

# Organic news

Autumn Edition 2012

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## The NSW Organic Pioneer Award

The NSW organic industry in conjunction with NSW Department of Primary Industries presents the **NSW Organic Pioneer Award**.

The NSW Organic Pioneer Award highlights the achievements of those in the organic industry that have shown innovation and who are actively practicing and promoting the principles and benefits of organic food and farming systems.

The Award is supported by key organic organisations including the Organic Federation of Australia, the National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia and the Biological Farmers of Australia; key organic certifiers, Australian Certified Organic, NASAA Certified Organic and the Organic Food Chain; as well as NSW regional food groups,

Sapphire Coast Producers Association,  
Hawkesbury Harvest and Northern Rivers Food.

### *Aims of the NSW Organic Pioneer Award*

The NSW Organic Pioneer Award aims to:

- highlight the achievements of those in the organic industry that have shown innovation and who are actively practicing and promoting organic food production in NSW,
- promote the principles and benefits of organic food and farming systems (including benefits to the environment, animal welfare, social justice, carbon footprint, and food nutrition),
- increase awareness of sustainable farming practices within the broader farming community leading to adoption of farming practices that reduce reliance on the use of harmful chemicals, and
- highlight the achievements of the NSW organic industry.

### *The Award format*

The Award will be run annually. The inaugural NSW Organic Pioneer Award will be held in 2012, Australian Year of the Farmer, and will coincide with

Sydney's SUSTAIN Expo (formerly the Organic Expo and Green Show) at Moore Park July 20-22.

Nomination for the Award is open to individuals who reside in NSW and who practice, promote or produce organic food or products that have contributed to the development / improvement of the organic industry.

A panel of independent judges will assess submissions in the fields of sustainable organic management, personnel management, marketing and food security.

Finalists will have the opportunity to promote their achievements through media and industry events.

### **The Award for an organic pioneer**

The winner of the Award will receive a travel bursary to the value of \$6,000 to investigate organic enterprises or research facilities of their choosing (for example Rodale Institute in the U.S. or Elm Farm Research Station in the U.K.). The Award recipient will be required to provide a written report of their experience. All finalists will be invited to the awards ceremony, the costs associated with their attendance being covered by the awards.

The Award recipient will be introduced to the broader community as a pioneer of sustainable agriculture and will be provided with the opportunity to promote their achievements through various media platforms.

### **How to nominate?**

Nominees for the Award must meet specific criteria; the Organic Pioneer Award winner being determined by the judging panel as the person who best satisfies the criteria. Nominations may be submitted by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party or through self-nomination. Nominations for the Award close on Friday June 1, 2012.

### **Sponsorship opportunities**

The NSW Organic Pioneer Award provides a unique opportunity to promote outstanding members of the organic industry – one of Australia's top 10 growth industries – and to promote your business as well.

A range of sponsorship opportunities are available for the 2012 Award

#### **Gold Level:** \$3,000 (limited to a total of 3 sponsors)

Gold sponsors will be acknowledged as a major sponsor during the Awards, related media releases and will have their logo prominently placed on all promotional material. They will receive three tickets to attend the Awards event and be provided with an opportunity to promote their organisation during the event.

#### **Silver Level:** \$1,500 (limited to a total of 5 sponsors)

Silver sponsors will be acknowledged during the Awards and their logo placed on promotional material.

#### **Bronze Level:** \$500

Bronze sponsors will be acknowledged during the Award event.

**In-kind:** Producers of organic products such as wine and dairy products can donate produce towards the Award event and this will be acknowledged during the Award event.

Interested organisations can also agree to promote the Awards through to industry stakeholders, media and through internal communication methods.

