Bulletin of the New South Wales Association of Agriculture Teachers inc

SPRING-SUMMER EDITION 2003
Issue 2003 # 2

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If you can arrange any sponsorship for BAAT please contact Graeme Harris

N.S.W. Association of Agriculture Teachers Inc

ABN Number 81 639 285 642

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Well, I don't know about you but I think someone has shortened the week and doubled the workload without telling us!.

The pace of change in our subject is enormous, as we have to keep up with developments in the different fields of Agriculture, and we also have to plan and introduce new programs and studies for the two new syllabi that have been printed since the last BAAT went out only 4 months ago.

The new junior syllabus (stage 4 and 5) continues to focus on enterprises, however the outcomes have been placed into two streams depending on student exposure to studies. Support material is still short on the ground for this new syllabus.

The most dramatic change has however taken place in the development of the VET Primary Industries syllabus.

The Board of Studies has been very responsive to the arguments raised by teachers and the Association in the phase between the draft and final documents being developed. It is to be congratulated for this responsiveness to sensible argument.

From personal experience I know that officers of the Board have come a long way in attempting to understand the needs of students and have worked hard under exceptionally short time frames to reflect these needs in the new syllabi. More on the PI syllabus later.

As a result of canvassing your views both through the last BAAT and via email, the proposal to move the next STATE CONFERENCE TO **MAY NEXT YEAR** has been adopted. More late in BAAT.

Some schools have now received their tractors , however there is a concern whether other schools will get their tractor as it is not known what the budget has allowed and how DET is dealing with it.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE will be held in January at Kangaroo Island. The early bird registration has been extended until the end of November as they were late getting the info out. Registration forms are on their website (see later in BAAT.)

Issues have arisen in at least one school with OHS and excursions. A copy of an email response to a teachers query follows later. Has any other member had difficulties like this, please give me your feedback on this.

HSC marking will be taking place or completed by the time you read this, thankyou to all the teachers who have participated in this exercise. It is professionally rewarding to all concerned.

Next year sees the introduction of the two new syllabi, restructuring of DET, and the usual challenges.

Thought needs to be given to an executive for the next 2 years as the State Conference has been brought forward. If the protocols of the past are followed then it is the turn of Riverina to host the next conference in 2006 and provide the executive for 2004/2005. North Coast has volunteered to host the National Convention in January 2006 at Coffs Harbour.

Thank you for your support and have a safe and happy Christmas and Prosperous (as if on a teachers wage) new year.

Graeme Harris.

THE RINGERS GUIDE TO LIFE

Don't squat with your spurs on.
Don't interfere with something that ain't botherin' you none.
Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
The easiest way to eat crow is while it's still warm. The colder it gets, the harder it is to swaller.
If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
If it don't seem like it's worth the effort, it probably ain't.
It don't take a genius to spot a goat in a flock of sheep.
The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with watches you shave his face in the mirror every morning.
Never ask a barber if you need a haircut.
If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.
Don't worry about bitin' off more'n you can chew; your mouth is probably a whole lot bigger'n you think.
Always drink upstream from the herd.
Generally, you ain't learnin' nothing when your mouth's a-jawin'.
Tellin' a man to git lost and makin' him do it are two entirely different propositions.
If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there with ya.
Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.
When you give a personal lesson in meanness to a critter or to a person, don't be surprised if they learn their lesson.
When you're throwin' your weight around, be ready to have it thrown around by somebody else.
Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back.
Always take a good look at what you're about to eat. It's not so important to know what it is, but it's sure crucial to know what it was.
The quickest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it back into your pocket.
Never miss a good chance to shut up.

****



NSWAAT BI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2004

ORGANISED BY NORTHERN SCHOOLS PRIMARY INDUSTRIES & AGRICULTURE TEACHERS NETWORK

John Lee
Glen Innes H S
Edwards St 2370.
Phone: 02 6732 1323
Fax: 02 6732 1972

ORGANISING COMMITTEE
Tony Barnett - Walcha Central
Rowan Chandler - Uralla Central
Rebecca Smith - Guyra Central
Alan Thomas - Armidale HS
Michael Ball – TAS
Jill Wagner - NEGS
Phil Jones - Tenterfield HS
Peter Colley - Macintyre HS
Karlene Bailey - Inverell HS
Graham Pagden - Glen Innes HS

As mentioned in the Presidents Report, the Biannual conference is being moved forward to May 2004 due to the rapid changes in syllabi and need for training in tractors for many teachers. Cost will be about $100 including meals , accommodation etc.

WHEN: Wednesday 5/5/04 to Saturday 8/5/04
WHERE: Accommodation at Echidna Gully , Armidale . (approx 15 km east of Armidale)

Proposed Program

	WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY	THURSDAY 6TH MAY		FRIDAY 7TH MAY	SATURDAY 8TH MAY
9.00 AM		PRIMARY INDUSTRIES new syllabus programming training requirements	TRACTOR TRAINING	JUNIOR AGRICULTURE New Syllabus programming	Helpful Hints/ How different people do it
11.00 AM		ELECTIVES Hands on stuff: quad bikes, faecal egg counts, patch point weather, fencing, GMO's etc		NSWAAT MEETING ELECTIVES: John Deere tractors / contracts etc Legal Issues Animal Welfare etc	HSC Exams- Agriculture and Primary Industries- Question and answer session,.... Setting, Marking, Practical sessions
1.00 PM		Lunch on the run, travelling		Lunch on the run, travelling	Lunch, Distribution of conference proceedings, Depart
2.00 PM	Arrival and registration	Alternative Agriculture at Guyra Trout, Flowers, Rabbits, Eels		BEEF AND SHEEP CRC'S At UNE a variety of training activities	
6.30 PM	BBQ	Formal Dinner		A night at the Gully	

NEW SOUTH WALES
DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION
AND TRAINING

worldskills AUSTRALIA

TAFE NSW

WORLDSKILLS STATE FINALS FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES TAMWORTH 2003

In November 2003 Six Regional Finalists in the Worldskills Primary Industries Competition met at Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School in Tamworth to contest the State Finals.

