

MEDIA RELEASE

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Weed field days for Miles, Roma and Mitchell

Landholders in the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin will have new weed control skills after a series of field days between May 20 and 22 detail the best ways to tackle existing weed infestations and provide information about preventing future outbreaks.

Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (QMDC) Weed & Pest Animal Technical Officer Lavinnia Fiedler said the field days would each offer something relevant to the local area.

“Each location will focus on weeds specific to that area: in Miles it will include Mother of Millions, in Roma it’s African Box Thorn, Green Cestrum and Cats Claw Creeper and in Mitchell it will be Harrisia Cactus and Mother of Millions,” Ms Fiedler said.

“Each day will also include information on prevention and control measures suitable for a range of species, such as a washdown demonstration by Biosecurity Queensland’s John Conroy and weed control techniques from Dow AgroSciences Kevin Melmeth,” she said.

The field days will be held at Keith Richardson’s property “Carinya”, 20km north of Miles on Wednesday, May 20, at the Roma Pony Club Grounds on Thursday, May 21 and at Kevin Buley’s property “Ulandilla”, 20km west of Mitchell on Friday, May 22. A fourth field day in the series will be held at Goondiwindi on May 26.

Ms Fiedler said as a natural resource management organisation, QMDC supported landholders with the difficult and often daunting task of weed management.

“The field days are a combination of updates on weed control projects happening in each area, indoor presentations and practical demonstrations where participants will be encouraged to get their hands dirty and have a go at some of the techniques,” she said.

“For example, the Dow AgroSciences’ session involves a demonstration of exactly how much pressure, volume and plant cover is needed to get the most effective weed kill.

“Bringing together a range of experts to provide support to those dealing with some of these species in this field day series is just one way QMDC is tackling introduced species in the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin,” she said.

Topics and speakers vary from event to event but include: knowing your weeds (QMDC’s Lavinnia Fiedler), legislation and regulation (Biosecurity Queensland’s Graham Hardwick), application techniques (Dow AgroSciences’ Kevin Melmeth), a wash down demonstration (Biosecurity Queensland’s John Conroy), Goondiwindi Harrisia control program (QMDC’s Renee Stephenson), local government project update (Roma Regional Council’s Ivan Gillies).

To register for the days or find out more about QMDC’s pest and weed activities, contact Lavinnia Fiedler on 0428 737 995.

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