



# Plains Talk

A monthly newsletter brought to you by your local LHPA, DPI & CMA

*Plains Talk is currently being emailed monthly to over 800 landholders.*

*It is also available to view online at <http://www.lhpa.org.au/districts/centralwest>*

*If you aren't on the mailing list and would like to be, please email me! [jillian.kelly@lhpa.org.au](mailto:jillian.kelly@lhpa.org.au)*

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A big thank you to the Grassland Society of NSW who were responsible for putting on the Pasture update day at Trangie during September, along with the CMA, MLA & DPI.

I apologise that I cut their logo off the top of the ad that appeared in the September edition of Plains Talk. By all reports the day was a success, and was very well received by the landholders that attended. Look out for a full report on the day in the November issue of Plains Talk.

- Jillian Kelly



## OJD Regional Biosecurity Areas (Nyngan & Coonamble)

*Two Months after the Beginning of the New Program - How Are Things Going??*

*Dr Jillian Kelly, District Veterinarian*

During July and August there have been 18 mobs of sheep move into the Nyngan area, and nine mobs move into the Coonamble area.

Both groups are running well because producers in these areas are making safe sheep purchasing decisions with the Regional Biosecurity Area guidelines in mind. Producers are also doing a good job of submitting Sheep Health Statements to their local LHPA.

Reports from producers and agents in this area are positive, with many taking advantage of being able to market their sheep into areas such as Qld, SA and the Western Division.

Remember, the continued success of these groups rely on ALL producers whose PICs start with a 17 or a 10, doing the right thing. If you are not sure how to read a Sheep Health Statement, or are unclear on the guidelines, please ring your local District Vet for advice. And please submit a Sheep Health Statement to your nearest LHPA office whenever you bring sheep (including rams) into these areas (before I have to chase you!)

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## Farm Biosecurity Gate Signs Now Available



For any producer who is serious about farm biosecurity, these signs are now available through Animal Health Australia. Proper signage is an essential tool of any farm's biosecurity plan and a gate sign informing all visitors of your farm biosecurity requirements is the first step in preventing costly disease, pest and weed incursions.

They are corflute signs and measure 90cm by 60cm. They are suitable for all farm types, and leave ample space for the producer's or farm manager's contact phone numbers to be added. They are \$40.00 each which includes GST and postage.

For more information or to order one, contact Animal Health Australia's Kelly Wall on (02) 6203 3948 or email [kwall@animalhealthaustralia.com.au](mailto:kwall@animalhealthaustralia.com.au)

# Parthenium Weed **Threatens** NSW

*Ian Kelly, Chief Weeds Officer, Castlereagh Macquarie County Council*

Parthenium Weed is regarded as one of the most serious weed that threatens NSW, and the State Government has made keeping the weed out a top priority.

Once established, Parthenium Weed very quickly builds a huge seed bank in the soil, which makes eradication difficult and expensive. It is a threat to agriculture because it is unpalatable to livestock and competes with pastures and crops. Livestock carrying capacity is significantly reduced in areas once it becomes established.

Parthenium Weed can also be detrimental to human health, causing allergic reactions including asthma and severe contact dermatitis.

Parthenium Weed grows throughout the spring and summer months and can grow to 1.5 metres in height. It is often spread to NSW from Qld on harvesting machinery, so farmers are advised to keep a look out if they are lucky enough to get a harvest!

The most recent infestation found in our area was on a roadside just outside Warren. One plant was detected by a local Weeds Officer. A control program was undertaken, and the weed was successfully eradicated. It is due to the vigilance of local staff, and the local farming community that this infestation did not spread.

It is a noxious weed throughout NSW under the NSW Noxious Weeds Act 1993. If detected, the weed must be eradicated, and ongoing management is enforced to ensure that the area is kept free of the plant. It is also a notifiable weed and all outbreaks must be reported to your local Weed Authority.

For further information please contact Castlereagh Macquarie County Council on 02 6822 2377 or your local council Weeds Authority.

## Farmers and government beating the feral pig problem near Trangie

A partnership between government agencies and landholders in the Gin Gin region near Trangie has [significantly reduced the local feral pig population](#) with wins for agriculture and the environment.

Follow the link above to view an impressive YouTube video on the latest project featuring LHPA Ranger **Lucas Scales**, CMAs **Matt Lane** and Landholder **Ray Haigh**.

The project was coordinated by the Central West Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA) and jointly funded by the Central West Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and local landholders.

