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D'Orsogna Board members Giorgio Di Giulio and Eugene D'Orsogna with MLA for Bicton Lisa O'Malley and WA Agriculture and Food Minister Jackie Jarvis at D'Orsogna's Palmyra WA headquarters after the announcement by Minister Jarvis of the \$1 million value added investment grant.

D'Orsogna Limited adds value with Western Australian Government

LEADING Australian smallgoods producer D'Orsogna Limited, which recently celebrated 75 years as an innovative family-owned WA business supplying quality food nationwide, has welcomed a \$1 million Western Australian Government value added investment grant to help expand and upgrade salami and fresh meat production facilities at its Palmyra WA headquarters.

D'Orsogna managing director Jason Craig said the grant, announced at Palmyra by WA Agriculture and Food Minister Jackie Jarvis, will be co-invested in establishing automated manufacturing technologies to increase capacity

and efficiencies in the production of cooked sausages, including cabanossi, tasty sticks and fermented salami products.

In addition, the boning room will be upgraded with layout changes to increase meat volume throughput and a packing area transformed with new equipment for more efficient transfer of fresh meat into retail-ready packaging.

At least 10 full-time equivalent roles will be created in the process, adding to Palmyra's existing workforce of 500 and complementing D'Orsogna's Merrifield Victoria production plant, which employs a further 300.

Mr Craig said the in-

vestment in Western Australia would benefit the state's pork industry through increased demand and provide ongoing skilled employment opportunities within the meat industry.

D'Orsogna Board member Eugene D'Orsogna said the third generation WA family business had always prioritised innovation and investment to lift productivity where opportunities for product improvement and market penetration had been identified.

He acknowledged the shared vision of the company's family, all of whom have a steadfast commitment to a food business focussed on producing

continued P2

A year of growth, innovation and resilience for Australian pork

AS we reflect on the past year, the Australian pork industry has demonstrated adaptability and good progression.

Despite challenges, our sector continues to evolve, driven by innovation and data-backed insights, supported by our commitment to progress our key objectives for our producers.

This year, we welcomed Rob Farmer as chief marketing officer to Australian Pork Limited.

Rob has a wealth of experience from across the marketing and communication channels, bringing strong leadership and a future focus into APL's marketing division.

Our brand marketing team delivered in 2024, achieving strong milestones that have continued to solidify pork's market position.

The team drove 'Get some pork on your fork' spontaneous awareness, doubling the competitor benchmark, averaging an impressive 21.5 percent.

A collaborative marketing and communications launch of the new brand campaign not only elevated pork protein consideration from 59 to 61 percent, but the team also hit its target objectives well ahead of schedule.

They elevated consumer perceptions of pork – increasing views of pork as an 'everyday meal' protein by a



Point of View

by MARGO ANDRAE
CEO



significant three percentage points, from 34 to 37 percent, further exceeding set targets.

In terms of pork sales, butchers across the country experienced an impressive 18 percent growth in volume compared to December 2023.

Insights showed customers were buying more pork and visiting butchers more frequently.

According to the latest Circana shopping data, pork mince, steaks and chops are leading this growth, with consumers increasingly turning to these cuts at their local butchers.

Last year, we set new milestones, including exposing our future leaders to overseas developmental opportunities, with a return to international trips for the pork leadership course cohort.

The cohort gained insights into overseas production methods, acquired key learnings into cross-commodity production and innovations, as well as

attended the world's largest pork expo in Iowa.

APL supported the successful delivery of ProHand train-the-trainer workshops across Australia.

The workshops aimed to ensure our industry's pig-handling stockpeople remained highly skilled, knowledgeable and were up to date with best practice handling techniques.

APL established a substantial first-time presence at the 2024 Adelaide and Perth royal shows, while simultaneously ramping up our involvement at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

These strategic engagements remain crucial in building our social license and support the wider community's understanding of our industry.

More than 900,000 people were estimated to have moved through the pig display, providing an opportunity for the public to engage with our people and our pigs.

On the production

front, based on APL data, progeny slaughters for 2024 sat at about 5.56 million – a slight 1.5 percent reduction from 5.65 million progeny slaughters in 2023.

However, APL's most recent production survey reported increased slaughters were forecast for the first few months of 2025.

Australian pork exports showed growth.

The moving annual total rose significantly by 12.1 percent to 57,065,000kg swine weight in October 2024, compared to October 2023.

Export value also grew slightly, up 2.4 percent to \$21.6 million, indicating a strong year-on-year performance for pork exports.

For imports, the moving annual total rose by 9.5 percent to 169,881,000kg swine weight in October 2024, compared to 2023, with import value growing by 8.3 percent to \$79.2 million, indicating a year-on-year increase for pork imports.

The team continues to collaborate with jurisdictions to undertake activities that demonstrate the pork industry's biosecurity leadership and integrity.

