

Alpine Valleys

agribusiness forum

'Australian Alpine Valleys - Where the Best Grows to Perfection'

media release & photo opportunity

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North East Drought Coordinator Appointed

The Australian Alpine Valleys Agribusiness Forum has appointed Anne Shaw to the new role of Drought Services Coordinator for North East Victoria. Due to commence on Monday January 21, the position has been created in response to a call by four local governments from the region who met at Beechworth with the Victorian Government Community Cabinet in November last year requesting greater drought coordination support for the area.

The six month role, funded by the Department of Primary Industries, will work with established local government drought committees and service providers in the North East to link eligible farmers and rural enterprises with a myriad of drought support services currently available.

"It was very pleasing news when the AAVAF was successful in a grant application to the Department of Primary Industries to support the appointment of this vital role, said Lachlan Campbell, Sustainability Manager for the AAVAF. "There is still confusion within the rural community as to what drought support is available and the next six months will see Anne connecting those most in need with new and existing drought services and support."

"Anne will be working closely with the rural communities of North East Victoria, encompassing the municipalities of Rural City of Wangaratta, Rural City of Wodonga and the Alpine, Indigo and Towong Shires to evaluate where their needs are most urgent," said Mr Campbell. "She will also link these communities with drought support and services through consultation, newsletters and events."

"I believe Anne is well placed to make a significant impact in this Drought Coordinator role, explained Mr Campbell. "Her exposure and involvement with drought affected communities through her role as Executive Officer for the Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program and her involvement with Anglicare and other support agencies has given her much insight as to how much needs to be done to support those still suffering through drought in our rural communities."

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