

*P Weir elected to secretary
on P. Bryan's leave for 2 years*

THE WEED SOCIETY / OF NEW SOUTH WALES

c/o Department of Agriculture, Box ~~98, G.P.O.~~ Sydney

No. 67/4 OCTOBER, 1967



SYMPOSIUM

"Impact of Weeds on the Community"

Members are reminded of the Symposium to be held at the University of New South Wales on Friday, 10th November in Lecture Theatre No. 8, Central Lecture Theatre Block.

Registration is at 9.00 a.m. and proceedings commence at 9.30 a.m.

All papers are with the printer and should be available for distribution about the time you receive this newsletter.

The standard of papers is good and they are certain to provoke interesting discussion.

If you have not already booked in, write or 'phone as soon as possible and bring along as many visitors as you can.

We do not mind if you arrive at the Conference without prior booking - but we would not be able to guarantee dinner.

Coming Events: Weed Society, Annual General Meeting.

It is intended that the Annual General Meeting be held on 28th February, 1968. A further notice will be issued in February.

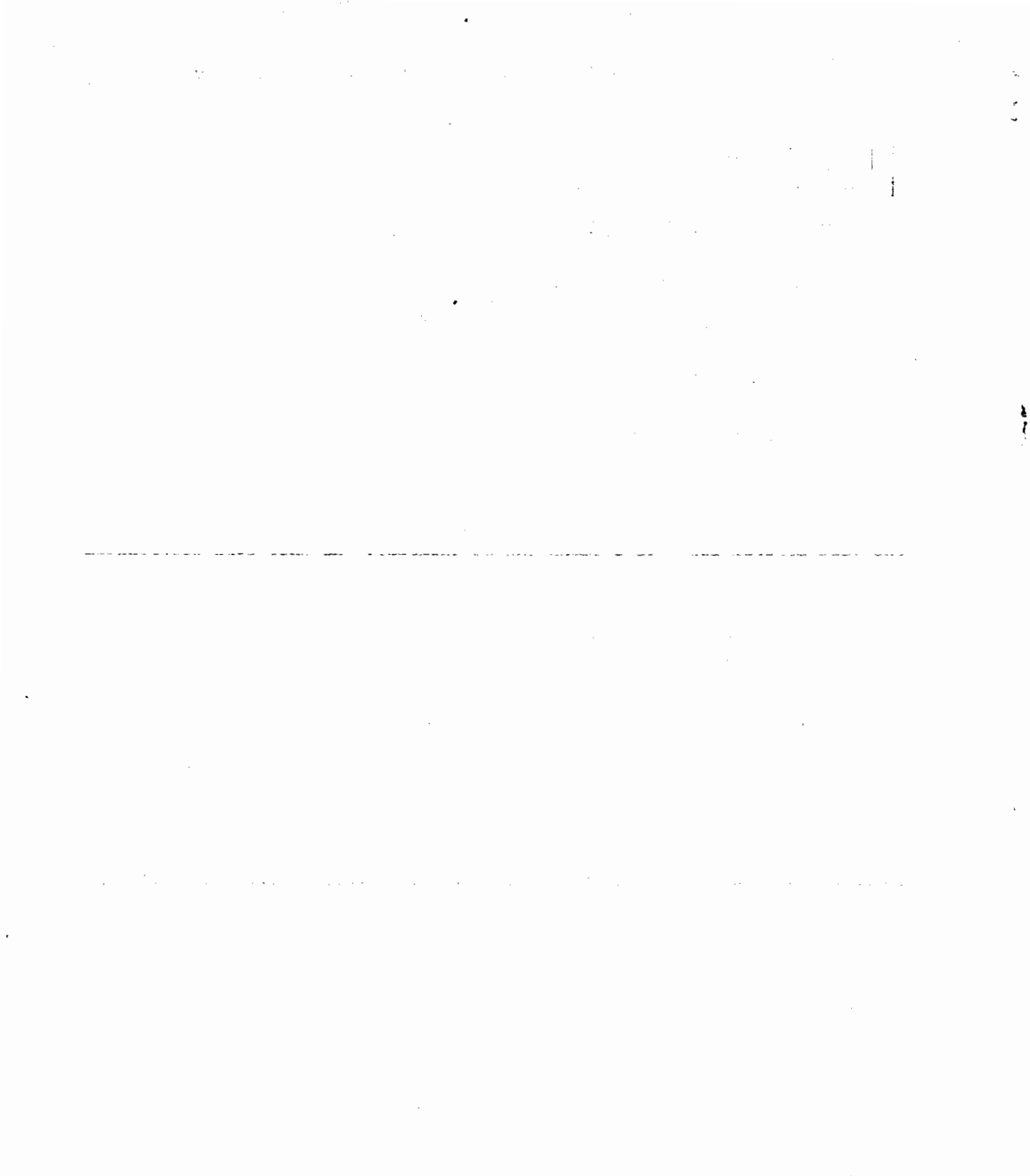
Consideration is being given to holding a three-day function on the M.I.A. towards the end of March.

