



The Australian Rangeland Society

RANGE MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER
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Range Management Newsletter

Friedel

Official newsletter of the Australian Rangeland Society



Editor - Mr. B. Foran, CSIRO, P.O. Box 2111,
Alice Springs, N.T. 5750

EDITORIAL

No. 81/1
March 1981

A quick newsletter for MARCH - no time for funnies I'm afraid - shearing (or the equivalent) starts tomorrow and you gotta do some graft some time! Most important news in this issue is "the word" on the meeting in Alice Springs in September!

A word from our financial expert on the joys of diversification:

*"My old man he's got wheat, sheep, cows - the lot
It brings in about as much as an acre of pot."*

SEND SUBS IN TODAY!

Date:

To: K. Casperson,
Hon. Treasurer,
Australian Rangeland Society,
Box 667, G.P.O.,
ADELAIDE, S.A. 5001.

PRINT CLEARLY

Name: Dr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____

Surname

Given Name(s)

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Remittance 1981

Australian \$20

Overseas \$22

Partial Membership (see Treasurer's article p. 4)

Please note code, eg F79 on the address label. This indicates whether you are tight or not.

DR. MARGARET H. FRIEDEL
C.S.I.R.O.
P.O. BOX 2111
ALICE SPRINGS N.T. 5750

F80

A NEW COURSE IN PASTORAL MANAGEMENT

From: Howard C. O'Donnell,
Yanco Agricultural College, N.S.W.

In 1977 this College added the Pastoral Zone Management (P.Z.M.) Course to its list of courses available for men and women wishing to work on the land.

P.Z.M. was initiated after the State Government received submissions from grazier organisations requesting the commencement of such agricultural education in N.S.W. The pastoral community has continued to support the course in different ways, reflecting an acceptance of the type of training offered at Yanco. Not only do progressive graziers from a large number of districts make available their properties for visits, but they also assist with the preparation of short courses now being offered in the west.

The team at Yanco want to provide the pastoral community with information they have requested and may in future wish to know. To do this, we request your assistance.

This College will be most grateful if you would please make available the enclosed brochures to any person who may be interested in pastoral education. These people may include:

- (a) Sons and daughters of graziers who are interested in the P.Z.M. course or;
- (b) Graziers and their wives who may wish to attend one of the College-supervised 2-3 day short courses held, generally, on pastoral properties in different areas of western N.S.W.

COURSE CONTENT

The course is subdivided in the following way:-

- (a) Animal Husbandry:
Sheep, cattle and horse husbandry; animal nutrition; breeding behaviour, woolclassing including experting and shearing shed management.
- (b) Station Engineering:
Operation and maintenance of motors, engines, pumps, windmills, power plants, refrigerators, workshop practice, advanced welding and water reticulation.
- (c) Agribusiness Principles:
Record keeping and management accounting, budgeting techniques, rural credit, analysis of property business, introduction to income tax, economics in agriculture, price analysis, computers, aspects of law and insurance, study of marketing bodies and government assistance.
- (d) Soil Science:
A study of the characteristics of Australian arid and semi-arid soils, soil erosion and soil conservation.
- (e) Rangeland Management:
Occurrence and importance of Australian and International

Rangelands; Ecology and the Ecosystem Concept; Plant Community Classification and the Identification of major Australian Plant Communities, Plant Growth and Response to Grazing; Range Inventory and Evaluation; Australian Range Management Characteristics; Soil and Water Management; Socio-Economic Needs; Land Tenure in the Pastoral Zone; Manipulation of Range Vegetation; Management of Native and Feral Fauna; Multiple Range use and Future Options.

MORE ON SUBSCRIPTIONS!

From: David L. Scarnecchia,
Texas A & M University

Concerning your suggestion that the Australian Rangeland Society send out "subscription due" notices and "cancellation of membership" notices, I am in total agreement with you. However, I'm not sure I'm still a member.....

Seasons Greetings.

THE BROKEN HILL MOB

From: Roger Stanley,
Broken Hill Branch, Australian Rangeland Society.

The Broken Hill Branch again has a major seminar planned for May this year, and this is described in a publicity "blurb" which is attached. Put the date in your diary now!

The Branch lost a stalwart member when John Lawrie resigned from the Soil Conservation Service to take up a position as re-forestation officer with Comalco in Weipa in September last year. John, along with Past President R.W. Condon, was largely responsible for formation of the Branch, and his enthusiasm since has been one of the factors contributing to its success. As John has kept up membership of the Society we may some day see a flourishing branch in Weipa!

