

LMS VISION

To achieve sustainable rural productivity, community vitality and stewardship of the environment

LMS MISSION

To actively foster innovative, integrated land management systems and practices.

LAND MANAGEMENT SOCIETY INC.

**ALL MEMBERS WELCOME
TO COUNCIL MEETINGS**

CONTACT LMS FOR DATE & VENUE DETAILS

PLEASE JOIN US

THE FUTURE AND LMS

Ruth Martin

Have we outlived our uses? Reached our "use by date"?

We don't think so, but do need to take a fresh look at how we can best serve the rural community.

We will be seeking new, energetic Council members and innovative farmers. We will be actively recruiting new members.

John Duff & Associates will be administering our day to day operations, including bookings for farm tours, our popular Know Your Soils, Farm Hydrology and Soil Biology Workshops and supplying kit consumables and Farm Monitoring Handbooks. John has been a long time member of LMS and keen to see what we have accomplished continue and grow. Phone 9475 0753, fax 0475 0222 or email office@lmsinfo.com.

David and Gaye Chambers after many years of tireless work have now retired from the LMS. Thank you from all past members, present members, interested onlookers, landcare coordinators, LCDC members. We will be forever in your debt, David and Gaye.

IN the last years the council & LMS has comprised no more than 8 people and 2 of them are retiring! This is not enough to run the Society!! Membership is down to just under 100.

Jenny Gardner, LMS member and immediate past vice President, shares some of her memories and vision for the future in the following extract from her article recently printed in the LMS Journal of Land Management.

Twenty years ago Canning Dam had a catchment, the rest of the land was just somebody's patch.

We're nearly all working together in catchments. Now LMS had a hand in this.

At the beginning LMS was planning to form "Action Groups" across the state. This idea was taken on by agencies and LCDCs were formed state-wide.

LMS ran educational workshops state-wide like "New Horizons", "Soil Ain't Dirt" and Quantum.

All this was done by LMS to reach it's Vision to "**actively foster innovative land management practices to achieve sustainable rural productivity, community vitality and an atmosphere of stewardship of the environment**" by chipping away at its objectives through Co-operation, Education, Information Exchange, Lobbying and Demonstration Farms, showing systems and best practice.

We wanted to achieve our vision by using the catchment approach in an integrated way. That is by integrating people, climate, water, soil, flora and fauna. LMS has always been holistic in its approach & interested in the ecosystem.

We farmers can have;

1. Economically viable farming
2. Diversity
3. Stream & River Restoration
4. Flora & fauna on farm

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DID YOU KNOW????

FISHY ACTIVITIES

Reported in the January ACWA News that the WA Maritime Training Centre, Fremantle is playing host to a revolutionary new aquaculture venture that is attracting interest from around the world.

An innovative new technology developed by WA company, McRobert Aquaculture Systems, is set to revolutionise the way that fish are handled in aquaculture systems world wide. The system involves the use of tank liners that can be inverted to move the fish into channels for easy, fast transfers. Common activities such as grading, counting, weighing and harvesting operations can all be undertaken at the flick of a switch controlling low pressure pumped air.

"The beauty of our fish management system is that we can run it as part of a re-circulating aquaculture system or a flow-through", said Ian McRobert, Manager of the group.

ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURE

Reported in the WA State Salinity Council Newsletter is news that the Dept. of Agriculture is developing a framework for defining, measuring and achieving Environmentally Responsible Agriculture (ERA) in partnership with industry and community.

ERA will develop credible environmental standards and benchmarks for agricultural production, that will provide input into QA systems and regional branding or eco-labeling initiatives as a means of demonstrating environmental performance. The ERA framework is different to EMS but will feed into it to ensure that environmental management is based on realistic and well defined information. Contact Carina Calzoni 9368 3468 for further information.

GROWING SEAFOOD DEMAND

By the year 2020 the CSIRO is predicting that Australian consumers will require an extra 140,000 tonnes of seafood each year. That's an exciting challenge for WA. One way of meeting this growing demand is to expand the diversity of species harvested, such as pilchard and jellyfish.

SALINE GRAZING

A media release from the Department of Agriculture advises that producer groups are being invited to register their interest to participate in research into the better use of saline land for grazing. The program provided producer groups with funding and technical support to initiate research to improve productivity from grazing saline land. Contact Justin Hardy 9892 8408 for further information.

NEW PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE FOR FLORICULTURE

Dept. Agriculture report that researchers have developed a new way to propagate plants that will revolutionise floriculture worldwide. Known as In Vitro Soil (IVS), the technique opened the door to produce a whole new range of Australian plant selections that could be used for cut flowers and amenity horticulture. Contact Chris Newdale 9368 3914 for further information.

CITIZEN JURIES

This is a system where 16 randomly selected people are brought together to act as a forum on land use issues in Victoria. It provides for a limited number of people from across the community to become closely involved in shaping natural resource management issues. Further information from Glenn Conroy 02 6263 6013

PHONE PROBLEMS

Telstra reports that eucalyptus trees are possibly the main problem in rural communication. These and other trees can stop the communication waves utilised by phones.

RESERVOIR REGULATOR

Two young students at UWA, out of necessity when one of their father's farm tanks overflowed, invented a reservoir regulator. This device uses water pressure to ensure that tanks that fill to capacity will not overflow. The invention netted Jerome Bowen and his friend Jason a prize of \$20,000 at the Stockholm Junior Water Prize and the Nescafe Big Bank competition.

SNAILS AND COFFEE

Reported in the Weekend Australian newspaper June 29-30 that scientists in Hawaii have discovered caffeine is a remarkable slug and snail repellent and they believe it can be transformed into a clean, environmentally friendly pesticide.

BUSH TENDER

This is a trial market based system in Victoria where farmers are being paid to manage native vegetation. Financial compensation is provided for protecting biodiversity.

