



Fact Sheet

May 24, 2012

Rural Discovery Day

- Almost 1,300 primary school students and 290 teachers/carers from 25 schools will attend the day designed to teach students about all things rural to develop an understanding of where their food comes from
- Rural Discovery Day is about bridging the city/country divide and gives students the opportunity to see all the educational and animal experiences to be had at Ekka 2012
- This RNA initiative educates children about their food and fibre through milking demonstrations, tasting some of Queensland's best fresh produce, watching sheep dogs in action and playing with baby farm animals
- Students range from 5 – 12 years old and are from a range of schools including distance education, rural, metropolitan and special education units
- This year marks the tenth Rural Discovery Day plus the Australian Year of the Farmer, so what better way is there to celebrate the hard work of everyone involved in our agricultural industries than to learn straight from them
- Students from Proston, 300 kilometres and four hours west of Brisbane, will teach city students about life in the country and bring along their beef cattle while students from Nambour will present the dairy milking demonstrations
- There will be 34 exhibitors:
 - 21 presentations including pineapples, avocados, beekeepers, olives and sugarcane
 - 9 livestock presentations including dairy cattle, beef cattle, farriery demonstrations, barnyard babies, sheep dog and sheep demonstration, poultry, alpacas, dairy goats and sniffer dogs
 - 4 static displays including Dairy Farmers and Miss Moo, an unmanned aerial vehicle, a historical tractor display and Australia's only LEGO professional
- Some of the first time presenters attending this year include:
 - Tangalooma Marine Education and Conservation Centre will provide students with facts about dolphins, turtles, whales, dugongs, sea and shore birds, how to protect our marine wildlife and also how they can become an EcoMarine
 - Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden will show students how to grow their very own meal in the hands-on presentation which includes learning how to use recycled material to make pot plants
 - Chef Carmel will teach students how to make a vegetable pasta salad in the hands-on Kids in the Kitchen program
- 80 animals are on site to see, pat, cuddle and feed
- Education and agriculture lie at the heart of the RNA and Rural Discovery Day brings the two together in a unique one day experience
- Just 77 days to go until the gates open for Ekka 2012

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