

Murray Dairy eNews 9 June 2017

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Your Levy at Work



Dairy
Australia

Murray Dairy eNews

Friday 9 June
2017

Dear All,

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Everest or dairy farming - which is the most challenging peak to reach?

Join us for dinner to find the answer, and hear the latest dairy Situation and Outlook with Dairy Australia's **John Droppert** followed by inspirational speaker **Green Beret Commando, Mark "Squiz" Squirrel the author of *From Arafat to Everest***. **Cost:** Free to Dairy Farmers, \$25 for Service Providers. **RSVP** to Murray Dairy, phone (03) 5833 5312 or email admin@murraydairy.com.au

Echuca: Tue 20 June, Moama Bowls Club

Shepparton: Wed 21 June, GV Hotel

Wodonga: Thurs 22 June, Huon Hill Hotel.

Time: 7.00pm

Situation and Outlook June 2017 report released.

With many ongoing challenges remaining in place for our dairy farmers, the 2017 Dairy Australia Situation and Outlook report acknowledges these in detail, along with the National and Global outlook. The report is available at dairyaustralia.com.au

Whorouly Focus Farm Open Day

Welcome to our second **Focus Farm Open Day on Wednesday 21 June at John & Elise Pethybridge's**, with guest speaker **John Mulvany** and consultant **Phil Shannon**. John Mulvany will present on just what good reproductive performance looks like, including several case studies on very profitable dairy businesses. John and Elise, along with Phil, will cover the challenges the farm business has faced and conduct a farm walk to discuss the objectives for the coming season.

The Focus Farm Open days are a great opportunity to not only hear and speak to experts in their field but discuss current issues with other farmers across the Murray Dairy Region . **Event flyer can be downloaded [here](#).**

Event Details

Date: Wednesday 21 June

Time: 10:30am - 2.30pm, *Morning Tea & BBQ Lunch provided. BYO Chair.*

Venue: Pethybridge Family Farm, 166 Carboor Whorouly Rd, Whorouly South.

Call for Board Members

Murray Dairy is seeking applications to fill two Murray Dairy board positions commencing formally in October 2017. These are skills based appointments with a dairy farmer board position and a service provider board position available. Applications close July 11, 2017. To view the position description click [here](#) or for further information contact Murray Dairy on (03)5833 5312 or email admin@murraydairy.com.au

Farm Business Management (FBM) - Courses made for you!

Three courses now available:

1. Getting into Farm Data — 2 Day Course

This is for farmers who are looking to demystify business management language, better collect and collate farm physical data and track farm performance from the paddock to the bank. To view the Course Flyer, click [here](#).

Cobram, Mondays, 19 & 26 June.

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

You need to collect your physical and financial data to meet tax, legislative and financial obligations; this course will help you do that in a way that also enables you to use that information to improve your on farm performance. To view the Course Flyer, click [here](#).

Tallangatta, Tuesdays 13, 20 & 27 June.

3. Dairy Farm Analysis — 2 Day Course

Now fully subscribed. Please call Murray Dairy to express interest in attending our next Dairy Farm Analysis course.

Do you want to use your physical and financial data, comparative data sets and freely available management tools to run your farm better? Then this course is for you. To view the Course Flyer, click [here](#).

Kyabram, Thursdays, 22 & 29 June.

Employment Basics

Join this workshop covering the basics of employing people correctly in the dairy industry. This workshop is an opportunity to learn or refresh your knowledge on the latest developments in the key areas of employment and staff management, including an overview of the Employment Starter Kit, payroll, Individual Flexible Arrangements (IFA) and the termination of staff.

Click [here](#) to view the event flyer.

When: Tuesday 27 June 2017

Time: 9.45am- 2pm

Location: Dederang Recreation Reserve

RSVP to Murray Dairy (this will assist with catering for lunch)

Setting up your Season

These much anticipated sessions will provide an update on key seasonal and commodity outlooks and identify critical decision points for your business along with tools and resources available to assist you in the coming months.

These sessions will be presented by:

- Rabobank Senior Analyst Michael Harvey
- DELWP climate specialist Dale Grey
- GMW water managers Mark Bailey / Andrew Shields

Date: Tuesday 18 July

Venue: The Mecure. The Port of Echuca. 465 High St, Echuca.

