

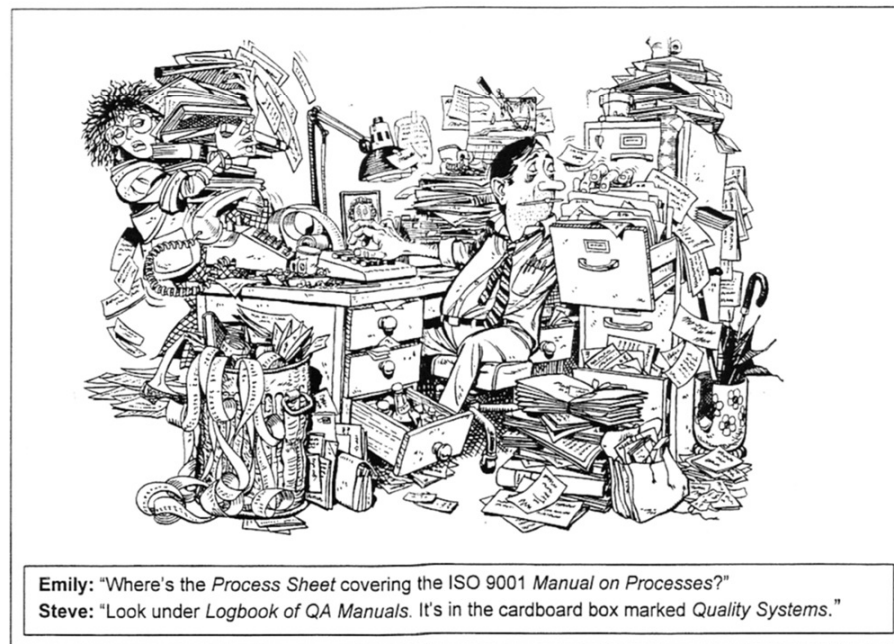
THE KERNEL

No. 43 A crunchy update on GRDC programs and people... and grainy news 22 June 1998

- Welcome to our new-look and de-husked *Kernel*. The new *Kernel* will deliver bite-size snippets of program and staff happenings to you by fax. Please send your contributions to the "The Kernel" by e-mail at leone@ozemail.com.au, by fax on 02 6282 9190 or phone 02 6281 0369.
- **John Lush**, a stalwart South Australian grain producer, is the new President of GCA. **Brendan Stewart** is the new President of the QGGA, which will get a new name. He replaces **Ian Macfarlane**, who has gone onto the hustings to do battle with Pauline and friends. **Damian Scanlan** is believed to have replaced **Margaret Cover** as Chair of QGGA's RD&E Committee.
- The Melbourne *Herald-Sun*, on the eve of the Queensland election, reported: "The Australian Union of Fetish Organisations wants its 100,000 Queensland members to vote for the Coalition in this Saturday's State poll. Members include the Enema Appreciation Society of Australia, the Australian Rubberists League, Tory Spankers Australia and Adult Babies of Australia." It never would have done in **Joh's** day.
- Grainy Mediterranean diets rich in oils from olives and canola have been proven to be healthier than low-fat diets. The Mediterranean diet lowered the risk of death among 605 heart attack victims by 56% and reduced their cancer risk by 61% according to the *Archives of Internal Medicine* – which has reported on studies comparing this type of diet with the American Heart Association diet, in which no more than 30% of calories may come from fat.
- The call is out for farmers and organisations...as well as GRDC Panel Members and Program Managers...to take part in three of the Corporation's major communications activities - Cropping EXPOS, Adviser Updates and Farmer Updates. Call **Maureen Cribb** (02 6272 5525) for details and times ... it's your chance to person a GRDC stand. Plunge in and be appreciated.
- Within three months of its launch in March, TOPCROP Queensland has brought 15 new farmer groups together, with another 15 groups about to join – and these figures aren't rubberist. Meanwhile, TOPCROP in NSW is set for an overhaul and exciting times, with the appointment of a livewire grower-led management group. Its chair is **Catriona Nicholls** (soon to be announced).
- Fifty staff were cut this month from the Canadian Grain Commission because of falling revenues and events occurring in the grains industry. The Commission researches, establishes and maintains Canada's grain quality standards.
- **Deirdre Davis** says a recent Canadian Government-sponsored biotechnology seminar she attended sent the following "friendly, but challenging" advice to the Australian biotechnology industry: 1) to researchers - commercialise your R&D in Canada, it's easier than in Australia; 2) to companies -

invest in Canada, it's simpler; and 3) to government organisations – emulate Canada's successful biotech and infrastructure investments: it will help you better service Asian market demands (but do they have a Pauline there to buffer Asian market demand?).

- Hazardous phosphine practices are **Public Enema No 1**. There's need for more communication activity to promote good grain storage. This was the major concern emerging from the first GRDC/CSIRO-sponsored Australian Post Harvest Technical Conference, just held in Canberra.
- Farmers now have the capacity to store more than 50 per cent of the nation's annual grain harvest on-farm, according to Australian Silo Manufacturers' Grain Storage Association secretary, **Andrew Kotzur**. He told the Post Harvest Technical Conference of a spanking demand for on-property grain silos and equipment.
- **Dr Patrick Collins** of the Queensland Department of Primary Industries told the conference that, because of resistance, there now is no single protectant (spray treatment) to control all insect species which attack stored grain.
- GRDC's work processes should be ready for Quality Assurance auditing by August, according to **Steven Lack**, who's down in the QA Bunker with **Emily Whitten**. They've been coordinating weekly internal and fortnightly external ISO staff consultations to identify issues common to all groups. The final certification will give the Corporation a set of quality procedures which integrate our daily work routines ... and a new logo with several (nervous) ticks.



Emily: "Where's the Process Sheet covering the ISO 9001 Manual on Processes?"
Steve: "Look under Logbook of QA Manuals. It's in the cardboard box marked Quality Systems."

CALLING FOR GRAINS OF TRUTH

Have your say. Get your Program news out across the GRDC network. Faxes gratefully received. E-mail welcome. Snail mail will do, too. Just address your snippets to "The Kernel", leone@ozemail.com.au, fax 02 2682 9190 or just ring **Ross Andrews** on 02 6272 5525.