To obtain Award criteria and nomination forms as well as more information on the NSW Organic Pioneer Award go to: [www.organicpioneers.com.au](http://www.organicpioneers.com.au)

or contact: Robyn Neeson, NSW DPI (02) 6951 2735; Mobile: 0427 401462; Email: [robyn.neeson@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:robyn.neeson@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

For sponsorship information please contact: Kirsty John (02) 4384 4584, Mobile: 0438 602 763 or email: [kirsty.john@eventdirectors.com.au](mailto:kirsty.john@eventdirectors.com.au)

## **Marketing organic rice in NSW**

A single desk marketing arrangement for NSW rice meant that until recently NSW growers were forced to sell their rice through the Rice Marketing Board (RMB), in both the domestic and export markets. From July 1, 2006 domestic sales of rice were deregulated, opening up new domestic marketing options for NSW producers.

Since deregulation of the domestic rice market, NSW organic rice growers Peter & Jenny Randall have opted for a different approach to market their rice. Bill & Liz Barnhill, on the other hand, have preferred to leave the marketing of their rice to SunRice.

Bill & Liz have grown organic rice on their Wamoon farm for the past 20 years. They also run 300 head of cross-bred sheep, producing wool and fat lambs, and grow other crops such as millet and oats in favourable years. Their farm is certified organic by NASAA.

When water supply is not a limiting factor, they usually aim to grow around 60 hectares of medium grain rice, with yields averaging 7-8 tonnes per hectare. The rice is grown for SunRice and is marketed by SunRice as 'Organic'. They receive a premium of around \$180/ tonne (on-farm) above that of conventionally grown rice. Bill and Liz prefer the certainty and security that marketing through the





Above: Organic rice growers Bill Barnhill (left) and Peter Randall.

RMB brings. This approach allows them to focus on farming and other activities, leaving the marketing 'up to the experts'. Being the only organic producers currently supplying SunRice they can proudly state "that's our organic rice" on the supermarket shelves. If Bill was to market his own rice he says he would have to sell 400,000 (1 kg) packets – quite a feat! He feels only a supermarket could move that quantity.

The deregulation of the domestic rice market has opened the way for organic rice producers Peter & Jenny Randall to capture lucrative new markets. In contrast to the Barnhill's, Peter and Jenny grow, mill, package, and market their rice. Their rice is sold directly from the farm to wholesalers as well as through farmer's markets in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne. They also run 500 head of Dorper sheep, producing 700 lambs annually for the organic meat market.

A number of on-farm modifications have been required to help them capitalise on deregulation. On-farm grain storage has been constructed, allowing grain to be stored for an extended period, then milled and sold when markets are available. Currently, a small mill enables the milling of small quantities, but a rice mill capable of handling much larger quantities is presently being constructed on farm.

The change to Randall's market focus has not been without cost – the Randall's estimate they won't get much change from \$250,000 for establishment costs and they are finding a direct market approach can be very time consuming with many of their weekends spent travelling and selling at the farmer's markets. To-date however, the rewards have been significant. Their organic rice currently retails for \$10 per kilogram, or \$10,000 / tonne, compared to conventional



rice which retails at around \$2 per kilogram or \$2,000 / tonne, with growers only receiving around 24 cents per kilogram (\$240/tonne) in paddy (unhulled) form.

With industry deregulation within the agricultural sector now all but a fait accompli producers need to carefully consider their approach to marketing. As can be seen from the above examples, taking a hands-on approach to marketing can be more profitable, but often involves greater capital expenditure, more work, may potentially expose the business to a higher degree of risk, and can be time consuming. Employment of a marketing or business consultant and public sector support services can play an important role in the success of a value-added business venture. Assistance from competent advisors and consultants can provide much needed expertise for your business decisions.

For further information: Robyn Neeson, NSW DPI (02) 6951 2735; Mobile: 0427 401462; Email: [robyn.neeson@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:robyn.neeson@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

## Organic lamb exports to grow

Australia's largest processor of small stock, T & R Pastoral, has announced they will be expanding their business to include organic lamb exports.

