

Rural news

Landcare grants up for grabs

APPLICATIONS close tomorrow for grants of between \$1000 and \$5000 to assist landcare and natural resource management activities in northern Tasmania.

The money is distributed by NRM North's Landcare and Community Grants program, which provides small grant funding to community care groups and not-for-profit organisations.

Its program is funded by the Federal Government and up to \$50,000 is available.

Eligible activities include:

- Seed collection and propagation.
- Weeding and revegetation.
- Fencing.
- Purchase of tools and equipment.
- Contractor and short-term project officer hire.
- Action planning and review of existing plans.
- Interpretative signage.
- Field days and activities which engage local community and schools.
- New group start-up.

NRM North chief executive officer James

McKee said that the program would help local care groups to remain active and vibrant.

"NRM North remains committed to supporting grass roots efforts and hopes the grants can help these groups reach their goals," he said.

Applicants must be incorporated, not-for-profit organisations, volunteer care groups or be supported by an organisation that is incorporated.

Applications from individuals will not be considered.

Projects must aim to develop the group or community's longer term capacity to address natural resource management issues, increase community participation in natural resource management and encourage partnerships and the sharing of resources.

Information kits, including grant application forms and guidelines, are available on the NRM North website at www.nrmnorth.org.au

Kits can also be requested by contacting NRM North administration on 6333 7777.

SHEEP DOG RESULTS

Tasmanian Working Sheep Dog Association trials at Agfest:

ENCOURAGE TRIAL: Barry Easton and Pooch 71, 1; Barry Easton and Bob 61, 2; Barry Allen and Polly 29, 3.

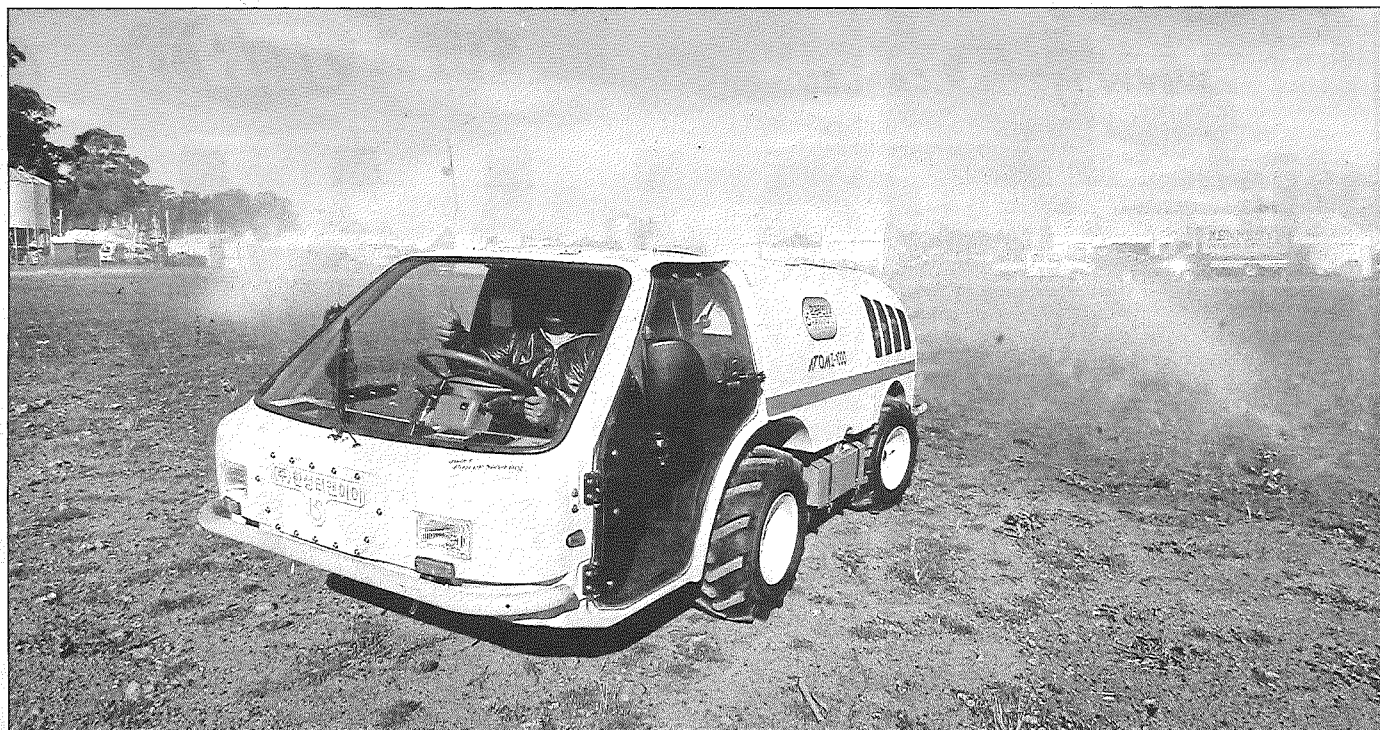
NOVICE TRIAL: Lyall Kelly and Dunorlan Trim 64 and 41 - 105, 1; Barry Easton and Pooch 71 and 24 - 95, 2; Bernard McGlashan and Spec 84 and 0 - 84, 3.

