



#### Featuring in this edition

- Landcare facilitator at a glance
- Funding opportunities
- Incentives – EOIs
- Upcoming local events
- Other National events and news

Contact: Stanley Yokwe,  
Landcare Facilitator, NACC  
18 Chapman Road, Geraldton, WA 6530  
P: 9964 9774; Mob: 0419 091 834;  
E: [lf@nacc.com.au](mailto:lf@nacc.com.au); [www.nacc.com.au](http://www.nacc.com.au)

## LANDCARE FACILITATOR AT A GLANCE

### Landcare bus tour to the region

Landholders, representatives from production and landcare groups, community volunteers and interested NRM and/or environmental professionals recently participated in a free bus tour to view sustainable farming practices in the northern agricultural region. The tour was organised by Stanley Yokwe, the Landcare Facilitator of the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC), and incorporated visits to three farms.

During the tour the group got to learn, see and hear firsthand practical experiences from local innovative farmers who have adopted sustainable farm practices/technologies in the region. The tour visited farms in Kojarena near Geraldton, Pindar, and Irwin. Key presenters were Yvonne Marsden (Geraldton - Mt Magnet Rd); Mike Kerkmans (Pindar, east of Mullewa) and Craig Forsyth (Irwin, near Dongara). Participants saw a vast alley oil mallee enterprise; a grazing enterprise with wheel cell grazing systems and a combination of subtropical perennial grasses, annual pasture and tagasaste paddocks; and the use of biodiversity plantings.



The event was organised to deliver on NACC's commitments to the Australian Government's National Landcare Facilitator program; and to demonstrate the benefits of implementing sustainable farm practices in the region. For more information about event outcomes and case studies please check [www.nacc.com.au](http://www.nacc.com.au)

### Curtin students explore the Midwest and Geraldton

Urban and Regional Planning students from Curtin University visited Geraldton recently to hear and see firsthand some of the planning challenges facing the Northern Agricultural region, including how Geraldton would handle fast future growth. The 85 students were hosted by Stanley Yokwe, the Landcare Facilitator for the Northern Agricultural Catchments



council (NACC) – the Natural Resource Management body in the region. The students were led by Professor John Glasson, a visiting Professor from Oxford Brookes University, UK. This is the second time Curtin University Students visited our region and hosted by our landcare facilitator. For more information about the event outcomes please check [www.nacc.com.au](http://www.nacc.com.au)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Reminder - FarmReady Financial Year Eligibility

FarmReady Reimbursement Grants provide funding of up to \$1500 to eligible primary producers, wild game harvesters and Indigenous land managers to attend approved training courses. The grant can be used to cover course costs and additional funding is available for travel, accommodation and childcare expenses.

FarmReady registered courses aim to improve the capacity of primary producers to adapt to the impacts of climate change and increase self reliance and preparedness. More than 520 training courses are registered with FarmReady, on a variety of topics including:

- understanding the implications of climate change
- whole farm planning
- financial management farm business management

FarmReady Reimbursement Grants are capped at \$1500 per financial year. Eligible primary producers and indigenous land managers will need to have participated in pre-approved training by 30 June 2010 and have submitted all necessary paperwork by no later than 30 July 2010 to access available support in the 2009/10 financial year.

To see what courses are available, confirm that you are eligible and claim your reimbursement, visit [www.farmready.gov.au](http://www.farmready.gov.au) or phone 1800 087 670

### Junior Landcare Grants Program

Information on the 2010 Junior Landcare Grants Program (2nd<sup>1</sup> round closes Fri 14 May) can be accessed at the Junior Landcare website [www.juniorlandcare.com.au](http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au). Through the Junior Landcare Grants Program, any school or organisation that would like to involve their students in landcare projects, in conjunction with local landcare groups, can apply for grants to assist them with the cost of their projects. 2010 Closing Dates: Round 2: 5pm Friday 14th May (Yates and Coles), Round 3: 5pm Friday 6th August (Yates and Coles), Round 4: Friday 22nd October (Yates and Melbourne Water only - Please note there are NO COLES grants available this round).

