

Tom Cowan

Qualifications B Agr Sci, Dip Sci Agr, MSci Agr, PhD (Aberdeen)
FASAP

Specialised skills Project development and coordination.
Strategic planning of applied research programs.
Linking of extension and applied research.

Technical skills The utilisation of pasture and forage crops by grazing ruminants, and the integration of complementary feeds.
The nutritional requirements of ruminants, and how these can be met from grazed and conserved forage, concentrates, by-products and body tissues.
The management of tropical grass and grass-legume pastures, in particular fertiliser requirements, stocking rates, grazing management and species combinations.
The management of dairy cows in hot climates.
Fodder conservation.
Methods of whole farm research.
Effects of production systems on product quality.



Biography Tom Cowan is an agricultural scientist with 37 years experience in research and extension in the dairy industry of northern Australia. For 27 years he was an applied research scientist with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries, and more recently Director of the Australian Tropical Dairy Institute, University of Queensland. He retired from the University in 2006 and now mixes consultant work with his own beef cattle farming.

Tom has a PhD in dairy cow nutrition, specialising in the integration of body energy with feed energy for milk production. He has led many research and extension projects, covering topics such as fertiliser use on grassland, supplementary feeding of grains and by-products, pasture management, fodder conservation, feeding systems, and farm business analysis. Tom is highly committed to agricultural development and sustainability, has excellent personal and team skills, and has a strong focus on attaining real and lasting outcomes from projects.

Experience

2006- present Private consultant and beef cattle farmer, Queensland
1997-2006 Director, Australian Tropical Dairy Institute, University of Queensland, Aust.
1981-1997 Research Scientist, Queensland Department of Primary Industries
1977 - 1980 PhD student , Rowett Research Institute, Scotland
1971-1977 Husbandry Officer, Queensland Department of Primary Industries.

Full CV available on request