



ROCA AWARD OF MERIT 1980 – Clifford Hooper

Cliff Hooper (RDA, 1928) graduated with a First Class Diploma. He returned to the family farm for two years before taking a position as Wool Classer with Michells, then as a Herd Tester with the Department of Agriculture until joining the army in 1939. On discharge from the army in 1944, Cliff Hooper joined the Department of Agriculture as a Field Officer, working with Mr Len J Cook, Chief Experimentalist.

Early in 1947 Cliff transferred to Kybybolite Research Centre, in the South-East as a Project Officer, then as Assistant Manager until 1950. Work at Kybybolite included grazing trials, crossbred lamb production and feeding trials.

From 1950 to 1973 Cliff Hooper was Sheep and Beef Husbandry Lecturer at Roseworthy College. During this time he developed the beef cattle herd at the College. The Shorthorn stud excelled at the Royal Adelaide Show and other country shows bringing distinction to the College not only in Adelaide, but also at Gawler.

Sheep husbandry at Roseworthy Agricultural College also flourished under his guidance. The modern stud techniques of closed breeding flocks were introduced to the Southdown stud, which maintained different lines of sheep for breeding and demonstration purposes.



During these 23 years at Roseworthy College, Cliff Hooper developed firm associations with students through his work and as a sportsmaster for many years. Twenty three groups of graduating students know and respect Cliff Hooper for his care and instruction in Animal Husbandry, and for his interest in their sporting abilities.

Cliff retired from the College in 1973, and maintained his interest in agriculture by active participation on the Gawler Show Council.