

The latest updates for landholders across the Central Tablelands of NSW.

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September 2015

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News from the Chair

Central Tablelands Chairperson Ian Armstrong provides an [update](#) on the latest

funding, biosecurity in the region and the upcoming NSW Landcare Conference to be held in Orange.

Climate variability and Australia's agricultural future

Climate change and climate variability have been identified in a new [report](#) as significant long-term risks that will require ongoing management into the future. The critical challenge for Australian agriculture will be to continue providing safe, clean, ethical food in a growing market while managing the effects of climate change and variability, particularly in dryland farming areas of southern Australia where rainfall is decreasing.

Sowing introduced tropical pastures



Senior Land Services Officer Clare Edwards provides advice about sowing [introduced tropical pastures](#) in the Central Tablelands Local Land Services area.

Common Legumes of the Central Tablelands

This [article](#) covers some of the most common pasture legumes found in the Central Tablelands Local Land Services area, and their value to pastures and animal production.

Women in Productive Pastures and Landscapes Group



Calling all women in the Bathurst area that would like to meet and discuss 'productive pastures'. The objective is to come together and discuss what makes productive pastures and productive agriculture in the area. The group is about supporting local women in their decision making. Opportunities to cover current research, visit industry sites, check out current pasture problems and investigate pasture machinery. In the first instance we plan to meet Thursday 8th October from 10.30 am until lunch to determine direction for the first 12 months.

Please contact Clare Edwards to register your interest on 0428 435 615.

Grass Tetany in Cattle

Grass tetany remains one of the leading causes of death for adult beef cows in South-eastern Australia, and a number of cattle producers have lost stock to grass tetany or hypomagnesaemia over the past month. Read the following [warning for Cattle Producers](#) in the Central Tablelands and what to look out for.

Phalaris Staggers in Sheep

'[Phalaris staggers](#)' is an incoordination syndrome that is associated with the ingestion of phalaris at a time when it contains toxic alkaloids. 'Staggers' is a term used to describe a brain disorder characterised by an unsteady stumbling gait or the inability to stand. 'Phalaris staggers' can lead to sudden death.



Fish, Frogs, Flora and Fresh Flowing Water

A collaboration between Local Land Services (LLS), the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH), DPI Fisheries, and Taronga Zoo, has received a \$1 million dollar grant from the NSW Environmental Trust Saving Our Species (SOS) Partnership Grant, to secure the future of '[Fish, Frogs, Flora and Fresh Flowing Water](#)' habitat in central and southern NSW.

The key beneficiaries will be seven threatened species: the Booroolong Frog, the Yellow-spotted Bell Frog, the Tumut Grevillea, the Spotted Tree Frog, the

Macquarie Perch, the Southern Pygmy Perch, and the Murray Crayfish.

The SOS Partnership Grant project sites include private property on the Central Tablelands where farmers will also benefit from on ground works to tackle erosion, feral pests and invasive weeds.

State of Australia's Birds 2015

The State of Australia's Birds provides an overview of the status of Australia's birds, their major threats and the conservation measures required. Birdlife Australia recently reported that some of our most recognisable birds are declining such as the Laughing Kookaburra within the east coast and south eastern mainland regions. The full report is available for download [here](#).



The [seasonal outlook](#) for the coming three months is likely to be dry for much of NSW, with warmer nights and average to warmer days. The Bureau's monthly Climate and Water Outlook video covers rainfall, streamflow and temperature for the next three months.

Honey Bee industry warns on damaging aphid control methods

In some parts of Australia, aphids are impacting canola crops and a warning has

been issued about the damage some control methods can cause to bees. Beekeepers have become aware that some growers are looking to spray flowering canola with dimethoate to control the pests. While peak industry body, the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC), recognises the need to control aphids in canola crops, [dimethoate kills honey bees](#).

