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NOSTALGIA – FOR THOSE WHO CAN REMEMBER

The late Terry Mahoney 1994....

"The first quarter of '95 is the Venison Promotion Council's most active time for promotion and money raising. Apart from the long hours of hard work, hours of travel, ceaseless covert promotion of our product to thousands of people who pass by the catering facilities and desperately attempting to cater for the fluctuating numbers of people wishing to taste venison - it's great fun!! Please check the dates and put your names on the lists to help out at the Seymour Expo in February and the Lardner Field Days in March. Contact Nola Anderson."

VELVET ACCREDITATION COURSE. 1994

Yet another successful Velvet Accreditation Course was held at Bendigo on September. 24 and 25. About 60 interested people, roughly half from N.S.W., attended the VAC put on by the VDFA under the guidance of the late Dr. Jeff Fyffe and Dr. Ian Robertson.

The fear of a potentially painful experience, due to the return of some "mature-aged" students to the rigours of a formal education system, was... alas... unfounded! Jeff and Ian managed to educate and entertain the group with their partially rehearsed routine which culminated in a very positive, interesting and worthwhile weekend.

BLOODLINES 1995

Deer Farmers around the globe have long cried out for simple, easy to use software specifically designed for their industry. Well stop yelling, it has finally been done!

UndaWare has just announced the first release of its new software- "Bloodlines for the Deer Industry."

Bloodlines is a Windows application that incorporates maintenance of beast records with full genealogical history combined with a powerful range of reporting tools and imaging. It offers an efficient user interface requiring minimal use of the keyboard so that those with no real computing experience can readily adapt to "Bloodlines".

John Hayes 1997 . . .

"This web site belongs to the DIAA which means that it belongs to YOU. Please use it, assist to enlarge it, add to it - in short, make it worthwhile. This is OUR window, the rest of the world will be looking in. In fact they have already started- there has been international and national feedback in this site's short existence."

SCENT GLANDS IN DEER 1998

The following is an extract from an article written by Dr. Tony English - Veterinary Aspects of Farming Deer in New South Wales. The Article was printed in Proceedings No. 49. Deer Refresher Course, 14-15 September 1979 and has been reproduced with his kind permission.

Deer have a number of scent glands, occurring in both sexes. These are the interdigital, the metatarsal and the preorbital (suborbital) glands, which are all paired. In addition, male deer have further glands in the sheath (Chapman and Chapman, 1975).

R. S. Keller 1999...

"At the last AGM of DIAA some farmers expressed their discomfort over the passing of a resolution, that called for an end to repeated demands to have ADH & CP Ltd. sold or wound up. ADH & CP Ltd. is seen by some as a competitor to others in the industry, who also trade in velvet. A three year moratorium put into effect by this resolution, was perceived by some as undemocratic and stifling healthy debate."

Ian Dowsett – 2000 . . .

"Finally after years of struggle and no commitment we have the backing of a stock firm. Now it seems very obvious to me that the majority of these small growers do not appreciate the great benefit of this support. Elders Pastoral is one of the oldest livestock firms in the country as well as one of the largest. To think that they have put their company behind a processor shows great support for the deer industry as a whole. This is a milestone for the deer industry that is well overdue."

DIAA restructure 2001

To all members

At the DIAA AGM in 1999, the structure of the DIAA was raised, and the meeting approved a review of that structure. A consultant was briefed and a report prepared early in 2000. Subsequently, in March 2000 the consultant met with the Council and later prepared an addendum to the report.

Unknown. 2002 . . .

"The recent cancellation of the Maradene Red Deer Stud 7th. Annual Sire Stag Sale left quite a hollow feeling in my gut - to say the least. I think it was Alexander Pope who revealed the ninth beatitude - "Blessed is the man who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed". Well, for those of us who have bought stock from Maradene in the past and who have relied on their genetics for the improvement our herds, this is a major disappointment. Regrettably, I believe, our disappointment would pale into insignificance with that of Ed and Annie Verhagen and their manager, Paul Bertuch - years of work and research, the expense and the planning, culminating in fantastic genetics that are just beginning to come to fruition. All this put on hold because of John's disease found in one animal.

Gippsland Discussion Group

RIRDC supported "Profit Program"

21st September 2003

Host farm: Nancy and Barry Osborne, "Alfa Downs" Browns Road, Rye. 3941

Members Present: Nola Anderson, Deirdre Green, Ross & Di Lawrence, Rose & David Laird, Kay Gall, Lionel Campion.

Apologies: Sarah Morgan, Terry & Joan Mahoney, Judy & John French, June & Graham Edyvane, David Algje.

Andrew Hansen 2003 . . .

"Implications and recommendations. Australian deer farms need to improve reproductive efficiency for the industry to compete internationally. The comparative weaning rate in a recent New Zealand study was 83.6% with a minimum calf mortality rate of 2.3%."

David Laird 2004 . . .

"Whilst things are certainly fairly bleak at the moment we need to look to the future and ensure our genetic base is protected and enhanced, rather than allowed to slide backwards. When things are tough isn't it better to be running a quality W&W stag cutting high grade, heavy velvet rather than an also-ran stag cutting low grade, low weight velvet when they cost the same to keep and feed?"

Jim Moir 2005 . . .

"The 2006 Congress is really taking shape with registration forms and hotel information issued. A program schedule will be finalised this month with most speakers already confirmed."

Jim Moir 2006 . . .

“RIRDC 5 year plan. The existing plan only needs some fine tuning with the emphasis on development rather than research.”

Andy Cowan 2007 . . .

“Many people, for many years, have been saying that the slaughtering of deer is the weakest link in the “paddock to plate” production chain in the venison industry. Times like these certainly reinforce this idea.”

RIRDC 2008 . . .

“Our investments are driven by Five-Year R&D plans which address the needs of each industry and ensure our priorities are industry and government-driven.”