T & R currently process up to 120,000 sheep, lamb and goats weekly at their four USDA and EU accredited abattoir facilities located at Murray Bridge (SA), Lobethal (SA), Tamworth (NSW) and Wallangarra (Qld). At least 70% of T & R's markets are export focussed with product being supplied into 48 countries. Domestically, T & R markets under the banner of Country Fresh Nation Wide and is a major supplier and processor for Woolworths supermarket chains.

Unable to source from suppliers in New Zealand due to drought and associated flock reductions, a large U.S supermarket chain recently approached T & R to supply organic lamb. T & R saw this as an opportunity to diversify their markets and as a great opportunity for organic lamb producers nationally.

T & R National Livestock Manager Paul Leonard, said that lamb producers in the Western Division regions of NSW and Qld will be ideally placed to supply them with organic lamb. "They are mostly producing clean skin types such as the Dorper, which are ideal for the US market. US organic certification criteria do not allow the use of some fly strike and lice treatments and these breeds seem to be less susceptible. In addition, these regions will have access to our Murray Bridge and Tamworth abattoirs which are organically accredited with AUS-QUAL Pty Ltd".

Initially requiring from 1000 to 1500 lambs per week, Paul believes that obtaining a consistent supply will be one of the biggest challenges for the company. However he believes that by offering a reliable market, combined with good terms of trade,

producers should see the benefits. "I see this as a big opportunity for organic lamb producers. T & R will pay \$6 / kg for lambs in the 18-32 kg dress weight range. In addition, we will pay a skin value and there will be no deductions for killing costs, with payments made within 7 days of slaughter," he said.

In order to supply organic lamb to the US export market, organic producers must not only be certified to Australian organic standards but they must also meet United States Department of Agriculture National Organic Program (USDA NOP) certification criteria. There are additional organic product requirements for export entry into US markets and exporters must meet additional accreditation requirements under the USDA NOP.

Organic producers should contact their certifier to get advice on the requirements for the USDA NOP standards and guidelines. A number of Australian AQIS accredited organic certification organisations are accredited to audit and certify organic operations on behalf of the USDA NOP which enables businesses to have access to export to organic markets in the US.

*For more information on T & R's organic lamb export program contact Paul Leonard, Mobile: 0409625899; Email: [pleonard@tandr.com.au](mailto:pleonard@tandr.com.au)*



*Above: Dorper sheep are well adapted to rangeland conditions and ideal for export organic lamb to the US.*

## News, publications, commentaries & events

### News & commentaries

#### *Pressure to tighten up antibiotics on US farms*

Farmers in the US may soon be prevented from dosing healthy livestock with antibiotics that encourage faster growth.

Pressure to ban the practice has fallen on the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) following a court ruling and the publication of research by Lance Price of the Translational Genomics Research Institute in Flagstaff, Arizona, and

colleagues, who demonstrated for the first time in February how a specific strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* that originated in humans in 2003 moved into livestock, acquired resistance to two types of antibiotics, then returned to humans as a new strain of superbug (See:

<http://mbio.asm.org/content/3/1/e00305-11>)

*Source: New Scientist, Issue 2858, 31 Mar, 2012, p.6. <http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn21628-pressure-to-increase-control-of-antibiotic-use-on-us-farms.html>*

#### *Manuka oil - a natural herbicide with pre-emergence activity*

Research undertaken by the USDA Agriculture Research Service has found that plant oils derived from Manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*) have both pre- and post- emergent herbicidal properties.

The Manuka is a shrub or small tree native to New Zealand and south east Australia. Manuka oil is also known to have anti-bacterial and fungicidal properties.

Natural herbicides approved in organic agriculture are primarily non-selective burn-down essential oils applied as a post-emergent. Multiple applications are often required due to their low efficacy. To address this problem, the in vivo herbicidal activity of Manuka oil, the essential oil distilled from *Leptospermum scoparium*, was tested on selected broadleaf and grass weeds. While Manuka oil exhibited good POST activity when applied in combination with a commercial lemongrass oil-based herbicide, it ultimately demonstrated interesting PRE activity, providing control of crabgrass seedlings at a rate of 3 L ha<sup>-1</sup>. The pre-emergence activity of Manuka oil is due to the soil stability of the active ingredient leptospermone (a unique terpenoid agent). Manuka oil and its main active ingredient, leptospermone, were stable in soil for up to 7 days and had half-lives of 18 and 15 days, respectively.

