



*Your guide to local events & information*

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

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## Events

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### \*Walton's "Women in Ag" Ride and Drive Day

**Tuesday, 20 July 10.00 – 2.00 pm, Geraldton**

Waltons Geraldton is holding a "Women In Ag" Ride n Drive Demo Day on the 20th July which is part of their 3 day "Ride & Drive" Day program that we are running 20th, 21st & 22nd July 2010.

The purpose of having a "Women In Ag" Day is to give women a chance to find out what Ag Machinery is all about, the safety of machinery and have the opportunity to test drive machinery in a safe environment with on site operators and salesmen to assist.

**Further information: Contact Waltons on 9921 5044**

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### \*WA Pilot for Drought Reform

#### Information Sessions

Information sessions will be held in the following locations in the Northern Ag Region:

- Morawa Golf & Bowling Club – Monday 26th July 9am-12pm,
- Geraldton, Ocean Centre - Monday 26th July 2.30pm-5.30pm
- Dalwallinu Recreation Centre - Tuesday 27th July 9am-12pm

**Further information: RSVP by 19th July to 131316**

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### \*Great Northern Rural Farmer Field Walk

**Monday, 26 July starting at Paul Kelly's "Santa Fe" sheds, Strawberry 12.30 pm**

Field walk includes visits to Hybrid TT Canola variety trial, mouldboard plough test strips, Radish Pre & Post trial, Sakura Ryegrass trial. (Steve Brindals), Outlook & Edge Lupin trial (Aiden Obst) and Roundup Ready vs Hybrid vs TT canola trial (Alex Pearse).

**Further information: Contact Great Northern Rural on 9964 1274**

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### \*Great Northern Rural Farmer Field Walk

**Friday, 30 July starting at Great Northern Rural, Webberton 10.30 pm sharp**

Field walk will look at New Lupin Variety, WALAB 2014, Malt Barley Variety trial (Ravensdown), Atrazine/Clethodim rates on Canola, Sakura and Brome options in Wheat, Outlook & Edge in Lupins, Outlook in Field Peas, Radish trial in Field Peas and Radish Pre & Post in Wheat. BBQ lunch will be provided somewhere along the way.

**Further information: Contact Great Northern Rural on 9964 1274**

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### \*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**

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### FarmSafe – Managing Farm Safety Course

**30 August, 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](mailto:Admin@farmsafewa.org) or Jane Bradley on 9928 1645**

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## **Biochar and Biology**

**7 September, afternoon field walk and evening seminar at the Hampton Arms, Greenough**

MIG and DAFWA are planning a biochar energy and agriculture field walk and evening seminar, which will also look at the soil biology associated with biochar.

**Further information: Paul Blackwell on 0429 102 105 or Jane Bradley on 9928 1645**

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## **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**

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## **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**

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## **Women's Field Walk**

**What would you like to hear about?**

MIG is planning to run a Women's Field Walk. We would like your input into what you would like to do. Complete the online survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/migwomensfd>

**Further information: Kathryn Fleay on 0427 281 006**

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## **Information**

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### **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](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/PC_94005.html?s=507784654)**

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### **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](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/PC_90642.html) for the most up-to-date edition.

**Further information: Naomi Simpson, Development Officer, 9956 8542**

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### **Fall prevention in the agricultural sector**

**Public comment invited before 23 July 2010**

The Commission for Occupational Safety and Health is seeking your comments on its draft guidance note: Fall prevention in the agricultural sector. This draft **guidance note** outlines ways to prevent falls from height in the agricultural sector.

**Further information: Comments can be submitted at [worksafersvp@commerce.wa.gov.au](mailto:worksafersvp@commerce.wa.gov.au)**

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### **Caring for Our Country Funding Available**

**Community Action Grants opens 6 July 2010**

Ministers Peter Garrett and Tony Burke have announced the launch of the 2010-11 Caring for our Country Community Action Grants round 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](#), visit [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au) or call Sarah Knight (08) 9928 1646 or Tegan Winterbottom (08) 9928 1658**

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## \*FarmSafe WA

### July update and Needs Assessment Survey

Further information: [Click here](#) for the July update and [Click here](#) for the Needs Assessment Survey

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### NACC Incentives

#### Wind Erosion

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 **FOI 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: Sarah Knight (08) 9928 1646 or Tegan Winterbottom (08) 9928 1658

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### 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](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NEAR_Strategy_Evaluation)

Further information: Naomi Simpson on 9956 8542

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### 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 or Charlie Carter from Porter Novelli on 03 9289 9555.

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### Diamond Sponsors



Our mailing address is: PO Box 6 MINGENEW WA 6522

[www.mingenew-irwin.asn.au](http://www.mingenew-irwin.asn.au)

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