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# Australian Pork

## NEWSPAPER

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Nino Zoccali plating up blonde bolognaise.

## Top Sydney chefs gather to support Aussie pork industry

SYDNEY'S most influential chefs gathered with farmers and food industry leaders recently at Restaurant Pendolino for a night of collaboration and celebration, all in the name of Australian pork.

Australian Pork Limited's foodservice brand PorkStar took the opportunity to bring the industry together after a difficult 12 months across the country.

Despite the huge hit the hospitality sector endured during COVID-19, the event proved spirits are still high and the resilience of the foodservice industry in Australia is as strong as ever.

PorkStar marketing manager Kylie Roberts said the night was a significant moment for both those in attendance and chefs around the country following on social channels.

"An integral part of foodservice is the people," Kylie said.

"Chefs ultimately build intimate relationships with their diners through food and that transcends behind the scenes, through the connection they have with their staff and peers. "Not being able to engage with one another face-to-face has been tough.

"You could feel the passion in the room, with

chefs sharing opportunities and new ideas with one another."

True to the adage that good food is enhanced by good company, together with much anticipated conversation, the 60 guests dined on a menu showcasing innovation with Australian pork – curated by head chef and restaurateur Nino Zoccali, with wine matched by *Gourmet Traveller Wine* magazine.

Nino leaped at the chance to fill his dining room with peers such as Colin Fassnidge, Manu Feildel, Lennox Hastie and Claire Van Vuuren and was overwhelmed with the positive outlook cultivated by the occasion.

"We continue to face many challenges, but to create an environment where our industry can lean on one another, yet also throw around inspiration for delicious food – that was refreshing," Nino said.

The menu featured dishes such as trotter and pork bone broth, blonde bolognaise and pork tournedos, served with beetroot rapa, autumn vegetables, fennel spice and pork fat dutch cream potato.

## Industry bodies united to overcome supply chain risks

IT is important agriculture upholds a 'Team Australia' approach to solving problems that threaten multiple production sectors and supply chain workforces.

The time-tested resilience common across all of Australia's rural workforces combined with an enduring spirit of enterprise is a tremendous quality to draw upon in testing times, whether it is caused by a global pandemic, national animal disease outbreak or other potential emergencies.

Confirmation from the Federal Government that Australian meat processing workers will be given priority access to COVID vaccinations shows how unified industry advocacy helps deliver positive outcomes for our agricultural workforce.

Second only to the first phase of vaccinations, which will be given to workers in frontline health care, quarantine and border security, meat processor employees have been classed as 'critical and high risk' workers alongside defence, police, fire and emergency services personnel.

Securing early access to the vaccine for meat processing workers followed intensive work and advocacy from Australian Pork Limited and other meat industry groups with the Federal Government.

More than 100,000 pigs are processed in Australia every week, so vaccinating our meat workers was crucial for



### Point of View

by MARGO ANDRAE CEO



mitigating the risk of abattoir shutdowns and ensuring we continue to satisfy strong consumer demand for Aussie pork.

Meat industry workers by necessity carry out their duties near their colleagues and in controlled indoor environments where the risk of the respiratory spread of illness may be increased.

As we await the rollout of the vaccines, APL continues to work with our processor members, the Federal Government and other meat industry groups to ensure practical aspects of distributing the doses are well planned.

As this shows, the many unique characteristics of our pork, beef or lamb supply chains never impede our ability to work together, especially in emergency management situations.

When we draw on cross-sector priorities, we can present a clear industry consensus to government.

Indeed, government support in terms of vaccination access, especially that of Health Minister Greg Hunt and Agriculture Min-

ister David Littleproud, is helping our livestock industries mitigate against the risk of disastrous COVID-19-related supply chain shutdowns.

APL has been working hard with Minister Hunt, Minister Littleproud and their departments to prioritise the vaccination our processor workforce. While APL's approach is always focussed on pork, we are proud to work collaboratively with other industry organisations to secure important outcomes for all Australian farmers.

Importantly, measures to protect the Australian pork industry from the effects of the pandemic are also a chance to revisit and refine comparative response frameworks for other critical situations, both specific to our industry and cross-sector scenarios.

Reviewing these protocols is also informed by contemporary experiences in pork supply chains overseas, most obviously China's response to African swine fever and the crisis in the US last year when COVID-19 abattoir shutdowns forced producers to destroy their pigs en masse.

The experiences here and overseas over the past 12 months have reinforced the importance of knowledge sharing and strengthened APL's resolve to maintain a collaborative 'Team Australia' role in protecting our national farm industries.

Our pig farmers are proud of the way Australian pork is helping to uphold the reputation of our nation's agricultural sectors, which in turn is attracting more consumers to enjoy the extraordinary versatility of delicious fresh Australian pork.



Miguel Maestre and Manu Feildel.

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## Pork Industry Calendar of Events

2021

**MAR 22-25** – 2021 Meat Conference,  
Virtual Event [www.meatconference.com](http://www.meatconference.com)

**MAY 4-5 (POSTPONED)** – Pan  
Pacific Pork Expo (PPPE), Gold Coast  
E: [pppe@australianpork.com.au](mailto:pppe@australianpork.com.au)

**AUG tbc** – Kingaroy Baconfest  
[www.kingaroybaconfest.com.au](http://www.kingaroybaconfest.com.au)

**SEP 7-10** – International Animal  
Production Show [www.feriazaragoza.com/figan-2021](http://www.feriazaragoza.com/figan-2021)

**NOV 15-18** – Australasian Pig Science  
Association (APSA) Conference  
[www.apsa.asn.au](http://www.apsa.asn.au)

**How to supply event details: Send all  
details to Australian Pork Newspaper,  
PO Box 162, Wynnum, Qld 4178, call 07  
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# Increasing reproductive performance and productivity

LOOKING closely at the data, it seems productivity per sow in Australian pig herds is on the rise.

This is great to hear, and it hasn't come about by accident.

Over the three decades I've been involved with the pork industry, we have invested considerable research investment into increasing reproductive performance.

This has come through best practice gilt management and mating techniques including the move to artificial insemination.

There has also been significant nutritional improvement before and during pregnancy to increase ovulation, improve embryo and foetal survival as well as prior to farrowing to minimise stillbirths.

As Australia has remained closed to imported genetics since 1991, many speculated how producers would remain globally competitive.

At the 2017 Australia-



General Manager –  
Research & Innovation

by ROB SMITS



sian Pig Science Association conference, Dr Kim Bunter from the Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit at the University of New England in Armidale, presented an excellent paper explaining that population variance within Australian pig herds will allow sufficient genetic 'room' to continuously improve selected breeding traits.

If we look at comparative performances from overseas, maternal genetics is the main area where Australia lags, especially in the performance indicator of litter

size born and weaned per sow.

In 2019, Australia averaged 22.1 pigs weaned per sow per year in the Australian benchmarking group compared to other countries supplying pork for ham and bacon – notably Denmark, the US and the Netherlands, as per the graph.

The top three Australian herds averaged 26.1 weaned per sow per year for all parties.

As cited in the US *National Hog Farmer* publication recently, the long-term trend for annual US commercial increase in

pigs per litter was 0.104 – equivalent to a little over a pig per litter every 10 years.

Australia's benchmarking data suggests that we are also increasing in litter size in our commercial herds over time, due to better genetics and improved environmental and husbandry factors.

But we are far from achieving a comparable breeder performance level as recorded overseas – as an industry, our benchmark value of 22.1 doesn't even put Australia on the chart!

In 2019, the Commonwealth Government Office of the Gene Technology Regulator decided to exclude several forms of gene editing from being classified as a genetically modified organism, as an amendment to the Gene Technology Regulations 2001.

These alterations, which came into force in October 2020, will now allow changes to genetic material – SDN-1 or site-

directed nuclease – due to editing, deletion or repair and not be classified as GMO.

Gene-editing technology – the most common of which is clusters of regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats, allows a particular site on the DNA or genome to be attached and then cut, to edit the functioning of that genetic sequence.

By doing so faulty parts of the genome can then be repaired, which could then for example be used to cure genetic diseases.

For the most part, gene sequences in normal plants and animals act in an inhibitory way, so another use of gene editing is to identify these inhibition gene sequences and delete them, thus a magnified expression of the trait being inhibited is realised.

CRISPR has been around since 2012 and as more is becoming known about the pig genome, genomic research for breeding purposes is transformational.

