

Murray Dairy eNews 12 May 2017

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Your Levy at Work



Dairy
Australia

Murray Dairy eNews

Friday 12 May
2017

Dear All,

This fortnight's edition contains the following:

[Digital Agriculture. Interested?](#)

[Flexible Feeding Systems.](#)

[Summer Survival of Pasture. Upcoming Field Days.](#)

[Managing your Water Portfolio](#)

[Farm Business Management](#)

[Care of Bobby Calves during Transport](#)

[Taking Stock. Did you know?](#)

[Regional Network Group Meetings](#)

[Proactive Dairy Management Workshops- Zoetis](#)

[Farmer input wanted on Q fever](#)

[Men's Health Event 2017](#)

[Scholarships Now Open](#)

[Explore your potential with AVCLP](#)

[Dairy Support](#)

[Rosie Batty 2015 Australian of the Year](#)

[Australian Dairy Farmer Magazine Reader Survey](#)

[Leadership Development Grants](#)

[Nominations for Regional Achievement &Community](#)

[Awards Now Open](#)

[BOM](#)

[The Dairy Forecast Service](#)

[Events, Courses and Training](#)

[Pretty isn't it?](#)

Are you Interested in Digital Agriculture?

Do you want to take a lead in evaluating opportunities for adoption of digital technologies in the dairy industry? **Accelerating Change** is sponsoring **two positions to the Australian Farm Institute's forum on *Harvesting the Benefits of Digital Agriculture***. For details on the forum click [here](#).

To apply, submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) no longer than one page and your resume answering the following questions:

1. How would you and your business benefit from attending the conference?
2. How would you share the learnings from the conference to the broader industry?

Applications are open to farmers and service providers and close on 22 May 2017. For more information please contact Amy Fay, 0400 911286, email: amyf@murraydairy.com.au

Flexible Feeding Systems

Are you looking at making a shift in your feedbase? Do you have a perennial pasture based system and are considering a more complex mix of forage types? Do you want to investigate some options to reduce your exposure to variable water prices? The Flexible Feeding Systems project is looking for case study farms in this situation. For more information click [here](#)

Summer Survival of Pasture - Drying off Perennial Pastures Field Day

Join us on one of two dates to see the latest research that is looking at the persistence of perennial ryegrass pasture under limited irrigation water over the summer. A number of cultivars are being evaluated under grazed (on-farm) and ungrazed conditions. **Presenters on the day will be Kevin Kelly, Alister Lawson and Mary-Jane Rogers, Research Scientists from AgVic Tatura.**

Location: Daryl Hoey's paddock, Shinnicks Rd, Katunga.

Date: Tuesday 16 May.

Location: Greg Ault's farm, 390 Dingee Rd, Rochester

Date: Thursday 18 May.

Time: 10.15 am for a 10.30 start. Finishing with lunch. **Click [here](#) for event flyer.**

Managing your Water Portfolio

Murray Dairy invite you to attend an interactive seminar to better understand some of the options available to manage your water needs. We will provide information on aspects of water management such as **ownership, carryover, spillable water, leasing, allocation products as well as strategies to manage future price and supply risk**. The panel session will provide some discussion on the management of water portfolio and techniques used to manage risk. Water trading toolkits will be available.

Times: 11am – 1.00pm

Tatura, DEDJTR office, 255 Ferguson Rd, Tatura. **Monday, 15 May**
Echuca, Mecure Port of Echuca, 455 High, St, Echuca, **Tuesday, 16 May**
Katamatite, Katamatite Football Club, More St Katamatite, **Wed 17 May**

Click [here](#) for more information.

Farm Business Management (FBM)

Three upcoming courses, listed below, call Murray Dairy to discuss.

1. Getting into Farm Data — 2 Day Course

This course will provide you with the skills and knowledge to collect, organise and analyse your farm data using the dairy industry tool DairyBase. To view the Course Flyer, click [here](#). **Cobram**, Mondays, 19 June & 26 June.

2. Getting into Farm Business Management (FBM) — 3 Day Course

This course will enable you to gain farm business management knowledge in the areas of compliance, financial data and budgeting management and how to efficiently monitor and report on your business performance. To view the Course Flyer, click [here](#).

Echuca, Mondays, 22 & 29 May & 5 June.
Numurkah, Tuesdays, 23, 30 May & 6 June.
Tallangatta, Tuesdays 13, 20 & Friday 30 June.

3. Dairy Farm Analysis — 2 Day Course

A 2 day advanced course which provides participants with a detailed understanding of farm business management and the use of the dairy industry tool DairyBase. To view the Course Flyer, click [here](#). **Kyabram**, Thursdays, 22 & 29 June.

Care of Bobby Calves during Transport

All people responsible for the handling and transport of bobby calves including farmers, calf buyers, agents, saleyards, transporters and meat processors must follow the [Australian Animal Welfare Standards for Land Transport of Livestock](#).

