

essential
energy

SMALL FARM

MUDGEE FIELD DAYS

July 15 and 16, 2011

WIN
\$500 field days
spending money,
thanks to
Essential
Energy



THE LAND

AREC
Australian Rural Education Centre

essential
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 **Primary Industries**



Fashion parades daily at 12 noon and 2.00pm daily

The parades feature clothing and accessories from exhibitors and all items are available for purchase at the event.

Makeup and tans by Bella Medi Spa

Hair by Instyle Hair and Spa Massage

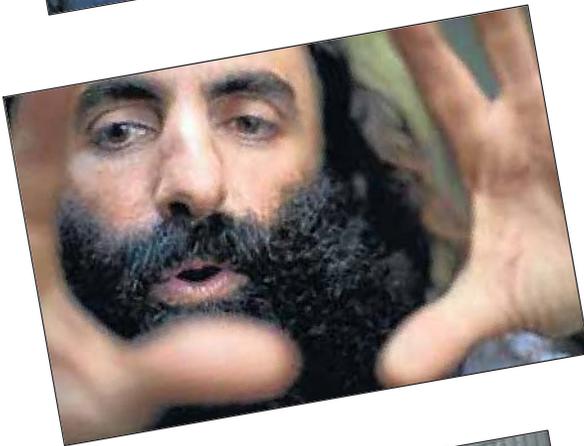
Co-ordinated by Alyce Perring

Congratulations to all our volunteers and models.



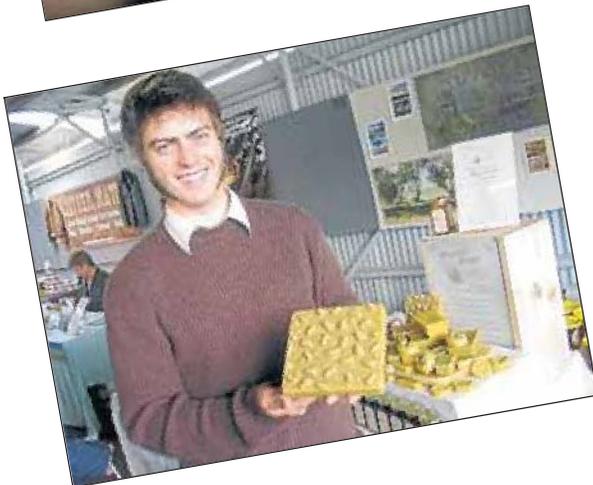
FRIDAY

Time	Topic	Speaker
9.30am	Regenerative agriculture	Nick Ritar
10.00am	Aquaponics – Making the most of water resources in food production	Matt Herbert
10.30am	Why pasture cropping is such a big deal. This will be followed by an inspection of the pasture cropping site L47	Bruce Maynard
11.00am	How natural beekeeping creates resilient bees	Tim Malfroy
1.00pm	Dung beetles: natural alternative to fertiliser	John Feehan
3.00pm	Future farmers: the power of school gardens	Costa Georgiadis
3.30pm	Biofertilizer DIY: go to the shed, not the shop	Nick Ritar + Costa Georgiadis



SATURDAY

9.30am	How to use grazing to regenerate soil, pastures and profits	Bruce Ward
10.00am	Talking crap: how humanure can build fertility	Nick Ritar
10.30am	How natural beekeeping creates resilient bees	Tim Malfroy
11.00am	How soil health determines the health of the whole community	Dr Carole Hungerford
1.00pm	Regenerative agriculture	Nick Ritar
1.30pm	Future farmers: the power of school gardens	Costa Georgiadis
3.00pm	Aquaponics – Making the most of water resources in food production	Matt Herbert
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4.00pm	Biofertilizer DIY: go to the shed, not the shop	Nick Ritar + Costa Georgiadis



Thank you to Milkwood Permaculture for their assistance in organising the speakers for this year's event



