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Department of  
Agriculture and Food



# AgLinkEd

Issue 4 - November 2011

Linking agriculture and education

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### Dear Ag Educator

Welcome to the November issue of AgLinkEd e-news, published by the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DAFWA).

Our Education Initiative project team has now grown to four members, with Matthew Young (South Perth) joining Megan Abrahams (Geraldton) and Tom Plaisted (Albany). Nikki Poulish (Albany) has now taken up the reigns as project leader. We've been busily visiting schools again over the past few weeks, and welcome you to contact us - our contact details are at the bottom of this e-news.

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](mailto:education@agric.wa.gov.au)

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## AgLinkEd update

### 2012 AgLinkEd student scholarship winners

DAFWA's AgLinkEd scholarships for 2012 were recently awarded to two students with a passion for agriculture.

Year 11 agricultural college students Jessica Perrin, from Denmark college; and Lachlan Hunter from Cunderdin college will receive \$2000 each towards their Year 12 school fees.



This year, winners were announced at the 2011 Ag Skills Competition in front of their student peers. Formal presentations were made at the 2011 Perth Royal Show by the Minister for Agriculture Hon. Terry Redmond MLA, with the ceremony attended by agricultural and education industry leaders.

Our congratulations to Jessica and Lachlan on their well deserved awards.

### Primary Schools Agriculture Awareness Day

Our tenth Primary Schools Agriculture Awareness Day was held at the WA College of Agriculture, Denmark. The move to an agricultural college created an opportunity to showcase the college as an education option and allowed new industries to be demonstrated to more than 300 primary school students from the Albany region.



Attended by representatives from other agricultural high schools and colleges, it is hoped the popularity of agricultural awareness days might spread to other regions. If your school is interested in hosting an agricultural awareness day for primary schools in your area, contact our [AgLinkEd team](#).

## What's new?

### **CD Resource - primary industries in Chemistry and Biology**

The latest free CD resource developed by the Primary Industry Centre for Science Education (PICSE) contains interactive lessons in Chemistry and Biology using primary industry examples. It is one of a number of FREE resources available, have a browse [online](#) or complete an [order form](#).

### **Science Investigation Awards**

The PICSE Science Investigation Awards (SIA) run earlier this year, saw students from the Great Southern Region and the Metropolitan area designing a scientific experiment based on their interests. Open to students in Years 8 to 10, a feature of the event is the 'Most Innovative in Agriculture Award', sponsored by DAFWA. If you are interested in signing your students up for the Science Investigation Awards for 2012, contact [Belinda Pope](#).

### **Art4Agriculture**

Art4Agriculture aims to highlight the essential role Australian Farmers play in producing food and supporting the nation's economy, community and rural amenity. Two key areas of interest in WA are Young Farming Champions and The Archibull Prize.

Let your students know and get them to nominate as a Young Farming Champion - the search is on across Australia. Or perhaps you're interested in registering your class to take part in the Archibull Prize - check out some examples of the young farming champions multimedia presentations [online](#).

### **New Careers and VETiS reports**

The Food Fibre and Timber Industry Council (FFTITC) has recently released two reports looking at Improving Career Development in Schools and increasing VETiS access to FFTITC industries. This will lead on to some exciting new projects and resources from FFTITC.

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## Resources

### **PrimeZone**

A fantastic new website from the Primary Industries Education Foundation (PIEF) that contains links to a range of primary industries education resources.

### **ABC Landline series online**

The complete collection of the ABC series Landline is available online - click on the 'archive' tab. Each episode has a brief summary of the topics covered in each episode. Click on the photo to play each video clip.

### **'Ag in Focus' now online**

The department's articles in the popular rural magazine 'Ag in Focus' are now available under 'publications' on the DAFWA website.

### **Farmsafe enews**

The Farmsafe WA Alliance enews provides updates of the range of resources, services and information on keeping safe on farm - including their new schools project focusing on the safety of young people in agriculture. For more information visit their [website](#).

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## Coming up...

**2011**

### **21-22 November PICSE Teacher Professional Development workshop (Perth)**

The Primary Industry Centre for Science Education (PICSE) is holding it's annual teacher professional development (PD) workshop. Complete and submit the [registration form](#) or for more information contact [Belinda Pope](#).

### **6-7 December Teacher Professional Development and Curriculum workshop (Narrogin)**

All teachers and trainers at agricultural high schools and colleges are invited to attend the two day professional development workshop and curriculum meeting, hosted this year at the WA College of Agriculture, Narrogin. PD topics at this meeting include climate change, future farm and the latest on PIEF. For more information contact [Alysia Kepert](#).

2012

[Australian Year of the Farmer](#)

**28-29 February Agribusiness Crop Updates (Perth)**

refer to the [Grower Group Alliance website calendar of events](#).

**1-23 March Regional Crop Updates (various)**

refer to the [Grower Group Alliance website calendar of events](#).

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