Another Branch stalwart is also on the move. Paul McClure of Yelka Station has won a place, against a lot of stiff capital city opposition on the Rotary District 295 study tour of Texas departing in April. Paul was elected to the inaugural committee of the Branch and has been Vice-President since 1978. He will hopefully bring back a few good ideas for us to work on, and we wish him all the best.

INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY OF MERINO SHEEP

From: Broken Hill Branch,
The Australian Rangeland Society,
P.O. Box 459,
Broken Hill, N.S.W. 2880.

"How can I increase my lambing percentages and wool cuts?" This is a common question asked by arid and semi-arid zone sheepmen and they can find out how by attending a seminar, titled "Increasing Productivity of Merino Sheep", on Thursday, May 28th in Broken Hill.

The seminar has been organised jointly by the Broken Hill Branch of the Australian Rangeland Society and the Pastoralists' Association of West Darling, and has, as the programme shows, drawn together a range of experts on the subject. These include N.S.W. Department of Agriculture personnel, professional breeders and classers from both the traditional and objective measurement "schools", and a leading West Darling pastoralist. A discussion on the use of light aircraft for station management is an added attraction of the programme.

Mr. G. Woods, Livestock Officer (Sheep & Wool) in Broken Hill, said that irrespective of their production record, all producers in the area could learn from the seminar and should attend. Mr. Woods, a speaker on the programme, said that it was an ideal opportunity for pastoralists to catch up on the latest scientific knowledge and particularly on more practical aspects of breeding and classing.

Secretary of the Broken Hill Branch of the Rangeland Society, District Soil Conservationist Mr. R. Stanley, said that the seminar was open to all members of the public, and extended a special invitation to pastoralists from the border regions of South Australia and Victoria.

IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY OF MERINO SHEEP

A Seminar organised jointly by the

AUSTRALIAN RANGELAND SOCIETY
BROKEN HILL BRANCH

and

THE PASTORALISTS' ASSOCIATION
OF WEST DARLING

MAY 28TH, 1981
BROKEN HILL CIVIC CENTRE

P R O G R A M M E

9.30 a.m.

Welcome. W.B. Smith, President, Broken Hill Branch, Australian Rangeland Society, Wilangee Station, via Broken Hill.

Opening Remarks. Associate Professor J.P. Kennedy, Head, School of Wool and Pastoral Sciences, University of New South Wales. (Chairman).

- 9.35 a.m. Helping sheep to produce more. A.E. Bartholomaeus, Pine Creek Station, via Broken Hill.
- 10.00 a.m. Morning tea.
- 10.30 a.m. The scope for genetic improvement in the Australian merino - with reference to the pastoral zone. Dr. B. McGuirk, Senior Livestock Research Officer, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Sydney.
- 11.30 a.m. Relativity of objective measurement in yield and micron to present day merino breeding. D. Walker, Classings Pty. Ltd., Murray Bridge.
- 12.30 p.m. Lunch
- 2.00 p.m. Traditional sheep breeding and selection methods. C.M.Y. O'Connor, Manager, East Bungaree Pty. Ltd., Mount Bryan.
- 3.00 p.m. Fertility investigations in sheep in the West Darling Area. J. Plant, Special Veterinary Research Officer, Sydney; G. Woods, Livestock Officer (Sheep and Wool), Broken Hill; D. Byrne, Veterinary Officer, Broken Hill, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture.
- 3.45 p.m. Afternoon tea.
- 4.15 p.m. Economics of an aeroplane for the pastoralist. J. Gall, Langawirra Station, via Broken Hill.
- 4.45 p.m. Review. R.W. Condon, Western Lands Commissioner, Sydney.
- 5.00 p.m. Closing remarks. Chairman.

OUR TREASURER SPEAKS

From: Keith Casperson,
Box 667, G.P.O.,
Adelaide, S.A. 5001.

