



Media Release

Monday, 3rd August, 2009

WORKSHOPS TO HELP FARMERS COPE WITH THE DROUGHT

Workshops are being held in northern Tasmania on the 6th and 20th of August to help farmers cope with drought.

The workshops are part of a project called Building Drought Resilience in the Tasmanian Midlands supported by NRM North, Woolworths Ltd and Landcare Australia.

The project aims to give farmers a broad understanding of drought management so they can better prepare for and cope with the drought and minimise the impact on farm production and viability.

The project focuses on Tasmania's northern midlands which has some of the most significant grazing and broad acre production areas in the state.

NRM North's Chief Executive Officer, James McKee, said the drought had severely affected production and degraded natural resources in these areas.

"The drought has highlighted the need for robust planning and implementation of mechanisms and practices with a focus on reducing the impact of drought on both productivity and natural resources.

"If the issue of climate variability and in particular drought isn't dealt with in a timely manner, land managers will increasingly become unviable and the area's natural resources and future productivity will be severely degraded.

"Action now will provide future resilience and also assist reducing the impact of the current drought." Mr McKee said.

NRM North's Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator, Adrian James, encouraged land managers to attend the workshops.

"The workshops give farmers information about how they can manage soil and pasture condition during drought times and better plan for stock, financial and water resource needs.

"All these things are critical for future productivity for both the farms involved and the dryland agriculture industry as a whole." Mr James said.

The project also has an on-ground element which will help individual farmers implement works to provide immediate benefits and long term sustainability.

A drought preparation and mitigation brochure will also be developed and distributed widely throughout northern Tasmania.

A similar project is being run in the south of Tasmania by NRM South.



Workshop Dates and Locations

6 August: Longford (evening)

20 August: Campbell Town (evening)

Ends

For more information contact:

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