



## **Producers abuzz with mapping technology**

Throw away the pen and paper, and get out the computer and GPS!

That was the message for primary producers who packed into three workshops held by AgForce projects in Injune, Roma and Miles last week.

The computer mapping sessions showed landholders how to use computer mapping technology to improve their farming operations and prepare themselves for future negotiations with coal seam gas companies.

AgForce Projects GIS technical leader Noel Brinsmead said more than 30 producers showed they are keen to move away from paper-based maps.

“Many landholders in the region are affected by CSG activities or are getting prepared for future negotiations so having a property computer map that identifies infrastructure, business activities, natural resources, sensitive areas and future developments can help landholders demonstrate the impacts of CSG activities on their operations,” Mr Brinsmead said.

“With a comprehensive property map on hand landholders will have greater power to negotiate an effective conduct and compensation agreement.”

Attendees were taught how to link GPS for data upload and download and were taken through the steps to draw physical features and record property information such as fence boundaries, watering points, tracks and sheds onto a digital map.

Attendees said the workshop helped them enhance their mapping skills to assist in grazing management, vegetation mapping, pasture monitoring, yield mapping and working with GPS systems.

Computer mapping is also a useful tool for succession planning as it allows property owners to forward plan and gain greater control over farm and business management.

The workshops were delivered by either the Australian Government’s FarmReady program or AgForward, an initiative of AgForce within its project division, funded by the Queensland Government.

Further upcoming free AgForce Projects workshops will be held at:

Property Computer Mapping; Monto, 14 September; Mundubbera, 16 September; Gin Gin, Gayndah and Goomeri, 4-6 October; Kilcoy, Esk and Crows Nest 22-24 November. CSG landholder information sessions include; Warwick, Inglewood and Talwood on 6-8 September, Morven - 13 September, Cunnamulla - 14 September, Charleville - 15 September, Roma - 27 September, Moonie - 28 September, Goondiwindi - 29 September, Nindigully - 11 October, Thallon - 12 October, Mungindi - 13 October.

To attend a workshop, please register 10 days prior to the event by contacting Paddy Roe on (07) 3238 6048; email [roep@agforward.org.au](mailto:roep@agforward.org.au) or visit [www.agforward.org.au/calendar.htm](http://www.agforward.org.au/calendar.htm).

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