Latest news, info and advice across central west NSW

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Workshops and field days

31 Aug <u>GRDC Farm Business Update (Dubbo)</u>

1-3 Sep NSW Landcare conference (Orange)

1-7 Sep Vertebrate Pest Induction Training (1080/Pindone) (various)

14 Sep RamSelect workshop (Warren)

15 Sep <u>RamSelect workshop (Dubbo)</u> <u>eID and productive Older Ewes Workshop (Greenthorpe)</u>

16 Sep eID and productive Older Ewes Workshop (Trundle)

23-24 Sep Cell grazing training (Parkes)

9 and 16 Oct Holistic Management® training (Condobolin)

Check your rams pre-joining

Belinda Edmonstone, District Veterinarian Forbes

For those who join in spring, now is the time to get in and check your rams. Allow time to assess how many replacements are needed and if any supplementary feed is required to get them in good working condition.

This is also a good time to give them their annual vaccination and a drench. What to look for:

1. Are they in good body condition? If not, why not? It may be related to poor nutrition, internal parasites, chronic disease or age. Once the reason is established the producer can treat or cull.

2. Check their teeth. They need to have a sound mouth.

3. Ensure they are mobile. Lameness will reduce the ability of the ram to get around and serve ewes.

4. Palpate their testicles. There should be no lumps and bumps on the testicles and they should be firm and uniform in size. Producers should consider having any rams with lesions examined by a vet to ensure Ovine Brucellosis is not the cause.



This is particularly important if there are a number of rams affected. Ovine Brucellosis is a contagious disease affecting ram fertility.

5. Check the pizzle. Examine the prepuce for swelling or an abnormal discharge coming from the penis. The penis can also be extruded and checked for scabs, ulcers ordeviations.

Read more about checking your rams...

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Increasing awareness of **Q** Fever

Nik Cronin, District veterinarian - Forbes

Recently ABC television aired a report on Q fever in Australia titled <u>The Quiet Curse</u>. It provided a very thorough overview about how this potentially very serious disease has significantly affected the lives of a number of everyday Australians.

It appears to have been very successful in terms of raising awareness about Q fever. Since then, the preventative vaccine manufacturer CSL has reported an almost 10% rise in demand for the vaccine product.

<u>The Quiet Curse</u> raised some really important issues about Q fever. It showed everyday rural people being infected with the disease by doing everyday rural things.

Read more about Q Fever or watch the ABC report.

Watch for vegetable leafminer

Neroli Brennan, Cropping Officer

Grower and advisors urged to keep a look out and report any suspected outbreaks of a new pest incursion 'vegetable leafminer'.

The sighting of a new leaf mining fly at Cape York has the agricultural industry on high alert, as this new pest can cause considerable damage on a wide plant range, including summer pulses.

For more information on this pest and how to identify it.

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Bee aware - notify nearby beekeepers before you spray

As we come into spring and the warmer weather, insect pests will begin to appear.

Please keep in mind the beneficial insects and before spraying crops look out for beehives currently situated close to flower crops. Notify beekeepers if you intend to spray insecticides.

Latest biosecurity guide for grain producers

There are more than 600 exotic pests identified that pose a threat to Australia's grain industry.

<u>This manual highlights simple farm biosecurity practices</u> that will help you to keep your property free from new weeds, pests and diseases.

It also describes the symptoms and appearance of exotic pest and disease threats to the grains industry so that any incursion into Australia can be detected quickly and controlled.

Read more about biosecurity for grain producers...



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Spring = Locusts

A reminder to landholders to be on the lookout for locust hatchings as the weather warms up.

Please monitor known egg beds and report any activity to your Local Land Services office.

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Cell grazing management training (Parkes)

We're partnering with <u>PrincipleFocus</u> to run cell grazing training in Parkes on **22-23 September**.

Work with natural ecological practices to reduce costs and improve productivity. Redesign your grazing management to increase profits and improve sustainability.

