



Your guide to local events & information

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

Events

***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

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 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

7 September, field walk and seminar starting at 9.45 am 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

Low Stress Stock Handling Workshop

20, 21 & 24 September, Mingenev

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

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 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](#), or call the MIG office on 9928 1645

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 **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.

***UWA Institute of Agriculture Newsletter**

July 2010

This 20 page newsletter is packed with the latest research news, overseas and local agricultural collaboration.

Further information: [Click here](#) to access this newsletter

***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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