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Meg Donahoo from Boehringer Ingelheim and Lisa Edson from South Australia vaccinated a piglet with FLEXcombo.

Global milestone for Ingelvac MycoFLEX

IN a competitive global marketplace, Ingelvac MycoFLEX has reached the significant milestone of one billion doses sold globally since launch in 2008.

Ingelvac MycoFLEX is registered in 58 countries and this new milestone makes it one of the leading vaccines for the control of mycoplasma hyopneumoniae in the world.

Launched in Australia in 2015, Boehringer Ingelheim product manager Swine Dr Sean Daly said the company was proud of this latest milestone for Ingelvac MycoFLEX.

"This global milestone gives farmers further confidence in the efficacy of MycoFLEX on top of the trial work we have completed in Australian conditions," he said.

Presenting the results from the Australian trials late last year at the Australian Pig Veterinarians' Conference, Dr Daly noted that local trials demonstrated statistically significant improvements in growth rates when farmers shifted to MycoFLEX.

Considerable savings in labour and vaccine usage were also demonstrated from using

a true one-shot M. hyo vaccine. Speaking about the product's development, Dr Daly said when Ingelvac MycoFLEX was initially developed it was important that it should be able to be mixed with Ingelvac CircoFLEX.

"Mixing both vaccines creates FLEXcombo, which protects pigs from both M. hyo and porcine circovirus type 2 with one convenient injection," Dr Daly said.

"Using the same adjuvant for both products allowed for this. "This adjuvant, Impran-FLEX, also contributes to the outstanding efficacy and safety of both products."

To make the fresh mixing of the two products as simple as possible, Boehringer Ingelheim has packaged Ingelvac MycoFLEX in an innovative 'Head Space Bottle'.

The Head Space Bottle is specifically designed so the right amount of Ingelvac CircoFLEX can be simply added to the same bottle via a specially designed and easy-to-use transfer needle.

This milestone for Ingelvac MycoFLEX comes quickly after the company announced that 2 billion pigs had been

protected from PCV2 worldwide by Ingelvac CircoFLEX.

This is an outstanding achievement given that the product has only been in the global market for 10 years.

In Australia, Boehringer Ingelheim has also protected 20 million pigs locally with the product – a clear demonstration of the trust Australian farmers have placed in Ingelvac CircoFLEX.

Boehringer Ingelheim is proud of this local achievement.

"The Ingelvac CircoFLEX vaccine has made a huge difference to the Australian pig industry," Dr Daly said.

"The fact that 20 million piglets have been protected under Australian commercial conditions gives farmers confidence in the safety and efficacy of the Ingelvac CircoFLEX vaccine."

If you would like to learn more about Ingelvac MycoFLEX vaccine and FLEXcombo including the local trial results and the potential labour savings you could achieve using the products, contact your local Boehringer Ingelheim technical services and sales representative on 1800 038 037.

Up to date with industry data

ONE of the symptoms of the 21st century is lots of talk about 'big data' and 'digital agriculture'.

The convergence of lots of different technologies is now providing opportunities that have never been seen before for managing today's farms much more efficiently.

These technologies include GPS capability, robotics, drones, various types of sensors and bioinformatics (processing large amounts of data within biological systems).

While plant-based agriculture probably has the head start over animal agriculture in the use of these new technologies, there are plenty of opportunities for animal agriculture to take advantage.

Livestock movement management or virtual fencing with GPS-enabled collars is one example that offers enormous capabilities for the future and is soon to be commercialised.

At Australian Pork Limited, on behalf of our Australian pig producers, we are not naive to big data either.

A number of years ago, we installed a client relationship management system that we commonly refer to as our CRM.

It's basically an easy-to-use database enabling us to keep lots of information about our industry and customer base.

With respect to our pig producers for example, all our membership details are kept on the CRM.

Members' properties are linked through their Property Identification Codes to the PigPass database, meaning we can map where pig farms are and use this information in the case of, for example, a major disease outbreak.



Point of View

by ANDREW SPENCER CEO



The PigPass database has records for more than just APL members because you have to be registered on it to be able to get access to National Vendor Declarations, which you need to trade in pigs.

Our APIQ quality assurance system also links through PICs with the membership database and the PigPass database.

Additionally, our PhysioTrace system links through the PICs with pork meat samples enabling our world-leading traceability system.

This means we can verify 'free range' or 'outdoor bred, raised indoors on straw' claims on product in store by tracing them to a farm and then checking the quality assurance certifications.

Pig movement reporting will soon be mandatory in all states, including property to property movements (reporting through the PigPass system).

This means that for each of the farms or PICs, we will be able to tell how many pigs have moved where from that farm and within what time frame.

We will be able to tell how many pigs are arriving at each processor, each week across the whole country.

The bottom line is we have and will have a lot of information about Australian pig

farmers and their farms and operations.

At the same time, we have very strict rules about who has access to this information and how the information is used for the benefit of the industry overall.

The consumer is king, and our first priority in the use of this information is to ensure the confidence and trust in our product is maintained by consumers.

There are many uses of the data that can contribute to a healthier industry more directly, including as I mentioned above, managing emergency disease outbreaks, keeping track of industry production volume trends and verifying levy payment accuracy as a service to our government stakeholders.

On the customer side of the equation, the CRM system also enables us to better communicate with butchers, restaurants, the media and potentially one day, our most loyal consumers.

So, when it comes to data, we are in it up to our necks, in a positive way.

We understand the expectations on us that we use it responsibly, recognising the rights of our producers and their privacy.

We also understand the expectations on us to use it for the benefit of our producers and the industry overall.

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Pig Industry Calendar of Events

2017

FEB 25 - 28 – AASV Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, US www.aasv.org

MAR 1 - 3 – National Pork Industry Forum, Atlanta, Georgia US www.porkindustryforum.com

MAR 15 - 17 – VIV Asia, Bangkok, Thailand www.vivasia.nl

MAR 28 - 29 – London Swine, London, Ontario, Canada www.londonwineconference.ca

APR 4 – Livestock Forum, Barcelona, Spain www.livestockforum.com

APR 4 - 5 – Victorian Pig Fair, Bendigo, Victoria Ph: 0419 552 768

APR 24 - 26 – Livestock Philippines 2017, Passay City, Phillipines www.livestockphilippines.com

MAY 3 - 5 – ESPHM European Symposium on Porcine Health Management, Prague, Czech Republic www.esphm2017.org

MAY 18 - 20 – China Animal Husbandry Expo, Qingdao International Expo Centre, China www.caaa.com.cn

MAY 18 - 20 – VIV Russia, Moscow, Russia www.vivrussia.nl/en/Bezoeker.aspx

JUN 7 - 9 – World Pork Expo, Des Moines, Iowa, US www.worldpork.org

JUN 11 - 14 – 10th International Conference on Pig Reproduction, Columbia, Missouri, US www.muconf.missouri.edu/ICPR2017/Index.html

