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A SURVEY OF PRESENT AND POSSIBLE FUTURE SHEEP
AND WOOL HANDLING PRACTICES
OF
NORTH ISLAND FARMERS RUNNING
CROSSBRED SHEEP

by

MALCOLM EDWARD SMITH

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fulfilment of the requirements
for the degree of

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AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE AUTHOR

The author was born at Dannevirke on 27th October 1941. He attended the Matamau country school from 1946 to 1954. From 1955 to 1959 he attended Dannevirke High School leaving after a year in the Upper Sixth form. Until 1959 he lived with his parents on a Dairy farm and spent most of the school holidays working on it.

Towards the end of 1959 the author was accepted as a Rural Field Cadet to study for a Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree. The author enrolled at the then Massey Agricultural College in 1960 and graduated B.Ag.Sc. in 1965. This period of study was broken in 1961 for a year of practical work on sheep and dairy farms at Hastings and Reporoa. Further training under the R.F.C. scheme was obtained on a cropping farm at Hawarden in the summer of 1962-63 and during a period of in-service training in the Rotorua office of the Department of Agriculture during the summer of 1963-64.

In November 1964 the author was appointed to the Sheep and Wool Section of the Farm Advisory Division. The author gained a Study Award which enabled him to study for a Wool and Woolclassing Diploma at Massey. Prior to commencing the Diploma course 14 weeks of required practical work were completed at a Wool Store in Napier.

The course was completed in 1965 and the author was awarded a Wool and Woolclassing Diploma in 1966.

In 1965 the author applied for a bursary to enable him to study for a M.Ag.Sc. degree. His application was approved on the understanding that the thesis topic would be concerned with a determination of the technical knowledge of, and practices used by North Island farmers running crossbred flocks when attempting to

improve the productivity of the animals in their flocks.

From October 1965 to April 1966 was spent in carrying out a survey to gain information for the thesis topic. From April to November 1966 was spent on course work and examinations. From December 1966 to August 1967 was spent in writing computer programmes, analysing data, and writing this thesis. Two courses each lasting a fortnight in May 1966 and May 1967 were attended by the author. These courses each lasting a fortnight in May 1966 and May 1967 were attended by the author. These courses were for Sheep and Wool Instructors and were primarily designed to increase their knowledge of animal breeding. The author undertook an evaluation of the progress made by those attending each course.

In February 1966 the author married Allison Jean Anderson of Dannevirke and in July 1967 a son was added to the family.

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