### Small Grants for Small Rural Communities Program

#### ***Current Round***

A small grants program for small rural Australian communities will offer about \$900,000 a year in grants to benefit people in rural and remote communities.

#### *What can be funded?*

Not-for-profit organisations can apply for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities living in small rural and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their development in social and community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural areas.



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY

Applications from communities with a population of 10,000 or less will receive priority. Grants will be made in amounts up to \$5,000. To be eligible, projects must be for a charitable purpose (benefit the whole community). Organisations should have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate. Organisations demonstrating community partnerships will be preferred to multiple applications from one community group.

Preference will be given to projects that support:

- Community Infrastructure
- Community Development involving Disadvantaged Children or Young People
- Resettlement of Immigrants in rural Australia
- Drought affected areas (Exceptional Circumstances Declared)

#### *How to Apply?*

Application can be made to Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) by post only and need to be posted no later than 5pm on the closing date 30 September, 2010. For more info use a free call 1800 170 020 or email [info@frrr.org.au](mailto:info@frrr.org.au)

## INCENTIVES - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

### **NACC Wind erosion incentives**

Farmers in the Northern Agricultural Region are being encouraged to apply for wind erosion incentives to help ameliorate the effects of wind erosion in the region.

Incentives funded through the Australian Government's CFOC Program, will be offered on first come first served basis. Sites will be assessed against specific guidelines and criteria to ensure that on-ground works funded through the project deliver landscape-scale change and value for money.

Farmers and land managers undertaking on-ground works will also be offered 12 months membership to appropriate industry groups to enable them to access the latest technology and management information available. In addition to offering incentives, the project will also provide training and information dissemination opportunities to farmers and land managers involved in the project.

For more information regarding NACC's wind erosion contact your local NRMO or Margi Weir, wind erosion project coordinator Ph: 9938 0103; Mob: 0448 939 040; and E: [wec@nacc.com.au](mailto:wec@nacc.com.au). From May 14<sup>th</sup> 2010 Euan Scott will be acting in coordinating NACC wind erosion project in the region. He can be contacted at [Euan.Scott@nacc.com.au](mailto:Euan.Scott@nacc.com.au) or on 0438 989 500.

### **NACC rabbit control incentives**

NACC is offering farmers incentives to assist in controlling rabbit populations, aiming to integrate best practice rabbit control including rabbit baiting, warren fumigation, warren ripping and rabbit-proof fencing. Incentives, funded via Caring for Our Country, will be offered in accordance to set guidelines and minimum site criteria to ensure significant outcomes are achieved. Please, be reminded that the NACC's rabbit control incentives are in specifically targeted areas, in line with the CFOC targets. The incentives only cover five key habitat areas in the region.

For more information on rabbits incentives, contact Robyn Nicholas, Biodiversity Project Coordinator on 9938 0109, Mob: 0428 531 564 or email to [Robyn.Nicholas@nacc.com.au](mailto:Robyn.Nicholas@nacc.com.au).

## Liebe group wind erosion project

Through the Australian Government's CFOC program, the Liebe Group is working closely with growers to develop innovative and improved management strategies to overcome wind erosion in areas in the east of the NAR.

This wind erosion project will run for four years and the group will conduct a activities including on-farm demonstrations, workshops/events, field days and case studies to encourage growers to adopt improved land management practices in the region.

For more information on Liebe's wind erosion project contact Chris O'Callaghan at Liebe office Ph: 08 9664 2030, Mob: 0429446515, E: [chris@liebegroup.asn.au](mailto:chris@liebegroup.asn.au).

## UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

### Strategic Revegetation and Perennial pastures training course for NRM officers and landholders in the NAR

NACC will run a two day training workshop on Strategic Revegetation (day 1) and Perennial Pastures (day 2) for NRM officers and landholders in the Northern Agricultural Region. The aim of the training is to empower the participants to actively implement the CFOC funded NACC Wind Erosion Incentive program and to increase knowledge and skills in strategic revegetation and perennial pastures. This training will be held on 16th and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at Hi-Vallee Farm south of Badgingarra. For more info on this free two days event please, contact Euan Scott at 0438 989 500 or email: [Euan.Scott@nacc.com.au](mailto:Euan.Scott@nacc.com.au) or Stanley Yokwe at 9938 0105; E: [Stanley.Yokwe@nacc.com.au](mailto:Stanley.Yokwe@nacc.com.au)

### Oil Mallee seedlings still available – Get in quickly

It will not be news to many that the federal government has recently scrapped the notion of an emission trading scheme (ETS) for the next three years. Depending on how the ETS would have affected your operations, you may or may not be happy about the idea and this may have been expected to slow down the number of trees going in the ground. What is exciting about this is that growers are continuing to plant, which demonstrates confidence in the many other prospects that mallees have to offer. This includes the commercial possibilities of biomass, biochar, biofuels and crop and stock shelter. It also includes the substantial and many environmental benefits such as wind and water erosion abatement, salinity reduction and an increase in biodiversity. NACC has been observing this trend through their wind erosion incentive program that still has options for farmers wishing to partake in their mallee incentive. Whilst there are still subsidised seedlings available, the nurseries are beginning to report reduced stocks. If you wish to take part in the program, get in quickly and contact the NACC or your regional catchment office.



For more info and to get your order, please contact Euan Scott, NACC Farm Forestry Development Officer at 0438 989 500 or email: [Euan.Scott@nacc.com.au](mailto:Euan.Scott@nacc.com.au).

### Area Freedom from Fruit Fly

The Department of Agriculture and Food, Moora office will run a two hours free market development information session for horticultural businesses in the Moora and Dandaragan area to help maintain a fruit fly free status. This session will be held in DAFWA Moora office on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 10.30am - 12.30pm. More information please contact Don Telfer Ph; 9651 0553, [don.telfer@agric.wa.gov.au](mailto:don.telfer@agric.wa.gov.au)

### Liebe Group upcoming events

#### ***Women's Field Day, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Dalwallinu Recreation Centre***

The 2010 Liebe Group Women's Field Day will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June at the Dalwallinu Recreation Centre. The event aims to increase the management capacity of women to build a sustainable future for their family, farm business and the agricultural industry. Key speakers include Janni Goss, solicitor and grower Lucy King, local podiatrist and grower Sally Sanderson, fire training officer Vicki Booth, and Rural Woman of the Year, Sue Middleton from Wongan Hills. A delicious morning tea and two-course lunch with wine will be served by the lovely Liebe men! Babysitting can be provided for a fee (notify when you register). Cost: \$30 for Liebe members and \$60 non-members. For more info and to register please call the Liebe office on 08 9664 2030 or email [admin@liebegroup.asn.au](mailto:admin@liebegroup.asn.au). RSVP by 10th June

#### **Post Seeding Field Walk and Beer 'n' Burger Night, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, Liebe Main Trial Site**

This year's Liebe Group Post Seeding Field Walk will be held at the 2010 Main Trial Site which is at the Nankivell's property in East Maya. For more info on this event contact Michelle Fong, 9664 2030 or email: [admin@liebegroup.asn.au](mailto:admin@liebegroup.asn.au)

### Future Prospects for Lupin in WA - An Interactive Forum

Australian Lupin Society is holding a forum in WA to discuss the future prospects of Lupin in the State. This free event will be held in Curtin University (Building 400, Room 305) on 28 June 2010 starts at 8:30am. Lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided, thus BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL. The forum will be followed by Sundowner & Lupin Food Tasting. For more info and to RSVP please contact Kedar Adhikari on 93683528 or [kedar.adhikari@agric.wa.gov.au](mailto:kedar.adhikari@agric.wa.gov.au)

### OTHER INTERESTING NEWS & NATIONAL EVENTS

#### **AgTactics returns for the 2010 season**

AgTactics is an e-newsletter that provides up to date information on agronomic issues, livestock and climate risk management. It is produced fortnightly, from April –July to help farmers make the decisions that surround the break of season.

