

Growing
the Business
of Farming

NSW
Farmers
ASSOCIATION

Value of Agriculture

2010 Annual Conference

AGENDA

NSW Farmers' Association 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

VALUE OF AGRICULTURE

Monday, 19 July 2010
Pre Conference Sessions

Tuesday, 20 July 2010 – Thursday, 22 July 2010
Annual Conference
Exhibition Hall 2A, Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park
Executive Council Meeting – Friday, 23 July 2010

VALUE OF AGRICULTURE

Major Sponsor



TIMETABLE FOR 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE ELECTIONS

0730	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23	0730	
0815	Registration		Nominations 4 x Board of Directors and Councillors with SQ *	Election Executive Council Advisory Committees	0815	
0830					0830	
0900					0900	
0930					Election 4 x Board of Directors Councillors with SQ *	0930
0945						0945
1000	Nominations President	Nominations Two Vice Presidents				1000
1030						1030
1045						1045
1115			Results Four: Board of Directors Councillors with SQ			1115
1130						1130
1200		Election Two Vice Presidents			1200	
1230	Election President				1230	
1300					1300	
1330			Nominations Advisory Committees		1330	
1400		Results Two Vice Presidents Nomination for P & A Councillors Regional Chairman		1400		
1415	Results President Nominations Senior Vice President Treasurer					
1430						
1445					1445	
1500		Election P & A Councillors Regional Chairman			1500	
1530					1530	
1600	Election Senior Vice President Treasurer			Nominations Industrial Association Executive Committee á		1600
1615					1615	
1645					1645	
1700					1700	
1745		Results P & A Councillors Regional Chairman			1745	
1830	Results Senior Vice President Treasurer				1830	

* SQ – Special Qualifications. Nominations to close at end of meeting of EC-Elect.

á Industrial Association Elections run by AEC

PLEASE NOTE - The election process (including nominations) for the Industrial Association is entirely the responsibility of the Australian Electoral Commission. Any questions or comments regarding this process must be directed to the Commission.

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE FOR 2010

TIMETABLE including Special Events (subject to change)

MONDAY 19 JULY (Pre Conference)

Meetings

10.00am – 5.30pm	Horticulture AGM, Southee 3
10.00am - 5.00pm	Western Division Council Meeting & AGM, Southee 5

Pre Conference Field Tour

10.00am - 3.00pm	Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute
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Pre Conference Sessions

5.00pm	Open Board Forum, Hall 2A Pre Registration commences, Hall 2A
6.00pm	New Delegate Session
7.00pm	Pre Registration closes Delegates at leisure for remainder of evening (dinner will be own arrangements - refer to back cover for list of restaurants in the precinct)

TUESDAY 20 JULY (Conference Day 1)

7.30am	Registration commences
8.30am	Official Opening commences Opening Prayer, Motion of Condolence, Standing Orders
8.40am	Major Sponsor Address, WorkCover NSW
8.50am	President's Address, Mr Charles Armstrong
9.10am	Guest Speaker Professor George Williams, University of NSW <i>Property Rights & Just Terms Compensation</i>
9.45am	Chief Executive Report, Mr Shaughn Morgan
10.00am	Official Opening Concludes Young Farmers' Committee Update
10.15am	Intensive Industry Reports Egg Producers, Poultry Contract, Oysters, Horticulture
10.45am	Policy Session – Grains (Part 1)
12.00pm	Lunch Break
1.00pm	Policy Session – Grains (Part 2)
2.00pm	NFF Update
2.15pm	Organisation inc. Treasurer's Report
3.15pm	Intensive Industry Reports Dairy, Pork, Goat
3.30pm	Policy Session – Business, Economics and Trade
5.45pm	Association Awards
6.15pm	Regional Food Fair

WEDNESDAY 21 JULY (Conference Day 2)

7.00am	Sponsored Breakfast Session, Hall 2A
8.15am	Policy Session – Rural Affairs
10.30am	Tertiary Scholarship Awards
11.00am	Guest Speaker The Hon. Steve Whan MP, Minister for Primary Industries
11.30am	Policy Session – Meat & Livestock (Part 1)
12.15pm	Lunch
1.15pm	Policy Session – Meat & Livestock (Part 2)
2.45pm	Policy Session – Wool
4.00pm	Conference Concludes for the Day Optional Wool Information Session - Mr Garry Levot, South Pod
7.15pm	Pre Dinner Drinks (Exhibition Hall)
7.45pm	Awards Dinner commences Announcement of Farmer & Young Farmer of the Year
12.00pm	Dinner concludes

THURSDAY 22 JULY (Conference Day 3)

7.30am	Sponsored Breakfast Session, Hall 2A
8.30am	General
9.30am	AGM – NSW Farmers' (Industrial) Association (Part 1) (Adoption of financials, appointment of Auditors, Chair report, policy session)
10.15am	Australian Farm Institute Presentation
10.30am	Policy Session – Conservation & Resource Management
12.45pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Guest Speaker The Hon. Tony Burke, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
2.00pm	AGM – NSW Farmers' Association
4.00pm	AGM – NDRF AGM – NSW Farmers' (Industrial) Association (Part 2) (Elections as run by the AEC)
4.15pm	Unfinished Agenda Items
5.30pm	Conference concludes

FRIDAY 23 JULY (Incoming Executive Council Meeting)

