

THE WEED SOCIETY / OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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

PRESIDENT Dr. L. B. Lowe

HON. SECRETARY Mr. W.J. Burke

April , 1978

NEWSLETTER No. 2/78
Price - 10 cents

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1977

The Society had more ups and downs in the past year than in any of the previous 11 years.

Three proposed guest speaker meetings and a weed control equipment workshop unfortunately failed to eventuate. On the other hand, our two guest speaker meetings were successful, no doubt because the topics were interesting and the speakers had expert personal knowledge and experience in the subject matter.

In the first meetings we were fortunate in having on the platform the Chairman or Deputy of the Noxious Plant Control Commissions or Boards of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, explaining what they considered was a noxious weed and how their weed control programmes operated. Noxious weed control is a controversial subject and our meeting was especially enlivened by the presence of a group of non-members devoted to having privet classified as a noxious weed, at least in the Sydney area.

Two Department of Agriculture Weed Research Officers shared the floor at the second meeting. Warick Felton spoke on weed control problems in soybeans and mung beans in northern New South Wales. He pointed out that the conventional herbicide trifluralin gave good grass control but left broad leaf weeds, including thornapple and Noogoora burr, uncontrolled. Andrew Leys discussed his weed research in southern New South Wales with particular emphasis on selective control in field lupins and the control of silverleaf nightshade.

The year closed on a high note with an attendance of almost fifty at the annual dinner at the historic Royal Hotel, Paddington. Congratulations to Barry Lowe and Alex McLennan on selecting an unusual, interesting and inexpensive site. The weather was a little hot, but the food, drink and fellowship was tops.

Although not directly a Society highlight, it should be recorded that Australia, and Peter Michael in particular, won the 1979 Asian Pacific Weed Society Conference for Sydney. Peter and Alan Mears supported by Alex McLennan, Barry Lowe, Mike Barrett and Kelvin Green have started on the very sizable job of organising the conference.

In the same vein we should record that Alan Mears and Ken Watson represented us in the Council of Australian Weed Science Societies and have been involved in organising the first C.A.W.S.S. Conference, "New Advances in Weed Control" in Melbourne in April.

During the year the executive met five times and four Newsletters were issued. Leon Smith has worked hard preparing, printing and distributing the Newsletters.

In conclusion, I would like to point out that excluding David Sexton, Deputy Chairman, Victorian Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board and Peter Trumble, Chairman, South Australian Pest Plants Commission, the people active in the major events - the meetings, dinner, organisers of the Asian Pacific Weed Society Conference and the Newsletter were members of the Society, and only a few members at that. I am sure we can all do a little more, such as by keeping a watchful eye out for potential guest speakers and also sending in snippets of information worthy of sharing with other Society members in the Newsletter.

Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31/1/78

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>
Newsletter (printing, postage)	242.22	Members Subscriptions 550.00
P.M.G. Box	30.00	Ordinary 320.00
Audit Fee (1977)	10.00	Corporate 210.00
C.A.W.S. Soc. Membership	40.00	Ordinary 20.00
		arrears
Annual Dinner	465.80	Annual Dinner 444.00
Postage	5.60	Sale of Publications 20.00
Bank Charges	11.61	Interest Investment 171.62
Balance (being excess of income over expenditure transferred to accumulated Fund)	380.39	
	1185.62	1185.62
	1185.62	1185.62

Statement of Assets as at 31/1/78

<u>Accumulated Fund</u>		<u>31/1/78</u>	<u>31/1/77</u>
Balance		1845.50	1671.38
<u>Add Excess as per Income & Expenditure</u>		380.39	174.12
		2225.89	1845.50
		2225.89	1845.50
<u>This is represented by:-</u>		<u>31/1/78</u>	<u>31/1/77</u>
Cash at Bank (Trading Account)		166.32	5.60
Investment (NSW Permanent Building Society)		2036.52	1864.90
Payment in advance, A.P.W.C.C. 78/79		28.05	Nil
		2230.89	1870.50
<u>Less Subscriptions in advance</u>		5.00	25.00
Balance as above		2225.89	1845.50

REPORT ON ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Twenty one members attended the Annual General Meeting in the Woolley Building at the University of Sydney on Tuesday, February 28th.

Election of Officers.

<u>President</u>	Dr. L. B. Lowe, Elanco Products Pty., Ltd.
<u>Vice-President</u>	Dr. L. W. Smith, Hawkesbury Agricultural College.
<u>Secretary</u>	Mr. W. J. Burke, Ciba-Geigy (Aust) Pty., Ltd.
<u>Treasurer</u>	Mr. A. B. McLennan, N.S.W. Transport Commission.

