

MEMO 13 JANUARY 2010 - CDU ANNEXURE C1-3

C1-3



Vocational Education and Training

MEMORANDUM

TO: Prof Bob Wasson, Chair Animal Ethics Committee
Cc: Dr Barry McKnight; Ian Gray; Tim Biggs, Danie Luttig
FROM: Dr Brian Heim
DATE: 13 January 2010
RE: Mataranka Station Complaint Inquiry Report

Ian Gray has provided me with a copy of the AEC Complaint Inspection Report dated 4 December 2009 and in regard to the condition of the brood mares and other horses currently at the station. I am in general agreement with the recommendations, however there are some practicalities which will make it difficult or impossible to carry some of them out.

Recommendation 1: All horses' hooves are attended to.

I am in agreement with this recommendation. The horses are used for training. As such we attempt to utilise students wherever possible to trim hooves. If students are not available, the Team Leader for Agriculture and Rural Operations will ensure that either staff or an outside farrier is contracted to maintain hoof health.

Recommendation 2: It is recommended that all horses' teeth be checked and filed when the need arises.

I am in agreement with this recommendation. Horses are routinely checked by staff and dental floating occurs when needed.

Recommendation 3:

- Horses need to be fed twice a day in individual feeding containers.
 - Breeda (Mitavite)
 - Rice Pollard (dampened)
 - Oaten / Lucerne Chaff (50/50)
 - Hay at liberation
 - Seaweed at liberation
- Supplements are to be added to each feed.
 - Dolomite 1 tsp per feed
 - Sulphur 1 tsp per feed
 - Copper Sulphate 1 tsp per feed
 - Vam paste

This feeding regimen has been substantively adhered to with the brood mares since it was recommended (substitutions were required due to unavailability of some recommended feed commodities and the high cost of seaweed which was included in the ration but not provided *ad libitum*). However, in the long term the required ration is not a viable option due to the labour intensive nature of such a feeding regimen as well as the cost. While it is an appropriate regimen for horses that are stabled, it would be difficult or impossible to maintain for horses that are in a paddock management regime. In order to create weight gain, Ian Gray found it necessary to nearly double the recommended feeding rate to achieve gains. Body condition has now been restored on the brood mares and the feed quantity has been reduced to a maintenance level. Once existing feed commodities have been extinguished, it is my intent to revert back to feeding a commercially prepared feed concentrate (such as Breed & Grow) which is nutritionally balanced.

Depending on the season and availability of natural forage, horses will be supplemented with quality hay on an as needed basis. In pregnant brood mares, feeding of concentrate will occur on a once per day regimen to maintain body condition. Plant horses are fed concentrate twice daily when in work and will be supplemented during the dry season as needed to maintain appropriate body condition.

- **To prevent rain scolding (sic), horses will need to have access to shelter out of the rain.**

It is impractical to provide shelter to all horses when in a paddock management situation and it presents significant logistical and health concerns. The horses at KRC and Mataranka Station are managed primarily in an extensive fashion, meaning that they are not kept up in a stable. Because of the number of horses and the availability of feed, paddock sizes are quite large. Even if a shelter was provided, it is quite unlikely that horses would utilise it well. During the wet season horses will be foraging for food and will likely be a significant distance from the shelter when rain occurs. From a behaviour perspective, it is unlikely that they would travel a significant distance to escape rain and logistically it is impossible to provide numerous shelters so they don't have to travel far to escape from rain.

From a health perspective, providing shelters causes animals to congregate in a single area. This area then becomes very muddy due to constant churning which can lead to hoof diseases such as thrush and potential injury.

Rain scald is caused by a naturally occurring bacteria found on the horses skin which opportunistically causes localised infection when skin is dampened and in a warm environment. It is encouraged by damage to the skin which sets up an ideal growth environment. In order to minimise the occurrence of rain scald in the horses at KRC and Mataranka Station, buffalo fly control is imperative. As such, fly control will be the priority and will be accomplished through monitoring of condition and application of insecticide as needed.

Additional Comments:

Given the vulnerable nature of the horses condition and the remote location of the property it is recommended having on stand-by buscopan, fienadine (sic) and stethoscope, food to make bran mash (for early colic), paraffin oil, rubber hose (for intubation) and a medicine box that contains other medical needs for hooves, bandages, wound dressings spray, etc.

I have serious concerns with providing S4 drugs such as Buscopan (dipyrone) and Finadyne (flunixin) that are not under my direct control. I will not agree to this recommendation under my veterinary registration as I could not be sure of who would have access to them. While dipyrone is a relatively benign anti-inflammatory agent, flunixin is very powerful and has the potential to mask a severe colic and thus delay appropriate treatment when used by inexperienced and untrained individuals. I do allow some injectable antibiotics which are S4 drugs to be kept at Mataranka Station. However, they are under the control of Ian Gray and are administered after consultation with me.

I also have serious concerns with the recommendation of having a nasogastric tube onsite. Nasogastric intubation has the potential to cause serious complications including death. It is an act of veterinary medicine and hence laypersons are prohibited from doing it. This negates the need for paraffin oil.

I am fully in favour of having an equine first aid kit available containing bandaging materials, wound dressings, etc. Ian Gray is in the process of putting one together for the station. It will not contain any medications or injectable drugs. This will allow basic first aid while waiting on either consultation from myself or a private veterinarian to occur.



Dr Brian Heim

PICKERING REPORT 2 FEBRUARY 2010 CDU ANNEXURE C1-5

C1-5

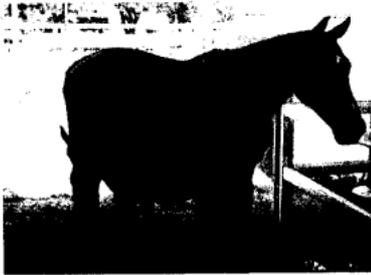
Attn Dr Brian Heim
Charles Darwin University
Katherine/Mataranka Campuses
Cc . Mr Ian Gray, Manager, Mataranka Station

Re: Examination of brood mares at Mataranka Station on February 2 2010

The following animals were examined at Charles Darwin University Mataranka Station campus on 2 February 2010, to assess their general health status. Five brood mares were given a basic clinical examination. Blood was collected to check their haematological status and GGT serum levels. GGT is a useful diagnostic indicator in the horse in investigating the possibility of chronic *Crotalaria sp* ingestion which may lead to terminal liver failure in the long term and ill thrift (weight loss, failure to thrive, muscle catabolism) in the short term. *Crotalaria* poisoning, commonly known as "Walkabout", is a leading cause of premature death in pasture-fed horses in the Katherine Region. Fresh faecal samples were collected in order to perform a worm egg count by the faecal floatation method and evaluation of faecal sand content by sedimentation. High worm egg counts would indicate the need for increased diligence in routine paraciticide usage and/or the need to change the drug currently in use (commonly known as drench rotation); high faecal sand content is common in predominantly pasture-fed horses that forage very close to the ground and is a leading cause of impaction colic and death in horses in the Katherine Region. The following results were recorded:



Horse 1: Dark brown mare 12 year old, ex-Riveren Station horse branded JUT over 8 on left hind flank, 07 on left shoulder and 8 on left cheek. This mare is in late gestation and in excellent body condition, score 3.5/5. Shiny coat, clear eyes, no evidence of lameness or significant scarring, pink gums with capillary refill time (CRT) <2 seconds indicating normal circulatory function, faeces produced during examination are firm and well formed. Minor husbandry issues that require attention include the need for hoof trimming and dental rasping to remove hooks on the upper cheek teeth on both sides. Attached blood results (marked as Horse1) are all within normal limits. Faecal floatation: 1+ *Strongyloides* and *Strongylus sp* eggs, occasional *Oxyuris equi* eggs, all in low numbers; minimal sand was found in the faecal sediment. Treatment with a broad spectrum internal parasiticide within the next 4 weeks is recommended.