IMPROVER TRIAL: Lyall Kelly and Dunorlan Tri 83, 63 and 40 - 186, 1; Mary Sotheran and Nobleheir Butch 61, 62

and 62 - 185, 2; Bernard McGlashan and Jones Smoke 88, 72 and 0 - 160, 3.

OPEN TRIAL: Bernard McGlashan and Mocara Ice 86, 92 and 94 - 272, 1; Greg Skeggs and Meander Gaye 83, 83 and 96 - 262, 2; Bernard McGlashan and McGlashan's Murph 93, 93 and 62 - 248 and Taylor McGlashan with McGlashan's Swift 94, 92 and 62, eq. 3; Carol Armstrong and Lindsay's Maree 85, 79 and 82 - 246, 5; Mary Sotheran and Tungali Freckles 71, 77 and 81 - 229, 6.

AGFEST WRAP-UP



Hansung Company general manager Seunghwa Lee, of Korea, demonstrates the 4WD, four-wheel steering sprayer the company took to Agfest.

Picture: PETER SANDERS

Sprayer the centre of attention

By PETER SANDERS
Rural reporter

FARMERS on the lookout for the latest innovations in agricultural machinery at Agfest last week were spoilt for choice.

The latest pumps, fence and gate systems and harvesters were all on display, but none attracted more attention than the 4WD, four-

wheel-steering, Atom II-1000 with its fully sealed cab on the Korean Agricultural Machinery Industry Cooperative stand.

The 1000-litre capacity sprayer — a 600-litre version is also available — is powered by a 55hp four-cylinder diesel motor and is low enough to spray grape vines with their protective netting in place and powerful enough for the

spray to reach any commercial crop.

There are 390 agricultural machinery manufacturers in Korea and 390 of them were represented at Agfest.

KAMICO Australian representative Drew Posthuma said that he was delighted with interest shown by farmers at Agfest.

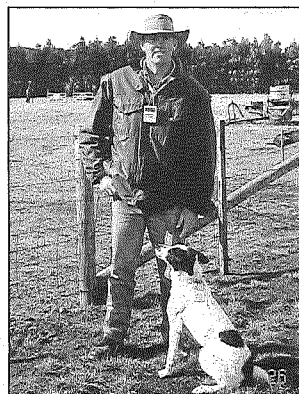
He said that while the Atom attracted interest from

everyone who passed, the potato harvester on display drew more specific questions.

"Lots of potato farmers asked about that," he said.

"You can't get parts any more for the ones farmers have and I spoke to one bloke who'd just spent \$3500 completely restoring one.

"We have them on sale at Agfest brand new from \$4800, but new orders would attract a small shipping cost."



Bernard McGlashan, of Hamilton, and Mocara Ice, won the open trial at Agfest.

Bernard's dog takes top spot at trials

BERNARD McGlashan, of Hamilton, won the Tasmanian Working Sheep Dog Association open trial at Agfest, but only after surviving a scare from daughter Taylor.

McGlashan and Mocara Ice scored 86, 92 and 94 for a total of 272 from their three runs.

The pair beat Greg Skeggs and Meander Gaye, whose 83, 83 and 96 left them 10 points behind on 262.

McGlashan and McGlashan's Murph, with 93,

93 and 62, finished equal third on 248 points with Taylor and McGlashan's Swift, who started their account with a 94 and 92, but suffered a poor final run of 62 to drop top spot.

