



Rabobank

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September 6, 2012*

Wagga women attend Rabobank's agriculture forum

Agribusiness banking specialist Rabobank highlighted the invaluable role women play in their farming businesses through hosting a one-day financial empowerment workshop in Wagga Wagga last week.

Rabobank senior manager Wagga Wagga Sally Bull said that with the course being developed exclusively for rural women, it was designed to get participants thinking about themselves and their business future.

The workshop which has recently been launched nationally is run in partnership with the 10thousandgirl campaign, which aims to improve the financial literacy in Australian women.

Facilitated by 10thousandgirl presenter Zoe Lamont, the course also included a panel of financial experts including; Hillross financial planner Scott Mildren, Rabobank succession facilitator Gabrielle Copland, Rabobank branch manager Hamish White, Walsh & Blair solicitor Lincoln Kennedy and WDS accountant Vicky Richards.

"The panel session really challenged participants to start addressing the hard questions, many of which we put in the 'too-hard basket' such as succession planning, superannuation and investment portfolios," Ms Bull said.

"While a lot of the day was financially focussed, there was also much consideration around how financial goals fitted in with personal aspirations."

Meg Hardie from Tallimba attended the Wagga Wagga workshop and said the one-day seminar was perfectly designed for women.

"For me, it was an excellent opportunity to network with like-minded women, and there was the added bonus of obtaining financial advice," she said.

Wagga Wagga Rabobank branch manager Hamish White said the course allowed the bank to give something back to the local community, by facilitating knowledge delivery, inspiration and networking opportunities for women in agribusiness.

"The feedback from those that attended was extremely positive, with everyone saying they walked away with something, even if it was just knowing that they are on the right track," Mr White said.

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Rabobank Australia is a part of the international Rabobank Group, the world's leading specialist in food and agribusiness banking. Rabobank has more than 110 years' experience providing customised banking and finance solutions to businesses involved in all aspects of food and agribusiness. Rabobank is structured as a cooperative and operates in 47 countries, servicing the needs of approximately 10 million clients worldwide through a network of close to 1600 offices and branches. Rabobank Australia is one of the country's leading rural lenders and a significant provider of business and corporate banking and financial services to the Australian food and agribusiness sector. The bank has 61 branches throughout Australia.

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