

Livestock Biosecurity keeps animals safe

Every livestock producer should have their own on-farm biosecurity plan to help protect their livelihoods from the threats posed by diseases, pests and weeds.

Council is hosting a free Livestock Biosecurity Information Session featuring Dr Pat Kluver, Victorian Regional Officer from the Livestock Biosecurity Network, to help producers keep their animals safe.

Livestock biosecurity starts wherever livestock are located - on farms, in feedlots or production sheds, at showgrounds and racetracks, on small hobby blocks and in suburban backyards.

The Livestock Biosecurity Network was established by peak industry councils to create a broader awareness of the economic risk from animal diseases incursions or from damaging pests or weeds.

Council's Agricultural Climate Resilience Officer, Jill Vella, said almost anything moved onto your property could be a potential source of introduction for pests, weeds or disease for livestock and plants. Even climate change can potentially allow new pests and diseases to establish in South Gippsland.

"Dr Kluver will help participants understand how a farm biosecurity plan will help keep animals safe," she explained. "An awareness of the biosecurity risks that may arise as a result of the introduction of stock, people, equipment or other farm inputs is the first step towards actions to mitigate these risks."

The On Farm Biosecurity Plan is a template that producers can use to custom build an on-farm biosecurity plan specific to their property. It is designed to be used in conjunction with the guideline for developing an on-farm biosecurity plan document.

The free information session will be held on Thursday 19 November from 10am to noon at Manna-Gum at Broadbeach, 5 Lindsey Close, Inverloch.

Book a place before Monday 16 November by contacting Jill Vella on 0408 208 350, or go to www.tinyurl.com/ACAPbiosec.

For more information go to The Agricultural Climate Resilience Project on Facebook.

PR1721 26/10/2015