



Central West Farming Systems

FARMERS ADVANCING RESEARCH

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YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED October 2005

Executive Officer Update

Well I've been on board for three weeks now and have survived the initial onslaught thanks to the great staff that I have to work with. I was lucky enough to be able to go to the Weethalle Field Day and meet some of the great people we work for and to listen to some of their concerns and ideas which I have taken on board.

Recently we had a very positive meeting with Lachlan CMA they are supporting us and think that we have a lot to offer. It also looks as though we might have some more sponsors coming on board that have seen what we are doing and can see where they can help us and us them. I'll keep you posted as to what happens with that.

I am going to as many of the Field Days as I can so that I have a chance to talk with as many of you as possible and find out what is going on in your part of the world.

Compliance and enforcement

The new Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) laws were introduced by the RTA on the 30th September 2005. The main features of this law included:

- The introduction of the chain of responsibility concept.
- Mass, dimension and load restraint offences are categorised into minor, substantial or severe breaches, depending on the level of risk and impact on safety or infrastructure.
- The responsible person concept makes the laws applicable to the majority of people connected with the road transport industry.
- Mutual recognition and nationally consistent enforcement powers reflect laws in related areas such as occupational health and safety and environmental protection.
- A range of penalties give courts and the RTA greater options for targeting the causes of breaches and fostering a culture of compliance within the heavy vehicle industry.

For further information about these laws please visit the RTA website or attend their information sessions, for their dates and locations please turn over.

www.rta.nsw.gov.au/heavyvehicles/downloads/hv_c_e_factsheets_dl1.html

Hatching Locusts

The NSW Department of Primary Industries has called for farmers to check their farms for hatching locusts, due to the warmer weather. The current situation is not as extreme as last spring; however there have been 12 reported hatchings across the state. These have been in the area of Condobolin, Narrandera, Hume, Tamworth, Narrabri, Coonabarabran, Dubbo and Riverina Rural Lands Protection Boards.

For further information about locust control please contact your local NSW DPI or Rural Lands Protection Board.

Armyworms

Armyworms have been spotted in areas of Cobar, Nyngan and south to Lake Cargelligo. Armyworms have been known to cause two main types of damage to cereal crops and pastures: leaf feeding and head cutting. It is recommended that farmers check for armyworms in their crops and pastures. If armyworm is suspected please contact your local agronomist for monitoring and control advice.

The grub grows up to about 30-35 mm in length. Its body colour is usually black, brown or green (depending on the food that they eat), with the body stripes varying in colour.



Sharon

Regional Site Field Day Dates

Rankins Springs Field Day	18 th October
Gunning Gap Field Day	19 th October
Tottenham Field Day	21 st October
Euabalong Field Day	25 th October
Wirrinya Field Day	26 th October
Alectown Field Day	27 th October

For more information regarding these field days please contact:

Sharon Taylor

Regional Site Coordinator

Phone: 02 68951050



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RTA compliance and enforcement reform

The RTA will be hosting throughout October regarding the upcoming compliance and enforcement (C&E) reforms. Bookings should be made at least 3 days prior on the RTA customer service number 1300 364 847. The closest seminar to us is:

- Wednesday 19 October 2005, 5pm-6.30pm - Ashwood Country Comfort Resort, Newell Highway (Corner East Street) Dubbo

Finding and developing new business opportunities

A workshop to help identify your resources, both personal and physical. Look at ideas for diversifying, do a feasibility study and develop a business plan. Also see how E-commerce works and making the most of the internet.

Monday 7th November 2005 9.30 am – 3.30 pm
Condobolin Golf Club
RSVP to Julie Greig 0427 257 191
or Hellen May 0427 953 301