Developed in consultation with industry, animal welfare groups, governments and the public, and incorporated in State legislation, the standards require all those involved in the transportation of bobby calves to be responsible for the welfare of the animals under their care. Everyone who handles calves must treat them with care and patience at all times and protect them from cold and heat. Calves must not be moved with dogs or electric prodders. More information can be found on the Dairy Australia website, or by clicking [here](#).

Do you Want to Know the Cost of Production...?

Did you know that by completing a **Taking Stock** with Murray Dairy you can have at your finger tips the **cost of production** and know the **break even milk price coming into the new financial year?**

Taking Stock is a free 1:1 business assessment and support service using a consultant to assist in the collection and analysis of current financial and physical data with the aim of clarifying future farm business options. This is available to **all levy paying farmers**, regardless of who they supply. Call Murray Dairy on (03) 5833 5312 or click [here](#) to find out more. This program is supported by the Australian Government and Gardiner Foundation.

Regional Network Group Meetings- dates for your diary

These group meetings enable all dairy farming families and the associated dairy service sector the opportunity to contribute to identifying and prioritising future dairy research, development, extension and education needs. The meetings also provide an opportunity for people to hear about current services available to the industry

Meetings will be held:

- North West** - Monday 17 July at Bower Hotel, Cohuna
- Eastern** - Tuesday 18 July 2017 at Shamrock Hotel, Numurkah
- Central** - Monday 24 July 2017 at Blue Brick Hotel, Kyabram
- Riverina** - Tuesday 25 July 2017 at Returned Services Club, Finley

Proactive Dairy Management Workshops - Zoetis

These workshops, hosted by Zoetis and supported by Murray Dairy and MG Trading will present on Animal Welfare, Genetic Merit of Heifer Management, Bull Management and an update on Teatseal for preventing sub clinical mastitis. **Tuesday 16 May at Mitta United FC, Eskdale Sports Reserve. 10.30 am**
Click [here](#) for event flyer.

Farmer input wanted on Q fever

You are invited to take part in a research study about the awareness amongst Australian dairy and beef cattle farmers about the knowledge, attitudes and practices of Australian farmers regarding Q fever. The findings from this study will help identify areas for further research and assist in developing material for dairy and beef cattle producers.
Click [here](#) to take part in the survey.

Men's Health Event 2017

With the guest speaker our very own Chairman Rick Cross and sponsored by Primary Care Connect, GV Health and the Ethnic Council of Shepparton and District inc. this night will cover a range of health related topics. Click [here](#) for more information. **Wednesday 14 June, Shepparton.**

Scholarships now open

Nuffield scholarships are now open to Australians aged 28 – 45, who are engaged in farming as an owner, manager or active member of a farming

business. As well as individual regional scholarships, there are dairy-specific scholarships sponsored by Dairy Australia, the Australian Dairy Conference and the Gardiner Dairy Foundation. Deadline June 16. Visit www.nuffield.com.au to apply.

Explore your potential with the Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program

The **Gardiner Foundation** is offering a full scholarship for our **2017-2018** Program. AVCLP are seeking an emerging community leader actively involved in the Dairy industry in North-Eastern Victoria, or an active community member in the Mitta Valley (whether involved in dairy or not). Applications close 13th June 2017. To access the AVCLP website click [here](#) or click [here](#) for more information on the scholarship.

Dairy Support - Financial, Health and Community Assistance

Concessional Loans

Applications are now open for **Dairy Recovery Concessional Loans** under the Australian Government's Farm Business Concessional Loans Scheme. The concessional loans are to assist eligible **Dairy Farm Businesses affected by the May 2016 decision of Murray Goulburn Co-operative Co., Fonterra Australia Ltd and National Dairy Products Pty Ltd to reduce farm gate milk prices in the 2015/16 year**. Rural Finance is the delivery agent for the Scheme in Victoria on behalf of the state government. Open until 30 June 2017. Click [here](#) or call 1800 260 425 for more information.

Dairy Farmer Central

Dairy Farmer Central is a website designed to be a central source of information on programs, initiatives and events for dairy farmers and their communities. For more information click [here](#).

Rural Financial Counselling Service.

Free, independent and confidential assistance.

North East Victoria (Goulburn Valley Region): **1300 834 775**

North West Victoria: **1300 769 489**

Southern NSW: **(02) 6452 5820**

Rural Financial Counsellors can help you with:

- Dairy & Drought Concessional Loans
- Farm Business Concessional Loans
- Assessing and understanding your financial position, identify options and develop an action plan to move forward.
- **Farm Household Allowance**. This is available to all eligible dairy farmers irrespective of who you supply to and as of January 1, 2017 there has been an increase in the asset limits. Click [here](#) to access the FHA fact sheet and [here](#) to access the FHA Checklist tool.

To find out how your FHA application is going call the Farmer Assistance Hotline on 132 316 (8am- 8pm).

To find out more visit www.rfcsvicne.org.au or call one of the above phone

numbers

Agribusiness Toolkit- On farm Training

Qualify is a specialist regional training and employment services provider and that works closely with clients, employers, TAFEs and industry partners to help people develop new skills and find sustainable employment across regional Victoria.

