

news & views

about pasture development in the tropics and subtropics

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A final farewell?

It seems that the final struggle of the Tropical Grassland Society of Australia is nigh but the final decision must await the AGM. The end has been on the horizon for many years now as we have struggled to remain vibrant and relevant; each year our membership has fallen as our core of pasture scientists has dwindled. We have tried to be more attractive to those who actually produce livestock and crops but have not been overly successful.

The search for members

In early days, the president was selected in turn between scientists from CSIRO and from the DPI and then from a producer. Over the last couple of years, we have had vigorous input from presidents from agribusiness. While most of the Management Committee have been older (old) scientists, both Tony Illing and Andrew Ferguson have been associated (that is run or manage) companies dealing with pasture seed and establishment. Both had long lists

of customers who have been keen to plant permanent pastures, and they hoped that their enthusiasm would swell our ranks, especially at our March Conference. Alas, this was not so. We do have a number of keen producers from across the state but never in the numbers in the hundreds of those in, for example, the Grassland Societies of NSW and South Australia.

Pastures in the local system

Is this a reflection on our Management Committee or on the livestock production systems in the tropics? In southern states, pastures have been part of the farming system; annual legumes in ley or phase farming have kept crop production profitable. Without them, the system could soon collapse—although zero-till techniques are now allowing farmers to concentrate on cropping. In the north, we do have large areas of sown pastures but these may be mono-specific buffel grass, which is nothing new. There is increasing interest in Grain and Graze systems but with input and information from producer-funded organisations such as GRDC. So in the south, pastures mean survival, in the north, sown pastures seem more like an option.

AGM
10th Dec
See
page 3

June 2001

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Society News

Check our TGS website (www.tropicalgrasslands.asn.au) for past newsletters, the archive of all the issues of the Tropical Grasslands journal and for the Pasture Picker. These will remain on our site over the next year before being moved to someone else's server — but we don't know whose yet. They must remain accessible in perpetuity.

Volumes 41 and 42 (2007 and 2008) were placed in the journal archive on the web site in October. We now have titles, abstracts and papers covering journals from Number 1 (1967) to Number 42 (2008), with a delay before adding the latest issues.

However, you might also have noticed that the links to the early volumes (Vol. 1 to 13) have been broken since the journal type-setter added 41 and 42 but this has been fixed. A user has pointed out that access to the archive Newsletters finishes in 2006; they are actually on the server but I had not updated the links—sorry.

Your Executive for 2009 (and 2010?)

When (if) it is confirmed that the Society will formally close at the end of this year, we will still need a committee to oversee all the details of closing. These jobs include the editing and typesetting of the journal, the maintenance and transfer of the web site, all matters dealing with assets and finances. The 2009 Executive Committee have offered to assist in this but since several members will be retiring from their regular employment during 2010, their contact details may well change. New contact details will be posted on the TGS web site.

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46th Annual General Meeting and Field Day

The 46th Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 10th December 2009
at 5 p.m. at the Toowoomba DPI&F Training Centre, 203 Tor Street

4.30 p.m. Arrival and smoko

5.00 p.m. Annual General Meeting

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 45th AGM held at Toowoomba
3. Executive Committee Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Journal Editor's Report
6. Newsletter Editor's Report
7. Harry Stobbs Memorial Fund report
8. The future of the Tropical Grassland Society Inc.
9. General Business
10. Election of Office Bearers (depending on the future of the Society)
11. Presidential Address

We are planning to finish with a BBQ in the DPI Training Centre. This will cost you only \$5 but we do need to know numbers, so please RSVP to Ian Partridge (see opposite page for phone or email).

Tour on eastern Darling Downs on 10th December

We will be running a field trip on the eastern Darling Downs on the day of the AGM.

Because of the exceptionally dry conditions up to now, we have not been able to decide on the best places to visit, except to say that the only green foliage around is that of leucaena.

So we'll call it a magical mystery tour at present and put any updates on the web.

