



MACGROUP NOTICE NSW

MacGroups
March 2010



You are invited to the next MacGroup meeting in your area.

This round of MacGroups will be facilitated by Jolyon Burnett, AMS CEO and will cover the following topics:

Soil Erosion and orchard floor management: The groups will be held on farms where growers have implemented orchard floor management strategies to reduce soil erosion and improve soil health and orchard floor management. Growers will speak from personal experience and take members on a field walk to see firsthand the results of intervention. **Guest speaker, Justine Cox** will attend the three Northern Rivers groups to discuss the results from her recently completed levy funded R&D project; MC05001 Improving Soil and Orchard Floor Management.

Rat control strategies: Rats have been a problem on many orchards recently. The Macman-net email discussion has had quite a bit of traffic on rat control strategies. There will be general discussion on what growers are doing; what works and what doesn't.

"Farm On – A survey conducted by the AMS in collaboration with Industry and Investment NSW to measure environmental performance in the Macadamia Industry. The aim is to demonstrate the Australian Macadamia Industry's environmental credentials and identify areas for improvement. **Jeremy Bright** will present a description of the survey, its purpose, and how the information can assist the industry." Jeremy will give examples from other industries (ie rice, winegrapes) and how they have used this type of information in both defense and promotional context.

An AMS Board member or AMS staff member will also attend to listen to members' views and discuss progress with AMS initiatives. MacGroups are grower discussion groups that are organized to improve cooperation and communication within the industry. **All macadamia growers** are invited to attend. You don't need to be a member of the Australian Macadamia Society to attend MacGroups.

| MacGroup | Date | TIME | Venue |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------|--|
| Clunes | Tuesday, 9 March 2010 | 2.00 pm | Mangon 1 , Rices Drive Bangalow. Turn off Bangalow Rd into Walker St (Just nth of shop), turn Left into Rices Drv then Right down gravel road between the two houses and follow to shed. |
| Bangalow | Wednesday, 10 March 2010 | 2.00 pm | Rex Harris, Piccadilly Park 2274 Pacific Highway Pacific Hwy (2 K south of Bangalow) It is dangerous to turn right into Piccadilly Park when approaching from the south, continue to the turning bay on dual lane highway and come back for a left turn into driveway. |
| Alstonville | Thursday, 11 March 2010 | 2.00pm | Tim Reilly Robb St (Off Kayes Ln) Russelton Industrial Area Wollongbar |
| Nambucca | Wednesday 24 March 2010 | 1.30pm | Andrew Seccomb Tallow Wood Grove Odell's Rd Stuarts Point |

Come along and improve your farm management, meet your colleagues and have your say to the AMS. If you have any queries please feel free to contact the AMS office on (02) 6622 4933

PLEASE BRING ALONG YOUR OWN CHAIR

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