If you would like to receive this short newsletter, focused on the Northern Agricultural Region please send your name, phone number, area where you farm and email address to [naremail@agric.wa.gov.au](mailto:naremail@agric.wa.gov.au) or call Naomi Simpson on (08) 9965 3235.

## Start of a new era in drought support with Western Australian trial

The Australian and State Governments have announced the start of a new era in drought support, with a 12 month trial of a new package of measures. The new measures will be tested in a region covering half of Western Australia, from Karratha to Esperance, from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. The new approach better supports farming families and helps prepare farm businesses to ensure the sector is resilient in the face of future challenges, including climate change. The Australian and Western Australian governments will jointly run and fund the trial. The new package of measures to be trialled in Western Australia includes:

- **Farm Family Support** – income support to help farmers meet basic household expense
- **Farm Social Support** – stronger social support networks to meet the mental health, counselling and other social needs of farming families and communities
- **Building Farm Businesses** – grants of up to \$60,000 to help farm businesses prepare for the impacts of drought, reduced water availability and a changing climate, and on-farm Landcare activities
- **Farm Planning** – support for farmers to undertake training to develop or update a strategic plan for their farm business with a focus on preparing for future challenges
- **Stronger Rural Communities** – grants to local government for activities that make rural communities more resilient during agricultural downturns
- **Farm Exit Support** – grants of up to \$170,000 to support farmers who make the difficult decision to sell the farm business
- **Beyond Farming** – a new measure that puts current farmers in touch with former farmers to work through the opportunities outside of farming.

For more info contact National Drought Hotline at 132316 or check in [www.daff.gov.au/droughtpilot](http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtpilot) and [www.agric.wa.gov.au/wapilot](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/wapilot)

## National Volunteer Week, 10-16 May 2010

**National Volunteer Week is almost here.** National Volunteer Week (NVW) is the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, and provides an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our communities and to say thank you to the more than 5 million Australians who volunteer.

Australian volunteers are essential to society, and many charities would struggle to survive without the support of their volunteers. Australian volunteers contribute more than 700 million hours of community service to so many areas of society, including community health care, heritage and arts, environment conservation, emergency services, education, social justice and sports. NVW provides a platform to pay tribute to these volunteers who donate their time and energy to help others.



The NVW website will provide you with all the information you need to celebrate NVW whether you are a volunteer, volunteer organisation, or a corporate organisation seeking ways to help recognise and thank employees who are also volunteers.

For more info and details visit [www.nationalvolunteerweek.com.au](http://www.nationalvolunteerweek.com.au)

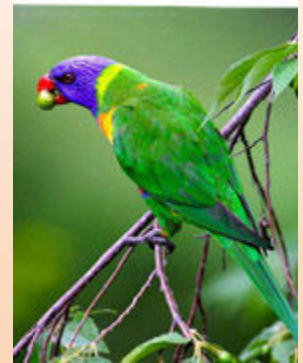
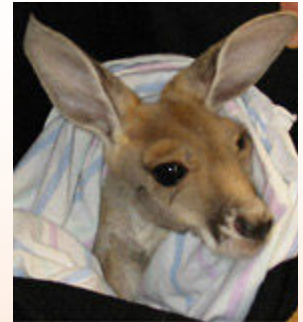
### **National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference**

The Australian National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference SA 2010 is the 7th national conference for those dedicated to the welfare, rescue and rehabilitation of native wildlife. The conference has been held annually since the inaugural event in Melbourne in 2003, with this conference being the first pursuant to the new biannual model.

The conference aims to share the latest information about the rescue, rehabilitation and release of Australian wildlife. There will be approximately 30 presenters from across Australia, including speakers from wildlife care organisations, government, the veterinary profession, research institutions and the RSPCA.

The conference is designed to provide a forum for discussing the range of challenges and ethical issues faced at a state and national level, with a particular focus on building relationships and working together to promote wildlife welfare. This is the first time the conference will have been held in South Australia and it will seek to examine and contrast the varying approaches taken to wildlife rescue and rehabilitation across the country.

