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## Events, workshops and field days

<b>1080</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>pindone</b>	<b>training</b>
<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">your</a>	<a href="#">nearest</a>	<a href="#">LLS office</a>
<b>7</b>			<b>May</b>
<a href="#">Recognising Grasses</a>		-	<a href="#">Bingara</a>
<a href="#">Mental</a>	<a href="#">Health</a>	<a href="#">Night</a>	- <a href="#">Eugowra</a>
<b>8</b>			<b>May</b>
<a href="#">Identifying Grasses - Bingara</a>			
<b>11</b>			<b>May</b>
<a href="#">Herd quitter seminar series - Tamworth</a>			
<b>13</b>			<b>May</b>
<a href="#">Herd quitter seminar series - Yeoval</a>			
<b>15</b>			<b>May</b>
<a href="#">Herd quitter seminar series - Albury</a>			
<b>15-16 May</b>			
<a href="#">Retreat for Rural Women - Tooraweenah</a>			
<b>30-31 May</b>			
<a href="#">Retreat for Rural Women - Nyngan</a>			
<b>1-3 September</b>			
<a href="#">NSW Landcare Conference - Orange</a>			

## Wild dogs caught: relief and reminder for landholders

Three wild dogs have been recently caught by landholders in Merrygoen, Dubbo and Bruie Plains after working in partnership with Local Land Services.

While the Merrygoen dog had not been known to attack livestock, the Dubbo animal had killed over 60 sheep in the area and the Bruie Plains dog had killed at least four sheep.

If you suspect you have wild dog activity on your land, [please let us know](#).

[Read more the dogs caught...](#)

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## Rates reminder

Annual rates notices will be arriving soon (if not already). Your rates contribute to a wide range of services delivered within your region.

[More information on rates and our services.](#)

[Contact our customer service staff for enquiries...](#)

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## Wild dog video series now online

We've worked with Coonabarabran trapper John Ward to develop a series of [short videos on wild dog management principles and trapping techniques.](#)



These resources will help landholders monitor and manage wild dogs on their land and complement training available.

[Watch online now..](#)

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## Annual Grazing Permits applications now open

We are now inviting [applications for annual grazing permits](#) on selected travelling stock reserves under our control for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

The information package includes the approximate size and stock water facilities available for each reserve.

The reserves are located in the following areas within the Central West Local Land Services region:

- Coonabarabran
- Coonamble
- Dubbo



- Forbes
- Molong
- Nyngan.

**Applications must be received by 5pm 22 May.**

[Find out more...](#)

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## Native Grass ID courses - Bingara

### Recognising Grasses - 7 May

This one day course shows you how to recognise common weedy, native and desirable introduced grasses and understand what they may indicate about the environment and management of a site.

[Find out more about the course...](#)

### Identifying Grasses - 8 May

This is a one day course to extend your knowledge and skills beyond the basic recognition and collection techniques developed in the [Recognising Grasses course](#).

This course aims to develop skills and knowledge to identify grass species anywhere in NSW using botanical keys and to develop a professional quality reference herbarium.

[Find out more about the course...](#)

For further information on either of these, please call either Cassie Gardiner (6763 1276) or Julie Chapman (6763 1285).

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## Herd quitter seminar series - Tamworth, Yeoval, Albury

Resource Consulting Services Australia is bringing industry leader Kit Pharo of Colorado, USA to Australia for a series of presentations about:

- business management
- production vs. profit
- livestock marketing
- current soil carbon opportunities.

The NSW seminars will run from 9:30am-3pm and conclude with an interactive panel discussion.

[Tickets can be purchased at Eventbrite...](#)

[Find out more...](#)

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## NSW Landcare Conference, 1-3 September, Orange

Central Tablelands Local Land Services and the Department of Primary Industries are excited to be hosting the 2015 NSW Local Land Services and Landcare conference in Orange.

The theme for this year's conference is 'From the Ground Up' representing the Landcare ethos and celebrating the International Year of Soils.

The conference will be held 1 – 3 September in Orange NSW.

To keep up to date:

- join the [mailing list](#)
- follow the conference [Facebook page](#).

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## Retreats for Rural Women - Tooraweenah and Nyngan

Free rural women's retreat workshops are being held at Tooraweenah (15 & 16 May) and Nyngan (30 & 31 May) as part of the Australian Government's Drought Assistance Package.

The retreats are a short break to:

- remember your skills to deal with stress

- learn new steps to deal with everyday life
- have a massage or two.

[Find out more and book your spot...](#)

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## Direct contact details for our staff



You can find out who your local staff are and their details [in just one click.](#)

Staff contact details (including mobile phone numbers) [are up on our website](#) to help deliver our services to the community.

[Find your local contacts](#)

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## Share your experience and ideas on Drought Preparedness

Spend five minutes of your time to provide drought information about you and your farm business. This survey is confidential and no personal contact details are recorded.

By answering the three questions you will help build a clearer picture of how drought-affected farming communities have coped personally as well as in their farm business.

This survey **closes on the 30th June 2015.**

[Take the survey now...](#)

This information is being collected by the NSW Department of Primary Industries Rural Resilience Program, which aims to build connected viable farming communities.

To find out more [email the Rural Resilience Program...](#)

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## Native veg codes workshops well received by community

Last month we hosted information sessions to explain the [new native vegetation clearing codes](#).

Around 260 landholders, clearing contractors and agribusiness consultants attended the workshops in Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Nyngan, Forbes, Condobolin and Dubbo.

