

Pasture Principles

A practical guide to pasture management



1–2 April 2019, Clare
3–4 April 2019, Strathalbyn

9–10 April 2019, Penola
10–11 April 2019, Keith

Program overview

Pasture management is the fundamental skill that determines the financial performance of pasture-based grazing systems. Managers who exhibit a high degree of pasture management skill are far more profitable than those with less developed skills.

The aim of Pasture Principles is to provide producers with a set of guiding principles that will allow them to manage confidently regardless of the season, situation or system. The program was developed by Basil Doonan, Principal Consultant at Macquarie Franklin, Tasmania, in conjunction with valuable input from a range of experienced individuals. It is delivered in South Australia by Simon Vogt, Agribusiness Consultant at Rural Directions Pty Ltd.

Delivery

Two
day
WORKSHOP



Content

The program is suitable for livestock producers involved in the sheep, dairy and beef industries. The key areas covered in the program are:

- an understanding of the relationship between plant requirements, leaf emergence rates and pasture growth
- plant morphology and the relationship with pasture quality, pasture quantity and plant persistence
- measuring and predicting pasture growth
- allocation of pasture on a dry matter basis
- variations in pasture quality throughout the season
- the relationship between stocking rate and pasture utilisation
- animal requirements for maintenance, growth, pregnancy and lactation
- feed budgeting and planning
- marginal cost and marginal revenue decisions associated with feeding pasture.

Cost

The commercial cost of this program is \$2,500 (GST exc.) per business, for up to three participants per business.

With support from MLA's Profitable Grazing Systems, this program is offered at **\$1,850 (GST exc.) per business**, for up to three participants per business.

Pasture Principles was developed by Macquarie Franklin and is delivered under licence by Rural Directions Pty Ltd.

"Pasture Principles has changed the way we think about our grazing business. The framework is easy to understand and adopt and will support you into stocking rate decisions that drive profit in your operation. You will learn how to accurately measure and forecast pasture growth and animal requirements. This greatly assists with predicting pasture production over spring and being able to develop a plan to best utilise this additional dry matter production in a profitable manner. What we learnt allowed us to more than double our numbers on one farm over the spring. I can now sleep better knowing there's some science behind previous gut feel in regard to grazing management decisions. Pasture Principles coach Simon Vogt is also an engaging presenter and having both financial and agricultural background gives him a practical toolbox of knowledge to drive skill development in grazing businesses. Don't miss the opportunity to join one of the Pasture Principle groups... it will help set you and your team up for grazing management success!"

Sam Pentelow, Southern Graziers SA (past participant)

Registration is essential as places are limited

Register now: Please contact Rural Directions Pty Ltd on 08 8841 4500 or visit www.ruraldirections.com/events

For more information: Rural Directions Pty Ltd Phone: 08 8841 4500 Email: admin@ruraldirections.com

