



Your Levy at Work



# Murray Dairy eNews

Friday 7 July  
2017

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### **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 Tuesday 11 July, 2017. To view the position description click [here](#) or for further information contact Murray Dairy on (03)5 833 5312 or email [admin@murraydairy.com.au](mailto:admin@murraydairy.com.au)

### **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](mailto:admin@murraydairy.com.au)

Please indicate which session you will be attending and any special dietary requirements. Click [here](#) for the event flyer.

### **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.

**Workshop 1:** Wednesday 23 August,  
**Venue:** DELWP Office, 1 McKoy St, **Wodonga**

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

**Time:** 10am - 3pm  
For event flyer, [click](#) here

### **North East Mentor Farm Project \*Date is changing**

**Decisions, Pests and Seasonal Considerations. Date TBC to avoid other events running in the region.** 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.

### **Are you a young farmer, dairy worker or new to the dairy industry and looking to join a local discussion group?**

If you would like to join a group or start a group in your area, we can help. Discussion groups allow people to further their skills and knowledge in dairy alongside other young farmers & new entrants. To express your interest in joining a group like this, contact YDN Coordinator - Sarah Thompson on [saraht@murraydairy.com.au](mailto:saraht@murraydairy.com.au)

### **Successful Winter Cropping**

Are you getting the most from your winter cereals? Join us for an in-crop workshop with Luke Nagle (Advanced Ag) and David Lewis (Lallemand Animal Nutrition), who will discuss seasonal management and ensiling techniques to optimise cereal production and quality. See [here](#) for details

### **Inverted Milk Fat and Protein Percentages?**

At this time of the year it isn't uncommon for farmers to observe an inverted fat to protein test. Click [here](#) to discover why this is the case.

### **YouTube - DA Transition Diet Milk Fever Risk Calculator**

Effective pre-calving transition nutrition sets cows up for healthy, fertile, productive lactations. A key to success is to design a nutritionally sound, low milk fever risk pre-calving transition diet. Dairy Australia's easy-to-use Transition Diet Milk Fever Risk Calculator can help you with this. Click [here](#) to view a short video on how to use this tool.

For best results, springers should be fed the pre-calving transition diet for a full 3 weeks, using accurate due calving dates.

For resources and tools on Transition Cow Management, click [here](#).

## Opportunity for young farmers to learn farm business management fundamentals

If you want to strengthen your awareness and approaches to decision making, better communicate with and influence others, and improve on-farm operations – then we have a session for you! The Young Dairy Network is hosting two evening workshops in Benalla and Numurkah, facilitated by Cam Nicholson. Come along for a free meal and hear Cam's insights on how effective decision making and communication are essential to successful farm management. Click [here](#).

## AgBiz Assist

AgBiz Assist (Rural Financial Counsellors Vic North East) in partnership Regional Development Victoria, will be holding free financial counselling clinics for small businesses on 25 July 2017 at the Rochester Community House.

These one-on-one clinics are available to any business in the Shire, particularly those business owners who may be impacted by the closure of the MG Rochester factory.

Details of how to make an appointment are contained in the flyer, click [here](#) for more information.

## All women are welcome in ALWN

The Australian Legendairy Women's Network (ALWN) celebrates and acknowledges the spirit and determination of women in the dairy industry by connecting women from all around the country. It is designed to provide a forum for discussion, the opportunity to improve skills, and add value to dairy businesses and communities.

Register to keep up to date at [www.alwn.legendairy.com.au](http://www.alwn.legendairy.com.au)

## Do you want to know your Cost of Production...?

Did you know that by completing a **Taking Stock** with Murray Dairy you can have at your finger tips your **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

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 at Shamrock Hotel, Numurkah  
**Central** - Monday 24 July at Blue Brick Hotel, Kyabram  
**Riverina** - Tuesday 25 July at Returned Services Club, Finley

**Time:** 7.00pm, dinner included.

#### **Young farmer opportunity to upskill & invest**

Applications are now open for Agriculture Victoria's Young Farmer Scholarships. Up to \$10,000 is available per person, with \$5,000 allocated for upskilling or study and \$5,000 to invest on-farm or into your own skill development. Click [here](#) for more info.

#### **Plan2Dairy**

Murray Dairy are partnering with other regional providers to offer Victorian dairy farmers Plan2Dairy as part of the Plan2Farm project.

Regional Development Victoria and the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning are funding up to 600 landowners in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District to participate in the Plan2Farm program.

Plan2Farm is being delivered by the North Central Catchment Management Authority, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, North East Catchment Management Authority and Agriculture Victoria along with Murray Dairy. The delivery partners will case manage landowners through a process which can include one on one consultation with specialist consultants, facilitated group sessions and a workbook tailored to aid each farm business develop a robust plan for the future of their business.