8.30am	Meeting of the Incoming Executive Council, Southee 3
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2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

GRAINS (Including Genetic Modification Motions)

Grain Freight Rates

- G01** That the Association lobby the Federal Government to ensure that the Grain Trade Australia calculation for grain freight is open and transparent.
167 LOCKHART

Promotion of Australian Grain

- G02** That the Association lobby the Federal Government for the establishment of a trade advocacy group tasked with the promotion of Australian grain to export markets.
251 PARKES

Fertiliser Pricing

- G03** That the Association investigate the rigour of forward pricing of fertiliser.
186 BERRIGAN

Grain Grower Representation

- G04** That the Association vigorously pursue the proposal to form a national grain producers' organisation as per the memorandum of understanding announced between the Association and the WA Farmers Federation and including all grain producing States.
133 JUNEE, 030 GRIFFITH, 207 RANKINS SPRINGS
- G05** That the Association organise for National Grain Australia to consult with the Grain Producers Association in order for the two bodies to negotiate their differences and to develop one national peak grain body to provide effective representation for grain growers.
058 GRENFELL
- G06** That the Association only participate in any National Grain Representative organisation that is based on voluntary union principles.
019 POTTINGER
- G07** That the Association endorse the Grain Producers Australia model to replace Grains Council Australia as the National Peak Body.
054 URALLA

Wheat Export Authority

- G08** That the Association lobby the State and Federal Governments to retain the Wheat Export Authority with its existing guidelines to ensure the credibility of grain traders and the quality of the wheat traded.
043 COONABARABRAN, 057 BARMEDMAN

Pool Management Transparency

- G09** That the Association request transparency for all pool managers and their risk management.
056 BARMEDMAN

Grain Export Facilities

- G10** That the Association lobby that grain export facilities have a penalty payment system in place where payments are made to a third party such as public grain research funds when such payments are:
- a) the result of allocated slots at grain export facilities not being used;
 - b) the defaulting shipper has a financial interest in the port facility; and
 - c) where there are no alternate, competitive grain loading facilities at the port.
- 152 CANOWINDRA

Grain Testing

- G11** The Association reinforce the need for grain testing techniques to be standardised.
202 YOUNG

- G12** That the Association lobby the Federal Government for R & D to develop an objective measurement for frosted grain.
168 LOCKHART

Professional Lobbyist for Grains Policy

- G13** That the Association employ a professional lobbyist to promote and lobby for its policies on grains issues.
132 JUNEE

Oat Breeding

- G14** That the Association lobby;
- a) the Government to continue the low-lignin oat breeding programme, as part of an existing dual purpose cereal breeding program.
 - b) the NSW Department of Industry and Investment to reinstate dual-purpose grazing crop trials that are currently being phased out.
- 001 COOLAMON, 080 COOLAH

Wheat Marketing

- G15** That the Association prioritise its key Wheat Marketing Policies in its upcoming Federal Election Activity.
020 POTTINGER

Lupin Breeding

- G16** That the Association lobby for the re-introduction of a South-East Australian Lupin Breeding and Trial Programme utilising 18+ years of existing research and genetic material which has currently been shelved by Industry & Investment NSW, in contradiction to their stated objectives for South East Farming Systems.
093 COOTAMUNDRA

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

Access to the Products of Australian Innovations

- G17** That the Association actively seek ready access for farmers to the products of Australian innovations in drought tolerance, salt tolerance and low allergenicity in crops and pastures and low methane emission fodder plants including those derived from biotechnology.
151 CANOWINDRA

GM Segregation

- G18** That the Association work with the grain handling industry to ensure segregation of GM and non-GM canola is available within current marketing arrangements, so non-GM producers rightfully have opportunity to sell into to non-GM markets if they choose at no additional cost to non-GM producer.
051 MOLONG

Country of Origin Labelling

- G19** That the Association lobby the federal government to introduce truthful, transparent and accurate labelling including country of origin and status (i.e. ingredients derived from GM or GM-free products) on all food for human and animal consumption. Priorities should be Country of Origin labelling details, where the product is grown, and labelling of all foods made using GM techniques, without any exemptions.
185 BERRIGAN

ORGANISATION

Board Composition

- OR01** That the Association investigate appointing two independent external directors to the board whilst limiting the total board numbers to nine directors.
193 GUNDAGAI

Association Policy Objectives

- OR02** That the Association strongly pursue its policy objectives during the upcoming Federal election campaign.
206 RANKINS SPRINGS

Association Representation on Federal Peak Councils

- OR03** That the Association delegates to Federal Commodity Councils be elected members of Executive Council.
256 RANKINS SPRINGS

Advisory Committees

- OR04** That the Association's Executive Council Advisory Committees consist of elected members of Executive Council, with the proviso if positions are not filled through the nomination and election process, the vacant positions may be appointed from members, not being Executive Councillors, after recommendation by the Committee and approval by the Board under Article 30.2 of the Constitution.
208 RANKINS SPRINGS

Code of Conduct for Office Bearers

- OR05** That the Association implement a code of Conduct for all office bearers with enforceable penalties for breaches of the code.
200 MUDGEES

Annual Conference Venue

- OR06** That the Association move the Annual Conference venue to either Sydney CBD or Dubbo.
232 GLEN INNES

