

Property maps made easy at AgForce workshops

Computer mapping may sound 'hi-tech' but local farmers will receive expert help in plotting out their properties courtesy of AgForce workshops planned for the North Burnett region next month.

GPS and property computer mapping workshops will be delivered in Monto on 13 and 14 September and Mundubbera on 15 and 16 September.

AgForce Projects GIS technical officer Noel Brinsmead said these workshops are crucial for landholders looking to improve property management and planning, and in particular those negotiating with coal seam gas companies.

"Property maps that identify infrastructure, business activities, natural resources, sensitive areas and future developments can assist landholders to readily identify impacts to their operations when provided with information relating to CSG activities," Mr Brinsmead said.

"Producers will also learn how to use this technology to improve property monitoring, management, grazing strategies, infrastructure planning/building and succession planning."

All producers will be shown how to upload the latest digital data and satellite imagery for their property into their computer, and draw on fences, watering points and other farm structures.

A separate series of workshops will help Fitzroy shire landholders understand Queensland's vegetation laws at workshops in Rolleston, Moura and Taroom on 20-22 September. The workshops help producers navigate the Vegetation Management Act 1999 (VMA) and apply for a Property Map of Assessable Vegetation (PMAV) to guarantee long term security over the management of vegetation on their property.

AgForce Projects principal project officer Alina Butler said all landholders who have native vegetation on their property should come along for assistance locking in a PMAV.

"A PMAV gives producers greater control over the activities they can and can't do on their property by securing cleared land or disputing incorrectly mapped areas."

All attendees will be given copies of their most up-to-date Regional Ecosystem (RE) and Regrowth Maps and taken through the options available for managing native vegetation.

To attend workshop or express interest in holding a workshop in your area, please contact Paddy Roe on (07) 3238 6048 or visit www.agforward.org.au/calendar.htm. Registrations are required 10 days prior to the event.

These workshops are delivered free to all producers through AgForward, an initiative of AgForce within its project division, funded by the Queensland Government.

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

Media contact: AgForce Projects communications officer Madeline Cooper (07) 3238 6060 or 0488 002 091.