We will be providing a bus which will leave from the DPI&F complex carpark in 203 Tor Street, Toowoomba (or next door at Rothwell Park) at 10:30 am.

Which pasture paddocks we will visit will be decided closer to the day when we have checked it all out, looking for something green.

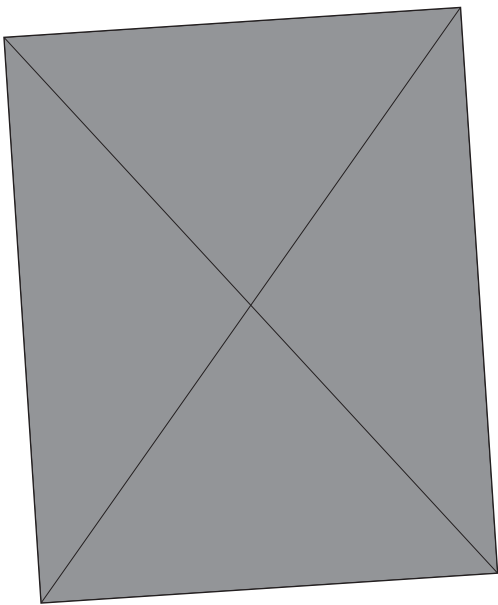
There will be no charge for the bus ride but we do need a good idea of number so as to hire a suitably-sized vehicle. We will organise a cut lunch (and for those who remember last year, with nice fresh apples) for a nominal cost, and will bring that from Toowoomba.

Please advise Ian Partridge (contact details on the opposite page) if you are coming – for bus seats and catering purposes).

**Check on the TGS website
(www.tropicalgrasslands.asn.au)
closer to the day for the updates.**

The old days of a new science

When the Tropical Grassland Society started in the early 1960s, new information about the new science of tropical pastures, and new exciting species poured out of CSIRO and DPI. We had six newsletters a year; now it is difficult to find information to put in any newsletter, and much of the research in the journal is tweaking science (and often that overseas) rather than ground-breaking findings for producers. Funding has moved from production to the environment to climate change and carbon footprints.



From the early days of the 1960s

This is natural with any new research program; initial advances are explosive and exponential but then it becomes more a case of dotting the i's and crossing the t's.

Overseas demand for our science

We have been a pan-tropical society with Australian findings being avidly sought all over the tropical world. Queensland was well accepted as the world leader of tropical pasture science. Even a couple of years ago, Paraguayan ranchers asked me about new cultivars being developed and I had to say that much of this was now being done in other South American countries, notably Brazil and Colombia.

Indeed much of the recent expansion of pasture science and development has

been in less developed countries and in the new forces of South America.

Marriage with other societies

Over the years, as TGS has struggled with declining membership, we have explored merging with ASAP (the Australian Society of Animal Production) which is having similar problems with membership. But ASAP is a state/federal organisation and the Queensland Branch knew it could not secede from the federal body.

We have looked at the Rangeland Society but again they are Australian-wide dealing with both southern and northern environments rather than the tropics. And the Rangeland Society is biased more to social issues and the environment — 'improved' alien pasture species are regarded fiercely as environmental weeds.

Tropical Animal Production?

I can see a place for a widened society involving both livestock production and pastures in the tropics.

This would widen our audience and integrate pasture science with animal production in more of a systems approach. For too long, pastures have often been studied on their own, with plenty of jokes about livestock ruining lovely lush pastures!

It is in the tropics that there is so much interest and development; many populations are suffering from deficiencies in diet quality and quantity, while those in developed countries become more interested in lifestyle foods and fads.

But how do you run a truly international society, and more importantly who runs it?

So we've been through the options and have not been able to see a way ahead, we have struggled on doing our limited best but now the time has come.

