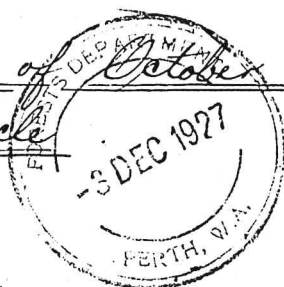


(125)

Forestry Notes for the Month of October 1927.
Lolgray Working Circle



Introduction:

The Lolgray Working Circle forms part of the Karrogin District which is a district of ^{a large} ~~some~~ extent. Adjoining the boundaries of the Karrogin District is the Albany District on the Southern side, the Collie District on the Western side while it extends as far as the Mundaring District to the North.

The centre of the Lolgray Working Circle is situated some 13 miles West of Cuballing and 14 miles from Karrogin.

The distance from Cuballing (the nearest station) ~~is~~ to Perth by rail is 153 miles. and by road (Albany to Perth) it is only a matter of 105 miles.

The country about Karrogin is of a very undulating nature, the height above sea level being 1100 feet. There are a considerable number of creeks & watercourses about the district but they all dry up during the summer months.

An average of 20 inches rainfall ^{per annum} has been registered at the Cuballing post office during the period from 1914 to 1926. The lowest annual rainfall recorded was 13 inches in 1914 and the highest ^{record was} 30 inches in 1926.

Scheme of Work.

The scheme of work in the Lolgray Working Circle may be put into 5 groups as follow.

- ① The classification of the mallee country.

into different types of vegetation eg.
Mallet, Wandoo flat, Euc accedens, etc.

② The protection of existing groups of good mallet from fire hazards.

③ Sowing of Mallet seed on suitable areas (eg. Euc accedens country).

④ Sowing of sandalwood and ~~Cassia~~ *Peperanthus* on good loamy soil (eg Shevah pure).

⑤ Experiments with the introduction of exotic species. (eg pines).

① Assessment of Mallet Reserves.

The Holgray Working Circle is composed of groups, or small areas of mallet reserve surrounded by private property. These groups are at present being classified. A base line is first fixed and pegs erected at intervals of ten chains along it. Base lines are generally made North & South or East & West, along the side of the block or reserve where the most country can be taken in with the classification lines running at right angles to it. Where possible fence lines may be used with convenience. When the boundaries of the reserve are not fenced the old survey line must be used, (these ^{boundaries} are determined with a prismatic compass) instead, & the line blazed with an ash.

Having fixed the base line & put in the pegs the classification lines are run at right angles by means of a prismatic

compass, and five chain steel band.

eg. If the base line is running North & South, the Classification lines run East & West.

A strip of country 5 chains wide is classified on either side of the classification line.

The work proceeds up from one base line peg & down on to the next interval peg or ten chain strip.

The gang consists of two men No 1 & No 2.
No 1 runs the compass and drags the chain.

No 2 checks the chainage and classifies the vegetation on the country you go through & records the information in a field book.

(see attached sample page).

The vegetation is classified into the following types :-

① Mallet (*Eucalyptus*) groups.

② do showing areas carrying isolated trees.

③ *Eucalyptus accedens* (powder bark wandoo).

④ @ Wandoo (*Eucalyptus elata*) in flats.

⑤ do on slopes.

⑥ Sheoak Thickets (*Baeuvaria*)

⑦ Dryandra several species.

⑧ Sandalwood country *Cassia* Jam & *Spina* Gum.

After passing through a patch of Dryandra finishing in a breakaway (fault in an ironstone ridge) Mallet can generally be expected to occur on the slope at the foot of the breakaway.

Champion Bay ^(Gastrolabrum) is usually associated with *Eucalyptus elata* (Wandoo). The soils on the Wandoo flats varies from loam to sand, while on the Wandoo slopes it is a loose

sandy gravel to coarse gravel.

Euc. accedens - the powder bark wandoo is generally found on the slopes after the mallet the soil being somewhat similar to that occupied by mallet i.e. coarse grained loamy sand.

Euc. accedens country is therefore the only type which can be satisfactorily treated for the sowing of mallet seed.

Sheoak thickets are to be found around, or in the vicinity of granite outcrops where the soil is a rich loam formed from decomposed granite.

On the ironstone ridges *Dryandra* grows profusely, while *Eucalyptus Drummondii* (mallee) is to be found on very gravelly & poor sandy soils. (barren country).

Euc. marginata, and *Euc. calophylla* occur in a stunted form on portions of the reserves.

Some of the minor species to be noticed are:— Box poison (*Uylobium parviflorum*)
York Road poison (*Gastrolobium calycinum*)
Blackboy (*Xanthorrhoea ~~Pearii~~ & ~~Lan.~~ reflexa*)
Isopogon, Bottlebrush (*Callistemon*)
Agnis, Hakeas, Grevilleas, Lechenaultias,
Luangdong narrow leaf (*Susanus* spp) *Stylidium* spp.
Ranunculus, a variety of *Acacias*, & numerous other smaller shrubs, & herbs.

Plotting.

The pages of the field book used on mallet classification work are made out of graph paper marked out in square inches & square $\frac{1}{10}$ of an inch. The scale used

is ten chains to the inch so that one small square on the field book represents one square chain and one large square - 100 square chains or 10 acres.

The country gone over during the day as shown in the field book (see attached sample page) must be plotted on to the sheet or plan of the area that same night otherwise the work will get behind time.

The classification sheet and the field book copy are the same scale - i.e. ten chains to the inch this enables a tracing to be taken from the field book and traced direct on to the plan of the area which it represents.

(see attached tracing). For this purpose transparent paper is used. the field book copy is first inked in so that the boundaries of the different types can be clearly seen through the tracing paper & thus enable a true copy to be obtained.

In tracing, the base line, and a few of the classification lines should be shown so that the tracing can be correctly adjusted on the plan.

Having taken a tracingⁱⁿ pencil of the field book page, the tracing is turned up side down, and the outlines of the various types as seen through transparency are covered with crayon. After the tracing has been turned right side up & correctly adjusted on the plan the various type boundaries of the types

can as shown on the tracing can be run over with a hard pencil. When the tracing is removed it will be found that a portion of the crayon on the back of the tracing has been left on the plan ^{and will} to show a true copy. The boundaries of the types are now dotted in with black Indian ink, and by referring to the field book the various types can be named (eg Wandoo flat mallet country, etc). The various types can be easily distinguished by hatching them in with different coloured Indian inks (see attached section of a classification sheet).

Each classification sheet represents a certain area of mallet reserves (a group) the external boundaries and surrounding private property locations of which are fixed at Head Office before the sheets are sent down for completion. In the Lolgray Working Circle there are 5 sheets on a scale of ten chains to the inch.

A litho is also sent down showing the positions of the different sheets on it.

When classifying, the lines should be worked conveniently so as to (in relation to your position at lunch hour & knocking off time) so that there is as little unnecessary walking to do as is possible.

K. D. G. 12/11/27.

J. H. Currie.

Forest Guard.

See. Quite an interesting report, 10th November 1927.

A. Helms
30-11-27