JUL 21 - 25 – AVMA Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana, US www.avma.org

AUG 29 - 31 – SIAVS - International Poultry and Pork Show, São Paulo, Brazil www.siavs.org.br/?lang=en

NOV 19 - 22 – Australasian Pig Science Association (Inc) conference, Melbourne, Victoria www.apsa.asn.au

2018

MAR 3 - 6 – Annual Meeting of the American Association of Swine, San Diego, California, US www.aasv.org/anmtg

Jun 20 - 22 – VIV Europe 2018, Utrecht, The Netherlands www.viveurope.nl/en/Bezoeker.aspx

How to supply event details: Send all details to Australian Pork Newspaper, PO Box 387, Cleveland, Qld 4163, fax: 07 3821 2637, email: ben@porknews.com.au

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Industry input in APL's RD&E process

IT'S time once again for Australian Pork Limited's R&D Specialist Groups to meet to discuss current issues facing the Australian pork industry and prioritise what RD&E activities need to be commissioned in 2017/18 to address these.

Prior to these meetings kicking off, it is a good time to reflect on the changes that were made to the Specialist Groups over the past year.

Prior to the 2016/17 financial year, APL's RD&E process involved six Specialist Groups.

In order to maximise APL's investment in transformational projects (that is, projects that are high risk and if successful, will deliver significant benefits to industry) and incorporate technology transfer and adoption within all portfolios, the six groups were merged into four:

- Specialist Group 1: Marketing Development Committee – chair: Kay Carey (secretariat: Kathleen Pindslle).

- Specialist Group 2: Production and Welfare – chair: Dr Darryl D'Souza (secretariat: Dr Robyn Terry).

- Specialist Group 3: Environmental Management – chair: Mark Hogan (secretariat: Janine Price).

- Specialist Group 4: Quality Assurance, Biosecurity & Food Safety – chair: Dr Alison Collins (secretariat: Dr Pat Mitchell).

Specialist Group members include a mix of producers, supply chain partners, research providers and government representatives.

There is a concerted effort for APL to invest in more large projects that are focused on making a significant or transformational difference to the Australian pork industry



by **HEATHER CHANNON**
Acting Research and Innovation
General Manager

once outcomes are adopted (that is, create a gross producer benefit of greater than \$0.05/kg).

The 2016/17 financial year marked the first year that the old Specialist Groups 2 and 3 (Reproduction, Genetics and Welfare; and Nutrition, Health and Physiology, respectively) were merged to form one specialist group, SG2: Production and Welfare.

The move to consolidate these two groups was a big change.

This merger happened as a result of the large crossover of research between groups.

Now that they're merged, this grouping allows for discussions from industry producers and researchers about the issues facing all aspects of production and welfare.

These two groups were merged by first discussing the core industry issues, what would have a transformational benefit to industry, the current challenges relating to production and welfare and lastly, how we would measure success.

Following from this, we determined where the gaps in our research program were, from both Specialist Groups 2 and 3, to then build the framework of the new specialist group.

The key objective of the new SG2 portfolio is to ensure that the Australian

pork industry is globally competitive, locally resilient and that production practices exceed societal and consumer expectations.

Going forward into 2017/18, SG2 will ensure that the emphasis on high-impact projects within SG2, which deliver benefits for producers by decreasing the cost of production and demonstrate continuous improvement of pig welfare, will remain our focus.

Importantly, there is a greater emphasis on undertaking research by a

program approach, by assembling co-ordinated projects that are investigating differing aspects of an industry issue to achieve the overarching key objectives.

SG3: Environmental Management has had a long-term plan to prioritise and manage the balance of smaller, risk-based and validation projects (such as information sharing and workshops) with larger projects.

These larger, higher-risk projects focus on reducing production costs and identifying and generating alternative income streams for producers.

The group has managed the priorities and budget that has allowed the group to target specific projects.

Several transformational projects have been developed including neural network processing sensor development, the development of new fertilisers and feed to produce an alternative income stream from waste products and

reduce the use of external resources and thus cost of production.

Another technology that holds significant promise to deliver high-value outcomes is the water purification bubble column technology, which uses effluent streams to produce a product suitable for drinking water and hence also reduces total water use.

APL looks forward to providing outcomes from this project to industry as they become available.

The potential for new Emissions Reduction Fund methodologies that will enable a larger proportion of the Australian pork industry to access carbon credits as an alternative income source are also currently being developed – a flow-on benefit from work conducted as part of the National Agricultural Manure Management Program.

As mentioned in my last column, former Specialist Group member Mark

continued P3

2017/18 R&D PROCESS	
RDAC & SGs notified of YTD budget/priority variations	21-22 December 2016
SG meetings	1-24 February 2017
Business plans (including ex ante BCA data) due	14 March 2017
Tender document prepared	14 March 2017
RDAC meeting	21-22 March 2017
Tender document finalised post RDAC	29 March 2017
Call for tenders opens (post 4 April Board meeting)	10 April 2017
Call for tenders closes	8 May 2017
Tender reviews complete	12 June 2017
AOP budget endorsed (June Board meeting date)	22 June 2017
Secretariat evaluations complete	23 June 2017
SG/RDAC chair review complete	30 June 2017
Successful & modify letters sent	10 July 2017
Modified proposals resubmitted	24 July 2017
Modified proposals reviewed by APL manager	31 July 2017
Unsuccessful letters sent & successful contracts sent	7 August 2017
RDAC & SGs notified of call for tender outcomes & full BCAs	31 October 2017

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Naturally ahead

Pork CRC scoring heavily in first quarter

AT Pork CRC, we try to plan our activities and prioritise workloads on a quarterly basis and the January-March quarter is looking hectic.

The Roseworthy course, 'Science and Practice of Pig Production', runs from January 30 to February 10 and I want to thank Rebecca Smith for organising the event with University of Adelaide staff, Will van Weterre for putting the program together and all those who have agreed to teach the course.

And, of course, the 20-plus course attendees and their employers who have shown the commendable initiative to register and participate from as far afield as Queensland, Western Australia, Victoria and the ACT.

Having completed the eighth and final investment round for Pork CRC on January 27, we spent the last days of January



Initiatives

by DR ROGER CAMPBELL
CEO



and the first couple of February discussing the reviews of all proposals received and preparing recommendations for the R&D committee meeting on February 7.

We received 38 proposals across the four programs, with the majority split equally between Program 1 (Reduced confinement of sows and piglets) and Program 2 (Herd Health Management).

I was very impressed

with the quality of the proposals received and I think there might be a couple of gems in the mix, but let's wait and see what our program and sub-program leaders and reviewers think.