Horse 2: Chestnut mare approx 13 years old, Katherine Rural College-bred named "Mushka", white star and stripe, branded R over -- over 7 left hind flank. This mare is in body condition score 3.5/5, and has a healthy, well-covered foal at foot born December 2009 (foaling attended by veterinarian). Shiny coat, clear eyes with normal vision, no evidence of lameness, pink gums with CRT <2 seconds. This mare has signs of mild fungal dermatitis ("rain scald") across the wither on both sides which appears to be resolving. The mare has a "capped" right hip (hard bony enlargement of the ilial crest on the pelvis), a form of scarring which generally occurs by falling or rolling on a hard surface. This is the result of an old injury (possibly incurred whilst foaling), is currently not painful and should not cause any functional problems for this mare. This mare has evidence of recent dental rasping and does not require immediate dental attention. Attached blood test results (marked as Horse2) are within normal limits with the exception of a marginally low lymphocyte/monocyte ratio which is of no clinical significance. Faecal floatation: occasionally *Strongyloides* eggs; no sand in sediment.



Horse 3: Buckskin mare, ex-Riveren Station, branded JUT over 12 on left flank, 6 on left cheek. This mare does not appear to be pregnant however is not easy to examine physically. This mare is in body condition score 4/5, has a shiny coat, apparently normal vision (not easy to assess this horse!), no evidence of lameness. Dentition was not assessed. Attached blood results show white and red blood cell measured parameters all within normal limits, however this mare has a moderately elevated GGT level of 220 U/l (normal level 0-68U/l). Faecal floatation: occasional *Strongyloides sp* eggs, no sand in sediment.



Horse 4: Chestnut mare named "Ginger", branded R over – over 12 left flank. This mare has a healthy, well-covered (and well guarded!) 2 week old foal at foot, and is in body condition score 3.5/5. The mare has a somewhat dull coat, clear eyes, no evidence of lameness and pink gums. This mare has evidence of recent rasping of the cheek teeth and does not require immediate dental attention. Attached blood results show white and red blood cell parameters within normal limits, however this mare has a significantly elevated GGT level of 357 U/l. Further testing on the serum of this mare showed elevations in Alkaline Phosphatase 520 U/l (normal range 10-326), and elevated serum Total Protein, Albumin and Globulins, indicating active hepatic disease despite the fact that the mare shows no current clinical signs of illness. Faecal floatation: no eggs seen, no sand in sediment.



Horse 5: Chestnut mare named "Barb", branded R over – over 13 left flank, 5 on left cheek, left side legs white socks, white star and snip on face. This mare weaned her last foal in December 2009 and is currently not apparently pregnant. She has an old rain scald scar on her left wither (hair has turned white), an old scar on the left side cannon bone on the lateral side with no functional significance, and an old scar on the left cornea with no functional significance to her vision. This mare requires dental rasping in the near future to remove hooks from the upper cheek teeth that are causing buccal mucosal ulceration (inside the cheeks). She is in excellent body condition, score 4/5. Attached blood results demonstrate that this horse is chronically and mildly anaemic with a

haematocrit (red blood cell volume) of 28.4% (normal range 32-52%) and low haemoglobin of 10.4 g/dl (normal range 11-19 g/dl). This is currently a non-regenerative anaemia indicating low consumption or uptake of iron and/or chronically low iron stores within the body. GGT level in this horse is normal 87 U/l (normal 0-87). This horse would benefit from ongoing use of an oral or injectable Vitamin C supplement to improve iron uptake from the diet plus an oral iron supplement such as Haemaplex Paste. Faecal floatation: 1+ *Strongyloides sp* eggs, 1+ *Oxyuris equi* eggs. Small volume of sand in faeces.

General overview: the 5 horses examined were in visually excellent condition, however, the blood tests indicate the need for some pasture maintenance work. Two horses have significant elevations of GGT indicating consumption of the poisonous *Crotalaria* plants. Animals with advanced Walkabout Disease are generally dull, depressed and partially blind, often incoordinated and may blunder into objects such as trees or fences; inadvertent drowning in dams and rivers is also possible. Yawning is often seen by vigilant owners shortly before the onset of overt behavioural clinical signs. At this point the disease is invariably fatal and untreatable. While the two affected horses do not show any clinical signs of disease at the present time, continued ingestion of the plant will cause further liver damage which will eventually lead to fatal liver cirrhosis. Aggressive effort to eliminate *Crotalaria sp* plants from pasture grazed by horses is recommended to avoid further poisoning of these and other horses. Survey serum GGT testing of all pasture fed horses on the property may prove useful in identifying other individuals with subclinical hepatic disease. All the horses examined are in need of minor hoof trimming however this is not urgent or causing any detriment to their health. Paraciticide treatment of all horses is recommended at the beginning, middle and end of each wet season to coincide with the time of maximum parasite activity; none of the horses examined showed evidence of a high worm burden.

I would be most pleased to be contacted if there are any concerns regarding this report.

Yours sincerely

Megan Pickering BVSc(Hons)
Katherine Vet Care Centre.



BHem
2 RB @ 5.01pm

MEMO 9 FEBRUARY 2010 CDU ANNEXURE C1-7

C1-7



Vocational Education and Training

MEMORANDUM

TO: Prof Bob Wasson, Chair Animal Ethics Committee
CC: Dr Barry McKnight; Ian Gray; Tim Biggs, Danie Luttig; Wayne Spence
FROM: Dr Brian Helm
DATE: 9 February 2010
RE: Third Party Report and Recommendations on Mataranka Horses

Meg Pickering, a private veterinarian based in Katherine, was asked to inspect the five brood mares at Mataranka Station. These mares had been the subject of a previous welfare complaint and had been inspected by the Animal Ethics Committee and also by Dept of Resources in December 2009. In the report, dated 2 February 2010, Dr Pickering made several recommendations. This memorandum addresses those recommendations.

In regard to Horse 1, Dr Pickering stated:

Minor husbandry issues that require attention include the need for hoof trimming and dental rasping to remove hooks on the upper cheek teeth on both sides. Treatment with a broad spectrum internal parasiticide within the next 4 weeks is recommended.

Horses teeth are routinely floated (rasped to remove hooks and points). This particular mare will have her teeth floated within the next month. All horses at Mataranka Station are scheduled for internal parasiticide treatment in early March. All of the brood mares were treated with Panacur on 26 November 2009.

In regard to Horse 3, Dr Pickering stated:

This mare requires dental rasping in the near future to remove hooks from the upper cheek teeth that are causing buccal mucosal ulceration (inside the cheeks). This horse would benefit from ongoing use of an oral or injectable Vitamin C supplement to improve iron uptake from the diet plus an oral iron supplement such as Haemplex Paste.

This mare will have her teeth floated within the next 3 weeks. The availability and practicality of administration of a Vitamin C supplement will be investigated and instituted as practical to address the minor anaemia.

In her general overview, Dr Pickering stated:

Aggressive effort to eliminate *Crotalaria* sp plants from pasture grazed by horses is recommended to avoid further poisoning of these and other horses. Survey serum GGT testing of all pasture fed horses on the property may prove useful in identifying other individuals with subclinical hepatic disease. All the horses examined are in need of minor hoof trimming however this is not urgent or causing any detriment to their health. Parasiticide treatment of all horses is recommended at the beginning, middle and end of each wet season to coincide with the time of maximum parasite activity.

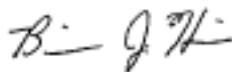
In a practical sense, it would be nearly impossible to eradicate or eliminate *Crotalaria* spp (Rattlepod) from all of the paddocks grazed by horses at Mataranka Station. Other recommendations for

controlling *Crotalaria* spp toxicity include ensuring that paddocks are not overgrazed and providing supplementary feeding in the late dry season. These recommendations are achievable. In addition, areas where large amounts of rattlepod are found will be sprayed with appropriate herbicides whenever possible.

Survey serum GGT testing of all animals would be possible. However, it only indicates that animals may have been exposed to *Crotalaria* spp and is not actually a definitive test. Testing of the entire herd would likely yield a low percentage with an elevated GGT, indicating that they had some level of liver dysfunction. Because *Crotalaria* is endemic to the Katherine region, it is often diagnosed as causative for the clinical signs mentioned in Dr Pickering's report which can be the sequela of liver dysfunction.

The brood mares had their hooves trimmed late in 2009 and are due for another trim within the next four weeks. The remainder of horses will have hooves trimmed and shod as needed when they return to work. This will occur in a progressive fashion over the next few months.

