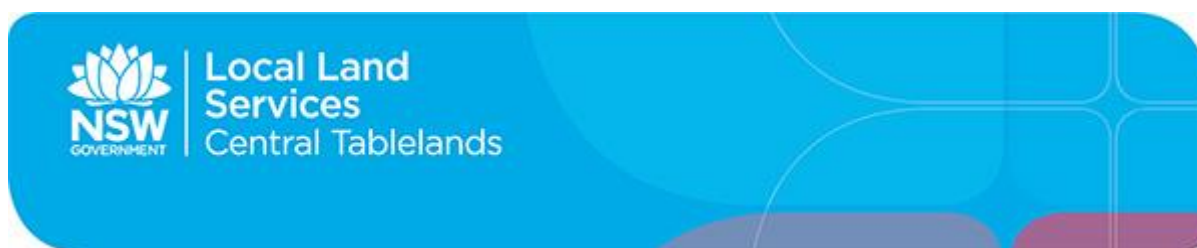


View this in your browser.



## Tablelands Telegraph

### May 2015

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## **Agriculture**

### **Autumn Break - Plan to protect your pasture**

Central Tablelands LLS Pastures Officer Phil Cranney advises that autumn represents an ideal opportunity to build high quality feed for winter in order to maximise the reproductive efficiency of your enterprise. It also provides an opportunity to rest perennial pastures to encourage beneficial species, address livestock health issues and focus on soil fertility. [Read more](#)

### **Paraboss NSW regional worm outlooks**

Paraboss is a website that combines, Flyboss, Liceboss and Wormboss to provide useful up to date information on how to best manage flies, lice and worms in sheep. The website offers state and regional outlooks and provides feature articles relevant to current issues at the time of publication. You can subscribe to the [Paraboss newsletter](#).

Worm outlook for the Central Tablelands - Scattered showers and warm weather have impacted on worm counts coming through. Broad spectrum drenches are needed due to a variety of worms around, not just Barbers Pole. Now is the time to start making some careful decisions about preparing for late autumn and winter. Lack of planning and poor management decisions will impact on your flock through to summer.

### **Dual purpose cropping - enhancing mixed farm profitability**

This article from CSIRO's journal, Crop and Pasture Science provides the results of research into dual purpose cropping to address the issue of feed gaps during autumn and winter across southern Australia. Dual-purpose crops provide a forage source in their vegetative stage during low growth rates of pasture forage, which are then later allowed to regrow to be harvested for grain at maturity. This can increase the net economic gains provided by these crops while also reducing grazing pressure. [Full article](#)

### **[Drone brings better outcomes for lambing ewes on wool farm](#)**

A Molong fine wool producer credits a remote controlled drone with the reduction of mismothering among his lambing ewes.

Drones are becoming more common in agricultural industries as a way to save time and money on physically demanding jobs, while providing an unparalleled perspective of the paddock. [Read more](#)

### **[Stored Grain - Correct fumigation a priority](#)**

Grain growers have been strongly urged to ensure that grain stored on farm is properly fumigated to minimise the risk of developing resistance in stored grain insects. Phosphine is used to treat over 80 percent of Australian grain and over the last decade phosphineresistance has increased due to inadequate fumigation practices. GRDC is advising grain growers to ensure that best practice management techniques are used for fumigation including the appropriate concentration levels being reached and maintained for the required length of time to kill grain pests.

[Full article](#)

### **[Shaping the future of the vegetable industry in the Lachlan Valley](#)**

Vegetable production in the Lachlan Valley plays an important role in the region's economy. With the gross value reported to be \$30.5 million, it is recognised as one of the top five agricultural enterprises by the Central Tablelands Local Land Services (LLS). In November 2014 the Central Tablelands LLS convened a meeting in order to better understand the needs of vegetable growers and how the Central Tablelands LLS can better deliver the services required to build the industry. Following on from the workshop, a draft situational analysis was developed with the aim of encouraging feedback that will guide the development and implementation of a Strategic Plan.