Fenthion use to cease in October 2015

Products containing fenthion may not be used after October 2015. This marks the end of a 12-month phase out period that commenced following the finalisation of the review into fenthion and subsequent cancellation of the active constituent. Existing stocks can be used until current permits and conditions expire in October 2015. Any product that remains unused should be disposed of responsibly. Detailed information is available on the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) [website](#).

Pruning techniques for pear trees



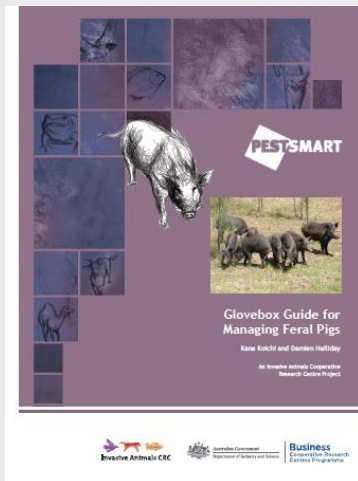
Apple and Pear Australia Ltd have published a series of [webinars](#) created by the Victorian Government team at the Horticulture Centre of Excellence in Tatura Victoria, on various ways to prune pear trees.

Image credit: gardeningknowhow.com

New guidelines for fresh produce food safety

A new essential resource for growers, packers, wholesalers of fresh fruit and vegetables has been launched. It outlines best practice in food safety, a high priority investment for fresh food industries. The guidelines include information and tools for use across the fresh produce value chain for Australia and New Zealand. The immediate benefits to the fresh produce industries in Australia and New Zealand is an up-to-date reference resource that supports the harmonisation of food safety practices and programs. Download a free [guide](#).

Feral Pigs



The [Glovebox Guide to Managing Feral Pigs](#) is a practical resource designed to assist Australian landholders in the control of feral pigs. A large part of tackling a feral pig problem depends on the landholder's awareness of the situation and their ability to make informed decisions about how best to take action to reduce feral pig damage by increasing understanding of feral pig biology and ecology, options for control, management strategies and more.

The Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre has released a new publication, [Feral Pigs: a field guide to poison baiting](#). Feral pigs carry many endemic diseases such as leptospirosis and brucellosis, and they are potential carriers of exotic diseases such as classical swine fever and foot-and-mouth disease, most of which threaten wildlife, human and livestock health.

Wild dogs

The annual loss to the Australian economy from wild dogs is \$66.3 million with sheep production particularly affected. A recent [survey](#) assessing the social impacts of wild dogs found that while there was a financial cost of dog attacks on stock, producers carried personal feelings of distress, anxiety and anger.

Canid Pest Ejector Training Courses

Central Tablelands LLS will run training courses this spring in the use of the new [Canid Pest Ejector](#), the latest innovation in wild dog and fox control available to landholders. Ejector training will be an optional, additional component of the standard Vertebrate Pesticide Induction Training course for the use of 1080 baits.

Stand-alone Canid Pest Ejector courses will also be run in areas where there are established wild dog control groups such as Rylstone, Hargraves, Hill

End, Oberon and the Goulburn River area east of Mudgee.

Now's the time to nominate for the 2016 Australian Biosecurity Awards

It's time to recognise outstanding members of the public, industry, business and government who have gone out of their way to protect Australia from threats to our plants and animals. The 2016 Australian Biosecurity Awards recognise those who show a commitment to working collaboratively with the Department of Agriculture to support and promote Australia's biosecurity and the systems that uphold it.

Nominations are open from 3 August till 30 September 2015. The nomination form can be downloaded [here](#).

Weed control - who is responsible?

Everyone has a responsibility to control declared noxious weeds. Central Tablelands Local Land Services is responsible for preventing spread of noxious weeds from travelling stock reserves that are not leased, and also for advisory services. We may provide general weed management advice as part of our planned pastures, farming systems and natural resource management advisory programs. [Find out more here](#).



Roadside vegetation management plan pays off

Central Tablelands Local Land Services has been working with local shire

councils since 2008 to develop [Roadside Vegetation Management Plans](#) (RVMPs), seen here undertaking training at Hillston.