FRIDAY

Time	Topic	Speaker
9.30am	Short movie – The Loess Plateau in China has been dubbed the most eroded place on earth. Come and see a short DVD on the amazing rehabilitation project that transformed a destroyed ecosystem nearly twice the size of Mid-Western Regional Council.	Loess Plateau restoration project – short movie
10.00am	Carbon farming and trading – get an update from the pioneers of this emerging industry – understand some of the lingo, what is a carbon farm plan? How do you grow, hold and sell soil carbon? Early adopters catch the opportunities!	Louisa Kiely Carbon Farmers of Australia
11.00am	Healthy homes. How do electromagnetic fields, radiation, paints, building materials and all the things in our homes and workspaces affect our health? The World Health Organisation states that about 75pc of all diseases are caused by environmental factors... And most of us spend 90pc of our time indoors. Come and hear how to make a home or workspace healthy for us to work, create, rest and recover.	Joachim Herrmann Building Biology
12 noon	A fruit salad tree, developed by the West Family in New England, NSW, bears up to eight different fruits of the same family on the one plant. All fruits retain their own individuality, with staggered ripening times.	Kerry West – The Fruit Salad Tree Company
12.30pm	Straw bale home? Come and hear why straw bale construction is better to for your health, your pocket and the environment. Frank Thomas will take you through a slide show of beautiful homes made from straw bales.	Frank Thomas – Yesterday Today Tomorrow Straw Bale Construction
1.30pm	Simple, sustainable straw bale: one owner-builder's experience. Topics covered include: simple passive-solar design techniques for an inexpensive, comfortable, and energy-efficient home; the pros and cons of load-bearing straw bale walls; the earthy beauty of straw bale buildings; natural renders and paints; composting toilets and on-site grey-water treatment with reed beds. Questions encouraged!	Samantha Madell
2.30pm	Teach your animals to eat weeds and be more productive. Find out how short and long term health and productivity of livestock can change with different handling techniques.	Bruce Maynard Stress Free Stockmanship
3.30pm	Short movie – Pasture and no kill cropping, solar powered farm ute, sowing crops with solar energy. Come and see one of the short movie clips on inspiring local farms in the district.	Short movies Regenerative Agriculture Practices
Continuous	Join Ausbale. Ausbale is the industry association promoting the Art and Science of Straw Bale Building. Ausbale is for building industry professionals, researchers, owner builders, and interested people who are keen to be part of the growing movement towards better, smarter, ecologically sustainable, non-toxic and beautiful buildings.	Ausbale

Watershed Landcare Straw Bale office. Come and take a look.

SATURDAY

9.00am	Short movie – The Loess Plateau in China has been dubbed the most eroded place on earth. Come and see a short DVD on the amazing rehabilitation project that transformed a destroyed ecosystem nearly twice the size of Mid-Western Regional Council.	Loess Plateau restoration project - short movie
9.30am	Backyard chooks, and your own eggs. Mike Byron, moderator and medical advisor for online, Backyard Poultry, will explain what you need to get started, what breed to buy and how to house, feed and care for your chooks to eep them happy, healthy and producing eggs.	Mike Byron
10.30am	Teach your animals to eat weeds and be more productive. Find out how short and long term health and productivity of livestock can change with different handling techniques.	Bruce Maynard Stress Free Stockmanship
11.30am	Livestock prices too high? Don't worry about it. Come and hear why balancing your grass, money and livestock inventories is the secret to successful livestock marketing. There are three areas of marketing each with their own "rules". Grahame from KLR Marketing can teach you about each of them so you can maximise the return for your product in your area.	Grahame Rees KLR Marketing
12.30pm	Dung beetles. 28 million cattle in Australia drop 1/2 million tonnes of dung every day. Dung can sit in the paddock for many years, but with the help of these little creatures, can be buried in less than 48 hours. Reduce flies and parasites, build soil fertility and grow carbon. Come and learn all about dung beetles from a recognised authority on dung beetles in Australia and the world – John Feehan.	John Feehan SOILCAM
1.30pm	A fruit salad tree, developed by the West Family in New England, NSW bears up to eight different fruits of the same family on the one plant. All fruits retain their own individuality, with staggered ripening times.	Kerry West - The Fruit Salad Tree Company
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4.00pm	Short movie – Pasture and no kill cropping, solar powered farm ute, sowing crops with solar energy. Come and see one of the short movie clips on inspiring local farms in the district.	Short movies Regenerative Agriculture Practices
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Talks of the town

By KIM CHAPPELL

HERE will be a strong focus on education at the Mudgee Small Farm Field Days with a range of talks all coming together under the one roof at the annual event.

