



2nd Riverina Biodiversity Forum

Program

Day One - Thursday May 26th 2005

TIME	SESSION THEME	PRESENTER	TOPIC
9:00am	Registration		
9:15am	Welcome	Laurie Arthur (President – Ricegrowers' Assoc of Aust.)	Overview of goals of the forum & launch of cross-sectoral biodiversity brochure
9:25am	Session 1 Setting the Scene: Challenge of managing biodiversity in highly modified environments <i>Chair: Laurie Arthur</i>	Keynote speaker : Les Gordon (Ricegrowers' Assoc of Aust. & farmer)	Engaging landholders in biodiversity: A farmers perspective
		Keynote speaker: Anne Kerle (Consulting Biologist)	Maintaining biodiversity and production in a managed environment
		Keynote speaker: Chris Dickman (University of Sydney)	Ensuring a future for Biodiversity with lessons from the past and innovative new thinking
		Dedee Woodside (Corporate & Community Sustainability International)	We know our mission but what is the vision?
10:45-11:00am	Morning Tea Break		
11:00am	Session 2 Challenge of reconciling biodiversity & agricultural goals & building strategies for action <i>Chair: Chris Dickman</i>	David Freudenberger (CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems)	Making biodiversity concepts and strategies accessible to users
		Sean Doody & Will Osborne (University of Canberra)	The importance of a threatened species component of a biodiversity plan & strategy for the Australian Rice Industry
		Rob Houghton (Farmer - Murrumbidgee Region)	A farmers experience in understanding linkages between biodiversity and production
		Sophia Bickford, Graham Watson , Ian Warren, Tom Wier, David Yeates & Judy West	Diversity, distribution and scale: How will future water management affect ecological outcomes in the Murray Darling Basin?
		Matt Linnegar (Murrumbidgee Irrigation) & Dedee Woodside (CCSI & MI)	Challenges of integrating biodiversity in irrigation landscapes
		Peter Ampt (University of NSW)	How can land-use that links conservation and production be incorporated into the Riverina landscape?
12:30pm	Book Launch	Robert Black (Chairman - Coleambally Irrigation)	Book Launch : Field Guide to the Native Plants of the Coleambally Irrigation District
12:40 – 1:45pm	Lunch <i>Posters and information displays will be available for viewing during breaks throughout the Forum</i>		
1:50pm	Session 3 Working across temporal & spatial aspects of the landscape <i>Chair: David Freudenberger</i>	Shahbaz Khan (Charles Sturt Uni & CSIRO Land & Water)	Potential use of hydro-ecology research to inform biodiversity recovery across highly modified landscapes
		Michael Dunn (Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority)	Murrumbidgee Catchment biodiversity programs – translating bigger catchment goals into individual action
		Corey Watts & Gioia Small (Australian Conservation Foundation)	Linking vineyards to landscapes: the ACF-Southcorp biodiversity project.
		Michael Pisasale (Murray Irrigation Limited)	Biodiversity initiatives in the Murray Irrigation's land and water management plans
3:00pm	Session 4 Long term issues <i>Chair: continued</i>	John Blackwell (CSIRO-Land & Water)	The long-term and insidious impacts of salinity on biodiversity in the Riverina
		Sarah Ryan (CSIRO-MDBC)	Growing biodiversity and flowing water – intertwined futures
3:30- 4:00pm	Afternoon Tea Break		
4:00pm	Session 5 Threatened species and process and response strategies <i>Chair: Rod Kavanagh</i>	Tony Peacock (Invasive Animal Species CRC)	The real cost of invasive species in agriculture & natural systems: What we can do about it?
		Glen Klatovski (Greening Australia)	River Recovery – A new national program from Greening Australia
		Ross McDonnell (Dept. Environment & Conservation- NPWS)	Determining high conservation value (HCV) areas in the Riverina
		Graham Pyke (Australian Museum)	Southern Bell Frogs as a bio-indicator for irrigation based agriculture
		Ross Hyne (Dept. Environment & Conservation - EPA)	Assessing the impact of pesticides on the aquatic environment across a catchment : A case study
		Skye Wassens, Leigh Thompson, Stephen Sass (Charles Sturt University)	Managing frog diversity in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area
		Steven Sass, Skye Wassens, Gerry Swan (Charles Sturt University)	Managing vegetation remnants for reptile diversity
		Mathew Herring & David Watson (Charles Sturt University)	Mistletoe: scourge or saviour of our threatened woodlands?