As mentioned previously, the brood mares were treated with an internal parasiticide on 26 November 2009. On 17 November 2009, all horses at both campuses were treated. All horses will be retreated in March 2010.



Dr Brian Helm

EMAIL 8 DECEMBER 2009 CDU ANNEXURE C1-8

C1-8

Brian Heim

From: Brian Heim
Sent: Tuesday, 8 December 2009 12:59 PM
To: Tim Biggs; Andrew Vodic
Subject: Horse husbandry plan

Tim,

I need you to develop a detailed management plan for the horses over the Wet, both in Katherine and Mataranka. This will also need to go to the AEC (and I suspect DPI). It should include:

- 1) Where horses will be located (down to paddock) and how many in each paddock – please include info on class of animal e.g. brood mare, plant horse, yearling, colt, etc
- 2) Any anticipated movements of groups
- 3) What they will be fed and how often (fodder and supplement)
- 4) Who is responsible for feeding (esp over holiday period)
- 5) Whether feed has been procured and delivered already – if not, who is responsible for procuring and delivering (esp over holiday)
- 6) How often they will be monitored and who is responsible for doing it
- 7) What the plan for emergencies is (esp over holidays)
- 8) How they will be managed before significant rain falls and after grass has started growing
- 9) Fly and parasite mitigation strategies

Regards,

Dr Brian Heim
Director, Vocational Education and Training

Charles Darwin University
PMB 155 NT 0852
Katherine AUSTRALIA
Ph: (08) 8973 8311
Fax: (08) 8973 8300
Email: brian.heim@cdu.edu.au
:RICOS Provider #00300K

EMAIL 12 JANUARY 2010 CDU ANNEXURE C1-10

C1-10

Brian Heim

From: Brian Heim
Sent: Tuesday, 12 January 2010 2:56 PM
To: Barry McKnight
Subject: FW: Mataranka Station update
Attachments: AgNote_Welfare.pdf

Barry,

Ian has advised me that Toby euthanized a horse, either Sunday or yesterday. He did advise Ian verbally that he had done so. The horse had run into a fence and had wire cuts. The injuries appeared to Ian to be relatively recent (e.g. under 24hrs old). It would be unlikely that it was in such significant distress that Toby had to make an immediate decision to shoot the horse, but I wasn't there at the time so could not say definitively that this was the case.

You will note in the email below that staff are allowed to euthanize animals if they are down but specifically says that it doesn't apply to any and all animals. In this case it would probably have been more appropriate to seek veterinary advice or a second opinion. However, without having seen the animal I cannot judge what its level of distress was from the wound.

I just wanted you to be aware should the issue be raised from other quarters.

Regards,

Dr Brian Heim
Director, Vocational Education and Training

Charles Darwin University
PMB 155 NT 0852
Katherine AUSTRALIA
Ph: (08) 8973 8311
Fax: (08) 8973 8300
Email: brian.heim@cdu.edu.au
CRICOS Provider #00300K

From: Brian Heim
Sent: Friday, 2 October 2009 12:16 PM
To: Annette Hofman ; Bob Piper; Chris Pech; Danie Luttig; Diane Snell; Jason Pokela; Murray Lauritsen; Tim Biggs; Toby Gorringer; Vicki Williams; Wayne Spence; Wendy Coghlan; Wilma Walters; Douglas Jenkins; Nichola Walters; Suzanne Holbery; Ian Gray
Cc: 'Brian Heim'
Subject: Mataranka Station update

Dear KRC and Mataranka Staff,

As you are aware, we are facing some issues with out of season calvers and weaners in less than ideal condition at Mataranka. We have been working in consultation with Dept of Primary Industries to address the issues. Given the circumstances, we have been advised to approach the situation in a similar fashion to how the pastoralists down south had to approach the previous drought. The attached document gives some background on how we are to approach animal welfare at Mataranka right now. This situation should not be encountered next year because Ian has mustered all bulls out of the paddocks.

In the interim, we have agreed upon the following processes with DPI:

1

1. Inspections will occur on October 9 and 23, 2009 commencing at 9am. After that the need for further inspections and their frequency will be reassessed
2. They will not be full inspections of the entire property, the purpose being ongoing monitoring
3. Weaners in the yard will be evaluated to make sure they are being supplementary fed
4. Cattle will be assessed to ensure that downer cows and weaners are being humanely destroyed
5. Management strategies will not be assessed or commented upon but CDU will make records available

In summary, how we manage the situation is up to us. Ian is making decisions based on what we can physically accomplish within financial and physical constraints. This meets the requirements of DPI. You may have a different opinion on things such as how much feed should go out, how often, etc, but I can confirm that Ian is doing everything possible to address the challenging conditions. Please give him your full support even if you have a different opinion on how it should be managed.

You will note that item 4 says that down animals (who cannot get up) should be euthanized. Any staff member who comes across a downer animal and is legally allowed to use a firearm can perform the euthanasia if they are trained in appropriate humane techniques. If you don't meet those criteria, you should notify someone who is if you come across a downer. If you do euthanize an animal, it is imperative that you advise management including giving him the following: immediately following destruction of the animal you are to advise both Ian and Brian of the event in writing, preferably via Email, including a brief description of the animal, identification of the animal if available and a brief reason for destruction. If the animal has a NLIS tag/button it should be given to Ian. This is not a license to destroy any and all animals – it specifically pertains to downers. I refer you back to the attached AgNote.

Regards,

Dr Brian Heim
Director, Vocational Education and Training

Charles Darwin University
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Katherine AUSTRALIA
Ph: (08) 8973 8311
Fax: (08) 8973 8300
Email: brian.heim@cdu.edu.au
CRICOS Provider #00300K

EMAIL 4 FEBRUARY 2010 CDU ANNEXURE D1-1

D1-1

Sylvia Klonaris

From: Mail-in HSE
Sent: Thursday, 4 February 2010 8:31 AM
To: Tim Biggs
Cc: Mail-in HSE; Horst Walter
Subject: In confidence - Nichola Walters
Attachments: 20100204082624137.pdf

Good morning Tim

In accordance with HSE procedures to notify supervisors and managers of workers' compensation status of staff. Please find attached for your information only, memorandum advice of the insurers decision for Nichola Walters.

Should you need further information, please do not hesitate to phone.

Regards

Sylvia Klonaris

HSE Support Officer
Health, Safety and Environment
People Management and Development
Charles Darwin University
DARWIN NT 0909
Phone: (08) 89466473
fax: (08) 89467211