The Finalists were

- Adam Crowley –Barraba Central School
- Dean Finch – Yass High School
- Rosalie Holocombe – St. Mary's Casino
- Jacob Rofe – Chevalier College
- Tom Rossington – St. Joseph's High School Aberdeen
- Sarah Yensch – Billabong High School, Culcairn



Judges and competitors



Pre-start check (Tractor courtesy of Peel Valley Machinery, Tamworth)

During the two days of competition at Farrer, the students were judged over a range of competencies ranging from Emergency Care, Tractors, 3PL Implements, O.H.& S, Drenching Cattle, Chemical label and safety, Handling sheep in yards and Pasture Establishment.

Most of the judging was done on an individual basis where the competitor completed the tasks allotted under the scrutiny of one of the four judges

- Ann Young – Rutherford High School (Chief Judge)
- Lisa Bright – St Joseph's Aberdeen
- Amy Grima – Goulburn HS
- Darren Smith – Farrer MAHS

The students were assessed on a rigorous marking scale that identified the components of each competency and at the end of the judging, detailed feedback was given by the judges to each competitor.



Calibrate and use chemicals



Construct yards, move stock, work in teams

Much praise should go to the staff at Farrer, particularly Graeme Harris who acted as convenor for the event and made available the considerable resources of the Farrer farms for the competition.



Gold Medallist ***Jacob Rofe of Chevalier College Bowral***



Tom Rossinton of St Josoph's High School, Aberdeen Silver Medalist (left) *Gold Medallist* ***Jacob Rofe*** *(center)* **Dean Finch of Yass High School** Bronze.

Report by Phil Armour
Yass.

****

EMPLOYMENT

teachers.on.net

A free service for teachers and other education employees, offering jobs in Australian schools in a range of sectors and locations. There are two ways teachers can use the site to locate a job: searching is available via state/location, teaching level, subject and job type categories, and teachers are also able to place their profile details and a CV online. This profile is only accessible to member schools, and is not passed on to any mailing lists or marketing companies. Teachers will also receive e-mail notification of vacancies that match their profile as soon as the vacancy is listed.
http://www.teachers.on.net

Equipment list DET *By the way, keep an eye out for the equipment list that can be used by PI VET teachers that will come out soon. It is far more extensive that the one circulating for TAS and allows some equipment banned in the TAS document as we are teaching to industry standards.*

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Website:

NSWAAT Membership Form 2004

Name .....

Address. .....

.....

Address for posting BAAT (if different from School Address)

.....

School Phone - .....Fax - .....

Home Phone (optional) - .....

E-mail - .....

Membership Fees –

Biennually $120 ☐ (Students $60) ☐

Annual $60 ☐ (students $30) ☐

PLEASE NOTE - whilst we are registered for an ABN number we are not registered to collect GST.

Please return this form with your cheque or money order (made payable to NSWAAT) to;

Lisa O'Brien
Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School
Locked Bag, Tamworth,
NSW 2340

Please assist by indicating names & emails of other agriculture teachers at your school.

CENTRAL COAST AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

SCHOOLS PRIME BEEF SHOW

The Central Coast Agriculture Association again conducted a successful Cattle Show in the 8th and 9th weeks of Term 3 , September 2003. The show's major sponsor Mr Fred Nichols of F C Nichols Pty. Ltd. (Abattoir – Wholesale) Quality Fresh Meat , Woy Woy , NSW complimented the 20+ participating schools on the quality of the Beef animals that were presented at this year's show. Cattle for the show score highest if they fit the local trade requirements of <400kg liveweight.

This annual event begins on Thursday (usually Education week) and focusses on student participation, providing competitions for high school students of all ages. (306 students entered the Handlers events , 66 animals were entered in the various classes !)

Schools compete for the **F C NICHOLS AWARD** in the following **top 5** point scoring categories :

1.1. Stall Presentation (2003 Theme – SELLING BEEF)

2.2. Handlers (Paraders) (Three levels – ELITE, INTERMEDIATE and NOVICE)

3.3. Judging (Junior Yrs 7 to 9 - Either Individual or Team of 3)
(Senior Yrs 10 to 12 - Either Individual or Team of 3)

4.4. Hoof Classes

Class 1	(Under 400kg, non-slaughter)
Class 2	(Over 400kg , slaughter)
Class 3	(Under 350kg, slaughter) Double points.
Class 4	(350 to 400kg, slaughter) Double points.

5.5. Hook/Carcase Classes

Class 2	(Over 400kg liveweight)
Class 3	(Under 350kg liveweight) Double points.
Class 4	(350 – 400kg liveweight. Double points.

Exhibiting at the show requires months of preparation by the students and staff of the schools. Some participating schools arrive the day before, coming from as far afield as Moss Vale in the south and Dungog to the north. Teams are well equipped with 5 star stock crates (school emblem/motto/colours highlighted) and buses for the students. Show day at Gosford Showground (11th September 2003) was a busy one for the Show Committee chairman Ashley Unger (Wyong HS) and the Agriculture Teachers Association members as well as the team of Judges, with the weigh-in before 8.00am and 4 rings of events running continuously from 9.00am to 1.30pm.

Cattle Judges Max O"Keefe (Bowral) and Viv McGrath (Forbes) accepted the challenge of assessing the stock in the Hoof Classes ; their aim to identify the best carcase-producing animals as presented by the exhibitors.

