



Your guide to local events & information

* *New item or events occurring [this week](#)*

Events

*MIG Field Walk at WANTFA Long Term Trial Site

Wednesday, 11 August, 10.00 am, Ian Broad's property, Walkaway-Nangetty Road

This field walk will look at no-till long term systems trial including disc seeding, Roundup Ready Canola, management of highly resistant rye grass populations, water use data, etc.

Mohammad Amjad from DAFWA will also be coming up from Northam to showcase his canola.

Further information: Jane Bradley 9928 1645

*DAFWA NEAR Project Presentations

Wednesday, 11 August, 3.30 – 5.00pm, DAFWA conference room, Geraldton

The North East Ag Region (NEAR) has had 6 projects running since the beginning of this year. These are about increasing drought preparedness and farm resilience.

The Department of Agriculture and Food would like to update any interested people on the activities and achievements of the projects so far.

Further information: RSVP to Naomi Simpson on 9956 8542

*Sub-tropical Perennial Pasture Establishment Field Walk

Thursday, 12 August starting at Rod O'Bree's property, Kojarena

The Department of Agriculture and Food, Evergreen and NACC are running a half day field walk on the establishment of sub-tropical grasses to assist you in your future implementation of perennial pastures.

Further information: Stanley Yokwe on 9938 0105 or [Click here ...](#)

DAFWA Information Seminar – Bridging the Yield Gap/GRDC Subsoil Constraints Project

Tuesday, 17 August, Mingenev Recreation Centre, 2.00 pm – 5.30 pm

The Department of Agriculture and Food is putting on an information seminar to provide growers with information on their Bridging the Yield Gap project and their recently funded GRDC Subsoil Constraints Project. The seminar will be followed by a sausage sizzle.

Further information: Naomi Simpson on 9956 8542

MIG Bus Tour

Thursday, 19 August starting from MIG office

Expressions of interest are being sought from those interested in participating in a MIG bus tour to visit heavyland and sandplain trial sites. Heavyland sites will be visited in the morning, lunch will be at the Mingenev Bakery and then sandplain sites will be visited in the afternoon.

Further information: Contact Kathryn on 0427 281 006

* Water Use Efficiency Workshop

Tuesday, 24 August, 1.30 – 3.30 pm MIG Office, Mingenev

This workshop will include a presentation of findings from the National Water Use Efficiency Project, plus findings from the local project sites at Jon Holmes'. Feedback and further discussion will occur on water use efficiency issues in the Mingenev area.

Further information: RSVP to Jane Bradley on 9928 1645 or jane@mig.org.au

FarmSafe – Managing Farm Safety Course

30 August, MIG Office, Mingenev

FarmSafe is accepting expressions of interest to attend a FarmSafe workshop in Mingenev on 30 August 2010. For farmers participating in MIG's Healthy Farms Program, this is an opportunity to gain FarmSafe accreditation, which is part of the Healthy Farms suite of certifications.

Further information: Michelle Gardiner at Admin@farmsafewa.org or Jane Bradley on 9928 1645

MIG Spring Field Day

Thursday, 2 September, Rob Campbell's property, Midlands Road

The MIG Spring Field Day 2010 is promising to be an information-packed event, with something for everyone. Please note the date in your diaries and we look forward to seeing you there.

Further information: Kathryn Fleay on 9928 1506

Biochar and Biology Field Walk

Tuesday, 7 September, 9.30 am at the Hampton Arms, Greenough

This field walk will visit the Wheat Trial with Biochar at Springy Creek, Irwin, the Wheat Experiment (with lysimeters) and Saligna Trial with Biochar at Moonyoonooka, and finish with a demonstration of a biochar kiln and microscope viewing of biochar and soil biology (mycorrhizal fungi). Participants are welcome to stay for dinner at the Hampton Arms at the completion of the tour.

Further information: [Click here ...](#) RSVP for catering to Jane Bradley on 9928 1645

***GGA Tour – South**

13-16 September

Want to check out the latest research in a different part of the state? Gain ideas for your group or business? Meet farmers outside your region? Then come on tour with the GGA! Two tours, one of the northern agricultural region and the other of the southern, are being planned to enable grower group representatives to learn new information to take back to their groups and network with industry and grower groups beyond their area.

The tours will be fully funded by the GGA, with participants only needing to travel to Perth and pay for field day entry costs, meals and drinks.

Tour of the South will include RAIN Spring Field Day, EDRS Spring Field Day, Intergrain site at Holt Rock, Esperance Port tour, Farm visit.

Further information: Please register your interest with Megan megan.meates@uwa.edu.au ASAP as places are limited. Go on, see what's on the other side!

Low Stress Stock Handling Workshop

20, 21 & 24 September, Mingenew

A course that covers the theory, principles and practical exercises in low stress stock handling. There is an emphasis on practical results that can make a difference to your livestock operation. This course is FarmReady approved.