The National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference SA 2010 will take place at a function centre in Adelaide from the 22nd to the 24th of June 2010. There will be registration and drinks on the evening of June 21st, a conference dinner on Wed June 23rd and a field trip on June 25th. For more info please check <http://nwrc.com.au/nwrcsa/index.html> or contact (08) 8289 3283; Mobile: 0421 692 045



### **The International Climate Change Adaptation Conference**

The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) and CSIRO Climate Adaptation Flagship will hold the International Climate Adaptation Futures Conference on Queensland's Gold Coast from June 29-July 1 to preparing for, and adapting to, the impacts of climate change.

NCCARF Director Professor Jean Palutikof said international interest in the event was intense, with almost 900 abstracts received from 55 countries. "The Conference has attracted some of the world's leading climate change adaptation experts in agriculture, community development, policy, economics, coastal and urban planning, health and ecology as well as other researchers working on the adaptation challenge," she said.

Guest speakers include:

- Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Achim Steiner
- UNEP Chief Scientist, Joseph Alcamo
- Leading figures from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and International Institute for Environment and Development
- Leading Australian scientists including past Australian of the Year, Tim Flannery.

CSIRO Climate Adaptation Flagship Director Dr Andrew Ash said the Conference would focus the attention of the global climate adaptation research community on Australia.

This conference will provide an opportunity for scientists, NRM practitioners and government decision makers to share research methods, experiences and results on effective ways to adapt and prepare for climate change.” Associated Conference events will include field trips exploring on-the-ground challenges and solutions around Queensland as well as opportunities for the wider community to get involved through student events and a public seminar. For more info please visit [www.nccarf.edu.au/conference2010](http://www.nccarf.edu.au/conference2010)

### **Enviro 2010 Conference in Melbourne 21-23 July**

The Enviro Conference and Exhibition is the premier national assembly of Australian environment and industry stakeholders. To be held in Melbourne from 21 to 23 July 2010, the Enviro 2010 Conference and Exhibition will be presented by ‘Enviro Conventions’ – a joint venture between the Australian Water Association and the Waste Management Association of Australia.

The primary objective of Enviro 2010 is to assemble the leaders of the Australian environment industry, business and policy makers to facilitate cross-fertilisation and networking opportunities. The breadth and diversity of contributors is expected to cover all aspects of sustainability.

The Enviro Conference will be a collection of keynote addresses and workshops dealing with sustainability issues faced by governments, business and the public.

The conference will be run concurrently with the Enviro 2010 Exhibition where more than 100 exhibitors will display the latest in environmental and sustainability innovation. For more info please contact the Conference Secretariat at 1300 651 026; and for rego and payment contact Alison Bonanno T: 1300 651 026; E: [registration@enviroconvention.com.au](mailto:registration@enviroconvention.com.au)

### **19<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Soil Science – soil solutions for a changing world**

The Officers of the International Union of Soil Science are delighted to extend their invitation to members of soil science community, and people with interest on soil solutions to join them in Brisbane, Queensland Australia for the 19th World Congress of Soil Science to be held 1-6 August 2010 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The conference theme Soil Solutions for a Changing World provides a tremendous opportunity for a broad range of presentations – you are urged to share your research, experiences and knowledge with members in Brisbane.

The Congress, held every four years, presents a global forum at which all those involved in Soil Science can meet with scientists, researchers, academics and professionals to discuss and find Soil Solutions for a Changing World.

Details of the 19th World Congress of Soil Science will be found at [www.19wcsc.org.au](http://www.19wcsc.org.au) or contact the conference manager at: [info@19wcsc.org.au](mailto:info@19wcsc.org.au) (general enquiry); [program@19wcsc.org.au](mailto:program@19wcsc.org.au) (program enquiries) and [register@19wcsc.org.au](mailto:register@19wcsc.org.au) (Registration and accommodation enquiries) or call 07 3368 2644.



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY