

**Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries  
Queensland Government  
Media Release**

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**Managing Grader Grass: find out more at the Undara field days**

NORTH QUEENSLAND graziers and land managers wanting to protect their native pastures and keep their animals productive are invited to a grader grass field day at Undara in June 2008.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) is organising the field day, where management techniques to control the pest weed will be demonstrated.

Grader grass (*Themeda quadrivalvis*) is a native of India and has become a significant and increasing weed problem in North Queensland.

“Grader grass has the potential to change biodiversity, reduce conservation values and reduce grazing animal production of large areas of the tropical savannas,” DPI&F Biosecurity Queensland project leader Dr Wayne Vogler said.

The field day is the culmination of a two year project funded by the Burdekin Dry Tropics, Northern Gulf and Southern Gulf Catchments Natural Resource Management bodies.

“There will be an overview of the effects of different management techniques on grader grass, including the effects of fire, slashing and herbicides.

“Other land managers will also be giving a view of grader grass management as they discuss their experiences with controlling the pest,” Dr Vogler said.

DPI&F has led the project, in partnership with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, landholders and the Department of Natural Resources and Water’s Fire Management Unit.

“As part of the project, a compilation of results and observations will produce management recommendations so that land managers can reduce the economic and environmental impacts of grader grass.”

The grader grass field day will be held at the Undara Volcanic National Park on June 5 from 9:30 am to 3 pm. The grader grass project will also be featured at the upcoming Australian Weeds Conference to be held in Cairns on 19-22 May.

People who would like to attend the field day can RSVP by May 26 to DPI&F’s Tropical Weeds Research Centre, Charters Towers, on 47 615 700.

**More information:**

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