



Victorian Farmers Federation

United Dairyfarmers of Victoria

District Council 2 and 3 Regional Update



Over the past two weeks, your dairy and water leaders from DC 2 and 3 have been involved in the following activities.

Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy Meetings:

The VFF and DSE hosted a number of meetings across Northern Victoria briefing farmers on proposals outlined in the Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy discussion paper. We encourage people to make submissions highlighting any issues that have not been included or any concerns with those that have been discussed. Submissions do not need to be pages long, as long as your concerns are articulated. Submissions close March 17 and copies of the strategy can be found at www.dse.vic.gov.au.

National Plan for Water Security (NPWS):

Victorian farmers must maintain pressure on the Federal Government to spend the allocated \$5.9 billion on irrigation infrastructure projects both on and off farm as part of the NPWS. Suggestions that water entitlements be cut and the \$5.9 billion be used to compensate farmers does nothing to address irrigation infrastructure.

\$50 million water buy back:

Disappointingly the Federal Government has decided to enter the water market and purchase \$50 million of water for the environment. This does not reflect VFF/UDV policy which argues that Government must invest in irrigation infrastructure first to find water savings rather than take the cheap and easy option of entering the water market.

Lucerne Farm Walks:

Farmers are invited to a lucerne farm walk where specialists will outline how to grow, manage and graze lucerne.

Lucerne farm walks will be held between 10:30am to 12:30pm, on: 12th, 13th and 14th March.

For further information call Brett Davidson at the DPI Cobram office on 03 58 710608.

Opportunities for Carryover Water

The Murray Dairy Regional Extension Committee is hosting an information session on carryover water, on the evening of Thursday 13th March 2008, 7:30pm at the Numurkah Tourist Information Centre.

All Dairy farmers are invited to an interactive session on testing the opportunities and risks involved with carryover water. It will give you the chance to speak to other farmers about real life scenarios.

For more information please contact Libby Cummins, DPI Cobram (03)58710 609

Murray Dairy Business Forum:

This forum will focus on dairy businesses over the next five years in the region. Program sessions include; Business and the Big Picture, Capitalising on Opportunities, Inputs, and their impact on the bottom line, Commodity Trading, the new skill base, Change, the only Constant

WHEN: 7-8th May at the Moama Bowling Club

www.udvnorth.org.au