

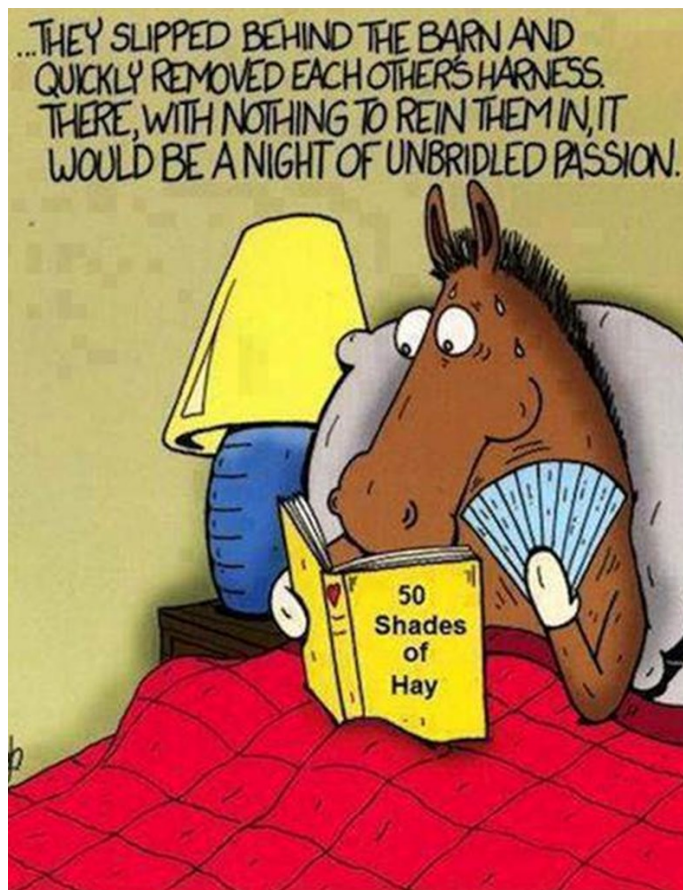
BREAK OF THE SEASON

When before in April have we seen green grass so high and the cattle are barely interested in hay? The Gods are certainly smiling on the Donnybrook area and the sheep and cattle producers are very happy.

The very warm nights in April and plentiful rain has seen pasture growth at record levels. Many stock producers have taken advantage for the good break to re-seed run down pasture. With cattle prices at an all time high this is the ideal season to grow more and better quality feed rather than buying in hay.

SEED AVAILABILITY is now very tight. Many tonnes of seed have been sold through Donnybrook Farm Service and if you are still contemplating pasture upgrade, it is not too late. However, the range of varieties is limited.

**Give John 0429 888 565 or
Glenn 0407 389 516 a ring to
check what is available.**



DONNYBROOK FARM SERVICE



MAY INFORMATION



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NEW FACES AT DONNYBROOK FARM SERVICE



Matthew (Matt) Blanchard joined Donnybrook Farm Service in February. Matt was born into a farming family in the UK, where cropping, a dairy and piggery were run. Fourteen years ago he migrated to Australia and his first job was managing a piggery in Albany for six years.

Brookhampton was his next home and this is where he still resides on a small farming property. Matt has a good deal of experience with stock handling and this was required in his previous job of long haulage stock transport. Matt's role at Donnybrook Farm Service is multi-layered: Customer service, deliveries and friendly advice.



Jackson Chalker has joined Donnybrook Farm Service on his gap year. For the past 13 years Jackson has lived in the Donnybrook area and attended Manea College in Bunbury.

Next year the plan is to study teacher training specialising in sport science. While at Donnybrook Farm Service Jackson's role is the goods in and out, lift and shift and keeping us looking spick and span.

TAX BENEFITS FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Within the tax act there is provision for a small business to write-off an amount of up to \$20,000 excluding GST for expenditure of a capital nature in the year it is spent. Items that would qualify for this type of deduction include capital works such as dam construction, fencing, stock yards, etc.

It is applicable to any small business and not just the farming industry. Qualifying as a "small business" is the key to be able to claim the write-off and the best person to clarify this is your accountant.

If you want a quote to supply

**Rogue Bull
stock yards or
fencing
material, give
Sean a call.**



FRUIT WAX ON THE HIT LIST

Retailer Woolworths issued a letter to grower suppliers in March informing them that as of 17th April, 2016, they would no longer be accepting apples with wax containing the products Morpholine and Shellac. The notice given by Woolworths was very short and made it very difficult for fruit industry to comply. The industry body Apple and Pear Australia (APAL) have gone into negotiations with Woolworths to get a more realistic phase out period.

No more information is yet to hand from APAL or EE Muir, the suppliers of the wax products as to where the negotiations are at. Rumours are strong that Coles is going down a similar line. Information is very sketchy and negotiations are on going. There are other waxes available that do not contain the undesired chemicals, but they do not have the shine of the current products.

MALDISON INSECTICIDE ON THE LIST TO GO

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has announced that Maldison 500 Insecticide is on a suspension phase out period from 15th March, 2016 until 1st March 2017. Growers can still purchase and use the product during this period, but it prevents manufacturers from further production or importation of the product.

The suspension is due to human health concerns including the potential formation of toxic impurities during storage. The review has been conducted since 2003. The full review can be read on the AVPMA website. In summary, growers can use the product until 1st March, 2017 after which time it is suspended.