The systemic activity of Manuka oil addresses many of the major limitations normally associated with natural herbicides. Additionally, its soil persistence opens up a multitude of new possibilities for the use of Manuka oil as a tool for weed management and may be a potential bridge between traditional and organic agriculture.

*Source:*

[www.ars.usda.gov/research/publications/publication\\_s.htm?SEQ\\_NO\\_115=266464](http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/publications/publication_s.htm?SEQ_NO_115=266464)

#### *Tea tree oil beats fly strike and sheep lice*

THE war against fly strike and lice infestations in sheep has taken a positive turn with new research showing that tea tree oil is very effective in treating both of the afflictions.

The research, coordinated by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC), found that tea tree oil was highly successful in both preventing lice infestations and killing blowfly maggot larvae.

Dr Peter James from the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI), who was the study's lead researcher, said the effect tea tree oil had on lice infestations was particularly encouraging.

"Our lab trials showed that a 1 percent tea tree oil formulation reliably produced a 100 percent kill rate of lice and lice eggs, but we were very pleased to see that our pen trials generated the same results," Dr James said in a RIRDC statement issued today.

"We carefully inspected the two week shorn sheep at two, six, 12 and 20 weeks after being dipped in the 1 percent tea tree oil formulation and at all points no lice were found in the wool.

"We also tested sheep with longer wool and the results showed that by jetting both 1 and 2 percent tea tree oil formulations louse numbers reduced by 94 percent in comparison to controls at two weeks after treatment."

The laboratory-based fly strike research used formulations consisting of 1 percent tea tree oil which reliably led to a 100 percent kill rate of first stage maggots. The research also demonstrated that tea tree oil had a strong repellent effect against adult flies, which prevented eggs being laid on the wool for up to six weeks.

"Tea-tree oil could be effective as a preventative treatment for wounds caused by mulesing, tail docking or any wound likely to be struck. It has also been shown to have antibacterial properties and is suggested to have wound healing effects," Dr James said.

"The appealing aspect of using tea tree oil as an insecticide is that it is a natural product. We are seeing more consumer demand for the use of naturally sourced products in food and fibre supply chains.

"The use of many natural products on a commercial scale has often been hampered by its variable quality but tea tree oil is very well placed in this regard as its composition is specified under an international standard, ISO 4730. This ensures the supply of a consistent product, which is essential when using a product as an insecticide.

"Getting the formulation exactly right is vital and it's something that will require more research. It's not as simple as mixing tea tree oil with water and applying it to your sheep; it's a complex and exact science. More research needs to be conducted before we can definitively say that tea tree oil is a viable treatment for fly strike and lice infestations however these initial findings are very encouraging."

Source: RIRDC News & Events, January 23, 2012. The research findings are available in the RIRDC publication 'Controlling fly strike and louse infections in sheep with tea tree oil' which can be downloaded for free: <https://rirdc.infoservices.com.au/items/10-190>.

### Are weeds just a case of 'mind over matter'?

What part do emotions play in our dealings with weeds, including our decisions about waging war on weeds, and which plants to regard as the enemy? How did fear and loathing become so widespread as the typical response to weeds?

In his paper, 'Weed psychology and the War on Weeds' (Plant Protection Quarterly. 26(3)), Dr John Dwyer QC, LLB, MA, Cert. Hort. (Burnley), PhD, suggests that weeds are themselves more of a psychological rather than a botanical category, and questions why "fear and loathing" have become widespread in our approach to weeds.