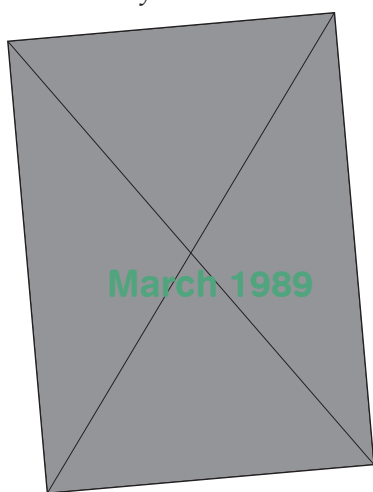
This is not new—see the next page.

Old journals and newsletters

I have archives of quite a bit of the early material coming out of TGS, some of them are mine, others have been given to me by scientists who have retired and knew that there was no longer room to store pasture publications in the spare room!

And now there is no need to keep 45 year-old material because it is all on the web in the journal archive.

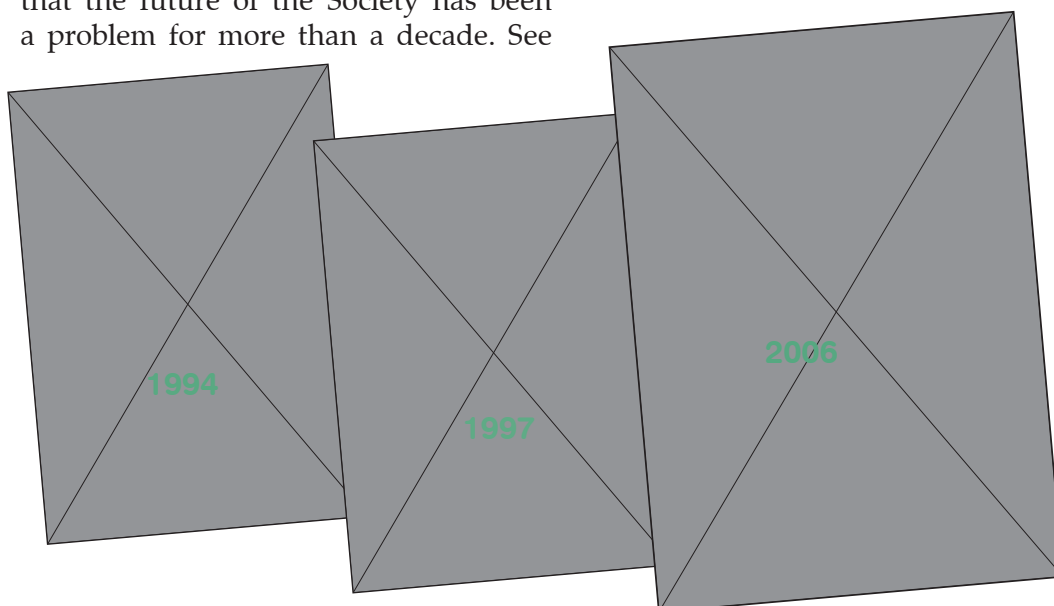
I found the first of my old style A5 newsletters from the time that I took over as Newsletter Editor from Peter Kerridge in 1989. In those days, we put out six newsletters each year.



(Note: in 1988, the Editor of the Journal was Kevin Lowe who has come back to the rescue of the Society as Treasurer over the last few years.)

It's not a new problem

There are also newsletters that show that the future of the Society has been a problem for more than a decade. See



February 1994 '*Where are we going?*', June 1997 '*TGS—whither or wither?*', September 2006 '*Whither or wither?*'

So, finally, the decision was made at the 2007 AGM to close the Society down after the 2009 AGM.

An approval

The Society is informally finishing at the end of December 2009 as decided at the AGM 2007. This was confirmed in the 2008 AGM and now the time has arrived. But these AGMs were not well attended by members for any number of reasons including the geography and distances of northern Australia; for better authority, we circulated our letter seeking widespread approval or rejection of the motion to all members asking for a reply by a certain date. A no-reply was assumed to registered no objection to closure.

Out of some 170 members, we have received 28 replies, with 20 supporting the closure and 8 against.

It is interesting that many of those who support closure have been heavily involved in the Society in the past and are probably more appreciative of the work needed by individuals to keep a society going.

