



Event	Where	When	Details
<p><b>THIS WEEK</b></p> <p>* <b>MIG Crop Updates</b></p>	Port Denison Sea Rescue Building	Thursday March 5 9.30 AM	<p>Including:</p> <p>Mr Terry Redman, Minister for Agriculture, Ben Forsyth, 2008 Nuffield Scholar – Three Rivers Station; Michael Whitehead, Rabobank – New York; Dr Doug Edmeades, Independent Soil Scientist, CEO agKnowledge – NZ; David Stevens, Climate Review, DAFWA; Topical Tables; and Discussion Forum. Sun downer afterwards. All welcome. See the program at: <a href="http://www.mingenev-irwin.asn.au/">http://www.mingenev-irwin.asn.au/</a> Cost: MIG Members Free; Non-members \$50. <b>Further Information: Kathryn Fleay (08) 9928 1506</b></p>
<p><b>THIS WEEK</b></p> <p>* <b>Geraldton Crop Updates</b></p>	Dept Agriculture & Food Geraldton	Friday March 6 8.15 AM – 2.30 PM	<p>Key Speakers –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Wheat Outlook - Richard Cosh, Profarmer;</li> <li>• Global Economic Climate and Impacts on Agriculture - Michael Whitehead, Rabobank.</li> </ul> <p>Cost \$20 per person. <b>Further Information: DAFWA (08) 9956 8555 and to register</b></p>
<p>* <b>Understanding Grain Marketing Workshops</b></p>	Three Springs Geraldton	10 March 8 April	<p>The UGM 1 workshop will give an understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fundamental supply and demand principles of international markets and WA's place in it</li> <li>• The differences in the risks/rewards of cash market or pooling alternatives</li> <li>• The components of price, and price discovery and risk management</li> <li>• Contracting principles and dispute settlement mechanisms</li> </ul> <p>Cost is \$440 with a 50% rebate from Farm Training available for eligible farm businesses. Registration required. <b>Further Information: Jill Davies 0437 707 366 or <a href="mailto:jdavies@agric.wa.gov.au">jdavies@agric.wa.gov.au</a></b></p>
<p>* <b>Greenpeace GM Tour Heads Down Under</b></p>	Perth	9-11 March WA Government Lobbying  11 March Parliamentary Forum	<p>Just as the 2008 global GM crop statistics are launched demonstrating the continued successful growth of GM crops, the Australian grains industry will be illuminated in late February and March with the special insights of more American GM "experts" hosted in Australia by Greenpeace. Speakers from previous Greenpeace events, will be here again including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percy Schmeiser and Tom and Gail Wiley in 2002</li> <li>• Bob Willick, accompanied by Australian speakers, in 2003</li> <li>• Charles Benbrook in 2005, and</li> <li>• Jeffrey Smith in February 2008</li> </ul> <p><b>Further Information: Nadja Moritz (02) 6273 9535</b></p>
<p><b>Pastures for Profit</b></p> <p>* MIG has <b>two free tickets</b> to give away to members – First in first served! Contact MIG on 9928 1645</p>	Port Denison Sea Rescue Building	March 19	<p>Keynote speakers: Dr Christine Jones Soil Scientist, NSW "Carbon for many reasons" Dr Rod Manning Vet &amp; Grower, VIC "Taking control of your farm business" Dr John Evans Seed Researcher, VIC "Tomorrow's temperate &amp; tropical pastures today" Other topics: "Photosensitivity: a case study" "Profit from livestock with perennials" "Strategic nutrition for established pastures" <b>Further Information: Evergreen Farming (08) 9475 0753</b></p>

