



## Dairy NSW Snapshot – November 2015

In this issue of *Dairy NSW's Snapshot*, link to information about:

### Upcoming events

- Employment and your dairy – a contracts, industrial relations and succession workshop for farmers – with Dairy levy poll public consultation – 2 November
- Camden and the Highlands Dairy Discussion Group – 4 November
- Eurodalla Dairy Discussion Group on rearing heifers – 4 November
- Wagga Inland Dairy Network meeting – 5 November
- Central West Dairy Group meeting and social licence focus group – 6 November
- Gloucester Tidy Town – celebrating 100 years of dairying – 5-6 November
- Field Day – Best practice in dairy and oyster industries – 13 November
- Looking at employment options and negotiating workplace agreements – Webinar – 16 November
- Shape the future digital communications strategy – 16 November
- Feeding Pastures for Profit – Workshop 5 – 10-13 November
- Dubbo Dairy Discussion Group on Dairy Energetics – 24/15 November
- Bega Cheese Supplier Discussion Group – 26 November

### Date Claimers

- Dairy Australia's AGM – 27 November
- Dairy NSW December Members' Council and Priority-Setting Workshop – 1 December

### Opportunities

- RAS Youth Group – expressions of interest – close 4 November
- 2016 Manufacturing Scholarship program
- DA membership

### Resources

- Situation and Outlook – October 2015
- Smartphone Apps for Smart farmers (version 2)
- Access recorded webinars on Attracting and Retaining Staff
- Dairying for Tomorrow newsletter
- Reduce mastitis and benefit your farm business and herd fertility
- New Chart of Accounts for the dairy industry

### News

- NSW DPI wins the Resilient Australia Award
- NSW health warning of Rabies and the deadly Lyssaviruses with the start of bat breeding season

- Dairy Australia's advance knowledge portal (library)
- Don't be unprepared for seasonal changes

#### **Have your say**

- Wellbeing survey

Regards,

Roxanne Cooley  
Regional Manager, Dairy NSW

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

For more information about workshops, select the month and day in the Dairy NSW's Event Calendar by clicking: [HERE](#)

**For contact details to Dairy NSW's staff, click: [HERE](#)**

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### **Employment and your dairy – a contracts, industrial relations and succession workshop for farmers with Dairy levy poll public consultation – 2 November**

NSW Farmers' Dairy Committee in partnership with Australian Dairy Farmers is holding a workshop for dairy farmers at Bomaderry Bowling Club between 10am – 2pm.

RSVP to Kiara Drinan, 1 300 794 000 or email [drinank@nswfarmers.org.au](mailto:drinank@nswfarmers.org.au)

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### **Camden & the Highlands Dairy Discussion Group – 4 November**

In the second in a series of workshops on preparing for seasonal conditions, Guy Weerasinghe, Local Land Services District Vet will present to farmers on animal health and welfare. The group meeting starts at 7pm at the Camden Valley Inn. **RSVP Roxanne Cooley**

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### **Eurobodalla Dairy Discussion Group – 4 November**

Dairy farmers looking at options to improve their herd management by producing and growing better quality dairy heifers. This workshop and BBQ is being held at Mark Bice's dairy, Eurobodalla Road from 10.30 – 1.30pm. **RSVP Phil Pittolo, 0403 722 739.**

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### **Wagga Inland Dairy Network meeting – 5 November**

Farmers and industry providers are welcome to attend to learn about the levy spend for this financial year and priority setting for future years. Meet between 10am – 2pm at the Commercial Club, 77 Gurwood Street, Wagga Wagga. **RSVP Greg Duncan**

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### **Central West Dairy Group meeting – 6 November**

Farmers and industry providers are welcome to attend to learn about the levy spend for this financial year and priority setting for future years. Meet between 10am – 2pm at the Gooloogong

Hotel. Following this, Julie Iommi will conduct a social licence focus group. **RSVP a message for Rose Philipzen on 2 6344 8462.**

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## **Gloucester NSW Tidy Towns Winner – celebrating 100 years of dairying – 5-6 November**

Gloucester Shire is the 2015 NSW Tidy Towns Winner and is staging the awards for 2016 Tidy Towns Awards which will be held in Gloucester on the weekend 5 – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

At this event we will be show casing the Gloucester District, its natural beauty and its industry. Dairying is and has been for over 100 years a most important and valued part of our community and economy. The showcase will include a static display in which a Picasso dairy cow is featured.