### **Pest animal problem?**

The Central West CMA and Central West Livestock Health and Pest Authority can help landholders in target regions manage problem pests.

[Read on to find out more...](#)

## MACARTHUR-STANHAM TO LEAD LOCAL LAND SERVICES

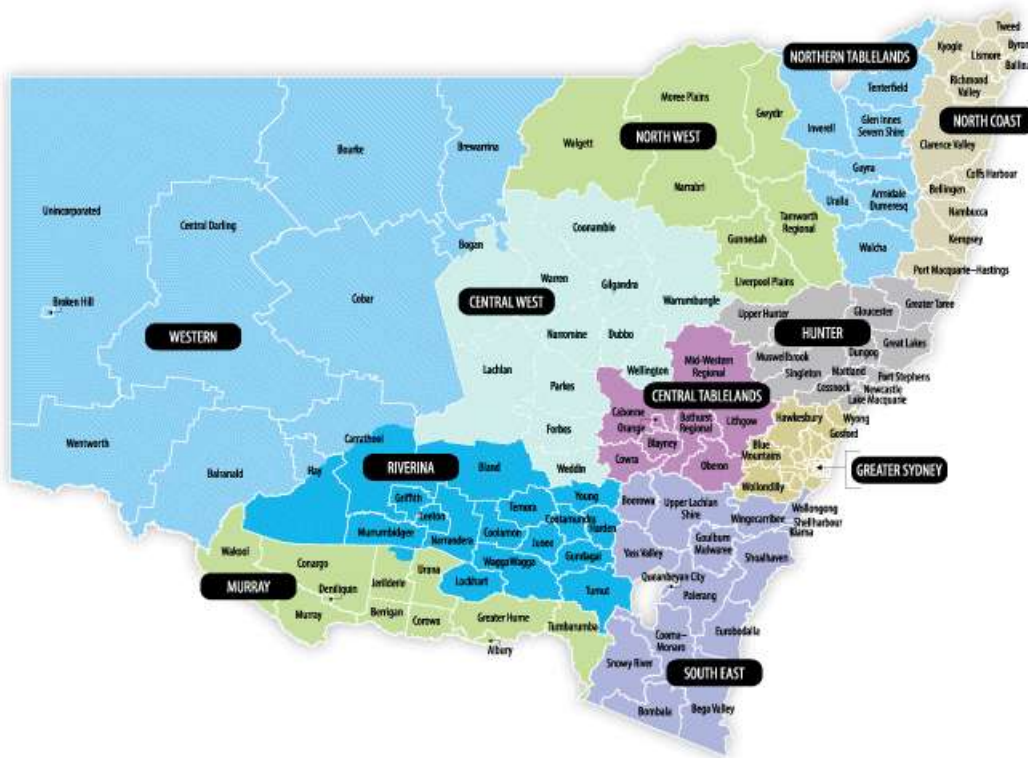
Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, has announced the appointment of Mr John Macarthur-Stanham as the inaugural Chair of the Local Land Services (LLS) Board of Chairs. Ms Hodgkinson said the appointment is a key step in the creation of LLS and, as such, Mr Macarthur-Stanham will begin immediately.

“Mr Macarthur-Stanham is an excellent leader, with outstanding credentials, experience, a deep understanding of regional NSW and empathy for rural Australia,” Ms Hodgkinson said. “Mr Macarthur-Stanham’s impressive background will stand him in good stead to establish LLS as an innovative and effective organisation for the future.”

Mr Macarthur-Stanham has held senior positions and directorships including appointments with Dairy Farmers Milk Co-operative, CSR, Sugar Australia, Sydney Catchment Authority and The Trust Company and he also runs a dairy farm and poultry operation at Menangle. “Mr Macarthur-Stanham is well aware of the importance of LLS charter in the areas of biosecurity, natural resource management, agricultural advice and emergency management,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

Mr Macarthur-Stanham said he is delighted to have been appointed as the Chair of the LLS Board of Chairs. “My first priority will be to meet with farmers and stakeholders, listen to what they have to say and build on their feedback to create an effective organisation that works and delivers,” Mr Macarthur-Stanham said. “This is a terrific opportunity to modernise and bring together valuable service delivery functions. The work that has been done to date appears to have laid a great platform. At the core of LLS is a governance structure designed to give local boards the capacity to set and respond to regional priorities. I am confident the structure will simplify governance, while improving service delivery to farmers and land managers.”