Association publicity officer Lance Clifford said that the four-tier competition enjoyed perfect weather over the three days.

"We also had good trial sheep and it was a very keen competition watched by many spectators," he said.

"While some dogs had difficulties, the winners and placed dogs ran some very good, consistent and high scoring trials.

"Notable among the winners and minor placings was Lyall Kelly, of Ulverstone, who won both the novice and trials with his young dogs Trim and Tri."

Mr Clifford said it was worthy of note that three of the six top-placed finalists were women, proving that "the girls can match it with the men in this sport".

● See this page for results.

Sale prices a stamp of approval for murray greys

THE top-priced murray grey bull at Charles and Janet Wallace's annual sale at Woodbourn, Cressy, on Monday fetched \$9000.

Lot 8 was a son of Jyndarra Warrior out of Woodbourn Miss Heather Y6 and went to Paul and Denise Saward, of Redpa, in Tasmania's North-West.

Mr Wallace said that the sale's success reflected the confidence in the breed and the stud's breeding program.

The 30th annual on-property sale saw 23 bulls and 35 females sold to Tasmania and 14 lots sold to South Australia, Victoria and NSW.

"We thought it was a wonderful sale given the current tough economic conditions," Mr Wallace said.



Buyers James and Paul Saward, of Circular Head, and Woodbourn principal Charles Wallace with the top-priced bull that fetched \$9000.

"And to get a total clearance of stock at such high values shows a great deal of faith in Woodbourn cattle and the murray grey breed."

The bulls sold to \$9000 at an average of \$4185, 13 mature stud females sold to \$4500 and averaged \$2615, six led stud heifers sold to \$2750 and averaged \$1750, with 16 unled stud females selling to \$2250 and averaging \$1480.

The \$4500 for the highest-priced female was paid by Alex and Kit Boyd, of Greenhills, in Hawkesdale, Victoria. The highest-priced led heifer brought \$2750.

Volume buyers at the sale were Peter Bowling, of Surprise Bay Pastoral on King Island, who bought four bulls to \$5000 for an average of \$3625 and Wayne and Lyn Lovell, of King Island, buying four females.

EXAMINER

Domain

The key to your property dreams

Rural news

AGFEST WRAP-UP

Weed hygiene the aim of action plan

THE covered slasher promoting a weed hygiene plan at Agfest last week attracted a lot of interest, Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association weed committee member Tom Shacklock said.

Mr Shacklock is also the TFGA's representative on the Cradle Coast Authority weed committee.

"The weed hygiene plan was launched last year and the Agfest display aimed to push things along," he said.

"The launch of the weed plan follows the success of the weed calendar the TFGA produced last year.

"The calendar shows what action to take against which weed and when — the calendars are still available from the TFGA and are invaluable."

Mr Shacklock said that a workshop at the Stony Rise government centre on Monday showed the covered slasher to employees of Transend, local councils and the Department of Infrastructure as well as various contractors involved with weed clearance.

"The clearance of roadside weeds has a dramatic effect on the farm sector by spreading weeds from one end of the State to the other," he said.

Environmental consultant Duncan McDonald, from Agricultural Resource Management, has been contracted by the Cradle Coast Authority to promote its weed action plan.

He said that the aim of the covered slasher was to preclude the transport of seed from one area to another on slasher decks.

"The cover ensures that seeds remain with the existing weed infestation," he said.

"What we're trying to prevent is the slashing of areas and transporting seeds many kilometres along the road.

"The idea for the covered slasher came from



TFGA weed committee member Tom Shacklock with the weed slasher displayed at Agfest.

work done by Victoria's Department of Primary Industry.

"The main goal of the workshop was to develop guidelines for weed management and hygiene along corridors like roads, transmission lines and railway lines with the stakeholders.

"Our aim is to put together something that's simple and easy to use by the managers and those doing the work.

"Some of the groups we've spoken to said they'd like something they can refer to in their contracts."

Mr McDonald said that he expected to have guidelines in place by the start of July.



There may have been one lucky woman who woke to a rather large Mother's Day present last Sunday. We're left wondering if the Mother's Day "special" was a case of wishful thinking on the part of the vendor, or simply a clever marketing ploy.