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## **Field Day – Best practice in dairy and oyster industries – 13 November**

The Shoalhaven River catchment is working hard to implement best practice on arm to deliver financial and environmental benefits. The field day will be from 9am – 2pm with lunch provided. Meet near Greenwell Point. **RSVP by 9 November to [Andv@oceanwatch.org.au](mailto:Andv@oceanwatch.org.au), 0488 656 366.**

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## **Looking at Employment Options and Workplace Agreements – 16 November**

Cameron Smith will deliver this valuable webinar at 12 noon. He will cover:

- Employment contracts
- Understanding what the 152 hours over 4 weeks means
- Individual flexibility agreements
- Flay pay rates

**[Register now](#)**

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## **Shape the future digital communications strategy – 16 November**

Dairy Australia has engaged a customer-led innovation consultancy to design a digital communications strategy. Help inform this by attending a workshop at Shoalhaven Ex-Serviceman's Sports Club, Worrigeer from 7pm.

To secure a place which is limited to ten people, **RSVP Alana Colley: 0400 672 822 or [acolley@dairyaustralia.com.au](mailto:acolley@dairyaustralia.com.au)**

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## **Feeding pastures for profit – fifth and final workshops – 10<sup>th</sup> – 13 November**

Don't miss the final on-farm workshop with Phil Shannon.

- Bega – 10 November at Greg & Toad Heffernan's farm
  - Nowra – 11 November at Matt Warne's & Ian Zanstra's farm
- For Bega and Nowra, contact Greg Duncan for further details**

- Forbes – 12<sup>th</sup> November at Tim Downie's farm
  - Ladysmith – 13<sup>th</sup> November at Stewart and Rebecca Coles' farm
- For Forbes and Ladysmith, contact Josh Hack for further details**
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## **Dairy Energetics – 2-day workshop in Dubbo – 24-25 November**

Learn about the core driver of your business – Energy in a workshop delivered by Scibus director, Dr Neil Moss. He will discuss the skills to calculate, monitor and measure your herd performance and then on day two, explore feed conversion efficiency and on-farm nutritional assessment.

The cost is \$275 pp. Rebates may be available through your processing company.

Register with [office@scibus.com.au](mailto:office@scibus.com.au), or phone Yatza 02 4655 8532 or Neil on 0412 558 532

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## **Bega Cheese Supplier Discussion Group – 26 November**

The next meeting with Neil Moss is 16 November. To attend, **RSVP Melissa Balas, 0408 669 637**

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## **DATE CLAIMERS**

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### **Dairy Australia AGM – 27 November**

Starting at 10.30am in the Atrium, Flemington Racecourse, 448 Epsom Road, Flemington Victoria. General inquiries about the AGM can be directed to the **Dairy Australia toll-free Memberline 1800 004 377**

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### **Dairy NSW December Members' Council – Priority setting workshop – 1 December**

Dairy NSW Members' Council will be held on 1 December from 8.30am – 12.30pm at the Camden Valley Inn. This will be a priority-setting workshop for informing the investment of the dairy farmers services levy in 2016-17.

If you want to participate or inform the priorities, contact [info@dairynsw.com.au](mailto:info@dairynsw.com.au)

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## **OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **Royal Agricultural Society – Sydney Youth Group**

The RAS Youth Group is made up of a select troop of like-minded people keen to strengthen the engagement of young people in agriculture throughout regional and metropolitan NSW.

If you are 25 - 35 years old, enthusiastic about agriculture and have professional skills which can help build and execute programs to educate, entertain and engage young people in our industry they want to hear from you.

[Applications close 4 November](#)

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### **2016 Manufacturing Scholarship program**

New university graduates and TAFE diploma holders are invited to apply. The scholarship covers 10-12 weeks training including a few weeks at the National Centre for Dairy Education, Werribee. Applications for the 2016 Dairy Manufacturing Scholarship Program close on Monday 30 November 2015.

For more information and an application, click: [HERE](#)

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### **Dairy Australia Membership**

There are two groups of Dairy Australia members: Group A and Group B members.

**Group A members** are comprised of approximately 5000 Australian dairy farmers. Membership is voluntary and free to eligible Australian dairy businesses. All dairy farmers who pay the Dairy

Service Levy are encouraged to become Group A members of Dairy Australia and have a say in the direction of the company. **Dairy farmers can call the Memberline 1800 004 377 to become a member of Dairy Australia.**

**Group B members** are comprised of two peak industry bodies: the Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) and the Australian Dairy Products Federation. The ADF represents Australia's dairy farmers on a range of issues that are often agri-political in nature and need state and/or Australian Government representation and lobbying. The ADF comprises six state dairy farmer organisations. In NSW the member organisation is the NSW Farmers' Association – Dairy Committee.

