

Submission  
No 425

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date received:** 27/08/2012

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Partially Confidential

RECEIVED

27 AUG 2012

GPSC's

Reference to

Head Office Native Veg. Act.

Committee Native Veg. Act.

The Hon Scott MacDonald

" " Thomas George

" " Richard Torbay

Stuart Murdock

*20-8-2012*

The Committee,

Native Vegetation Reg. Review

Level 12 P.O. Box A290,

Sydney South 1232

Dear Sir,

As a senior grazier of N.S.W., it is my opinion that the "Native Vegetation Act" should be examined, and changes made to its principles, to bring it up to more modern ideas of good farming.

Very few graziers these days, understand the reason for yearly burning of regrowth, which reduces the fire hazard, (some areas may not be burnt for several years) but this sweetens the soil, and the old roots rotting, aerates and fertilizes without the need for superphosphate or Urea.

During the Second World War, the American Army used Urea, in the Eastern Coastal area of Australia to harden the coral to build their airstrips, but afterward this area was found of no use for production of crops, as the soil was too hard.

In Russia, all farmers were ordered to use Urea for fertilizer, by the Govt., and the production of good crops deteriorated. This was found to be the main reason, and it seems Australia may be going down the same path.

There is also an explosion of trees now, compared to the turn of the century. In 1905, my father drove a mob of cattle from Kempsey to the Mid Clarence, and said you could see for miles, with very few old trees. This was because of natural burning of old undergrowth, leaving more room for grasslands and new trees coming through. (Old trees take in oxygen, and young trees give out oxygen.)

In National Parks, some stock should be left, to encourage natural burning of the undergrowth, and reduce the fire hazard.

Also in National Parks, cabins could be built, to save the use of fertile lands, and give city dwellers a taste of country life, without using farm land for this purpose.

I have seen the result of nine fires in one night, from a dry storm, so all the animals we are trying to protect would be scorched, doing no good at all.

In 1951, at Rivertree (Clarence River), a fire from the west took two days to burn to the eastern boundary and a week to burn steady to the "Cataract". Some 4 years ago, the fire covered 12 miles overnight. As it is now, the Eastern side is a National Park in the same area.

Fire hazard has to be reduced, and to my thinking, the system of fire permits is most of the cause of the problem. When the time is suitable, it takes too long to apply and receive a permit. Another way of this happening should be devised.

Many years ago, I went to a School on P.A. Yoemans property, at North Richmond, on Grazing and Animal Husbandry. He was running one (1) beast to the acre organically, while his neighbor had one beast to fourteen (14) acres, and the cattle were dying on it. Yoemans method was to use superphosphate once only, to get the grassland going, with clover, and such, and then keep the undergrowth and trees down. P.A. Yoeman method proved that the chisel plough aerated the ground to make it sweet, to produce good food, not contaminated.

Back in the 1940's, one property at "Liston", used to fatten sixty bullocks in one year, by "ringbarking" a patch of trees every year, then they decided to go through and grub the regrowth that came naturally. That plan worked for three years, but the soil went sour, and had no more fattening power. Years later, fertilizer came on the scene

I realize, all land is not the same, but Yoemans Principle could be applied, so having more people growing necessary foods in our own land. Big machinery is the only thing to use economically, to prepare ground for this use, and to do the best for ourselves with the explosion of people in our country.

Hoping you take the time to listen to a working member of your countries population, I remain,

Yours Faithfully,

suggested I send  
you a copy, as Australia is going down  
the wrong path. I want to preserve our  
beautiful Nation as it used to be  
many years ago  
cheers