

Rural Recovery Services
For landholders affected by fires in Whittlesea, Nillumbik
and Yarra Ranges Shires
September 2009

Pasture Management

Fire changes the botanical composition of pastures and can lead to reduced growth rates and a reduction in carrying capacity. For advice on pasture recovery, seed mixes and establishment techniques contact:

Kate Sargeant, DPI Seymour, 0428 325 318

Pasture Planning and Feed Planning

Dave Stewart, DPI Frankston, 0419 116 759

Livestock – Animal Health

Issues or concerns about livestock affected by the fire can be directed to:

Alan Ross, DPI Box Hill, 0419 315 604

Water supplies – Farm Dams

Rainfall on paddocks with minimal ground cover can lead to siltation of farm dams, reducing their capacity and contributing to water quality problems. For information on protecting your water supplies contact:

Penny Richards, DPI Frankston, 9785 0135

Stock Containment Areas

Post fire, a well designed stock containment area can assist with temporary hand feeding of stock while pastures recover, reduce soil erosion and better control weed contamination from imported feed. During a fire they can be used as a safe area for stock so constructing one now is a good investment for the future. For more information on stock containment areas and their benefits contact:

Penny Richards, DPI Frankston, 9785 0135

Weed and Pest Animal Management

For advice on control measures to minimise the likelihood of weeds becoming established on your property following fire, or pest animals impacting on livestock, contact:

Simon Bonwick, DPI Seymour, 0427 092 549

Soil conservation - Erosion Control

With large areas of bare ground, the potential for erosion of valuable topsoil is large. For information on soil protection measures, contact:

Penny Richards, DPI Frankston, 9785 0135

Whole Farm Planning

Fences may have to be replaced as a result of the fire. Landholders now have the opportunity to reflect on their current farm layout and make changes for improved management. Whole farm planning can assist in developing a new farm layout. For advice contact:

Dave Stewart, DPI Frankston, 0419 116 759

Crown Land Boundary Fencing

Reimbursement of insurance excess up to \$400 is available for claims made for Crown land (Park and State Forest) boundary fences that have been damaged or destroyed by the 2009 bushfires (wildfire or fire suppression back-burn). For an application form, contact:

Geoff Holloway, DPI Wodonga, 02 6043 7927

Horticulture

Questions relating to crops affected by the fire contact:

Euan Laird, DPI Knoxfield, 0488 652 528

If you would like to receive this information/publication in an accessible format (such as large print or audio) please call the Customer Service Centre on 136 186, TTY 1800 122 969, or email customer.service@dpi.vic.gov.au.

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