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## SADA Newsletter September 2019

Every Australian deserves access to reliable, affordable, quality voice and data services, irrespective of where they live.

This is the message the Regional, Rural and Remote Communications Coalition (RRRCC) is delivering to Parliamentarians in Canberra.

Highlighting the opportunities that connectivity presents for regional Australia and the ongoing limitations that regional consumers face.

"The RRRCC was formed in 2016 when a group of like-minded organisations came together to advocate for improved connectivity in the bush.

"Since that time we have seen some significant progress, including higher data allowances and business services over Sky Muster, funding for mobile network expansion and a new program for digital literacy."

Telecommunications is an essential service in a modern world, supporting social connectivity, business activity and the delivery of health and education services.

"The opportunities for connectivity to support economic development and service provision in regional Australia are significant.

The ongoing digital divide is holding us back from achieving our potential, including in agriculture where it's estimated that widespread digitisation could add more than \$20 billion to GVP," Mr Thompson said.

"We recognise that since the RRRCC was established in 2016 there have been some great improvements and significant investment in regional telecommunications, and we want to continue the momentum and ensure regional telecommunications remains on the national political agenda and improvements continue to be made."

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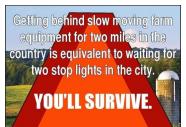
Why join SADA? As South Australian dairy moves into the future there are reasons to re-evaluate the systems and technologies that are new in all industries going forward. Technology is changing at an astonishing rate and it is increasingly inserting itself into the dairy industry.

## ARE YOU COMPLIANT

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OVERSIZE OR OVERMASS AGRICULTURAL VEHICLES: https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/t119-sacode-of-practice-oversize-overmassagricultural-vehicles.pdf

South Australia Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle Mass and Dimension Exemption Notice 2019: <u>https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201902-</u> <u>1003-info-sheet-sa-class-1-agricultural-</u> <u>vehicle-rubber-tracked-tractor-mass-and-</u> dimension-exemption.pdf

For more information: Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au Subscribe: www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe Email: info@nhvr.gov.au Phone: 1300 696 487)



Stay back, enjoy the scenery and share the road DURING FALL HARVEST.

## Trespass: Government Announcement Welcome, but....

Recently the South Australian Government announced its intention to amend the Summary Offences Act with regard to beefing up the state's trespass laws. This is welcome news and we congratulate the Attorney General Vicki Chapman and the Minister for Primary Industries Tim Whetstone for their leadership in the area.

That said however, SADA is of the opinion that more could be done in this space.

#### The proposed amendments

SADA admits that the proposed amendments do cover the field generally, however we have made the following observations regarding the proposed amendments and alterations which are being considered.

#### **Exceptional Circumstances**

The proposed bill suggests that a court may issue a restitution order for losses except where there are "*exceptional circumstances*". SADA does not agree with the exceptional circumstances provision which is contemplated by the proposed section. If a farmer has suffered a loss because of the unlawful actions of a trespasser SADA believes there should be no judicial discretion as articulated by the proposed sub section. It is not the expectation of SADA or its members that farmers should be precluded from recovering costs for losses under any circumstances be they exceptional or otherwise. SADA recommends that the words, "unless exceptional circumstances exist", be removed from the bill which will be introduced to the Parliament.

#### Lawful Excuse

SADA notes that the proposed section 17 (a1) offers the extra defence of "*lawful excuse*". SADA suggests that the Attorney General may want to consider referring to this getting rid of the notion of a separate defence of "*lawful excuse*" altogether. The criminal law already provides defences to various crimes all of which can apply to summary offences. SADA doesn't believe that there should be an extra defence created for farm trespassing.

#### **Trespass Notices**

SADA is of the belief that farmers should be able to issue a Trespass Notice similar to the notice which is contemplated by the *Northern Territory Trespass Act* 2000. SADA further recommends that such a similar notice should be able to be given by a farmer to any person the farmer has, or reasonably expects will, trespass on the farmer's property and that the notice should remain in force for a period of up to two years. Any legislation which empowers a dairy farmer will be supported by SADA. If a farmer warns a person or people from his/her property and the farmer is able to supply proof of the lawful delivery of the warning, such as a recording placing the person warned clearly at the scene that that should be sufficient evidence to prove the person was warned.