Further information: Jane Bradley on 9928 1645

***WANTFA Spring Field Day**

22 September, Cunderdin

Further information: [Click here](#) for more information, [Click here](#) for registration form

Pasture Cropping/No Kill Cropping Workshop

22 & 23 September, Mingenew

Pasture Cropping and No Kill Cropping are land management systems that involve the planting of an annual grain or oilseed crop into an existing perennial pasture (native or introduced). The systems mimic the natural functionality of grasslands, with the crop and grasses complementing each other.

Both systems provide opportunities for low risk cropping whilst maintaining and enhancing perennial pastures for grazing livestock. This course is FarmReady approved.

Further information: Jane Bradley on 9928 1645

Information

WA Pilot for Drought Reform

Funding available to farmers

The WA Government, in partnership with the Australian Government, is conducting a pilot program of drought reform measures in part of Western Australia. Farmers can access funding through this scheme to help prepare their farm businesses for the challenges that lie ahead.

MIG is seeking expressions of interest from farmers looking to participate in this program. We would need a minimum of 10 farming businesses (and a maximum of 15) to be able to nominate a group from the Mingenew-Irwin Group area.

Further information: Visit www.agric.wa.gov.au/PC_94005.html?s=507784654

DAFWA AgTactics Newsletter

Available on-line

The AgTactics team meet each week to discuss the topical issues around the region, with agribusiness input. The AgTactics newsletter is available weekly or fortnightly on the DAFWA website. Go to http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/PC_90642.html for the most up-to-date edition.

Further information: Naomi Simpson, Development Officer, 9956 8542

Caring for Our Country Funding Available

Community Action Grants applications due by 31 August 2010

Ministers Peter Garrett and Tony Burke have announced the launch of the 2010-11 Caring for our Country Community Action Grants under which will provide up to \$8 million to help community groups protect the environment and support sustainable farming through its 2010-11 Caring for our Country Community Action Grants program.

Further information: [Click here](#), or call the MIG office on 9928 1645

NACC Incentives

Wind Erosion

Oil mallee seedlings available at 5 cents per stem – must be planted this month!

Interested in planting perennial grasses, tree crops (including oil mallees, broombush & sandalwood), fodder shrubs, or strategic revegetation (primarily as wind breaks)? If so, please fill out an [EOI form](#) and return it to MIG. Funding is on a first in first served basis. Please note that there are criteria that need to be met.

Further information: **Jen Bairstow (08) 9928 1646 or Tegan Winterbottom (08) 9928 1658**

DAFWA North Eastern Agricultural Region survey

Naomi Simpson at DAFWA is conducting a survey of farmers in the North Eastern Agricultural Region (NEAR) to measure their attitudes towards dry seasons. Many farmers in the NEAR area will receive a letter and/or email shortly asking them to complete a short online survey.

To see if you are located in the NEAR, [Click here](#). The survey should take only 7 minutes to complete and can be accessed by clicking on the following link

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NEAR_Strategy_Evaluation

Further information: **Naomi Simpson on 9956 8542**

GRDC's "The Way We Were"

MIG is encouraging members to enter the GRDC's **The Way We Were** competition, a national search for grower accounts of grain industry progress over the past 20 years, particularly because of research and development. By sharing your thoughts, you could win an overseas tour to leading research facilities in Syria, Russia, Mexico and the USA.

Kathryn Fleay is happy to help anyone who would like to enter with their entries.

Further information: [Click here](#) or call **Fleur Jacobs/Charlie Carter, Porter Novelli on 03 9289 9555**

*Herbicide Resistance Survey

AHRI seeking farmer responses to survey

AHRI is planning to conduct a statewide herbicide resistance survey just prior to the 2010 harvest. We are seeking the involvement of the grower group network to disseminate this research project to a large number of growers. Previous surveys (1998 and 2003) have allowed ARHI to quantify the frequency and distribution of herbicide resistance in key crop weed species. The proposed survey aims to examine the current herbicide resistance status of key weed species in Western Australia and assess any changes in levels of resistance since the last survey.

Further information: [Click here](#) to access survey and return survey to mechelle.owen@uwa.edu.au

Kondinin Group/ABC Rural

Australia Farmer of the Year Awards – Nominations Now Open!

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for their contribution to Australia's agricultural industry? Then nominate them for one of the award categories in the Australian Farmer of the Year Awards – Farmer of the Year; Young Farmer of the Year; Farm Industry Leader of the Year; Future-focussed Farmer of the Year; Biosecurity Farmer of the Year; Diversification Farmer of the Year; Grain Grower of the Year; Wood Producer of the Year.

Further information: Visit www.kondinin.com.au/events or call 1800 677 761

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Our mailing address is: PO Box 6 MINGENEW WA 6522

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