Dairy farmers can opt into the Plan2Dairy stream or utilise the Plan2Farm option. Farmers are encouraged to apply. To access the expression of interest form click [here](#).

#### **Carry Over Options Explained**

Want a clear understanding of carryover rules? Click [here](#) to view this youtube clip by Peter Lawford from Waterpool - he makes it all crystal clear! Peter, takes us through some of the carryover options you could consider. He also discusses the current season and the risks involved in carrying over water in the event of a spill.

#### **Dairy Youth Travel Scholarship**

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV) Dairy Youth Travel Scholarship provides a recipient with a bursary of up to \$10,000 and the chance to travel on an escorted agricultural tour or to visit dairy regions in

Asia, New Zealand or the USA to gain insight into agricultural and food industries. Applications close on Friday 18 August. Click [here](#).

### **Situation and Outlook June 2017 report available**

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](http://dairyaustralia.com.au) or contact Murray Dairy by email at [admin@murraydairy.com.au](mailto:admin@murraydairy.com.au) to have a copy posted directly to you.

### **Milk Quality Awards**

Producers of top-quality milk have been recognised in the 2017 Australian Milk Quality Awards. The awards recognise farms across Australia in the lowest 5% of annual average bulk milk cell count (BMCC) and celebrate work done by farmers to keep milk quality at a consistently high standard. A low cell count is an indicator that mastitis is well controlled in the herd, improving milk production, cow health and welfare. Farmers achieving a low cell count are also financially rewarded with a premium for their milk and significant cost savings on mastitis treatments and labour. Data for the Dairy Australia Countdown Milk Quality Awards is supplied to Dairy Australia by dairy companies across the country and to be eligible, dairy farms must have data for a minimum of nine months in a calendar year.

For more information and to download the list of winners, click [here](#)

### **The Dairy Research Foundation Symposium - 3 Days**

More Income Led by Cows - will be held on July 25-27. Day one is an industry day and welcome function; day two a full symposium day featuring presentations from leading national and international speakers; day three is a farm day that focuses on inspiring emerging scientists. For more information click [here](#)

### **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.

**Tallangatta** - Mon 17 July 9.30am - 2.30 (lunch provided) and Tue 18 July 9.30 - 12.30 pm. Click [here](#) for course flyer

Are you interested in attending a **Cups on Cups off** in any of the following areas: **Milawa, Katandra, Strathmerton, Tatura, Kerang or Shepparton**? If you are keen, then call Murray Dairy on (03) 5833 5312 to let us know.

If enough participants are interested, then these courses will run during late August and September.

## **Accredited Training to Identify Risk and apply Risk Management Process to Calf Rearing.**

These one day workshops running from 9:00am - 3:00pm. 1 August, Kerang, 2 August, Numurkah, 3 August, Kiewa. Venues TBC. Contact Murray Dairy on (03) 5833 5312 or [admin@murraydairy.com.au](mailto:admin@murraydairy.com.au) for more information. Click [here](#) for course flyer.

## **Cohuna Careers Expo 2017**

Community members welcome to attend. Wednesday 26 July, 11am - 2.30pm at the CSC ECA Centre. Click [here](#) for event flyer.

## **Women's Health Night**

**Gather Your Friends....**You are invited to come along to a FREE and FUN evening that CELEBRATES ALL women in Gannawarra. Wednesday 26 July 2017, 7pm - 9pm, Northern District Community Health, 33 King Edward Street Cohuna

Click [here](#) to view the 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, Training and Support**

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

### **Dairy farmer at Le Tour**

Belgian dairy farmer Frederik Backaert is taking part in this year's Tour de France riding for the Wanty-Groupe Gobert team. Before he left for the race last Wednesday, Backaert milked 90 cows on the 38 hectare family farm at Brakel. The 27-year-old spends the mornings

training and the afternoons milking or cleaning machinery. After the fourth stage Backaert (race number 202) was in 175<sup>th</sup> position, 13 minutes 9 seconds behind the leader.

Update:

**Dairy farmer at Le Tour**

After the fifth stage, Belgian dairy farmer Frederik Backaert (race number 202) was in 164<sup>th</sup> position, 23 minutes 19 seconds behind the leader.

**Milk is the best recovery drink** after a workout or other physical activity. The combination of carbohydrates, fat, protein, and other micronutrients makes milk the premier recovery drink, possibly even more effective than commercially available sports drinks at promoting recovery from strength and endurance exercise ([Source](#))

With best regards from the Murray Dairy team.

Jenny Wilson  
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Murray Dairy

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