

Rex Anderson (RDA, 1952) was named as the recipient of the 1992 ROCA Award of Merit, for outstanding achievement in the field of practical agriculture.

Rex was raised on the Booborowie property of East Bungaree, where his father was Studmaster.

Rex completed his secondary education at Burra High School, where he was Dux of school in his final year, and graduated from Roseworthy Agricultural College in 1952 as Gold Medallist with II Class Honours.

At Roseworthy, he also won prizes for Agricultural and Animal Husbandry subjects as well as outdoor work.

Upon graduation Rex commenced employment at Roseworthy College as Field Officer – Sheep and Beef Cattle.

After this, he spent a year as Field Officer – Animal Husbandry with the SA Department of Agriculture, and a further three years as Project Officer – Animal Husbandry at the Kybyolite Research Centre.

In July 1958, Rex took up the Manager's position of the 22,250 hectare properties, Pitlochry, Cortina and Kendal Stations, at Kingston SE.

At this stage, only 2,200 hectares were developed with the remainder being water-course and scrub land country.

During his first year as Manager, Rex developed 800 hectares of land, with a further 10,700 hectares being developed during the period until 1974, when Cortina Station was sold. From 1981-83, a further 890 hectares were developed on Kendal Station.

Rex based his developed pastures on Hunter River lucerne, and developed a comprehensive property layout in respect to fencing, water points, buildings, and stock handling facilities. Livestock, under Rex's management, comprised 25,500 sheep and 2,700 Poll Hereford cattle.

Source: ROCA Digest Summer 1992