

Sustainable
Agriculture
Systems

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11th. August 2006

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED ORAL PRESENTATION

Re: UNESCO BIOSPHERE RESERVE FOR A.C.T.

CURRENTLY

Individuals and Departments concentrate on addressing issues such as weeds and loss of plant diversity and densities in a totally reactive way. Solutions are sought by utilizing soil additives and chemicals which addresses the problems in the short term but exasperates long term sustainability. Until such time as imbalance in the soil is addressed, preferred plant species will not establish and thrive. Weeds are only indicators of unbalanced soil and are in fact nature's mechanism for re-balancing.

FACTS

By providing **Organic Matter** to soil life (Microbes, bacteria, protozoa, worms and so on) we can attain rich, fertile soil through changes in management. One half of the weight of fertile soil is made up of the dead bodies of soil microbes. These dead bodies give us that distinctive "earthy" smell to living soils high in humus. The life is there in the soil, all we have to do is feed the microbes so they can multiply, grow and die to provide productive and sustainable vegetation.

ORGANIC MATTER

Increasing Soil Organic Matter levels will :-

- greatly increase the ability of the soil to hold moisture
- greatly increase the ability of the soil to absorb moisture
- increase cation exchange capability (fertility through plant available nutrients)
- reverse and repair damage caused by previous management practices including acidity and salinity issues.
- improve the quality of water flowing into water storage facilities

These are just some of the major benefits of increasing **O.M.** in the soil profile.

HOW

Introduce management strategies that enhance naturally occurring processes and increases **O.M.** and nutrient recycling.

S.A.S. reintroduces people to well known agronomic principles as well as some lesser known ones. Learn how to increase **O.M.** & therefore soil life through management strategies that will improve soil structure and moisture holding capability. Low input, high production, sustainable grazing that eliminates the need for chemical and fertilizer applications and utilizes existing infrastructure.

The principles around which our program is based can have significant positive impact on domestic residence, water catchments, agricultural lands, parklands, bush and timbered areas.

ORAL PRESENTATION

We have in the past delivered a three hour presentation of our '**System**' covering all six aspects that influence the '**System**' as a whole. It goes without saying you would not require such a detailed presentation initially. Should you decide to allow us the opportunity to make a presentation to the committee, we would need to know a.s.a.p. the time we will have available to us.

We welcome questions as this allows us the opportunity to allay concerns and issues that interested parties may have.

Our '**System**' is holistic by nature and has been proven to be highly successful in practical application. One client has doubled his carrying capacity within 7 months and is excited about the future despite below average rainfall.

Photographs are available to prove our '**System**' works, with all of our clients more than happy to show their farms to interested parties.

We do apologize for this eleventh hour submission but look forward with anticipation to being able to address the committee on such an important issue.

Kind Regards,

Bruce McFarlane
(**Principal**)