


AUGUST 2015

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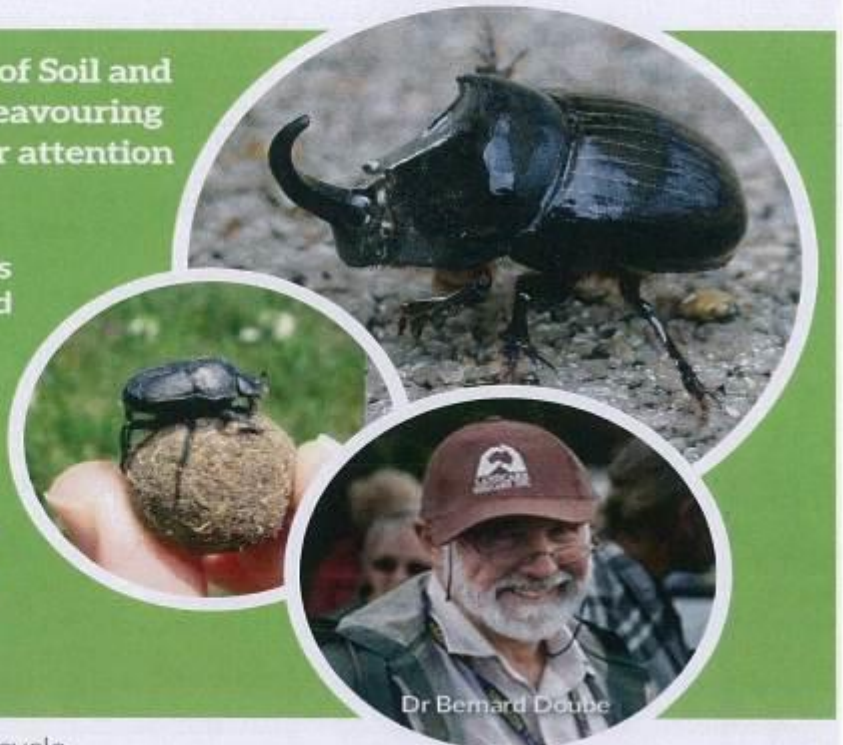
DUNG BEETLE & PASTURE PRODUCTION WORKSHOP



2015 is the International Year of Soil and Whian Whian Landcare is endeavouring to assist our soils by turning our attention to the Dung Beetle.

These little insects offer numerous benefits and have been recognised as a key player in improving soil health and increasing pasture production.

Whian Whian Landcare will be hosting Dr Bernard Doube, Director of Dung Beetle Solutions Australia and former CSIRO dung beetle specialist, for a field day to explore current knowledge and information on:



Dr Bernard Doube

- Dung beetle identification and life cycle
- Effect of dung beetles on soil health
- Impact of dung burial on improved pasture productions and environmental health
- The role of dung beetles in biocontrol of intestinal parasites
- Monitoring of existing dung beetle species and opportunities for new species introductions

When: Sunday the 23rd of August

9am - concluding at 12 noon with free lunch

Where: Whian Whian Hall

(will include a paddock walk on a local grazing property)

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO CATTLE GRAZIERS, HORSE OWNERS AND FELLOW DUNG BEETLE ENTHUSIASTS.

Registrations are required by **17th Aug**. For more information and registrations please contact Emma Stone (Whian Whian Landcare Secretary) on 0429693111 or Email: emstone74@yahoo.com.au

Agriculture White Paper

The Australian Government Agricultural White Paper released in early July sets out the Government's roadmap of practical actions to grow our agriculture sector. The White Paper responds to the ideas, feedback and comments from thousands of interested parties including farmers, industry, business and the community about how we can ensure the agriculture sector remains a significant contributor to the economy and local communities and takes advantage of available opportunities.

<http://agwhitepaper.agriculture.gov.au/white-paper/white-paper-at-a-glance>

For a more comprehensive look go to <http://agwhitepaper.agriculture.gov.au/>



Australian Government

TSR Grazing Permits

Grazing Permits for Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) Round 2

Round 2 for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Grazing Permits on local Travelling Stock Reserves is now open. TSR paddocks that are available in the second round are those that did not receive an EOI in the Round 1 or had no suitable tenders.

Expressions of Interest close on 21 August 2015.

The Grazing Permit Expression of Interest Information Pack is available on the website <http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/livestock/stock-routes/tsr-grazing-permits> or in hard copy from your nearest North Coast Local Land Services office.