After the Hook/Carcase judging the following Tuesday 16th September, Narara Valley HS was awarded the F C Nichols Trophy and book order prize of $200 for the highest point score in all the competition categories. They were also the most successful school on show-day, winning both the Championship Classes 3 and 4 of the Hoof competition (Reserve Champion and Champion respectively), picked up a 3rd in Class 4 as well and came a close 2nd in both the Stall Presentation and the Senior Individual Judging.

The Elite Handler Judges Rachel Parkes (Windsor) and Matthew Gavenlock (Narara) confidently announced the winner of this event – Emma Cahill (Bede Polding HS). Intermediate and Novice Handler Classes were judged by a team of three ; Kelly Lawson (Umina), Joanne Fisher (Somersby) and Hector Cheeny (Green Point). Their decisions were : Intermediate – Rebecca Donahue (Elizabeth Macarthur) and Novice – Kylie Ashby (Wyong HS).In the final of the student Judging competitions, individuals and a team representative were required to make oral presentations to determine the eventual winners.

These were : Senior Individual – Melissa Henry (Richmond HS),
Junior Individual – Stephen McIlroy (Bede Polding HS),
Senior Team – Ashley Morris, Jason Hayes and Catherine McMaster (Moss Vale HS), and
Junior Team – Henry Moxam, Greg Gill and Hamish Leewarner (Kings School)

Carcase Judging results were announced at F C Nichols' Woy Woy Abattoir 1.00pm the following Tuesday 16th September. Coordinated by Mr Mark Fisher (Brisbane Water College – Umina Campus), another hard working member of the Show Committee, the judges used the MSA criteria to assess the carcases. Many students, with their teachers came to check the outcome of the judging. Dungog HS was the most successful exhibitor in the Hook / Carcase competition, winning both Classes 3 and 4 – the Championship Classes. Their A muscle-score steer scored 89.5 in Class 4 to be awarded Champion Carcase ahead of Kings School steer, Reserve Champion with 88.0. The >400kg Carcase Class was won by a steer entered by Henry Kendall HS (85.0).

A complete list of results is as follows :

Stall Presentation : 1st – Brisbane Water College (Umina Campus)
2nd – Narara Valley HS
3rd – Wyong HS
4th – Dungog HS = Gosford HS
5th – St Peters College

Handlers	Elite	Intermediate	Novice
1st	Emma Cahill(Bede Polding)	Rebecca Donahue(Eliz. Macarth.)	Kylie Ashby(Wyong HS)
2nd	Melison Hunry(Chifly Coll)	Brendon Cook(Richmond)	Stacey Mitchell(Richmond)
3rd	Mitchell Hutchins(Richm'd)	Nicole Herbert(Umina)	Sarah Murphy(Dungog)
4th	Ben Goodman(Kings)	Ben Hunt(Aokhill College)	Mel. Cooney(H.Kendall)
5th	Lacy Lolo(Richmond)	Greg Pillon(McCartney Catholic)	Jessica Zwickl(MossVale)

Judging

	Senior Individual	Junior Individual
1st	Melissa Henry (Richmond)	Stephen McIlroy(Bede Polding)
2nd	Adam Gavenlock(Narara Valley)	Matt Moving(Hawkesbury)
3rd	Amy Parkinson(Cessnock)	Aaron Ruth(Hawkesbury)
4th	Richard Harvey(Henry Kendall)	Ben Goodman(Kings)
5th	Luke Micallef(Macarthur Anglican)	Nathan Culpan(Hawkesbury)
	Senior Team	**Junior Team**
1st	Moss Vale High A Morris, J Hayes & C McMaster	Kings School H Moxham, G Gill & H Leewarner
2nd	Oakhill College C Mirrissey, J Murphy & J Pierretsprvose	Umina A K Pride, D Peterson & E McGillie
3rd	Dungog High R Woolley, K Shorter & E Thompson	Bede Polding L Kny, P Paurna & N Taylor
4th	Hawkesbury High M Pope, E Reinhardt & B Barnard	Northlakes High E Brew, H Field & J It
5th	No qualifiers	Bede Polding J Gahill, C Axiak & A Mason

Hoof Classes

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
1st	Umina HS	Henry Kendall HS	Narara Valley HS	Narara Valley HS
2nd	Henry Kendall HS	BWC – Umina Campus	Moss Vale HS	Kings School
3rd	BWC – Umina Cam.	BWC – Umina Campus	Dungog HS	Narara Valley HS
4th	Bede Polding Coll.	BWC – Umina Campus	Gosford HS	Kincumber HS
5th	Bede Polding Coll.	Kings School	Wyong HS	Wyong HS

Hook/Carcase Classes

	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
1st	Henry Kendall HS	Dungog HS	Dungog HS
2nd	BWC – Umina Campus	Gosford HS	Kings School
3rd	Gosford HS	Moss Vale HS	Kings School
4th	Kings School	Chifley College	Narara Valley HS
5th	Oakhill College Kincumber=HKendall HS's	Northlakes HS	



Photo 1 : Champion Steer (Hoof) with the Narara Valley High School Show Team(F C Ni Trophy)
Phil Hearne (Central Coast Herald Photographer).



Emma Cahill - Bede Polding College (Winner the Elite Handler Competition with the perpetual Trophy)

OHS QUESTION... *received by email*

Dear colleague, My name is …….. and I am the Agriculture teacher at ….. High School. I have been trying to organise a field trip for my senior aggies. Since the new regulations for farms regarding OH&S have come in, and the DET's policy on having farms risk assessed, and Federation's policy of not allowing any member to sign off on risc assessment, I have hit several walls as my HT and the DP won't let me go to the places that I have been in previous years. The DET OH&S person at regional office said all I would need would be that each area of visit on each place be risk assessed by the farmer, and that would suffice, but my superiors still are not happy, considering the litigation minefield that risk on farms could be.
Have you come across a similar situation, or is there a list of assessed farms which would accomodate school visits? I would be gratefull of any assistance. Cheers, ……..