CRICOS registered Provider Number 00300K

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-----Original Message-----

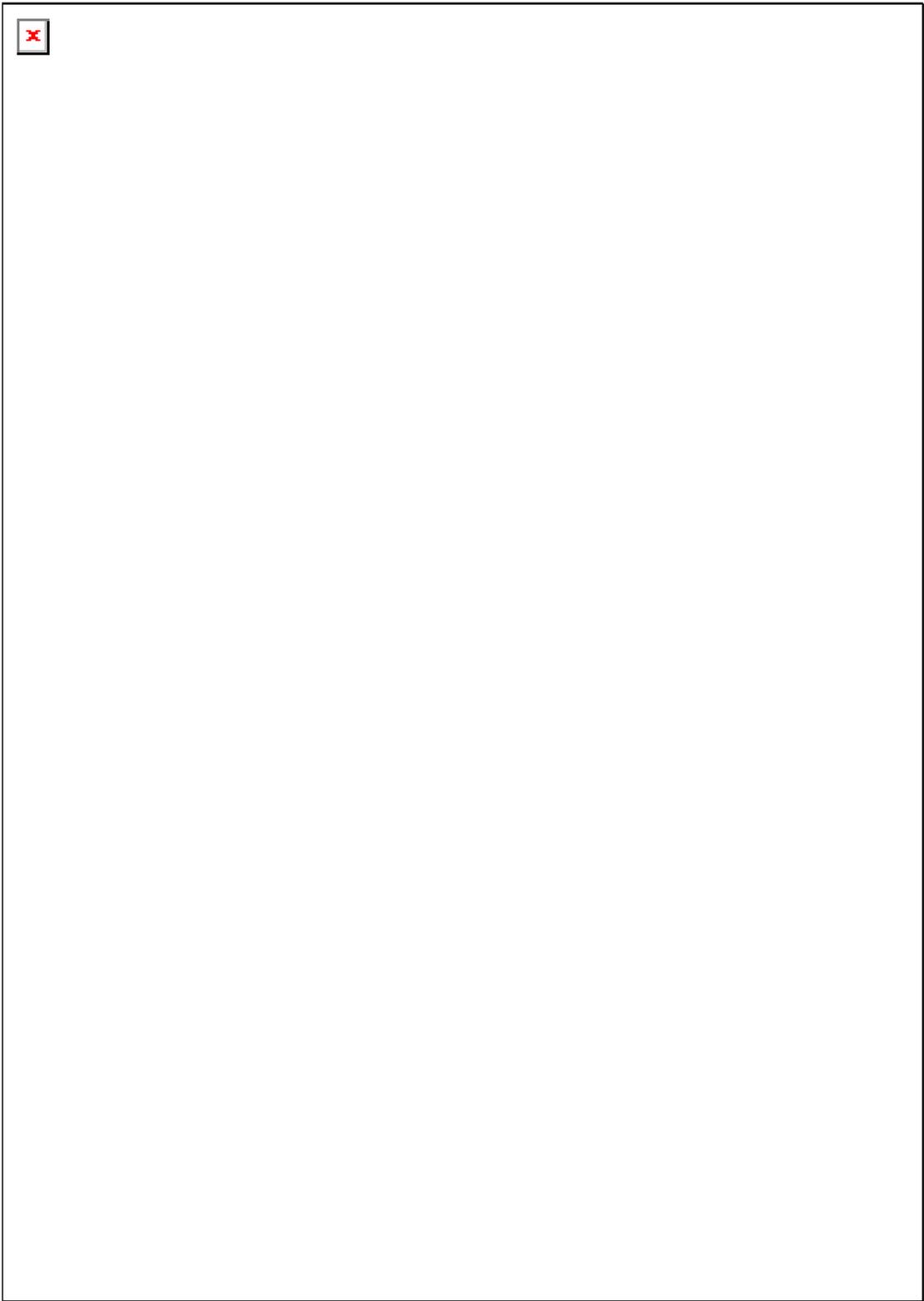
From: Manager_Scanner [mailto:Manager_Scanner]
Sent: Thursday, 4 February 2010 9:56 AM
To: Sylvia Klonaris
Subject:

This E-mail was sent from "B29PMDPR1" (Aficio MP C2500).

Scan Date: 04.02.2010 08:26:23 (+0800)
Queries to: Manager_Scanner

ATTACHMENT P179 MEMO MATARANKA FINANCIAL REPORTS











AGRICULTURE NOTE: WELFARE OF EXTENSIVELY MANAGED LIVESTOCK DURING DRY PERIODS

AGNOTE

Welfare of Extensively Managed Livestock During Dry Periods

P. Saville, Regional Veterinary Officer, Alice Springs and M. Perez-Ruiz, Senior Veterinary Officer, Darwin, Biosecurity and Product Integrity

INTRODUCTION

Prolonged dry periods and droughts are a feature of the environment in Australia. The terms 'dry period' and 'drought' are used interchangeably in this Agnote and are not specifically defined.

To manage cattle successfully in this environment, pastoralists need a broad range of knowledge and skills which include climate forecasting, pasture management, animal nutrition and supplementation, and animal welfare. For animals to survive a dry period, property managers must have the knowledge and skills to develop effective management plans. An effective plan must not only incorporate acceptable animal welfare standards, but must also help to maintain the long-term viability of the business.

This Agnote outlines the minimum animal welfare standards that must be maintained during extended dry periods, irrespective of whether those periods are officially declared as drought or not. It also outlines the role and responsibility of Animal Welfare Inspectors from the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM).

Failure to maintain these standards could be an offence under the Animal Welfare Act.

Property managers are responsible for the welfare of their animals at all times including during drought.

It is necessary to have an animal welfare plan in operation when pastoral conditions decline.

When all options have been exhausted and stock are in very poor body condition, it is necessary to increase surveillance to assist animals that are short on feed and water. Humane destruction may be necessary as it is unacceptable to let animals die a slow death in the field.

THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 2000 (THE ACT)

The Act is principally managed by the Animal Welfare Authority in the Department of Local Government, Housing and Sport. However, DPIFM plays a leading role in the welfare of livestock in the Northern Territory (NT)

WHAT IS 'ACCEPTABLE' ANIMAL WELFARE?

DPIFM can assist animal industries to determine 'acceptable' animal welfare, especially where seasonal conditions predispose animals to greater risk. Acceptable animal welfare standards may change over time, in the light of changes in scientific knowledge of animals, or due to changing industry practices, or community expectations.

Rainfall in the NT is both seasonal and variable. Pasture quantity and quality change accordingly and, as a result, so does the condition of grazing animals. It is normal for grazing animals to gain weight during the wet season and maintain or lose it during the dry season. In normal seasons, most animals in a herd would be expected to maintain at least a strong store body condition (BCS) score of 3/7.

DECISIONS TO MAKE

- As seasonal conditions deteriorate, decide to reduce stock numbers and/or supplement stock as part of normal dry season management.
- Make these decisions as early as possible as conditions deteriorate.
- Ensure to maintain livestock in at least store condition (BCS 2/7). When you believe there is a reasonable chance that these minimum requirements will not be met, implement risk management plans.
- Where water supplies are likely to be inadequate, move stock to areas with a better supply or destroy them humanely.

WHAT SHOULD PLANS INDICATE?

What decisions need to be made and under what conditions?

When and how animals will be supplemented, hand fed, agisted, sold or destroyed humanely?

A reasonable drought management plan and evidence of its effective implementation will help address animal welfare concerns on your property.

SUSTAINABLE STOCKING RATES

Sustainable stocking rates and acceptable animal welfare standards are closely related. Producers should maintain sustainable stocking rates and develop property plans that incorporate effective drought management strategies.

DE-STOCKING

De-stocking, partial de-stocking, or agistment may be the preferred strategy for many pastoralists when feed is not available.

Cattle assessed not suitable for trucking must not be moved or loaded and must be managed accordingly at the property of origin.

Cattle assessed fit for an intended journey must be provided with sufficient feed (good hay [feed is not available in the holding paddock) and adequate water during the 24 hours prior to loading. Feed, water and rest periods pre-transport are essential if the period off water during the trip is expected to be long but acceptable. The selection of cattle fit for a journey is the responsibility of both the consignor and the driver/transport company. Cattle which go down before or during transport, or are considered unlikely to survive, must be destroyed humanely as soon as possible to prevent suffering.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your DPIFM Regional Office. Contact Animal Health Officers at the website below.

Please visit us at our website:

www.nt.gov.au/dpifm

Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines
C) Northern Territory Government
ISSN 01 57-8243
Serial No. 825
Agdex No.420115

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MONITORING PROTOCOLS FOR THE WELFARE OF LIVESTOCK AT KATHERINE RURAL CAMPUS AND MATARANKA STATION

Monitoring Protocols for the Welfare of Charles Darwin University Livestock at Katherine Rural Campus and Mataranka Station

Introduction

For Australia's livestock industries the Model Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Animals establish an agreed set of principles and practices. The Model Codes were commissioned by the Primary Industries Standing Committee and endorsed by the Primary Industries Ministerial Council. These Codes are implemented to differing levels of state and territory legislation and have largely served as (voluntary) guides for people responsible for the welfare and husbandry of a range of livestock animals.¹

The Australian Animal Welfare Strategy has identified enhanced national consistency in regulation and sustainable improvements in animal welfare based on science, national and international benchmarks and changing community standards as areas of priority effort. The strategy covers the humane treatment of all animals in Australia and guides the development of the model codes of practice.²

Several Model Codes of Practice for livestock pertain to the animal populations at the Katherine Rural Campus (KRC) and Mataranka Station (MS). The specific codes of interest are:

Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals — Cattle, 2nd Edition, 2004, Commonwealth of Australia.³

Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals — Land Transport of Cattle, 2002, Commonwealth of Australia.⁴

Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals — Land Transport of Horses, 1997, Commonwealth of Australia.⁵

Teaching and Learning

Animal welfare standards and ethical treatment of animals must be incorporated into all training and research involving livestock at KRC and MS. All staff must lead by example through their actions and words by promoting and demonstrating the highest standards of animal welfare. All staff must conform to the provisions of the Northern Territory Animal Welfare Act⁶, the Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes⁷ and the Model Codes of Practice for livestock. To ensure that CDU staff are conversant with these codes and legal requirements, staff training will occur annually.