This project is supported by Central West Local Land Services through funding from the <u>Australian</u> <u>Government's National Landcare Programme</u> and Catchment Action NSW.

To find out more visit <u>the PrincipleFocus website</u> or contact Matthew Lane (6881 3406 or <u>matthew.lane.@lls.nsw.gov.au</u>).

Profile: revegetation project near Neilrex

Peter and Maree Valusiak have recently planted a windbreak and habitat corridor on their Neilrex property with funding and technical support from our staff. The Commonwealth Government helped with the cost of fencing, site preparation and the supply of seedlings

and seed.

The project links up with an earlier Stoney Creek woodland protection project and will help reduce exposure to winds from the south and south west.

Peter and Maree had prepared the site for 12 months through managing weed competition and preserving soil moisture.



Deep soil cultivation of the planting lines helped fracture the soil, helping establish a deep moisture profile and making planting easy.

Kangaroo and hares have been a major issue. Controlling pest animals before planting helps reduce damage to the project site and surrounding paddocks.

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Holistic Management training (Coonabarabra n)

We're partnering with Vangaard Business Services to run Allan Savory's Holistic Management® training in Coonabarabran on 6 and 16 October.

Holistic Management is a practical approach to family farm decisions which are more profitable, good for the land and also for the family.

This project is supported by Central West Local Land Services through funding from the <u>Australian</u> <u>Government's National Landcare Programme</u> and Catchment Action NSW.

To find out more visit the Vangaard Business Services website or contact Matthew Lane (6881 3406 or

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Annual land and stock returns due 31 Aug

Annual Land and Stock Returns are due to be returned soon. This information gives us important information about your properties and livestock.

If you are a Local Land Services ratepayer you are required by law to lodge a return by 31 August.

Read more about land and stock returns and why they are important ...

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Ram selection and purchasing workshops

Producers are invited to one day RamSelect workshops to build confidence to:

- select rams for all breeds
- define your breeding objective
- assess rams using figures and visual assessment
- prepare for the auction or selection day
- invest in rams for production and profit.

Warren (14 Sep)

Where: Macquarie Dohne Stud, Carinda Road, Warren Cost: \$30 per business (registration essential for catering purposes) RSVP: by Friday 11 Sep John Nadin: 0427 474 610 or john@macquariedohnes.com.au

Dubbo (15 Sep)

(Funded by Sheep Solutions & Central West Local Land Services) Where: Annalara White Dorper Stud, 'Dungarry' Dubbo, NSW Cost: \$30 per business - Morning tea and lunch provided RSVP: Friday 10 Sep Dave Trengove (Central West LLS): 0419 985 878; <u>david.trengove@lls.nsw.gov.au</u>

eID and productive older ewes workshops

Greenthorpe (15 Sep) and Trundle (16 Sep)

Sheep production systems based on the measurement, marketing and management of animals according to individual or group merit will increase productivity, wellbeing and returns.

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

Cost - \$30 per business. RSVP (essential for catering) Contact: <u>lvlambgroup@gmail.com</u> or David Trengove 0419 985 878. Morning tea provided. Please bring a chair.

Find out more about Greenthorpe.

Find out more about Trundle.

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Wild dog update

Wild dogs this year continue to be of growing concern in the Central West region with new sightings continuing to be reported in areas where they have not previously been seen. For example at Cundumbel

south of Wellington wild dogs have been seen on three neighbouring properties. At Bruie Plains, Nevertire and Stuart Town wild dogs have been shot this year.

Currently there are two trapping programs are being conducted with funding from the Federal Governments Drought Recovery Program in the Dapper and Neilrex localities.

Our Biosecurity officers are also monitoring for wild dogs where sightings are reported using remote cameras.



This year 3350 wild dog baits were issued to landholders and four wild dogs have been trapped over the last 18 months. A further three shot have been shot by landholders. Thirty three landholders have been trained in wild dog trapping.