Reply by Graeme Harris

I asked 32 other Primary Industries and Agriculture Teachers about OHS and visits to farms. No one had encountered your difficulties.
The DVEC for Tamworth , and also Armidale Districts had not heard of the problem.
I met with and spoke to Bob Smith, Director of Vet and his team and they suggested that it was the worksite manager (farmer) who had to comply by carrying out a risk assessment. The teacher can ask the farmer if an assessment has been done and should record the facts of the discussion in a diary note.
It was further suggested that perhaps the students could complete the "fifteen minute Farm Safety checklist" from workcover.nsw.gov.au? by asking the farmer when they start the excursion. This would give paper documentation of a risk assessment and could take the part of a workplace induction.
Basically it was felt that the school was being overly cautious. It was suggested that the Principal had to sign off on the completion of the HSC and Prelim Ag course and these had Mandatory components of Farm case study and product study unit and he or she would have to develop some alternative method for students to complete their course should you be prevented from undertaking your farm visits. It was further pointed out that most excursions do not require students to undertake dangerous activities or use machinery and that simple common sense should prevail.
Further advice could be sought from Lyndall Foster at DET in this regard.
These views are those given verbally as a result of discussion between myself and the identified parties and reflect the understanding we all had of the issues at this time.

Sources of Climate and Weather Information

Paul Carberry and Peter Hayman, NSW Agriculture, Tamworth

(delivered to VETIS Tamworth District Assessment Validation Course Nov 4 2003)

As agriculturalists we have rapidly moved from having too little climate and weather information to a problem of information dazzle. Links provided here will readily source relevant information. The challenge in using the information is to be clear about the uncertainty in short term forecasts and seasonal outlooks and use these as risk assessments.

Access **to short term weather forecasts**

The following are some of the most relevant sites with comments courtesy of NSW Agriculture, Tamworth.

- *Bureau of Meteorology 4 day forecast*
  Note: The hashed areas only indicate a chance of rain, not an expectation.
  http://www.bom.izov.aulproducts/1DG00074.shtml The Bureau of Meteorology forecast information is available in text at http://www.bom.gov.aulweather/nsw/forecasts.shtml. The notes on the weather are particularly helpful to interpret the synoptic events.
- *The Farmshed weather forecast*
  Provided by The Weather Company (as seen on AUSTAR Weather 21) this can be viewed for up to 7 days out. To activate the forecast you need to select a day from the "Synoptic/rainfall probability" dropdown list. Masking of the map is in three levels, indicating the strength of the chance of rain but providing no indication of the amount.
  http://wwiyv.thefarmshed.com.au/weather
- *IGES COLA forecast for Australia*
  Produced by the Centre for Ocean Land Atmosphere studies in the USA. This indicates where and the amount of rain that could fall in Australia in each of two five day blocks. Forecast are updated daily and changes indicated in the day 6-10 block should be monitored for developments as information is updated. http://grads.iges.org/pix/prec7.html
  The same model can be examined for each of the next 6 days individually
  http://grads.iges.org/pix/aus.vv.html
- *Central & Southern Tablelands weather*
  This site contains links to a large number of both short and long term forecasts useful Australia wide. http:/!mernbers.ozemail.com.au/~sjhop/c&stw.html

There are a range of weather forecasts and base information available on Poll Fax (consult your fax manual for instructions on polling)

Bureau of Meteorology Fax numbers directory (free) 1800 630 100

Includes the following that may be of special interest

All of- MSLP analysis chart, 24hr forecast chart and latest cloud picture 1902935252

Australian region 4 day forecast	1902935002
48 hr forecast chart	1902935007
2/3 day forecast chart	1902935728
4/5 day forecast chart	1902935003
6/7 day forecast chart	1902935004

Rain radar - maps of currently falling regional rain

The directory provides specific numbers for rain radar pictures from each site

Farmweather - includes latest cloud picture and 4 day forecast plus written description of the weather systems and how they are expected to develop as well as probability estimates of forecast rain times and amounts within each region.

The directory provides specific numbers for tailored forecasts for 30 identified agricultural regions throughout Australia.

Seasonal Climate Outlook

Seasonal climate risk assessments give the chance of the next 3 months being wetter or drier (or hotter or cooler) than the long term average.

Bureau of Meteorology Seasonal Outlook

Provided about the middle of each month, this outlook shows the probability of exceeding the median rainfall for the next three months. The BoM seasonal forecast is derived from the pattern of sea surface temperatures in both the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Temperature forecasts are also available on the BoM site.
http://www.bom.gov.awclimate/ahead!rain_ahead .shtml

- *Queensland Centre for Climate Applications*
  This uses historical rainfall records and historical SOI to see what happened to rain in Australia over the next three months, when there were similar SOI conditions to those prevailing over the last two months. You need to scroll down and select the "Australia" map. http://www.longpaddock.gld.gov.auiSeasonalClimateOutlooklRainfallProbability/
- *El Nino/La Nina summary and background*
  The Bureau of Meteorology is currently providing a good summary of conditions and why these are important to Australia. Worth a look to see what impact El Nino can have and the variability as well as the current risk. http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/
- *current NSW conditions*
  A report on current conditions and major agricultural activities in various regions of NSW is available from the NSW Agriculture Regional Review, web site -
  http:!/www.agric.nsw.gov.au/reader/rr2003

Seasonal outlooks on fax

Bureau of Meteorology Fax numbers directory (free) 1800 630 100
Includes the following that may be of special interest

3 month climate outlook	*1902935251*
Southern Oscillation Index and Sea Surface Temperature update	1902935432
Australian Drought Statement (by the Bureau of Meteorology)	*1902935259*
1 & 3 month Australian rainfall maps	1902935262

Accessing **historical climate data**

Despite the short history of agriculture in Australia, we have historical rainfall records that are the envy of most other countries. For example Armidale has records from January 1872 and Glen Innes from 1881. Most centres have a similar length of records. They can be useful in preparing long term plans where the frequency and extremes of significant events are important and the medians and probabilities describe the local climate
For a first cut analysis of past climate data, the Bureau of Meteorology web site http://www.bom.gov.aulclimate/map/climate_avgs/clim_avg1. .shtml has average monthly rainfall, rain days, max and min temperature and humidity for 1000 sites in Australia. Just click on the map and you can download the data into a spreadsheet. The same information is available in most public libraries in printed form in "Climatic Averages".

