


# LIVESTOCK FARMER CALENDAR | A SERIES OF PROMPTS TO HELP YOU ACHIEVE MORE THROUGH THE YEAR

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Have a holiday!	Is it a good year for cleaning out a dam?	Don't lose money on unnecessary fertiliser. Have you soil tested yet?	Deferring grazing? Beef producers can confinement feed too!		Time to start your grazing rotation? Can you rest paddocks for 35 days or more in winter?		Tree or shrub planting next year? Get your orders in before November			Soil testing? Follow the Fertcare guidelines and beat the Christmas rush by getting samples in early.	
How are you going to manage non-wetting soils this year?    Click each prompt and link to the online resource			How beneficial would some shrubs have been this year?	Giving biologicals a trial this year?	Have you checked for a response to nitrogen? Throw out a couple of test strips by hand.		What's the spring outlook and how does it affect your fertiliser program?	Why tissue testing pasture matters.	How's your hay and/or silage yield looking? Do you need to buy or de-stock to get to next winter?		
Planning some confinement feeding this year?	What's the autumn outlook? Got enough feed?	Break of season? Don't stunt growth by grazing too early! Are you deferring grazing?			Establishing and grazing saltbush.			Do you have bushfire planning in place – DFES publications		Do you know how to create a feed budget? If you've got cattle, try Rumen8.	
Check your soil tests results in the nutrient calculator.			Inoculate your legumes correctly.		Clover in the sward? If it's poor, check for root disease (dark stubby roots).		How are your legume nodules and roots looking? Pink nodules are good. Poor nodulation may be related to pH. Moly or root disease.		Fearing a dry finish and long summer?	How good is your hay and silage this year? Send some samples for feed testing so you can budget feed better.	
Maybe serradella is an option in the high rainfall region this year (well drained paddocks)?	Does your community need to get together regarding drought.			Strong farms can weather shocks. What's your cost of production looking like?		Test for soil compaction when the soil is wet, but not saturated.	Look out for some hay and silage events so you can produce some beautiful feed and not waste it.		Making hay or silage, get your moisture content right		Have a great Christmas!
Have you done a feed budget? There's Rumen8 for cattle, or speak to a vet/ livestock consultant.			Are you supporting soil biology this season.	Need to know more about composting.	How to set your grazing rotation.			Tissue test plants to find micronutrient deficiencies and avoid inducing copper deficiency if you lime next year (check copper's not low and moly's not high).		Want to see if your soil carbon is changing?	

**For free advice and valuable contacts, phone Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator Karen Whitehead on 0427 806 193 or email [kwhitehead@southwestnrm.org.au](mailto:kwhitehead@southwestnrm.org.au) | [www.southwestnrm.org.au](http://www.southwestnrm.org.au)**

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