

Sir Ivan Fire Recovery Committee Community Newsletter Edition 11, 1 August 2017

'Back On Track' Workshops Rural Assistance Authority

The second 'Back on Track' Workshop will be held on Tuesday 8th August starting at 9am and finishing at 1pm.

This one workshop will be a paddock walk and talk in the local area. There will be two Local Land Services Agricultural staff to talk pastures and soils - species for planting, plant and weed ID, fodder crops, legumes, soil health and soil ameliorants.

This will be followed by lunch and a speaker from the NSW Police Rural Crime Squad at the Leadville hall. *For details of where and what time please contact Libby McIntyre - details below.*

The third workshop NEW DATE - Tuesday 5th September - Please delete Tuesday 29/8/17 from your calendar and put in Tuesday 5/9/17 instead. This workshop will be at Leadville.

Topics for this day are to be determined but may include:

- financial recovery,
- coping with stress and anxiety,
- business coaching/ succession planning,
- innovation and change,
- healthy eating/emergency first aid/keeping fit and optimistic workshop etc.

Please contact:
Libby McIntyre on 0429 019 309
or libby.mcintyre@lls.nsw.gov.au
to RSVP or talk about other topics for discussion.

LOANS & GRANTS –

IMPORTANT APPLICATION CLOSING DATES!

A reminder to all fire affected farmers that the Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) Natural Disaster Relief Scheme funding for the Sir Ivan Fire will be closing soon:

- Natural Disaster Relief Scheme **Loans** – 14th August 2017
- Natural Disaster Relief Scheme **Grants (Category C)** – 15th September 2017

Contact your local Recovery Support Worker for information (details below), or go to www.raa.nsw.gov.au for application and guidelines.

The RAA also have available **Transport Subsidy** funds for declared natural disaster areas. These are available for assisting with the cost of transporting fodder and/or water to an affected property, stock to sale or slaughter and stock to/from agistment, following declaration of a natural disaster. Conditions apply. **Transport Subsidy applications for the Sir Ivan Fire affected farmers close on 14th August 2017 also.**

Information and forms can be found on the **NSW Rural Assistance Authority** website at

www.raa.nsw.gov.au

Alternatively, if you would like to talk to the RAA on phone **1800 678 593**.

BlazeAid Update

Dunedoo BlazeAid Camp will close

22nd September 2017

A reminder from Coordinator, Laurie Dawson, that a finish date for the Dunedoo Camp has been set as **Friday 22nd September.**

Any properties still requiring assistance with essential fencing can contact the **Dunedoo BlazeAid Camp** which is set up at the Dunedoo Showground.

Contact:

Laurie Dawson on 0418 349 317
blazeaid.dunedoo@gmail.com

Need some support or advice?

Contact the Recovery Support Service

For more information or to make an appointment with your local Recovery Support Worker call:

Caroline Hayes on **0407 971 675**
(Cassilis area)

or Sue Freebairn on **0429 212 368**
(Coolah-Dunedoo area)



Caroline



Sue

Merriwa-Sir Ivan Bushfire Appeal - Notice

Applications will close 31 August 2017

The Merriwa-Sir Ivan Bushfire Fundraising Appeal is calling for those affected by the Sir Ivan fire, to fill out application forms and get them in this month!

The application process will close on August 31st 2017.

The appeal aims to support getting '*back to business as usual*' for those business's and individuals who found their ability to carry on with their livelihoods were impacted due to loss or damage of infrastructure, tools of trade or equipment from the fire.

All applications will be considered from anyone who was affected by the fire.

The fundraising feedlot project is drawing to a conclusion, 540 head have come into the feedlot, through donated or purchased stock. 220 of those have already been sold.

Application forms are available from agencies assisting with the recovery, from rural produce stores, or can be downloaded from the NSW Farmers website - Go to

www.nswfarmers.org.au/home/2017_bushfire_appeal

Attention ladies...

