



Producers plot a course to greater profitability

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Producers in Blackall and Barcaldine learnt how to use Global Positioning technology (GPS) to improve management of their farm businesses at free GPS workshops delivered by AgForce Projects last week.

AgForce Projects GIS technical officer Noel Brinsmead said the workshops were fully booked, a sign that GPS is fast becoming an essential management tool for farmers and graziers.

“GPS technology can help producers accurately plan and rebuild new and run-down infrastructure such as pipelines and fencing,” Mr Brinsmead said.

“We are here to show landholders how to set up a handheld GPS device correctly, how to improve property navigation, work with waypoints and tracks, and transfer data into their property computer mapping program.”

“Landholders can capture property information with GPS and input it into their computer mapping program which will help them keep a comprehensive record of property information and production history,” he said.

Mr Brinsmead showed landholders how to correctly set-up and work with a hand-held GPS unit. He outlined how to select the correct datum to ensure accurate on-ground navigation and led field activities demonstrating how to mark and record specific waypoints and use tracks.

He also demonstrated how GPS units can be used to calculate paddock areas and accurately measure distances, including over undulating ground.

These workshops were delivered by AgForward, an initiative of AgForce Queensland, funded by the Queensland Government.

For more information or to request a workshop in your town call (07) 3238 6048.

For comment call Noel Brinsmead on (07) 3238 6041 or 0400 665 436.

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