



Newsletter- December 2011

Welcome to the December 2011 newsletter. This newsletter aims to bring you up to speed with the latest news from the Foundation, updates from primary industry education from around Australia and new resources and event for your information.

Foundation News

Welcome to our new Directors

The board of the Primary Industries Education Foundation welcomed two new directors to its board this year. Nigel Grant and John Taylor complement the existing directors of Cameron Archer (Chair), Joanne Grainger (Chair-F and A), David Thomason and Beth Welden. Background information regarding the directors can be found within the Foundation's Annual Report located on our website <http://www.primaryindustrieseducation.com.au>

Primezone Website

By now you should be aware that www.primezone.edu.au is live and operational. We have 50-60 resources currently available and this will increase to over 200 by the early first term 2012. Please feel free to suggest resources for inclusion on the website. They can be from all learning areas and suitable for students from kindergarten to grade 12. Information related to careers can also be forward to us for inclusion.

ACER Benchmarking Survey

We are preparing to release the full results from this ground breaking survey commissioned by the Primary Industries Education Foundation with the support of Woolworths and conducted by the Australian Council of Educational Research (ACER). Students in year 6 and 10 and their teachers were surveyed to examine their understanding of primary production and the careers available. The information will inform our initial development of resources, provide a source of on-going monitoring and evaluation and provide a call to action for those interested in our nation and our young people. You will receive notification when the report is released.

Submissions to Inquiries

Two submissions are currently underway nationally which reflects a growing acknowledgement of the imminent issues the primary industries sector is facing. Both the Senate and the Victorian Parliament are conducting inquiries in the Agricultural workforce and Agricultural education respectively. To read the Foundations submissions [Click Here](#)

Follow Us

The Foundation has a Twitter account #OzPIEF. Follow us for news, updates and other information.

New Postal Address

Please note the Foundations new postal address;
PO Box E10, Kingston ACT 2604

Other News

Farm Day 2012

FarmDay is when a farm family hosts a city family for a day of real hands-on experiences and a greater understanding of the day-to-day life of the farming family. The FarmDay team is starting to gear up for a brilliant year ahead as we work to continue our exciting work of bringing city families and farm families together! You may not realise that 2012 is Australian Year of the Farmer! Participating in FarmDay is a great way to show your support for the year and learn a little bit more about how your food and fibre comes into your life every day of the year!! Mark the last weekend of May in your calendar, and get your family prepared for a day or weekend away in fabulous rural Australia! What a fantastic opportunity for a short family break away! [More information here](#)

ForestLearning.edu.au- A teaching and learning resource on Australian forests and sustainability

Forest and Wood Products Australia (FWPA) is pleased to launch Forestlearning.edu.au, a dedicated portal for forests and wood products teaching resources. ForestLearning.edu.au provides activities, resources and ideas for teachers to integrate forest education into their learning programs. The site has over 100 resources covering years 3 to 12 across a range of key learning areas of the Australian school curriculum including science, social science, earth and environmental science, history, geography, mathematics, biology and technology.

Fish-The Super Food

The Centre of Excellence for Science, Seafood and Health (CESSH) at Curtin University, WA aims to effectively promote the benefits of seafood consumption as part of a healthy diet. Research has shown that a healthy diet that includes seafood, high in omega-3s, is one of the major protective factors against cardiovascular disease, some cancers, diabetes and obesity. CESSH has developed two primary school resources and a secondary school resource. [Find it here](#)

Poultry Hub

<http://www.poultryhub.org> is an online resource centre providing information in relation to poultry, in particular information all about eggs!

Studying Forestry has never been more rewarding- Scholarship applications are now open.

Did you know that a career as a graduate forester will give students an opportunity to work on the big issues like; fire, water, ecology and silviculture as well as work in an industry that contributes to a low carbon economy through carbon neutral building materials, carbon trading and bioenergy production? Forest and Wood Products Australia have made it even easier to study Forest Science at both Undergraduate and Graduate levels with over 20 scholarships available worth, in total, over \$50,000. So if your students want to make a difference, a career in forestry could be right for them.. [Visit Growingcareers.com.au](http://Growingcareers.com.au)- careers that make a difference

Sustainable Seafood Stories

Striving towards a sustainable future has been a significant challenge faced by the Australian seafood industry. Fishermen, Government and not for profit organisations have made leaps and bounds on this issue, and are taking Australian seafood consumers towards a brighter, sustainable, and tastier future. They continue to work together to ensure the long-term sustainability of our ocean's resources. Our goal is for Australians to enjoy quality Australian seafood forever. These are Australia's Sustainable Seafood Champions, and this is their story. [Click Here](#)

Eco Eggs-The Secret Life of Chooks!

