BREMER CATCHMENT ASSOCIATION INC.

October 2022

around the bremer

Special points of interest:

The next Meeting will be the

AGM

20th October

At 6.00pm

All welcome

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President's Message

Welcome to another instalment of Around the Bremer.

As we move into this year's wet season and the Bureau of Meteorology has confirmed a third consecutive La Nina, our heart goes out to the Southern States that have been affected by the extreme weather patterns.

Whilst the timing and impacts of the next flood on the Bremer is unknown, it's arrival is inevitable and we must abandon the age old mindset that floods can be prevented by engineering or better management of our dams.

Educating people to understand that flood are not only inevitable but also an essential part of a rivers hydrological cycle and creating more resilient landscapes is essential.

Resilience is an adaptive mentality, challenging people to build systems that are safe when they fail, rather than build a fail-safe system. These systems must be thoughtfully constructed, adapted and transformed based on local circumstances, such as land use, climate and communities. Most importantly, we need to recognise that a resilient system in one place, may not be so resilient when used elsewhere.

Identifying the path towards a resilient landscape starts with a conversation involving many voices – Traditional Custodians, Landholders, Conservationists and Scientific Experts. Below are some attributes for you to think about in the context of your farm and community.

1. High Biodiversity – Specifically encouraging high response diversity within your ecosystem will ensure that any incoming stress wont take the whole system down.
2. Variability -Allowing some variability in your system is natural. Try not to control or reduce natural variation in stream or river movement. Build riparian corridors that allow for this movement.
3. Quick responses – Highly resilient systems will return to 'normal' quickly after a period of stress.
4. Healthy Reserves – Reserves may be financial, biophysical (seed banks) or social. Maintaining ground cover, reducing active erosion and planting along waterways will prepare landscapes for challenging seasons.

The Bremer Catchment Association is committed to helping landholders protect and restore our waterways. Part of this challenge is building resilience into the landscape on which we reside.

Primary producers and landowners are urged to get ready for the wet season

Alert: BOM declares triple dip into La Niña

The Bureau of Meteorology has declared this next summer another foray into La Niña, the third wet summer in a row. Monash University's Kimberley Reid, an atmospheric scientist, said she would "bet her bottom dollar" that we'll see more floods in the coming months, "since the rivers and dams are already full".

In the event of a natural disaster, being prepared will help protect your business, crops, animals, assets and employees — and enable your business to continue operation and recover quickly. There are many ways you can get ready, such as:

- Ensuring you have the right insurance.
- Having enough resources in your supply chain.
- Preparing a business continuity plan.
- Speaking to the Rural Financial Counselling Service on 1800 900 090.

To find out more, see the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' natural disaster guide to help producers protect their property and business. You can also read the guide for preparing livestock for natural disasters.

From: Healthy Land and Water (October Newsletter)

Australia prioritises climate action by passing the new Climate Change Bill 2022

News that Australia's emission targets have been codified in legislation has been welcomed by a host of companies and industry groups around Australia.

"This legislation sends a message to the world that Australia is serious about driving down emissions and serious about reaping the economic opportunities from affordable renewable energy," Minister Bowen said. "It also strengthens transparency and accountability through the annual climate change statement and will ensure public debate informs government decisions."

Our new emissions targets include a reduction target of 43% and net zero emissions by 2050. Exciting times ahead for our nation!

New research by the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) has found that roughly half Australia's GDP (49% or $896 billion) across every Australian industry sector is directly and indirectly affected by the "survival of natural systems, which are under great threat and in poor condition".

This doesn't come as a surprise as the ACF points out "every worker and consumer needs clean air and water, food, their health and a safe climate".

This highlights how critical climate conservation and proactive investment are, as it has become economically prudent that every sector of industry must contribute to the resilience of the environment that we all live in.

$900 billion of Australia's economy directly depends on nature

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Khaki Weed submitted by Farmcraft, Kalbar

KHAKI WEED

(alternanthera pungens)

KHAKI WEED (alternanthera pungens) is a prostrate, creeping perennial herb that forms a dense matt over the ground surface.

Creeping stems are a reddish colour which produce roots at their joints. Numerous leaves grow in opposite pairs of unequal size up to 4cm long and have prominent veins on the underside of leaves.

Greenish or greenish-yellow flowers group together in small clusters (8–12mm long) in the leaf forks, with some flower parts becoming hard to form sharp prickles as they mature.

Khaki weed produces large quantities of seed in summer and autumn, which are easily spread when the prickly burrs become attached to animals, shoes, clothing and motor vehicle tyres.

