

NEWSLETTER



**KYOGLER
GARLIC**
BORDER RANGES | NSW, AUSTRALIA

KYOGLER GARLIC GROWERS GROUP INCORPORATED

KYOGLER GARLIC

Establishing a new industry

A dedicated group of farmers in the Northern Rivers region of NSW are establishing a new industry for their community.

This new industry is garlic growing. Whilst not new to the group's farmers, some of whom have grown it for nearly ten years, working together as a

group and creating an identity has certainly been new.

For the past 18 months, farmers have been meeting on a regular basis and working tirelessly in between to

formerly establish themselves as an Incorporated Association.

The group was successful last year in securing itself a Federal Grant under the Farming Together Program. This grant has proved invaluable in the group establishing itself and developing

its marketing material and quality system.

Whilst there is plenty of work ahead for the group to complete its requirements under the grant program, the excitement amongst the community is building with continual interest from other land holders in joining

the association and learning to grow garlic.

Project Leader Lyla Nolan strongly believes that Kyogle should not have to rely on timber, dairy and

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beef alone when it has some of the most fertile soils in the country and a reliable rainfall that lends itself to new horticultural enterprises. With Brisbane's salad bowl growing region of Gattin having its farms slowly subdivided to housing estates, Lyla believes that Kyogle is well

2017 GROWING SEASON

The biggest complaint by farmers this year was undoubtedly the "carrot fern" type weed, known as hemlock. A warm winter was blamed for not having frosts to kill off the young weeds as they emerged. Some farmers persevered patiently through this problem with dedicated weeding of their garlic and were well rewarded with the largest harvests compared to those farmers who did not weed.

placed to pick up the shortage in produce supply. Being just 2 hours to the Brisbane Rocklea markets, freight is not an issue.

The only thing holding Kyogle back is dedicated visionary

leaders to champion new pursuits.

If you have a new idea then it is well worth pursuing it. If you asked the group members where they thought they would be 18

months ago, they would be surprised to know that they would have a fully functional association and a structured program to establish themselves in the market place.

HOLLYWOOD COMES TO KYOGLE

A day of video production with intermittent drizzle

Film crew from Wild Bunch Media were treated to a day in the life of Kyogle Garlic farmers as they undertook a film production to produce a video for the Kyogle Garlic up and coming website. Arriving the night before, the film crew enjoyed the delights on offer at the local pub, marveling at the size of the meals served in the country.

The next day, filming began bright and early at Helmut Park Farm. In between passing

showers of rain and drizzle, the crew was able to capture a wide range of farming activities including garlic being hand harvested. The speckle park cows were particularly curious of the visitors and if only cows could talk we would loved to have heard their thoughts when the youngest member of the film crew ignored our warning about the electric fence and backed himself into it.

The filming took place at five farms and encompassed the picturesque valleys and creeks of

the region. It was a full day event ending with horses galloping as one through misty rain in front of a garlic crop.

A sneak preview of the video's first cut has the group's project leader very excited. The intent of the video was to not only display garlic but to showcase our special region to the world and it is promising to have done just that.