The fashion pavilion will change focus, with clothing exhibitors moving into the Founders Pavilion and a series of talks taking place in the newly titled, Essential Energy Fashion and Lecture pavilion.

The fashion parade would also still take place, twice daily in the fashion and lecture pavilion, at 12pm and 2pm.

The field days, which take place on Friday, July 15, and Saturday, July 16, at the Australian Rural Education Centre (AREC), just outside Mudgee, has embraced this change, finding most field day attendees seek knowledge.

AREC general manager, Steve Garland, said there was a "whole bunch" of new exhibitors and products at the field days this year, with plenty to do and get involved with.

Talks would cover a broad range of topics, but focused on regenerative agriculture.

Topics included aquaculture, beekeeping, gardening and

permaculture and were presented by a range of speakers including SBS's *Costa's Garden Odyssey's* Costa Georgiadis; Milkwood Permaculture owner, Nick Ritar and second-generation beekeeper, Tim Malfroy.

Mr Garland (pictured) said these talks not only touched on some important topics facing Australian agriculture at the moment, such as the plight of bees, they were also what previous field day visitors had shown interest in.

"Our feedback is that people are interested in gardening, so the No Dig Garden is back again this year, and Costa will be talking on the importance of the school garden."

Many of the field day exhibitors would also have a range of new machinery and equipment on display, as well as new innovations or inventions, Mr Garland said.

"Being innovative is an approach to how you do things, not just doing the same thing each season because that's what you did last season, or doing what your predecessors did.

"It is a mindset of questioning the how and why of what we do.

"Often the effective and successful methods of

conducting business, agribusiness or things in our family life have not been achieved in one huge step rather in a number of smaller increments.

"Our field days event is all about that investigation, learning and finding the ways to make incremental improvements."

Children hadn't been forgotten with a range of activities, which were also educational.

Mr Garland said youngsters could learn circus skills like walking on stilts, could try their hand at fishing, pat some animals in the animal nursery or watch a milking demonstration.

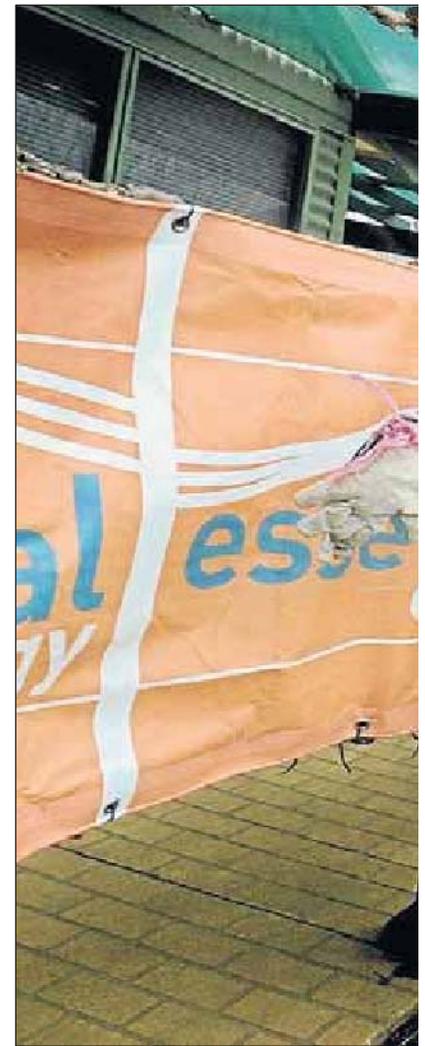
He said it was important for children to be catered for.

"You have to have things for the children, so they don't want to drag their parents off the site," Mr Garland said.

With activities for both the young and old it ensured a good day out for the whole family, he said.

The scarecrow building competition was also back again this year.

Strawbale building and rammed earth building demonstrations would return



again this year, showing sustainable building techniques.