Date: Wednesday 19 July
Venue: TAFE Space, 158 Lawrence St, Wodonga

Date: Thursday 20 July
Venue: Sherbourne Terrace, 109 Wyndham St, Shepparton

Time: 10.00am- 1.00pm, *Lunch provided*

RSVP By Thursday 2 July, 2017
Murray Dairy (03) 5833 5312 or admin@murraydairy.com.au

Please indicate which session you will be attending and any special dietary requirements

Occasional Counsellor Workshops

This practical workshop, The Occasional Counsellor™ facilitated by David Cherry, a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist, is for workers who are not employed in a counselling role but are called upon to give others emotional support. The focus of the workshop is on teaching participants strategies for assisting individuals who are sad, upset, bewildered, confused, angry or suicidal while clearly remaining within their role. All welcome. For event flyer, [click here](#).

Workshop 1: Wed 23 August. DELWP Office 1 McKoy St Wodonga

Workshop 2: Friday 25 August. NDHS, 33 King St Cohuna.

Time: 10am- 3pm

North East Mentor Farm Project

Decisions, Pests and Seasonal Considerations. Tuesday 18 July. We will start the day on farm at Dederang and then head to the Dederang Hotel for a panel session, this day will offer discussions regarding the season, decisions for the year ahead and outcomes from decision making to date. The panel session will cover topics such as pests, fertilizers and all things agronomic. Click [here](#) to view event flyer.

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

Time: 7.00pm

Handy Water Link

One useful website that enables water owners to run scenarios around the spillable and carryover rules is the Victorian water register www.waterregister.vic.gov.au/spill calculator.

Men's Health Event 2017

With the guest speaker Murray Dairy's 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. Applications close 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 13 June 2017. To access the AVCLP website click [here](#) or click [here](#) for more information on the scholarship.

Farmers Fund supports resilience and sustainability

Dairy farmers can apply for grants of up to \$10,000 for programs, training or infrastructure that enhance productivity, build resilience and stimulate sustainable growth. The Farmers' Fund grant is available to dairy farmers in South Eastern Australia including Victoria and areas of southern New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. The Farmers' Fund is owned and

managed by farmers through the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF). For more information click [here](#).
Contact **VFF** 1300 882 833 or farmersfund@vff.org.au

New Research to improve Dairy Calf Management

The Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation, which is a research alliance between CSU (Charles Sturt University) and the NSW DPI is seeking input from Australian dairy farmers to take part in a new research project aimed at improving calf health and productivity. Through an online survey, the results gained will give an overview of calf management practices in Australian dairies including how calves and cows are separated, how they are housed and what, when, and how some management practices are applied including vaccination. To assist or to find out more, click [here](#).

Dairy Support - Financial, Health and Community Assistance

Concessional Loan Scheme: Product suppliers to Murray Goulburn, Fonterra or National Dairy in 2015/2016 may be eligible for the Australian Government's Concessional Loan Scheme. The program offers:

- A concessional loan (maximum term of 10 years)
- A variable interest rate commencing at 2.47%
- A maximum loan amount of \$1,000,000 (capped at 50% of farm debt position).

The Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) is offering free and confidential assistance to help with the application process. Click [here](#) for scheme application details and guidelines. Applications close June 30, 2017.

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. As of 1 January, 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. 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 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. 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 Counsellor

Northern District Community Health have appointed a **Dairy Support Counsellor** 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.

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.

NCDE/Murray Dairy Courses

Cups on Cups off (CoCo) is a two-day training course designed by Dairy Australia and delivered by the National Centre for Dairy Education (NCDE) to help dairy farmers achieve best practice in milk harvesting, with an emphasis on detection, treatment and prevention of clinical mastitis.

Leitchville, Wednesday 14 June 9.30 - 2.30pm (lunch provided) and Thur 15 June , 9.30- 12.30pm Contact Murray Dairy or click [here](#) for more information

Milawa area - please call Murray Dairy if you are interested in attending a course at or near Milawa.

Strathmerton, 27 June 9.30am- 2.30 (lunch provided) and Wed 28 June 9.30 - 12.30 pm. Click [here](#) for more information

Accredited Calf Rearing Workshops will run in mid-July. These will be one day workshops running from 9:30 to 3:00pm. Locations are Numurkah and Echuca with a third course location TBA – Contact Murray Dairy for more information.

Soil Biology Masterclass 2017

The soil biology masterclass will provide you with core knowledge and principles to assist you in incorporating soil biology and health in management practices to sustainably increase productivity and profitability. 5 & 6 September, 2017. Click [here](#) for event flyer.

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](#)

**Knock knock
Who's there?
Interrupting cow
Interrupting cow wh**

Mooooooooo!!

With best regards from the Murray Dairy team.

Jenny Wilson
Chief Executive Officer
Murray Dairy