Annual Conference Motions

- OR07** That all motions submitted to annual conference be dealt with by the end of Conference week.
105 WELLINGTON, 008 NARRABRI, 032 GRIFFITH, 065 WENTWORTH, 009 NARRABRI

Association Communication

- OR08** That the Association as a matter of priority improve its communication to grass roots members.
199 MUDGEES

Membership

- OR09** That the Association form a growth task force that is charged with exploring all avenues for growing the membership of NSW Farmers' Association and making tangible recommendations to the Board for implementation.
121 CROOKWELL

Motion of support for 2012 Year of the Farmer

- OR10** Move a motion of support that NSW Farmers support the claim for 2012 Year of the Farmer.
111 WELLINGTON

Executive Council Motions and Actions

- OR11** That all motions and actions heard by Executive Council be published in the Farm Post.
106 WELLINGTON

Membership Hotline Calls

- OR12** That the Association extend their membership hotline number to include calls made from mobile phones.
103 WELLINGTON

Membership Costs

- OR13** That the Association vigorously investigate ways and means of keeping down the costs of membership through:
- reducing or abolishing branch and district council capitation fees.
 - acquiring on a voluntary basis, unused monies lying in branch and district councils bank accounts and using this to set up an investment fund to subsidise memberships; and
 - the establishment of a centralised deposit banking system for branch and district council funds.
- 078 COOLAH, 205 GUNNEDAH

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

Association Structure and Operation

- OR14** That the Association conduct a comprehensive review of:
- 1) the methods of management of the activities of the organisation,
 - 2) the representative structure of the organisation and
 - 3) the way in which the views of members are best ascertained
- 061 GRENFELL

Conference

- OR15** That the Association make it that all presentations of awards scheduled for Annual Conference be presented at the Annual Conference Dinner.
- 010 NARRABRI

BUSINESS, ECONOMICS & TRADE

Crown Land Conversion

- E01** That the Association lobby the Government to abolish the current legislation that allows the imposition of covenants on conversion of crown land to freehold.
- 116 GARAH, 220 GARAH, 224 TULLAMORE

Electricity

- E02** That the Association seek that the NSW Government order IPART to re-examine proposed increases to electricity costs for the rural industry on the basis of:
- a) the lack of justification for the proposed increases;
 - b) the inability for rural producers to recoup increase of costs from customers;
 - c) the demise of the ETS.
- 174 BLAYNEY, 023 POTTINGER, 214 INVERELL

RTA

- E03** That the Association lobby the relevant transport authorities for:
- a) agricultural vehicles, such as 4WD spray units, to be covered by Conditional Registration or UVP's;
 - b) all agricultural equipment, such as grain augers, to be covered by oversize permits;
 - c) oversize permits to be valid for 12 months;
 - d) local RTA offices to be responsible for issue of permits;
 - e) the RTA to issue oversize permits instead of applicant having to print them off the internet; and
 - f) the farm vehicle "Farm Registration" that is available to Western Australian farmers, to be made available to farmers in NSW west of the Newell Highway.
- 143 ARDLETHAN, 243 TULLAMORE

Henry Tax Review

E04 That the Association:

- a) oppose any reforms under the Federal Government's Tax review which:
 1. increase the tax burden for farmers due to mere ownership of land (ie economic rent from natural resources and land) through a widening of the land tax base.
 2. increase the tax burden on transport operators (through increased general road user charges) which will inevitably be passed on through higher freight costs.
 3. involve rationalising and streamlining the current small business capital gains tax concessions by removing the active asset 50% reduction and 15 year exemption concessions.
 4. look to implement a new wealth transfer tax (death duties) at any time in the future.
 5. that results in the first 15 cent marginal personal income tax rate being increased to 35 cents.
 - b) should strongly support:
 1. increasing the small business entity turnover threshold from \$2 million to \$5 million, and increases to the \$6 million net asset value test.
 2. removing all specific taxes on insurance products, including the fire service levy.
- 091 COOTAMUNDRA, 082 COOLAH

Road Closures

- E05** That the Association reinvigorate and investigate crown road purchases including fees, timeliness, efficiency of and possible increases in rentals.
- 237 MID NORTH COAST

Newell Highway

- E06** That the Association, in collaboration with similar interest groups, lobby the relevant government and transport authorities to:
- a) to develop a regional infrastructure plan including a long term strategy for inland rail development and port upgrades with the aim to treble the export tonnage capacity for all export commodities in the next 10 years;
 - b) to have passing lanes every 20kms along the Newell Highway;
 - c) hold a public enquiry into the RTA Pacific Highway proposal across the Northern Rivers Flood Plain Areas due to the excessive cost of road and bridge building and maintenance compared to the higher route to the west through forest country; and
 - d) ensure that projects listed above be part of the Federal and State Government stimulus packages.
- 012 NARRABRI, 063 REGION 13, 169 LOCKHART, 242 WALGETT EAST

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

Road Maintenance

- E07** That the Association lobby:
- the appropriate authority to assist local governments to overcome the legal obstacles to ratepayer initiated self help on local road maintenance;
 - the NSW Government to increase funding to local governments to allow for the proper maintenance of all rural roads;
 - the Federal Government to allocate a significant proportion of the Building Australia Fund to the first mile of the local road network;
 - the Federal Government to index funding for Roads to Recovery relative to the ABS Road Construction and Maintenance Index;
 - for road funding to be increased to a level which ensures that the NSW RTA can maintain roads to the standard required for a 100km speed limit; and
 - to have more funding for Shires in order for them to be able to upgrade more roads to B double classifications.
- 052 URALLA, 073 BARRABA, 114 GARAH, 115 GARAH, 148 CANOWINDRA, 166 YOUNG