ChookCam is a live feed from a farmed egg facility. See what goes on-LIVE! [Click Here](#) for the cam and the story behind the eggs. There is also a great Discussion forum where you can have the mysteries of egg production egg-splained!

Agriculture/Primary Industry/ Science -Full-time permanent Teacher/Coordinator position

Northholm Grammar School is seeking a qualified, experienced and innovative Agriculture/Primary Industry teacher to coordinate the Agriculture program and take a pivotal role in the management of our school farm and Horticulture Trade Training Centre. Applicants must have previous experience teaching Agriculture and be willing to undertake further training for the delivery of the TTC courses. The successful applicant will be required to teach one class of Stage 5 Science in 2012. Applications close on Monday 16 January 2012

Please contact Lynne Guthridge for further information guthridgel@northholm.nsw.edu.au
www.northholm.nsw.edu.au

NAAE National Conference

The National Association of Agricultural Educator is holding their national conference in South Australia this year. They have an exciting program lined up and hope to see you there.

Hopefully you have already caught up with the information that ATASA is organising the National Agricultural Educators Association Conference to be held in SA

Where: Australian Science and Maths School (Flinders University)

When: Sunday 8th to Thursday 12th January 2012

What: "Feeding the Future" is our theme, we have a great mix of speakers, workshops and tours

Who: Keynote speaker is Professor Julian Cribb, Author of The Coming Famine (His published work includes more than 7,000 print articles, 1000 broadcasts, 500 media releases and 300 speeches as well as "The Forgotten Country", six editions of "Australian Agriculture", and "The White Death", for more details see <http://www.sciencealert.com.au/jca.html>)

Cost: bargain at \$650 full conference including accommodation at Flinders Uni, \$390 full conference without Accommodation, \$130 per day if you wish to attend a particular day(s) only.

Registration form is at: <http://www.naae.asn.au/pages/atasa/conferences.php>

Horizon Scholarship 2012 (formerly Investing in our Youth)

Applications are now open for the Horizon Scholarship which provides financial assistance, mentoring, professional development workshops, networking opportunities and industry placements to students entering their first year of agricultural science (or related agricultural degrees) at university. Successful students will be able to demonstrate a commitment to a career in agriculture, leadership potential and academic achievement at high school. More information and application forms are available at www.rirdc.gov.au/horizon

Queensland Rural Industry Training Awards

The Queensland Rural Industry Training Council (QRITC) recognised outstanding training achievement in Agriculture, Production Horticulture, Amenity Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management at its Inaugural Training Awards, held at the Mercure Hotel in Brisbane on the 5th of December.

The highlight of the night was the presentation of the Yvon Wigley Scholarship to Wendy Hiscoe. The scholarship is awarded in honour of former Executive Officer with QRITC, Yvon Wigley, in recognition of her passion and contribution in raising the profile of QRITC as an industry voice for rural and remote Queensland.

Biological Farmers of Australia School Funding 2012

Funding is now open for Leader Schools and Starter Schools for 2012. Funding applications must be received by December 31st 2011 [Click here for more information](#)

Congratulations Tyrrell College

Tyrrell College, in the remote Victorian town of Sea Lake, has been announced the 2011 NAB Schools First National Award winner and awarded \$500,000 for the impressive student outcomes achieved in

partnership with their local agricultural industry.

Tyrrell College was recognised for its three-year partnership, a student-business mentor program, with two leading agricultural businesses within the rural Sea Lake district.

For more information [Click Here](#)

Country Education Foundation Newsletter

The latest edition of the CEF news letter is available [here](#)

Land Learn NSW Speech Spectacular

After the success of last year's competition, it's on again! Do you have students who can talk the leg off a chair? Want to share their opinions with the world? Or just like the sound of their voice? They can now 'turn talk into cash' by entering the LandLearn NSW Speech Spectacular. [Click Here](#)

Australian Year of the Farmer 2012

2012 is Australian Year of the Farmer and plans are underway for many events. Keep up to date with latest events and to view a video about AYOF by clicking [here](#)

Plant Bio Security Resources

The Plant Biosecurity has some wonderful resources for primary students, secondary students and teachers. The resources really bring this area to life and do a great job of explaining this important area. [Click Here](#)

WTF?

A group of young farmers in the USA have started a group called WTF? Where is The Food Without The Farmers? [There website can be found here](#)

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO ANYONE YOU THINK IS INTERESTED.

THEY CAN JOIN OUR MAILING LIST BY EMAILING

info@primaryindustrieseducation.com.au