During 2024, two significant biosecurity training exercises were held.

continued P2

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Pork Industry Calendar of Events

2025

JAN 24-25 – Iowa Pork Congress – Des Moines, Iowa, USA. <https://www.iowapork.org/about-ippa/iowa-pork-congress>

JAN 28-30 – International Production and Processing Expo 2025 – Georgia, USA. <https://www.ippexpo.org/>

FEB 11-12 – Minnesota Pork Congress – Mankato, USA. <https://www.mnporkcongress.com/>

MAR 12-14 – VIV Asia – Bangkok, Thailand. <https://www.vivasia.nl/>

MAR 24-26 – 2025 National Feral Pig Conference – Gold Coast, QLD. <https://feralpigs.com.au/>

MAR 25-26 – London Swine Conference – London, Ontario. <https://www.londonswineconference.ca/>

JUN 4-5 – World Pork Expo – Des Moines, Iowa, USA. <https://www.worldpork.org/>

AUG 15-16 – Kingaroy BaconFest – Kingaroy, Australia. <https://www.kingaroybaconfest.com.au/>

NOV 17-19 – APSA Conference – Melbourne, Australia. <https://www.apsa.asn.au/>

How to supply event details:

Send all details to **Australian Pork Newspaper**, PO Box 162, Wynnum, Qld 4178, call 07 3286 1833 or email design@collins.media

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A year of growth, innovation and resilience for Australian pork

from P1

This was an opportunity for APL, producers and the broader pork industry to reaffirm, with government and broader stakeholders, our commitment to transparency, biosecurity and high-quality production standards.

May's 'Exercise Ham Strung' was a collaborative industry and government exercise using an African swine fever outbreak scenario.

Sixty participants workshoped the impact of response movement controls along the domestic pig supply chain.

This included how live pig, meat, porcine semen and feed movements would be affected and how to mitigate the impacts.

Disposal of animals destroyed during an outbreak were also discussed.

The workshop included presentations, small group discussions and large group plenary sessions.

Among the exercise outcomes was the clear identification of the crucial role APIQ Option C – Voluntary Enhanced Biosecurity Standards for African swine fever – has in supporting movements during an outbreak.

In October, Agriculture Victoria and Animal Health Australia ran the Liaison-Livestock Industry training program 'Exercise Audiatur', which pork industry representatives and APL attended.

Australian Pork Limited

simultaneously ran an in-office exercise where team members responded to data and information requests from those 'on the ground' at the exercise.

APL was able to highlight the traceability capability held by the industry through the PigPass system.

While there is always more work to be done, as an industry we have a strong starting point from which to respond to an emergency animal disease outbreak.

Another exciting development for 2024 was the development of the new research and innovation model for the pork industry.

Underpinned by a comprehensive Green Paper, the model aims to streamline and reduce

duplication in research activity and investment for industry.

Last year, we welcomed the appointment of Dr John Pluske as chief scientist for the pork industry and Dr Rebecca Morrison at APL as general manager research, innovation and extension – both John and Rebecca will be instrumental in driving change and implementing the new research model.

Recognising the need to stay ahead of the curve, the APIQ panel commenced a major review of APIQ, with the consultation period due to continue into 2025.

This comprehensive evaluation aims to ensure our independent quality assurance program remains relevant,

robust and fit for purpose in an increasingly complex and evolving production landscape.

The challenges of 2024 – from production through to retail and regulatory complexities – have only strengthened our strategic approach as a sector.

Our collective voice and demonstrated commitment to upholding best practice pig care were proved throughout the Victorian Parliamentary inquiry into pig welfare.

The Australian pork industry is not only a commodity, it is a community of dedicated producers and supply chain professionals, united by a shared vision of quality, sustainability and innovation.

Bring on 2025! 🐷



D'Orsogna board members and executives celebrate the announcement with Lisa O'Malley and Jackie Jarvis.

D'Orsogna adds value with WA Government

from P1

quality meat products, many of which still honour and reflect the Italian heritage of D'Orsogna's founding fathers.

"The Palmyra plant has been D'Orsogna headquarters since 1973, and the family continues its 75-year investment in WA with the assistance of this value added investment grant," Mr D'Orsogna said.

"We thank the WA

Government and DPIRD for their continued support of food manufacturing."

In closing, Mr Craig said product development was core to D'Orsogna's business, and its dedicated product development team constantly reviewed product offerings to develop new lines to fit market niches and meet emerging consumer eating and buying patterns.

Calls for research and innovation EOI

OVER the past 12 months, as part of the Australian Pork Limited and Australasian Pork Research Institute Limited partnership and commitment to research and innovation, an inaugural Green Paper was developed to identify key industry challenges, opportunities and targets for the Australian pork industry across the entire value chain.

