



**Rabobank
FNQ Rotary Field Days 2011**



APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN

“2011 Field Days Inventor’s Contest”

Note: If you have more than one entry, please complete a separate form for each invention.



Prizes for winners have been upgraded for 2011 including–

- **Overall field day winner** (either from the Over \$1,000 Category or Under \$1,000 Category)
 - \$500 cash (donated by North Queensland Register), and
 - Air / coach fare for the winner only to the huge Ag Quip Field Days in Gunnedah NSW on 16 - 18 August, where the Walkamin winner will be automatically entered as the 'North Queensland' entry in the National Farm Inventors Grand Final for 2011 (donated by Travel Experience)
- **Other Class winner** (either from the Over \$1,000 Category or Under \$1,000 Category)
 - \$500 cash (donated by Rotary Clubs)

Fully Name	
Home Address	
Postal Address	
State	
Postcode	
Phone – Home	
Phone – Mobile	
E-mail address	

I confirm that I have read the “Conditions of Entry” and “Information Sheet for Contestants”: YES / NO

1. **Have you been granted or applied for a patent, or registration of a trade mark or design? YES / NO**
2. **If no, please move onto question 2**

If yes, please give details including the application/registration number:

1 - Patent				
Provisional application?		YES/NO	Number:	
Complete application?	Standard	YES/NO	Number:	
	Innovation	YES/NO	Number:	
Granted patent?	Standard	YES/NO	Number:	
	Innovation	YES/NO	Number:	
Please give any other details				
Trade mark				

Design	
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2. Please answer the following questions about your invention.

Name of your invention	
Invention Website (if applicable)	
How much do you expect your invention to retail for?	1. Less than \$1,000 - ...(\$.....)... 2. More than \$1,000...(\$.....)...
Briefly, what does your invention do?	
Originality - Is your invention an original concept? If not please explain further?	
Need - What problem does your invention solve?	
Uses - In what area of a primary industry is your invention intended to be used?	
Marketability - What stage of development is your invention at? How widely accepted do you expect your invention to be and expected industry retail sales.	
WH&S – Do you foresee your invention making the current work practices used any safer?	
What stage of development is your invention at?	

Please provide below one paragraph about yourself and your inspiration for your invention.

If you wish to mail this application form, please post to:

Field Days Inventor's Contest
The Secretary
RaboBank FNQ Rotary Field Days
PO Box 221
WALKAMIN QLD 4872

Contact Details

To ENTER an Invention - contact:

John Hardy on 07 4091 93409 or 0408 939 910

OR:

Chris Forsberg on 07 40 332 619 or email
chris_fors2000@yahoo.com.au

Field Day Committee Contact Details

Ida Portella, President
Nina Grant, Secretary
Mobile 0408 340 341
Fax 07 4096 8460

Our email address: info@fnqfielddays.org.au

Conditions of Entry

1. The entry is to be brought to the field day site at Kennedy Highway, Walkamin and put on display on both Wednesday 25 May and Thursday 26 May 2011. A special '*Inventors Area*' has been set aside to display your entry. Please supply your own tables, chairs, shelter, signs etc. You should make yourself available with your entry to be judged from 9:00am on Thursday 26 May 2011. All entries will be introduced to the public after 1pm and the section winners announced.
2. Entries must have practical on-farm applications. The invention must be based on an original idea of the entrant/s. He/she may be assisted in production.
3. The competition is NOT open to proprietary companies, their employees or employees of Rural Press Limited and associated sponsors.
4. Entrants must specify which sections of the contest they are eligible to enter.

The two sections of the competition are:

Inventions with an estimated retail value of \$1000 or more:

Inventions with an estimated retail value of less than \$1000

5. Entrants can submit more than one invention however a separate Entry Form and Written Submission must be completed for each one
6. Entrants must be the legal or authorised owner of the invention.
7. It is the responsibility of entrants to arrange transport, accommodation and any demonstration equipment they may require.
8. It is NOT a requirement of the competition that entries be covered by a patent or patent application. However, it is the responsibility of entrants to apply for patent rights before entries are displayed at field days. (The law of most countries renders invalid patent and design applications lodged after an invention has been "published" at field days. See attached details).

9. Rotary and Rural Press Limited reserves the right to reject or disqualify any entry which does not abide by the conditions or general spirit of the competition.
10. In all cases, judges' decisions will be final and no correspondence entered into.

Information Sheet for Contestants

1. Intellectual Property

Returning this application means that you are about to "go public" with your invention. This could seriously impact upon your intellectual property rights in your invention. Protecting your intellectual property rights may be very important to your ability to sell or make money from your invention.

(a) What is intellectual property?

Essentially, intellectual property is your idea or your work. Some common mechanisms for protecting intellectual property include copyright, patents and trademarks. Laws that provide protection of intellectual property rights can provide important protection for you (eg. to prevent other people from copying your idea or your work).

In many cases you must take formal steps to register your intellectual property rights if you want to prevent other people from copying and using your idea or your work. Usually, registering your rights in Australia does not automatically provide protection in other countries; your rights must be registered in each country.

(b) Patents

For most inventions, the most important mechanism for protecting an inventor's intellectual property rights will be to obtain a patent.

Essentially, a patent protects the underlying inventive concept and records how an invention works (and therefore the idea which underlies the invention). In exchange for allowing the public to read the patent and learn how the invention works, the person who owns the patent has the exclusive right to produce, use and sell the invention as defined by the inventive concept for the life of the patent. In Australia, the life of a patent is up to 20 years (depending on the specific type of patent).

A patent can only be granted if the invention is "new", i.e. how the invention works is not already public knowledge. This means that if you explain your invention in public before you take steps to register your patent, you will not be able to obtain a valid patent in many countries. It is also possible that selling your invention, or even demonstrating it in public, before taking steps to register your patent could result in you then being unable to obtain a valid patent in many countries. Even at this application stage, you should not discuss how your patent works.

You may also have made improvements to your invention that is not protected by your existing patent application. Disclosing these improvements may mean you are unable to obtain additional patent protection for those improvements.

The way your invention is actually working may be different to your original patent application. You need to have a patent attorney check the current working of your invention against your provisional application as it may be necessary to file further patent application(s) to ensure you are fully protected.

(c) Designs

A design consists of the features of shape, configuration, pattern or ornamentation as applied to an article, as viewed by the eye. This means that designs relate only to how an article looks (not how the article works).

A design can be registered. Once registered, the owner of the design has the exclusive right to produce, use or sell the design until the registration expires. Registration of a design can continue for up to 16 years.

(d) Plant breeder's rights

If you are responsible for creating a new variety of plant, you can register the new plant variety. Registration entitles you to plant breeder's rights. Depending upon the type of plant, registration can continue for up to 25 years. The registered owner of a plant variety has the exclusive right to produce, use and sell that variety of plant or its reproductive material.

(e) Trade Marks

A trade mark is a distinctive symbol which, when used in relation to goods or services, identifies the person responsible for the goods or services. You don't have to register a trademark to use it, but registration gives you the exclusive right to use, license or sell it within Australia for the goods and services for which it is registered.

One resource with further information regarding intellectual property rights can be found on the internet at <http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au>. Specialist intellectual property lawyers can provide you with legal and patent advice.

(Information as displayed by ABC 'New Inventors')