

04.11.08

Contact us

MEMBER SERVICE CENTRE

P 1300 794 000
E [emailus@
nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:emailus@nswfarmers.org.au)

REGIONAL SERVICE MANAGERS

REGION 1

Alicia Wilson
P 02 68481109
F 02 68481109
M 0427 437 103
E [wilsona@
nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:wilsona@nswfarmers.org.au)

REGION 2

Gennie Gittoes
P 02 6766 9949
M 0429 180 560
F 02 6766 9929
E [gittoesg@
nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:gittoesg@nswfarmers.org.au)

REGION 3

Rick Bremner
P 02 6845 3842
M 0427 773 495
F 02 6845 3841
E [bremner@
nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:bremner@nswfarmers.org.au)

REGION 4

Darren Greentree
P 02 6760 9491
M 0427 411 214
F 02 6760 9458
E [greentreed@
nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:greentreed@nswfarmers.org.au)

REGION 5

Hannah Williams

Executive Council gets widespread media attention

Executive Councilors converged in Sydney last week for their annual meeting. Journalists from The Land, Prime Television, and ABC's Country Hour attended the meeting and additional coverage of the event appeared in newspapers, radio and television including WIN and NBN.

The Media Division commenced a new television project last week, with vision being shot by the Association and sent out to regional television stations. Interviews with President Jock Laurie, as well as Executive Councilors and Committee Chairs has since been run on Prime (Tamworth), NBN (Tamworth) and Win (Wagga, Dubbo, Orange) across regional NSW.

To view media coverage of Executive Council click [here](#).

State and Federal Government must pay rates on National Parks and Reserves

Farmers are calling for changes to the Local Government Act to remove the exemption that excludes State and Federal Governments from paying rates on National Parks and Nature Reserves. Business, Economics and Trade Committee Chair Susan McLeish said this exemption is having a detrimental affect on Local Government capital works projects and changes must be made.

To read more click [here](#).

Association to lobby for Serrated Tussock Officer to control the weed

The Executive Council voted to lobby for a Serrated Tussock Executive Officer/Coordinator to drive a more effective approach for the weed's control. Conservation Resource Management Committee Chair Louise Burge says Serrated Tussock is a weed of national importance and mapping shows it is spreading unchecked.

To read more click [here](#).

Horticultural research is vital: keep Merbein Research Lab open

The Association will lobby the NSW and Federal Government in a bid to keep the historic Merbein Horticultural Research Laboratory, near Mildura, open and operating. Horticultural Committee Chair Peter Darley said that the CSIRO's plan to close the 89 year old research laboratory due to significant Federal Government funding cuts, is a major blow to citrus growers, the wine industry and horticultural commodity groups along the Murray.

To read more click [here](#).

Approaching fire season prompts call for fire breaks

The Association is calling for the State Government to introduce increased protection zones for properties that are considered high fire-risks, due to their close proximity to heavily vegetated public land. Rural Affairs Committee Chair Sarah Thompson says Councilors at the Executive Council meeting voted that landholders adjoining public land and national parks should be allowed to develop a strategic fire control zone on their own land up to 200 metres wide.

To read more click [here](#).

Farmers call for tax changes to help with drought

Farmers are seeking changes to taxation laws to assist them in preparing for drought. The Executive Council meeting voted to urgently push for an accelerated depreciation rate of at least 30 percent per annum and a total of 150 percent of the capital value of grain, fodder, water storage structure and irrigation infrastructure improvements such as irrigation technology on farms.

To read more click [here](#).

Industrial Relations Seminar for Region 12

The Association's Industrial Relations department will be heading to Euston on Friday 14 November to conduct a seminar covering everything from Federal and State jurisdiction, awards, agreements and other employment standards; employment records; superannuation; employment of foreign nationals; and Workers Compensation to Occupational Health and Safety.

For more information on the event contact the Association on 1300 794 000.

Oysters in the House event next week

Oysters in the House will be held on Thursday 13 November 2008 at Customs House in Sydney. Oysters in the House is the Oyster Committee's major oyster marketing and promotional event of the year.

