

*Murrumbidgee CMA,
Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Group
& NSW Farmers invite you to attend a*

CMA PVP Demo in Kingsvale

VENUE: Killara, Kingsvale via Harden

Meet at the Kingsvale Rural Fire Shed,
(centre of Kingsvale next to the tennis courts)

DATE: Wednesday July 26, 2006

TIME: 9am - noon (morning tea provided)

With the introduction of the Native Vegetation Act in NSW, property owners may now enter into a voluntary Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) for clearing, continuing use or the receipt of incentives.

PVPs are a negotiated agreement between the landholder and the local Catchment Management Authority following discussion, field assessment, data collection and analysis with the assistance of an advanced computer program, the PVP Developer.

This is your chance to meet your local CMA officers and find out how they can assist you with native vegetation, biodiversity, soil health and water quality on your property.

Agenda includes:

- discussion about incentives and questions
- overview of the NV Act, including permitted activities
- farm walk through a clearing and offset site
- demonstration of the PVP Developer

We hope to see you there. All farmers welcome.

To RSVP Contact:

NSWFA Member Service Centre 1300 794 000, or
Murrumbidgee CMA Community Support Officer Louise Hufton 6386 3954



Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Newsletter

July 2006

Jugiong Creek Salinity & Water Quality Project

The Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority has received funding from the National Action Plan for Salinity & Water Quality program (NAP) to encourage landholders to implement best management practices to reduce salinity and sediment entering the Murrumbidgee River.

A Project Liaison Committee has made up of representatives from the targeted catchments plus two independent representatives from HMLG and Murrumbidgee CMA, being Sue Bradford (Chair) John McGrath, David Cusack, Neil McColl, Shaun Robinson Ken Clark & Belinda Miller and John Franklin.

Within the Jugiong Creek catchment the sub-catchment areas targeted will be Category A Douglas, Boorowa Flats, Corcorans, Five Mile, Four Mile, Rocky Ponds, Limestone, Well Sinkers & Six Mile Creeks. Category B: Trench, Moppity, Riley's, Irish Jacks, Barwang, Bobbora Flat, Bobbora, Stony , Cunningham Creek, Category C: Blind, Currawang, Paddy's Doyle Gully, Cunningham Plains, Walls, Rocky Ponds & Illalong Creek. If your property is within these subcatchments and you have not yet advised Louise Hufton you would like to participate, please do so as soon as possible.

The project provides landowners with assistance for fencing materials, ripping, planting, trees & shrubs, off stream watering points and some earth works. Landowners are required to match funding with in-kind contributions such as labour for fence construction, installation of water point, site preparation and maintenance.

Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Group AGM

Election of Office Bearers for 2006:

HMLG Chair- John McGrath, Vice Chair- David Cusack, Treasurer- M O'Connor, Secretary- Sue Bradford
Binalong Group: Chair - Geoff Henderson, Treasurer & Secretary - Donna Reid.

Our thanks to retiring HMLG Chair David Cusack & Secretary/Treasurer of Binalong Glenys Ings who has held this position for the past ten years.

Bureau of Rural Sciences Community Stream Sampling.

Forty points (intersections of small streams) across the catchment have been identified as monitoring points and a further 40 points (including some bores) are being monitored by landholders for the next 12 months, the monthly readings will assist us to get a clearer picture of the saline levels in our subcatchments.

Funding for this project has been obtained from the National Landcare Program, Natural Resource Management Department of Agriculture, Forestry &Fishery.

The Murrumbidgee CMA Benchmarking and Understanding Soil Chemistry Project offers land-holders the opportunity to improve their soil management. – bookings essential, course late August

- Learn how to interpret soil tests - no longer rely on others to tell you what you need to spend!
- Match your production and land management to your soils
- Improve productivity by understanding the influence of soils and matching your farming activity with soil and land capability
- Recognise soil health problems & get the skills and knowledge needed to deal with them.

A series of 4 workshops are held, workshops are tailored to fit local soils and farming practices.

On-Farm Storage Workshops co-ordinated by Partners in Grain Cost is \$10

- Grenfell - July 12 (am)
- Young - July 12 (pm)

.The level of on farm storage of grain in Australia is growing and this has a variety of implications for growers. These workshops aim to inform grain growers of some of the important issues involved in on farm storage.



Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Network

Chairman: John McGrath

Murrumbidgee CMA Community Support Officer: Louise Hufton (02 6386 3954)



Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Newsletter

July 2006

Site preparation & weed management for successful tree establishment field morning

Despite the early morning frost, a Farm Forestry Field Morning was held at "Oxton Park" Harden last month. Farmers were able to inspect sites planted in 2003, 2004 and a site that has been prepared for planting in 2006.

Rob Kuiper (Murrumbidgee CMA Farm Forestry Project Officer) provided the enthusiastic group with a wealth of knowledge on farm forestry issues from site preparation, weed management, tree and shrub species selection to

pruning and ongoing management. The morning provided a great opportunity for those new to tree establishment to visualise the process at various stages, and the chance to learn about the diversity of species planted at each site. Our thanks to Mark & Julie O'Connor for their frank discussions on valuable lessons learnt in site preparation and management over the past few years. If you were unable to attend and would like a copy of the field morning notes, please give Louise a call.

Murrumbidgee Grain & Graze Supplementary Feeding Seminar

White Ibis, Cootamundra

Date: Tuesday 18 July, 2006

Time: 9.15am - 12.30

Bookings essential with FarmLink 02 - 69244633

REMINDER:

Anybody planting trees in 2006 needs to spray your prepared site to prevent weed competition.

Binalong Landcare Topdressing Lime/Grazing Demonstration

DECEMBER 2005 – Final Report

AIMS

- Investigate the economic viability of topdressing native based pastures with lime for grazing enterprises.
- Measure livestock production on all paddocks ie. Stocking rate and wool production per hectare.
- Measure lime movement through the soil profile
- Measure changes in pasture composition

SUMMARY

- The Binalong Landcare Group initially established the demonstration to investigate the profitability of topdressing native based pastures with lime. The 5 years of economic data collected indicate liming such pastures is economically marginal.
- The demonstration has also proved highly valuable in allowing the monitoring/measuring of lime movement, soil phosphorous levels and pasture growth rates. This data has been used to provide better recommendations to local producers as well as being used as a teaching aid for courses such as Prograze.
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NSW Department of Primary Industries would like to acknowledge the on-going commitment and support over the past 7 years of the Giles Family and the Binalong Landcare Group in the running of the grazing demonstration. Due acknowledgement also goes to Acid Soil Action for funding the demonstration. The demonstration has now officially ceased. NSW Department of Primary Industries will continue to measure lime movement over the next 2 years to determine the run-down rate of the single lime application.

*Prepared by: Fiona Leech, Extension Agronomist, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Yass.
Murrumbidgee CMA Community Support Officer Louise Hufton has a full copy of the report if you would like it.*

Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority:
Chairman: Lee O'Brien **General Manager:** John Searson

PO Box 5224 WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650

Murrumbidgee CMA Community Support Officer: Louise Hufton (02 6386 3954)



If undeliverable return to:
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P.O.Box 154, Harden NSW 2587
Head Office: 43-45 Johnston St, Wagga Wagga
Phone 02 6932 3232 Fax 02 6932 3269

www.murrumbidgee.cma.nsw.gov.au

Murrumbidgee CMA **'Profitable Farmers, Sustainable Systems, Healthy Landscapes'** HMLG Cereal Stubble Management Trial

Trial work was started in 2004/5 looking at stubble management strategies to reduce stubble loads at sowing. This was continued in 2005/6 assessing a range of physical and biological treatments and their effects on wheat stubble at Bobbara Station, Galong. Funding is continuing for the 2006/07 year and results will be forwarded as soon as possible.

Results to date have indicated some interesting points:

Variations in stubble loads within a paddock can be very high. This has impacts particularly when trying to assess the relative benefits of different products.

So far grazing has had little effect on the total stubble load. This is due to the high level of variability in the stubble load and the limited grazing of the trial area. Results from David Cusack's paddock showed that heavy grazing reduced stubble loads by over 1 t/ha (~25% reduction).

A field morning is planned to be held on site after germination, please make sure that I have your current email to ensure you are advised of the date.