

C. S. O.

NAT/FLO/2#7

1 0 5 2

1 0 5 2

(Formerly)

SUBJECT:

SOIL CONSERVATION.

*Importation of Horse Seed.*

1052  
AGC

CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER AND YEAR.

## DESPATCHES AND TELEGRAMS.

| To S. of S. |       |       | From S. of S. |                  |           |
|-------------|-------|-------|---------------|------------------|-----------|
| No.         | Date. | Page. | No.           | Date.            | Page.     |
|             |       |       | <i>live</i>   | <i>12. 4. 49</i> | <i>1.</i> |
|             |       |       | <i>"</i>      | <i>note</i>      | <i>18</i> |
|             |       |       | <i>"</i>      | <i>22. 8. 49</i> | <i>18</i> |
|             |       |       | <i>"</i>      | <i>9. 5. 50</i>  | <i>20</i> |

## EX. CO. MINUTES.

| Date. | Page. |  |
|-------|-------|--|
|       |       |  |

CIRCULAR  
19936/50



61/38

THE CHURCH HOUSE,  
GREAT SMITH STREET,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

20

9th May, 1950.

SIR,

13 in 61/38 Soil Erosion: Annual Reports 14 in 61/38 3 in 61/38

I have the honour to refer to Lord Harlech's circular despatch of 27th January, 1938, to Mr. Macdonald's despatches of 23rd February, 1939, and 13th January, 1940, and to Lord Lloyd's circular despatch of 14th January, 1941, and subsequent communications regarding the provision of annual reports on the subject of soil erosion and conservation measures.

2. The position has changed since the time of these despatches, and there is now general recognition of the dangers of soil erosion and of the vital need to bring to bear the knowledge of all interested departments in devising and carrying into effect remedial and preventive measures. In these circumstances I feel that the furnishing of special annual reports is no longer necessary, but you will no doubt continue to keep me closely informed of progress made in all soil conservation matters through the medium of the annual departmental reports and in other suitable ways and to consult me on any points of special difficulty, which may arise. I am, like my predecessor, anxious to help in any possible way on this most important matter.

3. This circular has not been addressed to addressees Nos. 2, 3, 6, 13, 15, 24, 25, 31, 38-42 and 53.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

*James Guffey*

The Officer Administering  
the Government of

FALKLAND ISLANDS

A.O. Above fi.

H.C.S.

126 JUL 1950

Noted Thank you. In this connection may it be note worthy to observe Farmers inability to obtain since the war through normal trade channels small quantities of Gore & sand for seed they would like to & require to import for these purposes from the U.K.

John P. Lewis 26 JUL 50

A

C/A.

Ref: A.O.'s minute at foot of preceding page. Do you know why this difficulty should arise?

129 JUL 1950

B

H.C.S.

Export licences are required for all seeds ex U.K. This would seem to be a case requiring the help of the S.A.F. pl.

Sulca  
3/7/50

C

A.O.

Above w.r.t. your minute at foot of previous page. Would it be possible to get, say via S.O.A., a note of farmer's requirements & then we could try approaching the S/S.

P. 3/8/50.

D

H.C.S.

Certainly. I enclose at cover copy of proposed communication to S.O.A. for your approval prior to dispatch to them.

John P. Lewis 3/8/50  
D.O.

E

A.O.

Suggest alternative Dept. "B".

P. 6/8/50.

H.C.S.

F

22  
B

Sir,

Importation of Sand Grass and Gorse Seed.

I believe that several members of your Association are anxious to import seed of this nature from the United Kingdom, but have been unable to do so because export licences from the U.K. cannot be obtained.

2. A recent communication from the Secretary of State has stressed the interest which he and his Department take in measures for soil conservation in the Colonial Empire, and has indicated that he will be willing to assist as far as he can. It has occurred to me that his assistance might perhaps be sought in the granting of the necessary export licences for the seed mentioned above. If therefore your Association would like to let me have a note of the quantities which your members would require, the matter can be put to the Secretary of State with the request that he will use his influence with the Department concerned to grant the necessary licences, which could be justified as a measure of soil conservation.