One thread of investigation was tracing the heritage of the weed concept to our desire for control and cleanliness, and notions of dirty pollutants in contrast to virtuous crop or native plant cleanliness. He argues that these are deep human concepts that exist in all studied cultures. Dr Dwyer suggests that emotive language reflects and compounds fear and anxiety towards weeds. While he acknowledges many actual cases where this is justified, especially in agriculture, he said the language used makes it difficult to clarify scientific, unbiased views on the ecological roles and impacts of exotic species. Thus, terms like 'noxious', 'feral', 'alien', and 'invader' are examples of emotive language.

Dr Dwyer will be presenting a keynote address titled, 'Messages and metaphors: is it time to end the 'war on weeds' at the forthcoming 18<sup>th</sup> Australasian Weeds Conference (see: [www.18awc.com/](http://www.18awc.com/)) in Melbourne, 8-11 October, 2012.

Source: *The Weeds News Digest*. January 12 – 20, 2012. [invasivespecies.org.au/traction/permalink/WeedsNews20](http://invasivespecies.org.au/traction/permalink/WeedsNews20)

### Goats proposed as weed munchers



DO you use goats to prevent or control the spread of weeds of national significance (WONS)? The Goat Council of Australia (GICA) and Monash

University are searching for producers who employ goat-based weed management practices for a new research project which aims to develop best

practice guidelines to tackle the \$4 billion national annual impact of invasive weed species in control programs and lost agricultural production. The project aims to tackle the shortage of scientific research on goat-based weed management of WONS species. It is hoped this information will enable a series of guidelines to be developed which will be shared with producers through workshops and field days at research sites. Monash University environmental scientist and The Weeds Network founder Dr David Low, who will spearhead the project, said the research aimed to use existing or new demonstration sites across a range of settings (for example - linkage corridor, conservation buffer zone, grazing area, forest and horticulture) and a range of weed species. The areas would be incrementally monitored, evaluated and reported to the wider industry.

For further information contact: Glenn Telford, 0400 233 793.

Source: Weeds News Digest:  
<http://invasivespecies.org.au/traction/permalink/WeedsNews2856> Photo credit - T. Dunakin via Rent-A-Ruminant Australia. Herds for Hire:  
<http://rentaruminant.com.au/>

### **Climatedogs now rounding up NSW weather**

NSW now has its own version of Climatedogs, a popular animation series first developed by the Victorian Department of Primary Industries that uses sheep dogs to explain the drivers of climate variability. See: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/resources/climate-and-weather/variability/climatedogs](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/resources/climate-and-weather/variability/climatedogs)



### **....and introducing the NEW climate dog: Eastie**

East Coast Low (ECL)



'Eastie' is the new dog in the Climate Dog animations, created to explain east coast lows, the intense low-pressure systems that occur on average several times each year off the eastern coast of Australia. They usually affect New South Wales, southern Queensland and eastern Victoria.

See: <http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farmingmanagement/weather-climate/understanding-weather-andclimate/climatedogs/Eastie>

### **Progress towards no-till organic weed control in western Canada**

Organic farmers in western Canada rely on tillage to control weeds and incorporate crop residues that could plug mechanical weed-control implements. However, tillage significantly increases the risk of soil erosion.

For farmers seeking to reduce or eliminate tillage, potential alternatives include mowing or using a



roller crimper for terminating green manure crops (cover crops) or using a minimum tillage (min-till) rotary hoe for mechanically controlling weeds.

Although many researchers have studied organic

crop production in western Canada, few have studied no-till organic production practices. Two studies were recently conducted in Saskatchewan to determine the efficacy of the following alternatives to tillage: mowing and roller crimping for weed control, and min-till rotary hoeing weed control in field pea (*Pisum sativum* L.).

The first study compared mowing and roller crimping with tillage when terminating faba bean (*Vicia faba* L.) and field pea green manure crops. Early termination of annual green manure crops with roller crimping or mowing resulted in less weed regrowth compared with tillage. When compared with faba bean, field pea produced greater crop biomass, suppressed weeds better and had less regrowth. Wheat yields following pea were not affected by the method of termination. Thus, this first study indicated that roller crimping and mowing are viable alternatives to tillage to terminate field pea green manure crops.

