

## **BESTWOOL/BESTLAMB Newsflash – 5/6/09**

This Newsflash email is funded by [Australian Wool Innovation](#) and [Department of Primary Industries](#).

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### Calling for Lambs

One of the sessions at the BWBL F"EW"ture Farming Conference in Bendigo on the 18th of June involves identifying the cause of lamb mortality. We are seeking 10 dead lambs to be collected on the 17th June for autopsy on the day. If you are attending the conference and lambing during this period and might be able to supply a couple of dead lambs please call **Annette Taylor on 5355 0531**

### BWBL FEWETURE Farming Conference – Maintaining the Momentum – ONLY 13 days to go

NB: Registration time has been extended to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June

**This year's conference on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June at the Bendigo Exhibition Centre (Showgrounds) starting at 7.45am with registrations – speakers begin at 8.30am** and highlight Paul Swan - Reinvigorating the Wool Mark brand and future plans for AWI, Rob Banks - Sheep Genetics, Past, Present the Future and Andrew Fisher - Future of Animal Welfare, why it is not just a flash in the pan as the keynote speakers. These speakers will be followed by 10 concurrent sessions which will be run three times so that participants can see at least 6 sessions out of the 10. These sessions include

- Impact and economics of sheep in a no till cropping system - Cam Nicholson
- Identifying the cause of lamb deaths - David Rendell
- Capturing sheep performance using EID, making genetic progress within flock - Charlie de Fegely & Mark Copeland
- Analysing the economics of lamb finishing - Gary Hallam
- Improving the density of drought affected pastures how to fill the bare spaces - Lisa Warn
- Parasites - new drench coming? Eradicating lice - possible? - David Rendell
- Rotational Grazing Management, what to monitor to make it work for you - Graeme Hand
- Feeding Efficiency - Getting 20 miles/gallon from your lambs - Nick Linden

- Integrated pest management - Cam Nicholson
- Making sure pregnancy scanning ewes pays - Jason Trompf

**A dinner at the All Seasons, McIvor Hwy, Bendigo starting at 6.30pm with registrations with dinner being served at 7.00pm** will precede the conference with Nuffield winner David Jochinke as the guest speaker. This enables those who have to travel a long way the opportunity of a lovely three course meal and guest speaker for \$20 and reduced accommodation rates at the All Seasons Bendigo.

Admission is **FREE** to group members - \$30 for Associate members - \$50 for General Admission (Sign up for free associate membership on the day and pay only \$30)

**Registration is essential phone 03 5355 0531 - registrations have been extended to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**

### [Growing More Grass - Opportunities Using Nitrogen and Giberellic Acid](#)

**BWBL Next Phone Seminar - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 1.00pm**

In order to grow the most grass in the season we get, nitrogen fertiliser can be a cost effective option if applied correctly. Gibberellic acid has been around for a while now, but there is less good response information to help decide where and when it may have a place. This BWBL phone conference will look at the time, place and opportunities for nitrogen and/or gibberellic acid in different environments. Tim Ekberg, consultant at Milawa, has experience in the use of nitrogen in dryland grazing and has been involved in a PIRD on this in North East Victoria. Peter Notman is a dairy farmer at Poowong and runs a seed business. He has run a number of replicated trials using gibberellic acid around Victoria as well as on his farm at Walcha, and will discuss his results and potential uses for this product.

**To register for this phone seminar call 5355 0531 where you will receive the details for the seminar.**

### [Regulin Information Seminar June 17<sup>th</sup> in Bendigo](#)

Why not head to Bendigo earlier on the 17<sup>th</sup> June & learn more about Regulin, the Melatonin implant for ewes. Learn about how Regulin works, when, how & why to use it. Find out how you can increase lambing percentages by up to 20%.

Linton Staples, one of the original developers of Regulin, & Stephane Floch, Ceva Sante Animale Reproduction specialist, will present. All are welcome.

When Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 3-5 pm All Seasons Resort, McIvor Hwy Bendigo

**RSVP to Kylie Roberts by 10<sup>th</sup> June. Mobile 0429 381 534. Email [kylie.roberts@bigpond.com](mailto:kylie.roberts@bigpond.com)**

### [Regulin Demonstration Farms](#)

Don't forget, there is the chance to have a demonstration project in your group using Regulin. Run the same number of ewes with up to 20% improvement in lambing percent - more lambs for sale in the spring.

**If you are interested contact Kylie Roberts 0429 381 534 or [kylie.roberts@bigpond.com](mailto:kylie.roberts@bigpond.com)**

### [Pastures for the Future Bus Tour](#)

Starting at Wrightson's Research Farm at Ballarat at 9 am on 11th June, followed by a bus tour to Hamilton DPI Research Farm, the themes for the day are:

- Pasture species that can survive dry periods and take advantage of out of season rain.
- Pastures that are low risk to animals.
- Species choice for various locations / conditions.
- The cost-benefit of sowing new pastures using different grazing systems.

