

THE WEED SOCIETY / OF NEW SOUTH WALES

P.O. Box K287, Haymarket, N.S.W. 2000

PRESIDENT: Dr L. W. Smith

HON. SECRETARY: Mr W. J. Burke

NEWSLETTER NO. 1/81

Price - 10 cents

February, 1981

NOTICE OF BLACKBERRY CONTROL FIELD DAY
FOLLOWED BY 15TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: Friday, 27th February

WHERE: St Joseph's Novitiate and Castle Hill Country Club,
Windsor Road,
Castle Hill.

PROGRAMME

- 10.30 am - Meet at Private Road entrance to St Joseph's Novitiate,
Windsor Road.
Inspect John Toth's blackberry field plots.
- First trial started 1978, resprayed in 1980.
- Second trial started 1980, compares application techniques.
- 12.30 - 2.00 pm - LUNCH at the Castle Hill Country Club - 250 to 500 metres
up the Windsor Road towards Kellyville.
Lunch will be available at a price to be negotiated.
- 2.00 - 3.30 pm - Panel discussion on promising alternative blackberry
control methods. At the Country Club dining room.
- 3.30 - 5.15 pm - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes 14th Annual General Meeting
3. Business arising therefrom
4. Annual Report
5. Business arising therefrom
6. Financial Statement
7. Election of Office-Bearers
8. Presidential Address
9. Other Business

Refreshments will be available at the Country Club after the Annual General Meeting.

Please let Jack Burke (02) 428 1966, know if you intend to be at the Field Day so that luncheon numbers can be organised.

SIXTH AUSTRALIAN WEEDS CONFERENCE

CITY OF GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

SEPTEMBER 14TH - 18TH, 1981

Response to the proposal that the 6th Australian Weeds Conference be staged at the Gold Coast in September, 1981 has been enthusiastic and a programme to incorporate the expressed areas of interest is being developed.

Session Titles

Weed Management Systems
Economics of Weed Control
Biology of Weeds/Herbicide Physiology
Biological Control of Weeds
Application Techniques
New Products
Pastures, Woodlands and Rangelands
Weeds of Summer Crops
Weeds of Winter Crops
Weeds of Horticulture
Weeds of Forests and National Parks
Weeds of non-Crop and Water Situations
Tropical and sub-Tropical Weeds

Contact:-

The Secretariat,
Sixth Australian Weeds Conference,
P.O. Box 111,
Broadbeach. Qld. 4217.

for further information.

Australian Weeds

A journal, known as Australian Weeds will be produced. Each issue will consist of at least 40 pages of A4 size. Four issues will be published over a period of 12 to 24 months; at least 4000 copies will be produced of the first issue and at least 1000 copies of each of the other three issues.

The journal will deal with all aspects of weeds and will include refereed papers of a high standard (3 or 4 per issue), extension articles, technical notes and news items.

It will be sponsored by CAWSS and known as the "Official Journal of the Council of Australian Weed Science Societies".

The subscription rate to private subscribers will be \$14 for the four issues.

Inkata Press Pty Limited has agreed to meet all costs of producing, distributing and promoting the journal (except as provided below).

CAWSS has agreed to provide:

- i) all copy, other than advertising copy, edited and suitable for publication,
- ii) assistance in obtaining advertisers,
- iii) promotion through member societies,
- iv) limited finance to help promote the first issue, and
- v) expenses of the editor.

All members of the Weed Society of New South Wales will receive the first copy free and it is hoped that members will then subscribe to this journal.

Queensland's Ten Worst Weeds

| | | |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| Clear No. 1 | "Worst" was: | Cyperus rotundus (Nut Grass) |
| 2 | | Parthenium hysterophorus (Parthenium weed) |
| 3 | | Avena spp. (Wild Oats) |
| 4 | | Sorghum halepense (Johnson Grass) |
| 5 | | Cryptostegia grandiflora (Rubber Vine) |
| 6 | | Lantana camara (Lantana) |
| 7 | | Eichhornia crassipes (Water Hyacinth) |
| 8 | | Salvinia molesta (Salvinia) |
| 9 | | Datura spp. (Thornapples) |
| 10 | | Eucalyptus spp. (Eucalypt Trees and Regrowth) |

Agronomy Conference in 1982

The Second Australian Agronomy Conference will be held at Riverina College of Advanced Education, New South Wales, from May 10 to 12, 1982. It will be preceded by an excursion on Sunday, May 9.

This Conference, organised by the Australian Society of Agronomy represents a national conference convened for and open to all those interested in Agronomy. It is not necessary to be a member of the Society to be eligible to attend the Conference. Membership of the Society is free and may be effected by sending details to the Honorary Secretary:

Mr J. S. Glendinning,
Australian Fertilizers Limited,
P.O. Box 528,
North Sydney. N.S.W. 2060.

