

MEDIA RELEASE

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Planning for the future: our next generation of farmers

Senior high school agriculture students from across southern Queensland will again have the chance to pit their planning skills in the real world of farming.

The 2006 Property Planning program, organised by the Queensland Murray-Darling Committee Inc. (QMDC), will give year 11 and 12 students the opportunity to see how a commercial farming and grazing enterprise actually works.

“QMDC wants to help ensure the long-term sustainability of our agricultural industry by teaching our future land managers how to balance production with long-term conservation needs,” said QMDC Manager Geoff Penton.

The program will take students through the steps involved in developing a property management plan, including consideration of natural resources, goals and limitations.

Program Coordinator, Pam Fisher, said that students will get to attend an on-property field day as part of the program, and will then be challenged to design a working property management plan for a commercial farm.

“Property plans will be judged, with the winners presenting their plan at the Discovering Landcare Conference, Toowoomba, in October this year,” she said.

The program is in its second year in Queensland and a number of schools have already registered. This year’s field day will be held near Tara on 4 August.

“This program provides Agricultural teachers with the most ideal way to apply classroom knowledge in a real-world situation.

“What students will learn from this program will help them to become successful land managers in the future,” said Pam.

For more information, or to register your school, please contact Pam Fisher on 07 4622 8446.

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Caption:

Toowoomba Grammar School students learn how to identify vegetation from QMDC's Emma Taylor at the 2005 Property Planning field day



For an electronic copy of this photo, please contact Amelia Radford, QMDC Communications Officer, on 07 4637 6234.