

# Hume landholder newsletter

## Watch out for worms this summer

The experts are predicting we may be returning to a “La Nina” cycle and should expect higher than average rainfall over the summer months in our region.

Whatever the weather does, after such a “wormy” winter and spring it is imperative that we take the opportunity to break the worm’s life cycle by drenching onto clean stubbles and hay paddocks this summer. Monitoring using Worm Egg Counts (WECs) and post-drench checks will also be the key to assess the efficacy of drenching across the summer, and to gauge the level of risk from worms continuing into autumn.

The following are important considerations for successful worm management, especially after a wet summer, which will place an increased level of importance on these issues for both cattle and sheep production systems:

- In weaners, ensure drenches are effective - consider post-drench testing and a WEC ten days post-treatment. Monitor weaner performance (weight recording) and conduct WECs strategically. Take care not to get caught out with withholding periods or export slaughter intervals for drenching prior to sale, as these two requirements may not be the same.
- Utilise “low risk” paddocks as much as possible for weaners. Be aware that if there are heavy burdens of worm larvae on weaner paddocks that this can lead to reinfestation, production loss and possibly deaths in weaned lambs within three to four weeks after introduction to the heavily contaminated paddock. Cattle will present with low weight gains or weight loss and scouring.
- Consider choice of drench to ensure greatest effect, rather than what is readily available, easiest to use or lowest cost. This is of increased importance if you have experienced drench resistance on your property.

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Hume LHPA vets and rangers checking for lice

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Livestock health news enclosed

## Free livestock health e-newsletter

The Hume LHPA livestock health “Infobytes” e-newsletter aims to keep our ratepayers updated on livestock health issues affecting their livestock, with current and timely subject matter produced by the Hume LHPA’s livestock health team. To subscribe, please email [admin.hume@lhpa.org.au](mailto:admin.hume@lhpa.org.au) with “subscribe” in the subject line.

**SUBSCRIBE NOW!**



Hume LHPA rangers at a field training day with vet Ian Masters



Hume LHPA staff carrying out maintenance on our TSRs

## Woolgrowers benefit from AWI funding to control wild dogs

The Hume LHPA was successful during 2011 in obtaining funding from Australian Wool Innovation Ltd (AWI) to strengthen the local wild dog control plans in our district.

This funding initiative will help local wool growers rebuild their sheep flocks and increase wool production following recent wild dog activity. We thank AWI for their support.

AWI hopes that the funding will also improve the mental wellbeing of landholders affected by wild dog attacks by reducing the ongoing threat of wild dog attacks.

Hume LHPA are in the process of designing a landholder survey on behalf of AWI which will seek landholder attitudes towards wild dogs, wild dog attacks, the efforts of Hume LHPA staff in assisting them, and their understanding of wild dog control methods.

Landholders are reminded to report wild dog activity to Hume LHPA in the first instance.

## Pest animal plan

The Hume LHPA is developing a proactive approach to pest animal control. We are in the process of finalising our Pest Animal Plan which will provide the strategic approach for pest animal control and management in the Hume district.

The plan will consider a cooperative and group coordinated approach for each type of pest animal, as this will achieve the highest results through sharing labour, equipment and working jointly with neighbours.

The plan will provide a proactive approach to rabbit inspections, wild dog trapping programs, feral pig activity and fox baiting groups.

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- Beef producers should also be aware that there is increasing evidence of both BZ and mectin drench resistance in cattle. Drench choice and rotation monitoring using WECs and post-drench checks will be the key to assess the efficacy of drenching across the summer and gauge the level of risk from worms travelling into autumn.

## Outshine the swine

### Feral pig project

The Hume LHPA is currently participating in a cooperative feral pig management program aptly titled "Outshine the Swine", in conjunction with the Tumut Shire, Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority, Forestry NSW, local indigenous groups and landholders.

This project is a result of a successful two-year "Caring for our Country" grant from the Tumut Shire.

A strategic management plan will be developed and landholder meetings will be held before work commences on the project. As part of the engagement with landholders, a survey will also be carried out to seek local information from landholders about the extent of the problem.

Contact our Gundagai office on 02 6944 1588 to get involved or for further information.



## From the GMs desk

A message from Ray Willis,  
Hume LHPA General Manager

As our ratepayers would be aware, the statewide Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPA) system has been under Ministerial Review since August 2011.

The review was announced in July by Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson,

The LHPA welcomes the review, seeing it as a good opportunity to build on the 2009 reforms, improve efficiency and plan for the future.

Independent consultant Terry Ryan was commissioned to undertake the review in August, and over 400 submissions were received from individuals and organisations.

A series of public meetings were held throughout NSW in October and November. On this point, LHPA received some criticism that we did not communicate effectively to our ratepayers that these meetings were being held. I would like to explain that these community consultations were organised and promoted by the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) as part of the independent review process, they were not organised by LHPA.

At the time of printing this newsletter, we are still awaiting the final report from Terry Ryan, which was expected to be submitted to the Minister in late December 2011.

In the meantime, it is "business as usual" at the Hume LHPA, as our vets, rangers and customer service officers continue to assist you in addressing all of your livestock health, pest animal and stock identification needs.

## Chairman's message

Deb Paton Blackwell  
Chair, Hume LHPA

In 2012 the Board of the Hume LHPA will be seeking ratepayer involvement through a series of Community Reference Groups, which will ascertain what new services should be provided and what ratepayers want from the Hume LHPA.

Given that the pest and animal health issues vary greatly across our district it is important to ascertain where our limited resources are best spent.

TSRs are a big ticket item on our agenda this year. It is necessary for ratepayers to assist us in our review and assessment of TSRs to determine the future of this crown land. As you would all be aware we do not own TSRs, yet the LHPA is responsible for the care, control and management of this land. This is an enormous cost to ratepayers and as such we must carefully consider our position.