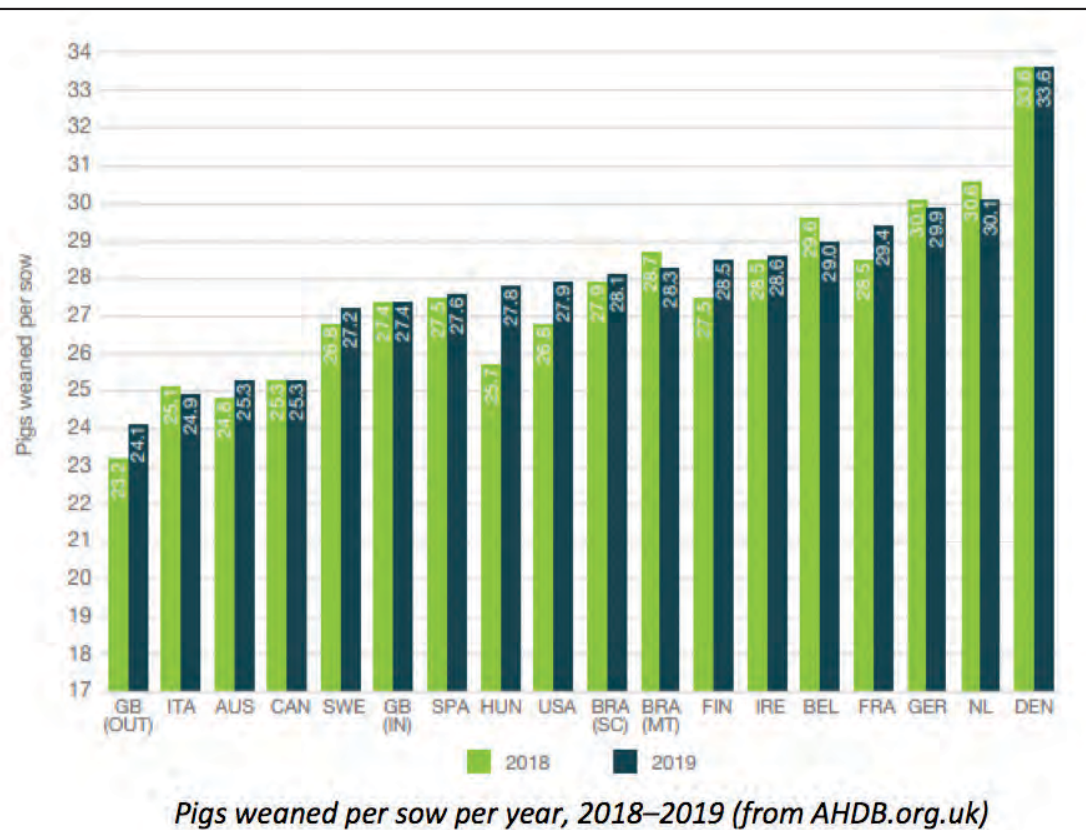
Australia has the technical capacity and scientists to rapidly improve on the genetic base of the Australian pig.

These innovations will hopefully lead to a new era of accelerated genetic advances in pig breeding in Australia.

We may finally be able to catch up to the performance of overseas genetics, especially as Denmark and the EU have decided to not allow changes to their GMO classification.

The decision as to which genomic traits will be advanced by gene editing and which performance traits are targeted by the US – and possibly the UK now that they are no longer in the EU – will be of much interest.

For the latest international benchmarking performance levels report or to find out more, please email [rob.smits@australianpork.com.au](mailto:rob.smits@australianpork.com.au)



Pigs weaned per sow per year, 2018-2019 (from AHDB.org.uk)

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## Antimicrobial use 2016-2020 across nine breeding herd pyramids (1-9)

Daily doses

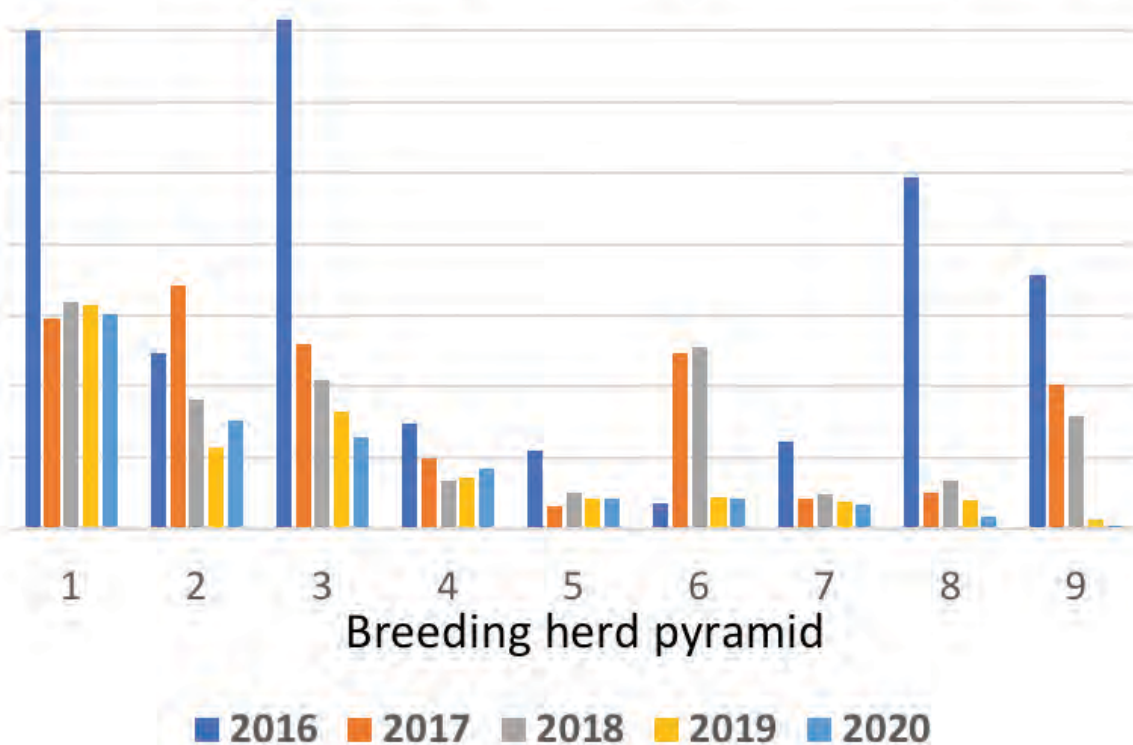


Figure 1. SunPork: Total doses of antimicrobials used 2016-2020.

# SunPork shining light on antimicrobial stewardship

IN only three and a half years, SunPork Fresh Foods has developed an antimicrobial measurement system and applied it across their nine pyramids in three states across 41,000 sows.

Using good farming practice and judicious use of antimicrobial medication, SunPork has demonstrated a substantial reduction year on year in the number of antimicrobial doses used.

Over the pork production business on 38 sites, antimicrobial usage has been reduced by about 65



percent over the period from 2016-2020.

The work was led by SunPork's veterinary team, with strong support from the Board and site managers.

SunPork has demon-

strated that it is possible to remove medication from feed without adverse impact on pig health, welfare or performance providing air quality, hygiene, pig flows and pig care are attended to, and farm-to-

veterinarian communications prioritised.

Detailed analysis of mortality rates on farms during veterinary visits showed that week by week variation was independent of the addition of antimicrobials to feed.

The significant early decline in antimicrobial usage in several herds indicates that reductions can be achieved relatively easily.

Pyramids 1, 2 and 3 still have opportunities to reduce medication further.

Improvements are independent of piggery age and herd health status, which vary substantially across the spectrum of sites involved.

These data were presented to the Australian chief veterinary officer Dr Mark Schipp by SunPork's chief executive officer Dr Robert van Barneveld and veterinarians Drs Kirsty Richards and Bernie Gleeson.

The meeting took place in December 2020, after it became clear that Australian livestock producers have an important role to play in keeping government veterinary leaders directly informed about achievements in antimicrobial stewardship at the farm level.



SunPork chief executive officer Dr Robert van Barneveld.

"SunPork's antimicrobial stewardship journey started with the veterinary team who wanted to do the best they could do for the animal and the consumers," Dr van Barneveld said.

"It wasn't done to save money.

"The SunPork Board endorsed the approach because it was the right thing to do.

"We have historically kept these data in-house but we are very proud of this achievement so it is time to talk about it more widely.

"Our farming operations are seeing better productivity than ever, our carcasses are better than ever and we are able to manage respiratory health so that abattoir chain speeds can be maintained."

Dr van Barneveld emphasised that SunPork's antimicrobial stewardship policy is all about sustainability rather than marketing.

It is a matter of optimising human and animal health and the welfare of our animals.

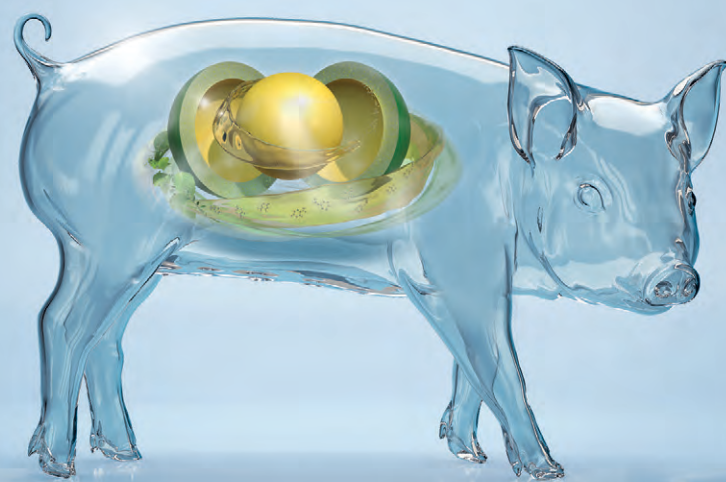
The best way for Australian farmers to start their antimicrobial stewardship journey is to talk to their herd veterinarian.