To continue the momentum from our recent industry Green Paper workshop and to guide our research program for 2025 onwards, APL is now seeking expressions of interest.

APL are calling for expressions of interest for research, innovation or demonstration projects that will help achieve the following industry deliverables:

• Innovations to im-

prove farm and processing profitability and reduce cost of production

• Address endemic diseases and emerging threats

• Demonstrate good anti-microbial stewardship

• Develop and demonstrate commercially viable, innovative housing, husbandry and supply chain systems with a focus on animal welfare, biosecurity and environmental management

• Identify and develop opportunities to enhance the eating experience of pork

• Demonstrate and/or apply artificial intelligence and related technologies

• Develop tools and methodologies to demonstrate/understand industry credentials on environmental management and biodiversity.

How to make an

EOI submission:

• Complete the one-page EOI template by scanning the QR code below or visiting australianpork.com.au/call-research-and-innovation-expressions-interest

• Email the completed template to ResearchEOI@australianpork.com.au

The closing date for the EOI is January 24, 2025.

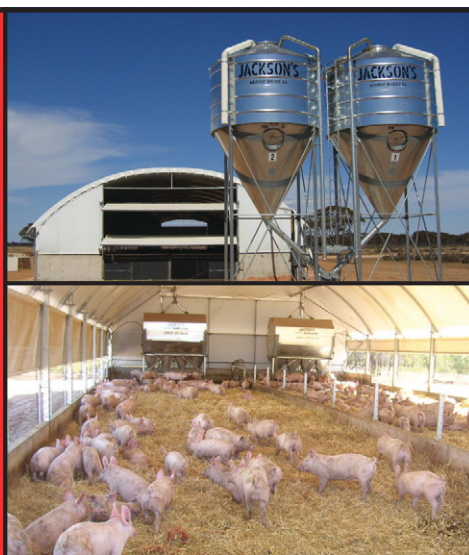
Successful applicants will be notified by mid-February 2025, with full research proposals to be submitted by the end of March 2025.

Rebecca Morrison
APL GM RI&E



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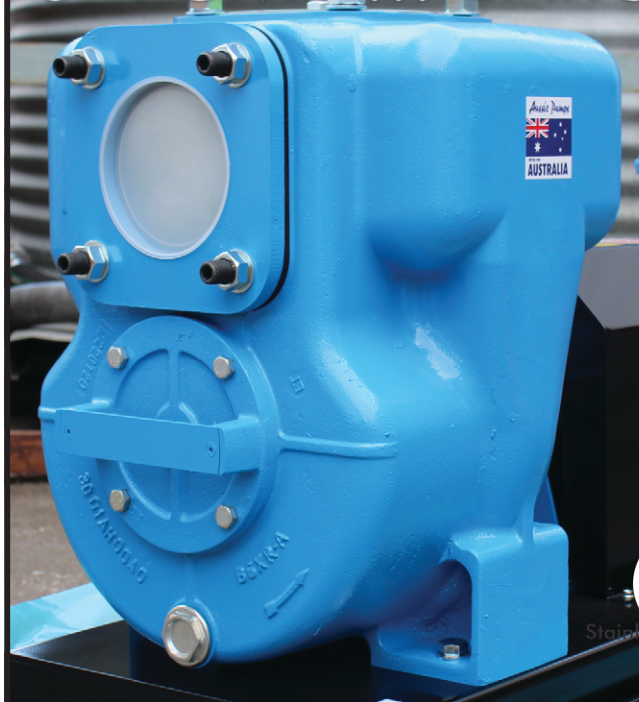
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Rivalea Australia's Jessica Craig, APRIL's Charles Rikard-Bell, SunPork Group CEO Robert van Barneveld and APRIL's Sophie Ward.

APRIL unveils new participant model at annual stakeholder day

THE 2024 Australasian Pork Research Institute Limited Stakeholders Forum was an opportunity to present the recent restructuring of APRIL, as well as showcase the new participant model to over 60 attendees.

APRIL's recently appointed executive officer, Dr Charles Rikard-Bell gave an overview of the rights and benefits characteristic of the new participant model, particularly the funding opportunities to organisations based on a tiered system – gold, silver or bronze participant.

The restructuring of positions within APRIL follows the decision by industry to appoint Dr John Pluske as the chief scientist for the Australian pork industry.

Overseeing projects funded by both Australian Pork Limited and APRIL, John detailed the research goals of the industry and that the research and development structure will now provide a more efficient and coordinated research program across the two main funding bodies.

The day also provided an opportunity to discuss the latest outcomes in current and new APRIL funded projects. Rivalea Australia re-

search and innovation manager Dr Jessica Craig gave an update on the effectiveness of different heating sources in the farrowing house.

