

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS to 33rd Conference 1980 G.C. Atkinson

As I look back at the achievements of our Society over the past year I find that it has been a period of consolidation and continued effort rather than a period of dynamic change. There has been some growth in membership which is encouraging, whilst the continued support of our Sustaining Members, and especially the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, should not pass without special mention.

Over the year your executive have been working toward further progress on the publishing scene. Three projects are currently under active consideration. Firstly, the 3rd Edition of Identification of Weeds and Clovers is at a critical stage and agreement between this Society and our publishing partner is about to be reached. A further edition of the Index is being compiled and a new venture of a field book on weed identification is being considered. The concept for the latter has largely been agreed and material is being collected with a view to establishing whether the venture is viable.

As has been the case over the past two Presidential Reports the 2,4,5-T controversy is still with us. Whilst I do not believe it is the function of this Society to actively support any particular pesticide, we as a Society must be concerned as to the type and nature of information being published through the news media. It should be the concern of a Society such as ours that we do not leave unchallenged unscientific and non-factual or false information being published.

Another topic of continuing interest has been our collaboration with other kindred societies. The main thrust in this area has come from NZIAS and whilst we will continue to maintain dialogue with other New Zealand Agricultural Societies and may participate in future joint ventures it is considered at this time that we can best serve the cause of our members by preserving our independence.

This Society is unique in its active involvement of a wide range of scientific disciplines in the broadest sense of weed and pest control. It is unique in that there is a close and active partnership between Private Enterprise, Government Research Institutions, Universities, Local Body Authorities not to mention the growers and producers. We should do all in our power to maintain such a useful and successful organisation.

METRIC CONVERSION

1 lb	= 0.454 kg	1 kg	= 2.20 lb
1 yd	= 0.914 m	1 m	= 1.09 yd
1 ac	= 0.405 ha	1 ha	= 2.47 ac
1 gal	= 4.55 litres	1 litre	= 0.22 gal
1 lb/ac	= 1.12 kg/ha	1 kg/ha	= 0.89 lb/ac
1 gal/ac	= 11.25 litres/ha	1 litre/ha	= 0.089 gal/ac
1 lb/sq. in	= 6.89 kN/m ²	1 kN/m ²	= 0.145 lb/sq. in
N.B. N	= Newton		

N/m² has special name of the pascal (Pa).

NOMENCLATURE

The common names of weeds used in the *Proceedings* are those published by the Society in *Standard Common Names for Weeds in New Zealand*. Common names of chemicals are those published by the Agricultural Chemicals Board, Box 1500, Wellington, in *Nomenclature of Agricultural Chemicals*.