But it was great to see the views of those who say '*Keep going*', and if they can take over and inject the time and enthusiasm, the Society will do so.

I am including some of the replies on another page.

The proposals

The 2009 AGM can endorse (or reject) the Committee's decision. If endorsed, we will then set up a Special Meeting in 2010 which will formally close the Society.

We have considerable funds in the bank (see the financial statement) which will enable us to keep going for the year. Our big items for next year are the costs of editing and type-setting the remaining issues of the journal, with some for maintaining the web site. Any funds remaining have to be used for business relevant to the Society's charter, but exactly what that will be at the end of 2010 has not yet been decided.

Journal until end of 2010

If the Society is closing down, we will continue to publish the journal for another year (Volume 44 for 2010) to clear the papers that have been submitted and accepted by the Editor. However, these issues will be in electronic form only, to reduce the costs of printing and distribution. The electronic issues will be put into the journal archive on the TGS web site (along with all the other recent issues) and will be available to the public. I think we all appreciate that nearly all searches for papers by scientists, students and even farmers are now done on the Internet. Obviously, we cannot restrict access only to current members because there will be no current members as there will be no membership fees or subscription fees for libraries.

Web site continues

We have to keep the TGS web site running. We will do that for the year by which time we hope to have found space with some more permanent organisation. Even this is not easy because no-one knows how long federally-funded institutions exist. For example, Land & Water Australia has been canned by the Rudd government after 17 years, and is trying to keep all their material available, maybe on DVD. Possibilities for TGS could include a university, or organisations such as ACIAR or CIAT. ACIAR, as a federal government web site, probably has restriction on the sort of information that can go on it, while CIAT has its own funding problems.

Another option for the journal is to combine Tropical Grasslands with *Pasturas Tropicales*, the Spanish-language pasture journal from CIAT.

Book Sales

Cam McDonald will continue to run our book sales until the end of 2010, or until he loses the store room space at Long Pocket. Book Sales pages will remain on the web site until then.

Thank you for your thoughts

Here are extracts from some of the replies from members.

To those who endorse (regrettably) the closure, we thank you for your thoughts and words. To those who wish for the Society to continue, we offer you all encouragement; we would love to see new and enthusiastic blood.

While regrettable, I support the decision of the Executive to wind up the Society. I have enjoyed receiving newsletters about an area that was part of my life for 5 years in Townsville and 3 years in Indonesia. One of the most important issues to resolve is hosting of the Tropical Grasslands journal on the web, to ensure that it remains available long after funds from the Society have been expended.

Malcolm McCaskill, Victoria

Sadly, I must agree with your decision to wind up. Science generally and grassland science in particular seems to be unwanted in Qld. I hope the website can be continued.

I congratulate you and the other executive members, present and recent past, on keeping it going this long in the face of great difficulty and apathy.

Joe Miller, Mareeba

It was with deep regret that I received the President's letter yesterday on this subject and would much prefer to see the society continue in existence. However I am not in a position to serve on a new Executive Committee that would enable it to continue functioning, so must leave it to the more youthful members to decide this point.

I still believe there is a role for the Society to play and have found the newsletter in particular very useful in keeping some feeling for how the profession and the science is developing. While I still subscribe to the Journal I am finding the papers of reducing interest, mainly because of lack of direct need to know about their subject matter. Unfortunately I have been unable to attend either of the last two AGMs despite intentions to do so on each occasion.

I also realise that, in the present political climate, there is a dwindling pool of people from whom to draw the energy and resources needed to form the life blood of a Society such as TGS. I must therefore congratulate those of you who have been able to sustain it thus far.

Don G. Cameron

I got the letter of Andrew Ferguson today, and learnt with regret that the Tropical Grassland Society is going to be terminated. Living in Germany and being in Australia the last time in 1999, with regret I do agree to the termination of the Grassland Society.

Wolfgang Bayer, Göttingen, Germany

As you say in your letter the TGS situation is regrettable but we must make the painful decision. While I regret the demise of the Society I have not seen any signs in the past two years that we can expect a healthy and vibrant future so I support the decision to wind up the Society in 2010.