LLS will be operational from January 2014 and combines the expertise and knowledge of Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPA), Catchment Management Authorities (CMA) and some Department of Primary Industries (DPI) agriculture advisory services. More information on LLS is available at [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/locallandservices](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/locallandservices)



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# Monepantel-Resistant Goat and Sheep Worms and Drench Resistant Cattle Worms

October 2013

*Dr Stephen Love, Veterinarian, NSW DPI*

Sadly, the first confirmed case of resistance to Zolvix (monepantel (MPL)) in the field has been reported. A case of MPL-resistant worms on a goat farm in New Zealand was published recently, less than four years after the world-launch of this new drench active in the same country. The report, by scientists Dr Ian Scott and others, recently appeared in the journal, *Veterinary Parasitology*. Tests on the farm showed MPL had zero efficacy against small brown stomach worm and black scour worm in goats and sheep.

All the older broad-spectrum drench families had failed on this property, including triple combination products, so the farmer resorted to MPL, which is not registered for use in goats, using it and it alone 17 times in less than two years until it failed. Towards the end at least, MPL was used at a higher dose rate than that specified for sheep, which is normally required when using sheep drenches in goats.

The only drench that now appears to work on this farm is 'Startect', which contains derquantel, the newest drench active on the market. Startect is a combination of derquantel and abamectin, and was released in NZ a year or so after MPL. (Startect is not yet available in Australia). Given worms on this goat farm are resistant to virtually all drenches, including abamectin, it is unclear how long Startect will hold out. I don't like the odds.

Lest there is a temptation to blame others, the sheep industry historically has been quite adept at breeding its own drug-resistant worms, with or without 'assistance' from goat producers. However, as with most drenches, MPL is 'processed' faster in goats than sheep, and using higher doses in goats may only partly off-set this. From this, Dr Scott and colleagues argue that, although the property in question runs sheep and goats, it is likely that the goats contributed more in this case to the development of resistance to monepantel.

What can be done? Firstly, keep resistant worms out. Use an adequate quarantine procedure. No single drench is adequate. WormBoss.com.au can help you with this. Secondly, but just as important, try to slow down the emergence of resistance in your own 'home-bred' worms. Consider the following:

- Use the right drench at the right time. The right drench? The one or ones that are shown by testing to be still highly effective on your farm. Use these in rotation, or better, in combination.
- Timing? For the most part, this is based on regular worm egg count (WEC) monitoring (WormTesting). There may also be routine drenches, e.g. at weaning, depending on your region. (Check WormBoss).
- Drenching unnecessarily results in stronger selection for drench-resistant worms, particularly when there are few worms 'in refugium' e.g. during droughts, or after moving sheep onto very clean paddocks, such as cereal stubbles.
- Don't rely on drenches alone. Employ 'integrated parasite management' (IPM). This includes improving flock immunity, by means of nutrition and genetics. Also use grazing management (worms just love set-stocking) to reduce worminess of pastures. Again, WormBoss has the good oil on this.
- In short, use the three **Ws**: **W**EC before you consider drenching, **W**EC after you drench to see if the drench worked, and use **W**ormBoss.

Are cattle producers sans souci? Drench-resistant cattle worms are an issue too. Surveys in Australia and elsewhere have shown this, and with each day there are more and more field reports of cattle drenches not working well. Begin by checking drench efficacy. Do a WEC on the day you drench or just before, and another 14 days later. As with sheep, consider combination rather than single-active broad-spectrum drenches, but this should be part of 'IPM' including, for example, grazing management.

**P.S. The Central West LHPA will be looking for some weaner cattle to do some drench resistance trials on in 2014. If you are interested in participating, contact your local District Veterinarian.**

*A big thank you to Stephen Love for contributing this article. Stephen is a veterinarian and State Coordinator of Internal Parasites at the NSW DPI based in Armidale.*



### ***New native vegetation regulation changes commence on 23 September***

The NSW Government has published a new native vegetation regulation which will commence on 23 September.

To find out visit the [Office of Environment and Heritage's website](#) or [read Minister Parker's media release...](#)

**You can also read the [snapshot of changes to the Regulation](#), find out [what's new for landholders](#) and [learn how the regulation changes will be implemented](#).**

### ***Children's book helping protect local threatened butterfly***

Before they've even reached high school, a group of children from Meadow Flat can add "published author" to their list of achievements.

