James Lawrence Pavilion
Bos Indicus Room

Thursday 10 May 2012
3.30 pm – 5.00 pm

Carbon, tax and hot air ... finding answers for your business

Feeling overwhelmed by the on-going carbon tax debate and what it might mean for your business? Cut through the rhetoric at this seminar where three experts will deliver the latest on how to measure and manage greenhouse emissions in livestock operations. Specifically the seminar will cover:

- Carbon
- Reducing emissions
- Soil carbon

The seminar will feature: Terry McCosker, RCS Agribusiness, and Ed Charmley, CSIRO Livestock Industries, Townsville. The third speaker will be announced shortly.

Terry McCosker's **'Carbon'** presentation will cover:

- The Carbon Cycle and Soil Carbon
- The Carbon Farming Initiative (Indian Giver Policy)
- Implications of the Carbon Tax
- Measuring Carbon
- Selling Carbon
- Implications for the Grazing industry

Ed Charmley's presentation, **'Strategies for measuring the reducing methane emissions from beef cattle in northern Australia'**, will deliver the following key messages.

- The cattle industry is a major contributor to Australia's greenhouse gases. Nationally the cattle industry contributes about 8% of Australia's greenhouse gases with the majority of this coming from the production of methane from the rumen.
- Current research will deliver methodologies for cattle producers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while improving productivity. Significant investment by the Commonwealth government is dedicated to finding ways of reducing these methane emissions.
- The Carbon Farming Initiative will offer producers incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while agriculture is excluded from any carbon pricing scheme.

About the speakers:

Terry McCosker

Terry is an internationally acclaimed teacher and has worked in research, extension and property management in both government and private sectors for 45 years. In his research era, Terry published over 40 papers and made several world first discoveries in the 1980's in the fields of bull fertility, ruminant nutrition and pasture ecology. Terry co-founded RCS over 25 years ago which has set the benchmark for capacity building in rural and regional Australia. He is responsible for the introduction of the GrazingforProfit™ School into Australia which now has over 5,000 graduates and has changed grazing, livestock and business management nationally. Terry is a Churchill Fellow, a Fellow of the Tropical Grasslands Society, has chaired the Australian Beef Expo, has sat on numerous advisory committees and has been nominated for many awards.

Terry is also a pioneer in the field of soil carbon and carbon farming, having been committed to research and commercial activity in this area for over five years. In this Capacity he is Chairman of Carbon Link Limited, an agricultural carbon aggregator.

Terry was described in the Australian Farm Journal editorial in July 2010 as follows: *"It is hard to imagine the mental toughness and commitment McCosker and his early farmer adopters had to muster to withstand the flood of criticism from within conventional agricultural science circles. … McCosker's ideas took farming out of a war with nature to an association with it. He introduced Australian farmers to the concept of ecosystem health and developed methods of measuring it alongside financial health. Critically he introduced the concept of farm family well-being and welcomed female partners, siblings and parents into courses about decision making."*

Ed Charmley

Ed received his BSc in Agriculture form the University of Aberdeen in 1980 and a PhD from reading University in 1985. He worked in livestock research in Canada for 20 years before emigrating to Australia in 2005. He is currently working in CSIRO Livestock Industries in tropical Queensland. With a background in ruminant nutrition, Ed's research interests are directed towards sustainable beef production, with a current focus on livestock methane emissions.

Our speaker on 'Soil Carbon – measurement, modelling and modelling' is still to be confirmed.