

Qld co-ordinator plans dog fight

A NEW weapon in the fight against wild dog attacks in the livestock industry will soon be available, with the appointment of a Queensland wild dog co-ordinator.

Funded by Australian Wool Innovation (AWI), the co-ordinator will work within AgForce Projects and with local dog committees.

AgForce Projects manager Sue Dillon said the funding was recognition of the threat wild dog predation posed to livestock welfare and rural communities.

"We know the key to successful dog control is to co-ordinate activities across the region," she said.

"Individual landholders acting in isolation have little impact on wild dog numbers and, if a small pocket of dogs is allowed to flourish, an entire control program can be undone," she said.

"The Paroo shire, in south-west Queensland, is well known Australia-wide for the success of its wild dog program and the information we've gathered there can be very useful in other parts of the state."

The position is funded until 2014 and will involve extensive travel throughout regional Queensland.

Key duties of the co-ordinator will be to develop and implement project plans; ensure accountability to the wool industry and Commonwealth Government funders and to communicate with producers and other land managers.

■ For information or to apply, go to www.agforceqld.org.au >Contactus>Employment. Applications due by February 14.

CQ comes a Kropper!



SEEDING SYSTEM: GBP's Mick Alexander, Trevor Jones, Bindaree, Garant, and David Trevillian, Multi-Farming Systems, with the unit at Banana.

Pasture planter set to regenerate degraded areas

By DANIEL BURDON

SEEDING new pastures is not often done by the same method a broadacre cropper would use – but a Central Queensland innovation is making it happen.

A team from Multi-Farming Systems, Simplicity and Grazing BestPrac (GBP) have created a new "Pasture Kropper", a five-metre seeding system for planting direct into existing pastures.

GBP's grazing consultant Mick Alexander said the unit had already been trialled on properties all over Central Queensland and further south. The "Pasture Kropper" could apply pasture seeds from 1kg/ha to 2kg/ha, oats or wheat seed from 40kg/ha to 50kg/ha, granular fertilisers and liquid injection of nutrients.



The Pasture Kropper plants direct into existing pastures. CONTRIBUTED

Mr Alexander said the planting unit could help boost productivity by battling pasture run-down, regenerating degraded pastures, sowing oats in pastures for winter production boosts and more.

He said with the increase in interest from landholders around CQ in pasture run-down and how to prevent it, the machine could be a new way to tackle such problems.

■ For more information, call GBP on 4938 3919.

Flood Forums

Remaining forums are:

■ **Alton Downs, Monday February 13.** Alton Downs Hall, cnr Ridgeland & Nicholson roads, 6pm–7.30pm

■ **Mount Morgan, Friday, February 17.** Mount Morgan School of Arts, Morgan St, 2pm–3.30pm

Forums enable residents to tell flood stories

RESIDENTS in rural districts around Rockhampton have been asked to tell the local council about how they are recovering from the 2010–11 floods.

Mayor Brad Carter is urging residents to attend the forums.

"There are a number of community forums being held around

the region to involve residents in helping us formulate ideas and projects that will allow our community to build resilience and be prepared when natural disasters hit," Cr Carter said. "This is a great opportunity for residents to be involved in the process of building our community's capacity to

deal with these disasters and, in turn, bring us closer together as a tight-knit community."

Two "Flood Recovery and Resilience" forums were held at Rockhampton and Gracemere this week, with the remaining two – at Alton Downs and Mount Morgan – next week.

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