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## RESOURCES

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### ***Situation and Outlook – October 2015***

The October 2015 update of the Dairy Situation and Outlook is available. The report analyses current dairy industry conditions and the outlook for key drivers that affect dairy operations and profits.

For a full overview and to download the report, click: [HERE](#)

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### **Smartphone apps for Smart Farmers version 2**

Ag Alliance Inc and Growing Solutions has prepared a collection of smart apps for farmers.

To access a wealth of Apps, click: [HERE](#)

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### **Access to recorded webinars on *Attracting and retaining staff***

Webinar 1 in the series provides an overview of the People in Dairy website and Employment Starter Kit (ESKi).

Webinar 2 in the series looked at the basis of employment. It was recorded last week and will be available on-demand by the end of this week.

View these recordings on your preferred computing or mobile device. Stop and start them to suit your time schedule. Access the series by clicking on the [People in Dairy website](#).

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### ***The Dairying for Tomorrow newsletter***

The newsletter is produced by Dairy Australia's national Land, Water & Carbon Team. The quarterly newsletter highlights the work of farm advisors, farmers, service providers and researchers working in collaboration with the team to deliver Land, Water and Carbon based projects and programs in all dairy regions.

To access, click: [HERE](#) or direct any queries to Marguerite White.

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### **Reduce mastitis and benefit your farm business and herd fertility**

Research conducted over the last 15 years in several countries has clearly shown that both sub-clinical and clinical mastitis events can damage the subsequent fertility of dairy cows.

In 2013, *Countdown 2020* estimated the financial cost of each clinical case of mastitis to be \$277 which can add up to costs in the thousands for a herd-wide outbreak. Dairy Australia's Countdown Shed Guides and Countdown Mastitis Toolkit app are effective tools to help prevent or minimise an outbreak.

View the videos and order copies of the Shed Guides, click: [HERE](#)

Also, in a 2 minute podcast, Dr Davis explains the impacts of mastitis on cow fertility and how a few simple steps can potentially save dairy farmers thousands of dollars. [Listen HERE](#).

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## **New Chart of Accounts for the dairy industry**

Dairy farmers will now be able to extract greater value from the accounting process and make better informed business decisions with the launch of a new Standard Chart of Accounts for the dairy industry.

Developed by Dairy Australia in response to requests from farmers and service providers, the Standard Chart of Accounts will also drive consistency in how the dairy industry reports and discusses farm business performance.

Locate the new chart of accounts on the Dairy Base site: [HERE](#)

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## **NEWS**

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### **NSW DPI wins the Resilient Australia Awards**

Congratulations to the NSW Department of Primary Industries who was honoured for its Flood Ready Agriculture Project initiated following a succession of major floods in the North Coast region.

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### **NSW health warning of Rabies and the deadly Lyssaviruses with the start of bat breeding season**

With the start of the bat breeding season, NSW Health has urged people not to approach or handle injured bats and flying foxes to avoid the risk of exposure to this potentially fatal virus.

For more information, click: [HERE](#)

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### **Dairy Australia's advance knowledge portal (library)**

Learning to use the Dairy Australia knowledge portal has been made simple with [two short videos](#) giving an overview of the resources and instructions for accessing them.

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### **Don't be unprepared for seasonal changes**

Dairy NSW urges all dairy farmers to consider the following in anticipation of likely seasonal changes:

- Accept El Nino will impact the industry
- Prepare for the change by forward contracting feed and maintaining irrigation equipment
- Implement steps to maintain milk production, cow health and welfare

For further information, see the [Dairy NSW website](#) which will continually publish current news and information on where to access helpful resources like a feed budget calculator.

Calculators can aid in comparing feeds and producing a feed budget for your farm. DPI NSW have a [feed calculator](#) which allows you to compare multiple feeds for price and quality. Also available in an App for Android or Apple: [Drought Feed Calculator](#).

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## **Have your say!**

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## Wellbeing survey

The University of Canberra's 2015 Regional Wellbeing Survey is now live. Each year the survey asks people about the quality of life in their community, their own wellbeing, and their views about a number of issues affecting rural and regional Australians.

Everyone aged 18 or over who takes part in the survey can enter the draw to win one of 15 prizes worth a total of \$7,000.

**Do the survey online at [www.regionalwellbeing.org.au](http://www.regionalwellbeing.org.au)** or call **1800 981 499** if you'd like help or a paper survey posted to you.

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