The Years 3 to 6 children from Meadow Flat Public School near Bathurst [wrote a book about the local threatened species](#) the purple copper butterfly, which has been published by the Central West CMA.

### ***Yellow Mimosa listed as feral native species***

Yellow Mimosa (*Vachellia farnesiana*) is now listed as a feral native species for all of NSW.

This allows land managers to clear the species as a routine agricultural management activity without requiring approval from the NSW Government. [Read Minister Parker's feral native species order...](#)

### ***Our remaining incentives...***

There are still opportunities to:

- protect and rehabilitate targeted riparian areas and remnant woodlands in the Fish River area near Bathurst
- develop a farm management plan for any property within the Central West Catchment region
- undertake or improve strategic or rotational grazing practices to increase groundcover in the lower Macquarie floodplain region.
- protect and rehabilitate wetland and creek areas in the lower Macquarie floodplain region.

[See what is there to support your natural resource management work...](#)

### ***Australia bans 2,4-D HVE***

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority has [cancelled the registration of 11 high volatile ester products \(HVE\) products and two active constituents](#).

The decision means that the supply of cancelled 2,4-D HVE active constituent is to cease immediately. From 31 August 2013 the supply of product containing 2,4-D HVE manufactured up to 21 August 2013 is to cease.

People can use products they have already purchased up until 31 August 2014 under the same permit instructions (PER14329) which restricts use to winter only and under strict conditions - use of these products after 31 August 2014 will be illegal.

### ***Local Council Green Team working together to protect our waterways***

The Councils of the Central West has started work on a project called the Local Green Team that will see Councils and Council staff working together across their regions to protect and enhance the local environment.

[Read more about the Local Green Team here.](#)

### ***Check out our performance this year***

Every six months we review our performance against key indicators. You can see how we are tracking through the [June 2013 Dashboard report...](#)



Test With Confidence™



## YOU'RE INVITED!

### Cattle Seminar-Improving your herd performance

Topics include:

- Optimising reproduction through nutritional management with trace elements and vitamins
- Systematic strategies for managing BVDV (Pestivirus)
- Improving the reproductive profile of your herd with Fixed Time Artificial Insemination (FTAI) Programs
- Techniques that manage AI (Artificial Insemination) programmes on the farm

Our guest speakers are two of the cattle industries foremost authorities in their fields:

#### Dr Paul Cusack BSc.BVSc (hons) MVSt.MACVSc.PhD

Paul is a cattle veterinarian, ruminant nutritionist and beef producer with post graduate training in the intensive and extensive ruminant industries. Paul consults to client including intensive and extensive cattle operations and lamb enterprises throughout the Eastern states of Australia.

#### Dr Enoch Bergman DVM

Enoch is a partner at **Swans Veterinary Services** in Esperance WA and a BVDV expert consultant and is a member of the BVDV Technical Advisory Group. Enoch's experience extends well beyond BVDV management, he strives to improve the reproductive efficiency of his client's beef herds, focusing on heifer development and, challenging his clients to "build a better cow".

#### Meeting details:

<p align="center"><b><u>Furneys CRT</u></b></p> <p><b>Address:</b> 1 Bourke St, Dubbo  <b>Date:</b> 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013  <b>Time:</b> 9:30am - 1:00pm          (BBQ lunch provided)</p> <p><b>RSVP:</b> 4<sup>th</sup> October to  <b>02 68825222</b> or  <a href="mailto:pthornton@deltaag.com.au">pthornton@deltaag.com.au</a></p> <p><b>Cost:</b> \$25 per person</p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Cowra Bowling Club</u></b></p> <p><b>Address:</b> 27 Vaux St,          Cowra  <b>Date:</b> 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013  <b>Time:</b> 5:30pm - 9:00pm          (Refreshments provided)</p> <p><b>RSVP:</b> 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013 to  <b>02 63421844</b> or  <a href="mailto:cbrown@deltaag.com.au">cbrown@deltaag.com.au</a></p> <p><b>Cost:</b> \$25 per person</p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Ladysmith Memorial Hall</u></b></p> <p><b>Address:</b> Tumberumba Rd,          Ladysmith  <b>Date:</b> 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013  <b>Time:</b> 8:00am - 11:00am          (BBQ breakfast provided from 7am)</p> <p><b>RSVP:</b> 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013 to  <b>02 69717100</b> or  <a href="mailto:mhardy@deltaag.com.au">mhardy@deltaag.com.au</a></p> <p><b>Cost:</b> \$25 per person</p>
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