

## **Ladies on the Land in the Upper North to share their passion for the land and learning**

Upper North Farming Systems Group (UNFS) has recently launched a new network for the Women of the Upper North. Formed in August 2015, the UNFS Ladies on the Land will be holding its inaugural event on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of June in Booleroo Centre.

Ladies on the Land was created by UNFS to bring the women of the region together to support their involvement in the region's farming enterprises. Ladies on the Land aims to create a learning and networking environment that is open, friendly, supportive and flexible.

This group aims to bring women together, from districts such as Quorn, Port Broughton, Jamestown, Booleroo, Melrose and Peterborough, to develop their skills and understanding of all aspects of farming and operating a farming enterprise in the Upper North of South Australia. It aims to involve women of all ages and experience level when it comes to life on the land.

Ladies on the Land recently received funding from the South Australian Grains Industry Trust and the National Landcare Program to run the upcoming Agribusiness Workshop Series: Connecting and Upskilling the Women of the Upper North of SA.

The first two workshops, being held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June and the 16<sup>th</sup> of August, will focus on Broadacre Agronomy. Louise Flohr, an agronomist based in Lameroo will be presenting these workshops on the back of her 2015 "Grass-Roots Agronomy for Women in Farm Business" workshops in the southern Mallee. A consultant with Agrilink Agricultural Consultants, Louise Flohr was awarded the Australian Society of Agronomy's 2015 Young Agronomist Award.

The first workshop, on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of June will focus on identifying cereal types and growth stages and basic crop monitoring. The second workshop, on Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of August, will focus on break crops, with plant identification, role of break crops and monitoring for in crop issues being explored.

The Agribusiness Workshop Series: Connecting and Upskilling the Women of the Upper North of SA will also include sessions on Precision Agriculture, Sustainable Farming, Product Marketing, Branding and Trading, Livestock Production and other topics as determined by the participants of the initial workshops. The Ladies on the Land aim to hold a workshop in this series every 1-2 months.

The workshops will run from 9am to 2pm, with the morning sessions being theory based at the Booleroo Centre Community Centre. The afternoon sessions will be out in the paddock putting the morning discussions into practice. Children are welcome at the events and if there is demand a crèche will be provided.

Jess Koch, Ladies on the Land Hub Representative, said the support of this initiative from the funding bodies has been fabulous. "We can't wait to get the Ladies on the Land together and start this learning experience. It can be quite daunting heading along to many farming workshops and being the only woman in the room. This group will make it possible for women with all levels of experience in farming to come along, get to know a few new people and learn in a supporting environment."

The UNFS Ladies on the Land Agribusiness workshops will run from 9.00am-2.00pm on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of June and 16<sup>th</sup> of August at the Booleroo Centre Community Centre. The workshops are free to attend. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea, a light lunch will be provided. Children welcome, a crèche is available if there is demand. Please register with Jessica Koch; [jessica.breezyhill@outlook.com](mailto:jessica.breezyhill@outlook.com) or 0149982125. More details on our Ladies on the Land Facebook page.