



## Dairy NSW Snapshot – August 2015

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

### Upcoming events

- Unpacking the ESKi (Dungog) – 24 August
- Regional dairy group dinners – South Coast & Highlands and Far South Coast
- Wogamia focus farm open day 9 September
- Feeding Pastures for Profit Southern delivery – 15-19 September
- InCalf Reproduction Symposium 2015 – 5 October
- Countdown Mastitis Symposium 2015 – 6 October

### Date Claimer

- Dairy NSW AGM - 13 October

### Opportunities

- Dairy NSW Director vacancies
- NSW Farmer of the Year award
- John Ralph essay competition
- Women in leadership grants

### Resources

- Dairy Nitrogen Fertiliser Advisor tool
- DairyBase
- Labour Agreement template

### News & weather

- Comboyne wins Legendairy State Capital
- Australian milk quality awards 2015
- El Nino to persist into early 2016

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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### Unpacking the ESKi

Unpacking the ESKi workshops will show you how to access resources to help manage people. The aim of these workshops is to raise awareness to recent changes to the Commonwealth's *Pastoral Award 2010* (updated July 2014) and *Fair Work Act 2009* using DA's resources:

- [People in Dairy website](#)
- [Employment Starter Kit \(ESKi\)](#)

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015

Contact:  
Josh Hack

Meet at the Dungog RSL  
10am – 2.30pm

Bring:

Personal laptop/tablet with wifi access

ESKi resource – this free resource can be ordered in advance via the website.

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### Regional dinners

**South Coast and Highlands Dairy Industry Group annual dinner** – 16 September  
Ex-Servicemen's Club, Worrigeer – \$40/head. 6.30pm for 7pm start. RSVP: [schdig@gmail.com](mailto:schdig@gmail.com).

**Far South Coast Dairy Development Group farmer dinner** – 3 September at the Homestead Brogo.

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### Wogamia Focus Farm Open Day on Calf and Heifer Rearing – 9 September

Join the Cochrane focus farm family at their property, Wogamia, located at 154 Wogamia Road, Longreach NSW (near Nowra) on Wednesday 9 September for an open field day. Contact Greg Duncan for further details.

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### Feeding Pastures for Profit: Southern delivery

Phil Shannon returns for the first on-farm workshop in the feedbase series. Details of the farm locations and topics to be delivered will be communicated directly to participants.

Kanoona – 15 Sept, contact Greg	Forbes – 17 Sept, contact Josh
Barrengarry – 16 Sept, contact Greg	Ladysmith – 18 Sept, contact Josh

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### InCalf Reproduction Symposium 2015 – Monday 5 October

Dairy Australia invite you to attend the InCalf Reproduction Symposium 2015. This event is designed for all people interested in herd reproduction performance on Australian dairy farms: veterinarians, artificial breeding advisers, factory field officers, herd improvement representatives and other dairy industry professionals.

Melbourne Museum, 11 Nicholson Street, Carlton Victoria, Registration fee - \$160 including proceedings, plus \$110 for optional Symposium Dinner on Monday night

To register click: [HERE](#)

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## Countdown Mastitis Symposium 2015 – Tuesday 6 October

Dairy Australia invite you to attend the Countdown Mastitis Symposium 2015. This event is designed for all people interested in mastitis control on Australian dairy farms: veterinarians, milking machine technicians, factory field officers, herd improvement representatives and other dairy industry professionals.

Melbourne Museum, 11 Nicholson Street, Carlton Victoria, Registration fee - \$160 including proceedings, plus \$110 for optional Symposium Dinner on Monday night

To register click: [HERE](#)

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## DATE CLAIMER

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### Dairy NSW Annual General Meeting

The Dairy NSW Annual General Meeting will be held on 13 October as a teleconference. Details to come.

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## OPPORTUNITIES

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### Dairy NSW Director Vacancies

At the Dairy NSW Annual General Meeting, three Dairy NSW Board Directors terms expire this year – two skills based and one farmer director. As a result, Dairy NSW is calling for nominations for three vacancies on its Board. To be elected as a Director, applicants undergo a selection process overseen by the Board Selection Committee.

**The Selection Committee is now seeking and accepting applications from interested and appropriately skills individuals.** All applications must be returned to Dairy NSW by Friday 21 August 2015. Applications will be accepted via email or post.

For details and the application form, click: [HERE](#)

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### NSW Farmer of the Year Award

Applications for the 2015 NSW Farmer of the Year Award are now open. Entries close Friday 11 September 2015.