A Girls Day In to 'Simplify Your Life'

Wild Wacky Wonderful Women will present a one day workshop on **'Simplify Your Life' on Friday 11th August 2017**, hosted by Coolah District Development Group in conjunction with fire affected community agencies. Topics covered will be:

- The power of 'NO'
- Discover your core values
- Understanding yourself and others
- Discover the fastest way to let go
- Bust through old habits
- Declutter your wardrobe & life
- Hush the inner negative inner critics
- Apply the THINK principle to all your communication
- Laugh & have a great time!

For a **Girls Day In**, that is fun, interactive & informative, register with Sal Edwards on 0458 774 519.

www.wildwackywonderfulwomen.com.au

40 Dorper rams donated & available for fire-affected farmers

Terry, a Dorper stud owner from Gilgandra, is donating 40 rams to Sir Ivan fire affected farmers.

Terry has been burnt out himself in the past and would like to help out.

If you're interested in some Dorper rams, his details are:

Terry Cotter, Wattle Vale, 1070 Flora Reserve Rd, Gilgandra

Ph: (02) 6848 8245

Stud details: Hawattle Dorper Stud D764

20 Million Trees Funding - Interested in revegetating native shelterbelt corridors?

Landholders around the Sir Ivan Fire region interested in receiving support to revegetate shelter-belts and wildlife corridors on their properties are encouraged to contact Central West Local Land Services in Dubbo.

'We would like to hear from any landholders in the region who would like to re-establish native shelterbelts and corridors on their land' said Andrew Knop Senior Lands Services officer with the Central West LLS.

'We are looking to coordinate an application to the National Landcare 20 Million Trees Programme'.

'If successful we will be able to supply seedlings and financial support for landholder to prepare and establish the trees'.

'Well-designed tree corridors can have tangible on-ground benefits for your farm and farming business - reducing wind exposure, soil erosion, animal and pasture stress as well improving the general environment and look of a property', said Mr Knop.

If you are interested in establishing native vegetation corridors on your land in 2018/19 please call Andrew Knop on 0407 937 610 or 6841 6523.

Information provided by:

Andrew Knop

Senior Lands Services Officer

Central West Local Land Services

m: **0407 937 610**

e: andrew.knop@lls.nsw.gov.au

w: www.centralwest.lls.nsw.gov.au

Work Days: Monday, Tuesday & Friday

Pasture Bushfire Recovery Update

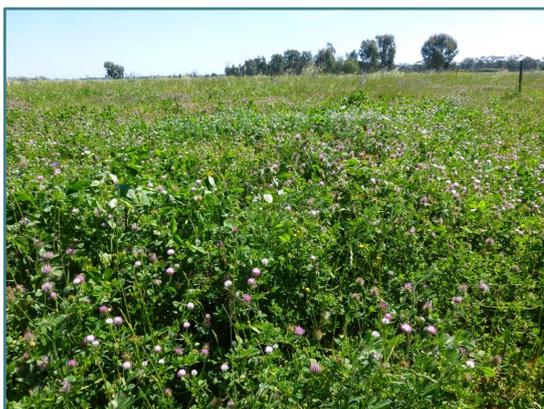
by Bob Freebairn, Agricultural Consultant

CAREFULLY SELECTING A SMORGASBOARD OF LEGUMES

Carefully selecting a range of winter annual legumes species and varieties can help ensure dense productive winter legume growth in a range of native, tropical and temperate perennial grass pastures.

One variety of one species, for example sub-clover, rarely covers for the large range of variability across a paddock in soil type, elevation and angle (north or south slope for example). Even a similar appearing soil can have big variability in aspects like pH, aluminium toxicity, fertility, depth, texture and proneness to waterlogging, all likely to have an effect on what might be the best annual legume variety and species.

It can be costly and commonly less rewarding to choose a commercial multi variety mixture for adding to a pasture (which often include species and varieties not likely to suit). It is sensible to weigh up the most likely species and varieties that could dramatically improve a given pasture. These may require different management than past mainstay varieties and species like sub clover but commonly add greatly.



A mix of winter legumes in a tropical grass pasture. Includes Gland, serradella, sub clover, biserrula and rose clover. A mixture is commonly especially helpful in a variable soil type paddock.