Reply at 24

BW  
15/8/55  
30/9/55

To. The Hon. Col. Sec.  
From. The Agricultural Officer.  
Date. 13th September, 1950.

0779

23

21c With reference to your minute on importation of Sand  
Grass and Gorse Seed, I wrote asking the Sheepowners  
Association if the Government could be of any assistance  
24 to them and I herewith attach their reply.

*J. P. O.*  
Agricultural Officer.

A.O.

OK., as long as we don't get  
landed with it, like we did  
on a former occasion.

H.C.S. Certainly but to the Colony's advantage.

J.P.O. 26/18/50  
H.O.

14 SEP 1950

7

The Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association,  
(LOCAL COMMITTEE)  
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.

7th September

19 50.

J. P. Oliver Esq.  
Agricultural Officer,  
STANLEY.

Dear Sir,

22

I have to thank you for your letter of 8th ultimo re  
Importation of Sand Grass and Gorse Seed.

The Falkland Islands Company have been successful in  
obtaining licences for 4 cwts of Sand Grass Seed from Denmark.

The Association would welcome the assistance of your Depart-  
ment in procuring a supply of Gorse Seed, say 56 pounds, and  
would appreciate it if the Department would act as the Importer.

Yours faithfully,

A. G. Barton

CHAIRMAN.

Reply at 29.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE.

Despatched : 20.9.50.      Time : 1010.      Received : .....      Time : .....

No 201. Owing to Board of Trade restrictions local Farmers have been unable to import Gorse Seed since war and have now requested assistance. Grateful if representations could be made to responsible Department for release of 56lbs seed and arrangements made to ship to Agricultural Department through Crown Agents.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

*a.o. / G. J. P.*  
*H.C.S.*  
*21/9/50*

*See 26.*

*H.C.S.*

*Noted H.C.S. 21/IX/50*

P/L.

SS

*Handwritten notes and stamps on the right edge of the document, including a date stamp '21/9/50' and other illegible markings.*





126

ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE  
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.  
THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE AND THE  
DATE OF THIS LETTER BEING QUOTED.

4, MILLBANK,

G2/FALKLAND ISLANDS 5635

LONDON, S.W.1.

TELEGRAMS (INLAND: "CROWN SOWEST LONDON."  
OVERSEAS: "CROWN LONDON.")

TELEPHONE: ABBEY 7730.

1957  
4 APR 1957

Sir,

Supply of Gorse Seed.

25 We have the honour to refer to your telegram No. 201, dated the 20th September, 1950, addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which was transmitted to this Office for action.

2. We regret to advise you that extensive enquiries for the supply of Gorse seed have proved fruitless as the limited stocks from last year's crop have been sold and we do not anticipate being able to obtain quotations for the supply of gorse seed before the end of the coming summer.

3. We understand from the Colonial Office that Ulex Europea and Ulex GALLI might both be tried, and we shall be pleased to learn whether we should renew our enquiries for supply this autumn, and if so, the quantity of seed of each species required.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY  
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

See 28

for the Crown Agents.

27.



THE BANK OF ENGLAND  
LONDON  
ESTD 1694

MILBANK

LONDON, S.W.1.

ACI

26. I suggest A/A's be advised to contact A.D. who is at present on leave?

ACI  
22.5.57

ACS

Yes, that would be best, I think.

We should also advise S.O.A. that C.A.A. can't get hold of any till end of the (English) summer.

23/5/57

85 28

# GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

28

## FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

### SENT.

| Number | Office of Origin | Words | Handed In at | Date    |
|--------|------------------|-------|--------------|---------|
|        |                  |       |              | 23.5.51 |
| To     |                  |       | H.O. A/c     |         |
|        | CROWN LONDON     |       |              |         |

26

Your letter G2 oblique Falkland Islands 5635 of  
4th April stop Supply of gorse seed stop Grateful  
you consult Oliver, Agricultural Officer at present on  
leave in United Kingdom.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Time

29<sup>th</sup> May,

51.