However, if sufficient people disagree and are willing to take on the job of rejuvenating TGS I wish them luck and will be pleased to continue participating in activities of the Society.

John G. McIvor, CSIRO

I am in agreement with your decision to wind up the Society. As you say this has been a matter for consideration for some considerable time.

You may wish to consider an event so that TGS can go out with a splash, and you may wish to use uncommitted funds in various ways that further the cause of tropical pastures into the future.

Max Shelton, UQ, St Lucia

As a founding member and Past President and Executive Member, I will be sad should the Society be wound up. There was a lot of exciting romance in the early days - 1960s - with species introductions, native selections, soil types, land clearings, plant nutrition, fertilizers, pasture renovation, pasture leys, and production efficiency.

Most of these fields leave little to be defined now, and the current world obsession is with climate change, carbon footprints, and pollution. While the roles of carbon in soils, feed quality in animal emissions, and fertilisers in runoff is well documented, research dollars are scarce, and further research does not fire imaginations like in the past, for perhaps small intangible advances.

While I hope new people are willing to take up the challenge, I close wishing the Society well.

Tony Wetherell

I won't object to the proposal of termination of the Society at the end of 2010 if I can receive these 2 issues of Volume 43 before mid of 2010.

Jackie Yung, Hong Kong

Your sober letter was received. I cannot help with question 2 as I have resolved to channel my efforts into the survival of the Institute of Ag Science nationally. Hence I cannot reasonably object to proposition 1. We have had the potential for winding up clearly explained for some time now and the current executive and editors are to be congratulated for keeping things going up till now.

Richard Silcock, QPI&F

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. In answer to your questions in the letter dated 2 October 2009:

- 1) I would like to see the Society continue, so I object to the proposed termination.
- 2) As a new member located overseas, I do not think it

feasible to join an Executive Committee. However, I am open to the idea of serving in another capacity to do what I can from here (if anything).

I joined the Society because of the high quality journal and newsletter and because I am young in my career and need to tap into the excellent cutting edge livestock and pasture management research for the tropics accomplished by my Australian and other colleagues. While I understand the regrettable decision as explained in the newsletters, I am very disappointed in the lost opportunity for a central source of information and networking. Should the Society ultimately wind-up, what are good alternative journals and societies you could suggest turning to? I enjoy the camaraderie and respect the quality of work of my colleagues from the States, but much of their work is not focused on or really applicable to my needs here in Hawaii. Thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of this excellent professional society.

Matt Stevenson, University of Hawaii

I would like to add my support to the TGS as an organization and would very much like to see it continue to operate into the future. Easy for me to say when for a small fee all the hard work gets delivered straight to my door.

I would be willing to contribute to administer the affairs of the society in the future; although I'm unsure of what services I would be able to contribute. I feel that I have benefited greatly from the information that I have gained through the society and would be more than willing to help where and if I can be of assistance.

The newsletter and journal are both very good reading and professionally I find practical articles on native grasslands, pasture establishment and management, fodder conservation and information on new varieties of particular interest. I will sorely miss the society if it is wound up.

Tony Dobbs, Brisbane

Thank you for your letter regarding the wind-up of the Tropical Grasslands Society.

I must say at the outset that I object to the proposed termination of the Society.

I also realise that there is a lot time, effort and people needed in running an organisation of any size and presumably there must be some issues of this nature that have resulted in this regrettable decision.

It is easy for me to sit on the outside and say that we need the Society, it cannot close, we must keep it going etc., but in reality it needs people and money I suppose. I do value the opportunity to be a member and from a temperate perspective I also value the articles and information on tropical species, it is an important part of our business from an Auswest Seeds viewpoint.

I would like to suggest that you explore contingency plans with Will Golsby at the ASF and with Mick Duncan at the NSW Grasslands Society and exhaust all these possibilities first, before closing the door on the Society, I am sure some resolution will be made for a more positive future.