The Bureau of Meteorology web site also has excellent maps of rainfall and temperature over the past day, week, month or three, six, nine 12, 18, 24 or 36 months.
http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/austmaps/

Further information about accessing weather and climate information or about what the information means, can be obtained from
Paul Carberry, Advisory Officer, Climatology, NSW Agriculture.
Mail : PMB 944 Tamworth 2340 email: paul.carberry@agric.nsw.gov.au

NAAE 13th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

"Sustainable Agriculture through Diversification and Innovation"

Are you bored with what you teaching? Do you need a little inspiration to put that spark back in your day? Then why not attend the 13th Biennial AG conference on Kangaroo Island! This year we will be sharing valuable information on:

- Bee Keeping
- Wine Making
- Sheep Cheese production
- Aquaculture Marron and Abalone

Come and update your knowledge and understanding in a lovely setting away form the hustle bustle with others who share in your interests.

Registration Form

http://www.naae.asn.au/regform.pdf

10 January 2004
Pre conference tour of Mainland Schools 12.00 noon to 4.00pm with nibbles and wine tasting Urrbrae Agricultural School.





Day 1 - 11 January 2004
Travel to Kangaroo Island with registration from 12 noon at Acacia Apartments Kingscote. Time at leisure.
Visit the swimming pool at Acacia , take a stroll to the jetty, or a walk over the hill to Reeves Point - site of the first formal European settlement in South Australia.
"Flavours of the Island" - welcome BBQ at a local Shearing Shed - BYO dinner drinks.
Guest Speaker : Craig Wickham Kangaroo Island Tourism - it's role in the economy and links to agriculture.



Day 2 - 12 January 2004
Conference Opening: Dr Kerry Muller
Water testing activities: Pippa Kirby & Belinda Carr
Lunch: Acacia Apartments
Guest Speakers: Peter Davis: Organic Honey Producer
Colin Hopkins: Winemaker and Chair of Kangaroo Island Winemakers Association
Dinner: at leisure - try the local Kingscote restaurants



Day 3 -13 Jan 2004
National Association General Meeting .
Guest Speaker: Hon. Rory McEwin MP
Site inspections and tour of Island venues;
Eucalyptus Distillery: Larry Turner
Gourmet Lunch at Vivonne Bay
Marron Farming : John Melbourne
Sheep Cheese producer:Susan Berlin

Conference Dinner : Ozone Hotel
Guest Speaker:Prof. Simon Maddox.
Diversification and Innovation in Agriculture
Day 4 - 14 January 2004
How I do it session: National Presidents
Neil Heath - Focus Farming
Kevin Hosking - Promoting Ag in the Media
Jane Bartlett - SAFF/ Farm Safe
Roger Teeple- USA NAAE President
Question Time
Guest Speaker ;Best Practice Sheep Farming.
Greg Johnsson Livestock Consultant
Lunch: Acacia Apartments
Conference Close
Site visit to Greg Johnsson property or Smith Bay Abalone Farm
Dinner at leisure or depart for home.





Accommodation Options



- Acacia Apartments
- Ozone Hotel
- Wisteria Motel
- Seaview Motel
- Island Resort
- KI Holiday Village
- Island Court
  or go to www.tourkangarooisland.com.au

Transport options

- Fly Emu or Rex
- Ferry with or without own car

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In case you are not already aware, the Australian Water Association is organising a conference titled ***'Education: The Key to Sustainable Water Management - Going Beyond Conservation'*** which will be held in Canberra from 28-29 January 2004. AWA has assembled leading International and Australian presenters to speak on the three conference themes of:

1. Education for School Students
2. Community Education &
3. Professional Development

Interactive workshops are also included in the program to ensure delegates have the opportunity to get involved and get more out of the conference. A 'hands on' post conference workshop is planned for 30 January which will further examine the findings of AWA's research into water education in Australia.

Please note, the registration early bird deadline is only two weeks away (30 November).

This brochure, along with all other important details are available from the conference website - http://www.awa.asn.au/events/education04/

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information on this exciting event! Alternatively, please feel free to forward this email to colleagues who may be interested.

Kind regards,
Lee Devereux
Professional Development Support Officer
Australian Water Association
National Office
PO Box 388, Artarmon NSW 1570
Tel (02) 9413 1288, Fax (02) 9413 1047
Direct (02) 9495 9908
E-mail: ldevereux@awa.asn.au, Internet: www.awa.asn.au

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bizarre - never have to type properly again!