This will be the third year the event has been held and interest for this year's event has been unprecedented with only very limited tickets still available. Tickets are \$30 per person are they can be

P 02 6852 3569
M 0488 009 060
F 02 8282 4759
E williamsh@nswfarmers.org.au

REGION 6
Graham Blatch
P 02 6366 9104
M 0427 411 220
F 02 6366 9105
E blatchg@nswfarmers.org.au

REGION 7
Frances Vella
P 02 4655 8888
M 0428 228 818
F 02 4655 5055
E vellaf@nswfarmers.org.au

REGION 8
Liz Young
P 02 6453 7111
M 0428 411 218
F 02 8916 7103
E youngl@nswfarmers.org.au

REGION 9
Ben Poynter
P 02 6962 9926
M 0427 773 584
F 02 6962 9594
E poynterb@nswfarmers.org.au

REGION 10
Liz Young
P 02 6453 7111
M 0428 411 218
F 02 8916 7103
E youngl@nswfarmers.org.au

REGION 11
Liz Young
P 02 6453 7111
M 0428 411 218
F 02 8916 7103
E youngl@nswfarmers.org.au

obtained by phoning (02) 8251 1881.

Where Orange and red meat

Australian National Field Days and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) invite you to join us for the Orange Meat Profit Day. This major red meat industry event will be held at the Australian National Field Days Site on Wednesday, 12 November 2008.

The organising committee, made up of a group of dynamic individuals from the local community, has developed a program of thought provoking topics in line with the theme 'Where Orange and red meat'. A great line up of inspirational speakers has been secured and includes academics, producers and industry specialists discussing topics that will be relevant to you, your enterprise and the red meat industry. To register or for further information please call 1800 675 717

To view the full program click [here](#).

Sheep Information Open Day

The Sheep CRC Information Open day will be held on Thursday 20 November 2008 at Trangie Research Station, Mitchell Hwy, 7 km west of Trangie, NSW from 9.30 am until 4pm. Sheep CRC will provide a free BBQ lamb lunch. Presentations and displays will feature work in genetics.

As a large attendance is expected, if you are planning to attend please RSVP to NSW DPI Trangie by 14th November, Tel: (02) 6880 8000 Fax: (02) 6888 7201 Email: trangie.office@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Mental Health Sessions

The NSW Farmers' Mental Health Network is hosting a series of Mental Health Information Sessions across the state in coming months with Dr. Leanne Craze of Craze Lateral Solutions. The major aim of the sessions is to provide farmers and farming service providers with information about common mental disorders (stress, depression, anxiety, trauma, grief and loss), strategies to help people and appropriate local referral options.

Gunning	Thursday 6 November, Rural Supply Shed, Gunning 8.00am – 11.00am
Goulburn	Thursday 6 November, CWA Rooms, Goulburn 6.00 – 9.00pm
Picton	Friday 7 November, Bowling Club, Picton 12.00 – 3.00pm

To read the Association's press release click [here](#).

For more information contact Leanne Craze on 02 62381549 or leanne.craze@bigpond.com or click [here](#).

On the wireless

Primary Report is the NSW Farmers' Association's weekly radio program that has been broadcast, under various names, for over 50 years and is the longest running produced radio program in Australia.

It is produced in-house by the Association and, while it is an opportunity to let farmers and rural communities know what the Association is doing, the program also discusses everything in terms of what issues mean to the average farmer and how they might be impacted.

On this week's edition:

Chief Executive Shaughn Morgan – "Executive Council"

Executive Councilor Sam Archer – "Nuffield Scholarships"

Executive Council Fiona Simpson – "covering coal loads"

Horticulture Committee Chair Peter Darley – "the future of fruit innovations"

To hear the current edition of Primary Report click [here](#).

On the web

For regular updates by NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie on the issues important to farmers, visit Jock's online blog at www.blognow.com.au/jocklaurie

In the news

To view the October edition of Farm Post click [here](#). Edition 29 is due out in early December.

