

Fact Sheet

Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Inc.

Roseworthy

ROCA AWARD OF MERIT 1986 – Dr John Obst

John Obst (RDA, 1960) graduated from Roseworthy with Honours and followed this with a BRurSci in 1964 and a MRurSci in 1969 from the University of New England, Armidale. Four years later, in 1973, he was granted a PhD from the University of Adelaide, Department of Animal Physiology at the Waite Research Institute.

For the next seven years, John was involved with basic research associated with ovine and bovine reproductive physiology, initially at the Struan Research Centre of the South Australian Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.



Then for three years, John was Senior Research Scientist with CSIRO at the Centre for Animal Research and Development, Ciawi, Indonesia, a joint Indonesian-Australian Colombo Plan Project. He was program leader for all sheep and goat research as well as coordinator of the ruminant research program which included research on cattle, buffalo, sheep and goats. Critical review by outside bodies upheld and supported the research programs established at the research centre and also the village developmental work undertaken concurrently.

John returned to Australia in 1980 to become the Director of the Pastoral Research Institute with the Victorian Department of Agriculture at Hamilton where he was responsible for the research approach, financing and planning of projects and execution by a staff of 50, utilising 1,050 hectares of land, 6,000 sheep, 500 cattle and laboratory facilities.