Such a person when warned then commits an offence if they return to the property within a period of two years.

#### **Expiation Notices**

SADA welcomes the proposed use of expiation notices regarding the interference with gates.

Nevertheless, SADA is concerned that the use of expiation notices has not been sufficiently examined. Firstly, the use of such an offence should also extend to fences. If it is an offence to interfere with a gate then it should also be an offence to interfere with a fence.

A person, if they damage a fence will commit the criminal act pertaining to damage however, some protesters may by their actions interfere with a fence where they do not cause permanent damage to the fence but nevertheless render the fence incapable of functioning as it was designed to do. For example, a person may prop apart strands of a fence in such a way that livestock could pass through the fence. This should also be considered as being an offence for the purpose of the act.

SADA also believes that expiation notices could be extended to the operation of the simple trespass contemplated by the Summary Offences Act, namely, those trespass offences that do not amount to aggravated trespass as contemplated by the proposed section 17 (a1)(b)(ii). SADA recommends the consideration of an amount of \$2,500 for such an expiation notice.

#### Drones

The original common law concept was that a landowner's aerial rights extended indefinitely above the land holder's land and down to the centre of the earth. Needless to say, that is no longer without exception however, the common law in Australia isn't absolutely clear on this point. There is an opportunity for the South Australian Government to provide certainty in SA at least.

If a drone or its operator, is committing trespass, there is an opportunity for the law to describe what amounts to a trespass by a drone operator. Currently, at law there are actions that can be taken if an operator can be identified. The practicalities and uncertainties of the current law however potentially will make taking action difficult. Amendments to the law of South Australia should describe what amounts to a trespass by a drone operator and what actions can be taken should the pilot of such a vehicle be able to be identified.

## Need insurance? You need WFI.

Proud insurance partner of South Australian Dairyfarmers Association.



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We're available to meet with you face-to-face to discuss your insurance requirements. That's just one of the reasons why we're good people to know for insurance.

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1300 934 934 or visit wfi.com.au

WFI Rural Plan consists of a range of different policies, covering a wide variety of risks. This approach gives you greater flexibility, and if circumstances change it is easy for you to add another policy.

WFI Rural Plan policies you can choose from:



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## Tailem Bend information session

A free information session on the upcoming season will be held in Tailem Bend for local residents. The Murray Darling Basin Authority, the Bureau of Meteorology and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office will be presenting:



- Climate outlook for the upcoming season
- River Murray operations and
- Water for the environment activity in the Southern Basin

The Department of Agriculture will be present for questions.

9.30am - 1.30pm **2 October 2019** Rydges Pit Lane Hotel Bookings essential. Email seasonaloutlook@mdba.gov.au. (First 100 accepted)



## Monday September 16 2019

Dairy gains crucial support to reclaim milk label

DAIRY farmers have gained crucial political support to reclaim the word "milk", with the Nationals voting at their Federal Council meeting this weekend to push for a ban on alternative and plant-based products using the term in labelling and marketing.

Peak dairy farmer group Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) praised the move as a vote of confidence in the industry's efforts to ensure honest product labelling.

"We are pleased to see that the Nationals are on our side in wanting to ensure more transparency in food labelling," ADF President Terry Richardson said.

"The dairy industry has long been fighting against the dishonest labelling and marketing of plant-based alternatives that are co-opting the look and feel of dairy and giving the misleading impression that these products are nutritionally equal to dairy."

A 2017 survey by Dairy Australia showed 54 per cent of respondents bought plant-based milk alternatives because they perceived them to be healthier than dairy milk, while market research firm IBIS-World estimates Australia's plant-based "milk" product industry has grown at an annualised rate of 4.1 per cent over the five years to 2018-19, to \$165.8 million today.