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HSC MARKERS: TAMWORTH 2004



HELP, I'M NEW TO PRIMARY INDUSTRIES By G Harris

•Join the NSWAAT (NSW Association of Agriculture Teachers) www.nswaat.org.au

Course Structure

120 hour **core**- not eligible for HSC exam and UAI

Most schools offer **240 hour course** (page 17 of syllabus + elective pool page 18, 19)

Further study

- **Specialisation** through 60, 120 and 180 hour course (see page 14 of the syllabus)

Students may participate in these if they are enrolled in or completed the 240 hours course before credit is awarded

- **Extension** courses: 60 or 120 hours. These extension courses can be studied at any time. NB students may participate in these if they are enrolled in or completed the 240 hours course before credit is awarded. (see page 24 of the syllabus)

eg

120 Mandatory - Non UAI

OR

240 Mandatory + electives pool (p18) - HSC (UAI) perhaps Cert 11

and/or and /or

Specialisation (p 21 Table 3)	Extension (p24 Table 4)
60 hr	60 hr
or	and
120 hr	60 hr
or	Thus
180 hr	max 120 hrs towards (AQF III)
in one industry sector only	Teachers must be qualified for these AQF 3 units & RTO registered

oUnits are best studied in a holistic manner with several units grouped by a common theme or thread. (eg syllabus support sample programs)

oCompetency based training requires students to demonstrate competency and assessment involves collection of evidence of competency.

oThe syllabus has a column "HSC Advice and REQUIREMENT" which covers what CAN be assessed in the HSC examination. The units in the Mandatory Core will be the ONLY units from which questions will be taken for the exam.

oUse your District Vet Education Consultant or Vet Advisor

oSample units for the mandatory core are found in the Syllabus Support document.

oGet involved in competitions such as WorldSkills as assessment methods.

oIn the case where a student requires a competency record prior to the completion of the course, talk to your BOS liason person in the school regarding production of competency records. Using the "my reports" section generate an individual student competency record that you can sign and stamp with the RTO stamp once the competencies have been achieved and placed on the eBos site.

oUSE THE BOS SUPPORT DOCUMENT, in your spare time read the units you are teaching from Part B of the syllabus. Access the STANDARDS PACKAGE

- Remember if it all seems too much....Chill out, You're an Aggie !!!!!!

Hot Topics 43: Water Law

Water is a precious and finite resource essential for all life. Human population growth and industrialisation are placing increasing pressure on the world's limited water resources. Law has an important role to play in mediating competing demands for water, establishing priorities for action and controlling harmful activities

This issue of *Hot Topics* explores a range of key water law issues arising at the international, national and state levels. Includes discussion of wetland protection, COAG reform, property rights in water and water management planning. Also includes further reading and website details.

Hot Topics is a magazine series on legal issues published by the Legal Information Access Centre (LIAC). *Hot Topics* provides information for the community and for students and is provided free of charge to **every public library** (but not school libraries) in NSW.

Hot Topics 43: Water Law – Available now in your local public library! Also available for purchase at $17.60 (inc. GST). For more information or orders contact Cathy Hammer, Legal Information Access Centre:

Tel: (02) 9273 1645 Fax: (02) 9273 1250

Email: liac@sl.nsw.gov.au Website: http://liac.sl.nsw.gov.au

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FIRST AID TRAINING FOR DECAPITATION!!



SAMPLE PI FENCE ASSESSMENT

Expected Performance	Critical Aspects	Actual Performance	Observed Y/N	Question	Question Response
2521.1 Maintain basic fencing equipment	1.1 Tools and equipment are stored appropriately after use.	Yes/No			
	1.2 Service equipment	Yes/No			
	1.3 Basic maintenance and repairs to tools	Yes/No			
2521.2 Make repairs to farm fences	2.1 Appropriate tools are selected	List and locate from shed	/7	Name tools and select appropriate tools	Pliers Strainers Crowbar Post hole shovel Plain wire Barbwire Tie wire
	2.2 Tools handled and transported correctly	Yes/No	/2		
	2.3 Posts replaced consistent with fence	Site in posts Ensure correct height and placement Yes/No	/2		
	2.4 Soil is rammed so post is secure	Demonstrate the following knots:	/4 /3 /3	Explain the application of these knots	
	2.5 Wire strung, mounted and fixed according to instructions	Tie off at strainer, Figure 8 Double loop Demonstrate the use of strainers	/4 /2		Animal welfare Traffic and tyres
	2.6	Yes/No	/4 /2	Reasons for tidy site What safety equipment is needed?	Goggles, leather gloves, hat, skin protection
	2.7 Site is left tidy	Yes/No		Why is it needed?	Eye damage, tetanus

	2.8 Safe working practices employed				
2521.3 Dismantle wire fence	3.1 Tools are identified and used safely 3.2 reuseable materials identified, recovered and removed 3.3 site cleared and disposal of non reuseable disposed of and hole filled 3.4 safe working practices	Yes/No Roll up wire Remove knots Remove posts Stored materials Removal of non reuseable materials from site Yes/No	/4 /1 /2	Demonstrate these skills	
Total marks			**/40**		

Assessor Comment: _____ Date: _____

Student Comment: _____ Date: _____

Courtesy Anne Young and Lisa Bright

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HSC Farm Product Study sample Program

8 Weeks

TEXT:
Dynamic Agriculture Book 3 & 4 (1st ed)

DESCRIPTION
Core Units of HSC Course including Farm Product Study

OUTCOMES

A student:

H3.1 assesses the general business principles and decision-making processes involved in sustainable farm management and marketing of farm products
H3.2 critically assesses the marketing of a plant OR animal product
H3.3 critically examines the technologies and technological innovations employed in the production and marketing of agricultural products
H3.4 evaluates the management of the processes in agricultural systems.

RESOURCES

Videos on marketing, Kill sheets, score cards from carcase competitions, Market reports from Land newspaper, different cuts of meat for taste test (rump, topside, chuck, scotch fillet, shin beef). Computers with internet access.