Training

Course	Location	Date
Chemical Card Initial & Refresher	Online (Initial Only)	10/11/2008
	Walcha	13/11/2008
	Glen Innes	14/11/2008
	Macksville	14/11/2008
	Wellington	20/11/2008
	Wagga Wagga	24/11/2008
Chemical Card Refresher	Online – 1pm to 4pm	13/11/2008

REGION 12
Dougall Roberts
 P 02 6870 1691
 M 0428 411 221
 F 02 6870 1693
 E robertsd@nswfarmers.org.au

REGION 13
Michael Burt
 P 02 6564 2355
 M 0428 228 988
 F 02 6564 2357
 E burtm@nswfarmers.org.au

Succession Planning	Yeoval Glen Innes	17/11/2008 20/11/2008
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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 training to allow time for delivery of the home study materials.

Regional events

Region 1 North West Alicia Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For more information on Region 1 events, contact Regional Service Manager Alicia Wilson on 0427 437 103
Region 2 New England Gennie Gittoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22 November 12 onwards @ Wollomombi Hall: Annual Farm Family Gathering including free BBQ, entertainment and info. Contact David Moen (02) 67781255 or Gennie Gittoes (02) 67669949. Free.
Region 3 Central and North West Rick Bremner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 November 9.30-4.00pm @ Trangie Research Station: Sheep CRC Information Nucleus Open Day. RSVP DPI Trangie (02) 6880 8000. Free. Lunch provided
Region 4 Lower New England and Liverpool Plains Darren Greentree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 November 9.45am @ Tamworth: Mate helping Mate. Contact Jenny Croft 0429 446417. 4 December 9am @ Quirindi: Namoi Healthy Soils Workshop. Contact Col Easton (02) 67 645940. Free.
Region 5 Central West Hannah Williams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 November Saturday 7pm @ Forbes Inn, Forbes: Red Bend Catholic College P&F invite you to join Kerry O'Keefe for dinner...table of 10 or individual bookings available. Evening consists of a three course meal and a monster Raffle. A bus is departing from Parkes. Enquiries to Sharon Maguire on (02) 6856 3161. Cost \$55. 12 November Wednesday @ Australian National Field Day Site: Orange Meat Profit Day. Enquiries to MLA on 1800 675 717. Cost \$20 for Members, \$30 for non Members. 15 November Saturday 10am - 4pm @ Presbyterian Church Hall Condobolin: Sandra Martin Style and Image Day, including guest speakers and stalls. Enquiries to Jan Bruce on 0427 257 191 or Di Gill on (02) 6895 2600. Free event.
Region 6 Central West Tablelands Graham Blatch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 November 7.30 @ Bathurst St Pats Club: Bathurst District Council Meeting. Contact Eulyce Arkleysmith 6 November 7.00 pm @ Canowindra Ex Services Club: Grains Mtg. Contact Stuart McDonald (02)6364 0200 12 November @ ANFD Site: Meat for Profit Day. Contact MLA. 17 November 10.00am @ Yeoval Golf Club: Succession planning. Contact Little River Land Care. 19 November 7.00 @ Oberon RSL: Bruce Clements on "Strategies in a changing climate". Contact John Lowe (02) 6359 3244. 29 November 5.00pm @ Venue to be advised: Christmas meeting with BMA.
Region 7 Sydney Basin, Lower Hunter & Port Stephens Frances Vella	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 November Friday, 12 – 3pm @ Picton Bowling Club, Corner Argyle & Cliff Streets: Mental Health Information Workshop. Contact Leanne Craze (02) 62381549 or 0408869051. Free event. 7 - 8 November Friday - Saturday 9am to 4pm @ Richmond Racecourse, Clarendon: Small Farm Expo. Contact Frances Vella 0428 228 818 or NSW Farmers' Association 1300 794 000. Entry Fee applies. 10 November Monday, 6pm for light meal, 7pm start @ Plant Breeding Institute, University of Sydney, Cobbitty: Camden Horticulture Branch Meeting. Contact Vince Hewson 0419 618 537. Free. 10 November Monday, 4 – 7pm followed by dinner @ Penrith Panthers, Mulgoa Road, Penrith: Laying Chicken (R&D) levy review consultative workshops. Contact Lorraine at AECL (02) 9409 6999. Free event. 13 November Thursday, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, or 6.30pm @ Customs House, Circular Quay: Oysters in the House. Contact Event Directors (02) 4333 6039. Cost \$30 each or a table of 8 for \$216. 13 November Thursday, 1pm-4pm @ Online: Online Chemical Card Refresher. Contact NSW Farmers Association Training (02) 6884 8822. Cost: Members \$175. Non-members \$220.
Region 8 Lower Central Western Slopes Liz Young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 November Thursday 8am – 11am @ Gunning: Mental Health Information Session. Sessions are conducted by Dr Leanne Craze, an experienced mental health trainer. To book or make inquiries call Leanne Craze 02 62381549 or 0408869051. Email: Leanne.Craze@bigpond.com or visit www.CrazeLateralSolutions.com 17 November Monday 6.30 - 9pm @ Yass TAFE NSW Campus: Wool Industry Forum. The Future for Training & Education. Will discuss a severe shortage of trained shed hands with aim to secure industry support for the training of shed hands, farm hands, wool handlers and wool classers. Discussion of training options and other items. For further enquires call Jillian Atkinson (02) 48231878 or Helena Granger (02) 48447066. Please RSVP to (02) 4844 7066 by 3rd November for catering.
Region 9 Southern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For more information on events in Region 9 contact Regional Service Manager Ben Poynter 0427 773 584

