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REGION 4

Darren

Annual Conference has begun

The Royal Agricultural Society showground today hosted the first of three days of debate concerning the most pivotal issues facing agricultural communities and industries. The Hon. Tony Burke MP addressed delegates following the President's Official Address earlier in the day and tonight, delegates will indulge in gourmet delights crafted from regional produce provided by Members at the second annual Regional Food Fair, where we expect over 500 attendees.

Tomorrow, delegates will discuss legal ownership of wheat, telecommunications and a 'First Farm Buyers Grant' proposal. In the evening, winners of Farmer of the Year, Young Farmer of the Year and the Mackellar Media Awards will be announced at the Annual Conference Gala Dinner, where past Association presidents will be recognised for their commitment over the years to the prosperity of agriculture and rural communities in NSW.

Please follow Annual Conference proceedings via the webcast at www.nswfarmers.org.au

Pre-Conference information sessions

Yesterday, Annual Conference delegates attended a series of information sessions on key emerging issues for agriculture from an economic and international marketing perspective. Speakers Mick Keogh, Australian Farm Institute, and Maya Stuart-Fox, Department of Climate Change, addressed the National Emissions Trading Scheme impact on agriculture. Others spoke on trade and the changing face of Australian agriculture. The Constitutional Taskforce Review also met yesterday ahead of three days of intense debate on the big issues facing agriculture.

Young Farmers' Forum

The 2008 Young Farmers' Forum will be held this week 30-31 July 2008 at the Royal Agricultural Society Showground, Sydney Olympic Park. This year the focus will be on how as a group the Young Farmers' can have a stronger voice and effectively use their knowledge and experience to play a bigger part in the formation of policy related to young farmers.

For an information kit click [here](#) and to see the Young Farmers' Forum Agenda click [here](#).

Tell agriculture's story

The Chief Executive today launched a new initiative, the NSW Farmers' Association Speakers Bureau "Telling Agriculture's Story", which aims to promote an understanding of life on the farm and in rural communities and agricultural issues in general. The Association is calling on all Members with a story to register their interest in the project.

For more information on "Telling Agriculture's Story" click [here](#). To register your interest click [here](#).

Members encouraged to have their say

NSW farmers and rural and regional community members are being asked to help shape Australia's drought policy, at forums being held around the state from this week looking at the social impacts of drought.

The expert panel is aiming to determine the types of social support people value in times of drought, irrespective of whether they are eligible for Exceptional Circumstances assistance.

The Association encourages Members to get along to these meetings and to have their say.

Meetings will commence next week:

Gilgandra Monday 18 August 1pm – 4pm Gilgandra Services Club

Forbes Tuesday 19 August 10am – 1pm Forbes Services Memorial Club

Griffith Thursday 21 August 9am – 12pm (Venue TBA)

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Goulburn Friday 22 August 9am – 12pm Goulburn Workers Club

For more information click [here](#).

Training

| Course | Location | Date |
|---|--------------------|------------|
| Chemical Card- Initial & Refresher Accreditation | Deepwater | 01/08/2008 |
| | Glenorie | 12/08/2008 |
| | Narromine – funded | 14/08/2008 |
| | Maitland | 28/08/2008 |
| | Nyngan – funded | 28/08/2008 |
| Chemical Card Refresher | Ag Quip, Gunnedah | 20/08/2008 |
| | Online | 15/09/2008 |
| Wheat marketing information sessions | Moree | 01/08/2008 |
| | Quirindi | 04/08/2008 |
| | Boggabri | 05/08/2008 |
| | Walgett | 06/08/2008 |
| | Dunedoo | 08/08/2008 |
| | Trangie | 18/08/2008 |
| | Parkes | 19/08/2008 |
| | Lake Cargelligo | 20/08/2008 |
| | West Wyalong | 21/08/2008 |
| | Cowra | 22/08/2008 |

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

1 August 8.30am – 4.30pm @ Moree: Wheat Marketing Info Session. Contact Robyn Diamond 6884 8822.

5 August 8.30am – 4.30pm @ Boggabri: Wheat Marketing Info Session. Contact Robyn Diamond 6884 8822.

6 August 8.30am – 4.30pm @ Walgett: Wheat Marketing Info Session. Contact Robyn Diamond 6884 8822.

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

Region 3 – Central and North West

31 July Thursday 5-8pm @ Gulargambone 2828 Blding: "Looking Forward". Contact Robyn 6884 8822. Cost: \$5.00

2 Aug Saturday @ Nyngan Showground: Ag Expo. Contact 6832 1238

7 Aug Thursday 8.30-4.30pm @ Coonamble: Wheat Marketing Information session. Contact Robyn 6884 8822. No cost.

7 Aug Thursday 5-8pm @ Trangie Bowling Club: "Looking Forward". Contact Robyn 6884 8822. Cost: \$5.00

8 Aug Friday @ Dunedoo: Wheat Marketing Information session. Contact Robyn 6884 8822. No cost.

REGION 9

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18 Aug Monday @ Trangie: Wheat Marketing Information session. Contact Robyn 6884 8822. No cost.

