

The Business Planning Directorate operates within the enterprise development strategic initiative of the NILS 2001-2006, in accordance with the ILC corporate objective of creating and maintaining an environment where appropriate governance instruments, principles and standards are established, practised and achieved, through its activities in effectively managing the physical and financial resources of the ILC commercial businesses.

The responsibilities of the Directorate are:

- Management of seven commercial businesses on behalf of the ILC: Roebuck Plains Station, Myroodah/Luluigui Stations, Murrayfield, Cangai Creek, Mimosa and Wittenburra/ Turn Turn Stations and the ILC subsidiary Cardabia Pastoral Company
- Support the activities of the ILC Board Business Enterprise Committee
- Divisional Support – including enterprise assessment and management advice for land acquisition and land management projects in all ILC Divisions
- Significant input into the revision of the Economic Acquisition and Land Management Programs Guidelines.

**Roebuck Plains Station**

Roebuck Plains Station is a 294,000-hectare (ha) pastoral lease situated close to Broome in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. Purchased in 1999 the ILC assumed direct control of the business on 1 July 2000. During the past four years management has been focused on implementing improvements to the stock water and fence infrastructure and improving the quality, size and management of the herd. The herd totalled 19,856 head at 30 June 2004.

The pastoral business on Roebuck Plains Station recorded cash operating surplus of \$1,202,067 and a net profit of \$798,296 for the year ended 30 June 2004. The profit result takes into account the change in market value of the livestock over the financial year. The ILC incurred additional expenses for holding title to the land during this period that are not included in the net profit result of the business.

During 2003-2004, fourteen Indigenous people were employed on Roebuck Plains Station. Training courses undertaken during the year were in horsemanship, first aid, cattle nutrition and OH&S.

### **Myroodah/Luluigui Station**

Myroodah/Luluigui pastoral leases operate as a single unit of 405,800 ha located on the Fitzroy River, approximately 160 kilometres south east of Derby. However, only 28% (114,300 ha) of this land is developed with fences and waters to enable effective livestock control and management. On acquisition, Myroodah/Luluigui was in a very poor state of repair. The ILC has continued working towards restoring the station to a good standard. This has included major repairs to watering points and ongoing major fencing and yard refurbishment.

As a result, the management of the cattle herd, which was largely uncontrolled at the time of acquisition, has also improved. Brahman cattle have been purchased and replacement heifers transferred from Roebuck Plains Station to improve the quality of the herd. The herd totalled 9,900 head at 30 June 2004.

The pastoral business on Myroodah/Luluigui recorded cash operating surplus of \$144,172 and a net profit of \$720,345 for the year ended 30 June 2004. The profit result takes into account the change in market value of the livestock over the financial year. The ILC incurred additional expenses for holding title to the land during this period that are not included in the net profit result of the business. During 2003-2004, eleven Indigenous people were employed on Myroodah. A low stress stock handling training course was undertaken during the year.

### **Murrayfield**

Murrayfield was purchased by the ILC in November 2001. Murrayfield is a property of 4,097 ha of which 2,200 ha is cleared and sown to pastures. Murrayfield is a well-developed property that is situated south of Hobart on North Bruny Island in Tasmania. At 30 June 2004 the property was running 14,063 head of merino sheep. During 2003-2004 the ILC has concentrated on implementing an improvement program for the pastures and flock on Murrayfield and refurbishing the accommodation on the property to enable better utilization of these buildings. Improved access and amenities at a number of sites on the property has also enabled Indigenous Tasmanians to utilise and enjoy the land for social and cultural activities.

Murrayfield had a cash-operating surplus of \$163,690 and made a net profit of \$190,035 for the year ended 30 June 2004. This profit result takes into account the change in market value of the livestock over the financial year. The ILC incurred additional expenses for holding title to the land during this period that are not included in the net profit result of the business.

During 2003-2004, seventeen Indigenous people were employed on Murrayfield in a variety of roles including building renovation and environmental rehabilitation works under the Green Corps program.

### **Cardabia Pastoral Company Pty Ltd (ABN 78 080 766 463)**

Cardabia Station is a pastoral lease of 199,808 ha situated 240 kilometres north of Carnarvon in the Gascoyne Murchison region of Western Australia. The property borders the Ningaloo Marine Park, and is adjacent to the small tourist town of Coral Bay. Cardabia Pastoral Company Pty Limited was formed in November 1997. The land was divested to the Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation in 1999. A Board of Directors, consisting of representatives of the ILC, the property's traditional owners and a neighbouring pastoralist, manages the company. Board meetings are held every quarter. The business is operated by a majority of Indigenous staff including a full-time property manager, three casual CDEP employees and a casual bookkeeper. The property manager, Mr. Baron, is also a member of the title-holding body. Approximately 7,680 sheep and 1,685 cattle were on the property at 30 June 2004.

Cardabia Pastoral Company made cash operating surplus of \$114,220 and a net profit of \$379,833 for the year ended 30 June 2004. This profit result takes into account the change in market value of the livestock over the financial year. The ILC incurred additional expenses for holding title to the land during this period that are not included in the net profit result of the business.

Actions are now being undertaken for the ILC to transfer ownership of the Cardabia Pastoral Company business to Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation on 30 June 2005.

### **Wittenburra/ Turn Turn**

Wittenburra and Turn Turn properties operate as a single unit of 60,860 ha located in the Paroo Shire on the Paroo River 110 kilometres south west of Cunnamulla in South West Queensland. The ILC purchased these properties on 1 July 2000. The properties are used for grazing merino sheep and beef cattle. Throughout 2002 and 2003 the property was in drought with the district rainfall for the 24 months to 30 June 2003 being the lowest on record and the district rainfall for the following six months to 31 December 2003 being very much below average. As a result of these extreme conditions the ILC de-stocked the property, retaining only a core flock of 3,344 sheep and eighty three cattle on the property.

After reasonable rainfall was received during early 2004, the ILC Board decided to sell the properties. The sale was conducted via tender for scheduled settlement on 2 August 2004, (see page 37).

### **Cangai Creek**

Cangai Creek is a 1,866 ha property located on the Mann River fifty kilometres west of Grafton in NSW purchased by the ILC in 2002. Approximately 50% of the area of the property is grazed, with the remainder consisting of very steep timbered land.

In August 2003 the ILC offered the proponent group (Cangai Creek Station Corporation) the opportunity for a beef cattle business to be established on the property. As a result a herd of 381 head of beef cattle including 154 breeding cows was established by the ILC during 2003-2004. The plan is to build the business to herd of 300 breeding cows and train and employ CDEP workers on the property. In the meantime the members of the Cangai Creek Station Corporation continue to undertake cultural and social activities on the property.

### **Mimosa**

Mimosa is a 3,806 ha grazing property located forty five kilometres south west of Gayndah in Queensland. The property was purchased by the ILC in April 1997. In early 2004 the ILC negotiated the establishment of a beef cattle business on Mimosa with the proponent group the Samflodai Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation.

Since then a herd of 923 head of cattle has been purchased for the property and the plan is to build the herd to 600 breeding cows and refurbish the fencing, water and cattle yard infrastructure on the property. The manager of the property is the public officer of the proponent group and three Indigenous people are employed as casual workers.