NSW RTA

- E08** That the Association lobby for the abolition of the state road and traffic authorities and the establishment of one national road and traffic authority.
- 062 GRENFELL

Chain of Responsibility Laws

- E09** That the Association challenges the concept of the 'Chain of Responsibility' Laws and assists any Member charged under them.
- 071 WARREN

Volumetric Loading of Livestock

- E10** That the Association press federal and state government for the introduction of uniform livestock transport regulations across all states.
- 072 BARRABA

Traffic Congestion Tax

- E11** That the Association object to a Sydney Traffic Congestion Tax being applied to road users who reside outside the major cities.
- 077 DUBBO

Rural Affairs

- E12** That the Association insists the Federal Government not tax as income the funds derived from sales on other renewable energy generation by households and small business when it is credited back to the grid.
- 024 POTTINGER

State Government Public Utility Dividends

- E13** That the Association lobby state governments to desist from taking large dividends from the power companies, and direct them to reinvest it back into infrastructure to keep power costs lower.
- 084 COOLAH

Electricity

- E14** That the Association seek electricity pricing to reflect universal service obligations for the provision and pricing of electricity.
- 157 DENILQUIN, 075 BEGA, 188 BERRIGAN

State Electricity Increased Pricing

- E15** That the Association investigate the variations and exemptions in State Electricity proposed increased pricing as to why there is such inequity against the Small Food Outlets and Home owners.
- 201 DUBBO

IPART

- E16** That the Association seek justification from IPART regarding their decision to increase in particular water rates.
- 215 INVERELL

Regional Taxation

- E17** That the Association supports tax incentives to entice people to live and work in regional and remote areas of NSW.
- 249 WESTERN DIVISION COUNCIL

Taxation

- E18** That the NSW Farmers' Association make representations to the Federal Government to amend the age and means test so that once a farmer reaches the age of 75 years and gifts all or part of his/her farm to family members through intergenerational transfer, the 5 year waiting period which must elapse before they can claim the pension be abolished.
- 246 OBERON, 245 OBERON

Restraint of Local Government Rate Increases on Farmland

- E19** That in the light of the pending expiry of legislated restrictions on the degree to which rates on farmland may be increased the Association seek from the NSW Government the legislated extension of this restriction and the restoration of the requirement that farmland be rated at the lowest ad valorem rate as previously specified in the Local Government Act 1993.
- 180 GOULBURN, 092 COOTAMUNDRA

Interest Rates

- E20** That the Association lobby for a better way to control inflation other than by raising our interest rate above that of other advanced economies.
- 033 GRIFFITH

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

Food Prices

E21 That the Association make the Government aware that to build up our inland population less money should be extracted from rural Australia through lower costs, a lower dollar and more realistic prices for food and fibre.
035 GRIFFITH

Expansion of Bayswater and Mt Piper Power Stations

E22 That the Association oppose the construction of the proposed 2000 MW expansion of Bayswater and Mt Piper power stations unless they are gas powered and to be used as base load power for renewables.
079 COOLAH

Supermarket Purchasing Policies

E23 That the Association lobby Woolworths and Coles to seek preferential treatment to local produce.
088 PARKES

Business Influence

E24 That the Association investigate the use of Member proxy votes to influence the Boards of large companies which have undue influence over farm businesses.
094 COOTAMUNDRA

Local Government

E25 That the Association lobby the Federal Government to increase funding to local Government, by increasing the Federal Assistance Grant to 2% of Commonwealth Taxation Revenue (excluding GST).
112 GARAH

E26 That the Association lobby the Federal Government for constitutional recognition of local government.
113 GARAH

Preserving Regional Access to Sydney Airport

E27 That the NSW Farmers' Association ensure that the Federal Government maintain ring-fencing of regional slots which guarantees regional access to Sydney Airport at existing levels.
244 ECONOMICS & TRADE COMMITTEE

Enhancing Food Producing Capacity

E28 That the Association lobby all levels of Government to enhance the State's food producing capacity and logistical efficiency, thereby contributing to the alleviation of any future food crisis.
253 ECONOMICS & TRADE COMMITTEE

Price Awareness Campaign

E29 The Association commence a public awareness campaign highlighting the issues in the price consumers pay for food and the returns received by farmers.
252 ECONOMICS & TRADE COMMITTEE

Australia and World Government

E30 That the Association lobby the Federal Government that in the event of any international developments with the potential to override the Australian Constitution in particular and Australian sovereignty in general, acceptance be conditional upon a favourable outcome of a relevant federal referendum.
182 GOULBURN

Ethanol

E31 That the Association oppose the anti ethanol alliance's campaign against the mandatory inclusion of 10% ethanol by 2011.
160 DENILQUIN

Sale of Farming Land

E32 That the Association lobby government to halt the sale of Australian farming land to international purchasers in order to ensure food security for Australian citizens.
141 ARDLETHAN

Buyer's Premiums

E33 That the Association lobby the NSW Government to have the practice of buyer's premiums banned from all auctions and sales.
124 CROOKWELL