Tillage and Cultivation

Two words frequently used in agricultural terminology are tillage and cultivation. In order to distinguish more precisely what is understood by these two terms, it is necessary to define them.

Tillage can be defined as the act whereby the soil is disturbed in the preparation of a crop seed bed. It is the start of a sequence of events, in crop production, eventually ending with the crop being harvested. Tillage involves the ploughing, ripping, rolling, heavy discing or harrowing and rotavating of the soil.

Cultivation on the other hand can be defined as the act after tillage whereby weeds are removed from the crop seed bed either before or after the crop is planted. Cultivation involves the use of spiked and disced harrows, tined hoes, rotary cultivators and a variety of hand held hoes.

If there had been no-tillage there would have been no need to cultivate in the first place, whereas with tillage the need to cultivate is obligatory. Tillage triggered off the need to control weeds, and in so doing an evolutionary pattern of weed control techniques has developed, which has led to a stage where, with the use of herbicides, the need for tillage can be questioned.

- T. M. Borland, Which Way Weed Control and Tillage, Proceedings 1979 Third National Conference Weed Science Society of South Africa.

Coming Events

- August 11-13 34th New Zealand Weed and Pest Control Conference.
Contact: Ms M. J. Hartley, Ministry of Agriculture
and Fisheries, Private Bag, Palmerston North NEW ZEALAND
- September 14-18 6th Australian Weeds Conference, City of Gold Coast,
Queensland, Australia.
Contact: Weeds Conference Secretariat, P.O. Box 111,
Broadbeach, Queensland, 4217 AUSTRALIA.
- November 22-29 8th Asian Pacific Weed Science Society Conference,
Bangalore, India.
Contact: Weed Conference Secretariat, P.O. Box 153,
Vasanthanagar, Bangalor 560052 INDIA.

Statistical Methods for Field Workers

A two-day workshop has been organised by the Weed Science Society of Victoria in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture.

The aim of the workshop is to provide an opportunity for field workers such as agronomists and horticulturists to update their understanding of statistical methods.

The workshop will be held on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY the 7th and 8th of APRIL, 1981 at Dookie Agricultural College (near Shepparton).

Two speakers have been engaged to conduct the workshop:

Mr Brian Cullis, B.Sc. (Hons.) is a biometrician currently working at the Agricultural Research Institute at Wagga Wagga, NSW. Brian has had three years' experience working with agronomists, horticulturists and animal husbandry officers involved in research and extension.

Dr Alan Gleeson, M.Sc., Ph.D. is a biometrician at the Agricultural Research Centre, Tamworth, NSW. Alan has had ten years' experience of working with research and extension officers in the fields of agronomy, horticulture and animal husbandry.

Only sixty (60) persons can be accepted for the workshop so early enrolment is advisable. The cost of \$65.00 to attend the workshop includes meals and accommodation for the two days and a copy of the course notes.

For further details please contact:

Mr D. Kerlin,
Registrar,
Dookie Agricultural College,
Victoria. 3647. Telephone (058) 286371

or Harry Combellack or Madelon Hampton,
C/- Keith Turnbull Research Institute,
P.O. Box 48,
Frankston. Vic. 3199. Telephone (03) 786 3555

Seminar on Oil-Producing Plants

Sydney, February 16, 1981

On February 16 next, an important seminar is to be held in Sydney on the enormous prospects for the production of oil products from two noxious weeds growing in Australia.

Speakers from research organisations, government and industry

At the seminar, on Monday February 16, there will be speakers from the research team and also respected authorities from universities, government and the petroleum industry.

Slides and film of various aspects of the growing cycle of the two plants will be shown and samples of the plants and the oil produced from them will be exhibited.

The seminar will be held at the Sebel Town House, Kings Cross, from 10 am till 4 pm. The seminar fee of \$A75 includes lunch.

Telephone enquiries to Jeff Skehan and Associates (02) 939 7935
or Max Strong at Bio-Energy Australia Pty Limited (02) 232 4507

The noxious weeds are Rubber Vine (Criptostegia grandiflora) and Rubber Tree (Calotropis procera), both declared noxious in Queensland.

The publication "Herbicides for Weed Control" by Department of Agriculture, South Australia, is back in circulation after extensive revision.

Now offered in a high quality vinyl folder, all sections are separate so that they may be easily replaced when future revision becomes necessary.