6 Sept Saturday @ Dubbo: Trucks Out West Expo & Dinner. Contact Trish 6882 2666. Cost \$5 adult, \$10 family, \$77 dinner.

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

Region 5 – Central West

25 July Saturday 5pm @ Barellan: DPI Country Concert (featuring James Blundell).

Enquiries: DPI Drought Support Worker Lou Revelant on 0419 167 662. Free.

6 August Wednesday @ Parkes: AWB grower meetings. Enquiries: AWB website <http://www.awb.com.au/growers/>

19 August Tuesday 1pm @ Forbes Services Memorial Club: Public forum – Drought Policy Review. Expert Panel looking at Social impacts of Drought. Enquiries: Hannah Williams (see below)

19 August Tuesday 8:30am – 4:30pm @ Parkes: Wheat marketing information sessions. Enquiries: Robyn on 02 6884 8822

20 August Wednesday 8:30am – 4:30pm @ Lake Cargelligo: Wheat marketing information sessions. Enquiries: Robyn on 02 6884 8822.

21 August Thursday 8:30am – 4:30pm @ West Wyalong: Wheat marketing information sessions. Enquiries: Robyn on 02 6884 8822

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

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Region 6 – Central West Tablelands

30 July 9.00am @ Homebush: Egg Conference. Contact Sarah Kelly 1300794000

1 August 6.30 pm @ Wellington: "Keep it Sane Stupid" Rob Anderson, Murrly Horton, Dr Ian Spencer. Contact Maryan Gavel 63696272

6 August @ Parkes: AWB Mtg. Contact AWB

14 August 9.30am to 3.30 pm @ Cowra Golf Club: Sheep & Lamb to Asia. Contact Christine 6360 8413.

19 August 10am - 1pm @ Forbes Services club: Drought Policy Review Expert Social Panel. Hannah Williams 0488009060

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

Region 7 – Sydney Basin**REGION 13**

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26 July Saturday 6.30pm – midnight @ Dockside, Darling Harbour: 2008 Horticultural Industries Dinner. Enquiries to Regional Service Manager Frances Vella on 0428 228 818. Cost: \$75 inclusive

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

Region 9 – Southern Murrumbidgee

13 Aug 6.30pm @ Corowa- Bracklesby DC Annual Dinner. Contact John Heagney. Cost \$25

21 Aug 9-12am @ Griffith Yoogali Catholic Club: DAFF Drought Policy Social Impacts Review Meeting. Contact DAFF.

For more information on Region 9 events contact Regional Services Manager Ben Poynter on 0427773584

Region 10 – Southern Central

24 July 7.30pm @ Junee Ex Services Club: Junee DC meeting. Contact Ralph Billing

28th Aug 7.30pm @ Wagga RSL club: Wagga DC meeting. Contact Bill Baker.

For more information on Region 10 events contact Regional Services Manager Debra Charlton on 0427773496

Region 11 – Southern Tablelands, Monaro & South Coast

2 August Saturday @ South Coast: Property Management Planning Course
DPI - Maryke Archbold-Hession Ph 0246 406333, Mob 0408 492 039 or email:
marvke.hession@dpi.nsw.gov.au

13 August Wednesday @ Goulburn: DPI Womens Day. Contact Liz Young (see below)

14 August Thursday @ Cooma: Wild Dog Meeting. Contact Liz Young (see below)

22 August Friday @ Goulburn: Social Impact of Drought Mtg. Contact Liz Young (see below)

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

Region 12 – Western Division

9 August Saturday 11:00am @ Louth: Louth Races

6 – 7 August 8:00am @ White Cliffs: White Cliffs Landcare Forum. Contact Pip Stalley 02 6872 2144

20 August 2pm @ Balranald District Ex Servicemen's Memorial Club: Balranald Branch Meeting "Meet the Candidates". All residents of Balranald Shire are invited to attend a community forum to meet, hear from and ask questions of candidates

30 & 31 August arrive 12pm @ "Kia-Ora" Station Via Cobar: "Rotating Farm Tour".
Contact Rikki Allen 0268373954. BYO Food, Swag and Alcohol.

For information on any events in Region 13 contact Dougall Roberts on 0428411221

Region 13 – North Coast

5 August Tuesday, 7.30pm @ Macksville Ex-Serviceman's Club: Nambucca River
branch meeting. Contact Geoff Gough 65693182.

7 August Thursday 7.30pm @ Bonalbo Bowling Club: Tabulam branch meeting.
Contact Marilyn Grundy 66653290.

9 August Saturday, 11.00am @ Bellingen showground, Bellingen: North Coast
Avocado branch meeting. Contact Alison Tolson 65690872

28 August Thursday, 7.00pm @ Exchange Hotel, Kyogle: Kyogle branch meeting,
guest speaker on Private Native Forestry. Contact Russell Bonney 66366100

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