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Dear AgLinkEd e-news reader

As term two draws to a close, we're gearing up for some exciting events and opportunities in the second half of the year such as the AgLinkEd student scholarships, Dowerin Field Day and Primary Schools Agriculture Awareness Day.

We welcome Megan Abrahams, our new Development Officer, to the AgLinkEd team. Megan is based in the Geraldton office, and joins Nikki Poulish and Tom Plaisted to give our project an improved state coverage. Kerry Regan has recently departed our team, moving on to become Executive Officer for the Grains Industry, and we wish her all the best.

We welcome your feedback and contribution, so if you have agricultural links or information to share with other readers of AgLinkEd e-news, please send it to education@agric.wa.gov.au

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AgLinkEd update

AgLinkEd student scholarships now open

The 2012 AgLinkEd student scholarships are now open. Application packs have been posted and emailed to colleges and applications close on 31 August 2011. For further information, contact [Tom Plaisted](#).

DAFWA's AgLinkEd project supports two scholarships to year 11 agricultural college students with an interest in plant and animal production systems each year.

An inaugural AgLinkEd student award for agricultural high school students will open later in 2011.

Harvey Professional Development Conference a hit

The AgLinkEd Professional Development (PD) Conference was held at the beginning of May, hosted again by the WA College of Agriculture, Harvey.

Attended by 40 staff from Morawa, Harvey, Esperance, Kelmescott, Denmark, Bindoon, Coodanup, Lansdale, Cunderdin and Narrogin, the two day conference covered a range of topics identified as priority areas by you. Electronic copies of the [presentations](#) are available on the AgLinkEd website.

The next AgLinkEd PD Conference is



planned for early 2012, but in the mean time, we will be endeavouring to run a few mini-PD sessions (half day) with a few schools and colleges that have requested specialised training sessions.

Denmark to host 'Agriculture Awareness Day'

For the first time, the Primary Schools 'Agriculture Awareness Day' will be hosted by WA College of Agriculture, Denmark - on 6 September 2011.

Prior to this year, this very successful day has been held annually at the Mount Barker Research Station. A capacity audience of 300 students is booked to attend this year.

The day showcases agriculture to upper primary school students in the region and is an ideal opportunity to get students thinking ahead to their future and how it might involve agriculture and potentially, an agricultural high school or college.

We invite representatives from schools and colleges to attend with the view to potentially hold similar events in your region in the future. For more information, contact [Tom Plaisted](#).

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What's new?

New to the DAFWA education website...

The most recent additions to our growing AgLinkEd Education Initiative website are classroom resources such as [video clips](#) and [presentations](#) from AgLinkEd Professional Development events.

Pest identification courses

DAFWA will host two comprehensive training courses in August. Held at the DAFWA South Perth offices, [Insect Pest Identification](#) will be run on 1 August and [Plant Disease Identification](#) on the 2-4 August. For more information contact [Brigette Lacy](#).

Crop Updates video lectures on-line

Videos of presentations from the 2011 Crop Updates are now available on-line. A range of topics are covered in the clips including the latest research on herbicide, fungicide and insecticide resistance, climate change and soil carbon, global grain trends, frost risk and genetically modified crops. *NOTE: Many of the videos are very large files that may cause issues on some internet connections.*

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Resources

Curriculum packages on the DAFWA education website

If you are looking for curriculum packages and information to support your programming, the education section of the DAFWA website includes links to resources on a wide range of topics including general agriculture, animals, biosecurity, climate and weather, plants, sustainable agriculture and soils...

Agriculture in a changing climate

Part of the CSIRO Carbon Kids resource series, this unit helps students to develop an understanding of some of the likely implications of climate change on the major agricultural industries in Australia.

Grazing Systems website - tools and tips on-line

The Grazing Systems Analysis (GSA) website contains tools and information to assist Great Southern sheep producers in deciding if perennial pastures have a place in their system. Condition scoring, pasture assessment, stocking rates, finishing lambs. The site also includes a GSA monthly update of seasonal, livestock and pasture conditions.

PestFax newsletter

PestFax is an informative and interactive reporting service on pests and diseases threatening crops and pastures throughout the grainbelt of WA. If you would like to receive PestFax or would like to report pest sightings contact [Peter Mangano](#).

The 'Story of Beef' book

The 'Story of Beef' book is back by popular demand, joining the other agricultural industries covered by the Workboot series by the Kondinin Group.

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Coming up...

5-7 Jul [It's Ewe Time regional forums](#)

Katanning 5 July; Northam 6 July; and Dandaragan 7 July

5 Jul [PICSE Science Investigation Awards, Perth](#)

Contact [Belinda Pope](#).

11-12 Jul [Innovation Generation Conference](#)

19 Jul [Be an animal scientist for a day](#)

Students in year 10, 11 and 12 can spend a day on Murdoch's vet farm and discover what it's really

like to be an Animal Scientist.

13-21 Aug [National Science Week](#)

18 Aug Manjimup Careers Expo

Contact [Diana Fisher](#).

24-25 Aug [Dowerin Machinery Field Day](#)

6 Sep Primary Schools Agricultural Awareness Day, Denmark

Contact [Tom Plaisted](#).

6 Sep Esperance Downs Research Station Field Day

Contact [Brendan Nicholas](#).

15-16 Sep [Mingenew Expo](#)

1-7 Oct [Perth Royal Agricultural Show](#)

30 Oct Muresk Open Day

Contact [Anna Kennedy](#).

21-22 Nov PICSE Teacher Professional Development Workshops, Perth

Contact [Belinda Pope](#).

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Useful tips

[Scientists in Schools](#)

Are you looking for a new approach to science based activities? Scientists in Schools is a national program that creates and supports long-term partnerships between teachers and scientists. Scientists and teachers alike can register their interest in becoming involved. For more information contact [Kirsten van Dorp](#).

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Share information or provide feedback

Do you have news or information you would like to share through AgLinkEd e-news? Contact us at education@agric.wa.gov.au

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