watt generator, Drizabone, Tyres and battery in the lucky door prize draws (\$10 discount on tickets for NSWFA members).  
Bookings with Gennie Gittoes PH 67669949

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

### **Region 3 – Central and Northwest**

29-30 April – Coonamble - Show

1 May – Tullamore – DC AGM and Annual Conference motions 3.00pm Bowling Club

2 May – CUT OFF DATE FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE MOTIONS TO BE IN HEAD OFFICE by C.O.B

7 May – Tottenham – Saltbush establish and manage/Stipa \$75 non-members Contact Angela 6845 1044

17 May – Yeoval – Junior Farmer & Rural Youth Reunion Dinner 6.00 for 7.00pm. Speaker Graham Blight, \$30. Contact Audrey Tremain 6887 8338

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

### **Region 4 – Lower New England & Liverpool Plains**

29 April – Manilla – DC AGM – Post Office Hotel, Manilla, 8pm. Contact Peter Gallagher 67 861524

30 April – Gunnedah – DC AGM - the Verdict Café, Conadilly St, Gunnedah, 6pm. Guest speaker Doug Rankin from Caroon Coal Action Group. RSVP for catering by April 28, Rebecca Heath 6744 7821

1 May - Merriwa - DC meeting - Merriwa RSL 7pm, contact Peter Campbell 0428 485 126

15 May – Tamworth - Division of General Practice Powerhouse Hotel Tamworth 6pm, Guest speaker Dr Ray Seidler “Secret Men’s Business”. Contact Tanya McLeish 67 661394.

28 June – Quirindi - Region 4 Bush Ball – Guest speaker Peter Fitzsimons. Contact Darren Greentree for more details

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

### **Region 5 – Central West**

29 April – Ardlethan AGM - Guest Speaker Kay Hull (Member for Riverina), 5pm start, London Hotel, Ardlethan

30 April – Rankin Springs - DC motions for Annual Conference, flyer with more details to follow

2 May – West Wyalong - Community Forum on Depression, opening address by President Jock Laurie, 7pm for 7:30pm start, West Wyalong High School, Dumaresq Street, West Wyalong.

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

### **Region 6 – Central West Tablelands**

29 April - Mudgee DC and Gulgong Branch Mtg

30 April - Oberon DC

30 April - Blayney DC

1 May - Nashdale - Hail net day 10am to 3pm

12 May - Rylstone - Cineraria Field Day by Mid Western Regional Council Weeds Section and NSW DPI. 1.00pm Coxes Creek Rd, just before the airport, at Rylstone. Contact Jenene on 0427 401 652

17 May –Yeoval - Junior Farmers and rural Youth reunion

19 May - Goolooinboin - Capertee Valley Prograze –10.00am, 13km from Capertee on Glen Davis Rd.

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

### **Region 7 – Sydney Basin**

29 April – Central Coast - Horticulture Branch AGM, Mangrove Mountain Memorial Club, 7pm start PH: Michael Champion 4374 1036

30 April – Singleton Branch AGM and Hunter District Council AGM, 2pm start PH: Bill Stacy 6577 8593 or Stephen Binnie 6577 8599

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

#### **Region 8 – Lower Central, West & Slopes**

29 April - Grenfell – FREE chemical card training for members at the Bowling club from 8.30am to 4.00pm

30 April - Yass - DC AGM -6.00pm dinner at Murrumbateman Country Inn – Chick Olsson guest speaker – contact Karen Carter on 6227 5507

For more information on Region 8 events contact Regional Service Manger Geoff Knight on 0427773581

#### **Region 9 – Southern Murrumbidgee**

28 April - Berrigan - DC Meeting, 7pm for Dinner. Contact Roger Reynoldson.

30 April – Jerilderie – DC meeting. Contact Mike Kettlewell

1 May – Griffith – DC meeting. 6pm, Griffith Ex Services Club, contact Roy Stacy

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

#### **Region 10 - Southern Central**

29 April – Gundagai - DC meeting, Family Hotel, 7.30pm

29 April – Henty - DC meeting, Culcairn Hotel, 7.30pm

1 May – Junee - DC meeting, Ex-Services Club, 7.30pm

12 May – Junee - Chemical card training, RSVP Robyn 02 6884 8822

For information on any events in Region 10 contact Regional Service Manager Deb Charlton on 6922 9297.

#### **Region 11 – Southern Tablelands, Monaro & South Coast**

29 April - Molonglo DC AGM with Jock Laurie

29 April - Goulburn DC AGM with Jock Laurie

29 April - Cooma DC meeting with Jock Laurie - Breakfast meeting, details to follow

29 April - Molonglo DC AGM with Jock Laurie and John Kilmartin from Monbeef Cooma, 12noon, Anglican Parish Hall, Butmaroo Street, Bungendore

5 May - Bega - Branch AGM, 7.00pm, Red Cross Rooms

8 May - Delegate – Bombala - Tackling Tough Times with Australian Story Teller Murray Hartin. This is a free event – a light dinner will be served. RSVP to Sue Haslingden 6458 3330

12 May – Goulburn - Over 55 workshop, Goulburn Workers Club. A free workshop for active farm men and women who want to continue to enjoy farm work as they get older. 10am to 3pm, call Margaret Cameron: 4829 0244 for more info.

20 June - Claiming the date - Region 11 Convention. Friday 20th June 2008 at the National Press Club, Canberra. Theme is "*Change - the stone age didn't end because we ran out of stone*". An impressive and exciting line up of speakers is being arranged so don't miss this great day out - more details soon.

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

#### **Region 12 – Western Division**

2 -3 May – Broken Hill - "Ag Fair"

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

#### **Region 13 – North Coast**

31 April – Wingham - Mid North Coast District Council AGM, Wingham Golf Club, 11.00am start

1 May – Casino - Far North Coast District Council AGM, Casino RSM Club, 7.30pm start

6 May – Macksville - North Coast District Council AGM, Macksville Ex-Serviceman's Club, 7.30pm start

7 May - Coffs Harbour - branch meeting, Coramba Hotel, 7.30pm start

13 May - Wingham - branch meeting, Wingham Golf Club, 7.00pm start

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