I will let you know the outcomes after the board meeting on February 28 when the final decision of where we will invest will occur.

Pig day
We have the South Aus-

tralian Pig Industry Day on February 24 at the Barossa Weintal, Tanunda, SA.

It is always a good meeting and this year I have helped Andy Pointon and his team put together a session on grower-finisher pigs, which is where all the money sits and hence is always worth reviewing.

I will address the meeting in the first session, along with Karen Moore of Pork Innovation WA and Tony Edwards of ACE Livestock Consulting.

I will talk about our global position, which in 2015 looked poor (more on this next month) and what technologies we have to reduce costs in the growing herd.

Tony will discuss recent changes in grain costs and what this will mean to the bottom line and, as usual, he will drop a few handy hints on how to improve

efficiency and profit.

Karen will discuss two interesting research topics.

First, the use of a single diet from 25-30kg to sale; and second, some of her recent research using salts and albus lupins to control intake in finisher pigs.

The single diet has been around for a while and every time it is tested, it makes more money than phase feeding.

It's probably time someone tried it commercially. Her work on salts and albus lupins shows both can reduce feed intake.

More interesting, the salts had no adverse effect on growth rate and substantially improved feed efficiency.

CRC commercial

We also have a Commercialisation and Adoption committee meeting in February where our very own Charles Rikard-

continued P4



PIWA's Karen Moore will talk on two topics at the SA Pig Industry Day: feeding a single diet from 25-30kg to sale; and using salts and albus lupins to control feed intake in finishers.



Pork CRC's Rebecca Smith has done a top job organising the 2017 'Science and Practice of Pig Production' course at Roseworthy.

Industry input in APL's RD&E process

from P2

Hogan from Rivalea will be leading SG3 for 2017/18.

Mark's industry experience in the environmental arena is well recognised and his new role as chair will contribute to the ongoing direction and success of the Environment Management program.

SG4 has strengthened its focus on technology transfer and adoption of research outcomes to key stakeholders.

The Pork Processor Referral Group, involving management and/or quality assurance managers from all export pork processing establishments, is extensively involved in informing, collaborating and coordinating our food safety and traceability RD&E activities – and hence leads to industry adoption of the RD&E outcomes being generated from the Product Integrity portfolio.

Dr Pat Mitchell ran a very successful workshop for Australian pig vets at the Australian Animal Health Laboratory in Geelong to inform them of the latest industry initiatives to manage biosecurity and market access threats, including disease incursions, swill feeding and reverse zoonoses.

The Biosecurity Strategic Review Panel, chaired by Dr Gardner Murray, also plays an integral role as part of the Biosecurity RD&E program and is finalising APL's National Biosecurity Strategy to support the industry's resolve to be proactive in determining, evaluating and monitoring both current and potential biosecurity risks while safeguarding our markets and productivity.

One of the greatest

international priorities for both human and animal medicine is implementation of antimicrobial stewardship.

A project in SG4's portfolio is linking a number of animal industries including the chicken meat industry.

This collaboration has led to the development of an antimicrobial stewardship framework that can be implemented across large and small pig production enterprises.

Despite the differences in RD&E priorities between each Specialist Group, each group is focused on delivering high-quality outcomes for the industry.

The effective transfer of technologies and information developed in our RD&E programs is an ever-present focus – this new information is needed to inform practice change.

How we deliver this as well as how we measure whether, and what, changes have been implemented on-farm, and through the supply chain, as a result of APL's investment in our RD&E program are two key considerations that remain top of mind as we enter into planning for the 2017/18 financial year.

Your feedback on this is welcomed at any time.

I'd also take the opportunity to advise APL's R&D process timeline for 2017/18.

All the Specialist Group meetings will be conducted during February.

You can see the R&D process timeline in Table 1 on the previous page.

For further information on any of the topics discussed, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0423 056 045 or heather.channon@australianpork.com.au

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Pork CRC scoring heavily in first quarter



Tony Edwards (right) will offer producers handy hints at the 2017 SA Pig Industry Day on how to improve the bottom line by more efficient feeding. He was pictured at the last APSA meeting with Charlie Culley of DSM.

from P3

Bell will go through Pork CRC's impressive line-up of commercial projects and we will hear from BEC Feed Solutions on Piglet Buddy and Prof David Hampson on swine dysentery.

AusScan returns

As an aside, revenue from our AusScan business with Aunir exceeded \$A182,000 in the quarter ending December 2016.

The number of scans has increased exponentially since the business started. Soybean meal is the most in demand, with numbers reaching 2799 in the December quarter.

APRIL active

I promised you in De-

ember 2016 that the APRIL board would hold its first meeting in February 2017 – well that will occur.

The other good news on APRIL is the University of Melbourne signed and SARDI is likely to have signed by the time you read this.

APRIL will then have 15 inaugural members, including Australian Pork Limited, and will have a substantial revenue stream in 2019-20 when it takes over from Pork CRC.

We will all be glad to get through to the end of February, though I'm not sure it being a short month really helps us.

March on

March will start with informing all applicants of the outcomes of investment round eight and requesting changes to proposals and budgets.

The job of drawing up project agreements will follow, after which comes the wait for results.

This is the most exciting part of the process and my job and we will have new information and technologies for you in late 2017 and early 2018.

I will spend a week in Omaha, Nebraska in the third week of March, attending the American Society of Animal Science

Midwest scientific meetings.

This is where you learn what is happening in the US industry, what the issues are and the latest research outcomes on pigs and pork.

I always summarise these for you and will do so again – probably in May or June.

I have covered one of the papers from the meetings in this column ('Sow diet and colostrum').

This is for your information only at this point.

March will finish with an Aunir board meeting in Singapore.

This quarter is also the period where summer infertility is likely to occur and I direct you to our publication with APL: 'Preparing for the summer months: seasonal infertility and beyond'.

This is available on our website under the News & Events; Publications tab.

A hectic but exciting March quarter and next month we will get into our global competitiveness.

Colostrum counts

We all know that colostrum intake is crucial for the survival and performance of piglets.

How to increase colostrum production and intake is another matter.

Well, researchers in the US suggest the diet fed sows in the last 10 days of gestation might just be the answer.

North Carolina State University researchers

suggest that feeding sows (second parity) a lactation diet during the last 10 days of gestation increased colostrum production and intake by piglets by 24 percent and 32 percent respectively.

They reported this was associated with a significant increase in weaning weight (6 percent), a numerical improvement in pre-weaning survival (87.4 percent versus 84.2 percent) and a significant reduction in variation in weight at weaning.

The differences are in comparison with sows fed a gestation diet during the last 10 days of gestation.

In the same experiment, they compared three feeding levels in the same period.

These were 1.5kg, 3kg and 4.5kg/sow/day.

Increasing feeding level increased birth weight (level not reported) and sow weight gain, but had no effect on piglet quality (survival or performance).

