

The Latest News



www.flowersqueensland.asn.au

First Edition

Date: 31st July 2009

Welcome to the first edition of *The Latest News*. This email newsletter is brought to you by the FAQI Communications Team and provides you with the latest news and information from your Association.

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FAQI News

'*The Latest News*' replaces the monthly E-Bulletin. Its purpose is to provide snippets of information to members and will be forwarded to you once or twice a month depending on the number of newsworthy items. You then have the option if you would like more information on any topic, to go to the link on our website (or other published websites). We will try to limit our communications to your email inbox in-between issues of the *The Latest News*.

The Industrial Relations Update Seminar - Thank you to NGIQ for providing this opportunity for our members.

Workshops & Seminars

Essentials for Business Success Workshop

Managing Customer Service – 4 August 2009

to be held at Qld PI&F Redlands Research Station,
26-40 Delancey Street, Cleveland. Cost: \$44 incl GST. (each course). Bookings essential.
E: faq@flowersqueensland.asn.au

Queensland Native & Wildflower Seminar to be held in Toowoomba 18-19th September 2009. Be inspired, be informed. Be at the FAQI Native & Wildflower Seminar to be held during the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers this Spring. www.tcof.com.au
More information available soon.

Australian Flower Industry Magazine

Advertising Opportunities: Book your advertising space by completing the [booking form](#). Discuss advertising or to book – call **Lodi Pameijer** on

T: 07 5494 4935 or Denyse Corner on T: 07 3824 9516

Email your advertising queries to E: lodi@flowersqueensland.asn.au

September Edition: We are delighted with the 'new look' September issue currently under construction. Send us your feedback. (denyse.corner@deedi.qld.gov.au)

The Flower Association of Queensland Inc.

South East Queensland - Irrigation Futures (2)

We are pleased to announce that we have been successful in our bid to be included in the second round of the South East Queensland - Irrigation Futures program. This month we welcome Paul Florissen (Industry Development Officer, Water) to the FAQI team. Paul has taken over from Sam who resigned at the end of June to explore further career opportunities. Paul commenced his horticultural career as a research horticulturist with the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries in 1994, working on field evaluation of new citrus varieties, plant propagation and determination of plant water use in citrus crops. His formal qualifications include a Bachelor of Science majoring in plant science from the University of Sydney and a Graduate Diploma in Horticulture for the University of Western Sydney – Hawkesbury. Major objectives of the research and extension program to be undertaken by Paul are the further development of irrigation and growing techniques for flower production in protected cropping systems and the continued development of optimal use strategies for irrigation and natural resource management for all flower growers in south-east Queensland.

If you would like to be involved in the SEQ-IF program please contact Paul for more information. paul@flowersqueensland.asn.au Ph: 07 3824 9579

FAQI Farm Management System

FMS visits and grower feedback: Trials of the FMS final draft are underway with growers. If you would like more information, or are interested in being involved and have 1 spare hour to sit down with Claire please contact her on 0432002417.

Workshops: The next workshop will be held at the Native Flower seminar in Toowoomba, September 18 – 19th. At the conference there will be free copies of the FMS available and an FMS sign up stand.

The topics covered in the FMS include:

- Farm mapping
- Soil management (In-ground growers)
- Substrate management (Hydroponic growers)
- Product handling and specifications
- Planting
- Water and irrigation management
- Nutrient management
- Pests, weed and disease management
- Waste
- Native vegetation, animals and ecosystems
- Efficient energy use
- Climate change
- Harvesting
- Post harvest
- Workplace health and safety
- Business management

If you have a particular topic you are interested in, or have some workshop ideas please e-mail or phone Claire Ellis Ph: 0432002417 claire.ellis@dpi.qld.gov.au

FAQI Cost Calculator for Cut Flower & Foliage Growers – Free copy available

Thanks to member's feedback, the Cost Calculator has undergone some minor improvement changes. We are delighted with the finished product and have decided that the best thing we can do for our industry is to make the calculator freely available so that growers can make informed marketing decisions based on the fact that they now have the ability to accurately cost production – a key factor affecting the profitability of commercial cut flower businesses. We invite you **to contact us if you would like a copy emailed to you** - denyse.corner@deedi.qld.gov.au. The cost calculator will be officially launched at the Native Flower Seminar in Toowoomba on the 18th September. The developer of the calculator will be available at the Seminar to assist growers with any questions.

Chemical usage

The Flower Association of Queensland Inc.

Regulator acts on unregistered parallel imports – Media Release APVMA 8 July 2009
Two Australian companies have learnt the hard way that importing chemical products without checking their safety or suitability to the Australian marketplace is against the law.
<http://www.apvma.gov.au/media/mr0909.shtml>

The law requires that all agricultural and veterinary chemical products sold in Australia are to be registered by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). The latest list of all horticultural pesticide permits issued by APVMA separated by crop categories, eg vegetables, tropical fruits, ornamentals, is available on the APVMA website.
www.apvma.gov.au/permits.shtml

FAQI has been contacted by members to assist with a pesticide and chemical usage based project investigating common pests and appropriate registered chemicals for ornamental crops. If you would like more information or would like to contribute to this project, please contact denyse.corner@deedi.qld.gov.au.

Websites of interest

1. **Plant Protection News** www.daff.gov.au/planthealth
2. **Biosecurity and on-farm workers** – Vital information for plant producers
www.farmbiosecurity.com.au
3. **Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association** www.ahga.org.au
4. **Wildflowers Australia** – www.wildflowersaustralia.com.au
5. **Pest Genie** – www.pestgenie.com.au/default.asp?V-DOC-ID=1

AHGA Conference

Restructure of AHGA

At the recent Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association AGM in Sydney in late July, there was approval from members for a proposed restructure & name change.

The proposed new board structure will have the opportunity for representation from all parts of the protected cropping industry. The new structure, together with the new name of the association (Protected Cropping Australia), will be implemented in November. The name change has been made so that it better reflects the broader hydroponic & greenhouse industry.

It has been proposed that FAQI and AHGA assess the value of working on projects together that have a commercial benefit to our members.

Wendy, Denyse and Lodi attended the conference on behalf of FAQI and the Australian Flower Industry magazine. Valuable contacts were made and ideas captured to enhance future greenhouse R & D projects.

Contact Us

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