

the leucaena network

NETWORK NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2020



Image courtesy of Hewitt Consulting and Communications

CHAIRMAN'S WORD

Thank you to all who attended and supported The Leucaena Network 2020 Conference which was held earlier this month. The two-day program was a busy one with a broad range of speakers and topics and viewing of innovative ways in which leucaena is being used and measured. The feedback has been excellent and we are looking forward to our next one in 2022 – location to be decided!

The Conference may be over, but we still have several activities in the next few months. Anyone new to leucaena or looking to refresh their knowledge will appreciate two Introduction to Leucaena workshops – Millmerran and Innisfail in October; and an Establishment Field Day at ‘Blackbull Station’, Douglas Daly NT in early November 2020.

We hope to see you at these or future events!

Regards

Hugh Rea

Chairman – The Leucaena Network

The Leucaena Network Executive

The Leucaena Network held its AGM as part of The Members' Breakfast at Conference. The AGM included the election of the Executive to guide the Network through the next 12 months. Our Executive for 2020-21 is:

Chairman - Hugh Rea

Vice Chairman - Craig Antonio

Strategic Advisor - Robin Cruikshank

Executive Members - Michael Burgis and Brett Blennerhassett

Ex-Officio Members - Nigel Tomkins (MLA) and Stuart Buck (DAF).

The AGM saw the retirement of Treasurer, Laurie Peake who has capably undertaken the role for many years. Laurie and his wife Gwen have now semi-retired and whilst Laurie will no longer be our Treasurer, he will continue to be an active member of the Network. Thank you Laurie for your many years of involvement and assistance to The Leucaena Network - your experience and guidance has been greatly appreciated!

We were very pleased to welcome our new Treasurer, John McLaughlin. John is the Rangelands and Climate Project Officer with the Northern Gulf Resource Management Group and will bring enthusiasm and new ideas to the role.

Exciting times ahead!

Welcome to the team John!



The Leucaena Network 2020 Conference Wrap Up

After months of uncertainty due to covid-19, it was with pleasure that interested graziers, service providers, banks, researchers, local government, and industry representatives gathered in Townsville on the 8th and 9th September for The Leucaena Network's 2020 Conference.

Postponed from April, the 'New Territories, New Vision' themed Conference welcomed more than 80 delegates to The Ville Resort for the Conference day on Tuesday 8th September which was followed by field visits on Wednesday 9th September. The busy, but productive few days, provided attendees with the opportunity to find out about all aspects of leucaena as well as some time network and socialise a little!

The Conference, supported by MLA Event funding, commenced with a Network Members' Breakfast and Network AGM where guest speaker, Kate Andison, a Livestock Leader with The Livestock Collective provided an overview of Townsville's live export industry.

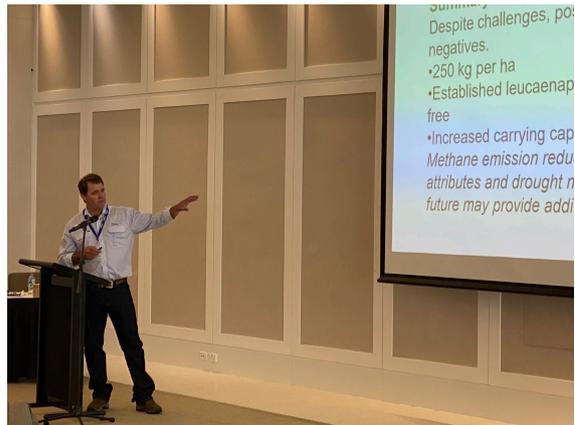
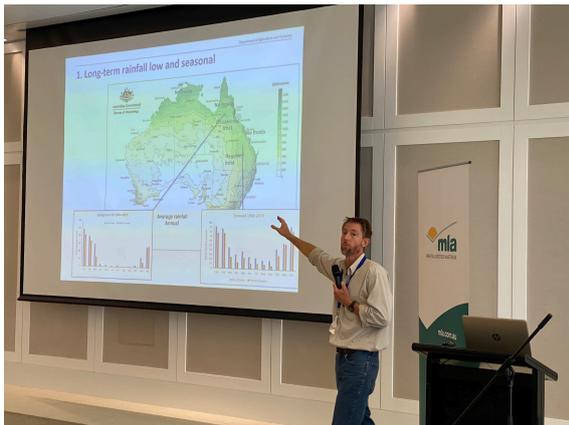
Senator Susan McDonald was in attendance and provided the opening address, highlighting the support required for the Australian agricultural industries, prior to the Conference program which included sterile leucaena, carbon incentives, project updates, pasture developments and new methods of leucaena establishment and applications.