The second study evaluated the tolerance and efficacy of a min-till rotary harrow in no-till field pea production. The min-till rotary hoe (pictured) was able to operate in no-till cereal residues and multiple passes did not affect the level of residue cover. Field pea exhibited excellent tolerance to the min-till rotary hoe. Good weed control occurred with multiple rotary hoe passes, and pea seed yield was 87% of the yield obtained in the herbicide-treated check. Therefore, this second study demonstrated that min-till rotary hoeing effectively controls many small seeded annual weeds in the presence of crop residue and thus can reduce the need for tillage in organic-cropping systems. [Steven J. Shirtliffe & Eric N. Johnson (2011). Progress towards no-till organic weed control in western Canada. Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems, FirstView Article:pp 1-8, doi:10.1017/S1742170511000500]

Source: *The Weed's News Digest* January 13, 2012 - January 19, 2012.

[http://invasivespecies.org.au/traction?type=digest\\_html&proj=WeedsNews&sdate=20120113&edate=20120119](http://invasivespecies.org.au/traction?type=digest_html&proj=WeedsNews&sdate=20120113&edate=20120119)

## Events

### International Composting Awareness Week 2012

BETTER soil, better life, better future is the catchcry for International Composting Awareness Week 2012, to be staged in May.

A week of activities, events and publicity organised by the Centre for Organic and Resource Enterprises (CORE) aims to improve awareness about the importance of compost, and to promote compost use, knowledge and products.

In Australia more than one million tonnes of organic materials is diverted from landfill back to communities and farms every year.

CORE says this reduces the effects of climate change and that communities and farmers are reaping the benefits of increased organic matter levels by reducing water needs and petro-chemical applications.

CORE says there are still millions of tonnes that can be diverted and recycled.

Costa, the Greek-Australian landscape architect and television personality is the awareness week's ambassador.

There's a calendar for communities and organisations to register ideas and events.

Options so far include a photo competition, social media interaction, workshops, demonstrations, tours, composting in schools, awareness events for colleagues and promotions.

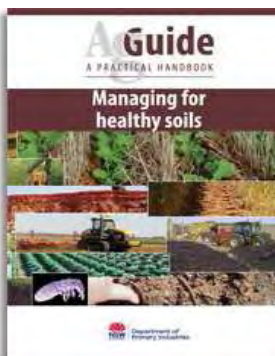
The annual social event for the recycled organics community, the Compost Ball, heads the social agenda on June 2 in Sydney.

For more information contact Eric Love, 0419 619 455, or Chris Rochfort, (02) 9922 1591 or visit [www.compostweek.com.au](http://www.compostweek.com.au)

Source: NSW DPI AgToday April 2012 Edition.

## Publications

### Ag guide - Managing for healthy soils



This new book from NSW DPI helps landholders understand their soils from the landscape scale through to the microscopic to help them manage their soils for maximum health and productivity. See: [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/resources/bookshop/agguide-managing-forhealthy-soil](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/resources/bookshop/agguide-managing-forhealthy-soil)

### New NSW DPI Primefact: Vehicle biosecurity kit - plant industries

A vehicle biosecurity kit is an effective tool to help minimise the risk of spreading unwanted weeds, pests and diseases between farms or regions.

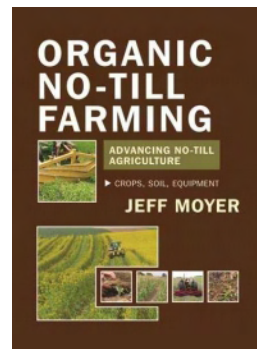
A kit should be carried and used by persons operating at the farm level in agriculture and horticulture in NSW. This includes farmers, consultants, agronomists and trial operators, and farm/orchard staff, including itinerant workers and contractors.

