



# dairynews

ISSUE 17, WINTER 2011

## TACKLING LAMENESS

Ray Johnston

Livestock Officer Dairy, Taree



Lameness, like mastitis, is an ever present problem that dairy farmers have to deal with. The wet weather across NSW over the last two years has been a factor in the increase in lameness on many farms.

During April, NSW DPI co-ordinated three workshops for farmers in the Hunter and Midnorth coast regions, on lameness and hoof trimming. The days were delivered by world renowned veterinarian and cow comfort expert from the USA, Karl Burgi.

Karl provided some interesting messages on the causes and costs of lameness, and some practical strategies for prevention.

Lameness is increasing, mainly due to larger herd sizes, cows walking greater distances each

day, and cows spending more time standing on concrete.

Cow hoofs grow at a rate of only five millimetres a month, and are often worn down faster than they can regenerate. It can be an expensive problem to fix.

Dairy Australia has information for farmers about lameness on their website, including a calculator to estimate the cost of lameness in your herd. Visit them at [www.dairyaustralia.com.au/](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/) and look under the Animal Health section.

### Focus on First Calf Heifers

Heifers can have major hoof health problems just after calving, as they are undergoing big changes, including:

- Developing an udder, and learning to walk around it
- Added to the main herd with cows they are not familiar with, and being pushed to the bottom of the pecking order
- Grain feeding and rumen adaptation,
- Walking to and from the dairy, standing on concrete, learning the routine of milking.

As heifers tend to be milked last they are spending the longest time on concrete. A lot of heifers develop a red ring on their hooves and lameness problems as they make these big adjustments. Some farmers have resorted to running separate mature and first calf herds to overcome trauma in heifers' hoofs.

*Continued Pg 3.....*

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## EDITORIAL



**Kerry Kempton**

Technical Specialist Dairy

Winter is upon us again and I know many farms in NSW have experienced wet and muddy conditions during the last few months, making all your regular farm jobs just that bit more difficult and frustrating.

Wet conditions usually lead to a rise in the number of lame cows and may make it more difficult to control mastitis. It is important to have a plan for dealing with wet weather to prevent outbreaks occurring, and for ensuring all the people who work on the farm know the procedures.

The NSW Food Authority has reported an increase in the number of antibiotic residues detected in milk received. The penalties can be very significant if you receive the bill for a tanker of spoiled milk, so it is worthwhile reviewing the protocols for treatment and ensure communication methods to all staff are foolproof.

In this edition of Dairy News we feature two articles about dealing with lameness: a perspective from a leading US cow comfort specialist, Karl Burgi, who delivered some timely advice to farmers at three workshops in April. You can also hear Karl Burgi speak at the DRF Symposium coming up in Camden in July.

We also have a story on dairy farmer turned contract hoof trimmer Neil Raphael, who has gone on the road with his cow handling trailer to provide a service to farmers.

The end of June is a significant time of year for all businesses, a time to wrap up your accounts and prepare your financial records, to carry out stocktake of livestock, commodities, plant and equipment and update the inventories.

It is also the best time of the year for farm owners and managers to take a step back and review business performance over the past twelve months. What have been the main achievements and highlights – give yourself and your team a pat on the back for all the jobs well done.

What have been the challenges and lowlights – what have you learned from things that haven't gone well, and what can you do to prevent them happening again, or to minimise the impact in the future.

June 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 also signifies the end of Dairy Pathways 2, our three year extension project that DPI has been delivering in partnership with Dairy Australia.

Over this period we have developed many decision support tools and resources and presented numerous activities to farmers across the state. Our extension team works closely with our local development groups to meet the needs of farmers.

We are currently working with Dairy Australia and industry bodies to develop an operating plan for the next three years.

We have also included a segment of News from NSW Farmers Dairy Committee as part of our role in improving communication across the dairy industry.

## Cow rest time

According to Karl Burgi, cows need at least 8 -10 hours per day lying down time. This improves blood flow to the hooves and udder. If cows spend too much time in the dairy yard waiting to be milked, or confined on a feedpad, they may not get enough time to lay down and rest. This can be made worse in hot weather, as cows will want to stand up to better dissipate heat, so Karl often sees outbreaks of lameness several weeks after spells of hot weather.

## Treatment

At the workshops, Karl demonstrated how lameness can be treated by hoof trimming, and how the correct equipment and cow restraint methods are vital for the safety of animal and operator. Correct hoof trimming will rebalance cows to evenly distribute weight over inside and outside claws, and between the heel and toe. Karl recommended functional trimming should occur at dry off and between three to eight weeks pre calving for heifers.



A crush, as shown, helps restrict the cow as the hoof is positioned in an easy to access position and trimmed. When trimming the hoof, follow black marks which indicate ulcers. Once finished trimming, blocks can be attached which can be either plastic or wooden. Blocks should remain on for between five to six weeks and be large enough to cover the end of the heel.

## Use of Antibiotics

Some farmers turn to antibiotics to solve the issue of lameness but according to Karl they only have limited applications. The only disease where antibiotics are really effective is footrot which is a disease of the soft tissue between the claws and it is caused by bacteria readily found

in the environment. If the skin is damaged between the claws bacteria can cause an acute swelling. Antibiotics are really only effective if the cows are treated early. Once inflammation in the hoof starts the circulation is reduced and the antibiotics administered may not be effective.



## Supplements and Footbaths

Karl stressed that frequent changes to a cow's diet may result in rumen acidosis, so any feed changes should be gradual over seven to ten days. There were no magic solutions with feed supplements to correct lameness. Most supplements need to be fed over a long period of time before they begin to have any effect.

Foot baths using formalin can make hooves tougher but extreme caution needs to be taken with this chemical product. A carpet soaked with formalin may provide a better option as only the soles of the hooves come in contact with the chemical, avoiding splashes and potentially dangerous fumes. Copper sulphate is another product used in footbaths but generally only aids where foot rot exists.

Woodchips can be used on gravel surfaces to provide greater cushion when cows are walking. A number of farmers in the US have installed rubber surfaces where cows are confined and have lameness issues.

Karl's visit was funded by Dairy NSW and organised by Michael Perich from Comfort Hoof Care Australia with the support of NSW DPI. He will be a guest speaker at the DRF Symposium in Camden in July; and you can visit his website [www.karlburgi.com](http://www.karlburgi.com).

*A fascinating interview with Karl Burgi is available as a podcast on the NSW DPI website: click on Dairy podcasts.*

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/dairy-cattle](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/dairy-cattle)

## TOCAL STUDY TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND

James Hooke

Dairy Education Officer, Tocal

Tocal College is proud to be a major provider of training to the NSW farming community. In the dairy industry this specifically includes the Tocal Rural Traineeship Program which also emphasises personal development, life experience and friendship opportunities not normally available to young farmers.

An example is the triennial Tocal Study Tour of New Zealand, due to take place again in November this year.

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***The itinerary is being carefully selected to include a mix of agricultural enterprises that showcase NZ farming innovation on both North and South Islands.***

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We intend visiting a range of high tech and alternative dairy farming systems, (including Lincoln University's Research Dairy Farm), as well as beef, deer, sheep, arable cropping and irrigation properties. Time will of course be made available to experience Maori and NZ culture and some of the recreational pursuits that the country is famous for in tourist destinations such as Queenstown, Lake Taupo and Rotorua.

Any person involved with the traineeship (past or present, even if having toured before) is invited.

This includes trainees, their families, their employers and persons involved with their farms.

We would also love to have along anyone who has supported the College in the past, (as mentors, hosts of visits or presenters) who might be able to give the benefit of their experience during the tour.

After returning from the 2008 tour Kellie Garland wrote:

***"Thank you for giving us a great trip. Both Brian and I enjoyed it so much. A great bunch of people to go away with. We can honestly say that there wasn't anything about the trip we didn't like".***

(In fact Kellie enjoyed the trip so much she has since returned to NZ many times, organising equally rewarding tours for farmers throughout the Hunter and Mid North Coast!).



Obviously many of the trainees who toured with her share this opinion as a number have already shown interest in travelling with us again in 2011.

If you are one of the many people in the NSW Dairy Industry who have been associated with the Tocal Traineeship and would like to book a seat on the tour, now tentatively scheduled from the 11<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of November, or would like more information on estimated cost or itinerary, then please call James Hooke on 02 4939 8960.

## HOW MUCH TRAINING CAN YOU FIT INTO ONLY HALF A YEAR?

James Hooke

Dairy Education Officer, Tocal

Tocal currently has 27 trainees enrolled in Certificates III & IV in Agriculture. They include a range of farm types, sizes and systems from across the state. The highlights for Certificate III trainees during the first half of 2011 already include:

- **Basic OHS related training** including tractor, ATV and specialised equipment operation, basic first aid, emergency response, fire fighting, L3 chemical accreditation and general OHS induction.
- **Personal development** including Leadership, Communication and Conflict Negotiation. A specific example was the Teambuilding event which included "camping rough" on the Tocal property.
- **Establishment of pastures** on Tocal including soil and nutrient analysis, paddock preparation, seeder calibration and sowing.
- **Scheduled breeding** of a group of Tocal Dairy heifers including evaluation, synchronisation and methods of heat detection and access to an AI course.



*Certificate IV - Operate Machinery training 2011*



*Certificate III trainees - First Aid training 2011*

During the same time Certificate IV trainees have:

- **Been given the skills, knowledge and resources** to assist in management of their farm's OHS policy, staff performance, herd health, artificial breeding program and pasture/crop performance.
- **Observed farm embryo collection** and discussed factors affecting success with owners Russell and Janelle Wenham and veterinarian Stewart Scott.
- **Participated in a calf autopsy** and as part of the diagnosis and control of significant cattle diseases.
- **Evaluated weed and pest management** options for pastures on Tocal.
- **Calculated nutrient applications** for pastures and conducted **fertiliser test strips** in cereal crops on Tocal.

If you or someone associated with your farm would like to know more about the Tocal Traineeship Program, including how to register for a Traineeship or how to access government incentives, then please contact James Hooke on 02 4939 8960 or @ [james.hooke@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:james.hooke@industry.nsw.gov.au)

## MICE SPOIL SILAGE

Neil Griffiths

District Agronomist, Tocal, Paterson



Reports of mice helping themselves to stored silage have led the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) to alert local farmers to the risk the rodents pose.

NSW DPI agronomist and Acting Technical Specialist for coastal pastures, Neil Griffiths, said reports of damage were widespread, from Dungog to Condobolin.

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***“Mice are chewing through plastic to get to silage, which lets in air and causes the silage to ‘go off’, destroying valuable conserved fodder,” Mr Griffiths said.***

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“A farmer from Dungog recently reported that freshly-made maize silage was being hit by mice who were getting under the tyres weighing down the plastic, before chewing holes through to the silage.”

“It’s important to spot damage early and patch any holes - silage must be kept sealed to keep air out and prevent spoilage.

“Mice can damage any silage they can access, including baled and bunker silage. Silage buried below ground and well-covered with soil should be safer than silage covered by plastic.”

Mr Griffiths recommended farmers keep silage storage areas clear of vegetation.

“Grass growing around the silage provides protection for mice and it will be hard to see signs of damage to the silage,” he said.

“We are advising farmers to monitor mice presence and instigate an appropriate control program, which should be maintained while mice numbers are a problem and that could continue through winter and spring.

“There are no magic answers and it will be an ongoing challenge to keep mice out of silage in areas with high mice numbers.”

Farmers are encouraged to report increasing mice numbers and crop damage to their local Livestock Health and Pest Authority.

## DAIRY PATHWAYS HUMAN RESOURCES PROJECT

**Kerry Kempton**

Technical Specialist Dairy, Tocal

Over the past four years, NSW dairy farms and the people who work on them, have been the focus of the human resource component of Dairy Pathways 2 project.

It was the objective of this project to promote effective working relationships on farms. NSW DPI believed that providing extension activities and resources in this area of dairy farm management was vital to the future of the industry. We supported that belief by deploying Michael Ison as a Project Officer in Human Resources.

During the course of the project many ground breaking resources were developed for dairy farm businesses in NSW. At the same time the capacity of the NSW dairy industry to deal with the complex problem of workforce planning has been greatly enhanced through publications, short courses and other activities.

### **A summary of the main achievements of the project include:**

- Resources developed for The People in Dairy and NSW DPI websites "Dairy Agskills" book was written and published co-funded by NCDEA. Since publishing in 2009, over 1300 copies have been sold.
- The NSW DPI website has over 20 publications, worksheets and manuals available for direct download. A video podcast series of nine videos on working with people has been developed in 2011 and is available on the You Tube website.
- Working closely with The People in Dairy program, The PeopleGPS short course was piloted in Singleton in 2008. Initially called People Focus Groups, 9 one day and 3 three day sessions were delivered to 157 farmer participants since the pilot. These courses were delivered by our dairy team in both NSW and Queensland in 2009 and 2010

- Now called PeopleGPS, this course is a primary training resource for dairy farmers and is directly linked to the Diploma unit 'Manage Staff' from the Rural Training package. Participants can receive accreditation for this unit once they have completed the course.
- Three members of the NSW dairy extension group were awarded Diploma of Business Management Human Resources, and are now Senior Advisors for the People in Dairy project. The NSW Dairy team has two members with the accreditation to deliver PeopleGPS.
- Members of the Dairy group promoted and facilitated the setting up of the NSW Education Advisory Committee in 2009 and this ensured an ongoing representative body for the NCDEA in NSW.

Monitoring of the People in Dairy and DPI websites show the resources are well utilised. Surveys of participants in the PeopleGPS program show high levels of satisfaction.

The Dairy Pathways 2 project has certainly improved skills and developed resources for farm businesses facing problems with finding and retaining staff, dealing with the industrial relations legislation, communicating with people and planning for people in their business.

To access these resources, visit the website and click on the video series link:

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/dairy-cattle>

The role of Project Officer Human Resources will finish at the end of June 2011. Michael Ison will move into the Continuing Education section at Tocal and will continue to develop resources in people management in agriculture across a wider client base.

Michael has done a great job in the role and has raised the profile of the importance of a people focus on NSW farms.

## WHERE DO DAIRY FARMERS GO WHEN THEY RETIRE?

**Kerry Kempton**

Technical Specialist Dairy, Tocal

Well... one farmer has set up a mobile hoof trimming cradle and hit the road!

Neil and Margaret Raphael and their three sons moved from Scotland to Australia just on thirty years ago in search of a more favourable place to farm and a better life. They found their ideal farm near Muswellbrook and have steadily grown their business.



*Neil Raphael with his hoof trimming cradle*

From starting out with 80 cows, they are now milking two herds of 450 cows each on more than 400 hectares, producing more than 5 million litres of milk. With sons John and Douglas both keen to take over the management of the farm, Neil and Margaret began developing a succession plan some five years ago.

"We were looking to ease back on the workload a bit plus if we were going to transfer the farm to the boys we felt we needed to get out of their hair and give them a fair go at running the place" said Neil. So they moved away from the farm but the idea of retirement to the beach and a quiet life did not sit well with either of them.

Neil (or "Chook" as he's more commonly known) saw that there was a need for a hoof trimming

service in the area as there were no other NSW based hoof trimming contractors who farmers could call on. So the idea was born to set up a hoof trimming business and Twinkle Toes Trimming service was launched during 2010.