It can also reproduce and disperse to new areas when fragments of its rooted stems become dislodged by mowers or graders.

In addition, seeds and stem fragments can be spread in lawn clippings or on slashers. Cleaning machinery after use will help reduce weed spread.

CHEMICAL CONTROL OPTIONS

Khaki weed growth begins in late October through November.
It is early to control young—early growth before stems produce roots than to control mature plants.

Product	Application Rate	Comments
Amicide* Advance 700	**0.98-1.25 L/ha**	**spry seedlings on**
Tordon* 75-D	**650ml per 100L**	**thorough coverage needed**
Kamba* M	**470ml per 100L**	**second treatment may be**

*Amicide and Kamba are registered trademarks of Nufarm Australia Ltd
*Tordon is a registered trademark of Corteva Agriscience

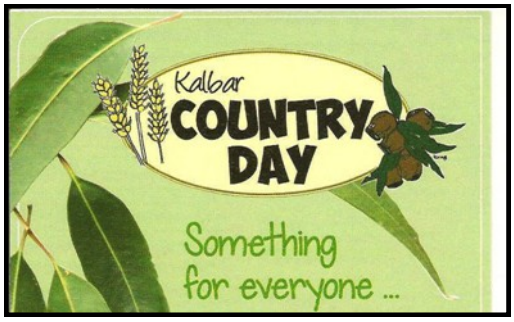
What is Agritourism?

Agritourism is where two distinct and very different sectors meet to create something that is greater than the sum of its parts, adding value to both sectors. It enables farmers to convert ordinary farm activities into extraordinary Agritourism experiences by creating meaning and value through story.

It has an important role to play in creating a more direct connection between the primary producer of food and drink and the end consumer.

Queensland has an exceptional range of agricultural produce and a beautiful and highly diverse natural environment. We want to encourage more tourists (domestic and international), to visit, to stay longer and to spend more money in rural and regional Queensland areas and assist farmers to build and diversify their income streams and be more resilient. Consumers desire to better understand where their food comes from, learn how it is produced and experience the ultimate in low food miles by enjoying produce where it is produced.

Agritourism will be an important growth industry for Australia's regional and rural economy over the next decade, worth 5.6 billion by 2030.



To develop the three core themes and six strategic actions where collaborative effort is required to establish a thriving Agritourism sector across regional Queensland, is an urgent necessity.

The three core themes are: Strategic Leadership; Regulatory and Policy Reform; and Agritourism Sector Development.

The six strategic actions are to: **1.** Establish an Agritourism Leadership & Strategy Group (ALSG) to champion and drive cross sectoral and interagency leadership across government and industry to co-deliver the Roadmap. Queensland Farmers Federation (QFF) will provide strategic leadership for the partnership.

2. Deliver the necessary policy, regulatory and program reforms to facilitate the growth of Queensland's Agritourism sector.

3. Deliver farmer focused, mentoring and development programs to develop viable Agritourism clusters in regional Queensland.

4.Establish a branding and accreditation framework to recognise and promote high quality, authentic Agritourism experiences in Queensland.

Queensland's Agritourism potential

5.Feature Queensland's Agritourism businesses in consumer-focused marketing and promotional programs and campaigns.

6.Encourage the development of a skilled workforce to deliver high quality Agritourism experiences.

Kalbar Country Day 3rd Saturday in October

The recent Country Day , which was held at the recent weekend , was a huge success.

Whether you were searching for plants, salt lamps, honey, windmills, fashion, arts and crafts or homemade goodies, you could be sure to find it here. The fudge and sweets sold quickly, so an early visit to the food stalls was recommended.

One of the busy streets limed with stalls.

The Kalbar country hospitality was displayed by tucking into a delicious Devonshire tea or grabbing a bite to eat at one of the food trucks before relaxing on one of the many hay bales lining the street. Local bands were performing throughout the day. Local farmers sold their goods. Run by the Fassifern Lions, the Kalbar Country Day was the perfect opportunity to get into the country spirit, while enjoying the opportunity to get to know an inside of **Agritourism.**

Hay bales are not just fodder for the animals,
they san also be enjoyed by “City Slickers”

Bremer River Catchment Action Plan

The primary focus of the Bremer River Catchment Action Plan (CAP) is to address the very high risk of flooding, erosion, sediment and pollutant movement through the catchment and its impact on downstream creeks, the Brisbane River and Moreton Bay.

The CAP was launched in 2018 as part of the Resilient Rivers Initiative, led by the South-East Queensland Council of Mayors. Local councils also contributed funds to support the delivery of high priority projects across the region.

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Bremer river at low tide

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