



## Media Release

May 23, 2013

### Robotic dairy milks its way into Rural Discovery Day

The ever-popular Rural Discovery Day is on today and will introduce new exhibits including technology that will change the face of milking.

Farmer Gregie, owner of the Scenic Rim Robotic Dairy, will offer a fascinating insight into the future of the dairy industry, explaining how his 200+ cows are milked by robots.

More than 1,400 primary school students will today make their way to Rural Discovery Day at the RNA Showgrounds for an exciting day-long event aimed at teaching city kids about country life.

RNA Chief Executive Brendan Christou said Rural Discovery Day had been held at the RNA Showgrounds since 2003 and proven to be an outstanding educational and entertaining event.

“It’s an opportunity to showcase Queensland’s primary industries to city students and allow them to develop an understanding of where their food and fibre comes from,” he said.

“As well as the fantastic presentation by Farmer Gregie, students will also learn how to make butter, see alpaca fleece being spun, learn about the marine conservation efforts of the Moreton Bay Seafood Industry and Tangalooma Eco Marines and hear about all things soil-related including worms, compost and other garden helpers from The Centre for Growing Sustainability.”

Mr Christou said this year’s Rural Discovery Day offered more than ever including a special Ekka ticket deal for attendees.

“For the first time every primary school student who comes along to Rural Discovery Day will receive free entry to this year’s Ekka when accompanied by a paying adult,” he said.

“Also new for 2013 is that every week day is a school day at the Ekka with discounted entry for school groups.

“The Ekka is another avenue for students to expand their knowledge and understanding about agriculture and farming with many educational activities available at the show.

“There’s just 77 days until the Ekka opens for 2013 and Rural Discovery Day provides a fantastic lead in to Queensland’s biggest event of the year.”

#### News editors please note:

- Media are welcome to attend Rural Discovery Day to film, take vision and interview teachers and students (with permission from carers)
- A selection of photos will be taken by the RNA and will be available to run alongside stories on request
- Rural Discovery Day runs from 9:30am to 2pm today



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- It is located at Stockmen's Bar and Grill, RNA Showgrounds, Bowen Hills – enter via lower Gregory Terrace gates and park on the Main Arena

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