"Dairy farmers have enough to do on the farm without trimming hooves. Most don't have the right gear to do the job and it becomes a real chore."

Neil purchased a custom built trailer, imported from USA with a cradle that operates hydraulically, to tip the cow over onto her side and allow for easy access for the operator to trim the hooves. "I learned to trim hooves back in Scotland and I always enjoyed fixing up cow's feet.

It was essential in that wet and cold climate where our cows lived in barns in the winter." He now spends three or four days each week travelling around to farms and trimming hooves on site.

Every herd has a percentage of lame cows. Neil starts out doing maintenance trimming, but usually finds at least one in ten cows with a sole abscess or other injury that needs remedial action. "There are so many factors that affect hooves, but having good laneways makes a huge difference especially when we get wet weather."

"At home we do up a section of laneway every year, and we take a lot of care in how it's done, just like building a highway. You need the right type of gravel and the right equipment to make sure it packs well and has a smooth surface." Neil believes the money spent on laneway maintenance is more than repaid in fewer lame cows, especially with large herds that walk a fair distance each day.

So Neil and Margaret are enjoying the change of pace and have developed several other interests outside of farming. "The best thing is that we can do things at our own pace and when it suits us," says Neil. "But it's good to still have a job to do, and to feel useful and needed". To talk to Neil further about his hoof trimming service, call him on 0409 915481



## DAIRY FARMERS LOOKING AFTER THEIR OWN BACKYARD

At the recent Dairy Expo held in Taree, a number of local dairy farmers were recognised for their long term commitment to on-farm natural resource management (NRM). A presentation ceremony at the Dairy Expo on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May at Taree Showground saw certificates of achievement presented to more than fifteen farmers by representatives of the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and the Mid Coast Dairy Advancement Group (DAG).



There's more going on in our own backyard than you might imagine. The CMA has been collaborating with DAG (and individual dairy farmers) over recent years to progressively improve NRM outcomes for the local dairy industry. Projects have included investments in farm infrastructure such as laneways and feedpads; improved effluent management systems; and, more direct NRM measures such as riparian fencing and revegetation for shade.

Since these partnerships began the work has been building in scale and ambition. Local CMA Catchment Officer, Geoff LeMessurier, said "I've seen local dairies not only adopt more

environmentally sensitive practices but also begin to reap the real on farm rewards of increased productivity and sustainability and easier management. For example, laneways not only help manage effluent but also assist hoof health, teat health and mustering. New dairy washdowns save water and labour. New effluent systems allow the application of nutrient rich irrigation to paddocks away from waterways."

Mr LeMessurier and others involved were keen to acknowledge that not every farmer who has made a positive contribution to NRM has been recognised through these awards this time, "These awards are just one part of recognising NRM achievements within the dairy industry and communicating and learning from the experiences of other farmers. Many dairy farmers are doing

good work off their own bat on NRM in their own backyard and haven't yet been involved in funded projects."

Sustainable Agriculture continues to be an important aspect of NRM work on the lower north coast. The

strong partnership forged between the CMA and DAG provides a proven model for encouraging NRM improvements in other agricultural sectors. Dairy farmers have shown that NRM works can protect our waterways and enhance our environment while also benefiting and maintaining productive and sustainable agricultural industries.

For more information contact the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority Community Education Manager, Liane Corocher  
ph: (02) 4938 4932 or 0427 980 002.

## GRAFTON FARMERS SAY THANKS!

Julie Dart

Livestock Officer (Dairy), Coffs Harbour

In January 2011 a major flood occurred on the Clarence River. Most of the eleven dairy farms around Grafton were inundated with water for several days, cutting roads and isolating farms. When the water finally dropped it revealed the damage to pastures and summer crops due to be cut for silage. The reserve feed for the winter period on many farms was lost as silage bales washed away. Paddocks stayed wet and inaccessible for several weeks so farmers had to keep cows close to the dairy and hand feed them. With continuing rain it has been soggy ever since.

