Welcome to the second edition of LFGN Newswire, providing information about a range of local group activities, news, training opportunities, newsletters, field days and funding opportunities. This edition focuses on some longer term planning for group activities and Summer Workshops.

You are welcome to forward this Newswire to others who may be interested and encourage them to join the email list.

LOCAL GROUP EVENTS

NAG GET THEIR ACT TOGETHER
The Northern Agri Group are beginning to gain momentum with the work they are now doing. The group was incorporated only last year. They have since held 4 major field days and have just appointed a part time Support Officer. The group is also looking at investing into a biodiesel initiative. The Northern Agri Group’s AGM was held on 5th October. The group also produce a newsletter regularly. For more information visit their [link](http://www.lfgn.org.au/groups/northern/northernagri).

KELLERBERRIN LOOK AT PLANT AVAILABLE WATER
Next week the Kellerberrin Demonstration Group are holding a workshop in conjunction with CSIRO, to gain a greater understanding of the Plant Available Water. Kellerberrin Demonstration Group are one of the local groups who successfully obtained GRDC support for trial work in conjunction with Farm Focus Consultants. To view trials the group is doing this year visit their [link](http://www.lfgn.org.au/groups/central/kellerberrin).

RAIN GAUGE FOR SOIL HEALTH
RAIN stands for much more than the difference between a good or bad season. Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network links many of the groups in the Ravensthorpe district under the one umbrella. The group held its second major spring field day at Owen Brownley’s property in September where seed system trials are in progress investigate the impact on soil health. For more information see the link on the LFGN website [link](http://lfgn.org.au/groups/south_east/RAIN_Group).

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY KILOMETRE FIELD DAY
The Yuna Farm Improvement Group recently held a Spring Field Day covering a distance of 250km to the northern tip of the Western Australian wheat belt. The group’s objective was to view “close to harvest” wheat in different regions as well as the National Variety Testing trials in the low rainfall area. More details, see the link on the LFGN website [link](http://www.lfgn.org.au/groups/northern/yuna).

NINGHAN GROUP FOCUSES ON SEEDING SYSTEM TRIALS
Seeding system trials were the main attraction of the Ninghan Farm Focus Group’s annual Spring Field day in Mukinbudin. The trial is a part of the Agribusiness Trial Network project, of which there are five across Western Australia. Topics addressed on the day included: “zero-till”; precision agriculture; and green manuring crops or pastures. More details, see the LFGN website [link](http://www.lfgn.org.au/groups/central/ninghan).

WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES

MANAGING SUB PADDOCK SPATIAL VARIABILITY USING PRECISION AGRICULTURE
Have lots of yield map data and not sure what to do with it? This is an opportunity for your local group to investigate how to use yield maps more effectively. CSIRO are offering a limited number of workshops from Feb-March next year for groups to make sense of their spatial data. More details visit [link](http://www.lfgn.org.au/group_opportunities).
Workshops which were promoted in the September edition of Newswire:

GRAIN QUALITY STORAGE WORKSHOP
Do you need to know more about managing grain insects and fumigation procedures in on-farm storage? This ½ day workshop is conducted with sealed silos by the Department of Agriculture and CBH grain storage specialists. More details visit our [http://www.lfgn.org.au/group_opportunities](http://www.lfgn.org.au/group_opportunities)

SOIL NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
A two day course is available for grain growers to assist them in planning fertiliser strategies for the coming season. The course is run by independent specialist Wayne Pluske. This workshop can be split over two separate 1/2 days and is eligible for FarmBiz support. More details visit our [http://www.lfgn.org.au/group_opportunities](http://www.lfgn.org.au/group_opportunities)

MANAGING HERBICIDE RESISTANCE
The Western Australian Herbicide Resistance Initiative has released a new round of workshops based on the Resistance Integrated Management program. This workshop allows growers to test different strategies for profitable herbicide resistance management. More details visit our website [http://www.lfgn.org.au/group_opportunities](http://www.lfgn.org.au/group_opportunities)

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF RADISH – WORKSHOP PROCESSINGS
Please find attached a link to the proceedings of the workshop that was held March 2005 at CSIRO Floreat on pathogen based biological control options for wild radish. This has now been published by the Weeds CRC and is available at the following link on the CRC website. Sally Vidler and her team from the weeds CRC have put together this publication so beautifully. [http://www.weeds.crc.org.au/documents/wshop_biocontrol_wild_radish.pdf](http://www.weeds.crc.org.au/documents/wshop_biocontrol_wild_radish.pdf)