ADF previously wrote to Nationals deputy leader and federal agriculture minister Bridget McKenzie, arguing for a review of the Food Standards Australia -New Zealand and the development of regulations to prevent plant-based alternatives from 'evoking' the qualities and values of dairy.

"We are calling for changes to the food standards so that consumers trying to make a healthy choice at the supermarket have the benefit of transparent and accurate product labelling," Mr Richardson said.

"We're pleased Minister McKenzie has expressed an interest in attending November's meeting of the Australia and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation to receive and consider advice on how terms could be better defined or enforced."

A ban on plant-based products using the "milk" label would bring Australia into line with other countries, after the European Court of Justice in 2017 mandated that dairy terms could not be used on plantbased products, even with clarifying terms.

A petition by the dairy farmer group has also gained more than 2,000 signatures. The survey is still active and can be signed at: <u>http://farmers.org.au/</u> <u>campaign/reclaimmilk/</u>.

## **2020 Science and Innovation Awards for** Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry



The Australian Government Department of Agriculture has announced the next round of funding for the 2020 Science and Innovation Awards for Young People.

The 2020 Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is a competitive grants program that supports young people to undertake a project on an innovative or emerging scientific issue, including biophysical and social sciences, which will contribute to the ongoing success and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

The Awards aim to encourage science, innovation and technology in rural industries and help to advance the careers of young researchers, scientists, producers and innovators through national recognition of their research ideas.

The Science Awards are coordinated by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES), in the Australian Government Department of Agriculture.

There is a number of Award categories on offer, each with a grant of \$22,000 inc GST to fund innovative projects. More information can be found at: http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ abares/conferences-events/scienceawards/info-applicants

We suggest you read this overview prior to completing the 2020 application form. More detailed information is available in the grant opportunity guidelines. Contact the Science Awards team if you have any questions via email at scienceawards@agriculture.gov.au or phone 02 6272 2260.



Please return your updated membership forms asap.

Thank you to those that have returned their updated forms, regularly updating our database helps SADA to plan for best outcomes for our Dairy Industry, helping to serve our members the best possible way forward.

Thank you from the SADA Team.

link provided to win, or contact (02) 8077 0006 to speak with one of Make it Cheaper's Energy Experts.



## **Limestone Coast Leadership Program**



In partnership with the Limestone Coast Economic Development Group, the South Australian Dairy Industry Fund is proud to support the Limestone Coast Leadership

Program (LCLP). The program's aim is to 'Unearth our treasures' by supporting and building community capacity including in the dairy industry. This leadership program is essentially about stretching the capabilities of community leaders as well as emerging leaders to ensure they have the relevant skills, emotional intelligence, cross-sector collaboration skills and abilities to work with, and influence others for the benefit of the region.

This program, delivered throughout the region by the Leaders Institute of South Australia, will be open to individuals, in the dairy industry as well as elsewhere, who are ready to broaden their leadership capabilities and impact through personal growth, self-empowerment and relationship building.

The program intends to:

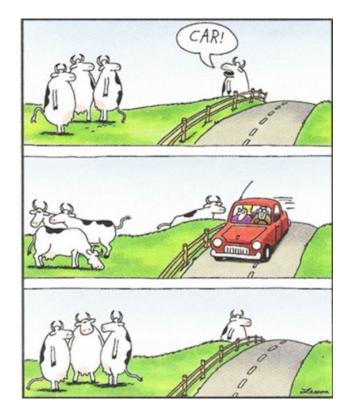
- Support the development of emerging leaders to effect change
- Invest in the leadership of a more diverse cohort in our community
- Foster greater collaboration across business, industry, government & the community
- Develop strong networks with the ability to influence
- Build a culture of active citizenship, shared purpose & community action
- Provide insights into the issues that are important to the region's economy, communities & environment
- Enable participants to explore how they fit within their organisations and broader community
- Develop self-awareness among participants, while challenging their ideas, assumptions & thinking
- Enhance the capacity of the community to identify opportunities and address challenges

A framework has been developed that enables delivery of a longterm sustainable leadership program, supported by business, community, government and philanthropic organisations in the Limestone Coast with regional economic and social benefits for dairy as well as other industries in the region.