[To view the analysis and complete an online survey.](#)

### **[Fruit production - Extra benefits to netting](#)**

Exciting results have emerged from a Western Australian horticulture research project that is measuring the effects of netting orchards. The trial, which is based on climate change adaptation practices, has found that netting reduces water use by more than 40 percent and lowers sunburn. [Read more.](#)

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## **[Natural resource management](#)**

[2015 State and Territory Landcare Awards](#) Nominations are now open for Landcarers across the country for the many achievements of Landcare across a number of diverse areas including sustainable farming, Coastcare, Junior Landcare, and Indigenous land management. All winners at the state and territory level will proceed as finalists to the 2016 National Landcare Awards. [Submit nominations here](#)

### **[Impact of soil degradation on production](#)**

Globally each year an estimated 12 million hectares of agricultural land are lost to soil

degradation, leading to a potential loss of at least 20 million tonnes of grain each year. [This latest research](#) looks at the impact of soil degradation processes such as erosion, compaction, loss of organic matter, loss of soil biodiversity, and soil contamination, and how they impact on food production. Comprehensive soil conservation practices are required to respond to increasing global food demand.

### **Managing and restoring the grasslands of south eastern Australia**

Native temperate grasslands are Australia's most threatened ecosystems, having been eliminated from across much of their former range. *Land of Sweeping Plains* is a new book available through CSIRO that synthesises the scientific literature and includes practical management experience from policy makers, farmers, community activists and on-ground grassland managers in order to effectively manage grassland restoration and conservation into the future. [Book available for purchase](#)

### **Bureau of Meteorology seasonal outlook**

For most of NSW, the April to June period is likely to be wetter than normal. Warmer than normal sea surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean and much of the surrounding Australian coastline, together with further warming expected in the tropical Pacific are suggesting a possible El Nino by winter. [More information](#)

### **Beginning in bees**

A very successful Beginning in Bees course was held in Orange in April. This is part of Central Tablelands LLS initiative to encourage more people into the local honey industry and to help protect our important pollinators, both honeybees and native bees from pests and diseases. We were very lucky to have industry leader Bruce White OAM as our teacher. Bruce has had over 60 years of experience working with beekeepers and educating about bees all around the world. His practical tips and knowledge acquired over many decades were greatly appreciated by the course participants. If you would like to learn more about honeybees, events for the [NSW Bee Week](#) are being held on May 22 & 23, 2015 at the Orange showgrounds.



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## **Biosecurity**

### **Trials measure harvest weed-seed control**

Trials in Australian grain-growing regions have found an overall 55 to 58 percent reduction in the emergence of annual ryegrass across the three main harvest weed-seed control systems being practised by growers. Chaff carts, narrow windrow burning and the Harrington Seed Destructor all have similar rates of success. The most damaging crop weeds – annual ryegrass, wild radish, wild oats and brome grass, are all capable of establishing large, persistent seedbanks. However, research has found that the seedbank for these species can be rapidly reduced by 60 to 80 percent. [Full article.](#)

### **Implementing sound biosecurity practices on your farm made easy**

The [Farm Biosecurity website](#) provides practical information to help you protect your farm from biosecurity risks using the Farm Biosecurity Action Planner. Preparing an action plan will help you identify and prioritise the implementation of biosecurity practices relevant to your property using quick and simple measures built into everyday practices that will help protect your farm and your future.

### **Country of Origin Labelling Public Consultation**

The Australian Government has begun conducting face-to-face and online consultation sessions

for industry, business and consumers to deliver clearer and more consistent Country of Origin Labelling for food sold in Australia.

The national consultation process commenced on 1 April and includes a series of roadshows and online forums. The roadshows are scheduled for both metropolitan and regional centres and webinars will also be available for those who are unable to attend. Registration is currently open for anyone interested in participating in an online consultation process, where consumers can share their views on Country of Origin Labelling.

For more information visit the [Country of Origin Labelling website](#)

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## Animal health

### Reminder of the importance of the National Livestock Identification System

The National Livestock Identification System (NILS) is Australia's system for identifying and tracing livestock. Initially introduced to enhance the ability to track cattle during disease and food incidents, it has now expanded to include sheep and goats, and can trace livestock from property of birth to slaughter in order to maintain requirements for biosecurity, meat safety, product integrity and market access. Brett Littler, Livestock Officer with CTLLS provides a timely reminder of the importance of reporting to the NLIS database and the benefits it offers, as well as a few handy tips when applying NLIS tags. [Full article](#)

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## Funding opportunities

### Concessional Loans

Drought recovery concessional loans are currently available to eligible primary producers. The [Concessional loan comparison summary](#) shows the different loans available and the eligibility criteria for each. The closing dates for Concessional Loan Applications under the Farm Finance Package must be lodged along with all documentation by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015. [For more information](#)

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## What's on?

