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# **December 2021 Newsletter**

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## Kempsey Shire Council Agribusiness Industry Plan

Kempsey Shire Council is developing an Agribusiness Industry Plan (AIP) for 2021 to 2026 and is seeking feedback on the Strategic Priorities.

Read the plan and provide feedback via Your Say Macleay



## **ChemClear Collection Registrations Now Open**

Registration for NSW farmers and agvet users is now open for the ChemClear Collection scheduled for March 2022.

The collection offers a safe solution to dispose of unwanted and obsolete chemicals.

To be part of the program you must register before January 28, 2022.

Download the ChemClear Inventory Form and complete the easy to follow step by step guide to register your chemicals for the Chemclear collection

#### **Autumn Produce Check**

Do you have a product that you can supply from your farm gate to local restaurants and cafes in Autumn 2022?

Kempsey Shire Council is launching an amazing new project that links seasonal produce to local restaurants and cafes menu's and celebrates the quality local seasonal produce the region has to offer.

Restaurants and cafes are not chasing large quantities, just reliable and consistent produce!

Please email: <a href="mailto:agriculture@kempsey.nsw.gov.au">agriculture@kempsey.nsw.gov.au</a> with your details and the produce you would like to supply.



#### Retail Opportunity at the Slim Dusty Centre - Expressions of Interest

Council is looking for preserved or bottled food products as well as handmade goods, to be sold at the Slim Dusty Centre.

Council will be looking to purchase these products at wholesale rates and in small quantities in the first instance.

Criteria for inclusion include:

- 1) Represent a diverse cross section of locally produced product
- 2) Represent a range of geographical locations within the Macleay Valley
- 3) Businesses to comply with food authority regulations

More details can be found here

Pasture Die Back - Keep an eye out!

Pasture dieback is a condition that kills sown and native summer growing pastures. It starts as small patches and can spread to affect large areas. The grasses die allowing broadleaf weeds to colonise. Often, groundcover in these areas is low. Pasture dieback is not limited by landscape or soil type. Livestock avoid grazing affected areas making them unproductive.

Pasture dieback was first identified in Central Queensland. It has now spread across Queensland in coastal and inland regions from the Atherton Tablelands to New South Wales. Pasture dieback was confirmed on the North Coast of NSW in autumn 2020.

For more details from DPI

## **Strengthening Business Service**

Strengthening Business Service is a free service that assists bushfire affected businesses to recover, grow and become more resilient, recognising that many businesses have also been devastated by COVID-19 and the 2021 flood event. Businesses should be eligible for this service if they were engaged in business with an ABN during the bushfires (1 Aug 19 - 29 Feb 20) and were impacted either directly or indirectly by the fires.

If eligible, a Strengthening Business facilitator will work with you to create and help implement a roadmap for your business going forward.

The application is available online

## Technology in Ag - eSpade

eSPADE is a Google Maps-based information system that allows users easy, no-cost, map-based access to a wealth of soil and land information from across NSW. eSPADE provides access to information published by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, including soil profile and map information and data, reports and images, with the information primarily sourced from the NSW Soil and Land Information System (SALIS). This software offers users maps of all major soil features across NSW, over 73,000 observations of landscape and soil features, reports on landforms, soils, erosion and vegetation and much more.

eSPADE can help producers maximise grazing efficiency and determine what crops to plant and where, leading to a competitive advantage in agricultural land use. As the world's population increases, it is important to know what areas must be protected and managed sustainably. Whether using a mobile phone, computer or iPad, users can use eSPADE to access information across the state on NSW soils and land from wherever they are.

For more information, click here to visit the eSpade site



## Public Consultation on use of word 'organic'

Australia's \$2.6 billion organic industry is celebrating a milestone in establishing a mandatory standard for use of the word 'organic' following an Australian Government announcement today calling for public consultation on the matter.

Industry Group, Australian Organic has more details on their website

## **Drought Leaders Resilience Program**

Drive positive change in your community. Join a network of forward-thinkers and work with others to shape a resilient rural community.

The Drought Resilience Leaders Development Program will challenge you to develop the skills, networks, knowledge and mindset you need to lead your community into a resilient future.

For more information

## Sign up to receive these emails directly

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