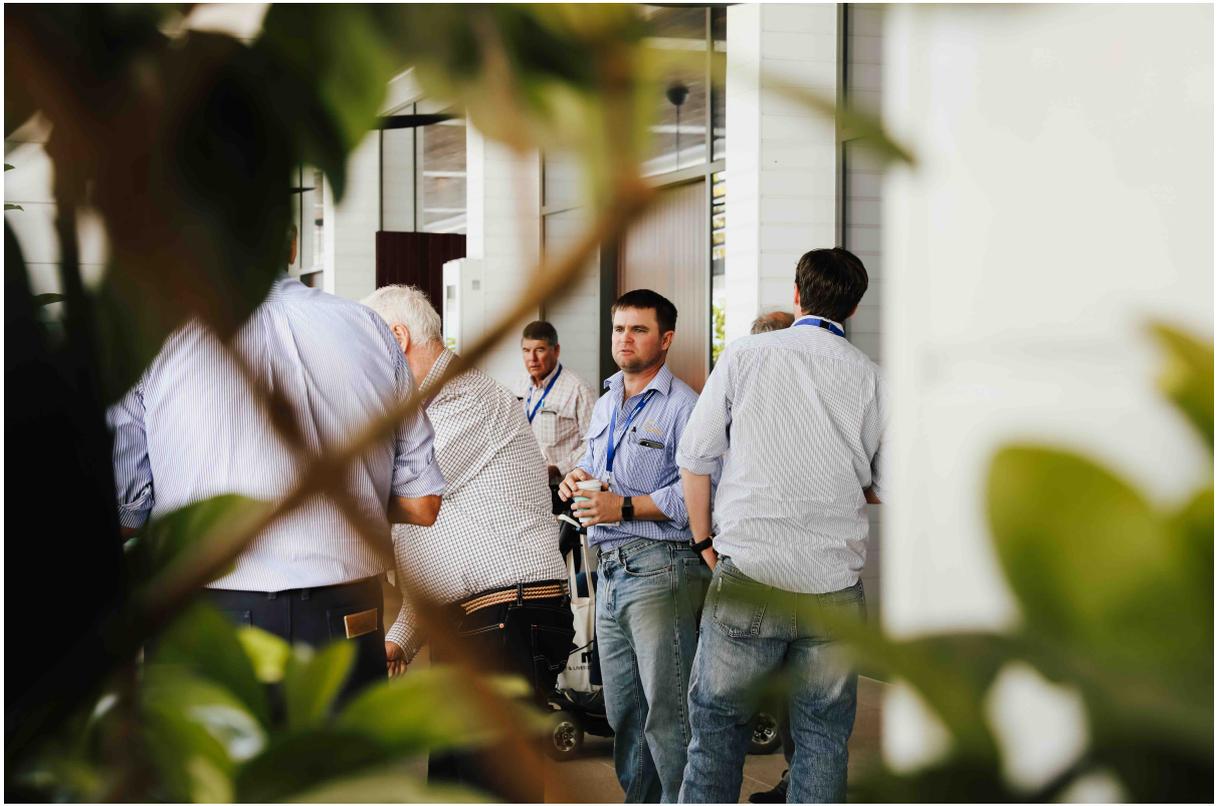
Former MLA and ACIAR Chair, Don Heatley was the guest speaker at the Conference dinner following the Conference Day where attendees enjoyed the ambiance of the venue overlooking the Townsville harbour and the opportunity to relax with colleagues.