One of the previously built strawbale buildings on the

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Mudgee Facts

- The Essential Energy Mudgee Small Farm Field Days will be held at the Australian Rural Education Centre (AREC) site, Cassilis Road, Mudgee, on Friday, July 15, and Saturday, July 16, 2011.
- Gates open from 8.30am to 5pm each day.
- Entry costs \$15 for a one-day adult pass and \$25 for a two-day adult pass; \$8 for a one-day child pass (5 to 18 years) and \$14 for a two-day child pass; \$35 for a one-day family pass (two adults and up to four children); \$10 for pensioners, Veterans Affairs and Centrelink cardholder pass, and children under five years are free.
- No dogs are permitted, with the exception of guide dogs.
- Mobility gophers can be hired for the event, with the service organised by Big Event Scooter Hire. To book or make an enquiry about the hire service, contact John, (0419) 432 820.
- Parking is free and there are two public car parks. One entry is from the Ulan Road and the other is via Henry Lawson Drive.
- There will be a free shuttle bus service operating from several locations throughout Mudgee every 20 minutes between 8am and about 6pm. The service departs the Mudgee Swimming Pool, Mudgee South Shopping Plaza, Mudgee Scout Hall, Mudgee High School, Jubilee Sports Ground, Mudgee Valley Tourist Park and Mudgee Tourist Information Centre.
- For information about accommodation or visiting the region visit the Mudgee Visitor Information Centre at www.visitmudgeeregion.com.au or contact (02) 6372 1020.

site would host a series of talks about that method of construction.

The two-day event has been sponsored by Essential

Energy this year, which has offered up a prize.

Visitors to the field days have a chance to win \$500 field days spending money by

keeping their ticket stub on entry.

Organisers said winners will be announced at the draws to be held daily at noon.



Milkwood Permaculture 2011 Courses

- Joel Salatin Workshops
- Holistic Management
- Biofertile Farms
- Introduction to Permaculture
- Permaculture Design Certificate
- Natural Beekeeping
- Organic Market Gardening
- Pasture Cropping Workshop
- Food Forest Workshop

Milkwood Permaculture offers world-class courses that give you the skills and confidence to create permanently sustainable systems. For details call, visit our web site or see us at the

Mudgee Small Farm Field Days
find us in the Essential energy lectures and fashion pavilion (L36)



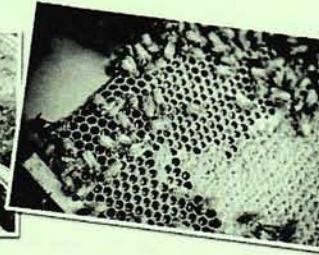
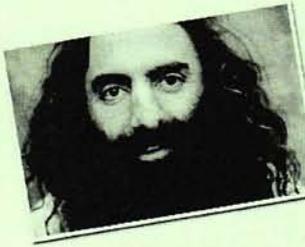
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Talking Regenerative Agriculture

Essential Energy Fashion & Lecture Pavilion L36



Friday 15th July

- 9.30am Regenerative Agriculture.
- 10.00am Aquaponics – Making the most of water resources in food production.
- 10.30am Why Pasture Cropping is such a big deal.
- 11.00am How Natural Beekeeping creates resilient bees.
- 12.00pm Fashion Parade
- 1.00pm Dung beetles: natural alternative to fertiliser.
- 2.00pm Fashion Parade
- 3.00pm Future Farmers: the power of school gardens.
- 3.30pm Biofertilizer DIY: go to the shed, not the shop!

Speaker

- Nick Ritar
- Matt Herbert
- Bruce Maynard
- Tim Malfroy
- John Feehan
- Costa Georgiadis
- Nick Ritar & Costa Georgiadis



Saturday 16th July

- 9.30am How to use grazing to regenerate soil, pastures and profits.
- 10.00am Talking crap: how humanure can build fertility.
- 10.30am How Natural Beekeeping creates resilient bees.
- 11.00am How soil health determines the health of the whole community.
- 12.00pm Fashion Parade
- 1.00pm Regenerative Agriculture.
- 1.30pm Future Farmers: the power of school gardens.
- 2.00pm Fashion Parade
- 3.00pm Aquaponics – Making the most of water resources in food production.
- 3.30pm The pollination crisis and creating a bee garden.
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- Nick Ritar
- Tim Malfroy
- Dr Carole Hungerford
- Nick Ritar
- Costa Georgiadis
- Matt Herbert
- Tim Malfroy
- Nick Ritar & Costa Georgiadis