EOI packs can be emailed on request, or landholders can pick up a paper version from their nearest North Coast Local Land Services office in Kempsey, Coffs Harbour, South Grafton, Lismore and Casino.



Graziers agree it's a priority, and they can contribute.

Beef producers all agreed at a recent meeting in Woodenbong that improved biodiversity and pest management was a priority on their property. Biodiversity and the interdependence between all life forms was seen as essential for stability in the environment, and productivity in their businesses.

All producers acknowledged that as they had matured, their appreciation of the values of biodiversity had grown. They encouraged all farmers as caretakers of the land, as well as town dwellers to embrace their responsibility and contribute, even in small ways.



The graziers shared their experiences and perspectives on the threats to biodiversity. Weeds, feral pests, and inappropriate fire regimes were all issues under active management. Bell Miner Associated Dieback was a common problem and all feared for the health of their forests. Opportunities were also actively being sought to re-establish vegetation connections across properties, with vegetated creeks and drainage lines a priority. All saw opportunities to increase the conservation values of farm dams, and one grazier shared their obvious delight at the recent hatching of Black Swans on their property.

Officers from North Coast Local Land Services provided an overview of landholder obligations regarding the management of declared pests, and spoke of the importance of establishing and maintaining connections between habitats across the cleared farming landscape.

Lack of time and money were seen by landholders as the greatest obstacles to achieving their biodiversity management objectives. Landcare, and Local Land Services were seen as organisations that could offer technical advice, and assist with obtaining other support. Tara Patel from Northern Landcare Support Services spoke on the achievements and benefits of the voluntary Land for Wildlife scheme.

The event, which was put on by Upper Clarence Combined Landcare as part of a biodiversity management project focussing on broad scale Lantana control was a great success. The Vietnamese lunch featuring goat hot pot, was a fitting conclusion.

Enquiries, please contact Upper Clarence Combined Landcare on 66653133, or Northern Landcare Support Services on 66323722.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event or Workshop	Location	For more information and to RSVP
Thursday 6 th August 9.30am	Soil profiles and soils of NSW Webinar	Online	To register go to https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6671554349335099905
Friday 7 th and Saturday 8 th August	Land for Wildlife Forum	North Sydney	See flyer below
Saturday 8 th August 9.30am-3.30pm	Native Bee Workshop with Dr Tim Heard	Mullumbimby	Please contact Justin to RSVP or for information j.ecologic@gmail.com.au
Various dates in August	Green Army information sessions	Various	http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/hunt/2015/pubs/mr20150724.pdf
Sunday 23 rd August 9 am-12 noon	Whian Whian Landcare Dung Beetle Field Day	Whian Whian Hall	Registrations are required by 17 th Aug. For more info contact Emma Stone on 0429693111 or email emstone74@yahoo.com.au
1 st – 3 rd September	NSW Landcare Conference	Orange	http://nswlandcareconference.com.au/

NSW Land for Wildlife Forum 7th & 8th August 2015, North Sydney



Come along and join us!



The Forum will showcase the benefits of LFW including:

- Role in the urban/rural interface, wildlife corridors, and integrating conservation into farming regimes.
- Opportunities to make new contacts, share ideas and experiences as forum attendees
- case studies from around the State

Who should attend:

- Natural resource management agencies,
- existing Land for Wildlife members, community groups including Bushcare, Landcare and Coastcare, private landholders, and organisations and individuals interested in sustainable agriculture.

When:

Forum - Fri 7 August, 2015, registrations from 8.30am

Field Trip - Sat 8 August, 2015, Field trip to Southern Highlands (Wingecarribee Council) bus leaves at 8.00 am

Where:

Friday - Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability, Waverton

Saturday - Meet at Central Station at 8:00am to board a bus to the Southern Highlands

Cost:

FREE to LFW members and Regional Providers. Otherwise \$20 for one day or \$35 for both days

Cost includes morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and bus trip

Supported by:



Office of Environment & Heritage



THE GREAT EASTERN RANGES
connecting people...connecting nature



Bioenergy heats up in Byron

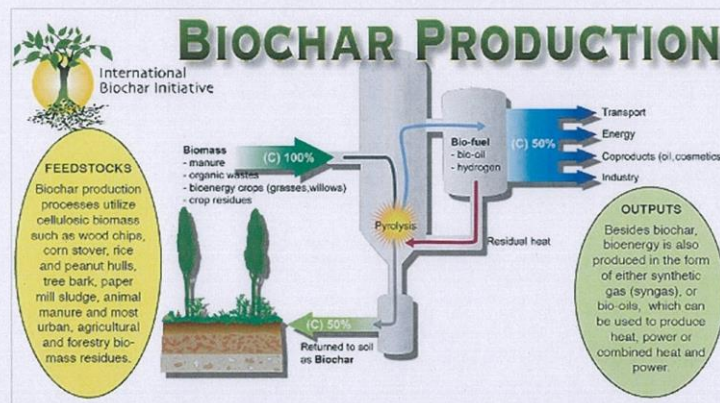
Biomass is everywhere and can be turned into Black Gold according to Don Coyne, Coordinator of this year's Byron Bioenergy Conference at Byron Eco Park, Tyagarah on September 12 & 13. As an example, Macadamia Farmers currently use their Husks in compost or as mulch. These are good practice however, one step better would be to turn some of that Biomass into black carbon which will last a lot longer, bringing with it triple bottom line benefits to farmers. This can be done by heating them in an oxygen deprived environment, as an example, the new deep cone Kontiki Kiln will create approximately 800-1000 Litres of enhanced Charcoal or Biochar over a 24 hour period. Biochar can be applied in many ways but one Cattle Farmer & Avocado Grower from W.A. Doug Pow of Powbrook Farm, starting Feeding Biochar to his Cows 4 years ago with remarkable results beyond his expectations both biologically and economically. The Biochar was made from the timber offcuts of Jarrah Wood. Doug found that not only did it improve his cattle's health but it reduced the Methane emissions whilst they activated the Charcoal in their dung. Then by introducing European Dung Beetles through the CSIRO programme they took the activated charcoal 40cm down into the soil profile where it is required the most. Doug has also applied Biochar to prepare soil and runs the Cattle in wide inter rows to establish a thriving Avocado Orchard. Soil Scientist Dr Stephen Joseph collaborating with Dr Lukas Van Zweiten of NSW DPI and others have now analysed the Soil and Biochar characteristics after 4 years and the Scientific Paper they produced indicates that it is an economically viable option for farmers to consider. Doug Pow, Dr Stephen Joseph (visiting Professor of 5 Universities) and Dr Lukas Van Zweiten will all present and demonstrate at this year's Conference. For the full speaker programme and to purchase tickets go to <http://www.byronbiochar.com.au/index.php/events/>

Byron Bioenergy

Conference

BIOMASS - BIOENERGY - BYPRODUCTS

Saturday September 12 & Sunday September 13



Key Note Speakers - Biochar Demonstrations - Trade Exhibits

2 Day Pass \$95 or \$55 Per Day

Inquiries & Ticketing

don@byronbioenergyconference.com.au: 0459175729

<http://www.byronbiochar.com.au/index.php/education/>

By Friday August 28



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FREE A TREE DAY and New Facebook page

Kyogle Landcare Group had a great day clearing vines of trees along Fawcett's Creek as part of National Tree Day activities. Hidden treasures like these hoop pine seedlings were uncovered as the vines were removed.

The Landcare Nursery group have been busy potting up and if anyone is interested in purchasing lomandras please contact Wendy on 6633 7027

To keep up to date with events  Like Kyogle Landcare Group Inc on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/kyoglelandcare>.



UPCOMING GRANTS AND FUNDING

Saving our Species Partnership Grants

Round 2 of the Saving our Species Partnership Grants program opens on Monday 10th August 2015. The closing date is the 28th September 2015.

Funded by the [NSW Environmental Trust](#), the SoS Partnership Grants program encourages partnerships between government, the community, non-government organisations and corporations to protect and conserve our most vulnerable plants and animals in NSW.



Round 2 focuses on projects targeting landscape-managed species, as identified under the SoS Program. The program is specifically designed to encourage stakeholder to join forces to help protect and conserve threatened species and applicants must form stakeholder partnerships operating as a coordinated consortium. A total of \$3.6 million is available for Round 2 with individual grants of between \$300,000 and \$1,000,000 over 6 years, including seed funding for successful EOI applicants to develop a detailed project Business Plan. More funding and application criteria are available on the OEH website at: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/sospartnerships.

To assist in the grant application process **OEH North East will run a webinar on the 4th of August**. There will be opportunity to join the webinar online or by phone. As the webinar will include a PowerPoint presentation a copy of the presentation will be made available to participants choosing to dial in. This email also includes a pdf attachment of "**Frequently Asked Questions**".