EVALUATION:

Assessment task on Beef quality survey: Week 7

Course Schedule

WEEK	CONTENT	ACTIVITIES
1	• the farm as a business – the place of the farm in the wider agribusiness sector – the range of marketing strategies, for example vertical integration, contract selling, direct marketing, cooperatives, marketing boards, available to producers	• Farm business and production - Identify links between farm, agribusinesses, service industries, vet services, retailers etc within town – design a flow chart for beef enterprise - discuss options for selling beef and also marketing methods used for other products to show full range of marketing options. (videos – vertical integration, quotas, marketing boards. CALM etc)
2	– the interaction between the farm and the market – ways in which governments can intervene in aspects of agricultural production and marketing	- review methods used by farmer (farm case study) for selling beef (saleyards, contracts, direct)

3	• the marketing of a specific farm product (BEEF) – the quality criteria for the product – the importance of product specification in the marketing of the product – the processes involved in turning the raw agricultural commodity into various forms to satisfy consumer demand – the role of advertising and promotion in the marketing of the product – the nature and potential for value adding on the product		
4	• decision-making processes and management strategies – assessment of the performance of systems and decision-making based on measurements of quality and quantity – the financial pressures that have an impact on farmers, including the irregular nature of income, high expenditure on inputs, the dynamic nature of markets and interest rates, risk management	• Feedback - obtain kill sheets from abattoir, score cards from carcase competitions, analyse and discuss how producers use and respond to information. - discuss management options for improving quality of product eg supplementary feeding, cross-breeding. - use internet to access information on beef consumption, exports etc (ABARE, AMLC sites) - graph trends over the last 10 years - compare with trends in chicken, lamb and pork. - discuss changes in consumer tastes and preferences and reasons for them. -	
5	the problems that may occur in meeting market specifications	- discuss changes in supply and demand for beef – domestic and export. Suggest ways farmers can respond to changes / reduce risk. - collect market reports from Land newspaper – analyse price variations over time.	
6	Measures of economic performance, include a gross margin for an enterprise	using current prices/costs or information from farm case study – construct a gross margin for a beef enterprise	

7	Assessment Task- Cook and survey Write report	
8	• agricultural technology the impact that scientific research and associated technology has had on agricultural production and marketing	• Technology list impacts of scientific research on beef production and marketing. discuss role of Cattle Care, EBV's fat scanners, video image analysis, electrical stimulation and other technologies.

Courtesy Graeme Harris

Keep your eyes posted for:

A future *Weed Management competition* designed specifically for Junior and Senior Secondary Agriculture students.

The Weed CRC Educational Officer, Susanna Greig, who is based at UNE, is developing a competition where students can not only gain a greater understanding of weed management issues, but also gain the satisfaction of designing a suitable solution for an environmental problem in their school environment.

There will be 2 divisions in this competition a junior secondary competition, and a senior secondary competition.

The Weed CRC will be offering prize money of $1000 for the design of appropriate management strategies, and reports arguing for the merits of these strategies. This prize money is to be spent by the school, and used as the school determines.

By simply completing this competition, a component of the Schools Environmental Management Plan as required by the DET in the Environmental Education Policy could be achieved.

This competition will be further developed with supporting material to assist teachers to implement it. The competition will be exposed to NSW schools in 2nd term of 2004 with the due date for the entries being the 20th of September 2004. (end of 3rd term).

The competition will involve the students to identify an area in the school grounds with a weed problem. The students work to identify the weed(s), take a "before" photo of the area to send into Susanna, and design an appropriate management strategy. The students then write a report arguing the merits of their strategy, to submit to Susanna.

A selection of the student's reports and photos will be placed on the Weed CRC's worldwide website for all to view their ideas and planning, and to give the students the recognition they deserve.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact:

Susanna Greig
Weed CRC Educational Officer,
Agronomy & Soil Science Building,
School of Rural Science and Agriculture,
University of New England,
Armidale NSW, 2351
Ph: 67 732809
Email: sgreig2@pobox.une.edu.au

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION AGRICULTURE
(by Stu Hemmings)
(*70 Marks*)

Total time allowed – 2 hours (plus 5 minutes reading time)

DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name at the top right hand corner of EACH page
- Reading Time – 5 minutes
- Working Time – 2 Hours
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
- Draw diagrams using pencil
- Board approved calculators may be used
- Attempt ALL questions 1-5 in Sections I and II
- Attempt ONE question ONLY from questions 6 and 7 in Section III

Section 1:

25 Marks
Attempt Questions 1-3
Allow about 40 minutes for this section

Answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Question 1 (14 marks)

Name ONE farm product you have studied.

Name of product .....

Answer ALL parts of Question 1 with reference to the product named above.

(a) Describe ONE quality criteria for this product.

.....

1

.....

(b) Outline how ONE on-farm management operation can affect the quality criteria you have described in (a) above.

.....

..... **2**

.....

(c) Discuss why an off-farm processing step for this product must be properly implemented in order to maximise the product quality criteria described in (a).

.....

.....

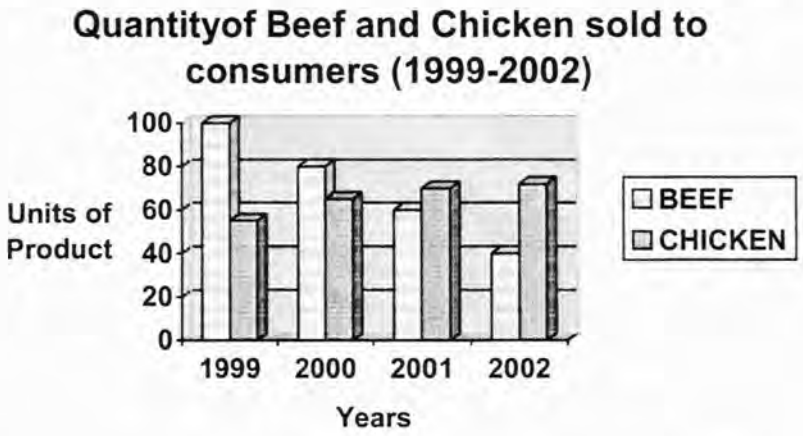
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Demand for farm products can vary. Refer to the diagrams below and answer the questions that follow.



