

AIMS Pasture and Grazing Management Workshop Outline

Day 1: Pasture and grazing management

Plant growth and pasture dynamics

Includes factors which influence plant and pasture growth rates
Understanding issues relating to plant competition
How to maximise pasture growth rates through grazing management

Water use efficiency

How to make the best use of rain where it falls when it falls
How much pasture do you produce per mm of rainfall
What factors influence the effective use of water by pastures
What effect does grazing management have on water use efficiency

Soils and soil nutrients

How to interpret soil tests to objectively assess soil fertility issues
The role of soil biology in nutrient cycling
What effect does grazing management have on soil health and condition

Day 2: Feed budgeting and supplementary feeding

Cost effective feeding strategies

Five principles of feeding ruminants
Includes description of commonly used terms
The impact of pasture quality and quantity on feed intake and productivity
Which supplements to feed and when

Feed budgeting

Calculating pasture growth rate
Develop benchmarks for pasture growth and stocking rate
Assessing animal feed requirements
Matching pastures to animal requirements
How to prepare a feed budget to assist in forward planning your grazing management

In the paddock: Visit one of the local properties involved in the Northern Rivers CMA pasture monitoring project

Monitoring and assessing pasture condition
Assessing pasture growth rate

Day 3: Grazing Planning

Develop a grazing plan for your own property and livestock for the coming season

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