



**THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY
INCORPORATED CONSTITUTION
A0032290S**

NAME

1. The Society shall be named The Australian Society of Agronomy Incorporated.

OBJECT

2. The object of the Society shall be to advance agronomy, that is the science, knowledge and practice of plant production by:
 - (a) holding biennial national conferences and other meetings;
 - (b) issuing publications;
 - (c) encouraging the interchange of ideas between agronomists, primary producers and representatives of relevant commercial and government organisations; and
 - (d) taking whatever other steps may be deemed necessary to further the object of the Society.

MEMBERSHIP

3. Membership of the Society shall be open to any person or company who is interested in the object of the Society and who pays the appropriate membership fee.
4. All applications for membership shall be made to the Secretary and accompanied by the biennial membership fee, which may be a component of the fee for the biennial conference.
5. A biennial fee will be paid by members who cannot attend the biennial conference. During its currency the biennial fee shall be determined by the incumbent Management Committee.
6. Each member company shall enjoy the same rights as an ordinary member and may be represented by one person at a meeting of the Society.
7. The right to hold office in the Society and to vote at any meeting of the Society shall be restricted to financial members of the Society.
8. Membership will lapse if the membership fee is not paid within a nine (9) month period following the subsequent biennial conference.
9. The Secretary shall keep and maintain a register of members in which shall be entered the full name, address and date of entry of each member and the register shall be available for inspection by members at the address of the Public Officer.

MANAGEMENT

10. The management of the affairs of the Society shall be vested in a Management Committee, which shall be subject to the provisions of this Constitution and the decisions regarded as the By-Laws of the Society and shall remain in force until altered or rescinded by a subsequent General Meeting.
11. The Management Committee of the Society shall comprise a President, a Vice-President (President – elect), the immediate Past-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Editor, and at least three other members.
12. All office bearers of the Management Committee shall be elected at the General Meeting held at the biennial conference and shall hold office until the end of the next general meeting held at the biennial conference. The immediate Past-President shall be an *ex-officio* member of this committee.
13. Should an extraordinary vacancy occur among the elected members of the Management Committee it shall be filled by a member of the Society, by invitation, at the discretion of the Management Committee.
14. At all meetings of the Management Committee, four members shall form a quorum.
15. The Management Committee has the power to co-opt persons to sub-committee created for the purpose of conduction of the affairs of the Society, and to delegate any of its responsibilities to such sub-committees.

GENERAL MEETINGS

16. A General Meeting shall be held annually with alternate meeting held in conjunction with the Society's national conference. These meetings are to be convened by the Management Committee with not less than one (1) month's notice to the members. The Secretary of the Association shall notify to all members of the Association, at the address appearing on the

- register or electronically, a notice stating the place, date and time of any General Meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.
17. At all General Meetings, twenty (20) members or their proxies shall form a quorum.
 18. At any meeting of the Society, all resolutions other than those proposing changes to the Constitution shall be decided by a simple majority on show of hands. The President shall have an additional casting vote.
 19. All funds received by or belonging to the Society shall be placed in one or more bank accounts in the name of the Society.
 20. All surplus funds generated by the national conference of the Society shall be placed in a reserve fund which may only be used to further the object of the Society. Only the Management Committee or a General Meeting (each by a majority vote) shall have the power to approve expenditure of the reserve fund.
 21. Accounts shall be operated by the Management Committee for the general running expenses of the Society. Expenditure from these accounts requires a majority vote of Committee members and shall be in the form of cheques signed by the Treasurer and at least one other designated Committee member.
 22. The Treasurer is responsible for ensuring that proper books of accounts are kept that show all monies received and expended by the Society.
 23. A qualified auditor, not being a member of the Society shall be appointed at each General Meeting.
 24. The financial year of the Society will be from 1 July to 30 June. A statement showing the financial position of all Society accounts, examined and certified by the auditor, shall be presented at each General Meeting. An audited statement of national conference accounts shall be presented to the Management Committee within the twelve (12) months following the conference for which they were operated.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

25. The Constitution may be amended only by a General Meeting, at which there is at least a three-fourths majority in favour. Notice of any proposed amendment, supported by the signatures of not less than five (5) members, must be sent to all members not less than twenty-one (21) days before the date of the meeting.

ALTERATION OF OBJECTS OF ASSOCIATION

26. The Objects of the Association shall not be altered except by a special resolution passed at a General Meeting at which there is at least a three-fourths majority in favour.

SEAL

27. The Common Seal of the Association shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary. The Common Seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the Committee and the affixing of the Common Seal shall be attested by the signatures either of two members of the Committee or of one member of the Committee and one member of the Public Officer of the Association.

CUSTODY OF THE RECORDS

28. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, the Secretary shall keep in his/her custody or under his/her control all books, documents and securities of the Association.

INSPECTION OF BOOKS

29. The Secretary shall keep in his/her custody or under his/her control all books, documents and securities of the Incorporated Body. These will be available to any persons at any time for inspection.