The Limestone Coast Economic Development Group (a formal sub -committee of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association LCLGA) identified 'mobilising regional leaders' as one of its priority projects, with the objective of establishing a highly regarded regional leaders program that caters for emerging and existing leaders, supported by an active alumni network and regional business and industry.

Many rural, regional and remote communities struggle to develop and retain leadership capacity both in quantity of leaders and extent of their skills. Extensive research has evidenced a demand for a regional leadership program in the Limestone Coast and that such a program would benefit business, the broader economy and communities in our region. Ongoing sustainable regional leadership programs of this quality have shown to create significant economic and community benefits in other states.

http://www.lclga.sa.gov.au/limestone-coast-leadership-program



#### **Around the Traps**

- John and Andrew participated in a One Biosecurity strategic planning workshop.
- SADA board hosted a BBQ at the Royal Adelaide Show for families of the Junior Handler Competition.
- SADA Board held it's September quarterly Meeting.
- Andrew and John E attended a meeting with the SA Attorney General and officer from SAPOL to discuss Trespass legislation.
- John attended a PPSA Council Meeting.
- John met with High Commissioner of Pakistan to talk about opportunities within the SA Dairy Industry.

# Busting the myths on glyphosate

GET THE FACTS AT FARMERS.ORG.AU

#### Glyphosate causes cancer.

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Independent, science-based regulators around the world, including the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority has approved glyphosate as safe to use. A longitudinal study in the US, published in 2017, followed 57,000 registered users of glyphosate over 20 years and found no connection between cancer and glyphosate. The findings of a study by the World Health Organisation's International Agency for Research on Cancer, identified exposure to glyphosate, drinking hot drinks, frying food, and hairdressing, as 'probable carcinogenic' activities. In 2016, the APVMA evaluated the IARC report and other contemporary scientific assessments as part of an established chemical review nomination process. The APVMA concluded that glyphosate did not pose a carcinogenic risk to humans and that there were no grounds to place it under formal reconsideration. In April this year the United States Environment Protection Authority declared glyphosate was not a carcinogen.

## Food grown in farming systems where glyphosate is used, is safe to eat.

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Glyphosate is typically not applied directly to food crops. Nevertheless, as with all other agricultural chemicals, farmers must adhere to maximum residue limits (MRLs) for glyphosate. In May 2016, the Joint World Health Organisation (WHO)/Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO) Meeting on Pesticide Residues concluded that "glyphosate is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic risk to humans from exposure through diet".

## Australian farmers could use an alternate herbicide.



Disclaimer

Currently, there is no product approved for use in Australia that is as safe or as effective as glyphosate for weed control.

### Glyphosate is good for the environment.

Glyphosate allows farmers to control weeds from above the ground, doing away with the need to plough fallow paddocks in preparation for a crop. This practice minimises soil disruption and maximises soil health and water use efficiency. Less tillage, means less machinery operation and therefore less emissions generation. Glyphosate is also used by farmers to control aggressive, noxious weeds such as serrated tussock and African lovegrass.

#### Products containing glyphosate should be used according to the directions on the label.

S FACT.

In the same way it is recommended users observe the directions for use on the labels of household products, users of glyphosate products should always follow directions for use. It is important to note that there is no level of exposure to glyphosate that has been deemed to be dangerous to human health.

# Australian farmers could produce the food and fibre they do today, without using glyphosate.

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Through better weed control, improved soil health and water use efficiency, the addition of glyphosate has allowed farmers, in particular cotton, cereal, oilseed and pulse growers, to greatly improve their productivity per hectare. Australian farmers are trusted across the world for producing safe sustainable food and fibre – glyphosate plays an important role in making this possible.

National Farmers' Federation 14–16 BRISBANE AVE, BARTON, ACT

www.nff.org.au 🛛 🕿 02 6269 5





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