

Gra\$\$ to Dollars – based on the highly successful Prograze® course

VENUE	Kangaroo Island farming properties
When	starting November 2019 then monthly finishing October 2020
TIME	8.30 am to 12:30pm once/month

Program overview

Applicable to permanent pastures in the western/southern Australia temperate rainfall zone, the program takes 11-12 months. During this time each participant will be encouraged to take messages from the program and apply to their own farm, review the success (and failures), observe what has worked/not worked and discuss this with other participants and to work through possible solutions.

What you will learn:

- How much can an animal eat, how to measure this and how to determine if this is adequate
- How much pasture can you grow and how to improve this
- How to turn the maximum amount of pasture profitability into meat and/or wool

There are 8 x ½ day on farm sessions plus 1 x ½ day individual coaching session.

Each of the 8 x ½ day sessions will include a theory session and a paddock inspection to assess pasture feed on offer and quality, animal performance from the pasture, grazing management and feed budgeting looking ahead.

For more detailed information, see next page.

Deliverers:

Tim Prance, T Prance Rural Consulting and Daniel Schuppan, Landmark Animal Production Specialist

Gra\$\$ to Dollars is designed to be delivered by two consultants. One with an agronomy/pasture background with the other a livestock background.

Prices (GST ex)

\$2,200 per business (ex GST) if there are 8 businesses participating.

This includes one comprehensive manual and workbook per business and a \$900 per business contribution from MLA, Profitable Grazing Systems.



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Detailed Information

November Pasture assessment

Visual pasture assessment. Why? And how? An introduction to the terms of pasture quantity (herbage mass), quality (digestibility), animal intake and water use. How to get an extra 100mm growing season rainfall.

December Sheep & cattle profit drivers (part 1)

Critical management stages over the breeding year - joining, mid and late pregnancy, lambing/calving and lactation. Condition score targets to maximize productivity and reduce supplementary feed and animal health costs.

February Sheep & cattle profit drivers (part 2)

Supplementary feeding over summer/autumn.

March Livestock production from pasture

A detailed look at pasture quality and quantity and how these both interact with sustainability, water use, animal intake and subsequent animal production. Animal intake – how much can they eat? How much should they eat? The relationship of digestibility with energy, fibre and protein.

May Pastures and grazing

Managing pastures for best production and persistence. Managing weeds by grazing. Pasture benchmarks for sustainability and animal production - matching pasture quality and quantity with livestock and soil requirements. The importance of legumes in pasture. Grazing management for specific pasture species – perennial grasses, lucerne, clovers and medics and annual grasses. Management of pastures in winter, spring summer and autumn.

July Grazing management options

Different grazing systems. Set stocking, rotational grazing, techno grazing, cell grazing. Grazing to leaf stage, building a winter feed wedge. Paddock subdivision. Grazing of sheep and cattle for worm control, and other animal health issues. Maintenance of ground cover.

August Feed budgeting

Grazing plans incorporating flexibility and sustainability. Setting stocking rate, managing grazing intensity and grazing duration. Preparing and monitoring a feed budget. Matching feed demand to pasture growth.

September Individual on farm coaching session

What has worked and what hasn't and why? What can be done?

October Production Targeting, tools and course wrap up

Setting production targets for both livestock and pastures. Using a computer program (GrazFeed®) to predict livestock production from pastures, and to calculate supplementary feed requirements. Paddock, grazing and stock recording programs and other tools and calculators.