Rail Crossing Stop Signs

E34 That the Association convince the appropriate authorities to reverse their decision to change approximately 95% of the give-way crossing signs to stop signs.
049 TULLIBIGAL

Solar Power Stations

E35 That the Association lobby the NSW Government to establish production sized solar power stations to augment coal fired power and thus reduce carbon emissions and energy prices.
036 COONABARABRAN

Rural Affairs

E36 That the Association lobby for Conditional Permits Processing administered by the Department of Lands (LPI) to be transferred to the RTA.
021 POTTINGER

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

RURAL AFFAIRS

Drought Support

RA01 That the Association lobby for provisions to be made for drought support to supplement drought preparedness measures in the event of a long drought.
153 CANOWINDRA

Independent Youth Allowance

RA02 That the Association lobby to have all children who are required to live away from home, in order to attend tertiary education, be classified as independent for the purpose of attaining Independent Youth Allowance.
142 ARDLETHAN, 031 GRIFFITH

Native Vegetation

RA03 That the Association make the responsible authority understand that clearing the allowed 3 metres either side of an internal fence does not protect the fence itself in the event of fire.
048 COONABARABRAN

Rural Fire Service

RA04 That the Association offer its 'in principle' support for a pilot program for rural contractors to supply specialist bushfire hazard reduction services and specialist bushfire first response services.
134 OBERON

RA05 That the Association objects to the direction the RFS has taken becoming top heavy with bureaucrats at the expense of grassroot volunteers.
135 SCONE

Bushfires

RA06 That the Association lobby for only statements concerning fire survival techniques prepared by qualified rural fire service personnel to be published /broadcast.
194 GUNDAGAI

Review of the Rural Fire Service

RA07 That the Association lobby for a total review of the NSW Rural Fire Service.
239 BOMBALA/DELEGATE

Rural Fire Service

RA08 That the Association lobby the state government to ensure that the Rural Fire Service be the only fire authority in rural NSW.
003 PEAK HILL

Emergency Services

RA09 That the Association demand the use of GPS coordinates by emergency services to enable faster response times in rural and regional areas.
069 COWRA

Hospital Based Training for Registered Nurses

RA10 That the Association lobby for the return to hospital based training for student nurses to help address rural nursing shortages.
085 COOLAH

Health Inquiry Upper Hunter Region

RA11 That the Association press for an independent inquiry into health issues for residents of the Upper Hunter region in relation to coal mining and other issues.
130 JUNEE

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

RA12 That the Association agree in principle with the Mal Peters' report on the future of Hurlstone and endorse the following positions with regards to its future operation:

- vigorously oppose any net reduction of the farm land which is a part of the Hurlstone Agricultural High School;
- Should a commercial manager be appointed that they report directly to the school principal in order that school and farm not be separated; and
- That the advisory board be appointed as soon as possible to advise the school and the Department of Education & Training.

Young People in Farming

RA13 That the Association lobby both state and federal governments to give very urgent attention of the lack of young people and skills shortage in the farming industry. This must be addressed with more funding in high schools and TAFEs.
128 JERILDERIE

Telecommunications

RA14 That the Association lobby the government to immediately improve the standard of telecommunications (mobile, broadband internet and landline coverage) in rural areas inline with the services available in metropolitan areas, so rural businesses can remain as competitive and sustainable.
087 BARRABA, 018 NORTH COAST

Skills Shortage List

RA15 That the Association lobby for the following qualifications to be added to the Skills Shortage List: a. Certificate 2 Agriculture b. Certificate 3 Agriculture c. Certificate 4 Agriculture d. Certificate 3 Wool Handling e. Certificate 3 Clip Preparation-Owner Classifier f. Certificate 4 Wool Classing Professional Classifier.
102 WELLINGTON

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

Natural Disaster Funding

- RA16** That the Association lobby for the State Government to honour the replacement of public assets damaged in Natural Disasters e.g. floods and bridges.
137 TAMWORTH

Daylight Saving

- RA17** That the Association urge the state government to terminate daylight saving at the same day length as it starts i.e. start two weeks after the Spring equinox and finish two weeks before the Autumn equinox.
230 GLEN INNES

MEAT & LIVESTOCK

BSE

- M01** That the Association remain vigilant and lobby the Federal Government to ban the importation of beef from countries known to have BSE and/or Foot and Mouth Disease and countries that do not have at least the same standard of traceability that we have.
007 TENTERFIELD

Meat Processing

- M02** That the Association express its disappointment to the ACCC at the approval of the takeover occurring in the red meat processing industry by global operators.
175 BLAYNEY

RSPCA

- M03** That the Association lobby the State Government to ensure that the RSPCA is accountable to a government department.
204 GUNNEDAH

Electronic Tags

- M04** That the Association oppose mandatory transaction tagging and electronic tagging of sheep.
163 DENILIKUIN

FMD

- M05** That the Association as a matter of urgency seeks a revision of the Ausvet plan in regards to FMD, particularly the protocols for the disposal of milk within restricted and control areas, in the event of a FMD outbreak in Australia.
138 EXOTIC DISEASE COMMITTEE

Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement

- M06** That the Association as a matter of urgency seek a review of the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) with the intention of FMD being placed in category 1, namely 100% cost paid by Government.
139 EXOTIC DISEASE COMMITTEE

MLA Industry Collaborative Agreements

- M07** That the Association lobby Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) for all applications for funding by the Industry Collaborative Agreements (ICA's) scheme be fully reported to levy payers in the MLA Annual Report.
050 GUYRA

