

The latest news from the Barossa Improved Grazing Group

[View this email in your browser](#)



Natural Resources
Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges



Natural Resources
SA Murray-Darling Basin



The BIGG Bulletin

August 2015

Register now for the BIGG Pasture Update

The Barossa Improved Grazing Group (BIGG) and Grasslands Society of Southern Australia (GSSA) have teamed up to bring together a pasture update for graziers in the Barossa region, to be held at the Nuriootpa Sports and Function Centre on August 25.

The MLA sponsored event has an all-star line-up of speakers covering a diverse range of topics from pasture improvement to business management.

Speakers include West Australian farmers Marcus and Shannon Sounness (pictured), who will discuss their experiences in the MLA Challenge.



Other speakers include:

- Macquarie Franklin principal consultant Basil Doonan speaking on logical business decision-making, focusing on profit drivers in a pasture-based grazing system.
- National lucerne breeding program leader Alan Humphries on new lucerne varieties and their place in pastures
- Agrilink consultant Jeff Braun speaking on productivity of cereals and canola for grazing and grain.

- CSIRO researcher Therese McBeath speaking on phosphorus efficiency in pastures and addressing the question 'where does all the P go?'
- Growing Solutions' Leighton Pearce speaking on using drones to assess and manage pastures, livestock and water supplies.

Date: Tuesday 25 August, 2015

Time: 8.30am for 8.55 am start. Finish 3.30pm

Venue: Nuriootpa Football Club, Nuriootpa Centennial Park, Penrice Road, Nuriootpa

Admission: \$25 includes lunch and morning tea

RSVP: By Friday 21 August to Rebecca Barr ph 0402 788 526, click 'Register Now' or complete the [registration form](#)

Further details: Brett Nietschke 0432 804 389 or Tim Prance 0427 812 655

[View the event flyer](#)

Register Now

Young Producer Survey



We're looking for input from our younger producers to make sure our projects are working in the right direction to benefit all of our members.

Complete the survey now at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BIGG>

If you're not so much young as young-at-heart, please share our survey with family and friends involved in grazing.

We will use the results of this survey in organising two upcoming field days as well as an NRM themed conference planned for 2016, so it's critical that we get feedback to ensure we're focusing on the best topics!

This survey is the first component of BIGG's new project, funded by Natural Resources SA Murray Darling Basin, "Engaging the community and young people in NRM throughout the Barossa region".



[Complete our survey now](#)



[Share on Facebook](#)



[Share on Twitter](#)

AgTastic 2015

YiAg is hosting another state-wide, Barossa based conference Agtastic on Friday 18 September 2015 which will consist of:

- a field trip visiting innovative agricultural demonstration sites with various speakers at each site; and
- a dinner with a guest speaker

The event will be held at local winery Murray Street Vineyards, which offers a great opportunity to mingle while sampling amazing local produce.

This Conference is a similar structure to Agtastic 2014 but will have less time in a theatre style presentations and more time on innovative farms in the region. And of course, it will finish with a Key Note speaker over a delicious dinner at Murray Street Vineyards.

The conference is supported by the State NRM Agriculture and Fishing Innovation Grant Program and Regional Development Australia Barossa.

The details:

- Date: Friday 18 September, 2:00pm onwards.
- Venue: Murray Street Vineyards, Murray Steet Greenock.
- Cost: \$30
- Registrations are now open [online](#).

Keyneton Ram Select Workshop

Rams are purchased on one day of the year but their effect on your flock lasts for many years. Make sure you buy the right genes for production, quality and disease resistance.


MERINOSELECT and LAMBPLAN breeding values help to select rams that will breed the best progeny for you

RamSelect is a one day practical workshop building confidence to select rams for all breeds, define your breeding objective, assess rams using figures and visual assessment, prepare for the auction or selection day and invest in rams for production and profit.

Details:

- Host: Hans Graetz, Pepper Well Poll Merinos
- Presenters: Michelle Cousins, Cousins Merino Services, and Anne Collins, Rural Solutions SA
- Where: Pepper Well Woolshed, 84 North Rhine Road, Keyneton
- When: Friday 21 August 2015
- Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm
- Cost: \$50 per business (Morning Tea/Lunch will be provided)
- RSVP: Hans Graetz - Phone: 0427790676 or 85648337, pepperwell1@gmail.com

Supported by the Augstralian Governemnt Business Cooperative Research Centres Programme.



From the Inbox...

- Seed to Store: Win \$1000 by developing a one minute YouTube clip promoting the arains industry. Entries close 21 August. [Read more](#).
- There's still time to register for the [State Community Landcare Conference](#), September 14-16, Waikierie. BIGG's Georgie Keynes will be presenting, so come along and show your support!
- The Livestock SA AGM is next Friday August 28 at Roseworthy. BIGG members are encouraged to attend, and don't forget to vote for candidates! [Find out more](#).
- Applications for the PIRSA Stepping into Leadership program for women in agriculture and agribusiness (close August 28). [Read more](#).
- The South Australian Sheep Industry Blueprint: Livestock SA and the SA Sheep Advisory Group are collaborating to develop a plan for the sustainable growth of the sheep, wool and lamb industry, called The SA Sheep Industry Blueprint 2015-2020, with BIGG member Joe Keynes in the working group. Visit [the website](#) to learn more.

Your BIGG Contacts

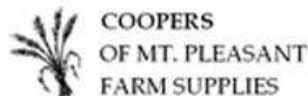
Technical Facilitator / Coordinators:

[Brett Nietschke](#): 0432 804 389

[Georgie Keynes](#): 0409 287 261

Communication Officer:


[Rebecca Barr](#): 0402 788 526



Government of South Australia
Department of Environment,
Water and Natural Resources

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

 Follow BIGG on Facebook

 Check our our Website

MailChimp