(d) Outline ONE possible cause for the decline in beef consumption from 1999-2002.

.....

1

.....

(e) Discuss how the decline in beef consumption may impact on the finances of beef producers.

.....

.....

3

.....

.....

(f) Explain, using examples, how consideration of the following may impact on the demand for beef in the future.

i. Value adding: .....

.....

.....

ii. Advertising and promotion: 3

.....

.....

Question 2: (7 marks)

This information is from the Tamworth Cattle Sale March 17 2003, held at Tamworth saleyards.
(http://www.farmonline.com.au/markets_cattle.asp?state=NSW&location=TAM)

1683 -310

There were more quality trade cattle in an otherwise similar type of yarding to the last sale. The cow number percentage was down while plainer conditioned yearlings and light weaners were in fair numbers only. There were very few bullocks or heavy steers available while restocker yearling steers were also short supplied.

The usual buyers attended and the trend in the market was firm or dearer. Feeder steers and trade cattle both showed a rise in price under very keen bidding while the young weaner cattle and the plainer type of yearling sold at fully firm prices. The restocker demand was strong but not as strong as the demand for feeder cattle, and most of the suitable yearlings and slightly older steers went to the feedlotters.

There were just enough bullocks and heavy steers yarded to quote a firm market. The cow market for all weights was very solid and prices were at worst fully firm, and at best an odd lot sold to a slightly dearer trend. It was noticeable that the demand for the heavy export type feeder steer is increasing steadily as the numbers available reduce.

The top sale price was 215.2c/kg paid for heavy yearling trade steers.

VEALER STEERS											
200.1 - 280	C	2	194	194	C 2	194	31	353	447	447	447
YEARLING STEERS											
330.1 - 400	C	23	177	210	C 3	202	8	360	708	809	751
STEERS											
500.1 - 600	C	34	180	194	C 4	192	0	342	966	1,071	1,007
COWS											

(a) Interpret the average Liveweight Price paid for C3 Yearling Steers. **1**

(b) Suggest a possible reason for the decline in total Yarding numbers from the previous weeks sale.

.....

..... **2**

.....

(c) Explain how a producer, when deciding on the marketing options available for livestock on the farm, may use this type of regular market information.

.....

.....

.....

..... 4

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.....

.....

.....

Question 3 (4 marks)

(a) Outline the role of the following when conducting agricultural trials;

i. Randomisation: .....

.....

2

ii. Replication: .....

.....

(b) A researcher claims to have produced a new higher yielding variety of wheat following a field trial. The researcher had been sure to include both randomisation and replication into the field trial.

Old Variety Yield t/ha	New Variety Yield t/ha
2.6	3.8

Assess the validity of a farmer changing to the new variety based only on the information shown above.

.....

.....

2

.....

.....

Section II

30 marks
Attempt Questions 4-5
Allow about 50 minutes for this section

Answer the questions in the space provided.

Question 4 (15 marks)

(a) Outline how ONE physical soil property affects plant production.

.....

..... 2

.....

(b) Describe a management technique a farmer may implement to alter the effects of this physical property in order to improve plant productivity.

.....

..... 2

.....

(c) Discuss the tension between sustainability and short-term profitability that a farmer may encounter when deciding whether to implement a new management technique onto the farm. Illustrate your answer with an example.

.....

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..... 5

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(d) Outline a land degradation problem that has occurred due to a change in land use practices from those used by early Australian aborigines to those used in present day farming.

.....

.....

2

.....

.....

(e) Explain, using an example, how the broader community can play a role in the long-term sustainability of agricultural production systems.

.....

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..... 4

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End of Question 4

Question 5 (15 marks)

The figure below illustrates the change in availability of plant nutrients with a change in soil pH.

Insert picture
from Aglime
brochure

(a) State TWO nutrients shown in the diagram that have their highest availability in very acid soils.

.... **1**

(b) For ONE plant nutrient shown in the figure above;

Nutrient: .....

i. State if this is a macro or a micro nutrient. **1**

ii. Describe one plant deficiency symptom for this nutrient.

.....

2

.....

iii. Explain a technique that can be used to overcome a deficiency of this nutrient in the soil.

.....

..... **2**

.....

(c) Outline ONE management activity that may act to increase soil acidity on a farm.

.....

..... 2

.....

(d) Evaluate ONE method that may be used to overcome the effects of soil acidity on plant productivity.

.....

.....

..... 4

.....

.....

(e) In the space below, sketch a diagram that illustrates the nutrient cycling of nitrogen.

3

Indicate clearly with an **X**, the points where microbes play an important role.

End of Section II

Section III

15 marks
Attempt ONE question only from questions 6 and 7.
Allow about 30 minutes for this section

Answer the question on the paper provided. Extra paper can be requested if required.

Question 6 (15 marks)

(a) Land degradation in Australia has many forms and acts to limit agricultural production. For ONE type of Land Degradation you have studied, describe the factors that have caused this degradation. **5**

(b) Explain a current recommended procedure that can be used to alleviate this degradation and relate this to the physical and biological processes occurring in the soil.
10

OR

Question 7 (15 marks)

(a) It is important that agricultural research continues into new methods that improve the productivity and/or sustainability of agricultural production systems.
Identify a piece of current research you are familiar with and describe how this was undertaken.

5

(b) Explain the major findings of this research and relate these findings to the impact they may have on agricultural production systems. **10**

END OF PAPER

N.S.W. Association of Agriculture Teachers Inc

ABN Number 81 639 285 642

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