### Regent Honeyeater Planting – Glen Alice

Planting weekend to assist the recovery of the Critically Endangered Regent Honeyeater. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May to Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. For more details or to register contact Huw Evans – 6350 3117

### Jenolan Caves Sycamore Volunteer Weekend

Help control invasive weeds at Jenolan Caves. Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
For more details contact Huw Evans – 6350 3117

### Soil and Pasture Health Workshop - Bathurst

Learn about factors that affect healthy soils. Carry out simple soil tests and learn how to take soil samples.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May from 10.30 am to 2.30 pm.

Contact Clare Edwards – 0428 435 615

### Paddock Plants Workshop – Gulgong

Learn about local and common pasture plants.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May from 10.30 am to 3 pm.

Contact Clare Edwards – 0428 435 615

### Farm Safety Information and Demonstration Day – Bathurst

Friday 8th May 2015 at 10 am  
Cottie's Run  
3733 O'Connell Road Bathurst  
Program includes:

- Recovery at work – effective injury management and recovery at work
- Chemical specialist – rural chemical awareness campaign
- Vet update – Disease transfer from livestock and animal biosecurity issues
- Livestock handling – Working safely with animals and general yard safety (risk audit)
- Practical safety demonstrations – Quad bikes and side by sides, chainsaws, tractors, 4WD

To RSVP contact Jonathan Tuckfield 0409 493 695  
[More information](#)

#### **St John's Wort Biocontrol Field Day – Capertee Valley**

Training for landowners on how to release St John's biocontrol plus provision of release materials to participants.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May from 9 am to 2 pm.

For more details contact Huw Evans – 6350 3117

#### **Grazing Management Field Day - Woodstock**

Tuesday 12th May 2015 - 12.30 pm to 5pm

'Talinga'

Pine Mount Road Woodstock

Hosted by Mid Lachlan Landcare, this half day workshop with renowned holistic management educator Brian Wehlburg will focus on:

- Principles and insights of grazing management
- Why grazing animals are important to healthy landscape function
- Importance of grazing management planning
- Whole farm planning and sustaining the family business
- Into the future - soil, water, plants, carbon, climate change, people

To RSVP contact Scott Hickman 0427 450 416

#### **Confinement Feeding Workshops – Mudgee, Bathurst and Canowindra**

Factors to consider when setting up a stock confinement area to achieve successful outcomes.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May

For more information contact Brett Littler – 0427 007 398

#### **Herd Quitter Seminar**

Presented by RCS these one day seminars with Kit Pharo of Pharo Cattle Company (Colorado, USA) and Dr Terry McCosker, along with Grahame Rees of KLR Marketing are guaranteed to challenge the status-quo around business management, production vs. profit, and livestock marketing. Seminars will also include an update of the latest soil carbon opportunities for producers, as well as an interactive panel discussion.

Mon 11 May - Tamworth, Northern NSW

Wed 13 May - Yeoval, Central NSW

Fri 15 May - Albury, Southern NSW

[For more information](#)

#### **Getting The Most Out Of Your Farm Dam – Mumble and Grenfell**

Improved dam management day focused on land management impact and water quality versus

runoff.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May from 9 am to 12.30 pm

For more details contact Casey Proctor – 0429 110 072

### **Bee Week – Field Days and Honey Festival**

Orange Showground

The first ever Bee Week will provide a unique opportunity to showcase the beekeeping industry to the general public, offering fun and informative activities. Meet local beekeepers, hear professionals speak about all facets of the industry, taste honey and see cooking demonstrations with honey. Jumping castle, bee dress-ups and face painting for the kids.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May from 10 am to 4 pm.

[For more information](#)

### **Weather and Climate Workshop – Molong**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May from 9 am to 4 pm.

For more details contact Peter Evans – 6350 3111

### **NSW Landcare Conference**

The Central Tablelands Local Land Services (LLS) in partnership with Department of Primary Industries are pleased to be hosting the 2015 NSW LLS & Landcare conference in Orange NSW. 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](#) or like us on [Facebook](#).

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