Tocal hosts NSW Grassland Society pasture update

Hunter Valley and coastal producers have the opportunity to hear the latest in pasture research for their area at the Tocal pasture update on 16 October.

Department of Primary Industries’ (DPI) Technical Specialist Pasture Production, Neil Griffiths said on the day landholders will hear from DPI experts regarding sub-tropical pastures, grasses and legumes.

“Industry specialists and researchers from DPI will be presenting practical information about pasture management that can be integrated in farming systems to maximise productivity.”

DPI speakers include:
- Dr Suzanne Boschma, Senior Research Scientist – new developments with sub-tropical pastures, grasses and legumes.
- Dr Robin Dobos, Research Scientist – managing sub-tropical pastures for livestock production.
- Mr Lester McCormick, Leader Coastal and Temperate Pasture Systems – managing Coolatai grass.

Mr Griffiths said the day will focus on pastures as part of the whole-farm system with presentations from six local groups who are conducting their own research and development projects. Project presentations will include discussions on increasing soil carbon on coastal grazing lands, management options to improve water quality and more efficient fertiliser use.

“Participants will tour Tocal paddocks to inspect the changing pastures and changing soil fertility, particularly on the dairy pastures where there has been significant changes over the past seven years,” Mr Griffiths said.

The Pasture Update Series is an initiative of The Grassland Society of NSW Inc. and funded by Meat and Livestock Australia. This initiative is supported by DPI and the Hunter Local Land Services.

The cost is $20 which covers morning tea and lunch.

The day will commence with registration at 9.30 am at Tocal Agricultural Centre, Paterson.

For further information please call Neil Griffiths on 02 4939 8948 or email neil.griffiths@dpi.nsw.gov.au Please register by Friday 10 October by calling Janelle on 0408 612 235.

Media contact: Anne Brook 02 6763 1163 or 0477 358 305

Follow us: http://twitter.com/#!/nswdpi
Hunter Valley and coastal producers have the opportunity to hear the latest in pasture research for their area at the Grassland Society of NSW Pasture Update funded by MLA and supported by Local Land Services and NSW DPI.

### SPEAKERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPEAKERS</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Neibler, Online / E-learning manager</td>
<td>Online tools to grow your feedbase</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Suzanne Boschma, Senior Research Scientist, NSW DPI</td>
<td>New developments with sub-tropical pastures – grasses and legumes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Robin Dobos, Research Scientist, NSW DPI</td>
<td>Managing sub-tropical pastures for livestock production</td>
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<td>Lester McCormick, Leader, Pastures, NSW DPI</td>
<td>Managing Coolatai Grass – experience from the northern slopes</td>
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**Report on local projects:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marguerite White, Dairy Australia NRM Specialist</td>
<td>Improving home grown feed on NSW dairy farms through more efficient fertiliser use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dungog-Gresford Land and Beef Group Inc</td>
<td>Legume and grass trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Singleton Landcare Network Inc</td>
<td>Increasing soil carbon on coastal grazing lands</td>
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<td>Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue</td>
<td>Grazing rehabilitated mine lands</td>
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<td>Hunter Water/ Hunter LLS</td>
<td>Management options to improve water quality on Williams Valley dairy farms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Singleton Beef and Land Management Group</td>
<td>Lessons from the Canadian beef industry</td>
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After lunch

Tocal paddock inspections – changing soil fertility changes pastures: inspect pastures on Tocal dairy which have changed significantly over the past seven years (this is a follow up for people who have visited this site at previous field days).

PTO for registration details
Company name: ..............................................................................................................................................................................................................................................

Name: .................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................

Postal Address: ..........................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................

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Phone: .......................................................... Mobile: .......................................................... Fax: ..............................................................................................................................................

Email address: ...........................................................................................................................................................................................................................

Special dietary requirements: 

Payment method (please tick)

I would like to book _______ places at the workshop. Cost $20 per person

■ DIRECT DEPOSIT (please email secretary@grasslandnsw.com.au with your details if paying by direct deposit)

BANK: Westpac Bank

ACCOUNT NAME: Grassland Society of NSW Seminar Account

BSB: 032-833 Account: 388 034

Reference: ‘Surname’ then ‘First Name’ then ‘Tocal’

■ CHEQUE ■ MONEY ORDER

■ CREDIT CARD

Please deduct my credit card for $ ________________

■ Mastercard ■ Visa

Credit Card Number

___ ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___

Expiry ___ ___ / ___ ___

Name on card:

Signature:

Time: 9.30am (registration) 9.45 start

Venue: Tocal Agricultural Centre, PATERSON, NSW

Admission: $20. Includes lunch and morning tea

RSVP: 10th October 2014, to help ensure catering

Janelle Witschi, 0408 612 235
fax number 02 6362 1556
PO Box 471, Orange NSW 2800

Local contact

Neil Griffiths 49398948 neil.griffiths@dpi.nsw.gov.au

This Pasture update is delivered in conjunction with:

NSW Government

THE GRASSLAND SOCIETY OF NSW INC.

For further information contact NSW Grassland Society secretary Janelle Witschi 0408 612 235