For additional information go to [australianpork.com.au/industry-focus/product-integrity/antimicrobial-stewardship](http://australianpork.com.au/industry-focus/product-integrity/antimicrobial-stewardship)

SunPork has given approval for the author to share these data with the Australian pork industry as an example of antimicrobial stewardship good practice.

The contributions of Dr Kirsty Richards and Dr Bernie Gleeson are acknowledged.   
Ross Cutler

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# Policy priority to build workforce

HAVING grown up in Parkes NSW on a pig farm, I have seen firsthand the on-going challenges our industry faces in attracting and retaining suitable workers.

These challenges have only been exacerbated by COVID-19, with the restriction of movement of workers across state borders, reduced incoming flights and border closures, minimising the availability of overseas workers.

Over the past six months, the Australian Pork Limited policy team has been working hard to finalise policy resolutions and priorities for the next 12 months, with workforce being a key priority.

In recognition of on-going labour and skills shortages faced by the industry, APL engaged consultants to develop the pork industry workforce strategy.

The purpose of the strategy was to identify and prioritise key areas of workforce policy for the Australian pork sector by engaging with industry through interviews, focus groups and an online survey.



by **BILLY DAVIES**  
Policy Officer



The process was voluntary and we're hugely appreciative of those who were involved.

As we developed the strategy, three key areas of focus were identified – attraction and retention of employees, access to migrant labour, and training and education.

Each of the three priority areas identified through the consultation process are underpinned by specific tasks that have been carefully designed to improve the labour and skills situation for the industry and provide clear workforce policy direction for the APL policy team.

The immediate focus for our team however is ensuring the sector's accessibility to skilled overseas workers through the pork in-

dustry labour agreement.

We are currently working with the federal Department of Home Affairs to ensure those making decisions on labour agreements within government are well educated on the issues faced by the pork industry.

The APL policy team is also developing an information pack for DHA, to ensure key issues affecting our workforce are understood to support better decision-making among pork industry labour agreement delegates.

If you are having trouble attracting and retaining workers domestically, please email me at [billy.davies@australianpork.com.au](mailto:billy.davies@australianpork.com.au) as your input will help us craft our submission.



Celebrating cultural events with gifts arriving from overseas and increased travel increases the risk of introducing disease into Australia. Photo: Pascal Bernardon

## African swine fever variant and imports pose risk

THE Australian Government is urging heightened biosecurity vigilance following reports of new variants of African swine fever emerging in our region.

Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management David Littleproud said the next few weeks in particular were critical to keeping the deadly disease out.

"The reported emergence of new variants of the ASF virus in Asia is concerning," Minister Littleproud said.

"Variants are showing less obvious signs of the disease which increases the likelihood of it going undetected and uncontrolled.

"With cultural celebrations recently, more gift

items arriving and increased travel in the region, this is the perfect storm of risk.

"My department is aware of this developing situation and is pulling out all stops to ensure ASF does not arrive here – including interventions at the border, targeted operations to detect fraudulently labelled imported product and conducting more testing of pork products seized through international mail."

Changes have been made to legislation to allow increased penalties for travellers who do not declare high risk goods at the border.

"Other legislation changes also allow the Australian Border Force to cancel certain visas and

refuse entry to Australia for serious biosecurity breaches," Minister Littleproud said.

"And we are making sure we're as ready as possible to act should ASF ever be detected here, running simulation exercises for the Australia pork industry throughout 2019-20.

"But maintaining Australia's highly-valued pest and disease-free status is everyone's responsibility.

"A collective effort is our best defence.

"While gifts are brought or sent with good intentions, they can introduce pests or diseases into Australia, including ASF.

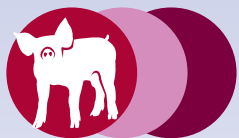
"If these products are brought or sent to Australia, people are not only risking significant penalties for breaching our bi-

osecurity conditions, they are also putting industries, jobs and the health of our plants and animals at risk.

"Commonly intercepted items include pork, which could carry deadly ASF, fruit, plants, eggs and herbs."

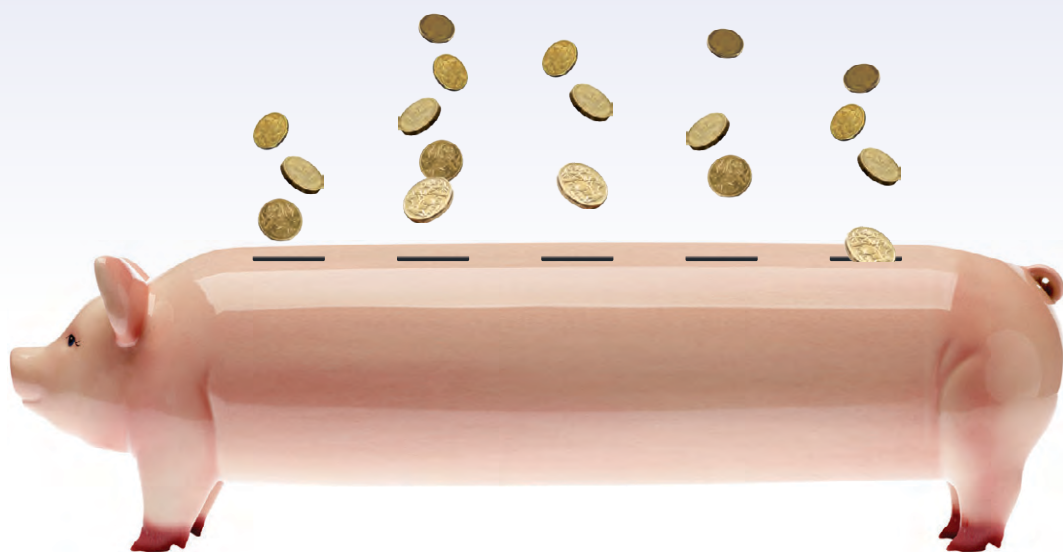
If you are unsure about the biosecurity status of goods that you have brought into Australia or received in the mail, please report a biosecurity concern by calling the hotline on 1800 798 636 or completing the online reporting form [agriculture.gov.au/pests-diseases-weeds/report#form](http://agriculture.gov.au/pests-diseases-weeds/report#form)

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# Power plays paralyse industry bodies

READING inaugural Australian Pork Limited chief executive officer Brian Ramsay's weekly emailed 'thought starter', penned under his title of managing director of Inovact Consulting in Canberra, got me thinking about my experiences working with and watching agricultural and rural industry organisations.

This week it was titled 'The dark side of industry leadership'.

My working and watching brief really kick-started back in

1979 while working as a journalist at the then *Farmers Weekly* newspaper, owned by one of Western Australia's two farm industry organisations, then known as Farmers' Union of WA.

The other was Pastoralists and Graziers Association.

In 1982, the Farmers' Union morphed into Primary Industry Association and these days is simply known as WAFarmers, or more affectionately WAF.

Before I delve briefly into my experiences, I'll share Brian's with you,

## Cant Comment by BRENDON CANT



via his February 22 commentary piece.

*I have written a lot about the benefit of industry organisations innovating faster so they can create more value*

for more businesses.

*If innovation is not happening when it should, do you know the underlying problem?*

*Look carefully, and it might reveal the problem is the dark side of industry leadership: people are acting to retain power.*

*In the Dictator's Handbook, political scientists Bueno de Mesquita and Alistair Smith start from a single assertion – Leaders do whatever keeps them in power.*

*They don't care about the 'national interest' – or even their subjects – unless they have to.*

*Their findings basically say that political leaders can attain and stay in power longer by*

having a small number of essential supporters, as it makes for fewer people to satisfy to keep control.

*When these winners have control of revenue flows, they will act to redistribute money to reward friends and replace dissenters.*

*It's a cynical view but resonates just a little too well with what we see happening in contemporary and historical political regimes of all types.*

*The problem is that industry bodies can become like regimes and represent the interests of a few, rather than industry businesses as a whole.*

*When that happens, industry leaders start to behave like political leaders and parties seeking to gain or retain power.*

*The insight is that if the innovation problem for industry institutions is about power seeking by vested interests, then the solutions are about governance.*

*It is about making sure that the industry body is designed to empower a*

large coalition of businesses and not a select few.

*Business leaders need to watch for the red flags that say the governance arrangements for their industry institutions must change.*

*Can you have a direct say and influence in your industry organisation?*

*Or do select groups have control of policy decisions and the money?*

So, back we go to August 1979, when I started work at Farmers' Union at 239 Adelaide Terrace in Perth.

President at the time was Wolfe Boetcher – a tough uncompromising self-made German immigrant farmer from Ajana, in country north of Geraldton that was as tough and uncompromising as Wolfe himself.

