



Summer (February) 2010, 1 page

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Jim Moir

What a change from this time last year: no major fires, lots of rain and the financial crisis is weakening (we hope).

The 2009 July to December levy venison numbers have dropped by approximately one third from 2008. This backs up information from the processors who are having trouble meeting orders. Anecdotal information suggests that velvet quantities are also down. However, we do not have levy information yet and it has always been a problem getting numbers on the amount of product by-passing the system.

As suspected, the Government has reviewed the AQIS funding and surprise, surprise, it decided that the cost would stay. However, they have given us offsets until July 2011 when the original cost increase will be put into place. So we have at least gained some breathing room. Hopefully, we can organize a better cost distribution from the abattoirs between goats, emus and deer than has been indicated previously.

Australian Deer Horn and Co-Products have only just sent the second pool over to New Zealand. We are awaiting for the final results before making any judgements on the success of the venture. There are a couple of things we have identified that will possibly streamline the operation if we are to continue with the system. In general, the system, including the new location all worked well.

Overall quantities were down as we suspected, with some farmers waiting to see the results of this year before committing their product to a new system.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in Melbourne on Saturday, May 8th, 2010 at 2.00pm at the Quality Hotel Tullamarine. If you cannot make it please get your proxies, on page 4 of this edition, to Solange ASAP.

Planning for the 5th World Deer Congress tour is up and running and we presently have a tour group of 14. We intend to head off on July 11th and have a good look around prior to the Conference. If you are interested in joining us please let me know ASAP.