Executive Committee

- Mr. W. Felton, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Tamworth.
- Mr. M. Hood, Agricultural Services Pty., Ltd., Orange.
- Mr. J. Swain, Ciba-Geigy (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.
- Mr. A. Mears, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Sydney.
- Mr. M. Barrett, I.C.I. (Aust.) Pty., Ltd.
- Mr. A. N. Johnston, Agricultural Services.
- Mr. G. Champion, Du Pont (Aust.) Pty., Ltd.
- Mr. K. Watson, Dow (Aust.) Ltd.
- Mr. J. Toth, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture.
- Mr. A. Leys, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Wagga Research Institute.
- Dr. P. W. Michael, University of Sydney.
- Mr. I. J. Barnett, Stauffer Chemical Co., Pty., Ltd.
- Mr. C. Mason, Inverell.

Newsletter Committee

- Dr. L. W. Smith and Mr. G. Barnes.

C.A.W.S.S. Representatives

- Dr. L. B. Lowe and Mr. A. Mears.

The motion concerning the increase in annual fees was carried (see tear off slip at the end of the Newsletter) and it was agreed to hold several executive meetings at country centres during the year. (Tamworth, Orange, Wagga?).

Newsletter

Considerable discussion ensued about the newsletter. It was felt that with the increased fees, more attention should be given to updating and expanding the content of the Newsletter. In more specific terms, more information was needed about the weeds and weed problems in N.S.W. and their control. In this regard the Newsletter Committee will be approaching various people and companies concerning information and articles for the Newsletter and it is intended to have a report on at least one weed and one new product in each future Newsletter.

Logo Competition.

In order to involve members more in the Society, it was decided at the A.G.M. to have a competition to design a logo for the Society letterhead and Newsletter. The prize for the winner will be a free dinner for two (2) at the Annual Dinner in December.

All entries should be addressed to the Secretary and the winner will be announced in the October Newsletter. Please try and submit an entry.

Asian Pacific Weed Science Society Conference.

The first circular for the Conference is now available and will be mailed to all members of the Society.

NOTE.1 The venue for the Conference has been changed to the Boulevard Hotel.

2. The Conference will be held on the Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 26-30th November, 1979 with a field excursion on Wednesday, 28th.

3. The programme chairman (Dr. P. Michael) is still looking for suggestions about the programme so if you have any ideas please contact him or Alan Mears.

Miscellaneous Note

Some comments made by Mr. T. J. Snelson, Pesticide Co-ordinator, at the meeting of representatives of the Technical Committee on Agricultural Chemicals and Chemical Companies in Melbourne on the 8th March, 1978.

Mr. Snelson said that 32 protocols for testing herbicides are at the final editing stages. Mr. Snelson hopes that copies of these will be available at the end of March. The guidelines will be considered by the Australian Weeds Committee and then released to industry for a 2 year trial period before finalisation.

SUMMARY OF ADDRESS TO ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING BY DR. L. B. LOWE.

DINITROANILINE HERBICIDES

The Dinitroaniline herbicides are amongst one of the most important groups of herbicides which have appeared in the past 20 years (substituted ureas, carbamates, triazines). They are all derivatives of the chemical aniline and include dinitramine (Cobex), fluchoralin (Basalin), trifluralin (Treflan), benefin (Balan), nitralin (Planavin) and oryzalin (Surflan). Most of the dinitroanilines are very insoluble in water which causes the low leachability characteristics of the group.

The vapour pressure of the group varies considerably from very low (trifluralin) to fairly high (oryzalin) and this is the main reason why Treflan must be incorporated and Surflan can be surface applied.

On the other hand, Treflan is a more active herbicide at lower rates of application than Surflan because of its vapour activity in the soil. A weed seed need not be in direct contact with trifluralin but will still be killed as it germinates through vapour activity but with oryzalin direct contact is necessary - hence higher rates or more chemical is necessary with oryzalin.

As far as persistence in the soil is concerned, dinitramine is the most rapidly degraded while benefin and oryzalin last longest in the soil.

Dr. Lowe then described some of the main uses of these herbicides in Australia and these included

- the use of trifluralin in wheat for ryegrass and barley grass control.

However, for this herbicide to work effectively, it must be incorporated in the top 5 cm. of soil and the wheat sown below the herbicide zone.

- oryzalin can be used in wheat for ryegrass control and only needs minimal incorporation (by combine when wheat sown), it has a longer residual effect than trifluralin and also has been used successfully in combination with paraquat in the Spray-seed system for cereal establishment.
- oryzalin can be used in some horticultural crops such as in vineyards and in citrus. Oryzalin is grass specific and if broadleaf weed control is desired other chemicals must be added, i.e. simazine.

In conclusion the dinitroanilines are an interesting group of herbicides which have very specific properties and which have various uses for weed control in agriculture.

FROM THE TREASURER

XXX ATTENTION MEMBERS - at the A.G.M. held on February 28th the fees for the ensuing year were set at

- \$12 per ordinary member.
- \$25 for Company or Corporate membership.

Please use the tear-off slip below when forwarding your dues.



TO Honorary Treasurer,
The Weed Society of N.S.W.,
P.O. Box 287K,
HAYMARKET. N.S.W. 2000

NAME

ADDRESS

.....POST CODE.....

Enclosed is \$....being membership dues for 1978. If Company or Corporate nominee for 1978 is to be changed please advise.