Wolfe had replaced Sir Donald Eckersley as president in 1975 and not too long after his ascendancy moved a motion to dissolve the organisation, due to a reduction in membership and members not paying their subscriptions.

This threat had a profound effect, resulting in subscriptions and memberships rising.

However, it was in 1979 during Wolfe's seven-year presidency that fractured state farming politics across Australia eventually precipitated an occasionally controversial and adversarial pitch for national unity, with the formation of the National Farmers' Federation, to

be based in Canberra.

I fondly recall in early 1980 flying sandwiched between Sir Donald – the inaugural NFF President – and Wolfe to Canberra, where I was transferred to establish and run an agricultural news bureau for Farmers Weekly and Stock Journal (South Australia).

Australia's farm leaders had finally recognised the need for a unified body and acted on it.

Such a unified position – reached admittedly by several stakeholders having to be dragged kicking and screaming to the table – was felt to be the most practical way of achieving real gains for farmers, especially at the federal government level.

The NFF has essentially done a decent job in its 40 years, albeit here in WA we still battle with two farm organisations – Pastoralists and Graziers Association and WAF – that for the most part are civil when in the same room, but have shown over the years that they can never consummate a committed relationship and 'live' together.

A civil union between the two just never happens, despite the best intentions of many peace brokers over many years.

Sadly, this is very often the fate suffered by industry organisation members and stakeholders when personal and ideological power struggles within the organisations take precedence over service to members.

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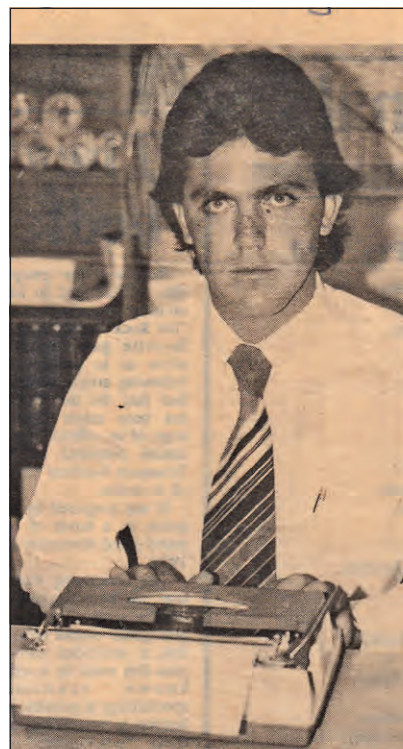
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Mr. Brendon Cant

## Man on the spot for Farmers Weekly

### Our man in Canberra

The Stock Journal has appointed a full time staff reporter in Canberra. Mr. Brendon Cant (pictured) will cover rural news in the national capital from this week.

Mr. Cant is jointly employed by the Stock Journal and the WA rural newspaper, the Farmers' Weekly. He was educated at Aquinas College, Perth and studied journalism at the WA Institute of Technology before entering rural journalism.

Stock Journal managing editor, Mr. Richard James, said this week that Mr. Cant's appointment would strengthen the Journal's coverage of vital national farming news. Canberra had become increasingly important to Australian farmers, particularly as all the nation's farmer organisations, under the umbrella of the National Farmers' Federation, were now strongly represented there.

Mr Brendon Cant has been appointed Canberra correspondent for Farmers Weekly and the Adelaide Stock Journal. Mr Cant, who was educated at Aquinas College, Perth, studied journalism at the WA Institute of Technology before entering rural journalism.

The Managing Editor of Farmers Weekly, Mr. Brian Nelson, said the successful launching of the National Farmers Federation had underlined the need for a man on the spot in Canberra.

"Over the past few years the Farmers Weekly has earned a reputation of being first with important news stories and Mr Cant's appointment should strengthen the newspaper's overall coverage of primary industry affairs," he added.

National farmer unity arguably began with the formation of peak body NFF in 1979. The author was on the spot in Canberra in 1980 to watch and write about how state industry organisations managed to morph into a national body. Leadership and power plays were front and centre.



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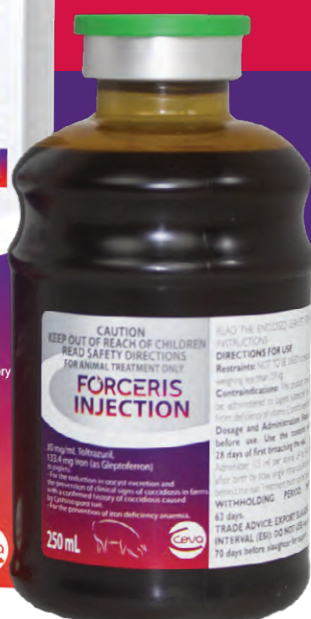


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\*Commercially available toltrazuril / gleptoferron combination. 1. Joachim et al., Parasites & Vectors, 2018. 2. Ceva internal data. 3. Sperling et al. Veterinary Record, 2018.





## AusScan Early Harvest Report - 2020/21 January

### Barley

Region	Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				Broiler AME MJ/Kg			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
NSW	12.4	0.15	11.9	12.8	10.2	0.39	9.6	10.7	11.6	0.36	10.9	12.2
NSW1	13.4	0.14	13.2	14.0	10.7	0.29	10.5	12.2	12.0	0.25	11.6	12.9
QLD	12.4	0.15	12.0	13.0	10.2	0.38	9.2	10.8	11.6	0.36	11.0	12.8
SA	12.5	0.12	12.3	12.8	10.2	0.27	9.9	10.5	11.7	0.33	11.1	12.4
SA1	13.2	0.36	12.4	14.0	10.8	0.35	10.2	12.4	12.6	0.33	11.9	13.5
SA2	13.3	0.14	13.1	13.4	10.8	0.16	10.6	11.0	12.8	0.24	12.5	13.1
VIC	12.4	0.13	12.3	12.8	10.3	0.38	9.9	10.5	11.5	0.34	11.1	12.4

### Sorghum

Region	Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				Broiler AME MJ/Kg			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
QLD	14.4	0.18	14.0	14.7	11.4	0.38	10.6	11.9	14.5	0.25	13.9	14.8

### Triticale

Region	Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				Broiler AME MJ/Kg			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
SA1	13.7	0.11	13.4	13.8	11.8	0.18	11.5	12.1	13.5	0.26	13.2	13.9

### Wheat

Region	Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				Broiler AME MJ/Kg			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
NSW	13.7	0.10	12.6	13.8	11.8	0.25	10.2	12.3	12.7	0.34	11.6	13.7
NSW1	13.8	0.26	13.3	14.2	11.7	0.59	10.7	12.6	12.6	0.37	11.8	13.3
QLD	13.7	0.10	13.6	13.9	11.8	0.25	11.3	12.4	12.7	0.34	12.0	13.7
SA	13.7	0.09	13.6	13.8	11.8	0.24	11.4	12.0	12.7	0.33	12.0	13.4
SA1	14.1	0.13	13.5	14.3	12.3	0.19	11.5	12.5	13.4	0.42	11.5	13.9
SA2	14.1	0.15	14.0	14.3	12.5	0.09	12.4	12.6	13.6	0.26	13.3	13.9
VIC	13.7	0.10	12.5	14.2	11.8	0.25	9.8	12.7	12.7	0.32	11.3	14.9

# AusScan Online publishes early harvest report

A COMMON request from nutritionists since the inception of AusScan Online was to have a preview of energy values for cereal grains around the time of harvest.

Additionally, it would be a bonus if the preview included all states around the country as the harvest rolls in.

The transfer from stored grain – old season – to new seasons grain with respect to grain quality values can vary considerably and feed formulations may need immediate attention.

The undersupply or oversupply of energy in diets can result in further increased costs due to reduced performance of livestock.

Assessment of AusScan Online cereal energy values at this critical time provides nutritionists with the digestible energy and apparent me-

tabolisable energy contents of the new season grains prior to feeding.

This allows for adjustments to feed formulations and, with current high grain prices, 1 MJ DE/kg can cost between \$25-30 per tonne.

Providing this information in the short time period required had not occurred until now, due to the uptake and geographical coverage AusScan Online now has with feed mills and laboratories across the country.

In the past, the Feed Grain Partnership produced a harvest report for wheat and barley from national variety trials from Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, in which AusScan Online provided the parameters to assess grain quality.

The FGP also provided an additional report using AusScan Online parameters to evaluate commercial feed wheat, barley and sorghum samples from Australian

feed mills in order to provide a more relevant report on cereal energy values for each region or state.

Though these reports were valuable and provided information about the harvest year, they were released after the harvest period.

A more immediate report has therefore been launched by AusScan Online to cover the 2020-21 harvest period by month, and to aid nutritionists in better utilising new seasons grain.

Feedmills across Australia utilising the technology send the month's scan data to AusScan Online for statistical analysis.

The reports highlight the changes and variations in energy values for pig faecal and ileal DE and broiler AME, as feed mills begin to process new seasons grains.

The first early harvest report was released in the first week of December and covered November 2020 scans.

Monthly reports will continue until the end of May 2021.