Serradella and biserrula added to many lighter to medium soil paddocks, can be very productive and good quality. They have high levels of hard seed, and suit acidic to non-acidic soils and also perform well on loams. Both can hang on longer than subs in dry conditions and “refire” when a late spring rain falls after a dry early spring. Both importantly are also regarded as non-bloating. Serradella is also very tolerant of aphids, a common spring issue capable of doing a lot of damage to some pasture species.

Like for most annual legumes for long term persistence it is generally best to choose early to early mid maturing varieties. Even early maturing serradella varieties are capable of growing well into late spring if soil moisture is ok and it is not too hot.

For some properties Gland clover (*Prima variety*) has proven tough and persistent and combines good tolerance to red legged earth mites, aphids as well as diseases like clover scorch. It also suites a range of soils from pH 4.5 to 8.0. Importantly it has reasonable tolerance to waterlogging. Gland clover can add to production, reduce risk from some diseases that sub clover is susceptible to such as viruses, leaf funguses and some root rotting fungus.

Continued over the page...

Uniting

quick
memo
Please Help

Rose clover, a relatively old species, is far tougher, long term persistent and more productive on a range of soils from lighter to medium loams than is generally appreciated. Levels of hard seed are good. Hykon and Sardi are suitable varieties.

Barrel medic, while a bloaty species tends to suit alkaline clay and clay loam to loam soils with high pH and if carefully managed can be very persistent. Caliph and Sephi varieties are aphid tolerant, an important feature in many years.

Arrowleaf clover, with a good range of maturity types can be surprisingly persistent if carefully managed. It also has good levels of hard seed, suites lighter to loam soils with moderate acidity to neutral pH.

Namoi woolly pod vetch has proven long term persistent on a range of soils from self-mulching clays to slightly acid. It is also regarded as non-bloating.

One major difference with these species compared to sub-clover is that flowering and seed set is elevated and care is needed to ensure good seed set. This is hardly an issue in good springs but needs careful grazing management if the first one or two springs are dry. It is important to build soil seed reserves and to allow periodic good seeding to ensure long term persistence. Like all legumes good soil fertility is also important.

Bob Freebairn is an agricultural consultant. For more information please email robert.freebairn@bigpond.com or call 0428 752 149.

Through our Uniting Family Options program, we would like to deliver a free 12 month counselling, mental health and family relationship support service to assist those affected by the devastation of the February 2017 Sir Ivan bushfire in the Dunedoo, Coolah, Uarbry, Leadville and Cassilis NSW area.

Our opportunity to help

We are currently shortlisted with Aussie Farmers Foundation to be in the running for a \$50,000 grant.

Of the four finalists the project who receives the most votes during the period 31/7/17 to 14/8/17 wins.

How can you help get this support to your community...

1. Click on our Aussie Farmers Foundation link
<http://a.pgtb.me/TIZGGN/mTZ00?w=60724539&e=167075924>
2. Watch our video and vote for us before 14th August 2017.
3. Copy & send this information to your contacts to try and promote our project gain as many votes as possible.

Anyone seeking further information can contact Naomi at Uniting on 0477 756 252 or nhughes@uniting.org

Useful contacts

Recovery Support Workers

Caroline Hayes on 0407 971 675

Sue Freebairn on 0429 212 368

Financial Counselling

RFCSA – 1800 940 404

RFCSA Mudgee

Elizabeth Brown – 0427 726 660

RFCSA Servicing Coolah

Susan Kelley – 0439 323 443

Website: www.rfcscr.com.au

Email: ceo@rfcscr.com.au

Newsletter Suggestions

If there is information that you would like to see included in the **Recovery Committee Community Newsletter**

contact Ingrid via

ingrid@envirocommconnections.com.au

working on behalf of DPI Rural

Resilience Program and Sir Ivan Fire

Recovery Support Service.

Newsletter Subscription

The Newsletter can be emailed or posted out. with your email / postal address, or send an email to info@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au with the title **Recovery Committee Community Newsletter Subscription**.

This Newsletter is produced by the Sir Ivan Fire Recovery Committee, with contributions from support agencies whose services are featured.

Past editions of the Community Newsletter can be accessed via Warrumbungle Shire Council's website. Click on the Sir Ivan Fire Information icon at www.warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au