

INTERVIEW LOG SHEET

PIRSA Oral History Programme –State Library reference no. for Somerville Collection OH 675/19.

An interview conducted by Bernard O’Neil with Mr Trevor Dillon of Kadina, South Australia in regards to the history of the Department of Agriculture. Sessions were conducted in the Convention Centre, Adelaide in the company of his wife, Val, on 16 February 2005 and in the offices of Primary Industries and Resources South Australia in Grenfell Street on 6 May 2005.

Time	Subject	Proper names
Tape 1, Side A		
0:30	Born 3.1.1938; life on grandfather’s farm; interest in agriculture; primary school education in ‘rural’ Adelaide; attending Roseworthy College	Warnarka; Murray Mallee; Hope Valley; Roseworthy; Bishop Gleeson
3:25	Working on stations, properties and farms from 1957; experiences at Roseworthy – livestock; salesman for Southern Cross Machinery; joining Agriculture Department; marriage in 1970	Wilcannia; Wentworth; South East; WA; Roseworthy; Adelaide
12:25	Joined the Department in 1966; medic breeding; herd improvement; marriage and move to Nuriootpa; field work	Northfield; ICARDA; John Doulette; Jamestown; Andrew Michelmore; Rob; Murray Mathieson; Wanbi; Yorke Peninsula
17:30	Interaction with staff; conferences; workshops; visits from seniors; attitude towards the job	Paul Heap; Mathieson; Ted Higgs; Jon Lamb; GRDC; Peter Magarey; Jack Blencoe; WA; Jamestown; Gavin Young; Peter Marks; Nuriootpa; Barossa; Clare
23:30	Advising farmers; work with agronomists and soils people; relations with farmers; appreciation of the Department	
26:20	Interaction with local community; nature of farming; area of work; nature of work colleagues	Jamestown; Nuriootpa; Clare; Mallala; Mid North; Windsor; Dublin; Young; Marks; Michelmore; Bill Matheson; Chris Rudd; Keith Bicknell; Murray Bridge; Alan Hicks; Loxton; southern Mallee; Pinnaroo
Tape 1, Side B		
0:10	Departmental office and house at Lameroo, 1971–74; work in the field; learning from farmers; using the Agricultural Bureau	Pinnaroo; southern Mallee; Lameroo; Roseworthy; Bicknell; Murray Bridge; Jim Pocock; Karoonda; Geranium; Coonalpyn; Coomandook
7:25	Member of the Rural Youth	Roseworthy
7:40	Lameroo office; family; other departmental offices; work in Lameroo district; livestock; drought	Lameroo; Michelmore; Nuriootpa; Arthur Tideman; Val Dillon; Murray Bridge; Loxton; Kadina; Minlaton; Victor Harbor; Wudinna; Lock; central Eyre Peninsula; Dave Yeo; Adelaide; Warwick Hack
11:45	Lameroo office work and connection with head office; workshops; statewide meetings	Bicknell; Alan Dubé; Glyn Webber; Jack McCaulliffe; Loxton; Murray Bridge; Adelaide
14:30	Nature of farming at Lameroo;	
15:30	Cereals cyst nematode and stem-rust problems	Waite; Lameroo; northern Mallee; Karoonda
19:15	Herbicide/fungicide controls; weed problems – soursofs, ryegrass, grass weeds	Lameroo; Mallee; Mid North; Yorke Peninsula
26:00	Bushfires	Kadina; Yorke Peninsula; Lameroo
Tape 2, Side A		
0:15	Lameroo experiences – drought, mice plague; Libyan project, 1974	Lameroo; Karoonda; McAuliffe; Noel Matts; Yorke Peninsula; Kadina; Libya
3:40	Libyan project	Henry Day; Sally Day; Val Dillon; Bicknell; Kadina; England
9:20	Overseas projects; Dillon family and history	Carter; Algeria; Tunisia; Lands Department; Kangaroo Island; Waite; Simon Dillon; Libya; Tobruk; Gallipoli

12:15	Benefits personally from overseas experience	Lex Walker; Peter Barrow; Ellie Walker; England; Libya; Benghazi
15:40	Benefits for agriculture from overseas work	South Australian Seed Growers; Libya; Bashir Jodah; Horwood Bagshaw; Shearers; Don Dunstan; Tunisia; Egypt
19:45	International agronomy conferences; farm project	Tunisia; Middle East; Baghdad; Iraq; Libya; Iran; Don Plowman; Peter Carr; Ken Holden
23:25	Perceptions in the Department about overseas work	Yorke Peninsula; Libya; Gavin Young
26:05	Understanding of Australian agriculture; overseas holidays	Bicknell; Switzerland; Austria; Tunisia; Cyprus; England
28:55	Return to South Australia; family to UK	Dillon children; Val Dillon; England; Rome
Tape 3, Side A		
0:35	Return to the Department; Agriculture Bureau system; region covered	Yorke Peninsula; Yorketown; Warooka; Weavers; Balaklava; Pt Broughton
3:55	Preparation of 'The Gospel according to Dillon'; Bureau system and meetings	Yorke Peninsula
8:35	Agriculture Bureau system	Webber; Matts; Harry Nash
10:30	Cereal cyst nematode treatment	Albert Rovira
12:25	Trial and error research into plant diseases; rust outbreaks	Mathieson; Northfield; Rovira; CSIRO; Harold Paddock; Alf ?Pascobiak
16:35	Work activities as Officer-in-Charge at Kadina; staff, including soils; management style	Nash; Adelaide; Val Dillon; John Allen; Nuriootpa; Jamestown; Clare; Yorke Peninsula; Mid North; Chris Rudd
20:40	Regionalisation; Senior Agronomist	Holden; Peter Marrett; Naracoorte; Michelmore; Adelaide
24:15	Officer-in-Charge work; young trainees	Chris McDonough; Chris Shied; Keith
26:10	Central Region	Jamestown; Clare; Nuriootpa; Adelaide Hills; Victor Harbor?; Nuriootpa;
27:40	Monthly meetings	Adelaide; Ron Webber; Webber
28:45	Impact of regionalisation	Shied
30:30	Departmental network	
31:30	Maintaining research interests; meetings; paperwork	
Tape 3, Side B		
0:15	Office work; female staff	Lyn Chapman; SARDI
2:20	Livestock officer	Kadina; Shied; Keith
3:40	Modern technology – duplicators, mobile phones, computers – and impact on farm techniques and work	Warooka; Val Dillon
8:25	Communicating information to farmers	
12:15	Farmers adopting modern communications	Yorke Peninsula
15:10	Role of the Extension Officer's wife	Val Dillon; Lameroo
18:20	Department recognising the role of women	
19:30	Formal and informal visits by senior staff, Ministers, Premier, politicians	Kadina; Jim McColl; Lynn Arnold; John Bannon; [Angela] Bannon; Yorke Peninsula; Ardrossan; Dale Baker; John Meier; South East; State Bank
26:45	Field days; community contribution	Yorke Peninsula; Paskeville
29:50	Experimental plots for field days	Paskeville