



The GRASSLAND SOCIETY of NSW Inc.  
21st Annual Conference



# Waging War on Weeds

Battle Plans and Winning Strategies

25th-27th July 2006

Joyes Hall, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga

Australian  
**Farm Journal**  
THE NATIONAL FARM MEDIA GROUP



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The GRASSLAND SOCIETY of NSW Inc.

Proceedings of the 21st Annual Conference  
of The Grassland Society of NSW Inc.

Edited by  
Belinda Hackney, Kristy Bailes, John Piltz and Helen Burns



## Waging War on Weeds

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# The GRASSLAND SOCIETY of NSW Inc.

A unique blend of people with a common interest in developing our most important resource—our grasslands.

The Grassland Society of NSW Inc. was formed in March 1985. The society now has over 600 members most of whom are farmers and graziers. The balance is made up of agricultural scientists, farm advisers, consultants, and executives or representatives of organisations concerned with fertilisers, seeds, chemicals and machinery.

The aims of the Society are to provide opportunities for members to meet in conference, at field days, or socially, to exchange information, ideas and experiences relating to grasslands.

Other aims of the Society are to advance the investigation of problems affecting grasslands husbandry and to encourage the adoption into practice of results of research and practical experience. The Society holds an annual conference, publishes a quarterly newsletter, holds field days, and has established regional branches throughout the State.

Membership is open to any person or company interested in grassland management and the aims of the Society. Ordinary (including family or farm units), student and corporate memberships are available.

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A very warm welcome to all members attending this, the 21st Annual Conference of The Grassland Society of NSW Inc.

An equally warm welcome to those who are not members of this Society. I encourage you to join us and enjoy the many benefits of membership. Application forms are available from the registration desk or can be printed from our internet site: [www.grasslandnsw.com.au](http://www.grasslandnsw.com.au)

This is not the first conference of The Grassland Society of NSW Inc. to take place at Wagga Wagga. Since our formation in 1985 at Orange, there have been several very successful conferences held in this city. This conference promises to be of a similarly high standard and is designed to provide all delegates with the opportunity to hear, discuss and see cutting edge agricultural technology in a relaxed environment.

Plant and animal production depends heavily on new and developing technology as well as sound agricultural science. The Grassland Society is a forum to bring together producers, agronomists, agribusiness firms, animal scientists and teachers of agriculture to review and exchange high quality information of relevance to grassland farming. The objective is the promotion of animal and plant production systems that embrace improved efficiencies and environmental responsibility. Pastures; native and introduced, are the powerhouse of agriculture in all its forms across Australia. They provide for the grazing animal and microbial activity under the ground. In turn, pastures depend on good soil health to sustain production and suppress invasion by unproductive species.

This conference examines the vital subject of weeds as they confront producers, technologists and the environment, within the overall theme of *Waging war on Weeds*.

The organizing committee has put much time and effort into selecting expert speakers to cover relevant topics of interest that will bring delegates up to date with all aspects of weed management. The conference convener, Belinda Hackney and her team are to be congratulated and thanked for putting together such a stimulating program of formal sessions and paddock tours.

I would like to acknowledge our many sponsors from the corporate and government agency world who regularly support the Society. Conferences of this nature do not happen without the substantial assistance of our sponsors. I encourage all conference

delegates to visit the well prepared commercial displays and exhibits. They are full of current information on new pasture varieties, fertilizer products, herbicides and management strategies to assist producers and their advisers. Please take time to talk with representatives of the trade exhibits. They are a valuable source of information and are always happy to discuss product developments with conference delegates.

Finally, I thank all those who are here to enjoy and learn from this conference. The Grassland Society is keen to maintain the high standards and tradition of previous years. We willingly accept suggestions to improve future activities. Please feel free to let any member of the committee know your thoughts in this regard. After all, the Society is only as effective as its membership and depends on individual members for its continued existence.

Best wishes for a most enjoyable conference.

*Mick Duncan*

Executive President



**Day 1 Tuesday 25th July**

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