**LFGN EVENTS FOR OCTOBER:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 10</td>
<td>Aluminium Toxicity in Subsoils field day</td>
<td>Brookton</td>
<td>Yash Pal, 9360 2891 <a href="mailto:ypsrode@yahoo.com.au">ypsrode@yahoo.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 11</td>
<td>Know your soils / Plant Available Water Workshop</td>
<td>Kellerberrin</td>
<td>Angie Roe, 9622 5095 <a href="mailto:angie@farmfocus.com.au">angie@farmfocus.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 11 1pm</td>
<td>On Farm Quality Grain Storage workshops</td>
<td>Katanning</td>
<td>Malcolm Gooding, 98641041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 11</td>
<td>Duli Group - Alternative Farming Practices Field Day</td>
<td>Cadoux</td>
<td>Mike Kalajzic, 9673 1065 <a href="mailto:kalfarm@agn.net.au">kalfarm@agn.net.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 12 1pm</td>
<td>On Farm Quality Grain Storage workshops</td>
<td>Katanning</td>
<td>Murray and Hillary Harris, 98221501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 13</td>
<td>GSARI Field Day</td>
<td>Katanning</td>
<td>Steve Bell, 9821 3333 <a href="mailto:sbell@agric.wa.gov.au">sbell@agric.wa.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 13</td>
<td>Wongan Hills Research Station Field Day</td>
<td>Wongan Hills</td>
<td>Amelia McLarty, 9671 1322 <a href="mailto:AMcLarty@agric.wa.gov.au">AMcLarty@agric.wa.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 13</td>
<td>Soil Biology Workshop</td>
<td>Ravensthorpe</td>
<td>Jenny Chambers, 9838 1018 <a href="mailto:rlcdo@wn.com.au">rlcdo@wn.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 13</td>
<td>Medina Research Station Pasture Field Day</td>
<td>Medina</td>
<td>Peter Skinner, 0428 938 674 <a href="mailto:pskinner@agric.wa.gov.au">pskinner@agric.wa.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 13</td>
<td>CSIRO Plant Available Water Training Course</td>
<td>Muresk Institute</td>
<td>Tom Sweeney, 9690 1550 <a href="mailto:tsweeney@curtin.edu.au">tsweeney@curtin.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tues 18 - Wed 19  Succession Planning Workshop  Freebairn Progress Group  Brendon Savage 08 9889 8022

Wed 19  High Rainfall Cropping Field Day  Kojonup  Narelle Hill 9821 3245 or 9831 1999 nhill@agric.wa.gov.au

Tue 25  Mt Barker Research Station Field Day  Mt Barker  Kelly Hill, 9826 1306 khill@agric.wa.gov.au

FOR THE COMPLETE CALENDAR

IMPORTANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES CLOSING SOON

GRDC INVESTMENT PLAN 2006 close on 25 Nov 2005
Great opportunity for groups to apply for funds in the GRDC Agribusiness Trial Network proposals. Six lots of $25,000 for trials by small grower groups and agribusiness partners. Contact our office if you are interested in getting involved with this or for more information on the Agribusiness Trial Network visit our website.

GRDC AGRICULTURAL TRAINING AWARDS close on the 28 October 2005
These awards are open to anyone in the industry for travel to conferences or field days etc. The application form can be found at  http://www.grdc.com.au/

RURAL WOMEN’S AWARD, RIRDC, Applications close 15 October 2005
The 2006 Award will provide a Bursary of $10,000 for the WA winner and the opportunity for the winner and runner up to attend the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course. More information  http://www.ruralwomensaward.gov.au/

Email any of your ideas or events to LFGN Newswire  admin@lfgn.org.au

LFGN’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE – WHO ARE THEY?
The Local Farmer Group Network has an advisory committee made up of farmers, researchers agribusiness, Department of Agriculture and University representatives:

Mr Keith Wilson,  Freebairn Farm Progress Group, KULIN, 08 9880 4043,
Mr Kim Maddock,  Ninghan Farm Focus Group, MUCKINBUDIN, 08 90471056,
Mr Andrew Longmire,  North Mallee Farm Improvement Group, SALMON GUMS, 08 9075 8024,
Mr Kit Leake,  Kellerberrin Demonstration Group, KELLERBERRIN, 08 9045 9031,
Mrs Christine Richardson,  FNAS Faculty Manager, UWA, CRAWLEY, 08 6488 2480, Christine.Richardson@uwa.edu.au
Mr Rick Llewellyn,  Lecturer Agricultural Extension, CRAWLEY, 08 6488-3419, rllewell@agric.uwa.edu.au
Mr David Bowran  Grain Programs Manager, NORTHAM, 08 9690 2000, dbowran@agric.wa.gov.au,
LOCAL FARMER GROUP NETWORK

Mr Tony Rosser,  
Great Northern Rural CRT,  
GERALDTON, 08 9964 1274

Mr Paul Carmody,  
Network Coordinator, LFGN,  
CRAWLEY, 08 6488 1987,  
lfgn@cyllene.uwa.edu.au,

Mrs Lisa Mayer,  
Administrative Support, LFGN,  
CRAWLEY, 08 6488 7937  
admin@lfgn.org.au