

The Dairy NSW Snapshot

26.1.15

Your Levy at Work

In this first issue for the new year, link to information about:

- Upcoming events
 - InCalf farmer webinar: Is your bull team at the top of their game – 29 January 2015
 - Increase your business profitability ... with better skills – 2 or 3 February 2015
 - Feeding pastures for Profit – Bega, Nowra, Forbes, Wagga Wagga – February 2015
 - Churn Milk into Money – Tocal and Taree – 23-24 and 25-26 February 2015
 - Unpacking the ESKi – starting in March 2015
 - Lameness identification and prevention workshop 19 and 20 March 2015
 - Global Youth Ag-Summit – 24–28 August 2015, Canberra
- Resources
 - Dairy welfare we care: The Dairy Welfare Safety Net
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Upcoming events

InCalf farmer webinar – Is your bull team at the top of their game – Thursday 29 January 2015

Many dairy farmers rely on a team of bulls after AI mating and some farms only use bulls. Recent studies have found that an alarming number of the bulls used on dairy farms are not fit for the job. This situation can have a seriously reduce your herd's conception rate and calving pattern. To help you manage these risks, we have asked two experts on dairy reproduction and bull management to update you on the research findings and provide you with some simple tools to lower your risk of using poor performing bulls.

- Learn about the recent bull soundness studies in commercial dairy herds.
- Update your knowledge of good bull management practices you can apply on your farm
- Understand when and how to test bulls prior to the mating period.

The webinar will be run by Dr Andrew Perry and Dr Craig Dwyer from 7-8pm (AEDT). If you miss it, it will be recorded. To register, click: [HERE](#)

Increase your business profitability...with better skills

AgriFood Skills Australia and the AgriFood NSW ITAB are offering industry stakeholders a chance to attend a **FREE** workshop to hear about the latest developments with the AgriFood Training Packages and the new Federal Government Industry Skills Fund (ISF). The workshops are held on **Monday the 2nd February** at the Penrith Panthers or **Tuesday the 3rd of February 2015** at the Department of Education and Communities, Level 12 Conference Room, 1 Oxford Street Darlinghurst.

For times and details of the events, email your enquiry and/or interest to: events@agrifoodskills.net.au

Feeding Pastures for Profit

Phil Shannon delivers the first two of a five-part series of conceptual and practical workshops to help farmers learn efficient ways to improve pasture utilisation.

Bega – Tuesdays 10 & 17 February
 Nowra – Wednesdays 11 & 18 February
 Forbes – Thursdays 12 & 19 February
 Wagga Wagga – Fridays 13 & 20 February

To register, click: [HERE](#)

Churn Milk into Money

John Mulvany will deliver a two-day farm business management workshop in two locations.

To register:

- Taree – Monday – Tuesday 23rd-24th February, click: [HERE](#)
 - Tocal – Wednesday – Thursday 25th-26th February, click: [HERE](#)
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Unpacking the ESKi

Dairy NSW will launch a new extension program for farm business owners and managers on managing people in Feb 2015 with funding support from Dairy Australia (DA). Commencing in March, we will deliver a 3-year extension program – starting off the first year with ten half-day interactive workshops: Unpacking the ESKi.

The aim of these workshops is to raise awareness to recent changes to the Cwth's Pastoral Award 2010 (updated July 2014) and Fair Work Act 2009 using DA's resources:

- [People in Dairy website](#)
 - [Employment Starter Kit \(ESKi\)](#)
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Lameness identification and prevention workshop

Dairy NSW invites all farmer owners and employees to attend a Lameness Identification and Prevention workshop. Delivered by Karl Burgi, expert hoof care and educator, you will learn about lameness detection, common hoof problems and their causes. Focus will be on lameness prevention and urgent "lame cow care". There is a practical component to the workshop, so it will be held on farm. This workshop is delivered and funded by Dairy NSW.

Locations	Dates
Brundee	Thursday
Tracey Russel & Bob Herne's farm 630 Greenwell Point Road	19th March
Tocal	Friday
Tocal Dairy 815 Tocal Road, Paterson Starting at 9.30am – 2.30pm	20th March

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

Global Youth Ag-Summit 24-28 August 2015 Canberra

Young leaders from around the world will gather at the Global Youth Ag-Summit in Canberra to discuss ideas, develop a vision and deliver action. For youth age 18-25.

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

Resources

Dairy welfare we care: The Dairy Welfare Safety Net

Most Australian dairy farmers use sound husbandry practices that exceed minimum standards specified by government laws and regulations. The regulatory framework provides a safety net for animal welfare and ensures all farmers deliver a minimum standard of care. However, there is a risk that a small minority of less-responsible farmers could jeopardise the industry's solid track record for animal welfare if they do not adhere to the regulations and agreed codes of practice. This information sheet outlines animal welfare legislation and relevant codes of practice in Australia.

For more information on farmer's responsibilities, the legal framework and the structure and relationships of federal and state groups which influence animal welfare legislation in Australia, click: [HERE](#)

Grain and hay report

Dairy Australia is commissioned to provide an independent and timely assessment of grain and hay markets in each dairying region. It should be remembered that actual prices may vary for quality or other reasons. The report:

- Provides indicative grain and hay pricing across 12 dairying regions;

- Includes a global overview for grain markets, as well as domestic market developments for grain and hay;
- Is designed to enhance understanding of the factors influencing current grain and hay prices, as well as the broader market outlook;
- Published 40 times per year on the Dairy Australia website.

For regular information, bookmark this site and read the update for the week ending 23 January 2015, click: [HERE](#)

Dairy market: Fortnightly update

Dairy Australia regular publishes a dairy market update. Key points in the 23 January issue include:

- Global Dairy Trade event #132 hints at positive sentiment
- US Margin Protection Program gets some late enthusiasm
- Fonterra NZ milk price forecast cut
- Hope Dairies seeking feed and cows in South Burnett
- Camperdown Dairy International: work in progress.

For regular information, bookmark this site and read the update for the week ending 23 January 2015, click: [HERE](#)

Dairy Australia on farm biosecurity

All of us need to keep biosecurity at the top of our minds. To view the video, click: [HERE](#)

Excerpts from this video and another farmer interview about the impact of Mycoplasma were used in the recent farmer webinar on biosecurity, which can be viewed as a recording. To view the recording, click: [HERE](#)

Profitable dairying in a carbon constrained future

Dairy Australia's Australian Government funded emissions management project for dairy farmers, Profitable Dairying in a Carbon Constrained Future, conducted by the Dairying for Tomorrow team, released a set of fact sheets for farmers and farm advisors. There are many options for managing farm greenhouse gas emissions as part of a profitable dairy business. However, there is also complexities and some confusion. In this series of fact sheets the project explains the various options and benefits of reducing dairy emissions resulting in profitability, productivity and environmental gains.

To access the fact sheets about this project, click: [HERE](#) or **contact Dairy Australia's NRM Technical Specialist for the state of NSW, Marguerite White on 0447 500 415 or [email](#)**

News

Dairy NSW Focus Farm family: Daniel and Bec Cochrane

Daniel and Bec Cochrane commenced a focus farm program with Dairy NSW and Dairy Australia in mid-2014. DairyNews Australia showcased them and the focus farm program in a feature story on 18 December 2014.

To read the article, click: [HERE](#)