The kit is designed to reduce the biosecurity risk associated with people movement on and off farms by assisting with personal cleanliness. Kit contents should include items for cleaning clothing, shoes, equipment and vehicle interiors. See: [http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0017/424007/Vehicle-biosecurity-kit-plant-industries.pdf](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0017/424007/Vehicle-biosecurity-kit-plant-industries.pdf)

### Organic No-till Farming

Organic No-Till Farming offers a map to the Holy Grail of organic farming — a system that limits tillage, reduces labour, and improves soils structure. Based on the latest research by pioneering agriculturists, this book arms farmers (organic and conventional) with new technologies and tools based on sound biological principles, making it possible to reduce and even eliminate tillage.

[www.rodaleinstitute.org/store/index.php?p=product&id=487&parent=0](http://www.rodaleinstitute.org/store/index.php?p=product&id=487&parent=0)

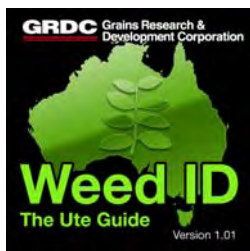


### Carbon Farming Initiative handbook

The CFI handbook explains how carbon markets and the CFI work, and outlines steps involved in undertaking a CFI project. It will also help you decide what type of CFI activity might be right for you, your business or your organisation: [climatechange.gov.au/en/government/initiatives/carbon-farminginitiative/handbook.aspx](http://climatechange.gov.au/en/government/initiatives/carbon-farminginitiative/handbook.aspx)



### The GRDC Weeds: Ute Guide



The GRDC Weeds: Ute Guide is now available to download for your iPhone, with other smartphone types coming soon.

The application is designed to be used in the paddock by growers to assist in identifying the most common

annual, biennial and perennial weeds.

Where possible, photographs have been provided of the weed at various growth stages to ensure correct identification.

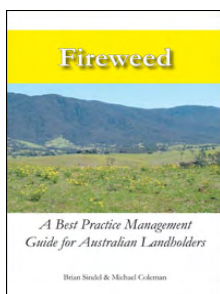
Each weed has a calendar to show which month/s the weed is likely to be present in the paddock. The application allows users to search, identify, compare and email photographs of weeds to their networks.

The application can be accessed via the GRDC website [www.grdc.com.au/apps](http://www.grdc.com.au/apps). The App Store lets you browse applications and download them directly to your iPhone. The GRDC application can be downloaded from the App Store:

[mail.grdcsubscribers.com.au/lz/lz.aspx?p1=055467S485&CC=&w=1490&clD=0&cValue=1](mailto:mail.grdcsubscribers.com.au/lz/lz.aspx?p1=055467S485&CC=&w=1490&clD=0&cValue=1)

Coming soon: GRDC Insects: The Ute Guide

### UNE publishes fireweed management guide



As part of the Fireweed Control Research project, the University of New England has just published online a free management guide for fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*). The guide, 'Fireweed: A Best Practice Management Guide for Australian Landholders', is available online at:

[www.ruralfutures.une.edu.au/fireweed/resources/Fireweed\\_BPM\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.ruralfutures.une.edu.au/fireweed/resources/Fireweed_BPM_Guide.pdf)

This first edition guide is designed to complement existing technical publications on fireweed produced by state governments and councils. A revised and updated edition will be printed for distribution to landholders at the completion of this project in mid-2012. The authors welcome your opinion on the content of this guide. Please email your suggestions to Brian Sindel ([bsindel@une.edu.au](mailto:bsindel@une.edu.au)) or Michael Coleman ([mcolema8@une.edu.au](mailto:mcolema8@une.edu.au)). Other resources and information about the project are available at:

[www.ruralfutures.une.edu.au/fireweed/fireweed.htm](http://www.ruralfutures.une.edu.au/fireweed/fireweed.htm)

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (April 2012). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

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