

NEWS



Capturing carbon at Royalla, ACT - Russell Leemhuis and Brendon Thompson, were keen to know more about carbon sequestration.



Ruth Aveyard, Crookwell, Anna van Dugteren, ACT NRM, Mary Bonet, Breadalbane, and Penny Ackery, Goulburn.



Keith McGrath, Yass, talking carbon sequestration possibilities with Dennis Pollack, Yass, and Tony Folkard, Bowning.

LANDCARE AT BOOROWA

'Strategies for Carbon Success' was the title and focus of the recent forum held at Boorowa, which was facilitated by the NSW Farmers and Boorowa Community Landcare Group. Keynote speakers were Dr Susan Orgill, who leads the Southern Soils research and development team for the NSW DPI, Wagga Wagga, and Dr Terry McCosker, a pioneer in the field of soil carbon and carbon sequestration.



Stephen Stacey, CarbonLink, Grafton, talking soil health with Dr Susan Orgill, Southern Soils research and development, NSW DPI, Wagga Wagga.



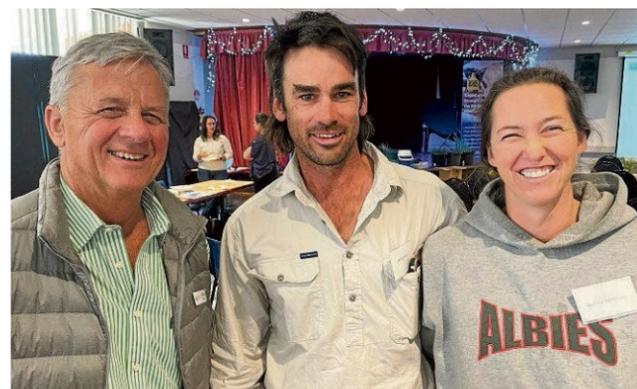
Convenors, sponsors and key note speakers at the Strategies for Carbon Success workshop in Boorowa - Michael Gooden, Terry McCosker, Stephen Bunnell, Tom Reid, Susan Orgill, Simon Beswick and Catriona McAuliffe - (front) Marien Stark, Linda Cavanagh and Jenni de Landre.



Andrew Westmacott, Young, discussing soil health with Bruce Wilkinson, Wombat.



Paul Cavanagh, LLS Boorowa, discusses his carbon success with Hal and Maggie Rickard-Bell, Lost River.



James Barnett, RCS, Jake and Gemma Chandler, Wombat, who were learning how to capture more carbon on their property.

Carbon success stories

BY STEPHEN BURNS

IMPROVING the soil health on your farm and gaining financially was the focus during the Strategies for Soil Carbon Success workshop at Boorowa in early March.

NSW DPI Wagga Wagga southern soils R&D leader, Dr Susan Orgill, took the audience through the difference between healthy and non-healthy soils, while Dr Terry McCosker, OAM, a pioneer in carbon farming recounted a recent audience

he addressed.

Consisting mostly of people and firms deeply enmeshed in the agricultural supply chain, they were there to learn more about soil health, carbon sequestration and how it is impacting on their businesses.

"There is pressure coming all along the supply chain to look after the landscape," he said.

"These companies are setting goals to ensure the land from where the food is sourced is healthy and being

respected. They are encouraging their suppliers to leave the land in better condition."

Healthier soils means the eco-system is healthier, leading to healthier plants and animals and ultimately healthier people.

"It also means healthier profits and then farmers can employ more people which is good for the communities," he said.

Two farmers who have had success with sequestering carbon: Rhonda Daly, YLAD, Young, and Hal Rikard-Bell,

Lost River, also spoke.

"No matter your age, leaving a soil carbon project on your property is a legacy, it is not a burden," Mrs Daly said.

Mr Rikard-Bell described the beef cattle operation he and his wife Maggie operate as modest but it can still make a huge contribution to raising soil health through a range of regenerative practices.

"You don't need to have a big farm to be a carbon farmer," he said.

Hosted by NSW Farmers

and Boorowa Community Landcare Group, the sessions were funded through NSW Local Land Services and ACT NRM through its National Landcare Program

"All media is a reportable output to the Australian Government, which is how LLS is paid (on delivered outputs) and therefore our ability to offer BCLG grants to run days like today [March 3] and the grazing group," Linda Cavanagh, Landcare Coordinator, Boorowa Community Landcare Group said.



Rhonda Daly, YLAD, Young.