Subscriptions for 1981 are now due. Remember to check the upper right corner of your address label for current financial standing. (e.g. F 79 - financial for 1979, \$20 owing for 1980, \$20 owing for 1981). As stated in the last newsletter persons with F 78 will receive no publications until they are fully financial. Persons with a F 79 status will not receive any future issues of the journal. Any persons with such a standing as of March 31st, 1981 will not receive any further publications. In the interim I will post individual due notices to both F 78 and F 79 members. In the Articles of Association (these are available free of charge to financial members from M. Willcocks, C/- Soil Branch, Department of Agriculture, G.P.O. Box 1671, Adelaide, S.A. 5001), Clause 3 (f), provision is made for termination of membership if subscriptions are more than 6 months in arrears. (i.e. not financial for current year as of June 30th).

Clause 3 (g) states that non-financial members will be liable for moneys due and payable. If anyone is confused about their financial status please write.

One last point on subscriptions. At the last meeting of the Executive Council it was recognised that provision should be made for different membership categories. Accordingly, it is possible for private subscribers to take out either full membership (\$20, o/s \$22) which entitles them to newsletters and journals OR partial membership (\$10, o/s \$12) which allows for newsletters only. This provision is operative in 1981 and if a subscriber wishes to receive just newsletters only forward \$10 (o/s \$12).

MORE SOCIETY BUSINESS

FOR SALE:

Copies of the Proceedings of the third and fourth workshops of the U.S./Australia Rangeland Panel are available from

Mrs. H. Warrener
CSIRO Divn. Land Resources Management
Private Bag
P.O., Wembley, W.A. 6014.

for \$6 each. Postage and packaging is \$3.60 for one copy, or for both, so why not buy both?

Details of contents are:

NO. 3 - ARID SHRUBLANDS

Session I. Extent and significance of arid shrublands in the national context - an overview of shrubland ecosystems.

1. Australian arid shrublands by R.M. Moore
2. United States arid shrublands in perspective by C.M. McKell and J.R. Goodin.

Session II. Biology of arid shrublands.

1. The Desert Experimental Range: description, history, and program by Ralph C. Holmgren.
2. Range sites in Australia by R.A. Perry.
3. Range sites and soils in the United States by Thomas N. Shiflet.
4. Biological characteristics of Australian Acacia and Chenopodiaceous shrublands relevant to their pastoral use by R.D. Graetz.
5. Morphology and phenology of desert shrubs by Howard L. Morton and Herbert M. Hull.
6. Forage utilization, daily intake, and nutrient value of desert ranges by C. Wayne Cook.

7. Highlights of research on the Santa Rita Experimental Range by S. Clark Martin and Dwight R. Cable.
8. Secondary succession, disclimax and range condition standards in desert shrub vegetation by Paul T. Tueller.
9. Structure and function of Australian arid shrublands by R.O. Slatyer.
10. Structure and function of climax by Harold F. Heady.

Session III. Multiple-use requirements and constraints of shrubland use.

1. Environmental, biological, and managerial constraints to the production of sheep and cattle in Australian shrublands by Owen B. Williams.
2. Biological and environmental constraints for livestock production on arid shrublands by Phil R. Ogden.
3. Land use by emus and other wildlife species in the arid shrublands of Western Australia by S.J.J.F. Davies.
4. Important game animals and related recreation in arid shrublands of the United States by Olof C. Wallmo.
5. Economic and financial constraints in the operation of livestock enterprises on arid shrublands by E.J. Waring.
6. Economic and management constraints for livestock production from arid shrublands by W. Gordon Kearl.
7. Conservation and recreation in arid Australia: an economic perspective by A.H. Chisholm.
8. Wildlife and recreation on U.S. rangelands - the economic aspects by John P. Workman.
9. Urbanism and aridity - some geographical perspectives from an urban viewpoint by D.N. Parkes.
10. Political and social constraints on the use of arid lands for recreation, wildlife, water, and livestock grazing in the United States by Glen D. Fulcher.

NO. 4 - RANGELAND ECOSYSTEM EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT.

History of rangeland use and administration in the western United States by J.P. Blaisdell & L.A. Sharp.

The land laws of arid and semi-arid New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia and their development by G.M. Cunningham.

Rangeland ecosystem evaluation and management administration and responsibilities by B. Heffernan.

Rangeland administration in the United States by G.F. Payne.

The kinds of information needed for rangeland inventories by T.K. Eaman.

Range inventory method in the United States: past, present and future by C. Terwilliger Jr.

Collection, storage and retrieval of rangeland resource data by N.M. Dawson.

The use of range condition in rangeland ecosystem evaluation and management planning by D.H. Gates.

