

Lifelong learning: you can teach an old dog new tricks!

Roy Chisholm has spent a lifetime in the pastoral industry. Roy found that the GLM course gave him a more objective way of managing his feed supply and cattle numbers.

Grazing Land Management workshops

Specific to Central Australia, the workshop, an MLA EDGENetwork® training package, provides a process to develop and implement GLM strategies that optimise land condition, production and profit.

The principles and tools presented will assist you to:

- Calculate land type carrying capacity and stocking rates
- Anticipate and respond to variations in rainfall, land type and land condition
- Understand the relationship between pasture, water, soils, woodlands, biodiversity, fire and weeds
- Plan & determine the financial impact of GLM strategies



The workshop includes open discussions, building on the wealth of knowledge and experience already present in the industry.

A 'hands on' approach is used with technical information demonstrated both in and out of the 'classroom'.

Attending a GLM workshop, and using the follow up service, will put in place a process for achieving the outcomes you see possible for your business.

For further information contact:

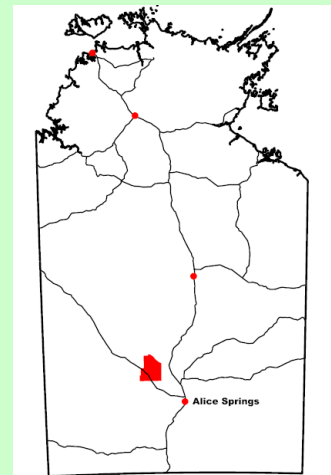
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Producers:

Roy & Janet Chisholm,
Napperby Station

Location:

200 km north-west of Alice Springs,
Northern Territory



Property area:

5,500 km²

Enterprise:

Producing stores and fats for the domestic and international markets

Goal:

To produce 350-400 kg steers for backgrounding

Livestock:

Santa Gertrudis

Annual rainfall:

11 inches (280 mm), summer predominant

How can a GLM workshop help your enterprise?

Case Study: Napperby Station

Background

Roy Chisholm's family has owned Napperby "on and off" since 1948. Despite a lifetime of experience in the industry, Roy continues to seek out and incorporate new approaches to the management of his enterprise.

In the case of GLM, Roy says "I wanted to go and see what information was available and also get some specific ideas about how I could change what I do."

How GLM has changed him

"The most valuable thing I got from GLM was a better understanding of how science and technology can help you make better decisions."

Issues

Napperby's country types include a diverse mix of open sand plains, rocky hills and water courses. The wide variety of country types, together with the unpredictability of rainfall means that feed supplies vary a lot through space and time.

The GLM workshop has tools and information to help make sense of these factors.

Roy says "The important thing I got out of GLM was understanding how to match stocking to available feed reserves in a more scientific manner. It will help me to make objective measurements of feed rather than subjective ones, which is how we've done it in the past."

For those who think this sounds all too complicated, they needn't be daunted.

"The content of the course was interesting and the theory was well backed up by practical exercises. There was enough time in the classroom and enough time outside."

The future

Roy's objective at Napperby is to produce 350-400 kg male cattle for the backgrounding market whilst maintaining the health and productivity of his country. Before GLM, Roy already had a summer-spelling regime in place to look after the perennial grasses in key paddocks.

"I found that GLM fitted in well with other courses I had done and gave me a practical understanding of the theory behind the practise" he says.

Roy feels that GLM has given him the tools and knowledge to better match his stock numbers and feed supply.

"I plan to be more diligent about measuring our feed reserves by doing feed budgets at different times of the year. This will generate better management of my stock because I'll be able to manage my available feed better".

Roy believes that having a follow-up service in the form of a dedicated Grazing Land Management Officer is definitely worthwhile.

"The GLM Officer arranged a follow-up day after our course and we were able to go and have a look at the neighbour's cell grazing system" he said. "Having the GLM Officer in place means that they can follow up any questions I might have and they will make sure I'm still on track."

Final word

"GLM was definitely a worthwhile investment. I would recommend it to anyone who has an interest in beef production".



Northern
Territory
Government



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry
National Landcare Program

A stylized, handwritten-style signature logo for GLM, consisting of a long horizontal line that curves upwards and ends in a flourish.