To secure application forms and read more information click: [HERE](#)

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### John Ralph Essay Competition 2015

The Australian Farm Institute offers an essay competition and the topic of this year's competition is: *Australian agriculture should forget about the pursuit of productivity, and instead focus on premium markets.*

Two cash prizes: \$5,000 for the Open category and \$1,000 for the Novice category are on offer. There are incentives for professors and lecturers who involve their students and prizes awarded at the 2015 Australian Agriculture Roundtable Conference

Entries should be submitted in electronic format (.doc or .docx for Windows), by Friday 18 September 2015. For details, click: [HERE](#)

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## Grants for Women in Leadership in the Agriculture sector

In 2015 Women & Leadership Australia is administering a national initiative to support the development of female leaders.

From 1 July 2015, the initiative will provide women employed in the agriculture sector with grants for leadership development at two levels. Please click on the preferred program link below for details:

- **Senior Management and Executive Women Leaders** can apply for \$12,000 Individual Grants to undertake the [Advanced Leadership Program](#).
- **Women Managers** can apply for \$4,500 Individual Grants to undertake the [Accelerated Leadership Performance Program](#).

To request a Scholarship Grant Application Form or additional information, click: [HERE](#)

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## RESOURCES

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### Dairy Nitrogen Fertiliser Advisor tool

Check out the new Nitrogen fertiliser tool for working out the most profitable level for different regions and seasons. The tool allows dairy farmers with their advisors to examine the profitability of nitrogen fertiliser applications to pasture. Predicted pasture responses, based on nearly 6,000 nitrogen fertiliser experiments undertaken across Australia, are calibrated to account for prevailing conditions facing individual farms. Profitable nitrogen fertiliser recommendations consider the fertiliser costs and the value of extra pasture consumed for each incremental increase in fertiliser use.

To access the tool, click: [HERE](#)

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### DairyBase

Analysing and understanding your overall farm business performance has just become easier, with Dairy Australia's new web-based farm business management tool – DairyBase. Dairy farmers and service providers can now access DairyBase. The website has supporting resources to help:

- Get started – Getting started guide for first time users
- Use the data repository – DairyBase user guide
- Case studies
- Input check list/preparation guide
- FAQs
- Key events such as webinars and seminars

To access the website, click: [HERE](#)

For further support there is a help line **1800 548 073** or email [dairybasesupport@dairyaustralia.com.au](mailto:dairybasesupport@dairyaustralia.com.au)

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### Labour agreement template

Dairy Australia has secured a template labour agreement that will allow farmers to recruit senior, experienced and skilled farmhands from overseas on 457 visas. This was not previously possible,

as only farmers and farm managers were recognised by the Immigration Department as skilled for 457 purposes.

The agreement is a standard template setting out the terms and conditions under which these workers can now come to Australia, and work for an approved business for up to four years.

The agreement defines a senior farmhand as a 'senior dairy cattle farm worker', with either:

- Certificate III (or equivalent) and three years recent and relevant experience **or**
- five years recent and relevant experience.

**See attached template**

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## **NEWS & WEATHER ALERT**

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### **Comboyne wins LEGENDAIRY State Capital**

It might only have a population of 600 people, but the town of Comboyne on the Mid North Coast has a long and colourful dairy history. So much so, that the community is in the running to be Australia's LEGENDAIRY capital!

Learn more about their winning submission and community by clicking: [HERE](#)

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### **2015 Australian Milk Quality Awards**

The Australian Milk Quality Awards recognises the top 5% of farms that have achieved the best milk quality in Australia based on annual average bulk milk cell count (BMCC).

Analysis shows that a farmer milking 300 cows who lowers their BMCC from 300,000 to 200,000 stands to save \$35,700 per year.

One way for farmers to improve their milk quality results was to get involved in Dairy Australia's Countdown 2020 program.

To view the list of both the Gold and Silver winners for 2015, click: [HERE](#)

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### **EL NINO to persist into early 2016**

El Niño is now well-established and continues to strengthen. In the coming weeks, the central tropical Pacific Ocean (the NINO3.4 region) may exceed the peak values reached during the 2002 and 2009 El Niño events, but current anomalies remain well short of the 1982 and 1997 peaks. Note that peak values are normally recorded late in the year. Trade winds remain weakened and are likely to contribute to more warming of the tropical Pacific Ocean. Other indicators such as cloudiness near the Date Line, the Southern Oscillation Index, and sub-surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific Ocean remain typical of an established El Niño.

To read this and future announcements, click [HERE](#)

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