They did notice that piglet survival was lower in sows fed 4.5kg/day before farrowing.

The gestation and lactation diets contained 0.58 percent and 0.99 percent SID lysine, respectively – the lactation diet also contained 2.5 percent added fat.

Table talk

The results in Table 1 tend to confirm those reported previously by researchers at Kansas State University and Texas Tech

University that higher lysine (amino acids) intake in late gestation has a greater impact on piglet performance than higher energy intake per se.

To put it in context, average litter sizes at birth, 24 hours after birth and at weaning were 13.11, 12.49 and 11.05, respectively.

The authors did not report any interactions between the gestation and lactation diets and feeding level on colostrum intake or weaning weight, which seems strange as there was crossover between treatments in SID lysine intake.

The latter was 8.7g, 17.4g and 26.1g/d for sows fed the gestation diet and 15g, 29.7g and 44.6g/d for sows fed the lactation diets on the low, medium and high feeding levels, respectively.

So was it the lactation diet per se, the added fat or is a SID lysine intake above 26g/d required to achieve the effects?

It was probably amino acids.

I assume most producers feed sows a lactation diet from entry into farrowing accommodation, so may already be achieving the effects reported and it may be logistically difficult to increase the time the lactation diet is fed before farrowing.

Nevertheless, it's interesting and I will watch the outcomes of larger studies planned in the US with interest and report back. www.porkcrc.com.au

Diet and outcome	Lactation	Gestation	P-value
Av piglet birth weight (kg)	1.14	1.18	0.24
Total sow colostrum yield (kg)	1.42	1.14	0.04
Av piglet colostrum intake (g)	127	95.9	<0.01
Av piglet weight at 21 days (kg)	5.81	5.48	<0.01
Coefficient of variation in piglet weaning weight (%)	14.7	17.9	0.02
Piglet survival (%)	87.3	84.2	0.29

Table 1: Effect of feeding sows a gestation or lactation diet in last 10 days of gestation on colostrum intake and piglet quality.

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Pork CRC's Charles Rikard-Bell (centre) will outline some impressive commercial projects to Pork CRC's February Commercialisation and Adoption committee meeting. He was pictured at the last APSA meeting with David Isaac, BEC Feed Solutions and Tracy Muller, Sunpork Farms.

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Fresh pork sales at Christmas 2009-2016

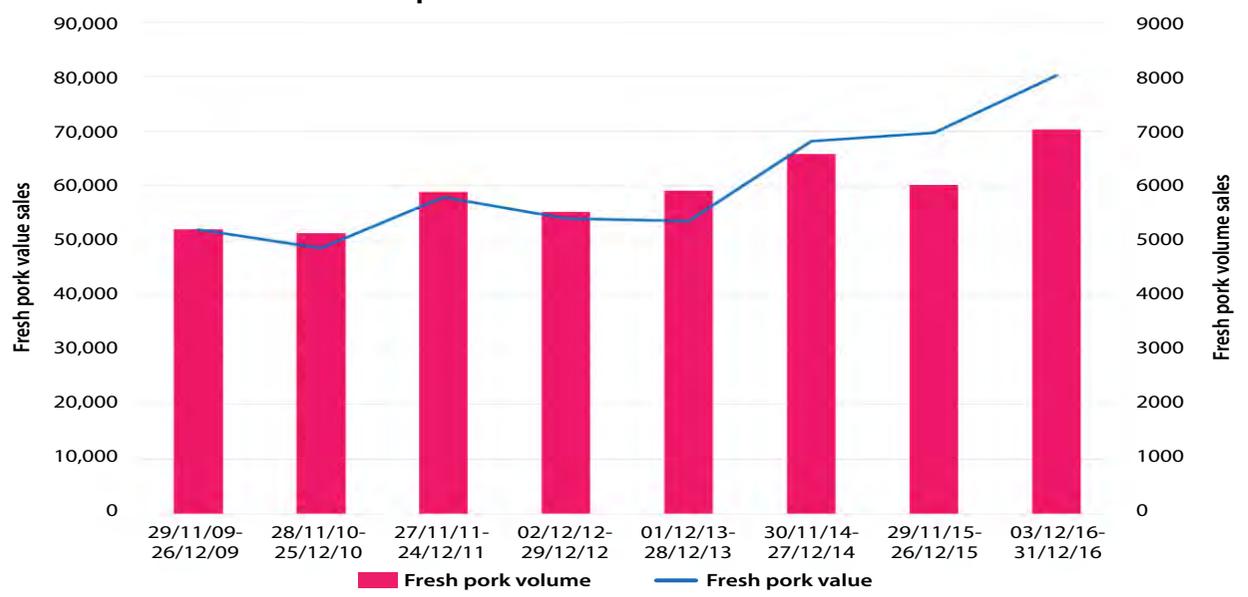


Figure 1

What will producers do with this windfall?

WE have had an encouraging start to 2017.

Australian fresh pork sales at Christmas 2016 were the highest ever, the volume captured more and consumer spending higher than ever before.

This pushed fresh pork per capita consumption over 10kg per person for the first time in our industry's history.

Even bone-in ham volumes were up by 10 percent versus last year (albeit there seemed to be some left over in early January).

Demand has grown faster than supply for a number of years, which has pushed farm-gate prices to levels of profitability last seen in 2009-10.

These improved returns to producers have prompted some production increases (November 2016 produced 10 percent more Australian pork than November 2015, with signs that continued into December 2016), increased

Australian Pork
Marketing Matters
by PETER HAYDON
General Manager Marketing



investment in improving facilities and no doubt, some paying down of debt.

As we go into 2017, producers will need to choose how they invest the windfall that is the combination of good prices (though prices seem to have softened just a little since Christmas as wholesalers seek to share the increased demand for Australian pork) and attractive feed prices.

It is possible, if production increases significantly more

rapidly than the current rate, that increased available Australian pork volume will require either increased demand (and possibly increased investment in marketing) or there will be a price readjustment.

Decreased beef prices in 2018-19 could possibly do the same thing (though the data is less supportive of that).

It is also possible that as an industry we will invest in unique ways to radically reduce cost of production such as:

- Alternative food sources for pigs;
- Harnessing entrepreneurs and technologies that already exist outside our industry;
- More aggressively investigating accelerated evolution; or
- Finding ways to excite consumers with attractive serving suggestions from different sizes of pig.

Alternatively, are we going to learn how to manipulate product though taste, texture, appearance or aroma to improve our product's rating by consumers and justify the premium (or a larger premium) we already get at home in overseas niches?

Whatever option producers choose, we need to choose it fast.

We shouldn't waste this 'once in a generation' opportunity to make a significant difference to the future of our industry.