7:00pm

Conference Dinner at Westend Estate Winery

Buses will run between motels and the dinner venue

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Day Two (Friday May 27th 2005)

TIME	SESSION THEME	PRESENTER	TOPIC
8:30am	Session 6 Innovations, Tools & Discoveries <i>Chair: Matt Linnegar</i>	Rod Kavanagh , Brad Law & Frank Lemckert (Dept. Primary Industries - Forests)	Wildlife on farms: the role of planted native vegetation in restoring habitat for animals
		Lilian Parker (Goulburn Broken CMA/Murrumbidgee Irrigation) Louise Harrison (Murrumbidgee Irrigation) & David Eldridge (Uni of NSW/DIPNR)	Biodiversity surveys in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area
		Jane Roberts (consultant)	Wetlands of the eastern MIA and surrounds
		Cathy Car & Skye Wassens (Charles Sturt University)	Invertebrate biodiversity benchmark surveys in the MIA
		Pat Prevett (University of Ballarat)	Can micro-bats provide a bio-control of insect pest in irrigation areas?
		Leanne Faulks & Dean Gilligan (Dept. Primary Industries - Fisheries)	Assessing carp biology in the Murray Darling Basin – the first step in an effective Integrated Pest Management strategy
10:00am-10:30am		Morning Tea	
10.30am	Session 7 Farmers' panel <i>Chair: Les Gordon</i>	Helen Dalton, Les Gordon, Rob Houghton, David Marsden, Louis Sartor, Leigh Vial	Biodiversity management in practice on farm Challenges and aspirations of farmers regarding biodiversity.
11.40am	Session 6 Cont... Innovations, Tools & Discoveries continued <i>Chair: Matt Linnegar</i>	Max Beatson (Australian Museum)	Preliminary results of the terrestrial arthropod surveys in the Coleambally Irrigation Area
		David Roshier (Charles Sturt University)	Challenges for the conservation and management of waterfowl
		Cate McElroy (Australian Museum)	Monitoring biodiversity in the Coleambally Irrigation Area: results from vertebrate field studies
12.30 -1:30pm		Lunch	
1:30pm	Session 8 Biodiversity goods, services and market based instruments <i>Chair: Louise Adcock</i>	Ross Dalton (DAFF)	Agriculture delivering environmental services
		Renee Shepherd (DIPNR)	Enterprise-based conservation: balancing conservation and production in western NSW
		Leigh Vial (RGA, farmer)	Turning water into wildlife: Synergies to maximize biodiversity in an irrigated landscape
		Cheryl O'Dwyer, Steve Hamilton (Melbourne University) & Geoff Clarke (CSIRO)	The value of biodiversity: Does habitat quality reflect insect diversity
2:30pm	Session 9 Engaging all land managers & other stakeholders <i>Chair: Leigh Vial</i>	Louise Adcock (Ricegrowers' Association of Aust)	Participation and commitment by farmers is the key to genuine on-farm changes that embrace biodiversity
		Laura Schibrowski (University of NSW)	Measuring effectiveness: Enabling organisations to assess and implement robust methods to engage the community well
		Jack Chubb (Murray Catchment Management Authority)	Encouraging landholder participation to improve biodiversity
		Shabhz Khan (CSIRO Land & Water, Charles Sturt Uni)	Barriers to cross-agency and cross-sectoral cooperation
		Alex Marshall (Murray Irrigation Limited)	Murray wetland watering – a partnership between conservation and irrigation
4:00-4:30pm		Afternoon Tea	
4:30pm	Session 10 Future Directions <i>Chair: Dedee Woodside</i>	Anne Kerle Leigh Vial	Wrap up of key outcomes & Future directions Follow up steps from this forum
		General Discussion	
5:00pm		<u>Close & Thank you!</u>	

Field Trip - Saturday 28th May 2005

9.00 am	Depart Griffith Regional Theatre
9.30 am	Farm 1 - Remnant Vegetation Management & Biodiversity Monitoring
11.30 am	Farm 2 - Direct seeding
12.30 pm	Lunch, Lake Wyangan - Including discussion on Wetlands in the MIA
2.00 pm	Campbell's Swamp - Agricultural and urban pressures on wetlands
3.00 pm	WestEnd Estate Winery – wine tasting
4.00 pm	Return to Griffith Regional Theatre