Duty of Care

The health and welfare of animals used in teaching and research at the KRC and MS must be a primary concern for all staff at the campuses. As a teaching and research institution, CDU should be leading the way in livestock practices and procedures. All

staff members have a duty of care to report any instances where they may feel that the health, well-being or welfare of one or more animals has been compromised.

As defined by the Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, the Facility Manager (Ian Gray at date of publication) has overarching responsibility for all aspects of health and welfare at KRC and MS. The role of Facility Manager falls within the position description of the Mataranka Station Manager.

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Monitoring of Livestock Health and Welfare

Livestock at KRC and MS are managed in an extensive manner meaning that they are not physically confined except during times when management procedures are undertaken. In such management systems, animals must be provided with adequate food, shelter and water to maintain good health. Other basic welfare needs must also be provided.

Monitoring must be done with consideration for season, availability of forage, pregnancy/maternity status and other factors. All staff are responsible for ensuring that appropriate personnel are notified if it appears that there is a problem. In most instances, the farm and station staff have direct responsibility for monitoring availability of feed and water. However, lecturing staff going about daily teaching also have direct responsibility to fix problems encountered if it is within their ability and teaching requirements. If this is not possible, notifications must be made in a timely manner. In all cases, staff have a duty of care to ensure that notifications are made and actions are taken as appropriate.

Reporting

In the first instance, if staff are unable to correct a deficiency or problem, the Facility Manager must be notified. If the Facility Manager is not available in a timely manner, farm/station staff should be notified. If farm/station staff are notified of issues and do not follow up in a timely manner it is appropriate to notify the NT Manager, Primary Industries & Community Services Division and/or the Director VET. In addition, the Chief Instructor, as identified by the Animal Ethics Committee, must be periodically notified of any health and welfare problems so that reports can be made to the Animal Ethics Committee.

Issues which may result in non-compliance with welfare standards or could be construed as non-compliant must be reported to the CDU Animal Ethics Committee through the Chief Instructor. The Facility Manager will provide a monthly report of any welfare issues to his/her manager and to the Chief Instructor. Issues may require more frequent monitoring and reporting depending on their severity. Senior Management of the University will be notified of potential animal welfare issues by the Chair of the Animal Ethics Committee.

1http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/model_code_of_practice_for_the_welfare_of_animals

2 <http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws>
3 <http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/pid/4831.htm>
4 <http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22fpid/2483.htm>
5 <http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/pid/1501.htm>
6 http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nt/cconsol_act/awal28.txt
7 <http://www.nhrnc.gov.au/publications/synopses/ea16syn.htm>

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Some important bits from the Australian code of practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes

1.4 Investigators and teachers who use animals for scientific purposes have personal responsibility for all matters relating to the welfare of these animals. They have an obligation to treat the animals with respect and to consider their welfare as an essential factor when planning or conducting projects.

Responsibilities of Institutions

- o ensuring that investigators and teachers are aware of their responsibilities under the Code, including by the provision of educational programs, continuing training and workshops;

- o responding promptly and effectively to recommendations from the AEC to ensure that all care and use of animals for scientific purposes within the institution remains in accordance with the Code;

- o (v) addressing concerns raised by the AEC regarding non-compliance with the Code which may include disciplinary action upon advice of the AEC

Investigators and teachers should be familiar with the normal behaviour of the animal species chosen and knowledgeable about signs of pain and distress specific to that species and must assess animals regularly for these signs.

- o Distress: the state of an animal, that has been unable to adapt completely to stressors, and that manifests as abnormal physiological or behavioural responses. It can be acute or chronic and may result in pathological conditions.

- Animals must be handled only by personnel instructed and competent in methods that avoid pain or distress.

- Humane killing and euthanasia of animals

- o 3.3.18 When it is necessary to kill an animal, humane procedures must be used. These procedures must avoid pain or distress, be reliable and produce rapid loss of consciousness until death occurs. The procedures should also be compatible with the scientific or educational aims.

- o 3.3.19 The procedures must be performed only by personnel approved as competent by the AEC or under the direct supervision of a competent person.

- o 3.3.20 Animals should be killed in a quiet, clean environment, that is away from other animals where possible. Death must be established before disposal of the carcass occurs.

Person-in-charge of breeding and holding facilities

- o 4.5.1 Animal acquisition, breeding and holding facilities must be supervised by persons with appropriate veterinary or animal care qualifications or experience.

- o 4.5.2 The person-in-charge should be responsible for:

- (i) managing the day-to-day care of the animals in holding and breeding facilities;
- (ii) supervising the work of personnel in the facility;
- (Hi) liaising between investigators and teachers and facility personnel; and
- (iv) communicating with the AEC on management of the facility and any adverse incidents.

6.2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHERS

o 6.2.1 The person-in-charge of students has responsibility for the care and use of animals from the time of acquisition until completion of the project. That person must:

- (i) ensure that all care and use of animals is in accordance with the Code and all relevant provisions of Commonwealth and State or Territory legislation;
- (ii) have relevant training and qualifications;
- (iii) incorporate into the proposed activities any methods for the Replacement, Reduction or Refinement in the use of animals, provided such methods are compatible with the educational objectives;
- (iv) obtain AEC approval before the activities commence and ensure that activities are conducted as directed and approved by the AEC;
- (v) where available, use alternative methods to prepare students for teaching activities involving animals;
- (vi) ensure that there is close, competent supervision of all students; and
- (vii) ensure that in the event of injury to animals, treatments ranging from a minor procedure to euthanasia are available.

6.2.2 The teacher responsible must ensure that before commencing work with animals, students:

- (i) are instructed in the appropriate methods of handling and caring for animals; and
- (ii) have demonstrated that they are capable of performing the necessary tasks with care and competence.

Some important bits from the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals — Cattle: Basic Welfare Needs

- The people managing and handling cattle must be competent. The skills for managing and handling cattle include the ability to:
- Work so that stress to cattle is minimised
- Use the natural behaviour of cattle
- Recognise the early signs of distress or disease and to initiate prompt and appropriate preventative or remedial action

Good stockpersons are flexible in their approach to cattle management and handling and adapt to the needs of differing cattle and circumstances.

o The basic needs for the welfare of cattle are:

- Adequate quantity and quality of water, food and air to maintain good health
- Social contact with other cattle
- Sufficient space to move and perform normal behaviour patterns
- Protection from: predation, disease or injury (and appropriate treatment if the occur), adverse extremes of climate where possible
- protection from unnecessary, unreasonable or unjustifiable pain, suffering or injury

o Water — clean, not deprived for longer than 24 hours

o Food — access to food that will maintain their well-being; not deprived for longer than 48 hrs (24 hrs if in poor condition, late preg or early lactation)

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Animal Management in Emergency Disaster Situations
Mataranka Station and Katherine Rural Campus

Bush Fire

If animals are in affected paddock, move them to safe area if possible without endangering human life. Acceptable to cut fences or open gates.

Fight fire using standard techniques including notifying Bush Fires NT and requesting assistance if needed (on VHF Radio Channel 4)

Seek veterinary treatment for injured animals

Flood

Move animals to unaffected areas or paddocks

Acceptable to cut fences or open gates

Seek veterinary treatment for injured animals

Drought

Follow protocols established by NT DRDPIFR Agnotes: Welfare of Extensively Managed Livestock During Dry Periods

Seek veterinary treatment for injured animals

Suspected Foreign Animal Disease Outbreak

Contact local DRDPIFR veterinarian for advice

Do not move any animals on, off or within the property until advice obtained

MATARANKA CATTLE REPORT¹ WEEK ENDING 18 OCTOBER 2009

Weaner/Yearling steers² from Lower Beswick Creek Corridor were mustered by Spud Thomas (Contractor) and Grant Parker (CDU Lecturer) back to Homestead Yards.

