

Book releases

Forage in ruminant nutrition

D.J. Minson. Academic Press, San Diego. 1990. 495 pp.

Orders can be placed through the Tropical Grassland Society, c/- CSIRO, 306 Carmody Rd., St Lucia, Qld 4067, Australia. Anticipated cost: A\$120 plus postage.

This book provides a comprehensive review of factors affecting the nutritive value of pasture and fodder crops. The author considers the nutrients likely to be deficient in grazed and conserved forage and discusses how these deficiencies may be identified.

The coverage of the subject is reflected in the chapter headings:

- Intake of forage by housed ruminants
- Intake of grazed forage
- Digestible energy of forage
- Energy utilization by ruminants
- Protein
- Calcium
- Phosphorus
- Magnesium
- Sodium
- Copper
- Zinc
- Iodine
- Manganese
- Selenium
- Cobalt

Thus considerable emphasis is given to forage as a source of minerals for ruminants. This will appeal to those working on infertile soils in tropical areas.

A pleasing feature of the book is that the author reviews information from both the plant

and animal sciences. Further, he describes management practices that can be adopted to overcome nutrient imbalances and deficiencies.

There is an extensive index, a glossary of forage names and some 2,500 references.

This book will be a useful reference for students, lecturers, research workers, veterinarians, in fact all those concerned with the effective use of forage by ruminants.

Leucaena

— the shrub legume for cattle feed

I.J. Partridge (ed). Occasional Publication No. 4 (Rev. Edn). Tropical Grassland Society of Australia, Brisbane, 1989. 14 pp.

Available from: TGS, c/- CSIRO, 306 Carmody Rd., St Lucia, Qld 4067, Australia. Cost: A\$5 plus postage (Australia \$1.75; overseas — surface \$2.00, air mail \$4.50).

This book is a practical manual on the establishment and management of leucaena for grazing. It gives details of how leucaena can be used in different farming systems. Aspects covered are adaptation to climate and soils, establishment practices, inoculation, fertilization, weed control, pests, grazing management and seed production.

This new edition provides details of the damage that can be caused by the leaf-sucking psyllid and measures that might be taken to minimise such damage. Finally the book relates the experience of farmers who have made commercial plantings of leucaena.

The book will be particularly useful to extension workers and to farmers and graziers who contemplate using leucaena to improve the quality of their feed supply.