Their Agribusiness Toolkit training program is designed to assist Farm Householders work towards improving their capacity for self-reliance. For more information, click [here](#).

Rural Skills Connect Commences in Murray Dairy Region

Rural Skills Connect is a program funded by the Victorian Government and is aimed at **providing employment and training guidance for dairy farmers, their family members or employees** and affected dairy farm service providers to support them as the dairy industry recovers.

The Program engages with people impacted by the downturn in the dairy industry who need to seek new employment or explore new opportunities through training.

Workers in the dairy industry have a broad range of existing skills and knowledge to be job-ready candidates for existing job vacancies within the region. The program's aim is to identify those transferable skills of dairy farm workers and if required, further develop them to meet local workforce needs. This is achieved through engagement with employers, industry and registered training organisations to identify current opportunities and connecting them with participants who are registered in the program.

For further information or a confidential discussion, please contact Joanne Turner, Program Manager - Rural Skills Connect on 0472 863 050 or via joanne.turner@ecodev.vic.gov.au

To access the Back to work dairy fact sheet, click [here](#).

Gannawarra Shire Dairy Industry Counselor

Northern District Community Health have appointed a **Dairy Support Counselor** to assist in supporting the Victorian Dairy Industry and all those that are connected to it within the Gannawarra Shire. Rachel Weaver's flyer attached [here](#) gives more information.

Free Mental Health First Aid training coming to Numurkah on 27 & 28 May. Click [here](#) for more information.

Stanhope Men's Shed will host a health event on The Men's Health Event is on Friday 16 June. Starting at 10am and a free BBQ lunch will be provided. The speaker will be Leon Sinnot from Beyond Blue. For more information click [here](#)

Community Events

A number of events and opportunities are on around our region. Please refer to the Murray Dairy [website](#) and [calendar](#) for more information.

Rosie Batty 2015 Australian of the Year

Rosie Batty, whose belief that "tragedy gives you an opportunity to make a difference", will be presenting at three **events in the Campaspe area on Friday 2 June**.

The first is for **Service Providers** and will be held in **Echuca**. Click [here](#) for more information.

Afternoon Tea, Kyabram. All Welcome. Raising awareness of domestic violence within the local community and advocating for change. Click [here](#) for more information

Dinner event, Moama. All welcome. Three course meal. Raising awareness of domestic violence within the local community and advocating for change. Click [here](#) for more information. *All funds raised at this event will support the work of the Campaspe Family Violence Action Group.*

Australian Dairyfarmer magazine reader survey

Complete the online survey for the industry magazine Australian Dairyfarmer. Your feedback will help the magazine better meet farmer's information needs. Some great prizes are on offer including two ipad minis and six prize packs (including a beanie, baseball cap, Legendairy pack, \$100 semen voucher). Go to <http://adf.farmonline.com.au/readersurvey>

Leadership Development Grants

The *Our Catchments Our Communities* Leadership Development Grants can provide **funding of up to \$10,000 for travel, study, research or other forms of professional development in the following categories:**

- **Innovation** - new approaches and knowledge to address contemporary issues in integrated catchment management
- **Aboriginal Leadership** - recognising and supporting Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians as leaders
- **Women in Leadership** - improving diversity and inclusion and the opportunity for women to lead

Who can apply: individuals from government agencies, private sector businesses, educational institutions, local governments, not for profits, community groups/networks. **Applications close Wednesday 24 May 2017.**

How to apply: for guidelines, application form & FAQs click [here](#).

Nominations are now open for the 2017 Victorian Regional Achievement & Community Awards!

The awards are designed to encourage, acknowledge and reward the valuable contributions individuals, communities and businesses are making throughout regional and rural Victoria. In particular the **Prime Super Agricultural Innovation Award** is open for nominations! To find out more about the awards please [click here](#). Nominations can be completed online to access the online

nomination form please [click here](#)

BOM

BOM is regularly updated and the newest seasonal forecasts are now available. Click [here](#).

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has announced that they have released a [Water Information Dashboard](#) which will provide national up-to-date coverage of water storage levels and water market information. This dashboard allows you to compare water levels and volumes for more than 300 publicly owned lakes, reservoirs and weirs.

The Dairy Forecast Service

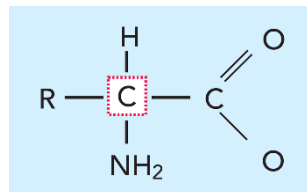
The **Dairy Forecast Service** can be found [here](#). This site gives concise information relevant to your area.

Key features include:

- National Overviews
- 7 day Outlook toggle on the My Site page
- Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) weather observations

Events, Courses and Training

Please see the Murray Dairy Events calendar for all dairy related events, training and courses happening throughout the region. Click [here](#)



Pretty isn't it?
The Chemical Structure of Milk

With best regards from the Murray Dairy team.

Jenny Wilson
Chief Executive Officer
Murray Dairy

255 Ferguson Road Tatura Vic 3616
Phone: 03 5833 5312 Mobile: 0409 865 467
Email: admin@murraydairy.com.au