Stuart Mitchell, Auswest Seeds

I realise it is later than the request for a response, however, if there is interest from others, I would be interested in participating in a new executive committee.

I am new in the pasture scene, but have extensive agricultural experience in Australia and internationally. I would be keen to talk to others in the society that are prepared to work to reinvigorating the society.

Can you please let me know if there is some continued chance or if this is too late.

Bill Swann, Heritage Seeds Pty Ltd

I am regretful, but I can understand your decision. I would like to esteem the decision of Australian members (Wind-up of the Society).

I am very sorry, but I can not help your activities, because my English ability is not high. I very much appreciate the Executive Committee members for your large efforts.

I have studied many things about tropical pasture management from the "Tropical Grasslands".

Tsutomu Kanno, National Institute of Livestock and Grassland Science, Japan

I would like the Society to be maintained even if its function is reduced. I am willing to contribute to the Society by taking on a role to which geographical distance does not matter.

Masahiko Hirata, Division of Grassland Science, University of Miyazaki, Japan

As discussed over the phone please find attached a brief letter with some ideas for the future of our organisation. Please call if you need further details or would like to discuss the options further.

Mel Mann, Grassland Society of Southern Australia Inc

I vote that the Tropical Grassland Society of Australia continues because there may be a need in the near future. The Journal can be mothballed. Newsletters can be published on the web-site. Conferences can be held every 3 years and proceedings published on the web-site.

Bede Clarke, Casino

Although it is disappointing that TGS is unable to continue to easily operate as a viable entity, I do not object to the proposed termination of the Society in December 2010. I realise that this outcome is realistically inevitable with the now rapidly declining numbers of Australian tropical pasture scientists. I also believe that I'm well past my professional phase to be able to now join with others in a new Executive Committee.

David Gramshaw

1. I do not object to the termination of the Society in December 2010. I do, however, follow the "Ted Henzell philosophy", i.e., if you decide to terminate it, it should be done properly. By this I mean all the stray ends should be tidied up. One of these is the journal; I wonder whether it could be folded with Pasturas Tropicales to make a single viable journal? Another stray end is the Harry Stobbs Memorial Fund; if the TGS were to fold, I would be keen to try to negotiate bringing the Harry Stobbs Fund under the Howard Memorial Trust umbrella. I'm sure there will be other stray ends.

2. I would nevertheless be willing to take on a role in an ongoing Executive Committee for a year or two if there were younger people in the wings who would then take over. Just what I could do at the age of 68 and from the remoteness of Canberra is a matter for speculation – not much, I think. But my offer is in the table.

As I mentioned in our recent telephone conversation, I hope to attend the next TGS AGM. I have received a letter from Andrew Ferguson saying that the TGS could not (not) handle a satellite meeting in the wings of the 2013 International Grassland Congress, and I expect he has consulted with you and others before sending me that reply. However, I would feel happier if I were able to talk with a number of colleagues in the margins of the AGM before finally writing off that idea. In the event that the TGS really can't do this, I think I might approach the Leucaena Network and see if they are interested.

Any news yet on when the AGM might be held, and where?

Bob Clements, Canberra

I just got the Tropical Grasslands letter regarding the wind-up of the Tropical Grasslands Society. I regrettably have to agree with the decision to terminate the society in December 2010.

I am concerned about the Journal archive though.

Keith Pembleton, Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research, University of Tasmania

It is indeed a sad day as the Society has contributed immensely to tropical pasture science, has provided an essential journal outlet for tropical pasture scientists both nationally and internationally, and it has strengthened the network that enhanced a very strong scientific discipline. Ian Partridge has done the Newsletter quite brilliantly, and that will be sorely missed.

Unfortunately, that discipline has all but disappeared in the sub-tropical and tropical north of Australia. However, the need for pastures is no less. In fact, with degradation in the cropping lands, the need is arguably greater. Although there are relatively few scientists pasture scientists, they have been 'replaced' by environmental scientists working largely with the catchment management authorities who, in my recent experience delivering our pastures extension package across the southern grain belt, need a pastures support network.