<p><b>* Hands-On Gene Technology Workshop</b></p>	<p>Geraldton Location TBC</p>	<p>22-23 April</p>	<p>What is gene technology? You've probably heard all about gene technology, genetic modification, genetically modified organisms - but how does it actually work? What is the science behind the technology? CSIRO and Agrifood Awareness Australia Limited will be in Western Australia in 2009 to run hands-on gene technology workshops in Esperance and Geraldton. The workshops offer those involved in agriculture the opportunity to understand the science and regulation of gene technology in Australia. The gene technology workshops are a two-day hands-on educational opportunity – allowing participants to gain a basic understanding of the laboratory techniques that underpin gene technology. Training includes laboratory work in DNA extraction, gene isolation and gene transfer, as well as formal lectures including a case study. Participants will gain an understanding of the research involved, the advances currently provided by gene technology, an insight into future research opportunities, and details of the regulatory system underpinning gene technology research. The workshops also include an evening dinner and discussion session which provides participants with an opportunity to discuss some of the key issues surrounding the gene technology debate on a more informal level. <b>Further Information: Nadja Moritz (02) 6273 9535</b></p>
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Item	Details
<p><b>* GRDC &amp; Pulse Australia Survey</b></p>	<p>Whether you presently grow pulses as part of your rotation or not, The Mingenew-Irwin Group would like members to contribute to an important benchmarking survey that will assist GRDC, Pulse Australia and others in improving services to you. Importantly this survey gives each individual grower the opportunity to have direct and meaningful input into development of Pulse Australia's action plans for the next three to five years. Go to: <a href="http://www.mingenew-irwin.asn.au/">http://www.mingenew-irwin.asn.au/</a> <b>Further Information: Alan Meldrum, Pulse Australia 0427 384 760</b></p>
<p><b>Predicta B Tests for MIG Members</b></p>	<p>Did your crops underperform or show symptoms of root disease last year? Root diseases can cause significant yield loss in crops. Fortunately they can be easily controlled with rotations and resistant varieties. The best way to identify if your soil is carrying pathogens is to conduct a Predicta B Root Disease Test. The test is used to determine the amount of disease inoculums in the soil and identify the paddocks that are most at risk prior to sowing. MIG and Syngenta are offering 25 members a free Predicta B Test, so if you are interested in having one done, contact Kathryn. <b>Further Information: Kathryn Fleay (08) 9928 1506</b></p>
<p><b>MIG Ute – For Sale</b></p>	<p>4x4 Holden Rodeo dual cab ute. All standard features including air con and electric windows. Includes tow bar, tray liner, tonneau cover, alloy roof bar and 10 months registration. Excellent condition. <b>Further Information: Rachel Bagshaw (08) 9928 1645</b></p>
<p><b>Incentives...Rivers</b></p>	<p>We have secured more funding for NACC Rivercare Incentives so those landholders who wish to protect or rehabilitate rivers/creeks in the NAR can still do so. It covers rivers and tributaries in the Arrowsmith, Irwin and Greenough catchments. EOI forms and fact sheets are available from MIG. Funding is limited so don't wait. <b>Further Information: Sarah Knight (08) 9928 1646</b></p>
<p><b>Fox Baiting</b> <i>* Document Attached</i></p>	<p>Following on from a hugely successful fox shoot on Saturday night (a whopping 198 foxes taken care of); baiting is encouraged to continue the battle. Forms attached. <b>Further Information: Sarah Knight (08) 9928 1646</b></p>
<p><b>Incentives...Wetlands</b></p>	<p>NACC Wetland Incentives are now available. Offering up to \$4000/km for fencing plus funding for alternative watering points and stock crossings, weed management, revegetation and site stabilisation. If you are interested please contact Sarah to receive the EOI form. Funding is limited so don't wait. <b>Further Information: Sarah Knight (08) 9928 1646</b></p>
<p><b>Incentives...Oil Mallees</b></p>	<p>NACC Eastern Oil Mallees Incentive is now available. Minimum planting size is 10ha in rainfall areas that average less than 400mm annually. Oil mallees can help control recharge, reduce wind erosion; provide crop and livestock shelter and nature conservation areas, the provision of commercial products, and the development of more sustainable farming systems. If you are interested in planting oil mallees on your farm, call Sarah for an expression of interest form. <b>Further Information: Sarah Knight (08) 9928 1646</b></p>
<p><b>Hosting Trials in 2009</b></p>	<p>Members interested in hosting a wheat, barley, lupin or canola variety demonstration in 2009 are encouraged to contact Kathryn Fleay to register interest and find out more information. There are a number of good new varieties available in 2009. Put your name on the list to have on your property. <b>Further Information: Kathryn Fleay (08) 9928 1506 or <a href="mailto:k.fleay@westnet.com.au">k.fleay@westnet.com.au</a></b></p>

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