Sir,

24 I am directed to refer to your letter of the 7th of September, 1950, addressed to the Agricultural Officer, regarding gorse seed and to inform you that the Crown Agents for the Colonies, to whom the matter was referred by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, advise that they are unable to procure gorse seed before the end of the English summer.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) Michael R. Raymer

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Chairman,  
Sheep Owners' Association,  
STANLEY.

Reply at 30.

B.R. 30/9/51

30

The Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association,  
(LOCAL COMMITTEE)  
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.



2nd June, 19 51.

Sir,

29

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1052 dated 28th May, 1951 with reference to our order for gorse seed. I note that the Crown Agents for the Colonies are unable to procure the seed before the end of the English summer. I should like to confirm that our order still stands.

I am,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

Secretary.

The Honourable  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Stanley.

  
4 JUN 1951

31  
GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES

SENT

| Number | Office of Origin | Words | Handed in at | Date     |
|--------|------------------|-------|--------------|----------|
|        |                  |       |              | 12.6.51. |
| To     | CROWN LONDON.    |       |              | HOA/C.   |

28 BY TELEGRAM 23RD MAY 51ST PLEASE ADVISE OLIVER THAT MISPOWERS  
CONFIRM THAT WHEN CORRY STED IS AVAILABLE THEIR ORDER WILL  
STAND.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Time

BW  
30/7/51

DECODE.

No. 60.

TELEGRAM.

*From* The Crown Agents for the Colonies

*To* Colonial Secretary.

*Despatched* : 3rd August, 1951 *Time* : 1600

*Received* : 4th August, 1951 *Time* : 0900

31

Your telegram 12th June. Gorse seed offered ULEX EUROPAEUS  
50/- per lb. total 56 lbs. not guaranteed or Scottish wild  
variety 80/- lb. stop Telegraph earliest what we should order.

CROWN.

A. C. S.

We had better have a copy of this made and send it to  
S.O.A., asking them whether their members want any at this price  
and if so which and how much.

(intld.) M.R.R.

14.8.51.

Done  
4/8.

114 lbs required

Unsure contact Sec - left  
msg. to FIC office asking for  
reply. Site

BAW 1/8/51  
bar SOA  
specific reply?

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

35

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES

SENT

| Number         | Office of Origin | Words | Handed in at | Date     |
|----------------|------------------|-------|--------------|----------|
|                |                  |       |              | 13.8.51. |
| To             |                  |       |              |          |
| CRO IN LONDON. |                  |       |              | HQA/C.   |

32

YOUR TELEGRAM 3RD AUGUST PLEASE ORDER FORTY FOUR LBS GORSE SEED  
UNDER EUROPEAN.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

BW 30/9/51  
~~FW 1/10/51~~  
13/8/51

Time

\_\_\_\_\_



DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

34

From Crown Agents for the Colonies

To The Colonial Secretary

---

Despatched: 7th September, 19 51 Time: 17.35

Received: 8th September, 19 51 Time: 08.45

33

Your telegram 14th August only 28 lb. gorse seed ulex europaeus available shall we order balance Scottish wild variety at 80/- lb.

CROWN AGENTS

P. L.

VF

MEMORANDUM

35

10th September 1951.

From

SI

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS SHEEPOWNERS ASSOCIATION,  
(Local Committee) STANLEY.

To The Honourable  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Stanley.

Sir,

With reference to copy of telegram from the Crown Agents for the Colonies dated 3rd August, 1951 and to the telephone conversation with the Assistant Colonial Secretary, will you please reduce our order for Gorse seed ~~4~~ (Ulex Europaeus) from 44 to 28 lbs (@ 50/- per lb.).