The Weekend Australian newspaper 29-30 June reports that it works on an innovative auction system. After a landholder has expressed an interest and received the preliminary information, assessment is made of vegetation type and quality. A discussion follows with the landholder about what they are prepared to do.

Information on biodiversity values are held by the Victoria Dept. of Natural Resources and the landholder holds the information about how much money they are prepared to accept to manage that land.

POO

There's a push to make treated human waste the next big thing in organic fertiliser. Known as Biosolids, a number of urban councils in Queensland are looking at the option as waste disposal becomes a major issue. The Chinese have been recycling human waste for centuries.

MONEY FOR EMS

\$25 million in cash rebates over 5 years for primary producers supporting the adoption of EMS was announced by Senator Troeth in May this year. He said that an environmental management system provides a framework that can assist farmers to identify and manage their impacts on the environment.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY STUDIES

Skills have developed energy efficiency training modules, specific to different council departments as well as for householders. Module topics include transportation, purchasing, waste, building design, appliance, office equipment, renewable energy and community awareness. Contact Greenskills 9336 1053

FISH IS GOOD FOR YOU

Reported in the Weekend Australian newspaper May 11-12 is an article about the development of a new antidepressant drug based on a special acid found in fish. A couple of weekly doses of herring or sardines may also help fight depression and treat cardiovascular problems.

INTERESTING AND USEFUL ONE DAY WORKSHOPS

KNOW YOUR SOILS

- Up-dated, in modular format
- Hands on - bring along soil and water samples

KNOW YOUR FARM HYDROLOGY

- Understand terminology
- Farming systems - how do these affect my water table?

KNOW YOUR SOIL BIOLOGY - SOILS ARE ALIVE

- Bring along soil samples and have a look at soil animals under the microscopes

**PHONE LMS
NOW AND BOOK
A WORKSHOP
FOR YOUR
AREA**

FIELD DAYS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

July 29-31 Salinity Land Management and Technology Conference, Katanning.

Contact Anne Marie Anderson Mayes 9203 7231

July 30 – Aug 1 Fenner Conference on the Environment, Canberra, Australian Academy of Science Agriculture for the Australian Environment.

Contact Melissa Sheehan 02 6285 3000

August 6 Tramine Farming Field Day Hyden.

Contact Bindi Webb 08 9956 8530

August 13 The Perennial Challenge: Native Pastures. What's Known, What's Needed, Wickiepin.

Contact Sarah Males 9888 1223

August 27-29 Dowerin Field Days

Sept 15-20 12 Australasian Plant Breeding Conference, Perth.

Contact Congress West 08 9322 6906

Sept 16-20 PURSL 8th National Conference and workshop Fremantle, Kojonup and Katanning

Contact Promaco Conventions 08 9332 2900

July, August & September Bush Regeneration Courses with Apace Aid Inc. Contact 08 9336 1262

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5. Whole farm planning

6. Farm Forestry

7. Fish on farms

The Land Management Society has had wonderful input from the science and education people of WA. Agencies, industries and urban representatives have gathered around our table and innovative farmers have motivated and pushed when needed.

LMS has appreciated over the years the support and help of the Community Landcare Co-ordinators across the state. They are such a wonderful asset to our communities and a focus for the skills building and community vitality espoused in the LMS vision.

Many awards have been won by LMS members over the years, not the least Ron Watkins' two international awards. Congratulations to Gary English of Esperance on winning the McKell medal recently.

The economics of bank construction to control surface and shallow sub surface water. In a wet year these banks can pay for themselves. This research was done by the Department of Agriculture Narrogin. The third piece of valuable research I believe is the sub-catchment comparison work done in the Collier catchment in the seventies where upper catchment tree cover was retained in one catchment, lower vegetation in another and parkland clearing in another. The water balance was best in the parkland clearing. This to me confirms the logic of planning banks with high water use vegetation across the landscape allowing for machinery movement between. The farm and the environment work together.

I have great faith in farmers. The "any day'll do ya" attitude to spraying in the wind is going and the benefits of that strip of vegetation are being valued more all the time. Again, the farm and the environment work together.

Education with regard to monitoring sustainability trends became a high priority for us at LMS because others had not seen its potential for farmers to improve their decision making and make the shift to best practice or more sustainable ways. The question must always be asked is this practice sustainable or unsustainable? If degradation is caused to land, water or biodiversity then the practice is not sustainable. The practice should influence in at least four positive ways to truly integrate.

The Farm Monitoring Handbook was developed by LMS in conjunction with UWA, Prof Bob Gilkes and Natalie Moore to measure practical on – ground change. The Farm Monitoring Kit was developed by LMS with help from all members but especially David Chambers. We hope in the future it will make EMS (Environment Management Systems) real and of practical use to farmers and LMS did and still can help make it all happen. All we need is enthusiastic innovative members whether they be committed farmers or landowners of whatever nature and where ever they live & work. (LMS need not be based in Perth). Don't let what LMS has done over 20 years and are still doing disappear - Come and join us.

LMS FARM MONITORING KITS ARE AVAILABLE

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

[Www.lmsinfo.com](http://www.lmsinfo.com)

FOR PICTURES, LIST OF CONTENTS,
PRICING,
AND NEWS

OF OUR KIT WORKSHOPS.



Order via website, email, phone
or mail

LMS DEMO FARM TOURS

Watkins, Frankland

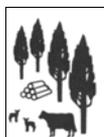
15th July

19th August

16th September



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JOIN THE LMS NOW.

Membership entitlements include free copies of LMS Journal, discount on LMS Farm Monitoring Kit and consumables, voting rights for the LMS Council and opportunity to represent your area on the LMS Council.
LMS—worth supporting

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