The methodology for the measurement of bovine enteric methane emissions, leucaena live weight gain trials, and desmanthus fodder trials was highlighted during the following morning's visit to CSIRO Lansdown Research Station at Woodstock. This was followed by an afternoon visit to Don and Laurel Heatley's property 'Byrne Valley' at Home Hill to hear about and view Byrne Valley's flume irrigated leucaena grazing system.

Thank you to our Conference presenters and speakers; sponsors and supporters - MLA, Canetec and Datamars; trade displays - ANZ, Agforce, Datamars, and Leucaena Chop; Field Trip hosts CSIRO and Byrne Valley; Hewitt Consulting and Communications for the better quality photos; and all who attended the Conference and Field Day.

















**Announcing the new
The Leucaena
Network
website
www.leucaena.net**

Have you been onto our new website yet? The feedback so far has been very positive! Make sure you head there to view the new features and information. New To Leucaena? Check out the Fact Sheets and download the MLA Guide to Establishment and Management. Want specific information on productivity? Head to the Members Only section Research Hub. Like to access papers on leucaena profitability? Download DAF productivity research booklets. Want to become a Network Member? You can sign up online!

www.leucaena.net

The 2020 Conference may be done and dusted however the Network has several activities planned for the end of 2020 and early 2021.

Saturday 10th October - Introduction to Leucaena, Millmerran

Tuesday 20th October - Introduction to Leucaena, Innisfail

Wednesday 4th November - Establishment Field Day,
Douglas Daly NT

Saturday 20 February 2021 - Fairview LWG Field Day,
Fairview, Central Queensland

See Below for Full Details and Registration Details



INTRODUCTION TO LEUCAENA MILLMERRAN

with producers Bill and Nikki McQueen

414 Stafford Road, Mt Emlyn

(in the paddock opposite - signage will direct from there)

(ensure put Mt Emlyn in Google Maps)

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2020

from 1pm with early BBQ to follow

LEARN ABOUT:

- The basics of leucaena establishment and management
- Climate, Soil, location, planting
- The Leucaena Code of Practice
- How graziers are utilising leucaena for increased weight gain, drought mitigation and profitability
- Producer experiences

Complimentary Attendance and BBQ thanks
to the support of Bill and Nikki McQueen,
The Leucaena Network, RAFF Group, MLA

RSVP by Monday 5 October for catering purposes to:

Bron Christensen - The Leucaena Network

admin@leucaena.net 0488931691

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INTRODUCTION TO LEUCAENA

INNISFAIL SHOWGROUNDS

Pease Park, Palmerston Highway, Innisfail

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2020

9am - 1pm

LEARN ABOUT:

- The basics of leucaena establishment and management
- Climate, Soil, location, planting
- The Leucaena Code of Practice
- How graziers are utilising leucaena for increased weight gain and profitability
- Producer experiences and discussion panel

Complimentary Attendance thanks to the support of
The Leucaena Network, DAF and MLA
Smoko and lunch provided

RSVP by Wednesday 14 October for catering purposes to:
Bron Christensen - The Leucaena Network
admin@leucaena.net 0488931691

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Government



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FIELD DAY

BLACKBULL STATION DOUGLAS DALY NT

WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2020

FROM 1pm

BBQ to follow

- Site visit to view trial plantings of Redlands, Wondergraze and Cunningham Leucaena
- Presentation of the data to hand from the Douglas Daly Research Farm Live Weight Gain Trial
- Leucaena 'Out of the Box' with Bruce Mayne
Reclaiming stony ridges, planting into banks, irrigated leucaena and dry planting

- **Industry Representatives**

*Complimentary attendance thanks to the support of
The Leucaena Network, DITT and MLA*

Register your attendance for catering purposes by
Friday 30th October 2020 to Bron Christensen - EO

The Leucaena Network

admin@leucaena.net 0488931691

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Date Claimer

FIELD DAY

FAIRVIEW, CALLIOPE

SATURDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2021

- Site visit to view irrigated leucaena; leucaena planted in banks; and leucaena on reclaimed ridges
- Viewing of cattle in the 'Fairview Live Weight Gain Trial'
- Presentation of the data to hand from the 'Fairview Live Weight Gain Trial'
- Presentations by industry

Further details to be provided

www.leucaena.net

admin@leucaena.net



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