The Tropical Grassland Society, implying all of us, may have missed an opportunity to morph itself towards this large group of people. That would have required a marketing exercise and perhaps a name change - as is currently being considered by the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology. Additionally, AIAST is looking to become an overarching body for other, often struggling, Societies. Perhaps TGS and AIAST could have investigated on-going life by such an association.

Thus, while not supporting the finalisation of the Society, whatever will be will be. Perhaps there should be a wake to say goodbye!

David Lloyd

Pasture books

Pastures: Mackay Whitsunday Region

The 2009 Conference in Goondiwindi boosted our finances by some \$20,000, but if we are closing down, any residual money can only be used for purposes aligned with our original purpose. So what could be beneficial uses of some of our funds.

The Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries had produced a very attractive publication on pastures for northern coastal Queensland with Harry Bishop as author. The book was now out of print, but the Reef Catchments Mackay Whitsunday group appreciated its value for the livestock industries and for protection of the whole reef catchment. DPI&F (as it was then) said that they were unable to pay for a reprint.

TGS to the rescue

We thought that the Society could cover the cost of reprinting the book and used some \$8000 of our funds to print 1500 copies. Luckily all the electronic files were still held by the printer in Brisbane so the costs were minimised. We amended three pages to acknowledge the copyright, the author, the original designer and the Society and some plant name changes.

If you want a copy, please contact the Reef Catchments Mackay Whitsunday Inc. at Level 1 – 174 Victoria Street, Mackay, PO Box 815, Mackay Qld 4740
P: (07) 4968 4204.

We do not have copies for sale through our Book Sales yet, but our general sales will continue to the end of 2010.



Pastures for Protection and Production on marginal cropping lands

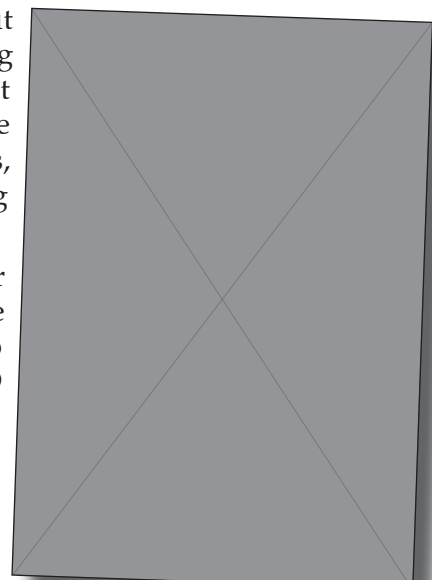
Remember the 7th Australian Tropical Pastures Conference at Dalby in 2007?

Although the conference papers were to be published in the Tropical Grasslands journal, this goes only to a small audience of scientists and a few producers. There was just so much good information from the speakers that it would be beneficial to many farmers, graziers and land managers, and deserved to be more widely distributed.

After the 2007 Conference, I spoke to Bob Walker of the Queensland Murray Darling Committee (QMDC) suggesting the production of a popular and well-illustrated edition of the conference for regional farmers. Such a proposal had to go through QMDC's system and was ultimately approved in 2009—by which time we had another conference in the pipeline (the 8th on Pastures for Production, Soil health and Carbon Sequestration in March 2009).

Well, the book has just gone to the printer and should be out soon. It focuses mostly on the Dalby conference but has extra material on carbon sequestration and on leucaena in southern Queensland. This latter has delayed printing by some four months because QMDC obviously has a 'thing' about leucaena and was demanding extra pages about its threat to the environment. We've compromised and, as always, tried to be balanced, giving the positives and negatives.

So thanks to QMDC for funding the books. These will be made available to producers in the QMD Catchment and also in the Condamine Alliance area. Contact Col Paton (DPI Roma) on 07 4622 9913 or Sid Cook (QMDC) on 07 4637 6223 for more information.



The Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.
Income and Expenditure Statement
for the year ended 30TH September 2009

Draft not audited

2008		2009	
	Income		
-	AGM	320.00	
-	Back Issues	150.00	
3,852.65	Book Sales	2,284.35	
-	Conference (Attendance)	22,643.56	
-	Conference (Sponsorship)	6,500.00	
-	Insurance refund	-	
337.55	Interest	108.22	
1,546.69	Interest (Term Deposit)	1717.03	
11,706.32	Membership	10,299.66	
-	Movement in book stocks		
-	Copyright income	1760.11	
300.00	Journal subscriptions (Vol 41)	-	
13,636.76	Journal subscriptions (Vol 42)	300.00	
-	Journal subscriptions (Vol 43)	18,927.43	
-	Petty Cash	688.90	
-	Refunds		
3.97	Sundry Income	900.00	
-	Reprints	-	
31,383.945	Total Income		66,599.26
	Expenditure		
53.90	AGM	1255.06	
528.00	Audit	530.00	
217.90	Books	9,405.50	
855.12	Bank Charges	1412.94	
-	Conference Expenses	14,157.24	
38.10	Dept Fair Trading	40.00	
243.25	Field day expenses		
532.02	Insurance	561.00	
395.84	Internet	264.00	
21,040.53	Journal	18,804.50	
10,000.00	Journal editing		
2,745.00	Movement in Book stock	819.00	
2,823.70	Newsletter	3740.19	
123.81	Petty Cash	400.00	
277.55	Postage – Books	331.17	
966.20	Postage – Newsletter	757.50	
3,711.09	Postage – Journals	636.51	
347.91	Postage – General	376.79	
126.66	Refund (Book/Journal sub)	-	
-	Transfer of Journal to Website	215.53	
-	Sundries		
7,920.00	Wages	7,920.00	
52,946.58	Total Expenditure		62,450.23
-21,562.64	Excess Income over Expenditure		4,149.03

The Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.

Balance Sheet as at 30TH September 2009

2008

Accumulated Funds

87,276.07	Opening Balance 1 st October 2008	58,138.05
-21,562.64	Plus: Excess Income over Expenditure	4,149.03
65,713.43	Closing Balance 30 th September 2009	62,285.08

Represented by:

Current Assets

29,761.80	Commonwealth Cheque Account	40,773.02
28,376.25	Commonwealth Term Deposit	30,465.45
1,385.04	Petty Cash	688.90
3,847.00	Book Stocks	1857.00
63,370.09		73,784.37

Fixed Assets – at cost

896.84	Computer (Bus Man.)	896.84
1,446.50	Computer (Journal Ed.)	1,446.50
2,343.34		2,343.34

65,713.43	Total Assets	76,127.71
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Liabilities

nil	Un-presented cheque	8,582.20
65,713.43	Net Assets	67,545.51

No mortgages or charges exist over the assets

The Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Association is not a reporting entity because, in the management Committee's opinion, there is unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are dependent on general purpose financial reports for information. The financial report is therefore a special purpose financial report prepared so as to comply with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1995 (as amended) and to provide information to members.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Association in preparation of the financial statements which, unless otherwise stated, have been consistently applied.

2. Income Tax

No income tax is payable as the association is an exempt organisation under Section 50-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (as amended).

3. Accumulated Funds

In the event of the winding up of the Association, accumulated funds will not be distributed to members. The funds are to be distributed to another body incorporated with a similar constitution and objectives as that of the current Association.

4. Mortgages, charges and Securities

At 30th September 2009 there were no mortgages, charges or securities affecting any of the property of the Association in terms of Section 40 (1)(a)(iii) of the Associations Incorporations Act 1995 (as amended).

The Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc. Statement by the Committee

We the Committee of The Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc. state that in the opinion of the Committee the accompanying financial report:

- 1) Presents fairly the financial position of The Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc. as at 30th September 2009 and the results of the association for the year ended 30th September 2009.
- 2) Has been prepared and presented in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporations (QLD) Act.

.....Kevin F Lowe
Treasurer

.....Andrew Ferguson
President

TGS news & views

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Tropical Grassland Society Inc.
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