

WHAT'S ON...APRIL 2010

The monthly bulletin of the Upper Barwon Landcare Network

Please note our new office phone number is 5236 2401

Woolworths Sustainable Farming— The first workshop funded through our Woolworths grant 'Understanding Your Soil Health' will be held in Birregurra on Friday 16th April, 10am—3pm in the hall supper room. Tim Johnson, Healthy Soils Officer from DPI will be leading the day. Topics covered will include; Soil structure: Soil physical & chemical properties; What constitutes a healthy soil. We will be digging a soil pit on a nearby property for inspection and hands on experience. There is no cost to attend and lunch will be provided. Please register with the UBLN office so we can organize catering.

The second workshop 'Integrated Pest Management' will be held at the Birregurra Community Health Centre on Thursday 22nd April at 8:30am. Dr Paul Horne and Jessica Page from IPM Technologies will be leading this intensive six hour workshop and farm visit for those farmers looking to be more strategic in the control of pests by using beneficial insects and other predators to reduce their pesticide use. Monitoring is the key to all IPM strategies and we are looking to develop an on-going program to support those involved. We are seeking farmers who are interested in helping develop demonstration sites and case studies. Further details about IPM can be found at www.ipmtechnologies.com.au Please register with the office for catering.

Dates for other workshops coming up over the next few months are:

'Understanding Soil Biology' - 3rd June

'Understanding Soil Organic Matter' - 13th July

'Interpreting Soil Test Results', 'Understanding Subsoil Constraints' and 'Water Use Efficiency' are being planned for later in the year.

East Otway Landcare Group — next meeting will be held at 7pm on Friday 16th April in the Deans Marsh Community Cottage. The meeting will include a presentation on the Otway LEAF project (Linking Environment And Farms)

Murroon Landcare Group— the Annual General Meet-

ing will be held at Lorraine Cosgriff's on Sunday 2nd of May. A BYO BBQ lunch will commence at 12:30pm and the meeting will be followed by a walk of Lorraine's farm to view the extensive re-vegetation work that has been carried out along steep gullies. Visitors are most welcome to join in.

Barwon Rivercare Group— the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Uniting Church hall on Thursday 15th April at 7:30pm. The meeting will include a presentation on the Otways LEAF project

Wurdale Landcare Group— next meeting will be an outing to Wurdiboluc Reservoir on Monday 26th April. Meet at the car park / picnic area at 1pm

Irrewarra Farmcare Group— next meeting will be held at 10:30am on Wednesday at the Irrewarra Football club rooms. Ian Henderson from the Colac Veterinary Clinic will be giving a presentation on Animal Health

Barwon Water information evening— 5th May, 7:30pm
In the Barwon Downs hall

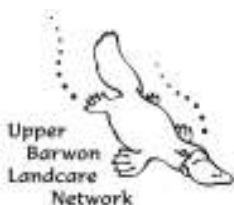
Pest Plant and Animal news

Rabbits— Due to the amount of early green feed around and the spread of Myxo we will not be organizing any baiting programs this season. A ripper and fumigator are available for loan to any Landcare members.

Foxes— The annual fox baiting program will be commencing in the first week of June which is a little later than previous years. We will be contacting people over the next few weeks to organize bait numbers.

Township Gorse Program— This program is well under way with areas mapped and some control work started. We have a small amount of funding available to assist with chemical costs (townships only).

Serrated Tussock— The UBLN is assisting Landcare groups and individual landholders with extension and advice on Serrated Tussock identification and control in the containment zone which takes on the northern section of our network area. DPI staff will be following up in the same area later in the year.



For more information please contact the Upper Barwon Landcare Network:

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