The cereals included in the report are wheat, barley, triticale and sorghum – see the accompanying table for January 2021 data.

In other AusScan Online news, the global online service reported a 14.7 percent increase in scanning numbers for 2020 to 42,697 compared to the 2019 year.

This is despite the drop in scan numbers of 3.8 percent in the second quarter of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, where Asian laboratories were affected by lockdowns.

Australian users of AusScan Online were consistent each month during 2020, with the exception of December scan activity which increased by 32 percent due to the assessment of new seasons grains.

The new AusScan Online early harvest report will provide a good monthly summary of cereal grain energy levels across Australia over the 2020-21 season and aid in the accuracy of diet formulation and reduced feed costs.



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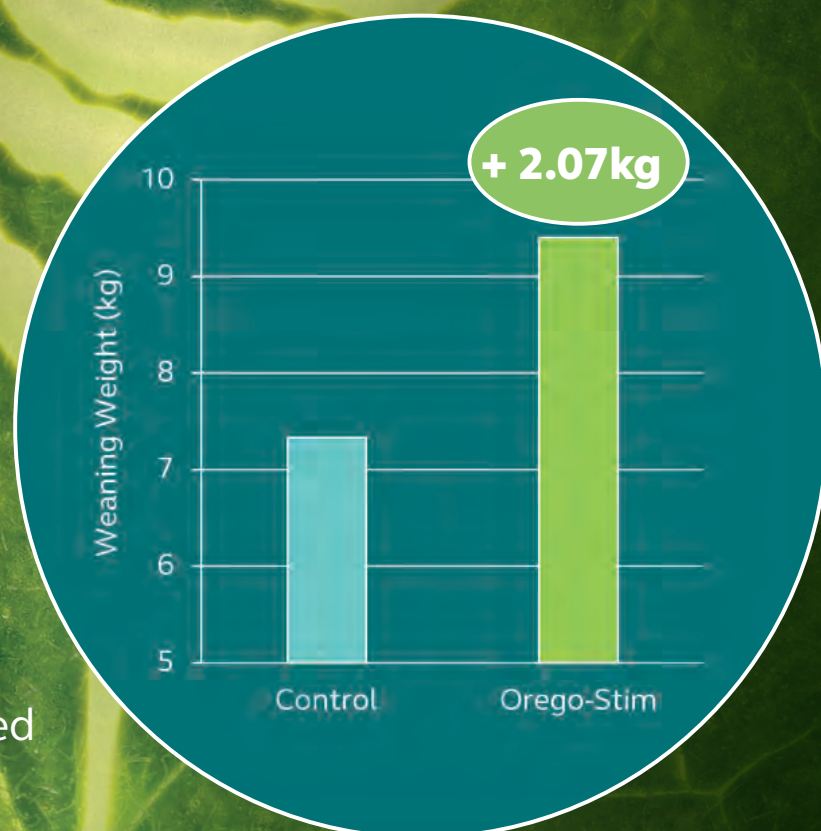
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# Food waste to pig feed safe and bio secure

AUSTRALIA currently produces 11.3 million tonnes per annum of food waste and diverts 3.9 million tonnes to animal feed.

Of the remaining 7.3 million tonnes, up to 60 percent of the wastage is avoidable by directing it to food rescue and animal feed.

These are currently the only two destinations that count towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 of halving food waste by 2030 under the Australian National Food Waste Strategy.

A considerable proportion of the cost of rearing

pigs in Australia is related to feeding.

Currently several use of manufacturing and dairy waste streams are in the pork industry, but by and large, the use of other forms of recycled food

waste – which potentially have a significantly lower input cost than other feed ingredients – is limited.

It is estimated that currently only 10-20 percent of Australian herds are accessing manufacturing waste, largely due to a lack of business-to-business awareness.

The Australasian Pork Research Institute Ltd considers the greater utilisation of food waste to substitute current feed ingredients to be of high importance for the pork industry.

APRIL aims to identify food safety or biosecurity risks and strategies to mitigate perceived risks of utilising food waste streams into pig feed, identify waste streams with the least variability in quality and quantity, and determine the economic feasibility of using food waste for pig feed in key regional production areas.

The major outcome of the project will be the generation of more information on food waste streams and a techno-economic analysis of utilising food waste – primary production, manufacturing, retail and hospitality or institutional waste streams – for pig feeds.

Key to this will be addressing food safety and biosecurity issues in utilising a greater amount of food waste streams for incorporation into prepared pig feeds.

Ultimately, the project hopes to reduce the 'highs and lows' of supply and demand – and hence cost – associated with traditional feed ingredients

fed to pigs, thereby favourably impacting margins for pork producers and maintaining a high-quality product with good animal welfare standards and low environmental impact.

The Fight Food Waste CRC, a partner in the project, offered a higher degree research scholarship to support a full-time masters student to be part of the project being led by the South Australian Research and Development Institute and the University of Adelaide.

The role of the masters-by-research student will be to undertake techno-economic analysis of utilising food waste – primary production, manufacturing, retail and hospitality or institutional waste streams – for pig feeds in key Australian regional areas.

The analysis will provide greater understanding of the cost barriers for adopting new feed supplies and identify the cost barriers for entry.

The Australian supply chain and pork industry requirements will be identified.

Waste volumes, locations and seasonality will be mapped.

Available infrastructure which could be utilised such as feed mills and rendering plants for processing of food waste, and other infrastructure such as refrigeration and dewatering which may be required, will be identified.

This will be done in collaboration with the project research team.

For more information, visit [apri.com.au](http://apri.com.au)



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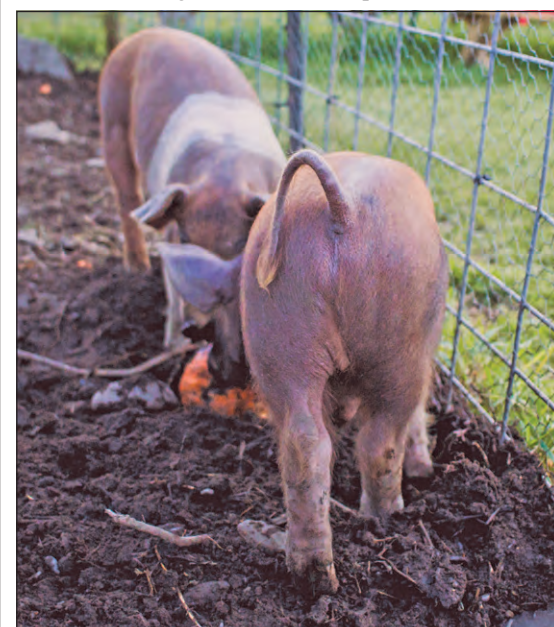


Photo: Bonnie Kittle



# Reducing carbon emissions on-farm

DELIVERED by the Queensland Farmers Federation with support and funding from the Queensland Government, the Energy Savers program has been helping farmers identify energy savings on-farm that also reduce carbon emissions.

The program has used energy audits to identify significant savings in electricity consumption, with over 7,459,014kWh of potential power savings identified in 180 audits.

This will achieve 6800 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-e of emissions savings annually – about 38 tonnes per farm per year if all recommendations are implemented.

Agriculture contributes around 15 percent of Australia's carbon emissions or around 20 percent when emissions from land use, land-use change and forestry are included.

It's important to know emissions from Queensland agriculture decreased by 6 percent between 2006 and 2015.

The breakdown of agricultural emissions was:

- Direct emissions from the burning of fuel and diesel on-farm, from the use of fertilisers, clearing vegetation, and from livestock – scope 1 emissions
- Indirect energy emissions from the use of purchased grid electricity – scope 2 emissions
- Indirect emissions from supply chain, distribution, use and disposal of goods and services such as the purchase of seeds and the transport of produce to market – scope 3 emissions

Australia has committed to reduce greenhouse emissions by 26 percent – 28 percent of 2005 levels by 2030.

In addition, Queensland has committed to a 30 percent reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030 and to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

Net zero emissions refers to where a balance is achieved between greenhouse gas emissions produced and greenhouse gases taken out of the atmosphere.

Meaning there may be emissions but they are offset by processes that

remove an equivalent amount from the atmosphere – or are sequestered.

Emissions from the use of diesel on-farm could be offset by revegetating areas with native plants that sequester carbon dioxide, as an example.

Farms that have reached net zero emissions are carbon neutral.

## Adaptation and mitigation

There is a lot of work happening in both climate change adaptation and mitigation, and they are both important on-farm.

Climate change adaptation refers to actions that will help manage the risk of climate change impacts such as higher temperatures, increased flooding and more intensive natural disasters.

Adaptation for agriculture centres on continuous improvement in the capacity of farmers to deal with a changing climate and ensuring the necessary tools are available.

Adaptation initiatives examples might be to make plans to improve flood defences, diversify crops, increase shade to reduce the risk of heat stress to animals and improve water use efficiency.

QFF led the development of a climate adaptation strategy for agriculture, which is the first step to address the adaptation needs of this highly diverse industry.