Farmers on the hunt for hay to feed hungry stock received a great boost, in the form of numerous truckloads of donated fodder arriving at the farm gate.

Greg Ernst from Singleton rounded up the donated hay and silage from farmers in the Singleton and Canowindra districts and sent trucks up to Grafton, between his regular transport jobs. Most of the donors were dairy farmers who had been flooded in 2007, and had themselves received donated fodder from their fellow farmers. They were pleased to be able to help other dairy farmers.

Hands Across NSW (a South Coast charity organisation formed to help rural communities affected by drought) also sent 11 loads of pasture silage from farms in the South Coast of NSW.

Essential Energy, has also contributed to the relief effort providing a gift voucher to each farm, that can be used at Coles/Myer group stores. NSW DPI assisted with transport costs and coordination of the fodder drops as part of the emergency management response.

DPI dairy officer Julie Dart and the Grafton dairying community would like to thank all the coordinators, feed donors and transporters who helped get much needed assistance out to the community and help these farmers through a really tough time.

### Get in quick if you want to claim for training

Any farmers, workers or family members who are thinking of doing training in the new financial year should decide soon so they can register for FarmReady reimbursement when it reopens in July.

Courses from NSW DPI which are eligible for full cost reimbursement include Topfodder Silage and Landscan (soil and fertiliser) which will be offered in both the Hunter and Manning if enough farmers are interested.

A new course which focuses on efficient operation of centre pivot and lateral move irrigators will also be offered in the Hunter this spring.

If you are interested in these or other courses contact your local District Agronomist or Livestock Officer for further information or phone 1800 025 520.

## NEW DAIRY OFFICER FOR THE RIVERINA

NSW DPI is pleased to announce the appointment of Brett Davidson to the position of Livestock Officer Dairy based in Deniliquin. Brett replaces Michael Cashen, who has moved to a position as Climatologist with DPI at Wagga Wagga.



Brett Davidson brings a wealth of experience across a number of roles in the dairy industry and will be a valuable addition to the NSW DPI dairy extension team. After managing his own dairy farm in northern Victoria for a number of years, Brett has worked as an irrigation extension officer with the Victorian DPI, and as a field services officer with a milk processing company.

Brett will commence with NSW DPI in mid-June, and can be contacted at the Deniliquin office.

## ROBOTS AND MORE FROM THE DAIRY RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Tailoring technology is the theme of this year's Dairy Research Foundation annual symposium, with automatic milking systems (AMS) featuring on much of the program. Delegates will tour the recently opened robotic rotary developed by DeLaval and the FutureDairy team. There will be reports on a number of AMS research studies conducted by the group.

Guest speakers include three dairy farmers who will share their experiences having installed AMS on their farms in recent years.

The program includes sessions on reproduction, fertility, water, agronomy, nitrogen and feeding.

There's an impressive line up of international and Australian scientists including US vet, Dr Karl Burgi, known around the world as the cow comfort specialist. He will give practical demonstrations of foot trimming.

For those who want to make the most of the trip, the Dairy NSW and NSW Farmers Association dairy section function will be held at the same venue the day before the Symposium, on 5 July.

**Diary Date:** 6, 7 July 2011

**Venue: Day 1:** Liz Kernohan Conference Centre, University of Sydney, Camden campus

**Day 2:** Camden Robotic Milk Research Farm.

**Registrations:** Esther Price Promotions Tel 1800 177 636; 08 9525 9222 or email [donna@estherprice.com.au](mailto:donna@estherprice.com.au);

For a copy of the full program visit: <http://sydney.edu.au/vetscience/foundations/drf/symposium/program.shtml>

## New South Wales Farmers' Association Dairy Update

### *Farmer meetings*

In April, the Dairy Committee's Adrian Drury, Paul Weir and Terry Toohey, as the North Coast Dairy District Council, hosted a series of milk price information sessions in Lismore, Macksville, Taree and Dorrigo. Supermarket milk price discounting dominated the agenda, with dairy farmers at all meetings voicing concerns about the impact on future milk contract negotiations with processors. At these sessions, the Dairy Committee outlined its plans to hold a series of workshops throughout the State. These workshops aim to assist farmers with milk contract negotiation and collective bargaining to relieve pressure on farm gate milk prices. Regional workshops are currently planned for the far north coast in late June. Call Cameron Clark on 1300 794 000 to register your interest.