All 12 of the councils involved (Bland, Blayney, Boorowa, Cabonne, Carathool, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Parkes, Temora, Young, and Weddin) now have RVMPs in operation, ensuring the protection and preservation of valuable native bushland that lines the vast network of public roads across the Lachlan catchment.

EVENTS

1st - 3rd September - [NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference "From the Ground Up"](#)

Turners Vineyard Orange. A celebration of NSW Landcare including the state awards and a full program of excellent speakers. Be quick! There's still time to [register](#).

4th September - [Soil and Pasture Health Workshop](#)

Strawbale complex, AREC Mudgee, 10.15 am to 2.30 pm.

Limited spaces. Covers primarily the soil fertility aspects of soil health. Day 1 covers the physical nature of soil and some simple soil tests. Participants take soil sampling gear home with them to take 2 soil samples. Day 2 is 5 - 6 weeks later and we go through what the soil test numbers mean.

Contact: Clare Edwards 0428 435 615 or email clare.edwards@lils.nsw.gov.au.

4th September - [Low impact legumes on light soils](#)

Kerrs Creek - 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.

Offers livestock producers the opportunity to see Serradella and Biserulla growing in the Kerr's Creek area. A range of guest speakers will be on hand to answer questions regarding legumes that have the potential to perform in naturally acidic soils.

Contact: Phil Cranney 0458 745 478 or email phil.cranney@lils.nsw.gov.au.

4th September - [Native or Noxious](#), Kerrs Creek - 1 pm to 3.30 pm.

Recognition basics for Serrated Tussock and Spear Grass.

Contact: Phil Cranney 0458 745 478 or email phil.cranney@lils.nsw.gov.au.

7th September - [Stockplan Workshop](#), Cumnock 9.30 am to 3 pm

This free workshop will help answer multiple stock feed requirement questions facing landholders feeding stock in dry conditions or in confined feeding situations.

Contact: Peter Evans on 6350 3111 or email peter.evans@lfs.nsw.gov.au

8th September - [Stockplan Workshop](#), Bathurst 9.30 am to 3 pm

This free workshop will help answer multiple stock feed requirement questions facing landholders feeding stock in dry conditions or in confined feeding situations.

Contact: Peter Evans on 6350 3111 or email peter.evans@lfs.nsw.gov.au

8th September - [Box Gum Grassy Woodlands Field Day](#), Adam's Lead Reserve

Gulgong - 9.30 am to 2 pm.

Learn about Endangered Ecological Communities and why preserving them is so important.

Contact: Andy McQuie 0409 563 134 or email andy.mcquie@environment.nsw.gov.au

10th September - [Watershed Landcare Green Day](#), Mudgee Showgrounds - 9 am to

3 pm.

Raising the awareness of primary school students about our precious soils and natural environment.

Contact: Bruce Christie 0429 986 434 or bruce.j.christie@lfs.nsw.gov.au, or Liz Davis 6363 7872 or liz.davis@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

12th and 13th September - Jenolan Caves Sycamore Control Volunteer Weekend

Help control invasive Sycamores at the famous Jenolan Caves within the World Heritage Blue Mountains National Park.

Contact: Huw Evans - 0425 764 069 or email huw.evans@lfs.nsw.gov.au

15th September - [NSW Grasslands Pasture Update](#), Mandurama 12 pm to 5.30 pm.

Hear the latest on pasture and feedbase management research in the Central Tablelands from a range of experienced speakers. RSVP 11th September, cost \$20 (includes lunch and afternoon tea).

Contact: Phil Cranney 0458 745 478 or email phil.cranney@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

15th September - [Lachlan Valley Lamb Group - Introduction to eID and productive older ewes workshop](#), Greenethorpe - 8 am to 12.30pm.

This workshop is for sheep producers interested in electronic identification (eID) and selecting and managing productive older ewes as a means to improving the reproductive performance of their flocks.

