

Media Statement

Teachers get a taste for local agriculture industry

4 February, 2014

A group of more than 50 teachers and staff from Manjimup Senior High School experienced a Professional Development day with a difference last Friday when they took the classroom into the field and toured farms in the Manjimup area.

The day was organised by Manjimup Senior High School, in conjunction with local agriculture consultant Paul Omodei from AgVivo. Shire of Manjimup Education Development Officer Stephanie Carstairs provided assistance with organising this initiative, enabled by the State Government's Royalties for Regions Supertown Project.

The purpose of the day was to provide teachers with a taste for what farms in the area produce, how scientific farming has become in the 21st Century and to raise awareness of the training and employment opportunities available in the sector.

The whistle-stop tour visited Olea Nurseries, JC & LW Ryan & Sons, The Manjimup Pasture Group, A&N Fontanini, The Wine and Truffle Co and Tempra Bros and also had guest speakers from the Southern Forests Food Council and the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Potato farmer Andrew Tempra explained how technical farming has become with crops that are scientifically tested for nutrients and machinery which utilises GPS technology for planting.

Olea Nurseries', Gail Radomiljac, discussed the nursery's involvement in Australia-wide and international plant breeding programs and the training that staff receive which adds to the productivity of the business.



[PIC CAPTION: Teachers from Manjimup Senior High School receive a lesson on vegetable production from Gary Ryan, JC & LW Ryan and Sons, east of Manjimup.]

Statement Ends

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