The Board are constantly looking for ways to relieve the ever-increasing cost burden. As such, this year we will be seeking additional funding from the government in the form of grants to supplement our income so as to reduce the burden to ratepayers. These grants would be used for TSR work, wild dog programs and livestock health research.

I wish you all the best for 2012 and look forward to your feedback through our reference groups.

## Pest animal control traineeship

The Hume LHPA is in the process of writing a submission to the NSW government for the development of a program for a pest animal control traineeship.

This follows a meeting with local landholders, Hume LHPA staff and local MP Greg Aplin, Member for Albury.

The pest animal control contractor is a highly specialised position and there are very few younger contractors to continue the excellent work of those currently employed.

The local landholders are concerned that if there is no succession planning, then the wild dog activity will rise to the levels of the year 2000 again.

A traineeship program would allow interested personnel to have an avenue to be trained with the necessary skills to be employed across a wide range of pest animal control activities.

## Travelling stock reserves update

Rangers and spraying contractors have been busy spraying our TSRs for weeds following another late wet spring season, in particular St John's Wort and Chilean Needle Grass.

Our funding from the Murray Catchment Management Authority (CMA) continues for the next three years, reducing the cost burden of ratepayers and enabling the LHPA to employ spraying contractors to help control weeds on these TSRs.

Hume LHPA are planning a full-scale review of all TSRs, with their future to be discussed with ratepayers early this year. Details will be available soon.



Field assistant Ron Tilyard spraying TSRs

## Introducing our new staff

Hume LHPA wish to welcome three new staff members - customer service officers Joanne Passlow and Kim Ryan, and ranger Liz O'Grady.

Joanne comes to us with 16 years experience in the banking and hospitality industry. She will be providing maternity relief in Accounts Payable in the Wagga office.

Kim's background is in the hospitality industry, where she was front line customer service for the Comfort Inn and Quality Resort Siesta for a combined period of 16 years. Kim will be providing front office service from Lavington.

Liz O'Grady joins the Hume LHPA following a stint with the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in Canberra, where she was a policy officer. Liz has a Bachelor of Animal Science and a work history in the agriculture sector. Liz returns to her home town of Gerogery and she can be contacted at our Lavington office.

Joanne Passlow



Kim Ryan



Liz O'Grady



## Contacting us

**Wagga Wagga (head office)**  
17 Trail St, WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650  
Ph 02 6923 0900

**Gundagai**  
87 Sheridan St, GUNDAGAI NSW 2722  
Ph 02 6944 1588

**Holbrook Depot**  
2 Hay St, HOLBROOK NSW 2644  
Ph 02 6036 2733

**Lavington**  
462 Wagga Rd, LAVINGTON NSW 2641  
Ph 02 6040 4210

**Email enquiries**  
admin.hume@lhpa.org.au

**Website**  
www.lhpa.org.au/districts/hume

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR RATES NOTICE

The **general rate** consists of a base charge and an amount payable on the notional carrying capacity of your property\*. This funds pest animal programs, TSR management and local administration and service delivery.

The **animal health rate** consists of a base charge and an amount payable on your notional carrying capacity\*. This funds locally delivered livestock health programs and is payable if you told us on your annual land and stock return that you had at least 50 stock units on your property OR if you did not return your land and stock form by the due date.

The **pest insect special purpose rate** is collected for NSW DPI to cover the cost of plague locust control campaigns. LHPAs do not retain these funds. The pest insect rate includes a flat contribution per rate notice, plus a cents per stock units amount.

The **meat industry levy** is collected for the NSW Food Authority. LHPAs do not retain these funds.

The **Stock Movement Permit** is issued for routine movements of stock between two holdings occupied by the permit holder.

The **base charge** is a uniform charge within an authority, similar to a 'flag fall' in a taxi.

\*The **notional carrying capacity** is an estimate, worked out by the local authority, of the number of stock a property would normally carry in an average year if used solely for livestock purposes and is based on stock units per hectare.

RURAL LANDS PROTECTION ACT 1998 Section 63

**LHPA**  
LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND PEST AUTHORITIES  
Safeguarding Agriculture in NSW

JOHN CITIZEN  
PO BOX XXXX  
GUNS GULLY NSW XXXX

**2012 RATE NOTICE**  
TAX INVOICE ABN 12XXXXXX  
Livestock Health and Pest Authority  
Guns Gully Rd, GUNS GULLY, NSW

Reference No: 12XXXXX  
Date of Issue: 27 January 20\*  
Payment Due Date: 29 February \*

Holding Name: J Citizen  
Holding Address: Guns Gully  
Associated Holdings: N/A

Area of Land (hectares): 61.75 Notional Carrying Capacity: 546 Notional Intensive Carrying \*

Particulars of Rates and Charges		Units	Cents per Unit
RATES - GENERAL	BASE CHARGE \$65.14+	546	19.900
RATES - ANIMAL HEALTH	BASE CHARGE \$28.50+	546	12.540
SPECIAL PURPOSE RATE			
- PEST INSECTS	BASE CHARGE \$16.00+	546	3.666
MEAT INDUSTRY LEVY	BASE CHARGE \$ 5.00+	546	0.600
STOCK MOVEMENT PERMIT RENEWAL	\$22.00		

All rates and charges are exempt from GST under Division 81 of the Goods and Services Tax Act 1999 unless otherwise indicated.

The Meat Industry Levy is a statutory levy collected on behalf of the NSW Food Authority. The Pest Insect Special Purpose Rate is collected for NSW DPI to cover the cost of plague locust control campaigns.

*NOTE: The rates and charges amounts shown left are indicative only. Actual amounts will vary according to where you live.*