Vibrio Vaccine

- M08** That the Association lobby to have Vibrio vaccine made available in smaller or individual doses.
118 MERRIWA

Equine Influenza

- M09** That the Association insists that vaccination for Equine Influenza not occur unless there is a disease outbreak in Australia again.
140 EXOTIC DISEASE COMMITTEE

WOOL

Sheep Lice

- W01** That the Association support making sheep lice a notifiable disease with the following conditions:
Sheep owners either notifying infestation or discovered, not be prosecuted if they take reasonable actions to eradicate the infestation
Sheep owners refusing to attempt to undertake such actions be prosecuted.
147 EXOTIC DISEASE COMMITTEE

Vet Chemicals

- W02** That the Association lobby the Government to support more research into chemicals for the control of lice in sheep at an affordable price.
219 MANILLA

Lice

- W03** That the Association oppose the implementation of the lice control levy.
158 DENILIKUIN

AWI Board

- W04** That the Association supports the direct election of directors to the board of AWI.
247 WOOL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE
- W05** That the Association support a skills-based board for Australian Wool Innovation and work with WoolProducers Australia to implement a selection process.
248 WOOL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE POLICY SESSION AGENDA

Sheep Mulesing

- W06** That the Association:
1. remain committed to the decision of industry to address surgical mulesing by the end of 2010 in response to market concerns; and
 2. oppose any government regulation to ban the practice.
- 231 GLEN INNES

AWI Mulesing Policy

- W07** That the Association support the AWI mulesing policy.
209 RANKINS SPRINGS

GENERAL

Property Rights

- GE01** That the Association continue to vigorously support the fight against the erosion of property rights as a result of Government legislation.
006 TENTERFIELD

- GE02** That the Association lobby the State Upper House to facilitate an inquiry into the full spectrum of NSW farmers property rights in order to achieve better and fairer outcomes for farmers.
212 INVERELL

Plague Locust Control Funding

- GE03** That the Association lobby the NSW Government to:
- a) abolish the insect levy collected through the LHPA for plague locust control; and
 - b) fund future plague locust control through Government natural disaster funding
- 060 GRENFELL, 002 PEAK HILL, 117 MERRIWA, 131 JUNEE, 145 ARDLETHAN, 190 GUNDAGAI, 221 TULLAMORE

Plague Locust Control

- GE04** That the Association call on the NSW Government to fund the debit incurred in controlling plague locusts. Future funding for the NSW plague locust programme be jointly funded by the state and Federal Governments.
070 COWRA
- GE05** That the Association oppose restrictions placed on spraying of plague locusts due to environment and threatened species legislation and seek amendments to ensure no third party impact.
161 DENILQUIN
- GE06** That the association lobby plague locust control authorities that any "special exclusion zones" for the use of locust control chemicals only be implemented where neighbours are not affected by plague locust damage.
154 CANOWINDRA

Pest Insects

- GE07** That the Association lobby to have wingless grasshoppers treated the same as plague locusts and that they receive similar funding and resources to control outbreaks.
123 MOLONGLO

Control of Grasshoppers

- GE08** That the Association urge state and federal governments to give top priority to more research into control of grasshoppers whether biological or chemical control.
126 JERILDERIE

Livestock Health & Pest Authorities

- GE09** That the Association lobby the NSW Government to abolish Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPA) and all their current rates and charges.
016 GUYRA, 090 PARKES
- GE10** That the Association demand that the Livestock Health and Pest Authorities merge into the Department of Primary Industries and other local government agencies where necessary.
027 YASS
- GE11** That the Association investigate what advantages the farmers of NSW gain over their interstate peers by paying LHPA rates.
100 COOMA
- GE12** That the Association lobby for the LHPA Act to be amended to include the appointment of an independent oversight committee which is mandated to ensure that any cost shifting between Industry & Investment NSW and LHPAs be reported to ratepayers annually with public disclosure of steps taken for rectification.
156 CANOWINDRA
- GE13** That the Association seek a full review of LHPA rating policy.
017 NORTH COAST

Grasshopper Chemical

- GE14** That the Association ensure that enough insecticide will be available to combat the expected grasshopper hatching this coming spring.
037 COONABARABRAN

Department of Agriculture

- GE15** That the Association lobby the NSW State Government to reintroduce an independent Ministry and Department of Agriculture.
096 COOTAMUNDRA, 109 WELLINGTON, 177 ARMIDALE, 222 TULLAMORE

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Validity of the Pest Insect Special Purpose Rate

GE16 That the Association investigate the validity of landholders in areas not affected by the three designated locust species (Australian Plague Locust, Migratory Locust and the Spur Throated locust) being required to pay the Pest Insect Special Purpose Rate.
179 GOULBURN

Government Funding

GE17 a) That the Association lobby for Government funding for Bio Security to be maintained at all cost.
b) That funding of I&I NSW and research in agriculture is retained/increased.
217 INVERELL

Primary Industry Funding

GE18 That the Association approach the Premier to object to the continual funding cuts to agricultural industry research including the Department of Industry & Investment NSW.
210 GULARGAMBONE

Biosecurity

GE19 That the Association support biosecurity that is underpinned with sound scientific principles and rigour for the entry into Australia of any products, materials or livestock to the minimum standard of that applied to Australian products, manufacturers and suppliers.
178 ARMIDALE, 101 WELLINGTON, 228 GLEN INNES, 127 JERILDERIE