APL serves up new teaching resource

AUSTRALIAN Pork Limited launched its latest teaching resource 'Pork is on the Menu' at the 2017 Food, Fibre and Agricultural Educators Conference at the Mercure Hotel, Brisbane on Monday, January 9, 2017.

To officially launch the teaching resource and accompanying recipe book, celebrity chef Ed Halmagyi (also known as Fast Ed) demonstrated two recipes designed for year 9-10 students.

Some of the teachers attending the conference will also tour Gilly's Smallgoods and learn to make smallgoods such as bacon and salami from fresh Australian pork.

To help ensure the effective delivery of 'Pork is on the Menu', this new resource is also accompanied by an offer of the provision of two serves of free fresh Australian pork per student.

The distribution of fresh Australian pork will be piloted in Adelaide throughout February, with a national roll-

out of the program to occur later in 2017.

Manager of the Pigs in Schools education program Miss Ashley Norval hopes this fantastic offer will help teachers deliver both the theoretical and practical knowledge of cooking with pork to their students.

'Pork is on the Menu' is the first APL resource to focus on the food technology curriculum.

APL's Pigs in Schools education program up until this point has focused on all aspects of pig production, covering kindergarten to year 10 classes.

All APL's education resources are freely available to teachers throughout Australia.

For more information on any part of the education program, please contact APL's manager of Technology Adoption and Industry Capability Ashley Norval on 02 6270 8823 or ashley.norval@australianpork.com.au



Fast Ed and Ashley Norval at the launch of 'Pork is on the Menu'.



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WAPPA wanderings way out west

WHILE wandering the food lanes of my local farmers' market recently, I bumped into one of the West Australian pork industry's many 'top blokes', namely Richard Evison of Westpork and immediate past president of WA Pork Producers' Association.

Having spotted Richard, standing, feisty miniature black schnauzer at hand, with both looking somewhat quizzical outside a fruit 'n veg stall, I couldn't help but joke with him that eating fruit 'n veg is OK and it's not just all about meat, vis-avis pork.

Of course he pleaded 'not guilty', quickly reminding me that his delightful wife Alison is treasurer of South Fremantle High School farmers' market and she was on a stall fee collection mission.

Alison also has quite a pork pedigree, having formerly been PA to David Lock when he was chief executive of Craig Mostyn Group (best known for its Linley Valley Pork).

These days her and David have moved on, both now at Fremantle-based agribusiness Mareterram, which has a substantial fish footprint, but I know is always looking to get its opportunistic hands on other agri-food sectors that might profitably and snugly fit its vertically integrated operation.

Anyway, back to WAPPA, which I'm pleased to note now has a website (www.wappa.com.au) up and running, having laid low in 'limbo land' for several years.

Go visit.

WAPPA was incorporated in May 1980 as West Australian Pig Producers' Association.

In March 1996 it became the West Australian Pork Producers' Association, a name and branding change I lay claim to having encouraged, pushed and promoted at the time.

Clearly, such a producer organisation had to focus on what its members were producing (that is, pork) not the 'vehicle' (pigs) by which 'this little piggy went to market'.

It really was a no brainer and I must acknowledge the drive for such a change, including to a new logo, was strongly supported by a WAPPA president, Graeme Moore (father of Pork Innovation WA's Karen Moore).

These days Graeme makes and markets his wonderful Harvey Pork Sausages.

Go buy 'em.

When my father and I established one of WA's earliest deer herds back in the early 1980s, with initial stock from South Australia and Victoria, we always said we farmed venison, not deer.

The same principle applies to pigs and pork.

WAPPA in 2017 focuses on promoting and safeguarding the interests of its members, mostly pork producers, with the WA and Federal governments and their departments.

WAPPA also sees its role as promoting and participating in raising the



Cant Comment
 by
BRENDON CANT

training), reduce costs across the supply chain and develop and grow export markets for pork products.

WAPPA is funded by a grant from the Agricultural Produce Commission, with a committee of management overseeing its affairs and a part-time executive officer (Jan Cooper) managing day-to-day operations.

WAPPA's executive committee comprises Dawson Bradford (president) of Popanyinning, Graeme Dent (vice president) of Cuballing, Torben Soerensen (treasurer) of GD Pork, Dean Romaniello of Craig Mostyn Group and Emalyn Loudon, consultant to the pork industry.

According to the Department of Agriculture and Food, WA website, the WA pork industry comprises 12 percent of the national pig herd, is worth around \$130 million at the farm gate and employs about 1500 people along the supply chain.

The majority of product is used as fresh pork for the domestic market, with 20 percent exported to Singapore.

pigmeat production bar and improving processing and manufacturing, through research, hence it works with such research-focused bodies as PIWA and Pork CRC.

The WA pork industry's strategic goals are to lift fresh pork consumption, improve productivity (increase skilled labour through importation and



Previous WAPPA president Richard Evison (right) and his wife Alison were bemused by the photographer (yours truly) at WAPPA's 2014 industry dinner. Milne Agrigroup's David Plant and his wife Anita were similarly affected, with Anita seeking a big shoulder to 'cry' on.



Graeme Moore (left foreground), Chris Brennan and producer Chris Keene at a WAPPA meeting at Pastoral House. Both Graeme and Chris Keene did stints as WAPPA president.



In 2008 at WAPPA's AGM/GM/Forum, a busy and focused Alison Naylor (now Evison) took the minutes.



Harvey Pork Sausages at IGA South Fremantle.

www.porknews.com.au

Aussie Pumps fire survival guide

AUSSIE Pumps has produced a new and updated version of its 'fire survival guide'.

The guide helps homeowners to confidently assess the risks of fire for their property and take preventative action.

Firefighting authorities across Australia are warning of a potentially catastrophic bush fire-fighting season.

Winter rains have been

a bonus for farmers but they have also led to a huge increase in undergrowth, posing major hazards, not only in the country but also in urban areas.

The document details extensive knowledge and information on preparation work to be done in advance.

Even if you decide to 'get out of the way' of oncoming fire and leave,

a well-prepared home is more likely to survive and easier to protect.

The guide also illustrates how to prepare your home so you have substantially better protection if you are prevented from retreating.

A survey of Victorian, NSW and Queensland firefighting services indicates a sombre view for the rest of the summer.

Aussie Pumps' Brad Farrugia said stable rainfall over winter means vegetation growth has been much greater than in recent memory and it continued to grow over spring.