To join this webinar online or by phone you can register by emailing katrina.mckay@environment.nsw.gov.au

20 Million Trees Programme Round 2

Round Two of the 20 Million Trees Programme invites applications from individuals, organisations and community groups such as schools, landholders and conservation groups to apply for funding of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 to plant trees in a range of urban, peri-urban and regional environments across Australia.



To assist applicants to plan their projects, the Guidelines and other key information is available online <http://www.nrm.gov.au/national/20-million-trees/competitive-grants-round-two>. Applications for Round 2 can be submitted from early August using the online form. Applications must be submitted by the closing time of 2.00pm 16 September 2015.

The Programme will support projects that involve the community in re-establishing native vegetation, provide habitat to support our threatened species, sequester carbon from the atmosphere and help to create greener spaces to improve the liveability of Australia's cities and towns. Priority for Round Two will be given to projects with positive outcomes for threatened species and threatened ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act. For Round Two, applicants have the option to apply in the same application for up to three Green Army Teams to assist with their 20 Million Trees Project. Information on the application process is available in the Guidelines.

Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants

The next round of Restoration and Rehabilitation grants program is expected to open in August 2015. <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/restoration.htm>

Habitat Action Grants 2015-2016

The 2015-2016 DPI Habitat Action Grants will be open in mid August. Angling clubs, individuals, community groups, local councils and organisations interested in rehabilitating fish habitats in freshwater and saltwater areas throughout NSW can apply for grants. <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/habitat/rehabilitating/ahr-grants-program>

Resources

Introduced Dung Beetles in Australia: A Pocket Field Guide 3rd Edition - \$22

Penny Edwards, Pam Wilson, Jane Wright

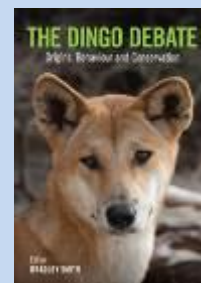
This field guide to introduced dung beetles covers all species found in Australia, including two newly introduced species. It will enable farmers, Landcare workers and the interested public to identify and learn about the basic biology of these beetles found in cattle dung. <http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/18/pid/7207.htm>



The Dingo Debate: Origins, Behaviour and Conservation - \$39.95

Bradley Smith

The Dingo Debate reveals the real dingo beneath the popular stereotypes, providing an account of the dingo's behaviour, ecology, impacts and management according to scientific and scholarly evidence rather than hearsay. This book will appeal to anyone with an interest in Australian natural history, wild canids, and the relationship between humans and carnivores. <http://www.publish.csiro.au/pid/7138.htm>

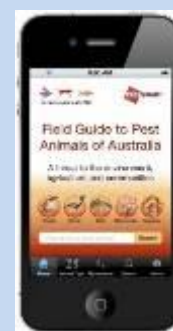


Field Guide to Pest Animals of Australia - free

Mobile phone and iPad users can now access the latest information about Australia's pest animals via the new *Field Guide to Pest Animals* App.

Developed by the Invasive Animals CRC, this App contains species profiles for 53 of Australia's worst pest animals, including: species descriptions, photo galleries, footprints, audio calls, maps, control techniques, quick links to plenty of pest control resources.

The App is currently available for iPhone, iPad and iPod touch devices. It is hoped we will be able to extend to Android devices in the near future. Download the App from the Apple Store (<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/field-guide-to-pest-animals/id634197149?mt=8>).



Environmental Weeds Australia \$9.99

Environmental Weeds of Australia has been developed to assist with the identification of weed species that invade natural habitats. It is a valuable resource for all those concerned about environmental weeds: weed and biodiversity researchers, trainers, advisors, weed control officers, environmental community groups, weed management practitioners, and anyone with an interest in environmental weeds.

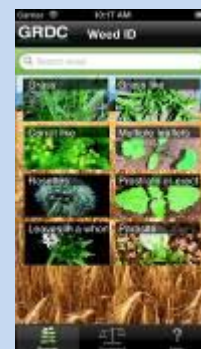


Weed ID: The Ute Guide - free

By Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC)

The Ute Guide application is designed to assist growers in the identification of the most common weeds found in paddocks throughout Australia. Where possible, photos have been provided for each stage of the weed's lifecycle, from seed and seedling through to mature and flowering plants.

These are categorised by plant type, and results for each can be refined by state and lifecycle, and whether they are native, currently flowering or have a distinctive smell.



Prepared by Northern Landcare Support Services for Landcare Groups & landholders **All contributions to the newsletter are welcome.**

The articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Northern Landcare Support Services or North Coast Local Land Services. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please contact us on **Northern Landcare Support Services** (02) 6632 3722 info@nlss.com.au