

Dairy Connect - General information

What is Dairy Connect?

- Dairy Connect NSW is a new joint initiative between Department of Primary Industries (DPI) and the NSW Dairy Industry, to develop and promote positive, active partnerships between dairy farmers and their industry groups, extension and training providers, agribusiness, Dairy Australia and the Regional Development Programs
- Dairy Connect is a web based portal which lists and promotes upcoming events such as conferences, short courses, discussion groups, field days and farm walks, relevant to the NSW dairy industry.
- Dairy Connect provides all the details about these events and the service provider organising the event, via direct web link or phone number where interested farmers can then register for the event.
- The site will eventually also host a discussion form where dairy farmers, service providers and industry experts can network with each other, and provide feedback and comment.
- The main aims of Dairy Connect NSW are:
 - To be the primary means by which NSW dairy farmers find out about learning opportunities relevant to their businesses.
 - To connect dairy farmers with each other and with dairy industry stakeholders.
 - To provide dairy farmers with better access to information resources, including expertise.
 - To gather data about the information dairy farmers are looking for and how they prefer to receive that information .

How will Dairy Connect NSW benefit dairy farmers and the NSW industry?

- Offer a 'one-stop-shop' for dairy events to ensure farmers always know what is on so they don't miss out.
- Provide a comprehensive listing of dairy-related events which can be filtered by individual preferences (type of event, location of event, subject matter etc.), so users can be selective about the information they receive.
- Reduce or eliminate the time taken to search for and assess the suitability of events to their farm business by providing a comprehensive listing of events, details of each event and provide feedback from past participants. Registered members will receive an event list every fortnight.

- An opportunity to view feedback from other farmers about events of interest, and add their own comments, generating on-line discussion with other dairy farmers and providers.

How will Dairy Connect NSW benefit industry service providers?

- A free service providing direct marketing of events to interested, motivated dairy industry people, with regular online feedback on events from participants
- Ongoing collection of information about the information needs of farmers, enabling each organisation to tailor the technical content, mode of delivery and locations for extension programs.
- An online dairy diary and calendar of events, to help with planning of events and avoid clashes of dates, and to see what's happening around NSW.

Who is a service provider?

A 'service provider' is any organisation involved in the dairy industry which provides either direct training to dairy farmers or hosts events such as conferences, field days, discussion groups, farm walks etc which are of interest to dairy farmers.

How do I go about registering my organisation as a Dairy Connect NSW service provider?

To register your interest in becoming involved in the Dairy Connect NSW network and list events as a service provider, please visit www.dairyconnect.com.au. and click on Register Now to get started. After registration is completed you will then receive an activation email which allows you to start receiving information from the website. Newsletters will be emailed or faxed automatically twice a month on the 1st and 15th of the month with upcoming events listed. Your preferences can be changed at any time if you find you are receiving too much or not enough information.

How do I list an event on Dairy Connect NSW?

Initially all events will be listed on the website by the coordinator so please forward the relevant information by: email dairy.connect@industry.nsw.gov.au. Fax to 02 49398950. Or post to the address at the bottom of this page.

Before an event can be listed on Dairy Connect NSW the following criteria are applied:

1. The event must be of interest to NSW dairy farmers or service providers.
2. The event must have an address, date, time, venue/location, title and contact information (this contact information can be either a link directly to the service provider's website, phone number or email address).



3. Educational events that provide training must be able to demonstrate or provide information on the aim/objective of the event, what previous knowledge/experience is expected or required and state clear learning outcomes.

How is the Dairy Connect NSW network being promoted to dairy farmers?

DPI NSW staff are promoting Dairy Connect NSW through the Dairy News quarterly newsletter, their respective extension and member networks and the media. But the best way to promote Dairy Connect is by word of mouth, so tell someone else about it!

Dairy Connect is working on some promotional products for service providers to circulate within their own client network.

So what are you waiting for?

We would welcome broad participation from the dairy industry and those organisations and companies that service the farm sector. The more people that join up and use the service, the better it will work.

To get an event listed please forward the details to:-

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Primary Industries NSW

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