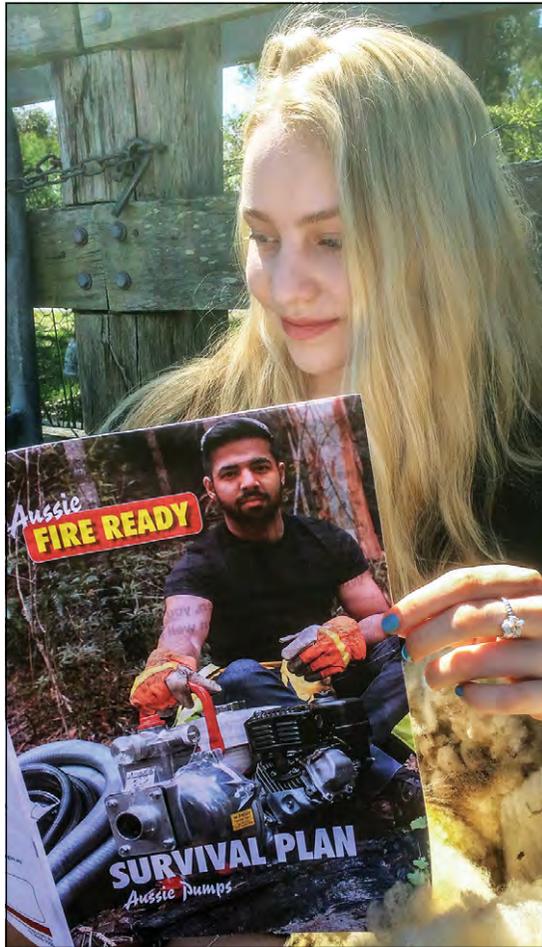
"This means there is more fuel for the sweltering-hot fire season, which authorities have predicted will be disastrous," he said.

"We have bumped up production and begun an active education program for dealers, farmers and homeowners."

Aussie Pumps 'Fire Ready Safety' posters will also be readily available, helping to spread the basic rules on preparation in line with those very proactive programs run by firefighting authorities in all states.

The Aussie Pumps 'Fire Ready Survival Plan', a 24-page document packed with invaluable information, is available free of charge from Aussie Pumps distributors and other key outlets throughout Australia.

Further information is available from Aussie Pumps on 02 8865 3500 or check out the website at aussiepumps.com.au



Josie Robertson from NSW checked out the new Aussie Pumps fire survival guide.

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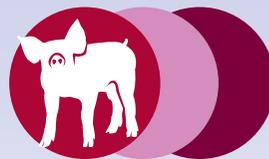
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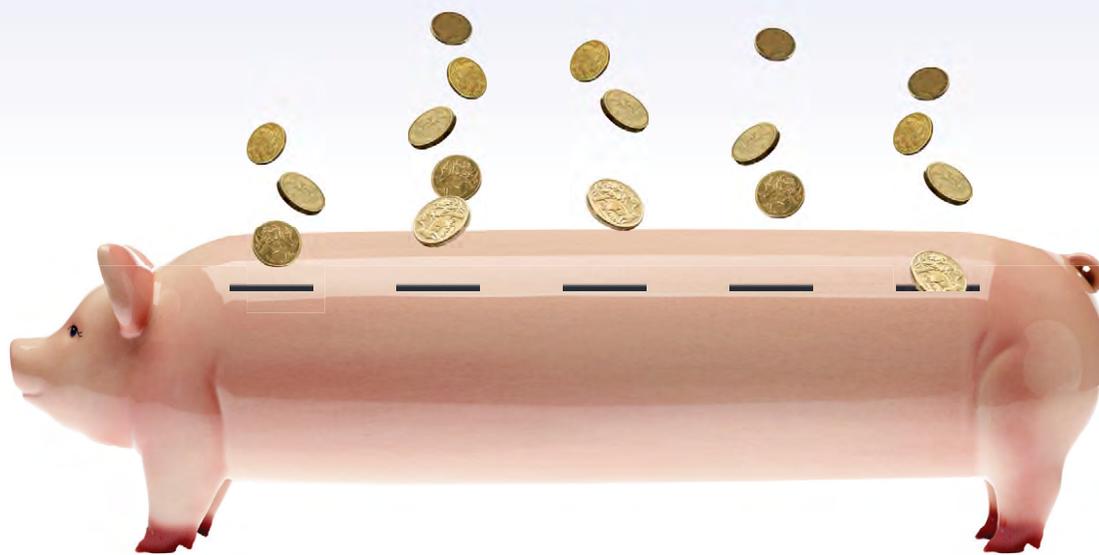
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You will be responsible for complying with all Pork Storks Australia bio security requirements and the Australian Pork Industry Quality Assurance Program (APIQ), along with the implementation and auditing of the Pork Storks Quality System. Reporting of customer issues, PIC customer and production requirements, along with monthly management and semen quality reports will also be part of this role.

Experience in a livestock environment or directly in the swine industry and experience in the supervision of staff is essential for this position.

How to apply

For more information or to obtain a Position Description please contact People & Culture on 03 5445 5945 or email recruitment@apiam.com.au.

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Pork Queensland Inc directors re-elected

PORK Queensland Inc directors were re-elected for a further term at the recent AGM, with myself as the organisation's president.

The other directors include John Riley, Laurie Brosnan, Paul Taylor and Robyn Boundy.

I thank my fellow directors for their continuing service to the industry in Queensland.

PQI directors give their time free of charge and without such Queensland pig farmers would not have representation at a state level.

Producers are urged to contact PQI to take up membership to underpin their representation and support travel expenses for directors to represent Queensland pig farmers regarding state and local government issues.

PQI maintains a position on a number of Queensland government and industry task groups.

It also provides a link to the national pork in-



President's Perspective

by JOHN COWARD



dustry body, Australian Pork Limited, through quarterly meetings with APL and other state pig farming bodies to ensure uniformity in the development of national rules and regulations such as the review of the Model Code of Practice.

PQI also maintains an associate membership with Queensland Farmers' Federation to bring about alignment of pork with other intensive livestock bodies, which provides a greater representative base when addressing government.

Pig farmers or industry stakeholders who would like more information

on becoming a financial member can contact me directly on 0407 622 166.

Membership costs \$150 for producers with less than 200 sows and \$300 for those with 200 or more.

Your membership support is greatly needed and appreciated.

Issues PQI addresses include emergency response plans for floods, fires and storms as well as involvement with government should there be an exotic disease outbreak.

PQI also engages with senior department personnel on issues such as planning, water, licences and environmental impacts related to pig farming.

New team member for Stockyard Industries

STOCKYARD Industries is pleased to introduce Cam Ross as the new territory sales representative based in the Bendigo office.

Cam has a Bachelor of Agriculture and over seven years' experience in agricultural sales and business development.

Cam is looking forward to a new challenge within the pig industry and developing strong business relationships with Stockyard's customers.

Cam can be contacted on 0488 045 388 or cameron@stockyardindustries.com



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CANADA January 28 2008	KOREA October 6 2008	SLOVENIA April 27 2009	BELGIUM April 27 2009	AUSTRIA May 6 2009	POLAND July 10 2009	MALAYSIA August 14 2009	ARGENTINA February 18 2010	BELARUS July 15 2010	NAMIBIA December 13 2011	SERBIA December 13 2012	AUSTRALIA May 20 2015
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¹ Based on the annual sales volume. Data on file.