WINDING UP OR CANCELLATION

30. In the event of the winding up or the cancellation of the Incorporation of the Association, the assets of the Association shall be handed over to the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology.

RESIGNATION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBER

32. (1) A member of the Association who has paid all money due and payable by him/her to the Association may resign from the Association by first giving one month's notice in writing to the Secretary of his/her intention to resign and upon the expiration of the period of notice, the member shall cease to be a member.

- (2) Upon the expiration of a notice given under sub-clause (1), the Secretary shall make in the register of members an entry recording the date on which the member by whom the notice was given, ceased to be a member.
33. (1) Subject to these rules, the Committee may by resolution:
- (a) expel a member from the Association;
 - (b) suspend a member from membership of the Association for a specified period, or
 - (c) fine a member in accordance with **The Regulations**, if the Committee is of the opinion that the member
 - (i) has refused or neglected to comply with these rules; or
 - (ii) has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a member or prejudicial to the interests of the Association.
- (2) A resolution of the Committee under sub-clause (1):
- (a) does not take effect unless the Committee, at a meeting held not earlier than 14 and not later than 28 days after the service on the member of notice under sub-clause (3) confirms the resolution in accordance with this clause; and
 - (b) where the member exercises a right of appeal to the Association under this clause does not take effect unless the Association confirms the resolution in accordance with this clause.
- (3) Where the committee passes a resolution under sub-clause (1), the secretary shall, as soon as practicable, cause to be served on the member a notice in writing:
- (a) setting out the resolution of the Committee and the grounds on which it is based;
 - (b) stating that the member may address the Committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after service of the notice;
 - (c) stating the date, place and time of that meeting;
 - (d) informing the member that he/she may do one or more of the following:
 - (i) Attend that meeting;
 - (ii) Give to the Committee before the date of that meeting a written statement seeking the revocation of the resolution;
 - (iii) Not later than 24 hours before the date of the meeting. Lodge with the secretary a notice to the effect that he/she wishes to appeal to the Association in general meeting against the resolution.
- (4) At a meeting of the Committee held in accordance with the sub-clause (2), the Committee:-
- (a) shall give to the member an opportunity to be heard;
 - (b) shall give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the member; and
 - (c) shall by resolution determine whether to confirm or to revoke the resolution.
- (5) Where the Secretary receives a notice under sub-clause (3), he/she shall notify the Committee and the Committee shall convene a general meeting of the Association to be held within 21 days after the date on which the Secretary received the notice.
- (6) At a general meeting of the Association convened under sub-clause (5):
- (a) no business other than the question of the appeal shall be transacted;
 - (b) the Committee may place before the meeting details of the grounds for the resolution and the reasons for the passing of the resolution;
 - (c) the member shall be given an opportunity to be heard; and
 - (d) the members present shall vote by secret ballot on the question whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- (7) If at the general meeting:
- (a) three quarters of the members vote in person or by proxy in favour of the confirmation of the resolution, the resolution is confirmed; and
 - (b) in any other case, the resolution is revoked.



AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY INCORPORATED BY-LAWS

1. The Management Committee of the national conference shall ensure that:
 - (a) active participation in plenary sessions be sought from primary producer organisations, state and federal government agencies private and public organisations concerned with agriculture and resource management research and development;
 - (b) the majority of plenary papers be invited from authors of contributed papers selected by referees.
2. If possible, an overseas visitor shall be invited to review a field of interest and importance to the membership.
3.
 - (a) At the time of each national conference, the Society shall award a medal known as the C.M. Donald Medal.
 - (b) The Medal shall be awarded to an eminent Australian agriculturalist for a long and distinguished career. The award should be considered for contributions in all areas of agronomy, including scientific and field research, development and extension. The awardee shall be invited to present a review to the National Conference on a topic for which the person is known.
 - (c) An Awarding Committee of three members, one of whom shall be designated Chairman, shall be appointed by the Management Committee of the Society to judge nominations for each award. No member of the Awarding Committee shall be a nominator, seconder or supporter of a candidate for the Medal nor be eligible for the award during their term of office.
 - (d) The Management Committee shall call for nominations for the award soon after taking office.
 - (e) Nominations, accompanied by a case in support, shall be prepared by a nominator and a seconder and be supported by the signatures of two financial members of the Society. Nominations shall be submitted in triplicate in a sealed envelope to the Honorary Secretary. The deadline for submissions shall be three (3) months after the call for nominations. The Honorary Secretary shall forward such nominations unopened to the Chairman of the Awarding Committee.
 - (f) The decision of the Awarding Committee shall be final and the nomination and supporting case of the successful candidate shall be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary not later than six (6) months after the call for nominations.
4. Following the General Meeting, the outgoing Management Committee shall be reconvened as the Post-Conference sub-Committee of the Management Committee and shall be charged with winding-up the affairs of that conference.