

## Landholders flock to veg workshops to ease land clearing concerns

Questions over vegetation clearing and regrowth legislation have driven over 80 landholders to vegetation management workshops held in Toowoomba and Roma last week.

The workshops, hosted by AgForce Projects, addressed Queensland's vegetation legislation and outlined how landholders can secure cleared farming land to avoid illegal clearing.

With regrowth legislation affecting many producers in South East Queensland, producers said they had come along to access information about what vegetation they can and can't clear and had serious fears of prosecution for unintentional illegal clearing. Producers were given copies of their property's Regional Ecosystem (RE) and regrowth maps and taken through the steps to dispute incorrect vegetation classifications.

Cattle producer Roslyn Taube, Spring Creek, said she was shocked to learn that much of her property was incorrectly classified on her property's regrowth map.

"Seeing the maps supplied to me at the workshop really shocked me and I will definitely be challenging some of the classifications over my property as they are incorrect," Mrs Taube said at the Roma workshop.

"This workshop has given me factual information about the legislation and tips on how to go about disputing incorrect classifications in order to lock in a Property Map of Assessable Vegetation (PMAV)."

AgForce Projects principal project officer Alina Butler said producers like Mrs Taube don't need to be left in the dark on vegetation issues.

"AgForce Projects is here to help landholders change incorrect RE and regrowth maps and apply for a detailed PMAV," Mrs Butler said.

"A PMAV gives producers greater control and security over the activities they can and can't do on their property by securing cleared land, and regardless of changes in regrowth legislation, having a PMAV locked in guarantees that the classifications on your property will stay the same."

Desaree and Graham Stark, "Glenrive", Upper Pilton, said they feel greater security and assurance after locking in a PMAV five years ago, but said it is still important for them to attend vegetation workshops to keep on top of other changes in legislation.

"These workshops are really important to keep us up to date with what is going on with rules and regulations on vegetation, particularly when you have a large range of varying types of country. A PMAV is something we just couldn't live without and it is important that all producers with vegetation on their property lock one in," Mrs Stark said.

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

Further workshops covering vegetation management, thinning techniques and biodiversity assessments will be held at Mitchell and Dirranbandi on 13 and 14 July. To attend one of these workshops please contact Alina Butler on 0427 139 295 or [ButlerA@agforward.org.au](mailto:ButlerA@agforward.org.au) or QMDC's Chantelle Doyle on 4620 4600 or email [landtor@qmdc.org.au](mailto:landtor@qmdc.org.au).

AgForce Projects will also be returning to the region to deliver free property computer mapping workshops to assist with regulative requirements and improve property management, infrastructure planning and productivity. These workshops will be held in: Dirranbandi – Tuesday 26 July; Goondiwindi – Wednesday 27 July; Condamine – Thursday 28 July; Injune – Tuesday 23 August; Roma – Wednesday 24 August; Miles – Thursday 25 August; Moonie – Tuesday 30 August; Dalby – Wednesday 31 August; Toowoomba – Thursday 1 September.

**For comment call Alina Butler on 0427 139 295.**

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