The assessment of range trend and utilisation in Australia by I.R. Noble.

Review of range trend and utilisation methodology: use in rangeland ecosystem evaluation and management by F.E. Kinsinger.

Animal management decisions by D.A. Price.

Animal management decisions by B.A. Woolcock.

Vegetation management decision in Queensland's sheeplands by W.H. Burrows.

Vegetation management decisions in the preparation of a management plan by L.A. Sharp.

Economic factors influencing range management planning by the late F.T. Colbert.

Economics, management and decisions in range systems by J.R. Anderson.

The ranch plan: its development and application by D.D. Dwyer.

The station plan in Australia by D.G. Wilcox.

FOR FREE:

Articles of Association are now available at an unbelievably low cost (nothing) from the Secretary:

Mr. M. Willcocks,
Secretary Australian Rangeland Society,
C/- Department of Agriculture,
G.P.O. Box 1671,
Adelaide, S.A. 5001.

Copies are available on request and are sent to new members as a matter of course.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The A.G.M. will be held on Thursday, 28th May at 12.45 p.m.

at:

2nd Floor, Convention Centre,
Education Department,
Flinders St., Adelaide.

The Council will be based in the Northern Territory for the next two years. Nominations are now called, for the positions of Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer: nominees should be residents of the N.T. Other members of the Council will be the immediate Past President (current President, Vic Squires) and President (current Vice-President, Margaret Friedel). Nomination forms are available from the current secretary; write to:

Mr. Martin Willcocks,
Secretary, Australian Rangeland Society,
C/- Department of Agriculture,
G.P.O. Box 1671,
Adelaide, S.A. 5001.

AUSTRALIAN RANGELAND SOCIETY 3RD BIENNIAL CONFERENCEALICE SPRINGS, SEPTEMBER 1981

Thanks to all of you who responded to our questionnaire. We have drawn up a program which we think will provide something for everyone. As yet, details of pre- and post-conference tours have not been finalised and so we can only reveal that one is planned for an area northwest of Alice Springs while the other is to be south. Details next issue. A number of speakers and chairpersons have already accepted invitations while others are "on the way"; consequently, the program below is not complete or final. However, this should give a taste of the good things in store.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM (incomplete)

22ND-25TH SEPTEMBER 1981

Mon. 21st

7 - 9 pm Informal get-together and early registration.

Tues. 22ndPre-conference tour.
Barbecue and registration.Wed. 23rd

8.30 am Registration

9.00 am Welcome
Introductory speaker9.30 am Land tenure
Chair: A.D. Wilson (CSIRO Deniliquin)
Speaker: M.D. Young (CSIRO Deniliquin)
Additional panel members:
J. Vickery (S.A. Dept. of Lands)
V. Wasilewsky (N.T. Dept. of Lands & Housing)
Review of contributed papers and discussion

10.30 am Morning tea.

11.00 am General contributed papers
Chair:
Review of contributed papers and discussion.

12.30 pm Lunch

2.00 pm Alternative land use/multiple land use
Chair: B.D. Foran (CSIRO Alice Springs)
Speaker: G.A. Letts (Conservation Commission N.T.)
Reply:
Review of contributed papers and discussion.

3.30 pm Afternoon tea.

4.00 pm General contributed papers
Chair:
Review of contributed papers and discussion.

5.30 pm Close.

6.30 pm Conference dinner and speaker.

Thurs. 24th

- 9.00 am Drought policy
Chair: D. Wilcox (W.A. Dept. of Agric.)
Speaker:
Additional panel member(s):
Review of contributed papers on drought policy/
biology and discussion.
- 10.30 am Morning tea
- 11.00 am General Contributed papers
Chair:
Review of contributed papers and discussion
- 12.30 pm Lunch
- 2.00 pm Trade unions and rangelands
Chair: V.R. Squires
Speaker:
Reply:
Review of contributed papers and discussion
- 3.30 pm Afternoon tea
- 4.00 pm Final address
Speaker:
- 4.30 pm General meeting
- 5.00 pm Close

Fri. 25th Post-conference tour.

Contributed Papers

You are all invited to contribute working papers on any subject. They may be discussed under one of the four themes for which there are speakers (see program), or they may be included in the sessions for "General contributed papers". A big proportion of the questionnaire replies asked for "Rangelands research", so now is your chance, boffins! Let's also hear from the pastoralists, the educators, the administrators and all of you who have something to say about rangelands. If there are many papers submitted (and we hope there are), individual presentation won't be possible; rather, the session chairperson will summarise each paper and discussion will be invited on all aspects for the remainder of the session.