What is going on with the TPP?

ON Monday, January 23, 2017, Donald Trump signed an executive order to withdraw the US from the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement, a trade agreement with 12 nations covering about 40 percent of the world's economy.

As producers, you may be unsure about what this means for you.

The pork industry is right to feel disappointed at the TPP agreement's impending failure.

The TPP can only come into force if ratified by at least six member countries comprising 85 percent of the combined gross domestic product.

Without US participation, that is not possible.

The TPP would have secured new market access gains for Australian pork exporters, including through the removal of tariffs and increased access to quotas.

For example, the TPP would have led to the reduction and elimination of tariffs on pork products in Japan and Mexico, respectively, and would have provided additional access to Malaysia's limited quota volumes.

It also would have opened avenues to address non-tariff measures in TPP markets through the establishment of a committee structure covering technical barriers to trade and sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures.

So where to from here?

Australian Pork Limited supports the Australian government's ratification of the TPP regardless.

This would signal Australia's support for trade liberalisation.

We encourage other TPP members to look at alternative methods to implement the agreed outcomes and secure the negotiated gains.

The government is continuing its efforts to secure conclusion of all regional and bilateral trade agreements currently under negotiation, including the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership and the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.

As an industry, we support the principles of free trade.

The Australian pork industry competes successfully in domestic and international markets, without the benefit of producer subsidies or tariff barriers.

This has not changed. Given the level of uncertainty, only time will tell what happens next.

For more on how the TPP affects our industry, see APL's submission to the Senate Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade at aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Foreign_Affairs_Defence_and_Trade/TPP/Submissions

Practical employment platform to support farmers, promote careers in agriculture

AUSTRALIAN agriculture, like all industries, is engaged in fierce competition for the best and brightest.

Attracting and retaining great people is the key to ensuring a bright, profitable future for the sector.

Now, five organisations delivering agricultural research and development have given agriculture the edge by unveiling a go-to website for guidance and inspiration on employment in Australian agriculture.

People in Agriculture (www.peopleinag.com.au) was recently launched by Agriculture and Water Resources Minister Barnaby Joyce in Armidale.

The site offers compliance support for employ-

ers, promotes agriculture as a career choice and provides a platform for employment information sharing.

Providing an overarching agricultural perspective, as well as sector-specific content, the website provides resources for employers and guides for employees via one centralised hub.

The collaboration includes Rural Research and Development Corporations covering pork, cotton, dairy, grains, cattle, sheep and goat industries, along with project partner Food and Agribusiness Solutions.

People in Agriculture offers practical tips, templates and examples across

agriculture that can be easily applied to streamline employment processes developed to assist and inform best-practice employment on farms.

The website breaks down questions commonly asked by Australia's farmers and food producers around employment law and staff management, and provides access to information on employment opportunities, entitlements and career management in agriculture.

The combined RDCs will support content for the multi-platform site with videos, profiles, news, events and links to other resources.

Visit peopleinag.com.au for more information.

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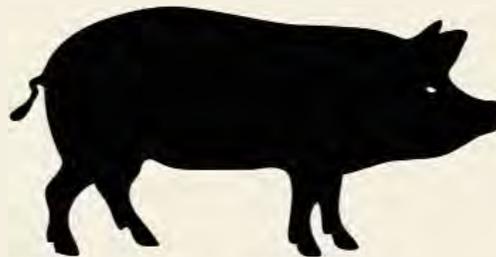
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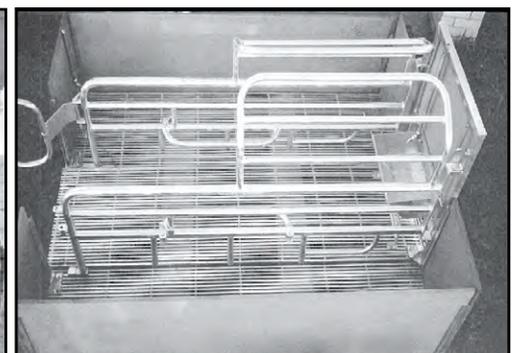
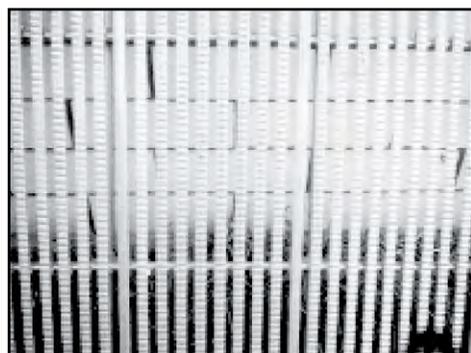
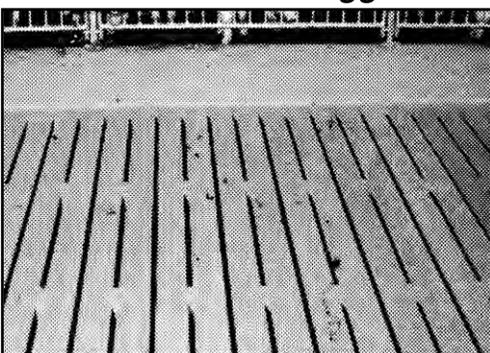
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Pig Farm Perspective
by Bruce the brainy pig



OVER the past few years, interest has been steadily growing in modifying current reproductive strategies in pigs to increase reproductive success.

One such topic often discussed is the use of post-cervical artificial insemination.

This is not a new technology, however interest has been steadily increasing.

Traditionally, artificial insemination involves deposition of fresh semen in the cervix using a foam-tipped or spiral catheter.

However, this is a distance from the site of fertilisation, the oviduct (the tube connecting the ovary to the uterus).

As such, a technique known as PCAI was developed.

PCAI is achieved through passing a standard-sized insemination catheter to the external tissues of the cervix, in the same manner as conventional AI.

The first catheter is placed in a sow 45 minutes to one hour after being detected in standing heat.

A second, smaller catheter is then inserted through the larger catheter one to two minutes after inserting the larger catheter.

This catheter passes through the cervix into the uterus, allowing the semen to be deposited directly into the uterus.

Once the catheter has been inserted into the uterus, the bag of semen can be attached and squeezed into the body of the uterus, taking 10-15 seconds.

This is one of the core differences between PCAI and traditional AI, where the semen must be allowed to be slowly taken up by the sow to reduce the risk of semen flowback.

It is important to remember that boar exposure is still critical for heat detection and subsequent timing of

AI for both PCAI and traditional AI.

However, boars should not be present when mating the sow using PCAI.

Ideally, insemination of sows will occur between 12 and zero hours prior to ovulation.