Workshops were aimed at dispelling myths, identifying opportunities for development and providing technical support through the legislation.

[Read more about the workshops and codes...](#)

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## Summary of the current concessional loans available

You are no doubt aware there are concessional loans currently available to eligible primary producers.

In actual fact there are a number of concessional loans.

To avoid any confusion about eligibility criteria for each of the loans, the Rural Assistance Authority has developed a table which outlines the essential points of each loan.

[Find out more about the various loans available...](#)

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## Mental health awareness night - Eugowra

Would you like to know how to recognise when someone isn't travelling that well?

Come to the [Eugowra Mental Health Awareness Night on 7 May](#).

[Find out more...](#)

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## GRDC GroundCover TV now available

The Grains Research and Development Corporation has released their latest series of short videos to help producers. There are 20 topics including:

- monitoring for insects
- pulse herbicide tolerance
- options after frost
- integrated pest management strategies.

[Watch online now...](#)

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## Locust update: mark egg beds in preparation for spring

Although locust activity is slowing with the cold weather, we're reminding the community to keep reporting any activity and monitor for laying and hatching.



Our current advice is to:

- control any emerging locusts over the coming weeks
- mark any known beds and talk to Local Land Services staff on monitoring and management.

This is the last weekly update until our spring campaign commences.

[Read more](#) or watch a [short video update...](#)

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## Got big bull calves to castrate?

It is illegal to castrate calves greater than six months of age in NSW. The ideal age to castrate male calves is a minimum of two and up to eight weeks of age.

The younger the better as this minimises pain and ensures a quick recovery with minimal loss in production.

However, we know that sometimes circumstances arise when you may find yourselves with big bull calves from time to time. So, what's the best way to go about this?

[Read more about calf castration, methods and planning...](#)

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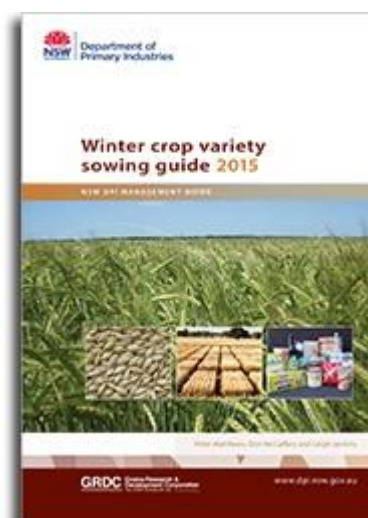
## Winter crop variety sowing guide now available

The 2015 DPI guide is [now available online](#) or [from our offices](#).

This guide helps to select the most suitable variety and contains updated technical information from the latest research, extension and industry programs.

It helps growers make better cropping decisions and higher profits. Consult your local agronomist or farm adviser for more specific advice.

[Read more...](#)



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## Locust ID guide

[Read the Locust identification guide](#) to learn more about locust species and how to identify them.

We encourage you to [report any locust activity on your property](#).

It is simple and easy – use [our online form](#).

Alternatively call 1300 795 299 or [visit one of our local offices](#).

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## Update your National Vendor Declaration forms

Did you know that some Livestock Production Assurance National Vendor Declaration forms are now redundant?

Check out the link to make sure you are using the right version, as buyers are able to refuse purchase where old versions are being used when presented for sale.

[More information...](#)

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## 1080 and Pindone courses near you

[Contact your nearest Local Land Services office](#) to find out when the next 1080 or Pindone course is running and register your interest.

Our staff run short training courses regular which will allow you to use 1080 and Pindone baits on your property.

The three-hour course will give you a clear understanding of 1080 and Pindone use and your legal obligations.

The AQF chemical application courses remain a requirement for use of any other pesticide.

The training courses are delivered by our biosecurity officers and cover topics such as baiting techniques, toxicity, storage, transport, legislation and OH&S. Those completing the course will be issued a certification card and will remain accredited to use 1080 and Pindone for five years.

A small fee is charged for the course.

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## Helpful handbook to control weeds

The Department of Primary Industries recently released their latest [Noxious and Environmental Control Handbook](#).

Refer to it for the most up-to-date information on controlling weeds.

[Check it out here...](#)

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## New Learning and Teaching Standards for Environment and Sustainability Higher Ed

New national standards for tertiary qualifications in Environment and Sustainability have now been released.

These standards can be used to design and deliver innovative environment and sustainability higher education in Australia. They are included in the Learning and Teaching Academic Standards Statement for Environment and Sustainability

[Read more about the standards...](#)

For more information contact [Dr Bonnie McBain](#) or [Dr Liam Phelan](#).

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## BOM climate outlook video



Want to know the weather predictions three months in advance?

The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) has a monthly [Climate and Water Outlook video](#) which covers rainfall, streamflow and temperature for the next three months and beyond.

[Watch the video](#)

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## Central West Rural Financial Counselling Service updated contact list

The [Rural Financial Counselling Service](#) provides free, impartial and confidential financial counselling to help farmers, fishers and agriculture-dependent small businesses in their decision making.

[Access the updated contact list for the Central West...](#)

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## Farm Household Allowance

The Farm Household Allowance provides eligible farmers and their partners who are experiencing financial hardship with assistance and support to improve their long-term financial situation.

Eligible farmers and their partners will be able to access up to three years of payment. This is designed to give farm families time to get back on their feet and the opportunity to take steps to improve their circumstances.

[More information](#)

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