The plan is available by visiting [qff.org.au/projects/climate-adaptation](http://qff.org.au/projects/climate-adaptation)

Climate change mitigation refers to actions that reduce the impact of climate change by reducing carbon emissions, or carbon abatement such as reducing energy use, restoring soil carbon, avoiding vegetation clearing and revegetating degraded areas.

Carbon abatement is measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents or tCO<sub>2</sub>-e, which includes the amount of carbon dioxide plus any other greenhouse gases standardised to number of carbon units.

Burning diesel releases carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and sulphur dioxide, all of which are green-

house gases with different levels of impact, as an example.

Carbon farming is the term given to avoiding or sequestering carbon through agricultural or land-use activities, such as improving soil carbon, revegetation or reduced methane emissions from livestock.

QFF is currently working with NRM Regions Queensland and the Queensland Government to prepare a carbon farming handbook and fact sheets for farmers.

## Financial benefits of carbon abatement

There are often financial and other benefits of reducing carbon emissions on-farm.

These can take the form of:

- Direct cost savings through energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, such as farmers participating in the Energy Savers program
- Direct revenues from the sale of carbon credits through mechanisms such as the Emissions Reduction Fund or private markets – the value of tonnes of carbon abatement contracted is determined via auction through the ERF and this value is called Australian carbon credit units, most recently priced at nearly \$16 per ACCU – the private market is more variable.

There may also be additional revenues and benefits from carbon abatement projects such as:

- Payments for biodiversity or water quality improvement through mechanisms such as the Queensland Land Restoration Fund and the Reef Credit Scheme
- Indirect benefits that may accrue from abatement projects – such as achieving a higher gross value per ml of water through energy and water productivity initiatives, improved productivity and water efficiency through soil carbon projects, additional benefits of revegetation such as livestock shading, increased biodiversity and lowering water tables and potential to appeal to new customers, and market new products that are low-

carbon or carbon neutral.

There are 280 ERF projects in Queensland with the potential to abate over 21.9 million tCO<sub>2</sub>-e.

In private markets, companies are looking to purchase verified carbon credits from farms, such as Microsoft who purchased \$500,000 in carbon credits from a New England grazier.

Farmers are achieving a range of benefits by reducing emissions such as this NSW Grazier, a Hunter Valley winery, a central Queensland pig-gery as well as farms participating in the Energy Savers program.

## Measuring and understanding carbon emissions

There are a number of tools available to calculate and certify carbon emissions and abatement and tools to certify carbon neutrality.

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol is a global standard for measuring and managing emissions and has an Agriculture Guidance to understand how greenhouse gases are treated in agriculture.

The University of Melbourne has compiled a number of greenhouse accounting frameworks for a number of agricultural sectors, which will assist in understanding emissions and consider abatement opportunities.

Queensland University of Technology has developed a simple tool to give a quick indication of carbon footprint for a farming enterprise.

There are a number of carbon certification tools that offer recognition of carbon neutrality, such as Climate Active, an Australian initiative which certifies businesses and organisations that are carbon neutral, and the internationally recognised Gold Standard.

## How to reduce carbon emissions

There are many ways to reduce carbon emissions on-farm including energy and fuel efficiency, reducing synthetic fertilisers, reducing enteric fermentation, improving soil carbon and increasing native vegetation.

To be eligible for ACCUs

under the ERF, projects must abate carbon and report in accordance with one of the approved ERF methods.

They include:

- Agricultural methods that apply to piggeries, irrigated cotton, cattle, dairy and sequestering carbon in soil
- Vegetation methods such as avoided clearing and reforestation
- Commercial, industrial and aggregated energy efficiency
- Capture and combustion of landfill gas and agricultural waste
- Alternative treatment of organic waste
- Capture and combustion of biogas from wastewater.

These methods outline the process of abating carbon as well as the requirements for measuring the amount of abatement.

There are a number of other methods under development including a method for producing bioenergy.

## Next steps

Understand and reduce carbon emissions on your farm with these next steps:

- Understand your carbon footprint – start simple to get a general

understanding then consider doing a more detailed analysis, and there are simple carbon calculators available to help

• Consider developing a detailed carbon footprint baseline for your farm using an accepted methodology so that you may be eligible to claim credits for abatement

• Think about areas where carbon emissions can be reduced or carbon abatement can occur on the farm, such as fuel efficiency through farm vehicles and diesel irrigation, reducing electricity consumption through improved efficiency, purchasing or installing your own renewable energy and carbon farming, improving soil carbon, revegetating or allowing native vegetation to re-establish

• Research revenue opportunities for carbon abatement – join in webinars on topics such as the Carbon Farming series presented by QFF, NRM Regions Queensland and the Queensland Government, found by visiting [qff.org.au/events/carbon-farming-webinars](http://qff.org.au/events/carbon-farming-webinars), and identify potential customers looking for low-

carbon products

• Think of the added benefits of carbon abatement – increasing soil carbon may increase soil water holding and reduce the amount of irrigation required, improving water and energy use efficiency will reduce the cost of energy and water per unit of produce, and check whether your projects could be eligible for other initiatives such as the land restoration fund

• Consider and set your own farm emissions reduction targets – start with the biggest carbon emitters to make early reductions or low-cost projects, consider meeting or exceeding our State and Federal governments' targets, and gain carbon neutral certification for the business and certain products.

Reducing carbon emissions may reduce costs and increase productivity, while helping reduce the impacts of climate change, contribute to our state and national targets and may even lead to a new source of revenue for your farm.

Please contact the Energy Savers team for any further information.



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AN animal's body contains billions of live bacteria, many of which are located in the intestine.

Intestinal bacteria make up an animal's microbiome.

The microbiome is unique to each individual and changes throughout an animal's life based on their diet and exposure to different environments and stressors.

The bacteria in the microbiome help digest food, regulate the immune system and protect against other bacteria that cause disease.

It is important therefore to maintain a balanced microbiome in livestock to enhance growth and

reduce the incidence of disease.

Probiotics are live microorganisms that promote a healthy balance of intestinal bacteria or balanced microbiome and have been linked to a wide range of health benefits.

Feeding probiotics may help strengthen the immune system and help reduce the risk of infection and diseases.

Feeding a sufficient amount of the right probiotics is important for achieving the desired effects.

Probiotics can be fed through drinking water and feed.

The livestock industry has entered an era where

the use of antibiotics is increasingly restricted.

Bacillus and lactobacillus probiotics are proven tools to grow healthier animals, with increased nutrient utilisation leading to better production performance.

Bacillus and lactobacillus employ multiple modes of action to promote intestinal function and health, while preventing gastrointestinal infections.

ZamiPro-LSL is a water-soluble probiotic powder containing high concentrations of lactobacillus plantarum, bacillus subtilis and bacillus licheniformis to support the development and

maintenance of intestinal health and performance of livestock.

When present in drinking water and in the gastrointestinal tract of young animals, this powerful combination of probiotics can stabilise the gut during stressful situations associated with feed changes, transportation or an increase in temperature.

ZamiPro-LSL comes in a convenient, pre-measured pouch for water delivery and is now available in Australia.

Contact a Zamira animal health expert today for advice specific to your farming needs, zamira.com.au



A Victorian food company went safety first by installing a Venturi Aerator.

## Safety first with Venturi

A FOOD company in Victoria has gone safety first by installing a Venturi Aerator instead of surface-mounted aerators.

Because of this, operators can maintain the equipment quickly, easily and safely instead of having aerators floating

in the lagoon requiring boats, cranes or floating walkways to access.

They did not have to sacrifice efficiency either, as a Venturi Aerator can produce as much as 1.86kg/kWh of dissolved oxygen.

A patented device, the Venturi Aerator contains no moving parts.

Liquids pumped through the Venturi Aerator unit are saturated with massive amounts of dissolved oxygen, by aspirating up to 7.5 mg/L of ambient oxygen into the liquid.

The Venturi Aerator adds up to two volumes of ambient air to one volume of liquid being processed – about 20 percent standard oxygen transfer rating – and is used for:

- Stripping VOHCs, especially residual chlorine from the liquid to prevent degradation of the biomass

- Stripping CO<sub>2</sub> from the liquid to maintain optimal pH during aerobic digestion – CO<sub>2</sub> is a by-product of aerobic digestion, as CO<sub>2</sub> levels in a liquid increase pH is reduced

- Fracturing digestible solids into macroscopic size to increase their surface area making them more readily available for digestion

- Eliminating odours such as hydrogen sulfide present in anoxic liquids by oxidation of the H<sub>2</sub>S into soluble SO<sub>4</sub> and oxidising mercaptans

- Separating emulsified fats, oils and greases from the liquid

- The dosing of microbes and nutrients into a liquid ensures their widespread distribution and uniform dispersion in the liquid being treated

- The kinetic energy of the wastewater discharged through the Venturi Aerator oxygenator has sufficient force to accomplish a thorough equalisation and mixing of the contents of the lagoon.

The above process enhancements are all produced concurrently simply by continuous recirculation of the process wastewater through the Venturi Aerator wastewater oxygenator.

