

Welcome to this web site which contains an insight into the wealth of knowledge that Alan Lauder has accumulated over the last three decades. Alan, a retired pastoralist from south west Queensland, has been one of the pastoral industries great observers with a uncanny ability to translate what he sees into important livestock and environmental management knowledge that farmers can appreciate. When I first visited Alan at “Woodstock” station near Cunamulla I was struck by his powers of observations about nature and its interaction with livestock. Keen observation leads into a search for knowledge about why the interactions taking place between plants, soils and livestock actually happen and how management can influence them.

Alan’s thirst for answers drew him into contact with a wide range of scientists, environmentalists, and innovative farmers. He has combined much of their knowledge with his own practical experience, keen observations and scientific reading to produce critically important fundamental knowledge for successful and resilient grazing businesses.

Alan’s ideas are contained in detail in his book “Carbon Grazing” as well as in a host of articles he has written or had written about him over the last two decades. The purpose of this web site is to provide access to the connections he has made between carbon flows in the pastoral environment and livestock grazing business success.

“People can’t see carbon flows. We only see their outcomes or their failure to happen. The missing link in the carbon debate is not paying enough attention to the time when the bulk of the carbon transfers from the atmosphere to the landscape, to biodiversity and to food,” Alan says.

A feature of all that you read on this site is its applicability to all pastoral businesses irrespective of the methodology or ideology the owner/manager embraces. What Alan presents about carbon flows is somewhat akin to a natural law because without it the living world cannot function effectively.

This web site is Alan’s way of contributing to greater understanding of carbon flows. I am confident you will learn from its content.

Patrick Francis B.Ag.Sc. – formerly editor Australian Farm Journal and Australian Landcare Magazine