

# CORPORATE DIRECTIONS

## 1989 - 1990



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



# **CORPORATE DIRECTIONS**

## **1989 - 1990**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**To enhance the quality of life for all South Australians by maximising potential gains from agriculture through the pursuit and adoption of excellence in technology and the protection of the State's resources.**

### **CORPORATE DIRECTIONS**

**Development of Agriculture**

**Protection and Management of Natural Resources**

**Structural Change in Agriculture**

**Marketing of Services**

**Management of Information and Departmental Resources**



## **AGRICULTURE, THE STATE ECONOMY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture produces more than half of South Australia's export income and about seven per cent on average of the State's gross domestic product. About seven per cent of total employment in the State is in agriculture and services to agriculture. All of these figures are above the national averages.

The Department of Agriculture provides a wide range of services carried out by staff in metropolitan, regional and district offices, research centres and laboratories at nearly fifty locations in South Australia. The Department conducts research, provides information and financial services and educational programs and administers Acts and Regulations on behalf of both the State and Commonwealth Governments.

## **GOALS, STRATEGIES AND OUTCOMES**

Corporate Directions 1989 - 1990 outlines the South Australian Department of Agriculture's directions over the next two years. It states the major mission of the Department and sets out the Department's goals in five major areas in which the Department works. Each of these goals has a major outcome which can be used to measure the effectiveness of the Department's activities.

Each corporate goal has a number of strategies which will contribute to the successful achievement of the corporate outcomes. These strategies represent a range of important initiatives. Some of these initiatives will be the responsibility of individual parts of the Department and others represent combined action by several parts of the Department.

## **PLANNING AND BUDGETS**

Corporate Directions 1989 - 1990 provides a basis from which more detailed management and operational plans will be developed by Divisions and Regions and smaller units of the Department. This planning will be linked both to the distribution of resources and the management of resources within the Department. Managers will prepare their budgets to address the range of Departmental goals, and to contribute to the corporate outcomes. Plans and budgets will be approved in the light of their contribution to the achievement of corporate outcomes.



# DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Increase the contribution of agriculture to the State's economy.**

## CORPORATE STRATEGIES

Assess the potential for new and existing industries on a case by case basis and recommend an appropriate level of Government support.

Identify and develop commercial partnerships between the private sector, Government departments and other authorities where that is in the best interests of the community.

Provide technical and management advice to primary producers to ensure the return to the State from agriculture is maximised.

Ensure that in developing the State's agricultural potential that the resource base is maintained.

Co-ordinate development plans and activities by Government agencies in the rural sector on behalf of the Government.

Contribute the agricultural inputs to the State's international trade development programs to develop South Australia's overall trade position.

Review Government intervention in the production and marketing of agricultural products and determine whether these inhibit or enhance economic development.

Review Government regulation to ensure the balance of public and private benefit from regulation is reflected in the payment for regulatory services.

## CORPORATE OUTCOME

**The contribution to the State's economy from the production and processing of agricultural products from both existing industries and the development of new enterprises will rise by five per cent in real terms, or about \$100 million, by 1991.**



# PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**Encourage the efficient use of the State's natural resources relevant to agriculture, including soil, water, plant and animal resources, for the benefit of the entire community.**

## CORPORATE STRATEGIES

Ensure that the basis of the Department's extension and research programs is an ethic of responsible management of natural resources.

Encourage the establishment of Soil Conservation Boards in all agricultural and pastoral areas.

Conduct education programs on management of natural resources in all regions.

Review the Department's role in protecting and enhancing the State's plant and animal resources.

Investigate the feasibility of agricultural production systems which use lower levels of agricultural chemicals.

## CORPORATE OUTCOME

**A stronger land care ethic in the management of pastoral and agricultural land will be achieved.**

# STRUCTURAL CHANGE IN AGRICULTURE

**Assist participants in the agriculture sector to advance their economic and social well being.**

## CORPORATE STRATEGIES

Assist rural industries to adjust to changing markets, production trends and market opportunities.

Maintain and expand the financial services provided to producers through commercial loans, rural adjustment schemes, re-establishment grants and household support.

Provide an increased level of assistance and support to producers and other rural people through the activities co-ordinated by the Rural Affairs Unit.



Increase the level of research into the processes and outcomes of adjustment in rural areas and provide advice to agencies promoting the well being of rural people.

## **CORPORATE OUTCOME**

**Financial and other assistance to farm families will be provided for farm development programs which are consistent with maintaining the farm's long term viability and production capacity.**

## **MARKETING OF SERVICES**

**Maintain and enhance the level of service to the Department's clients through a more market oriented approach.**

## **CORPORATE STRATEGIES**

Extend consultative mechanisms to each agricultural industry.

Develop techniques for measuring the success of information transfer programs currently operated by the Department.

Establish a Commercial Section to facilitate the development of a market approach and identify and develop opportunities for marketing of services.

While taking into account producer contributions to research programs, aim for greater cost recovery from the Department's current commercial operations over the next two years.

Revise research and extension priorities and priority setting procedures in line with corporate goals so that there is a greater emphasis on outcomes and greater support from trust funds.

## **CORPORATE OUTCOMES**

**Agricultural industries will receive the latest information to increase uptake of technology.**

**A range of commercially marketable products and services will be developed to increase Departmental revenue by \$1 million by January, 1991.**



# MANAGEMENT OF INFORMATION AND DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES

**Maintain a high level of professionalism, motivation and achievement by staff in implementing Government policies and in serving the community.**

## CORPORATE STRATEGIES

Prepare a blueprint by June, 1989 for establishing an improved research effort for all Departmental research in terms of future direction, nature, location and resource requirements, including buildings, people, and budgets.

Ensure that the development of Turretfield, Flaxley and Lenswood research centres is complete and that buildings, budgets, people, and programs, are in place and operating by January 1991.

Negotiate a longer budget cycle.

Undertake a major review of the Department's program structure and accounts classification to reflect priorities and requirements and pursue the development of a management information system.

Examine career opportunities and work incentives within classification groups to raise the level of motivation and achievement.

Consolidate the list of industrial issues relating to the Department and initiate appropriate resolution.

Examine management levels and structures to achieve a more efficient organisation structure.

## CORPORATE OUTCOME

**The Department will continue to operate effectively within its State budget allocation.**