Picture: PAUL SCAMBLER



PASS president Anne Taylor, of Nile, was at Agfest to continue spreading farm safety strategies.

Auger guards another tool in spreading farm safety message

PROACTIVE Agricultural Safety and Support president Anne Taylor, of Nile, was busy spreading the safety message at Agfest.

Mrs Taylor said that people were injured or died in grain silos every year throughout Australia.

Accidents happened during installation, filling, emptying and fumigating them, she said.

"Some of those accidents involve people on farms becoming entangled in augers that are unprotected or inadequately protected," Mrs Taylor said.

"An auger acts like a portable corkscrew, elevating grain that has been delivered into a ground level hopper, taking it up into the farm silo or removing it from the silo."

Mrs Taylor demonstrated two auger guards that have been accepted by work safety authorities in NSW and Victoria and may soon be considered by Tasmanian authorities.

"The primary guard shields the corkscrew or flight mechanism and the secondary guard is

mounted above or around the primary guard," she said.

"Like any employer, a farmer has a duty of care to provide a safe working environment for themselves, their workers, visitors and contractors."

Mrs Taylor handed out copies of the industry standard which can also be downloaded from the Internet at www.workcover.nsw.gov.au and entering "industry safety standard" in the search engine.

Information about PASS is available at www.pass.org.au/105.

AGFEST SITE AWARDS

- BEST SMALL SITE:** Haring Wrought Iron.
- BEST SINGLE SITE:** Prospect Timber and Landscape.
- BEST DOUBLE SITE:** Taz Wild Plants.
- BEST MULTIPLE SITE:** D & L Morrison Machinery.
- BEST USE OF CENTRAL ARENA:** Combined Emergency Services.
- BEST CRAFT SITE:** Simon Martin Whips.
- BEST UNIQUE TASTES SITE:** Trappers Hut Whisky.
- BEST AG DEMO SITE:** Farm Machinery Tas.
- BEST TRADES EXPO SITE:** Scotch Oakburn College.
- BEST HERITAGE DISPLAY:** Historic Machinery Club.

STOCK SALES

Elders sold 67 trade and store cattle and 517 lambs and mutton at this week's Killafaddy sale.

TRADE & GROWN: KR Watters, H, 195c, \$683; K R Watters, S, 183c, \$732; AJ & KL Copplestone, S, 179c, \$806; RJ Townsend, H, 176c, \$678; Ian Joiner, S, 163c, \$652; MG & DJ Hirst, H, 153c, \$620; MD Clark, S, 150c, \$1012.50; NC & CM Perotti, S, 150c, \$903; RE & LA Thorne, S, 145c, \$551; RE & LA Thorne, H, 145c, \$508; JR Thorne, S, 140c, \$567; CC & SL Hill, H, 113c, \$483.

COWS & BULLS: Ian Joiner, c, 115c, \$707; NC & CM Perotti, C, 110c, \$704; DC Bott, C, 110c, \$638; RE & LA Thorne, C, 110c, \$632; \$30.

MG & DJ Hirst, C, 110c, \$567; CC & SL Hill, C, 107c, \$455; RE & LA Thorne, B, 103c, \$963.

LAMBS: Yongs Cattle Farm, L, \$100; TD & AM Brown, L, \$96.50; V P Pastoral, L, \$70 - \$95; ST & JE Colgrave, L, \$70 - \$95; Sherien Catterall, L, \$85; Exton House Livestock, L, \$61 - \$82; Nigel Howard, L, \$80; Greg Towns, L, \$73; V P Pastoral, 2th, \$74 - \$77; R Lockhart, 2th, \$72; Charlie Roney, 2th, \$44 - \$51.

MUTTON: ST & JE Colgrave, R, \$50; R Lockhart, E, \$35 - \$50; DV & A Colgrave, E, \$42; GW & BV Vandongen, E, \$32; Charlie Roney, E, \$30; VP Pastoral, E, \$16 - \$30.



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For more information and bookings, contact:
 Lisa Weedon 6336 7215
lweedon@examiner.com.au
 Mirian Lutwyche 6336 7340
mlutwyche@examiner.com.au
 Di Garcia 6336 7335
dgarcia@examiner.com.au

LAST 7 DAYS!

Bookings by May 21, 2009. Copy Deadline May 22, 2009.