Contact: David Trengove 0419 985 878 or email lvlambgroup@gmail.com

16th September - Winter chilling and climate adaptation workshop for temperate fruit growers, Bilpin 9 am to 3 pm.

Contact: Karen O'Malley 0428 103 665 or karen.omalley@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

18th September - Healthy Farm Dams, Hartley - 9.30 am to 3.30 pm.

Workshop looking at on-farm water and investigating water quality issues.

Contact: Peter Evans 0422 735 888 or email peter.evans@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

18th September - [Stormwater Conference - Best Practice Management](#), Caltex Park Function Room Dubbo 9 am to 3.30 pm.

This conference is for the Environment and Waterways Alliance and Institute of Public Works Engineers to highlight local best management practice examples, hear from others outside the region and spend time workshopping better outcomes that will benefit local receiving waters.

Contact: Diana Kureen 0427 298 939 or email diana.kureen@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

22nd September - Bathurst Copper Butterfly Field Day, Eusdale Nature Reserve.

As part of Threatened Species Week this information day will provide identification tips, habitat protection methods and ways to get involved in the protection of the Bathurst Copper Butterfly.

Contact: Allan Wray 0447 278 308 or email allan.wray@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

25th September - Orchids and Wildflowers Day, Koorawatha.

Join Young District Landcare and Mid Lachlan Landcare for this informative day out. See up to 30 species of native orchids including Greenhood Orchids, Sun Orchids and Wax Lip Orchids as well as other native wildflowers and shrubs. The location is also an excellent bird watching site.

Contact: Vanessa Cain on 0405 325 750 or email midlachlanlandcare@gmail.com.

8th October - Women in productive pastures and landscapes group - 10.30 am until lunch.

Calling all women in the Bathurst area that would like to meet and discuss 'productive pastures'. Come together and discuss what makes productive pastures and productive agriculture in the area while supporting local women in their decision making. Opportunities to cover current research, visit industry sites, check out current pasture problems and investigate pasture machinery.

Contact: Clare Edwards 0428 435 615 or email clare.edwards@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

13th to 14th October - New Prograze abridged course, Bathurst area 9.00am - 4.00pm.

The second course of the popular Prograze abridged is being proposed for October. It will be a 2 day workshop with a third day in another season. Learn about pasture and livestock assessment, grazing management, fodder budgets and the importantly the interaction between pastures and animal production.

Contact: Clare Edwards 0428 435 615 or email clare.edwards@lfs.nsw.gov.au.

16th October - Canowindra Spring Field Day

Opportunity to visit trial sites of different wheat and canola varieties as well as trial fertiliser and stubble management sites.

More information contact: Colin McMaster (DPI) on 6349 9720 or email colin.mcmaster@dpi.nsw.gov.au

6th to 8th November - National Biological Farming Conference and Expo 2015, Southern Cross University Lismore. This conference will provide a national cross-industry forum for information sharing for producers as diverse as dairy and beef cattle, cropping, managed pasture egg production, nuts, fruit and vegetables, rice and coffee. The conference will feature 25 international and national experts and would enable farmers, service providers and product manufacturers to learn more about better food production methods. More [information](#).

GRANTS

Environmental Trust Grants Now Open

[Resource Recovery Facility Expansion and Enhancement Grants Program](#)

The NSW Environmental Trust and the NSW EPA are inviting applications to round 2 of the Resource Recovery Facility Expansion and Enhancement Program (Applications close 9 October 2015). Grants between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000 are available for councils, groups of councils, non-government organisations, not for profit organisations (with an established legal status) private industry or partnerships whom currently own and operate a licensed facility within a Waste Levy paying region of NSW.

For program information go to the Trust's [website](#) for more information about the program and to access application materials

Other programs

For information about other programs under the Waste Less, Recycle More Initiative please check with the [EPA's](#) and the [Trust's](#) websites.

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