Inseminating at this time has been shown to result in the highest conception rates and total pigs born.

While there are many advantages to PCAI, it is vital to remember that sanitation is even more important than with traditional AI to avoid depositing any unwanted bacteria or contaminants into the uterus of the sow.

PCAI also has the potential to reduce the dose of semen required per insemination, reduce the dose of semen extender required, reduce time required for insemination of sows and increase the ability to select for high breeding value boars. 🐷

New rodenticide formulation for intensive farming

AFTER being successfully trialled in a select number of Australian piggeries under an emergency use permit, BASF's unique Selontra Soft Bait Rodenticide is now registered for use in and around animal houses and along perimeter fence lines.

Globally, increased importance has been placed on the need for rodent baits with active ingredients that reduce the risk of secondary poisoning and feed contamination.

Selontra meets these requirements – both lowering the risk of secondary poisoning and significantly reducing the potential of primary and secondary feed contamination.

It is also fast acting, resulting in effective, rapid control.

Selontra has been developed by the experts in pest control at BASF who invest over \$2 million a day in crop protection research and development.

The highly effective and innovative non-anticoagulant bait is based on a naturally occurring active ingredient and offers distinctive benefits that can help to achieve complete control



BASF Professional and Specialty Solutions technical specialist Dr David Elmouttie.

of rodent infestations up to three times faster than conventional anticoagulant rodenticides.

BASF Professional and Specialty Solutions technical specialist Dr David Elmouttie said the new rodent bait will be a welcome solution for animal producers to control rodents and their destruction capabilities quickly.

“Selontra also increases efficiencies for farmers and businesses alike, addressing a multitude of baiting issues that have previously made controlling populations extremely challenging,” Dr Elmouttie said.

“Due to its unique mode of action Selontra also has a low risk of secondary poisoning and feed contamination, which makes it an ideal bait for use in animal houses such as pig and chicken farms.”

Each year, rodents destroy about 20 percent of the world's agricultural products, cause enormous amounts of damage to homes and businesses and spread more than 200 human pathogens.

Selontra requires as little as two bait applications for complete control, resulting in quicker control of the entire colony.

It causes rodents to stop feeding, meaning that each pest will consume the required amount to be effective, leaving the remaining bait for the rest of the rodent population.

This stop-feed action also reduces the likelihood of further damage and contamination caused by hungry rodents, particularly in areas where other appealing food sources are readily available.

Selontra is a unique soft block formulation that remains stable and effective in dry environments and across hot and cold conditions.

Due to Selontra's naturally occurring active ingredient and unique mode of action, the development of resistance in rodents is considered highly unlikely; no cases of resistance have been reported globally.

BASF is committed to providing innovative solutions for urban and rural pest control.

Selontra's extremely palatable formulation gives pest management professionals and farmers around the world a reliable, fast and effective baiting solution to tackle even the toughest rodent populations.

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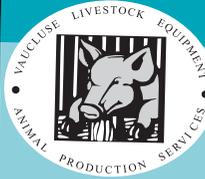
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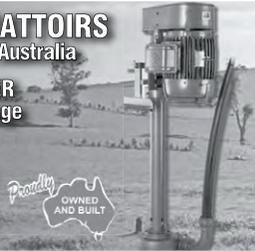
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World feed production exceeds one billion tonnes

THE recently released 2017 Alltech Global Feed Survey estimates that international feed tonnage has exceeded one billion metric tonnes for the first time.

That's a 3.7 percent increase over last year and represents 19 percent growth since the inaugural survey in 2012, despite a 7 percent decrease in the number of feed mills.

The sixth annual survey is the most comprehensive ever, now covering 141 countries and more than 30,000 feed mills.

The results show that the US and China are the top two countries, producing one-third of all animal feed, and that predominant growth came from the pig, beef and aquaculture feed sectors as well as several African, Asian and Middle Eastern countries.

Alltech chief innovation officer and vice president of corporate accounts Aidan Connolly said this year clearly demonstrates the growing efficiency and consolidation of the

feed industry."

"Not only has total feed production exceeded one billion tonnes for the first time, but it has done so with fewer facilities, which means greater efficiencies and a decreased environmental footprint," he said.

The Alltech Global Feed Survey assesses compound feed production and prices through information collected by Alltech's global sales team and in partnership with local feed associations.

It is intended to serve as an information resource for policy-makers, decision-makers and industry stakeholders.

This year's survey

showed that the top 30 countries, ranked by production output, are home to 82 percent of the world's feed mills and produce 86 percent of the world's total feed.

The top 10 feed-producing countries in 2016, in order of production output importance, were China, the US, Brazil, Mexico, Spain, India, Russia, Germany, Japan and France.

These countries contain 56 percent of the world's feed mills and account for 60 percent of total feed production.

Notable pig results

Positive growth was observed in pig feed produc-

tion, particularly in Asia as Vietnam and Thailand are now top-10 pig-producing countries.

China represents over a quarter of the world's pig feed production but sow numbers have decreased by almost 40 percent over the past three years.

"The Alltech Global Feed Survey provides valuable information and an annual pulse check on the feed industry as we look towards sustainably feeding a growing population," Connolly said.

"The survey continues to improve and provide more robust and reliable data."



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Connecting farmers and workers

CARING Hands Australia Pty Ltd was originally established to assist highly qualified Filipino students to study in Australia.

During our promotional tours of the Philippines we have met amazingly dedicated people who have excellent industry experience and formal qualifications.

Many of these people haven't opted to study here in Australia but have indicated their interest to be part of the sponsorship program.

The minimum qualification held by our applicants is a bachelor's degree.

Many have master's degrees and have specialised in veterinary science, animal husbandry and quality assurance.

A key strength of the Filipino employees is their excellent English skills because the Philippines conducts all schooling with English as the main language.

The benefit for employers is the confidence that the new employees will

be able to work as soon as they arrive.

Filipino people are happy, respectful, trustworthy and very loyal.

They are committed to providing a better life for their families and they work hard to achieve their goals.

We have many excellent applicants available for immediate sponsorship.

Take Loraice for example.

She is a veterinarian who has been working in a local slaughterhouse since 2011 as the post-mortem section head and primarily functions as head meat inspector and QA officer.

She previously worked as an instructor in a vet school for three years.

Caring Hands Australia takes pride in the high-quality applicants we have.

All our shortlisted applicants have excellent English skills, work experience and great attitudes.

We interview each individual and prepare them for the challenges of working in Australia.

We have applicants who excel in different fields such as engineers, boilermakers, agronomists, dairy farm technicians, mechanics, plumbers, carpenters, nurses, chefs, nannies and aircraft technicians.

In addition, we are able to offer the services of bookkeepers (Xero and QuickBooks), IT specialists and telemarketers who are already based in Australia.

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