I am,

Sir,  
your obedient servant,

*J. G. Green*  
Secretary.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

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FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES

SENT

| Number         | Office of Origin | Words | Handed in at | Date     |
|----------------|------------------|-------|--------------|----------|
|                |                  |       |              | 12.9.51. |
| To             |                  |       |              |          |
| GRO IN LONDON. |                  |       |              | HON/C    |

34

YOUR TELEGRAM 7TH SEPTEMBER STOP THE TWENTY EIGHT LBS OF GORGE SEND  
 SIX PURCHASE WILL SUFFICE STOP PLEASE CANCEL BALANCE OF ORDER.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

*Copy of Rept*  
*To note pl*  
*Alfred*  
*12/9/51*

Time

*J. G. S. Poked Hants you.*  
*A.R. e/c.a.d.*  
*12-12-51*

Items No 4. & 5.Visit to Essex Farm Institute, Trout Hatchery  
& Colonial Office.

Here I was very kindly shown round one of the most modern & probably the finest equipped County Agricultural Institute in England, by Mr. J. Bryce, the Principle.

It was my main purpose in visiting Essex was to see the "Rice grass" Spartina Townsendii growing in situ on the mud flats, & to obtain samples of some to bring back with me to the Falklands.

This I accomplished in the Estuary of the Blackwater river.

Here the grass was vigorously colonising sterile mud banks so far out as where there were on average covered by a 3 ft. maximum of salt water.

Mr. Bryce thought it safe to refer to water depth in its limitation of growth area.

Altho' aught in the temperatures of the water submerging it lay undoubted by the determining factors.

He told me how the first plantings made

38

here in 1926 had but barely held their own for 3 or 4 years before going a head to their present acreage.

He pointed out where the grass did not cover there were currents or turbulences of some duration in the sea water when over lying. And we planned the latest work in Holt and to straighten out such whirls by sinking basket works to form mud mounds to do so.

He gave me a rather unique picture of the grasses aneto in demonstrating microscopically that the grass is covered with innumerable pedicellus of caudex fat, which upon emersion enclose minute air bubbles. The 2 together forming an insulating layer round the grasses so that it may be said that although twice over run each day by the sea it never actually gets wet.

And continues its metabolism by respiratory intake of oxygen & exudation of carbon dioxide into the entrapped air.

Also by its hollow stem structure & that

of its stoloniferous incursions into & under the mud; it is able to itself create its under mud tissues & proliferate unhindered by the anaerobic conditions there obtaining.

I also saw the 2 accepted parent Spartinas of "Townsendii" the one English & small & the other American & rank, both growing about high water mark which is the limitation of their growth region seawards. And obtained samples of same.

Townsendii, is held to be a natural diploid cross between these 2, its first origin in Pool Harbour or Southampton water. That is it is a hybrid in which by mutation the chromosome content of the cell nucleus has become double that in either of its parents. Thus the difficulty of obtaining viable seed from same is accounted for & of the very short germinable life enjoyed by such viable seed.

Besides this grass on the shore I was shown many more annuals (sand peas etc) which would stand submersion by salt water growing in shore from the spartina

9 more or less on ground reclaimed by Townsendii; much as small grasses come in behind the sand grass in the perinuclear.

Thus I realized was opened up a whole new field of valuable sheep pasture expansion as all these smaller denizens of the beach were such as to form most excellent sheep feed.

In respect of erosion of the land this vegetation was very helpful in both its build up & taking of the sting out of the sea fury.

At the base of the sea wall Suaeda frutescens a more or less annual non poisonous shrub was very serviceable.

And I was also afforded excellent opportunity to view sea wall construction by the Municipality's authorities in the area including the interlocking concrete block type laid on an angle of 50° to 60° to the horizontal & bedded together by bitumen the whole structure having the virtue of giving slightly under the seas pounding yet affording no crack in the external surface to winterally

4-1

become the chink in the armour leading to the  
undoing of the whole.

Seen.

P.P.

!!!



G6 / Falkland Is. 5635/1

1052  
29 OCT 1951

42

8.51.