These steers then underwent an intensive education process in order for them to 'catch up' to their half-sibs which were educated the previous week with assistance from Suzie Holbery (KRC Overseer).

Weaner/Yearling Heifers in Parnell Paddock also received training at the Parnell Yards.

Cows from Bottom Toms and Big Horse paddocks were vaccinated with Botulinum Vaccine and moved to Highway Paddock. The following morning these cows, along with the cows from Wire Hill Paddock which had made their way back to Highway Paddock, were all walked back to Wire Hill Paddock which is now also open to Yellow Water Hole Paddock.

Weaners from Luckies and Toms paddocks were mustered to Homestead yards and drafted into same sex groups.

Steer portion were walked to Tiger Hill Paddock.

Heifer portion were moved to Roper Paddock.

Entire males (120) were transported to Phoenix Park to be "freshened up" and either be marketed directly from Phoenix Park or returned to Mataranka Station once pasture conditions improve following the start of the "wet season".

Remaining in the Homestead yards are 60 very light weaners, 130 unbranded females and 10 cull cows which are non lactating and non pregnant.

It is anticipated the 130 heifers will be branded within the next week and moved to Roper Paddock.

The 10 cull cows will be trucked to Katherine Rural Campus where they will join other cull cows already housed at KRC being utilised in Artificial Insemination training in the next fortnight.

Over 130 large square bales (average 540 Kilogram) of millet hay has been fed out over the past month which equates to in excess of 70 tonnes of fodder.

In addition to this, another ten tonnes of hard feed in the form of either Adelaide River Weaner Pellets (16% Protein and 10.5 Mega joules Energy) or Riverina High

¹ Attached to DR Heim's email of 18.10.2009 (02:38pm)

² A male of the cattle family, especially a young bull, that has been castrated before reaching sexual maturity and is kept for beef.

Energy Weaner Pellets (16% Protein and 11 Mega Joules Energy) has been fed to both weaner cattle and breeders in light condition.

PURCHASES FOR MATARANKA STATION 2009

TABLE OF 2009 PURCHASES FOR MATARANKA STATION

Req No.	Date	Purchase Order	Supplier	Description	Quantity	Cost
R269144	06/02/2009	265530	Landmark	LNT Uramol Blocks - 100kg	24	\$3108.00
R271149	24/03/2009	267763	Landmark	LNT Phosrite Blocks - 100kg	2	\$2760.00
R271495	01/04/2009	267997	Elders Ltd	Calf weaner pellets/bag 120	2	\$2142.00
R274274	21/05/2009	270502	Landmark Katherine	Uramol 100kg blocks	24	\$30720.00
				XLR8 Calf Pellets bags/20kg	2	\$1488.00
R274369	21/05/2009	273578	Landmark	XLR8 Calf pellets bags/20kg/144 bags	3	\$2232.00
R275248	10/06/2009	271734	Landmark	Jarra Round Bales	56	\$2545.20
R276319	24/06/2009	272735	Landmark	XLR8 pellets 20kg bags/144 bags	3	\$2376.00
R247466	26/06/2009	272927	Landmark	Denkavite milk supplement/bag	2	\$86.36
R278398	06/07/2009	275120	Stocklick Trading	Breeder Mix	26	\$24570.00
				Heifer Mix	2	\$1550.00
SDOL	08/07/2009	-	-	Denkavite milk supplement/bag	-	\$73.07
SDOL	26/07/2009			NZAG Top calf milk replacer	1	\$58.27
SDOL	29/07/2009			Hay round bales	10	\$1188.00
SDOL	04/08/2009			NZAG Top calf milk replacer	2	\$132.68
SDOL	08/08/2009			Coopers boost blocks 100kg	1	\$1170.00
SDOL	08/08/2009			Salt med coarse 25kg	26	\$286.00
SDOL	08/08/2009			Hay round bales	6	\$420.00
R279213	17/08/2009	275811	Landmark	Denkavite milk supplement/bag	2	\$146.00
				Hay Round Bales	22	\$1540.00
R279778	21/08/2009	276310	Elders Ltd	XLR8 calf pellets 20kg/240 bags	5	\$3655.20
R279777	21/08/2009	276311	Landmark	Millet Hay	30	\$3686.10
R280221	01/09/2009	276633	Landmark	Cavalcade Round Bales	9	\$630.00
R280612	07/09/2009	277094	King Producers	Millet Hay/bale	48	\$4320.00
R280614	07/09/2009	277095	Landmark	Adelaide River Weaner Pellets/bag x 168	4.2	\$4794.00
R281195	15/09/2009	277830	Elders Ltd	Boost Bloc ks 100kg	4	\$4794.00
R281661	07/09/2009	278021	King Producers	Millet Hay	48	\$4752.00
SDOL	25/09/2009			Salt med coarse 25kg bags		\$686.64
R281824	29/09/2009	278469	Landmark	Square Bales Millet Hay/tonne x 25 bales	2.4	\$4320.00
				Jarra Round bales x 112		\$2800.00
SDOL	02/10/2009			NZAG top calf milk replacer	2	\$13.72
SDOL	02/10/2009			Denkavite milk replacer	2	\$130.72
R282115	05/10/2009	278527	Landmark	ARG weaner pellets 35kg bags/280	10	\$6580.00
R282116	05/10/2009	278616	Elders Ltd	30+ P Ridley blocks 100kg	12	\$12645.60
				1050kg bilka bags Kynophos 21	14	\$23417.10
R282933	14/10/2009	279596	Elders Ltd	Boost Lick Blocks 100kg	10	\$12250.00
				30% Urea = P Ridley Lick blocks	10	\$10538.00
R283891	03/11/2009	280477	Landmark	Jarra hay round bales	115	\$750.00
R285331	26/11/2009	281922	Landmark	Rumevite 30% + P 100kg blocks x 100	10	\$10650.00
R285335	27/11/2009	282073	Landmark	Rumevite 30% + P 100kg blocks x 100	10	\$10650.00
R285530	14/12/2009	282249	Stocklike	Mat/wet season 2009/tonne	20	\$18500.00
				Weaner feed/tonne	4	\$2720.00

AEC INSPECTION – 7 MAY 2010

2010 AEC Facility Inspection Report

Facility: Mataranka Station Random Inspection

Date: 7th May 2010

AEC Members performing inspection: Professor Robert Wasson, Chair

Additional Persons performing inspection: Dr Sue Fitzpatrick, Senior Veterinary Officer, Dept of Resources and Ms Melissa Frazsica, Animal Welfare Officer, Animal Welfare Branch, Dept Local Government

Name & position of person facilitating inspection: Ms Plaxy Purich, Executive Officer, AEC

Facility Manager Name: Mr Ian Gray

Licence to use premises for teaching or research Involving animals number and expiry date: 002

Attachments to this document (eg. photographs)

Brief overview /description of facility:

This facility inspection was the second inspection of Mataranka Station for 2010. The focus of this facility inspection was the condition of the horses, the cattle in the poorest condition and the weaners, cows/heifers just separated from their offspring.

Other matters followed up were; the Mataranka Station management plan, staffing matters/arrangements, condition of paddocks and the communication effectiveness of the staff.

Animals: Cattle

	Y/N
Identification - whether individually or in groups	Y
General health and morbidity - in receipt of good husbandry procedures, and not suffering obvious injury, sickness or infestation	Y
Normal behavioural patterns - sleeping, feeding, drinking, grooming, exploratory behaviour, performance and social and reproductive behaviour.	Y
Social Contact - the number of animals in cages, pens etc and the placement of these should enable social conditions to be maintained	Y
Monitoring - reasonable maintenance of animal wellbeing	Y

Additional Comments:

The majority of cattle have been segregated into classes, except in 17 Mile paddock. 17 Mile Paddock was to be mustered on the 9th May 2010. This paddock contained a mixture of cattle classes; some cows with weaners and calves, 1st calf heifers with weaners or calves and bulls. The condition of the cattle in this paddock is mixed, between a score of 1.5 and 4. Those cattle in the poorest condition were the cows and/or heifers with weaners and calves still with them,

with the lowest score of 1.5. The cattle in this condition, are of concern at this time of year. Going into the dry season they will struggle to gain condition without additional supplementary feeding.