The handbook features the following topics:

Section 1 : Safety first

- 2 : Herbicides for total vegetation control, tree-killing and waterweed control
- 3 : Herbicides for controlling weeds in forestry operations in South Australia
- 4 : Herbicides for use in home gardens in South Australia
- 5 : Herbicides for pasture weed control in South Australia
- 6 : Herbicides for the non-selective treatment of problem weeds in South Australia
- 7 : Herbicides for use in the main field crops of South Australia
- 8 : Herbicides for weed control in fruit crops in South Australia
- 9 : Herbicides for weed control in vegetable crops in South Australia
- 10 : Spray equipment

Total price of the package is \$9 plus \$1.50 postage and handling. Each section, however, may be separately purchased for 50 cents plus postage and handling.

All enquiries to:

Publications Section,
Department of Agriculture,
G.P.O. Box 1671,
Adelaide. S.A. 5001.

Tropical Agriculture - The quarterly journal of the Faculty of Agriculture (Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture), University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

A rapidly growing world population and successive years of crop failure, low yields, drought and increased energy costs, make the improvement of agricultural productivity in tropical and semitropical countries a goal of supreme importance. All the knowledge and techniques available from research institutes throughout the world must be applied to this effort, and effective communication between scientists, agricultural advisers, extension workers and farmers is vital.

Tropical Agriculture is the only journal published in English that deals with the agriculture of the tropics as a whole. The journal is read in more than 100 countries, and publishes original papers by experts from all parts of the world on such topics as:

- . Agronomy of annual and perennial crops
- . Pasture agronomy
- . Livestock science
- . Soil science
- . Mycology and entomology
- . Ecology
- . Botany of economic crops
- . Problems of agricultural developments, including economic aspects

Published quarterly in January, April, July and October.

Enquiries to:

IPC Business Press (Sales and Distribution) Limited,
Oakfield House,
Perrymount Road,
Haywards Heath,
Sussex. ENGLAND. RH16 3DH.

Pesticide Application Workshop

A two day course for people associated with agricultural chemicals for crop production was held at Dookie Agricultural College on August 19 - 20, 1980.

The Workshop was organised by the Weed Science Society of Victoria in conjunction with the Victorian Department of Agriculture. It was attended by over 270 people, including farmers, chemical company representatives and researchers.

Various speakers outlined the gross inefficiencies in the present methods of pesticide application and the need to improve the accuracy of application so that the amount of applied active ingredient can be minimized.

Ways of doing this with pressure and rotary atomisers were described by Dr Norman Morgan from Long Ashton Research Station, U.K. Professor Ed Law gave a detailed account of electrostatic techniques of application which he has developed at the University of Georgia.

The implications of possible effects of new techniques on factors such as pesticide selectivity, formulation and efficiency were discussed.

The large amount of interest in this Workshop indicates a growing awareness of the importance of improving pesticide application in agriculture. There is a need for a greater research effort into pesticide application techniques to improve the economic and biological efficiency of pesticide use. (Deidre Lemerle).

1981 National Spray Seed Conference

17th and 18th February - Albury, N.S.W.

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 17th February

Opening Address: 9.30 am Phil Ruthven, IBIS Research Services Pty Limited.

Session 1: "A need for a change?"

- a) Consideration of economic restraints in wheat/sheep enterprise
- role of direct drilling. Ian Crook - farm consultant, Western Australia. Graeme Ashman, Farmer, Eyre Peninsula.
- b) Consideration of economic restraints in pastoral enterprise
- the role of direct drilling. Dick Wigan, Glenormiston Agricultural College.

Session 2: "Improving pasture"

- a) Consideration of pasture species. Kevin Reed, Pastoral Research Institute, Hamilton.
- b) Pasture renovation. Lewis Rowell, ICI Australia Limited.
- c) Farmer experience with pasture renovation.

Evening Social: "Country Affair" Culcairn.

Wednesday, 18th February

Session 3: "New technology and information"

Review of trial results relating to herbicides, crops and equipment being used in direct drilling programmes.

Session 4: "Soils-long and short term effects of direct drilling"

Speakers include: Dr Ann Hamblin, University of Western Australia,
Dr Tony Fischer, CSIRO, Canberra,
Dr Albert Rovira, CSIRO, Adelaide, S.A.
Mr Tony Ellington, Rutherglen Research Institute, VIC.
Mr John Aveyard, Soil Conservation Research Centre,
Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.

Conference Dinner: Commercial Club, Albury.

Speaker: Tim Reeves, Director Rutherglen Research Institute.

Venue: Albury Civic Theatre.

Registration Times: Travelodge: 3.00 to 8.00 pm Monday 16th February.
Albury Civic Theatre: 7.30 to 9.00 am Tuesday 17th February.

News of Members

- Dr Leon Smith has taken up the position of Principal Agronomist (Weeds) upon the retirement of Allan Mears.
- Brian Scarsbrick has been appointed Regional Director of Agriculture at Leeton.
- Kelvin Green has been retained by the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture to work on the Water Hyacinth - Interdepartmental Project Team of Standing Committee on Agriculture.