

Managing Pastures for Climate Change Information Day

Tim Ekberg from Farming Answers is currently reviewing how perennial pastures in the Ovens and King Valleys are surviving. His review so far has found Australian Phalaris pastures have survived the drought better than other introduced perennials. From this and other observations, an information day covering perennial pastures has been organised.

WHEN: Friday February 26 from 9.00am to 4.00pm

WHERE: Whorouly Recreation Reserve, Whorouly

The topics included are:

- How perennial pastures have survived the drought - Tim Ekberg – Farming Answers
- The cost of sowing a perennial pasture - Kate Sargeant – DPI Victoria
- Managing phalaris to improve persistence and production - Jim Virgona – Charles Sturt University
- Weed control to improve perennial pasture density and prepare paddocks for sowing - Tim McNamara – McNamara's Country Store
- Pasture cropping options for north east Victoria - Geoff Millar – DI&I NSW
- Winter fodder crop options - local farmers
- Pasture sowing for success - Jim Virgona – Charles Sturt University
- Grazing management to improve production and persistence - John Mulvany – Pasture consultant

BWBL Phone Seminar – Wednesday March 17 – Interpreting Soil Tests

The high cost of fertiliser and pasture establishment necessitates being choosy about the right products to apply to meet soil and plant needs. The next BESTWOOL/BESTLAMB phone seminar will run through how to interpret a soil test to identify limitations for plant growth to help make the most cost effective decisions on topdressing pastures. It will cover how to identify whether the main nutrients of phosphorus, potassium and sulphur are limiting, whether responses will be limited by soil problems like acidity, salinity or soil structure and how do you can use measures of phosphorus buffering index, organic carbon and cation exchange capacity.

Jim Shovelton, agronomist with Mike Stephens and Associates, will be the guest speaker for this event on Wednesday March 17 at 1.00pm.

There will also be a brief report at the end of the seminar giving Flock Health updates and alerts from around the state.

To register for this phone seminar ring 5352 0531