GE20 That the Association lobby the Federal Government to adopt as policy, that all food products imported into Australia, meet the same standards of Quality Assurance, Food Safety and Traceability, which apply to equivalent Australian produce.
098 FAR NORTH COAST

Chemical Containers' Labelling

GE21 That the Association request the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority adopt a policy of attaching legible tear off batch numbers and expiry dates on all agricultural chemical containers.
013 WARREN

Chemical Use Certification

GE22 That the Association ensure that the accreditation process for Chemical Use Certification is such that the trainers qualifications are audited periodically to avoid the possibility that trainers' knowledge is inadequate or becomes outdated.
044 COONABARABRAN

Chemical Supply Through LHPA's

GE23 That the Association seek to have Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPA's) provide administration staff with the appropriate qualifications to distribute agricultural chemicals for noxious animal and pest control.
089 PARKES

Chemical Accreditation

GE24 That the Association seek that the State Government ensure that Chemical Users accreditation be a one off registration, with any major changes automatically sent to the accredited person.
107 WELLINGTON, 125 CROOKWELL

Promotion and Advertising

GE25 That the Association, in its promotional and advertising material, use the term 'food and fibre production' instead of terms such as farming, grazing, or sheep producer.
211 GULARGAMBONE

Food Security

GE26 That the Association promote that ideal that Australia has a moral responsibility to sustainably produce for national and international food security.
039 COONABARABRAN

Population

GE27 That the Association urge the NFF to investigate more effective ways of educating the population on the value of agriculture.
034 GRIFFITH, 042 COONABARABRAN, 213 INVERELL

Rural Affairs

GE28 That the Association promote its key food and fibre Production Policies as significant issues in its State Election activities.
022 POTTINGER

Electricity Pricing

GE29 That the Association establishes negotiations with rural power providers so that members are benefitted by lower electricity charges.
038 COONABARABRAN

Subscription Membership

GE30 That the Association consider including a subscription membership which would be the cost of the 'post' and postage of the magazine so that we don't keep losing our best advocates from rural NSW.
047 COONABARABRAN

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Utility Access Agreements

- GE31** That the association lobby for the requirement that Utility Access Agreements offered to landholders include or have attached clauses that
- cover bio-security, O H & S and access notification issues; and
 - nominate appropriate payments to landholders for supervision responsibilities and legal advice.
- 149 CANOWINDRA

Payroll Tax Exemption for LHPAs

- GE32** That the Association work to ensure that LHPA's are exempt from payroll tax.
- 155 CANOWINDRA

Agents' Commissions

- GE33** That the Association review livestock sales to determine the feasibility of introducing transactions of \$ per head-based commissions.
- 191 GUNDAGAI

Negotiations with Government Departments

- GE34** That the NSW Farmers Association in any negotiations with Government departments, refer to existing policy, should the negotiations not reach that point, they walk away and report to the executive council for further advice regarding policy.
- 223 TULLAMORE

Equal Treatment of Farmers by Government

- GE35** That the Association lobby to ensure that all types of farmers be treated equally by government and regulating bodies and no farmers be financially disadvantaged by another.
- 241 BOMBALA

CONSERVATION & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

River Setback

- CR01** That the Association lobby the NSW Government to amend requirements under the State Environment plan that applies mandatory development setbacks on the Murray River and its tributaries.
- 162 DENILQUIN

Water Caps

- CR02** That the Association lobby the state government to stop the extra 17% water cap on the Barwon/Darling system.
- 236 BOURKE

Loss of Productive Farming Land to Mining & Urbanisation

- CR03** That the Association lobby both state and federal governments to address the loss of productive farming and grazing land and water resources to open-cut mining and urbanisation.
- 176 ARMIDALE

Land Conservation

- CR04** That the Association demand that the state Coalition immediately implement a policy protective of the Liverpool Plains, as an iconic food producing region, from degradation by coal and coal seam gas development.
- 203 QUIRINDI WILLOW TREE

Native Vegetation

- CR05** That the Association lobby State and Federal Governments for the introduction of ongoing stewardship policies and payments that will benefit landholders who have had their native vegetation 'locked up'.
- 042 COONABARABRAN

Water

- CR06** That the Association oppose that unused high security water be eligible to be carried over.
- 159 DENILQUIN

Transferable Development Rights

- CR07** That the Association promote a system of transferable development rights as a means of preserving prime agricultural land in areas adjacent to major cities and regional centres.
- 170 HUNTER/HAWKS HORTICULTURE

Rezoning of Farmland

- CR08** That it be the policy of the Association that any rezoning of farmland adjoining urban centres be dependent on approval by and the recommendation of a bona fide and transparent process of community consultation and is not determined exclusively at the discretion of administration within local government.
- 181 GOULBURN

Water Buy-Back

- CR09** That the Association lobby governments to invest in sub-system retirements to recover water for the environment.
- 187 BERRIGAN

Environmental Water

- CR10** That the Association lobby for a revision of stream categories, from 3rd category order to 5th order streams, to allow environmental and restoration works in eastern flow catchments.
- 238 BOMBALA

Native Vegetation Compliance

- CR11** That all primary production lands have the same level of compliance under the Native Vegetation laws.
- 250 WESTERN