Coming Events: Other organisations.

Department of Agriculture - Field day on serrated tussock control on non-arable land, near Gunning, 16th November.

Department of Agriculture - Field day on chemical ploughing and aerial seeding of pasture - Turondale, 1 p.m. 2nd November.

Advice as to public functions which are likely to interest members, would be appreciated for listing. - Ed.



NEW HERBICIDES

Twenty nine members and visitors attended the June meeting on new herbicides. A summary of the talks and films shown appears below.

Mr. T.R. Perry - Monsanto Chemicals

CP 31393 Propachlor is a pre-emergence herbicide commercialised in the U.S.A. It is quite specific for Gramineae but will also control some broadleaved species.

Chemically, CP 31393 is 2-chloro-N-isopropylacetamide. In Australia, testing has been confined to a 65% w.p. An LD 50 of 1200 mg/kg on rats leads to its classification as mildly toxic.

Tolerant crops include cotton, maize, sweet corn, pineapples, peanuts, beans, sorghum, sugarcane and some vegetables.

Application at 4 lb. a.i. per ac when weeds have less than two leaves is most effective. Good soil moisture is essential for herbicide activation and weed control for 4 to 6 weeks can be expected. No soil type differences have been recorded.

Field trials at Mudgee, Quirindi and Windsor all gave 96 - 100% control of E. crus-galli and between 50 and 95% control of Chenopodium, Amaranthus and Nicandra.

Mr. P. Wright - C.I.B.A. Co. Pty. Ltd.

Cotoran Fluometuron is a trifluorinated urea closely related to diuron. It is primarily a broadleaved weed killer for pre or early post-emergence application in cotton.

The residual activity is between 6 and 12 weeks and depends on soil type. Phytotoxicity has been noticed where waterlogging and leaching follows application on the low nutrient level. Ord River cotton soils, and also on montmorillonite clays of pH 8-9. On N.S.W. cotton soils up to 5 lb. a.i. per acre is considered safe.

Other relatively tolerant crops include pineapples, sorghum and asparagus.

Peat soils have been observed to absorb Cotoran and give poor herbicidal results.

Mr. B. Fox - I.C.I.A.N.Z.

A film on some aspects of bipyridyl herbicides was shown.

The film showed how fallows could be prepared with Gramoxone after harvesting wheat. The stubble can be rotocultivated and a stubble planter used for sowing the next crop. The need to plough was questioned.

Cropping in this way may reduce infestation by Take-all in wheat.

Pasture renovation of peat soils on the Norfolk Broads was seen where the original swards had been cleared and new species direct seeded.

In potatoes, spraying just as the crop emerged gave weed control and caused only temporary crop injury. Reglone was also useful for haulm and weed destruction at harvest.

In crops, the bipyridyls can be used where weeds emerge before the crop. Their use around orchard trees and in forestry plantings was also demonstrated.

Mr. H. Lander - A.C. Hatrick Chemicals Pty. Ltd.

Vistik is a low-cost cellulose polymer specially designed to reduce herbicide spray drift. Additions of 0.25 to 0.75 per cent Vistik to water-borne herbicide formulations are usually sufficient for drift control.

The product has been tested with helicopter applicators, boom sprayers, mist blowers and air blast sprayers.

All water-borne herbicide sprays are considered compatible because only the water phase of the spray is thickened.

Mr. N. Harrs - Nufarm Rural Products Co.

Casoron (dichlobenil) is 2,6 - dichlorobenzonitrile. It is available in Australia as a 50% w.p.

It has been used in horticulture, fruit trees and cereal crops. The aquatic uses are most interesting.

Work carried out in Australia on water milfoil, Elodea, pondweed and ribbonweed was demonstrated by a series of slides. Elodea is the most difficult weed to control.

Mr. J.W. Barrie - Elanco Products Co.

A film on the use of Balan (benefin) in peanuts was screened.

Mr. M. van der Loo - May and Baker

Two experimental materials, M. & B 9057 (asulam) and M & B 8882 have been tested in Australia. They are benzene-sulphonyl carbamates.

In the plants it appears that the herbicides are translocated from the leaves to the roots. They appear particularly interesting for control of Rumex spp in pasture.

Tests in lucerne, linseed, sugar cane, turf and orchards have all been promising.

CITRUS FIELD DAY AT GOSFORD

With the Central Coast Agricultural Research and Extension Committee helping to draw the crowds, the field day on 13th September attracted just over two hundred people.

This large attendance clearly demonstrated the farmer interest in the subject and showed how much the Society can contribute towards keeping farmers informed of the rapid advances in weed control.

Numerous enquiries were subsequently received by the Gosford office of the Department of Agriculture for further details.