Indent No. Col. Sec. tgr. of  
or Authority: 2.6.51.

Thompson & Morgan Ltd.  
London Road,  
Ipswich.

Date of order 8.51.

A/c.  
Dept. Agric.

TENDER for the supply of:— Horse Seed

| ITEM NO. | QUANTITY | DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES   | RATE                | AMOUNT           |
|----------|----------|--|---------------------|------------------|
| 1        | 28 lbs.  | <p>Horse Seed Vlex Europeans at 50/- per lb.</p> <p>Firms letter of 29th June refers, also recent conversation.</p> <p>(Soil not required)</p> <p>(Regret all we can supply)</p> | <p>lb.<br/>50/-</p> | <p>70. -- --</p> |

**DIRECT ORDER**

Inspector :—  
Date of tender 31.8.51.  
Date of entry 10.9.51.  
Entered up by HRP/14.  
Notes to firm

*[Signature]*

Address for Post Packages:—

Delivery

Cost of articles specified on continuation sheet (if any)

|  |     |             |
|--|-----|-------------|
| Total  | £   | 70. -- --   |
| Trade and Shipping Allowances :<br>per cent. on £  | = £ |             |
| Cash discount for prompt payment :<br>per cent. on £   | = £ |             |
| Cost of packing and delivery f.o.b. LIVERPOOL  | £   | 70. -- --   |
| Alternative, cost of packing and postage to Falkland Islands   | £   | INS POSTAGE |
| Amount payable (including all charges) on receipt of Bills of Lading or Parcels Receipt.<br>of Post Office Certificate of Posting. | = £ |             |
| Alternative, total net cost f.o.b. LONDON (including port rates)   | = £ |             |

Shipping Mark

O.A.G.  
STANLEY.

~~Agric.~~  
Agric.

ADVICE OF ORDER PLACED

OFFICE OF THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES,  
4, MILLBANK,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies furnish overleaf particulars of a contract placed in pursuance of the Indent shown. Shipment will be made as early as possible after the goods are ready.

In the case of goods posted the contractor will send to the addressee one advice copy of the invoice in the parcel with the goods and another under separate cover when the parcel is posted, showing the indent number and the date of despatch of the parcel.

Colonial Secretary,

Falkland Islands.

13 September 1951

43

**INVOICE.**  
(FIRST ADVICE COPY)

**THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES**

Dr. to Messrs.  
of (full address) Thompson & Morgan (IPSWICH) Ltd.,  
Date September 1st. 1951.  
Crown Agents' Reference Gs/Falkland Is. 5635/1.  
Indent No. Col. Sec. tgn. of 12/5/51.  
Account  
Department  
Shipped by S.S./M.V.  
or Date of Posting September. 1st. 51. To be filled in by Contractor

Contractor's Reference No. ....

| Item Nos. | Quantity | Description of Article in wording of Tender     | Weight |    |    |     | Rate |    |    |   |    |    |   |
|-----------|----------|---|--------|----|----|-----|------|----|----|---|----|----|---|
|           |          |   | T.     | c. | q. | lb. | £    | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |   |
| 1         | 28 lbs.  | Gorse seed Ulex<br>Europaeus at 50/- per<br>lb. |        |    |    | 28  | 50/- | 70 | 0  | 0 | 70 | 0  | 0 |
|           |          | Post, packing & 6 sacks.                        |        |    |    |     |      | 1  | 1  | 4 | 1  | 1  | 4 |
|           |          |   |        |    |    |     |      | 71 | 1  | 4 | 71 | 1  | 4 |

In items of goods not of United Kingdom manufacture the country of origin should be indicated on the invoice and the country of origin stated.

44.

INVOICE

F.O.

THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES

To note 42-43 w/draw  
duplicates at cover

V. S. R. G. S.  
6/11/51

D. E. S.

Noted and will draw. H. J.

A. R.  
for A. O.  
7/xi/51

PA.  
S/S