



“Help green our paddock” – students



Yarrawonga College P-12 Principal Kim Stewart and Member for Ovens Valley Tim McCurdy with students from the Year 8 extension English group.

Yarrawonga College P-12 year 8 students are calling for community organisations, businesses and individuals to help them ‘green their paddock’.

Student leader Zali Peters said at present the 280 students who attend the middle campus of the college do not have a safe oval.

“We are calling out to our community to join forces with us in creating a safe space for students to utilise on a daily basis,” she said.

“Our oval doesn’t have proper grass, there is little drainage and it isn’t level.

“We need advice as well as some sand, turf, labour, irrigation and above all, expertise in how we should go about fixing our oval.”

Fellow student Joel O’Dwyer said they would love to have some ‘goods in kind’ donated and tradies to give the students some opinions.

“Any help anyone can give would be greatly appreciated,” Joel said.

“We are setting up an advisory meeting with some experts in this field to help us.

“Our goal is to get a playable, usable surface all year round.”

Member for Ovens Valley Tim McCurdy

accepted an invitation to attend a community presentation to be held at the Year 5-8 Campus Learning Zone on May 30 at 6pm; Club Mulwala, the Yarrawonga Mulwala Golf Club Resort and the Mulwala Water Ski Club have also accepted invitations to attend.

“It is wonderful to see these students taking responsibility and ownership for a major project like this,” Mr McCurdy said.

“This is a very selfless act, especially because by the time the oval is up and running to their high expectations they won’t be at this campus to enjoy it, they would have moved on into their senior years.

“These students will be leaving a legacy for their younger siblings to use and enjoy.

“I commend all business and organisations to get behind these students in this excellent project.”

The Yarrawonga College year 8 student group will deliver a presentation highlighting the need for action on May 30 and at the completion of the presentation there will be an open forum for discussion or pledges of help.

For more information or to register your interest please contact head teachers Tim Seal or Patty Lewis on 5743 3129.

Avoid nasty surprises in stored grain

Although grain growers have had their sights firmly focused on sowing 2016’s winter crops, they are being advised not to take their eyes off grain held in on-farm storage.

Aeration and pest prevention must remain front of mind for those growers who have stored grain from the 2015 harvest.

Grain storage specialists encourage growers to check storages regularly to ensure grain quality is maintained.

Development agronomist Philip Burrill, who is involved in the Grains Research and Development Corporation’s Grain Storage Extension Project, said the combination of good storage hygiene and grain aeration provides growers with powerful tools to maintain grain quality and reduce pest problems.

“Grain temperatures below 20°C significantly reduce mould and insect development, including the additional benefit of cool aerated grain protecting planting seed’s germination and vigour,” said Mr Burrill.

“Aeration cooling may not eliminate the need to fumigate pests but it will dramatically slow insect development and reduce the number of years insects are a problem.”

Mr Burrill, who is employed by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries,



Development agronomist Philip Burrill believes good storage hygiene and grain aeration will help to maintain grain quality.

said well-managed aeration cooling, combined with effective grain hygiene, could overcome 70 percent of pest problems.

Without aeration, grain is an effective insulator and will maintain its warm harvest temperature around 30°C for many months – ideal conditions for pests to breed.

“Stored grain should be monitored monthly for pests, quality and temperature,” he said. “When it comes time to sell grain that has been in storage, the last thing you want is a nasty surprise by finding the grain is infested with insect pests.”

To support growers who store grain on-farm, the GRDC has established a Stored Grain Information Hub at www.storedgrain.com.au.

The hub contains extensive information

on aeration and pest prevention and control strategies. Place “Checklist” into the search box to find a helpful checklist of best practices for farm storage facilities.

The GRDC’s Stored Grain National Information Hotline is also available to support growers with all their grain storage investments and practices.

By phoning 1800 weevil (1800 933845), growers will be put in contact with their nearest grain storage specialist.

Cobrawonga Island bridge closed

The access bridge at Cobrawonga Island in the proposed Murray River Park has been closed in the interests of public safety.

“There are lots of great alternative sites people can visit between Cobram and Yarrawonga including Dead River Beach and Burkes Bend which provide spots for fishing and camping.”

Parks Victoria is working with Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP) to secure funding to complete repair work or replace the bridge. The bridge will remain closed until repair work is carried out or it can be replaced.

For more information visit www.parks.vic.gov.au

“We have taken the precautionary step of closing the bridge to Cobrawonga Island after an engineer’s report found it may pose a risk to public safety,” Area Chief Ranger Andrew McDougall said.

“The bridge is subject to an annual seasonal closure from the Queen’s Birthday long weekend in June to late October.

“This closure has been brought forward by a month.

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21	1327	1401	1399	0%
22	1296	1375	1377	0%
23	1269	1355	1362	1%
24	NQ	NQ	NQ	0%
26	1064	1061	1090	3%
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30	783	690	689	0%
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