Start writing those papers NOW. The format we require is detailed in this issue, and the limit is 1500 words, plus a 150 word Abstract. Many of you will have access to a carbon-ribbon typewriter; if you ensure that you conform to the required layout and word limit, and you provide a manuscript typed with a carbon-ribbon typewriter, we will be able to reproduce it "as is". Some editing may be necessary, however. For those without a typewriter, send in a legible, well-spaced hand-written copy, and we will do our best to get it typed. We have limited facilities for typing available to us.

Here is our timetable, repeated from the last R.M.N.

- May 1981 - Papers for consideration by the A.R.J. should have been submitted by 1st May.*
- Second and final call for contributions in May R.M.N.
- Attendance application forms despatched.
- July 1981 - Deadline for all contributions.
- September 1981 - Conference!

*We suggest that contributors who wish to have their papers published in the Australian Rangeland Journal submit their manuscripts to us by 1st May 1981, so that the Journal's referees can give them due consideration before our own deadlines. We hope to have a section in A.R.J. of papers and discussion presented at the conference, to publicise our A.R.S. activities. If contributors are prompt, publication could be in the November 1981 issue, otherwise 1982. All contributions to the working papers will need to be in our hands by 1st July 1981, to give us time for editing, typing, proof reading, collating, etc.

Send your manuscripts to:

Dr. Ockie Bosch,
A.R.S. Conference Secretary,
CSIRO, P.O. Box 2111,
ALICE SPRINGS, N.T. 5750.

Accommodation

Please refer to your last R.M.N. for details. However to briefly state the situation: single and share-twin facilities will be available at Melanka Lodge, where the conference is to be held. Single rooms will be available on a first-ask, first-served basis. If you need accommodation before the night of 21st September or after the night of 24th September, we will need to know now. If you wish to make your own arrangements, either motel or caravan park, we suggest that you start now, too.

Many of our questionnaire respondents gave their names and addresses, which was a help where additional accommodation was required. Anyone who did not identify themselves, but had accommodation preferences, should write to the Conference Secretary at the above address as soon as possible, giving details. Otherwise, you can wait for the attendance application form in the next R.M.N., in which case you will be guaranteed a bed for the nights of 21st-24th September, but not necessarily a single room.

"The Ghan"

Sorry everyone. There was not enough interest indicated for us to take on block-booking for you. However, if you still wish to travel by train, you can make your own arrangements, but we will not be able to deliver you to Kulgera on Friday 25th as previously suggested. This means that you must travel up on the train on Thursday, 17th or miss the post-conference tour to travel down to Adelaide on the 25th. Make your own bookings soon.

Organising Committee

South Australian members of the committee, listed in the last R.M.N., have breathed a collective sigh of relief and divested themselves of all responsibility for the conference. From now on, the Northern Territory members are fully responsible/to blame for all successes/failures. The conference items in the last R.M.N. and in this issue were written by Margaret Friedel, who modestly forgot to put herself on the committee list. Now that the organising committee has got itself organised, the following own up to being members:

Chairman: Ken Shaw, Dept. of Primary Production,
Alice Springs, N.T.
Secretary: Ockie Bosch, CSIRO, Alice Springs, N.T.
Treasurer: Gary Bastin, Dept. of Primary Production,
Alice Springs, N.T.
Tours & Accommodation: Graham Pearce, CSIRO, Alice Springs, N.T.
Editorial: Margaret Friedel, CSIRO, Alice Springs, N.T.

30 mm

Page number location

11.

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FORMAT FOR CONFERENCE WORKING PAPERS

Manuscripts should be typed on A4 size paper with a carbon ribbon typewriter if possible, with 1½ line spacing (to save our costs). This page is typed with 1½ spacing, to give you the idea. All typescript should fall within the limits of the "box" and pages should be numbered at either the top or bottom right hand corner, in the positions indicated. DO NOT use the bottom centre position, as this will be used to number the pages of the complete working papers, when they are bound.

165 mm

Page number location

Please address all correspondence to:

Dr. Ockie Bosch, A.R.S. Conference Secretary,
CSIRO, P.O. Box 2111, Alice Springs, N.T. 5750.