Murrumbidgee
Ben Poynter

**Region 10
Southern Central**
Liz Young

- 6 November Thursday, 8.00am @ Conference Room, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Pine Gully Road, Wagga Wagga: **Working Breakfast on GM Crops**. This working breakfast is aimed at farmers, advisors and consultants who are interested in learning more about GM crops and their impact. The two speakers will share their international knowledge of GM crops, with their presentations followed by a forum session. Contact Dr Rex Stanton (02) 6938 1618, Email: rstanton@csu.edu.au PLEASE RSVP for catering purposes. This is a FREE event - however if you wish to have breakfast, please RSVP so that we can cater appropriately.

**Region 11 Southern
Tablelands, Monaro
and South Coast**
Liz Young

- November 5 Wednesday evening session @ Crookwell Showground: "Making More from Sheep" field days. Contact Tony Cavanagh (Goulburn RLPS Manager) (02) 4821 2522.
- November 8 Saturday all day @ Crookwell Showground: "Making More from Sheep" field days. Contact Tony Cavanagh (Goulburn RLPS Manager) (02) 4821 2522.
- 6 November Thursday 6pm to 9pm @ Goulburn: **Mental Health Information Session**. Sessions are conducted by Dr Leanne Craze, an experienced mental health trainer. To book or make inquiries call Leanne Craze 02 62381549 or 0408869051. Email: Leanne.Craze@bigpond.com or visit www.CrazeLateralSolutions.com
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- 12 November 9:00am – 2:00pm @ Queanbeyan Kangaroo RLFC Stuart Street Queanbeyan: **WorkCover OH&S Workshop**. Please contact 1800 624 097 to register your seat, or visit www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/safebusiness for further information.

**Region 12
Western Division**
Dougall Roberts

- 14 November 2:00pm @ Euston Club: **IR Seminar "Back to Basics"**. Contact Dougall Roberts.
- 5 December afternoon @ Booligal: **Oxley/Booligal Branch Meeting**. Contact Helen Morphett (02) 6993 8157

**Region 13
North Coast**
Michael Burt

- 4 November Tuesday, 7.30pm @ Macksville Ex-Serviceman's Club: **Nambucca River branch meeting**. Geoff Gough (02) 6569 3182.
- 6 November Thursday, 7.30pm @ Casino RSM Club: **Far North Coast District Council Meeting**. Contact Kath Robb (02) 66281110.
- 13 November Thursday, 7.30pm @ Kempsey CWA Hall: **Macleay Valley branch meeting**. Contact Susan Ramke (02) 6566 8081.
- 14 November Friday, 10.00am to 3.00pm @ Coffs Harbour Catholic Club: **Region 13 Meeting** guest speaker from WorkCover. Contact Deborah Willis (02) 65567216. Lunch included.
- 20 November Thursday, 7.30 pm @ Exchange Hotel, Kyogle: **Kyogle branch meeting**. Contact Russell Bonney (02) 6636 6100.

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