Another course to be run at Coolah shortly - to express you interest contact Mark Knight (0459 030 599 or <u>mark.knight@lls.nsw.gov.au</u>).

Biosecurity officers are also working with landholders to develop two ongoing coordinated wild dog control programs for the Dapper and Goonoo areas.

Please report any sightings so we can help landholders act early in getting control work underway.

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Canola stem rot warning to croppers - DPI

NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) has alerted growers to be on the lookout for <u>sclerotinia stem</u> rot in canola crops following recent rain.

Wet conditions have favoured development of the pathogen which causes sclerotinia stem rot and warning signs are starting to appear.

Signs of the fungus, apothecia, have been seen in crops south of Wagga Wagga in the last fortnight and early testing from trial sites shows petal infestation is occurring.

Farmers need to assess the disease risk to their crops before applying foliar fungicide – not all crops will need fungicide protection.

Read more

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Snapshot: Mock emergency exercise

Our staff carried out a mock emergency management exercise in Dubbo recently.

Great training opportunity and helped us prepare for real emergencies which could damage the agricultural industry and local economy.



GRDC Farm business update (Dubbo)

Hear from economists, farmers and leading speakers on key issues:

- farming and the numbers
- effective Farming systems
- farm business management tools to help your business
- what are the key impacts on profit
- what corporate and family farm businesses can learn from each other
- managing change in the family farming business
- tools to make the workplace a more efficient and enjoyable place.

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Monday 31 August. Find out more...

Fish habitat grants now available

Applications are now open for the 2015-16 Habitat Action Grants program with more than half a million dollars up for grabs to improve fish habitats right across NSW.

Previous funded projects include:

- · removing invasive weeds and reestablishing native vegetation on our riverbanks
- opening floodgates or improving road crossings to remove barriers to fish movement
- restoring eroded river banks
- resnagging waterways
- bank stabilisation works.

Visit the DPI website for more information about the program, or ring 02 6626 1107 or 02 4916 3817

Applications close at 5pm Friday, 16 October 2015.

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Dustwatch - no dust to report

Our staff across the region collect data for the <u>DustWatch program</u>. This month there has been no dust at all across the network in June.

DustWatch is a community program that monitors and reports on the extent and severity of wind erosion across Australia. It is led by scientists, with support from observers from government agencies and the community.



Summary

- Dust activity no dust to report across all sites.
- Wind strength 50% less than last month; 40% less than June last year.
- Groundcover increases across the board.
- Rainfall substantial in NSW, eastern SA and southern QLD.
- Land Management emerging crops and growing pastures protecting the soil.

Read the full report.

Bureau of Meteorology outlook (Sep-Nov)



The Bureau of Meteorology has released their latest monthly climate and water outlook video – covering rainfall, streamflow and temperature for the next three months and beyond.

Landcare conference (Orange)

Not long to go until the *From the ground up* Landcare conference in Orange (1-3 September). Have you booked your spot?

Find out more about the conference.

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Latest parasite news with Paraboss

The August issue of Paraboss is out, covering:

- Barbers pole worm vaccine
- Flystrike treat by the calendar or wait and see?
- Which four parasites have been suppressed by other management, nearly gone or eradicated

Read more

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Financial assistance to rural businesses

The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free, impartial and confidential financial counselling to assist farmers, fishers and agriculture dependent small business in their decision making.

Find out what services and support are available.

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Landholder guide to Local Land Services

Ever wonder what Local Land Services does? We've just published a guide to our roles in supporting a healthier and more productive landscape.

Read more about what we do and how we can work with you...

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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...

Not in central west? Links to other regions

If you are in another Local Land Services region, you can also subscribe to their newsletters.

Links to some of our neighbours below. You can find out which region you belong to <u>at the State Local Land</u> <u>Services site.</u>

- Central Tablelands
- <u>Riverina</u>
- Western

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