BRITISH WEED RESEARCH ORGANISATION

In Newsletter No. 2 (Oct. 1966) a description of the British Weed Control Council's activities was given.

The British Weed Research Organisation's report for 1965-66 has recently been received and provides a detailed summary of work in progress at Begbroke Hill. With about 37 professional officers, the Director can justly claim that "in status W.R.O. is becoming increasingly recognised as the leading centre for applied research and information on weeds and their control".

The W.R.O. is arranged in two departments. The Weed Science Department contains the Evaluation, Chemistry, Botany and Microbiology sections and the weed control department comprises the agronomy, horticulture, special projects and farm sections. "Weed Abstracts" is prepared in the information section. The Overseas section, headed by Dr. E.C.S. Little, maintains contacts particularly in the developing countries, and is perhaps best known here by the articles often appearing in PANS Section C.

HONORARY MEMBERS

The constitution of the Weed Society enables honorary members to be elected "from persons who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, have made major contributions to the objects of the Society".

The committee has elected Mr. J.D. Fryer, Director of the British Weed Research Organisation, as the Foundation Honorary Member of the Weed Society of N.S.W.

Dr. E.K. Woodford, of the Grassland Research Institute, Berkshire, has supplied the following comment:

"Although a botanist by training, J.D. Fryer has a broad background of pest control having worked in entomological and plant pathology units. Born in 1922, Fryer read botany at Cambridge, where his career was broken by war service. From 1947 he worked for three years at Fernhurst Research Station (Plant Protection Ltd.) as a plant pathologist and on weed control. In 1950 he joined the Unit of Experimental Agronomy, Oxford, and was responsible for overseas operations, including bush control and anti-tsetse fly aerial spraying in Africa. At The Weed Research Organisation, Fryer was closely concerned with publications and was the first editor of the Journal of the European Weed Research Organisation - 'Weed Research', and he is editor now of the 'Weed Control Handbook'. His special interests are in methods of application of pesticides, and in herbicide residues in the soil. He was appointed Director of the Weed Research Organisation on 1st October, 1964."

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr. Peter Gregory has resigned from his position as Foundation Secretary of the Society. He left for England in early October to undertake university courses in crop protection at Wye College. He hopes to return to Australia in several years. From the formation of the Society, Peter Gregory has been one of its most ardent supporters, and has done much to consolidate its success. In a later Newsletter we hope to publish some comments from him on crop protection education in Great Britain.

Mr. P.W. Weiss has been elected as Secretary of the Weed Society to fill the vacancy resulting from Mr. P. Gregory's resignation.

Mr. J.T. Snelson has been appointed Pesticides Co-ordinator with the Department of Primary Industry, Canberra. Because of his residence in Canberra, he has regretfully resigned from the Executive Committee of the Society.

Dr. C.G. Greenham of the Division of Plant Industry C.S.I.R.O. Canberra, has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Science by the University of Queensland. The award is in recognition of his work in the field of plant physiology.

Mr. Noel Harrs has been appointed Agricultural Products Sales Manager for Australia by Dow Chemicals.

Mr. Ross Phillipson will replace Mr. Harrs as N.S.W. Branch Manager of Nu-Farm Rural Products Pty. Ltd.

Mr. John Matheson has been appointed to the position of Chief Technical Officer of Colin Campbell (Chemicals) Pty. Ltd. who represent Schering A.G. and other overseas manufacturers. He has had commercial agricultural experience in West Africa and during his ten years in Australia has been engaged in advisory and experimental work with the Department of Agriculture in various Australian States and New Guinea.

Mr. Brian Hillyar, formerly Technical Officer of Colin Campbell (Chemicals) Pty. Ltd. has now joined Schering Pty. Ltd. Sydney as their Technical Representative for Agricultural Chemicals.

Mr. Harry Ferguson, Manager for Research and Development of Dow Chemicals (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. leaves on 1st November for two months overseas, mainly in the U.S.A.

LETTERS

The following enquiry has been received from a member in the Tablelands. Any replies will be forwarded to him and also published in the next Newsletter (possibly in condensed form).

Other correspondence is invited. - Ed.

"A large property has been developed from green timber to grazing land over the last three years.

"Excellent clover dominant pastures have been established or are in the process of establishing. Eucalyptus regeneration has occurred, both by suckers from broken off stumps and seedlings, over an area of approximately 1,000 acres. This growth varies in height from ground level up to six feet and if not killed out this year, will seriously affect the productivity of the property. The main re-growth has occurred from Stringy Bark, Yellow Box, Red Box and Red Gum.

"The land-owner has two high volume spray units which can be used to treat the area and has sought advice as to the best chemical to use.

"He does not wish to use Tordon owing to the damaging effect it will have on his clover.

"Any advice you can offer on this problem will be appreciated."

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Weed Society of N.S.W.
C/- Department of Agriculture, Sydney.
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