This event is kindly financed by the Resilient Pastures Project - A Department of Primary Industries Drought & EverGraze initiative. All are welcome. The day is free and lunch is provided. The bus will return to Ballarat by 5.15.

**To book phone Helen at Alan Blackburn & Associates Consulting by 8th June on 5229 6196**

### [Ovens Valley Wether Trial](#)

The 2009 Ovens Valley Wether Trial shearing will be held on the 10th of July at Everton (just south of Wangaratta). Shearing of the 25 teams of 5 will commence at 10am. Teams will be compared for fleece value, wool production efficiency and bodyweight. Interested onlookers are welcome to attend what is always a very enjoyable day

**For further information or directions please call Russell Bennett on 57270 460**

### [Species, Genetics and Improved Seed](#)

Farm forestry research seminar. A chance to hear the latest from researchers, and to reflect on regional observations and experiences, with a view to growing better farm forests in a changing climate.

David Bush, CSIRO Australian Tree Seed Centre - Progress in tree breeding for farm forestry

Tom Baker, University of Melbourne - Species, sites and silviculture: plantation growth and yield

Tim Jackson, Department of Primary Industries - DPI farm forestry trials

Jon Lambert, Woollybutt Pty Ltd - Growth of durable eucalypts in southern Victoria

Concluding session with Rowan Reid, University of Melbourne

WHEN: Friday 19th June, 10.30 am to 3.00 pm (tea/coffee from 10.00 am)

WHERE: Lecture Theatre, Department of Primary Industries, 475-485 Mickleham Road, Attwood (near Melbourne Airport)

Lunch, tea and coffee supplied - **RSVP by Wednesday 10th June to Tim Jackson**

### [We Just Never Know - Message from the Ambulance Service](#)

We all carry our mobile phones with names & numbers stored in its memory.

If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call.

Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency?

Hence, this 'ICE' (In Case of Emergency) Campaign. The concept of 'ICE' is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As mobile phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name 'ICE' ( In Case Of Emergency).

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents there were always mobile phones with patients but they didn't know which number to call. He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognised name for this purpose.

In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as 'ICE'. For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3 etc

### [Trout Season Closes](#)

During the cooler months of June through to September, trout and salmon make their way upstream to spawn in the shallow gravel beds of streams and rivers.

To enable the fish to breed unimpeded, a closed season for trout and salmon fishing in rivers and streams begins at midnight on Monday, June 9 and will run until midnight on Friday, September 4.

During this period, anglers are not permitted to take or possess trout or salmon in rivers and streams throughout Victoria, with the exception of waters classed as 'sea-run trout rivers'.

Local 'sea-run trout rivers' where fishing can continue include the Aire River downstream on the Great Ocean Road; Ford River downstream - Great Ocean Road Bridge; Gellibrand River downstream - Great Ocean Road Bridge; Hopkins River downstream - Hopkins Falls; Merri River downstream - Bromfield Weir; and Moyne River downstream - Toolong Bridge.

Anglers are still permitted to fish for salmonids in lakes and impoundments, many of which are stocked with ready-to-catch rainbow and brown trout that are grown at Fisheries Victoria's Snobs Creek hatchery, near Eildon.

Fisheries Victoria will stock almost 1.5 million fish into Victoria's waterways in 2009 and is committed to providing great angling opportunities to all Victorians.

**For information regarding fishing throughout Victoria call the DPI Customer Service Centre on 136186 or visit [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing)**

### [Carbon Footprint Calculator: What's my Carbon Footprint?](#)

Inevitable, in going about our daily lives each of us contributes to the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change. Yet, there are many things each of us, as individuals, can do to reduce our carbon emissions.

Use the Nature Conservancy's carbon footprint calculator to measure your impact on our climate. Our carbon footprint calculator estimates how many tons of carbon dioxide and other green house gases your choices create each year.

**For more information and the calculator visit the Carbon Footprint Calculator website**

<http://www.nature.org/initiatives/climatechange/calculator/?src=f1>

**[AgFutures Climate Seminar - Ararat](#)**

Don't miss this chance to hear about the discuss climate with the Bureau and DPI. Topics include:

- Factors that influence weather in south eastern Australia
- La Nina / El Nino
- Climate trends for Ararat
- Farm adaptation options

**WHEN:** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2009

**WHERE:** Nectar Ambrosia, 157 Barkly St, Ararat

Free cooked breakfast served from 7.30am - register with Ann Maree Browne 5355 0272

And if you are interested and missed - Dr Maarten Stapper on ABC's Australian Story - The full program is available on the ABC website

<http://www.abc.net.au/austory/specials/stapper/default.htm>

Have a good long weekend, Annette

BESTWOOL/BESTLAMB Administrator