

# AGRICULTURE



## Happy New Year!

We hope you had a wonderful festive season with your loved ones. We look forward to working with you in 2025.

We welcome Alex Henley back to the Economic Development and Tourism team this month.

At the same time, Ashley Gray will be leaving to pursue a new opportunity outside of Council.

We want to thank Ashley for her valuable contributions to Council's Economic Development and Tourism team and wish her all the best in her new role.

## Update on the Kempsey Saleyards Upgrade

Construction at the Kempsey Saleyards is moving forward, with work progressing well, thanks to the fine weather.

Council contractors are focused on completing in-ground services, including road crossings.

Demolition and bulk earthworks have been finished, allowing for detailed excavation and concreting in key areas such as the new kiosk, amenities, agents' offices and grandstand.



[Find out more about the Kempsey Saleyards upgrade](#)



## AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship: Empowering Future Leaders in Agriculture

In partnership with industry sponsors, the AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship is a dynamic initiative designed to support students enrolled in full-time study at an Australian university. The scholarship offers:

- A bursary of \$5000 per year for the final two years of your degree
- Professional development workshops to enhance your skills and knowledge
- Annual industry work placements aligned with your areas of interest and your sponsor's industry
- Opportunities to network and gain insights at a variety of industry events

This scholarship not only provides financial assistance but also invaluable professional growth experiences, helping to shape the future leaders of Australia's agricultural sector.

Applications close on Friday, 10 January 2025 at 5pm AEDT.

[Learn more and apply here](#)



## Local high school student tops Primary Industries HSC Results

St Paul's College graduate Jorja Barnett has achieved outstanding success, topping the HSC Primary Industries exam alongside four other female

graduates from across NSW.

Congratulations, Jorja!

[Read more \[PAYWALL\]](#)



## **NSW Seaweed Prospectus spotlights promising investment opportunity in growing sector**

NSW is positioned to grow a globally competitive seaweed industry, highlighted in the recently launched NSW Seaweed Prospectus.

The prospectus highlights the key opportunities for investment in the sector including:

- Cultivation of seaweed such as co-location with existing aquaculture systems and using nutrient-rich waste streams from food processing and wastewater treatment facilities.
- Processing and manufacturing value-added seaweed products such as cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and biofertiliser.
- Leveraging NSW's research and development capacity with partnerships with leading universities and research institutions developing new and emerging seaweed applications and cultivation practices.

Learn how you could get started in the seaweed industry.

[Download a copy of the prospectus](#)



## Varroa Management Tool

Helping beekeepers make informed decisions

START

### NSW Government Launches Varroa Management Tool

The NSW Government has launched an innovative online Varroa Management Tool to help commercial and recreational beekeepers tackle the challenges of Varroa mite.

Unveiled at Australia's longest-running beekeepers' field day at Tocal College, the tool was met with strong industry support. It guides users through questions about their hive conditions, such as mite treatment thresholds, brood presence and colony development. Based on their responses, it suggests tailored treatment options, including cultural, mechanical and chemical solutions.

This tool empowers beekeepers with informed strategies to manage Varroa mites and safeguard the health of their hives.

Take a look at the tool

### Opportunities update

#### **\$1,000 SafeWork small business rebate**

This \$1,000 rebate will help you purchase safety items to improve work health and safety for you and your workers. [Learn more](#)

**The Macleay Grant Hub** is a free resource accessible to businesses, community groups, nonprofits, and individuals. It offers a comprehensive list of grant and funding opportunities. Receive email alerts for new grants, save your favourites and access tips to aid in your grant applications.

[Sign up to access these opportunities](#)

Sign me up for these updates and more

If you have any questions, please contact the Economic Development and Tourism Team on [02 6566 3200](tel:0265663200) or [agriculture@kempsey.nsw.gov.au](mailto:agriculture@kempsey.nsw.gov.au).

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