Venturi aerators are powered by Gorman-Rupp bank-mounted pumps that accelerate pumped fluid through the Venturi unit.

The Venturi Aerator creates a venturi effect, drawing in atmospheric air.

Air and pumped fluid are mixed together under pressure.

The turbulent mixing facilitates the removal of soluble CO<sub>2</sub> gas and reduces the size of volatile solids.

Discharged water is saturated with dissolved oxygen.

For more information, contact Hydro Innovations on 02 9898 1800 or visit hydroinnovations.com.au

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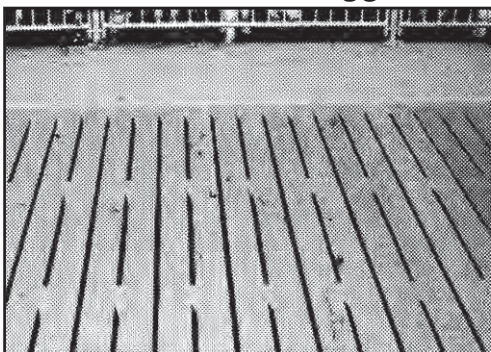
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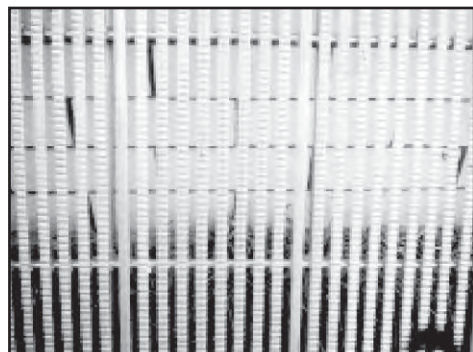
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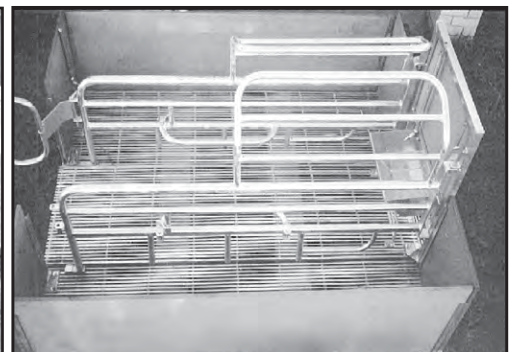
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# Snapshot of Australian Agriculture 2021 report shows production growth

THE Australian Government has released its Snapshot of Australian Agriculture report, outlining the current state of Australian agriculture.

Here's an overview of the eight key aspects of Australian agriculture it covers.

## Agriculture's place in Australia

Australian agriculture accounts for:

- 55 percent of Aus-

tralian land use, with 427 million hectares excluding timber production in December 2020 and 25 percent of water extractions, with 3,113 gigalitres used by agriculture in 2018–19

- 11 percent of goods and services exports in 2019–20

- 1.9 percent of value added or gross domestic product and 2.6 percent of employment in 2019–20.

The mix of Australian agricultural activity is determined by climate, water availability, soil type and proximity to markets.

Livestock grazing is widespread, occurring in most areas of Australia, while cropping and horticulture are generally concentrated in areas relatively close to the coast.

## Agricultural production is growing

Australia has a diverse agricultural, fisheries and forestry sector, producing a range of crop and livestock products.

The gross value of agricultural, fisheries and forestry production has increased by 7 percent in the past 20 years in real terms – adjusted for consumer price inflation, from approximately \$62 billion in 2000–01 to \$67 billion in 2019–20.

Drivers of output growth over the past 20 years vary by sector:

- In cropping, long-term falls in real prices have been offset by volume growth, as producers have improved productivity by adopting new technologies and management practices

- In livestock, higher prices have been the main driver of growth, reflecting growing demand for protein in emerging countries and also temporary factors such as drought in the US and disease outbreaks such as African swine fever in meat importing countries.

## Around 70 percent of agricultural output is exported

Australia exports around 70 percent of the total value of agricultural, fisheries and forestry production.

Export orientation of each industry can vary by commodity type.

Wheat and beef, which are large sectors, are more export-focussed than dairy, horticulture and pork.

In real terms, the value of agricultural exports has fluctuated between \$40 billion and \$60 billion since 2000–01.

Meat and live animals have been the fastest-growing export segments, growing 86 percent over the period, followed by horticulture up 64 percent and forest products up 16 percent.

Global agricultural demand is growing very strongly, reflecting rising per capita incomes as well as population growth, but export competition is also increasing.

Asia is the fastest growing export region for the Australian agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors.

Exports to Australia's eight largest markets in Asia increased by 62 percent to \$33 billion over the 20 years to 2019–20 and accounted for 62 percent of the total value of agricultural, fisheries and forestry exports in 2019–20.

China is Australia's largest export market for agricultural, fisheries and forestry products, at \$16 billion in 2019–20.

Exports to China are about 5 times larger than they were in 2000–2001.

Asian demand is projected to double between 2007 and 2050, providing opportunities for exporters of high-value, high-quality agricultural and food products.

## Agriculture was resilient despite COVID-19 uncertainty

COVID-19 was a major event for Australia's agricultural, forestry and fisheries sector in 2019–20, but the sector demonstrated an ability to adapt and transition to new opportunities.

Because food is an essential good, demand does not fall significantly in times of crisis, though the types of goods being demanded through the pandemic shifted away from high-value products consumed typically in the hospitality sector – wine and seafood – to foods consumed at home.

Disruptions to domestic and international food supply chains early in 2020 were largely resolved, allowing agricul-

tural trade to remain resilient through the pandemic.

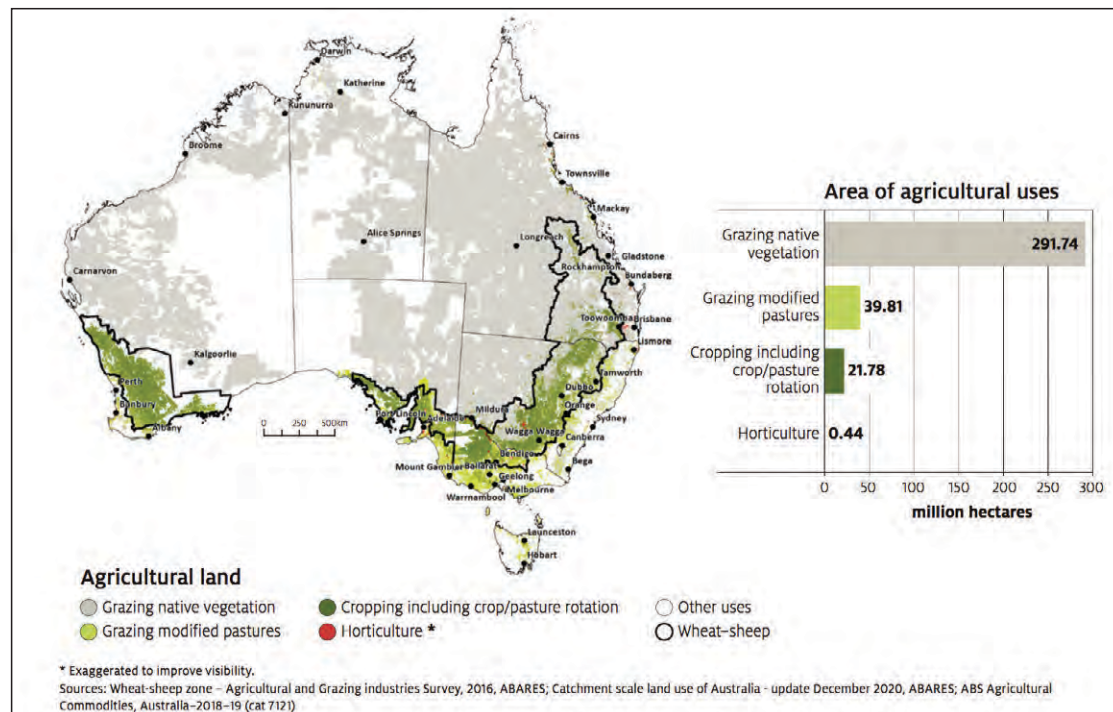
International food processors continued to operate and demand Australian products as inputs, and the resurgence of international textile and wood products manufacturing strengthened export demand for these products throughout 2020–21.

One of the lasting challenges of COVID-19 related travel restrictions has been the reduced availability of farm workers from overseas and higher airfreight costs for exporters of high-value commodities.

Horticulture, intensive production and meat processing industries have been most affected by the reduced number of overseas workers.