Dessert and Tsumengeri Paddocks have been mustered and segregated into classes. The cows and heifers of concern from the last facility inspection have been moved to Wire Hill Paddock, and their weaners are now in Tsumengeri Paddock.

Approximately 400 head of cattle are in Wire Hill Paddock. They are being fed weaner meal with 19% protein to improve their condition. The condition of these cows and heifers ranged from 1.5 - 4.

In the cattle yards, there are some weaners and calves in a separate pen, because they were in poor condition. These are presently on weaner meal and dry hay until their condition improves.

There are 700 weaners in Tsumengeri Paddock/watering lane that will be sold in June.

One bull in Kuttain Paddock appeared in poor condition.

Animals: Horses

	Y/N
Identification - whether individually or in groups	Y
General health and morbidity - in receipt of good husbandry procedures, and not suffering obvious injury, sickness or infestation	Y
Normal behavioural patterns - sleeping, feeding, drinking, grooming, exploratory behaviour, performance and social and reproductive behaviour.	Y
Social Contact - the number of animals in cages, pens etc and the placement of these should enable social conditions to be maintained	Y
Monitoring - reasonable maintenance of animal wellbeing	Y

Additional Comments:

There are 33 horses at Mataranka Station. Twenty two training horses are in very good condition. One training horse was to be in moderate to good condition. Presently, the training horses are being kept in Toms Paddock, close to the homestead.

In addition, within this area, there are eight other horses. They are three thoroughbreds and five mares. The five mares were in good condition and the three thoroughbred horses are in moderate to good condition. The thoroughbred horses had just finished a training course and were from Katherine Rural Campus.

A further two mares were located in a separate paddock and were not seen on this occasion.

The horses' hooves were in good condition. The facility manager was asked if the horse dentist had checked the horses' teeth since the December inspection. They have not. It was noted that the horses' teeth will be attended to when Mr John Farback, the horse dentist, comes to town, which will be June/July 2010.

Holding facilities including, outdoor yards or paddocks:

	Y/N
Adequately staffed	Y
Adequately designed	Y
Adequately constructed	N
Equipped and maintained to permit effective maintenance and servicing to keep animals in good health.	N
Clean unlimited water	Y
Fences, yards and gates in good working order	N
Animal waste management system in place	Y
Other species needs, eg. wildlife not being interfered with	N
Secure from unauthorized access	Y

Additional Comments:

All paddock gates fronting the Stuart Highway are locked with a padlock.

There is still fencing needing to be repaired and/or replaced. The fences along the northern boundary; Yellow Waterhole and Tiger Hill Paddocks, needs to be repaired and/or replaced. Two problems cause the fences to be continually broken; one is feral buffaloes and the other is bushfires.

As well, Hill paddock needs its fence repaired, because of last years bush fire.

There is a concern in relation to the 129 bulls, and locating them to a secure paddock, once they are removed from the cows and heifers.

The AEC is aware of the Assessment of the Carrying Capacity of Mataranka Station, by Dionne Walsh, Feb 2010. This report indicated the carrying capacity for individual paddocks. Some paddocks appear to have more cattle in them, than that which is indicated in this report.

Outdoor Housing:

	Y/N
Adequate shelter against wind and rain	N/A
Adequate shade	N/A
Clean unlimited water	N/A
Protection from predation and vermin	N/A
Walls, yards and gates in good working order	N/A
Good general hygiene and cleanliness	N/A
Animal waste management system in place	N/A
Secure from unauthorized access	N/A

Additional Comments:**Indoor Housing:**

	Y/N
Buildings compatible to needs of animals housing	N/A
Control environmental factors - good ventilation and lighting	N/A
Excludes vermin or vermin control protocol in place	N/A

Limit contamination associated with keeping of animals (feeding, water, bedding, entry of people)	N/A
Building in good repair. Surfaces washable and able to be disinfected	N/A
Kept clean and tidy	N/A
Animal waste management system in place	N/A
Adequate storage areas for food and equipment	N/A
Contingency plans to cover emergencies such as lighting breakdown, heating or cooling	N/A
Secure from unauthorized access	N/A

Additional Comments:

Food and Water:

	Y/N
Appropriate type of food	Y
Adequate nutrition for various life stages as applicable (growing, maintenance, reproduction)	N
Provision to maintain food uncontaminated	Y
Provision to maintain food fresh and unspoiled	Y
Clean drinking water	Y
Drinking water constantly available	Y
For automated feed and watering systems, provision to provide feed and water in the event of a power outage	Y

Additional Comments:

Presently there are cows and heifers in poor condition, with a score of 1.5 in 17 Mile Paddock that will need additional feeding to improve their condition before the dry season is fully established.

There needs to be enough feeding troughs to cater for all cattle in this group, eliminating any bullying of the weakest cattle from the troughs.

Pens and Cages: Cattle Yards

	Y/N
Protected from environmental extremes	Y
Good repair and escape proof	Y
Constructed of durable, impervious materials	Y
Do not cause injury to the animals	Y
Good ventilation and lighting	Y
Food / water access	Y
Good general hygiene and cleaning	Y
Animal accommodation to suit species' specific needs (numbers in cages, housing materials, environmental requirements)	Y

Additional Comments:

There was significant pooling of water in the cattle yards when they were inspected in March 2010. All water pipes to the cattle yards have been replaced and manure removed. The pooling has stopped.

Documentation

	Y/N
Standard operating procedures or other guidelines available	N/A
Records of monitoring of animal health and wellbeing	N/A
After hour contact details for emergency - the person in charge and applicants must have a system in place so that they or other responsible persons, can be contacted in the event of emergency.	N/A
Any adverse events recorded	N/A
Approved AEC applications relevant to facility available for viewing by AEC inspectors and/or facility manager	N/A
Contingency Plan for extreme events, i.e. flooding, fires, disease outbreak, etc	N/A

Additional Comments:

No documentation was inspected on this visit.

Staffing and Veterinary Support

	Y/N
Animals must be managed and handled by appropriately skilled and experienced staff, trainees and students must be supervised by appropriately skilled and experienced staff and the staffing level must be capable of providing appropriate care of the animals.	Y
Staff have access to veterinary support services	Y

Additional Comments:

CONCLUSIONS

Observations/problems	Action requested by AEC inspectors including timeframe
There were mixed classes in 17 mile paddock (as of the 7 th May).	This paddock is to be mustered and animals separated into classes as soon as possible.
In 17 Mile Paddock, numerous cattle, mainly cows and heifers, were in poor condition with a score of 1.5.	The AEC recommends all cattle in poor condition, with a condition score of 1.5 or less, are fed high protein feed until their condition score improves to 2.5. There is to be enough room at the troughs for all cattle (approx. 400mm per head) to feed without bullying.
There needs to be secure fencing for all bulls.	Please inform the AEC of arrangements to ensure all bulls will be securely separated from the herd.
The horses' teeth haven't been inspected or treated in the past two	The AEC recommends all horses have their teeth inspected, and treated at the

<p>years.</p> <p>Buffaloes and bushfires are problems causing the fences to be ineffective in some paddocks; Yellow Waterhole, Tiger Hill Paddock and Hill Paddock.</p> <p>It was noted that the Facility Manager is not being fully informed of all teaching classes being organised at Mataranka Station.</p> <p>Teaching and facility staff appear to be confused about who is responsible for the animals when they are being used before, during and after teaching classes.</p> <p>The AEC are concerned about the safety of both staff and cattle crossing the Stuart Highway.</p> <p>Some paddocks appear to be stocked beyond their carrying capacity.</p> <p>The thoroughbred horses were in moderate to poor condition.</p>	<p>horse dentists' earliest convenience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The AEC recommends repairing and/or replacing fencing of the three paddocks as an immediate priority. ○ The AEC needs to be informed of a solution to this ongoing problem. <p>The AEC strongly recommends that all facility staff at Mataranka Station are informed of all teaching classes at Mataranka Station prior to their commencement.</p> <p>The AEC strongly suggests all teaching and facility staff read the Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, Section 3, specifically Item 3.1 and 3.2.</p> <p>Please provide details of the safest method for cattle to cross the Stuart Highway.</p> <p>The Committee seeks information on the future strategy for paddocks; the stocking capacity, their rotation and spelling.</p> <p>The AEC suggests a strict feeding regime to improve their condition.</p>
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Additional Comments:

From observations in other paddocks which we didn't inspect in detail, there appeared to be a small number of cattle around the station in poor condition with a body score of 1.5 - 2.