### *Jim Begg Tour*

In May, the Dairy Section hosted the Director General of Dairy UK, Jim Begg, for a tour of farms and farmer meetings at Casino, Wingham, Singleton and Berry. Jim imparted 40 years of experience in the UK dairy industry together with the UK's own milk price war, which started three years ago. Jim noted the importance of working together as an industry. In the UK they have a different system where retailers, processors and farmers work together for the production distribution and sale of a predominantly generic whole milk line. With Australian retailers heading in a similar direction to those of the UK there are lessons for the industry to learn. The Dairy Committee continue to represent farmers' interests in the ongoing Senate Economics Committee inquiry into supermarket pricing effects on the dairy industry.

### *Dairy Section AGM*

The Association's Dairy Section Annual General Meeting is on Tuesday 5 July at the University of Sydney, Camden. All dairy farmers are welcome to attend. For further information ring Cameron Clark on the number provided above.

### *Other Matters*

Alongside dairy, the Association is also representing farming concerns regarding the Australian Carbon Policy, coal seam gas, the Murray Darling Basin Plan and the current mouse plague. Go to [www.nswfarmers.org.au](http://www.nswfarmers.org.au) for more information.

## COMING EVENTS 2011

JUNE 23	Denman	Herd Health Update	Anthea Lisle
JULY 13	Upper Hunter	Rev Up Replacements	Anthea Lisle
JULY 13	Tamworth	Health Soils Update	Anthea Lisle
AUGUST 2	Casino	Efficient Use of Nitrogen Fertiliser Field Day	Bill Fulkerson

## DEPARTMENT PRIMARY INDUSTRIES – CONTACT DETAILS

<b>BEGA</b>	Ph: (02) 6492 1733	<b>KYOGLA</b>	
Hayden Kingston -- District Agronomist	0427 401 532	Vacant	
<b>BERRY</b>	Ph: (02) 4464 6000	<b>TAREE</b>	Ph: (02) 6552 7299
Vicki Smart – Livestock Officer Dairy	0427 107 058	Ray Johnston – Livestock Officer Dairy	0411 119 613
Amanda Mather – District Agronomist	0427 102 793	Peter Beale – District Agronomist	0427 007 468
<b>CASINO</b>	Ph: (02) 6662 2288	<b>SCONE</b>	Ph: (02) 6544 4900
Bede Clarke – District Agronomist	0427 102 314	Anthea Lisle – Livestock Officer Dairy	0427 102 798
<b>COFFS HARBOUR</b>	Ph (02) 66503111	<b>TOTAL</b>	Ph: (02) 4939 8940
Julie Dart – Livestock Officer – Dairy	0427 007501	Kerry Kempton – Technical Specialist Dairy	0427 114 602
<b>DENILIQUIN</b>		Michael Ison – Livestock Officer Dairy	0409 983 667
Vacant		Neil Griffiths – District Agronomist	0427 007 425
<b>KEMPSEY</b>	Ph: (02) 6562 6244	<b>ORANGE</b>	Ph: (02) 6391 3729
Carol Rose – District Agronomist	0427 001 903	Tim Burfitt – Manager Intensive Livestock Industry Development	0427 401 552

*Dairy News* is a newsletter for dairy farmers throughout NSW.

Editor: Kerry Kempton

Phone 02 4939 8945

Technical Specialist - Dairy

Fax 02 4939 8950

Total College, Paterson NSW 2421

[kerry.kempton@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kerry.kempton@industry.nsw.gov.au)

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**Primary  
Industries**