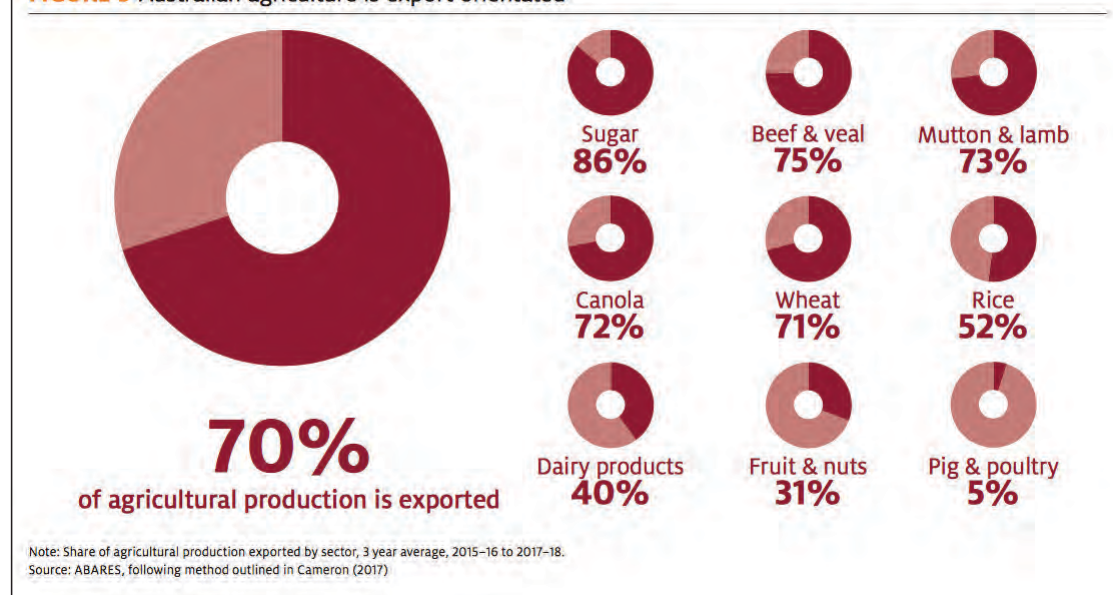
The result has been increased costs of production for these industries and potentially lower horticultural production, as producers find it difficult to harvest.

Exports of high-value and highly perishable products, such as live seafood and fresh produce, have also faced cost increases given the reduced supply of cargo space on flights to key export markets.



Livestock grazing is widespread occurring in most areas of Australia, while cropping and horticulture are generally concentrated in areas relatively close to the coast.

FIGURE 9 Australian agriculture is export orientated



Wheat and beef, which are large sectors, are more export-focussed than dairy, horticulture and pork.

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**CID LINES**



# Orego-Stim improves number of piglets weaned through maternal feeding

DRIVING piglet performance through improved maternal nutrition is a cost-effective way to maximise lifetime performance and health of growing piglets, as piglets lost prior to weaning represent an economic loss as well as a welfare target.

This work is part of the Anpario's 4R approach – review, reduce and replace antimicrobials responsibly – which helps manage gut health and support healthier livestock through the use of

natural products.

This trial showed that Orego-Stim is able to support sow lactation performance leading to improved piglets weaned per sow and a return on investment of 8:1.

## Background

Orego-Stim is a high quality, eubiotic containing 100 percent natural oregano oil.

Previous findings have shown that dietary supplementation of oregano essential oil in sows can decrease oxidative stress and improve piglet

growth performance.

In this study, Orego-Stim was fed to sows throughout gestation and lactation, and their performance and that of their progeny was compared with a negative control group fed no additives.

## Trial design

Anpario conducted a randomised, blinded non-crossover trial with a commercial herd in the midwestern US, managed by Carthage Innovative Swine Solutions.

The trial was designed

to evaluate the efficacy of Orego-Stim supplemented feed in improving sow and piglet performance.

A total of 200 sows were balanced for parity between the two treatment groups at service and fed either the basal gestation and lactation ration or Orego-Stim supplemented at 500g per tonne until weaning.

At farrowing the total number of piglets born, numbers born alive and piglet birth weight were recorded for each sow.

Sow feed intake, body condition score and health status were monitored for all sows throughout the trial.

Weaning was carried out at 19 days of age, at which time the number of piglets weaned per litter and litter weaning weight was recorded for both groups.

## Results

The average number of piglets born alive was conserved across both groups – 14.61 versus 14.36 for control and Orego-Stim respectively.

At weaning, the average piglet weight was similar, but litter weight was numerically heavier for Orego-Stim due to an increased number of piglets weaned.

Removals were significantly reduced with Orego-Stim supplementation, with an increased number of weaned piglets by 11 percent and a 2 percent reduction in pre-weaning mortality compared to the control.

These differences provide a significant benefit to piglets weaned

per sow, providing a margin over feed value of \$A90.70 per sow per year.

## Conclusion

Eubiotics such as Orego-Stim provide a natural tool for the improvement of sow and progeny health and performance.

Improving weaning performance and health which can have significant effects on lifetime performance and medication use.

For more information, visit [anpario.com](http://anpario.com)



Orego-Stim provides significant benefit to piglets weaned per sow. Photo: Kameron Kincade

## African swine fever update

THOUGH Australia remains African swine fever free, an alert was issued in early February by the Food and Agriculture Organisation about the heightened ASF risk in our country, with reported new variants potentially posing a greater threat and requiring increased vigilance for the industry.

This risk was possibly further heightened with the Lunar New Year cultural event in February and the related increase of inbound

mail items from overseas.

Since its emergence in Asia in 2018, a total of 11,623 ASF outbreaks have been reported in the region to the World Organisation for Animal Health – concerning, 3288 are ongoing as of February 8, 2021.

The reported emergence of variants of the ASF virus in Asia threatens to complicate the situation, which is already challenging veterinary services there.

With variants resulting in less obvious

signs of disease, there is increased likelihood of spread going undetected and uncontrolled.

Working with state and federal governments, Australian Pork Limited remains committed to biosecurity as a top priority.

Increased interventions at the border, targeted operations to detect imported product and more testing of pork product seized in the mail is underway.

For more information, visit [australianpork.com.au](http://australianpork.com.au)



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# Piggeries come clean

AUSSIE Pumps has set a new benchmark for quality with the release of its new stainless-steel industrial pressure washers.

The Aussie 3000psi Monsoon Scud 300 is a powerful Australian-made electric drive blaster that is ideally suited to hygiene sensitive industries including livestock producers.

The 3-phase industrial blaster features an ergonomic stainless-steel frame fitted with four big 'off-road' style steel wheels with flat-free tyres.

The company has moved to stainless-steel to eliminate corrosion.

At the same time, the scud's appearance and aesthetics are ground-breaking.

Aussie Pumps product manager Mal Patel said,

"The new Monsoon Scud looks as good as it works and works as good as it looks."

"We've developed the product with features that ensure these Aussie-built machines are world class."

"This high-flow, high-pressure electric machine is ideal for wash and flush applications requiring fast continuous cleaning, including flushing out stalls and machinery wash-down."

With a 7.5kW 3-phase 4-pole electric drive motor, this heavy duty pressure cleaner delivers 21Lpm flow.

This makes it ideal for a range of industrial applications requiring fast continuous cleaning, including flushing out stalls and machinery wash-down.

The Monsoon Scud 300 uses the Bertolini TTL series 'Big Berty' triplex pump with solid ceramic pistons.

This pump incorporates a big ribbed crankcase that ensures it stays cool even in continuous run applications.

The valve caps are fitted with a new Bertolini sealing system designed for higher pressure and longer working hours.

The power is provided by a heavy duty IP55 rated 4-pole TEFC electric motor.

As for all Aussie blasters, the super Monsoon Scud 300 features an Aussie safety protection kit.

The ASP kit includes a thermal dump valve to protect the machine from excessive bypass.

An industrial on/off thermal protection switch prevents overload of the motor and pressure spikes.

High-quality accessories complete the package.

A heavy duty gun and lance combination provides the operator with complete control of the machine, with a trigger lock that improves safety and prevents accidental activation.

Further information, including a free guide, is available from aussie pumps.com.au and from Aussie Pumps distributors throughout Australia.



Aussie's new 3000psi super Monsoon Scud shines with its performance, quality and features.

## Hong Kong culls 3000 pigs after detecting ASF

HONG KONG authorities ordered the culling of all 3000 pigs in a herd after the African swine fever virus was discovered to be spreading for the first time in one of the city's farms.

It was reported that African swine fever, which is harmless to humans, was very rare in Hong Kong.

The last outbreak in 2019 was due to pigs imported from the mainland and resulted in the culling of 10,000 animals.

The new outbreak was discovered on a farm in the rural Yuen Long area in the north, near the mainland China border.

African swine fever has been endemic on the mainland, where it devastated farms in 2018 and 2019, and has caused significant damage again recently.

Overseeing an investigation of the outbreak Hong Kong's Agriculture and Fisheries Department said that the virus was limited to the one farm and that

the owner would be compensated.

Hong Kong has about 43 pig farms, accounting for 15 percent of its live pig supplies, according to a 5 February report by the US Department of Agriculture.

The Agriculture and Fisheries Department said in a statement that members of the public did not need to be concerned, adding that the overall supply of live pigs from other sources could make up any shortfall.



An African swine fever outbreak was discovered on a farm in Hong Kong's Yuen Long area.

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1. Australian Veterinary Journal Volume 97 No 7, July 2019



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