This report has been prepared for the Charles Darwin University Animal Ethics Committee by:

Signature Date

Signature Date

AEC use only		
This report has been accepted by the Charles Darwin University Animal Ethics Committee		
AEC Chair _____	_____	_____
Name	Signature	Date



Training Horses in Toms Paddock



Old Fella (May not be the correct name). This horse is 18 years old.



One of the Training Horse's mentioned previously in other horse reports.



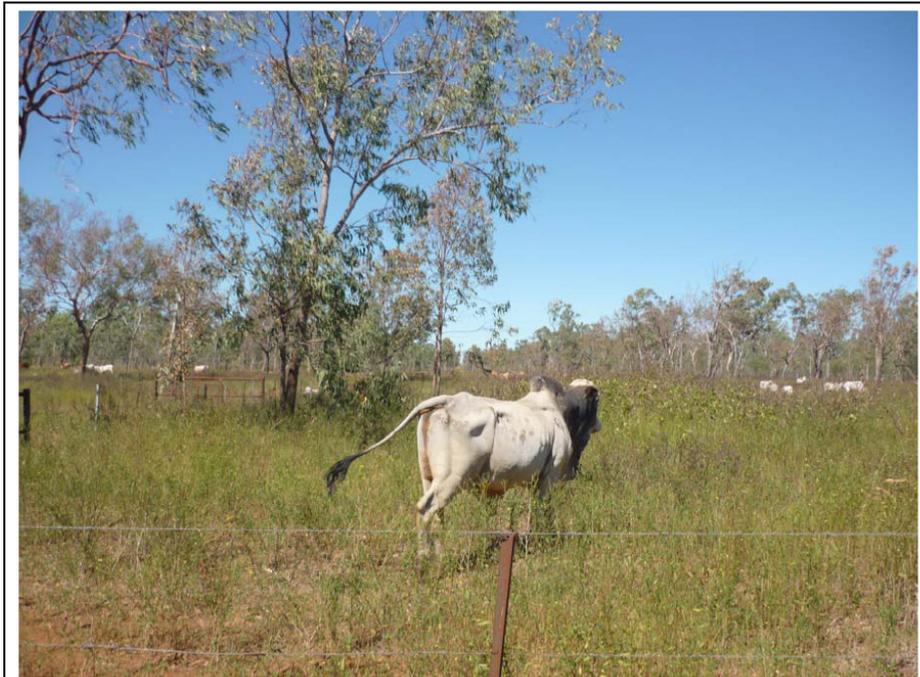
Training horse



Training Horses in Toms Paddock



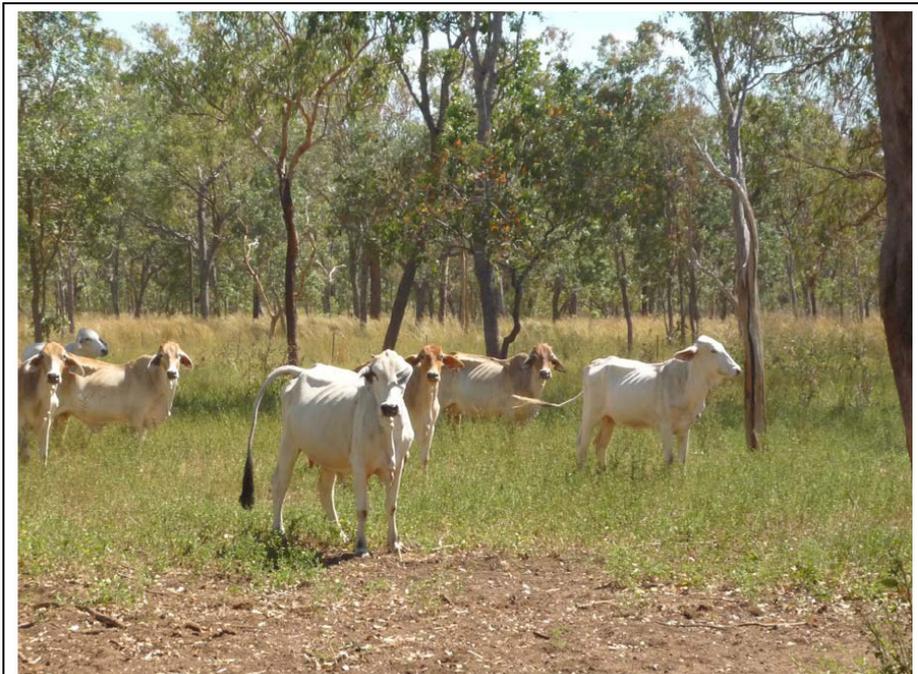
One of three thorough bred horses down from Katherine Rural Campus.



Bull in Kuttain Paddock that is a little thin.



Cows and 1st calf heifers in 17 mile paddock



Cows and 1st calf heifers in 17 mile paddock



Cows and 1st calf heifers in 17 mile paddock



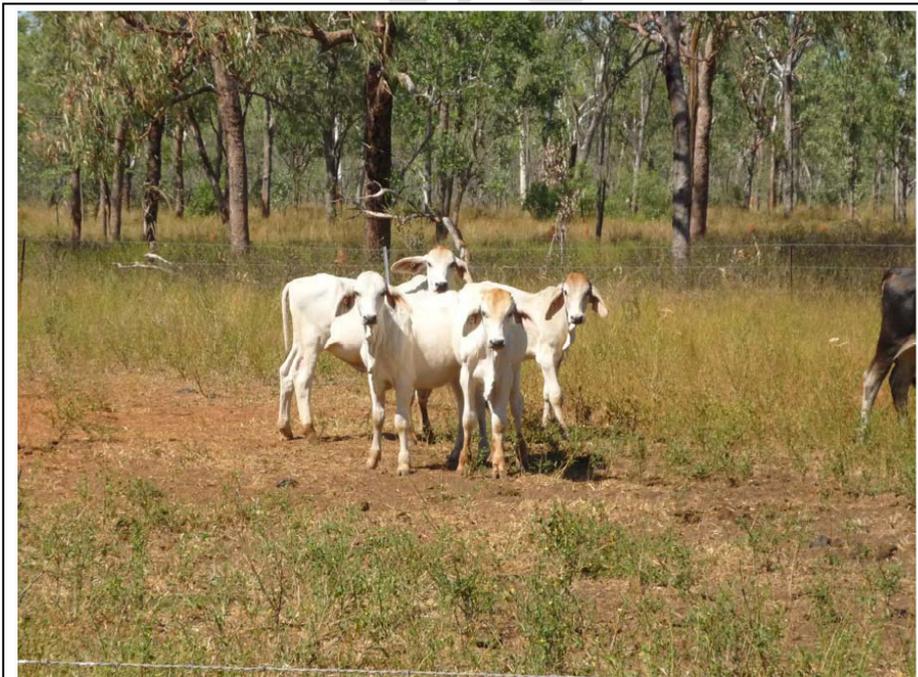
Cow in 17 Mile paddock



Cows, 1st calf heifers, weaners and calves in 17 Mile paddock



Mixed classes in 17 mile paddock



Weaners in Tsumengeri Paddock



Mixed classes around 17 Mile bore



Bull at 17 mile paddock



Cows in Wire Hill Paddock on additional feed (19% weaner mix).



Cow in Wire Hill Paddock



Cows in Wire Hill Paddock



Cows in Cattle Yards



Weaners and calves in poor condition in the cattle yards receiving additional feed.



Weaners in cattle yards