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Water Storage - Coastal Dams

- CR12** That the Association vigorously lobby Government and Opposition for additional on stream water storage facilities to be built on the coastal rivers of NSW.
074 BEGA

Property Rights Information Kit

- CR13** That the Association develop a property rights information kit to enable landholders to further understand the right process to be undertaken when a third party proposes a development on their land holding. This could include property access, contracts, environmental and legal pitfalls, effect on land values, and appropriate remuneration.
081 COOLAH

Mining

- CR14** That the Association strongly endorse the benchmarking of air and water quality and other health and environmental data prior to exploration licences being granted.
026 POTTINGER

Minerals Exploration Licenses

- CR15** That the Association lobby that the government to be required to advise the landowner when their property comes under an exploration licence.
083 COOLAH

Gas Company Responsibilities

- CR16** That the Association lobby Government to make the gas companies responsible for landholders aquifers and put a bond of at least \$1 million per hole.
120 MERRIWA

Mining Exploration Access Agreements

- CR17** That the association insist that mining legislation incorporates the requirement that Mining Exploration Access Agreements are void where a mining or exploration company fails to incorporate clauses reflecting the science or best practice protocols for any issue requested by the landholder.
150 CANOWINDRA

Wild Dogs

- CR18** That the Association continue to push for the NPWS to bait at the same frequency as landholders ie. 40 baits/km
004 TENTERFIELD, 196 MUDGE

Wild Dogs

- CR19** That the Association lobby the NSW Government to compensate landholders for stock losses from wild dog predation due to the fact that the dogs are owned by the Crown.
005 TENTERFIELD

LHPA

- CR20** That the Association lobby and support a revision of the Rural Lands Protection Act to make a co-ordinated control of invasive pest animals compulsory on private land.
041 COONABARABRAN

Rabbits

- CR21** That the Association require all LHPAs to ensure that the myxomatosis virus and the calicivirus are reintroduced into the rabbit population on a regular basis for effective control of these noxious pests.
028 YASS

Environment

- CR22** That the Association lobby for the reintroduction of a bounty on foxes and that the program be administered by existing pest authorities.
064 BARRABA

Pest Animals

- CR23** That the Association lobby state government to instil in pest animal inspectors and LHPA rangers the power:
a) to enter and inspect public and private property
b) lay baits if required
c) recover costs of baits from land holders as required.
122 MOLONGLO

Red Necked Flying Fox

- CR24** That the Association lobby State and Federal Governments to support a review of the endangered species act and an independent audit of the Red Necked Flying Fox.
184 PARKES

Feral Animals

- CR25** Lobby the government to ease the regulation on control of animals causing problems to agriculture including kangaroos, cockatoos and wombats.
218 MANILLA

Urban Environments

- CR26** That the Association lobby state and federal governments for the environmental expectations of sustainability to be applied as firmly to urban communities as to rural communities.
229 GLEN INNES

Grey-Headed Flying Fox

- CR27** That the Association request the Minister to undertake an independent audit of the grey-headed flying fox situation in NSW (this to include colonies, numbers, habitat and emergency procedures for producers when destruction invasion occurs).
234 ORANGE

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Wild Animals and Pests

CR28 That the Association lobby the government to have wild deer declared a pest animal.
136 TAMWORTH

Noxious Weeds

CR29 That the Association lobby for Khaki weed to be declared a noxious weed.
097 COOTAMUNDRA

State Forest Boundary Fencing

CR30 That the Association lobby State Forests to contribute to the material costs associated with replacing its boundary fencing, or 50% of the total costs.
095 COOTAMUNDRA

More Appropriate Guidelines for NRM Funding

CR31 That the Association seeks a thorough review of the guidelines for Federally funded programs such as "Caring for our Country" to ensure a considerably greater percentage of funds actually ends up supporting "on-ground" projects.
067 WENTWORTH

CMA's

CR32 That the Association oppose any future ratings of landholders to fund CMA's.
198 MUDGEES

Emissions Reduction

CC04 That the Association, in conjunction with similar organisations such as NFF, AWI, MLA, SCA and other state farming bodies, initiate a media awareness campaign to highlight the advances achieved by the rural sector in reducing emissions and the positive impact of this reduction on the environment.
015 GUYRA

Research and Development

CC05 That the Association lobby Industry & Investment NSW to research carbon benefits of salt bush.
164 DENILIKUIN

Wind Farms

CC06 That the Association lobby to ensure that there is a mechanism for removal of wind farm infrastructure at the end of its life.
119 MERRIWA

Renewable Energy – Wind Farms

CC07 That the Association lobby Governments to allow for annual compensation to be equitable between landholders with wind farms and those neighbours impacted by such infrastructure.
240 BOMBALA

CLIMATE CHANGE

Carbon Trading

CC01 That the Association lobby the state and federal governments that agricultural production be exempt from any future Emissions Trading Scheme.
045 COONABARABRAN, 144 ARDLETHAN

Renewable Energy

CC02 That the Association call for amendments to the Solar Bonus Scheme such that renewable power generated on farm in excess of 10 kilowatts is also eligible for 'feed in' tariff payments.
059 GRENFELL

Carbon Price

CC03 That the Association support and advocate the government underpin an appropriate Carbon Price, primarily for the development and investment of renewable and alternative energy sources and the potential for voluntary emissions reductions.
108 WELLINGTON



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