

30 August 2007

LOOKING AFTER NATURAL ENVIRONMENT WHILE MAXIMISING FARM PROFITABILITY

Pasture to Pocket workshops will be held at seven locations across the Western Region by the Western Catchment Management Authority (CMA).

These workshops investigate the most up-to-date grazing principles landholders can apply to improve animal performance and maximising farm profitability while looking after the natural environment.

Catchment Officer for Western CMA, James Leigo, said the two and a half day 'Pasture to Pocket' grazing workshops will assist land owners and station managers to best utilize pasture for their livestock needs.

"The workshops includes a short field trip allowing workshop participant to investigate how the material learnt at the workshop can be applied in their local district," said Mr Leigo.

The workshops will be held at the following locations.

Location	Date
Engonnia	Monday 17 - Wednesday 19 September
Brewarrina	Monday 24 – Tuesday 25 September
Lightning Ridge	Thursday 27 – Friday 28 September
Tibooburra	Monday 15 - Wednesday 17 October
Wanaaring	Thursday 18 – Saturday 20 October
Ivanhoe	Monday 29 – Wednesday 31 October
White Cliffs	Thursday 1 – Saturday 3 November

People interested in attending workshops are advised to contact their local Western CMA office or call 1800 032 101. The workshops have booking fee of \$200 per business attending which, will be fully refunded following attendance at the workshop.

Subjects covered in the workshops including the benefits and drawbacks of a range of grazing systems, principles of sustainable grazing, property development and planning, and animal supplementation strategies.

"The workshops will allow participants to investigate how changes to livestock and pasture management can mean more money in their pockets, while at the same time improving the condition of the natural environment" Mr Leigo said.

"Having these workshops at a range of locations is a unique opportunity for participants to easily access information that is directly relevant to their local district," he said.

Mr Leigo encourages everyone who manages pastures and livestock on a day-to-day basis to attend the workshops.

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