

AGRICULTURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT TO EXECUTIVE MEETING NOVEMBER 2011

Thank you to those members of executive that gave me contacts details for their local papers to enable me to send CWA Product of the Week information. Some of the papers decided to run the articles and others didn't reply at all. We have had very good feedback from those papers that have been running the articles – Mudgee, Lithgow, Yass, Bega, Coonamble and Wellington that I know of. Please let me know if there are others. When I send the articles to Mudgee, staff then forward them through Rural Press to Fairfax Publishing for distribution to all their affiliated papers. A conversation with the editor of Wellington Times revealed that he had seen them come through and had become interested after seeing a different product featured each week – he then decided to run with the concept. So far we have featured Oranges, White Wings wholemeal flour, Sun Rice, Mandarins, Batlow apples, SPC Ardmona peaches, macadamia nuts, Sanitarium weetbix, corned beef, Rosella tomato sauce and vegemite. One member of the committee is responsible for a month each – Michelle Eggins, Margaret Clinton, Trish Carlson and Barbara Johnson have all contributed so far.

Fauna and flora for 2012 are emu and eremophila (emu bush). Next year the announcement of the new fauna and flora will coincide with the next country of study information – in the October journal.

Our meeting last week had a very full agenda with many issues discussed. Included in these were coal seam gas, national food plan policy, silver fox imports as pets, supermarket shelf poisons, Murray Darling Basin plan, overseas purchase of Australian farm land, cattle ban and its repercussions and the proposed Primary Industry Centre for Science Education.

Planning for our next seminar titled "Along the Greengrocer's Track' to be held on March 12th and 13th 2012 is well in hand. We will be having a full day excursion commencing at 6.30am on Monday 12th and will include a visit to several vegetable farms. The cost is \$55 which includes tour and lunch on Monday.

Because of the limited space available in the journal I plan to use the website much more to get information out to members. Please encourage your ladies to log on and go to the committee page for all the latest information.

Thank you all for your assistance and encouragement.

Joy Beames