The recent work demonstrated the positioning of heat mats under the creep area is a more effective and energy efficient method for improving early piglet survival over conventional heat lamps.

Another area of reproductive science was presented by University of Adelaide Associate Professor Mark Nottle.

Investigating ways to improve the fertility of extended boar semen, Mark's group observed higher rates of sperm motility and embryonic successes when extender solution contained either progesterone or colony-stimulating factor 2.

This ongoing research will help improve reproductive successes and ensure producers are meeting breeding targets in their herd.

An important focus for APRIL is its management of commercial technologies, particularly AusScan Online which, stakeholders were informed, continues a high adoption rate as it approaches its tenth year in the global market.

APRIL's commercialisation activities and fu-

ture pipeline projects, including the value and importance of AusScan Online, were described.

This was followed by Dr Jeremy Cottrell from the University of Melbourne, who provided updates on a project aimed at strengthening the AusScan Online pig ileal and faecal digestible energy calibrations with the addition of 16 maize samples to the dataset.

This ongoing work will help to ensure AusScan Online provides accurate predictions of cereal energy in grain for optimising feed costs and target growth rates.

APRIL is dedicated to continued industry improvement, which is reflected in the company's investment in the education and training component.

Previous awardee of the APRIL DVM scholarship, Dr Ryan Kristen reflected on his experiences receiving this award with the University of Sydney and how his passion for science translated into his current role as a pig veterinarian for Dr Barry Lloyd.

Another previous award participant, Dr Max Muller presented his project outcomes related to the role of a palatable nutritional

continued P5

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APRIL unveils new participant model at annual stakeholder day

from P4 additive for combatting heat stress in sows.

As part of the APRIL industry placement program, Max was able to conduct his research alongside Rivalea Australia, which gave him greater knowledge of industry applied science.

The final speaker for the education and training section was Dr Gemma Zerna, a previous recipient of the inaugural APRIL Enterprise Award.

Her ongoing research into vaccine development aims to provide more flexibility for incorporating antigens into drug delivery systems and displays innovation in the field of immune technology.

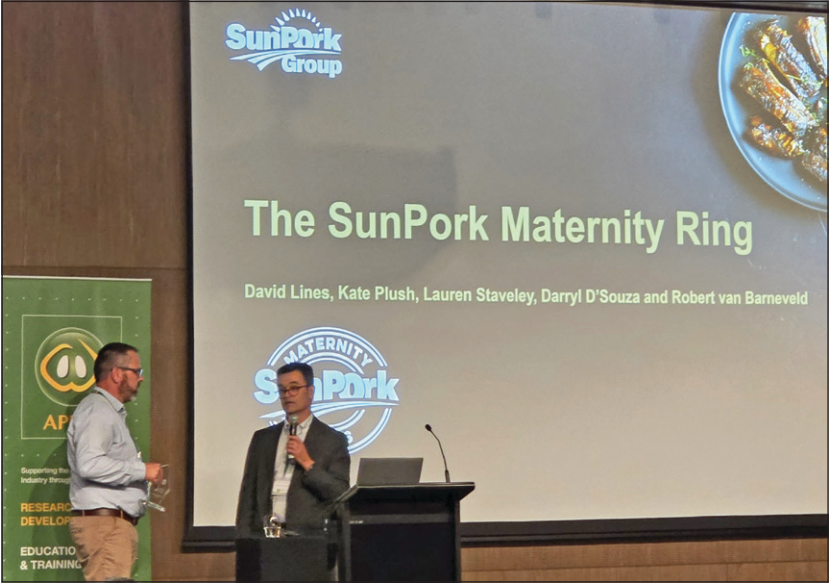
This year, the 2024 APRIL Enterprise Award was awarded to SunPork Group for its work on developing the maternity ring.

This alternative to a farrowing crate provides more movement to sows without compromising on early piglet survivability.

Representative of SunPork and overseer of the project design, Dr David Lines received the award on behalf of the SunPork Group and presented an overview of the maternity ring design and the peer reviewed evidence of being a commercially viable alternative to farrowing crates.

APRIL's stakeholder day reflected both practical and innovative science and was an opportunity to show how the industry continues to evolve to benefit pork production in Australasia with the showcasing of the participant model.

For more information, see the APRIL website or contact Dr Charles Rikard-Bell via c.rikardbell@april.org.au



David Lines accepted the APRIL enterprise award on behalf of SunPork Group.

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Rearview mirror reflections

REFLECTING seems almost right for the first of my 2025 monthly columns.

Penning positive pig and pork predictions for 2025 is simply too tough, so reflection only it is.

Hence below are snippets from each of the 12 months of 2024, beginning with January 2024.

These may act as a reminder of the issues industry faced in 2024 or simply as a refresher as to what was on my mind at the time.

You may wish to ponder on my thoughts.

And by all means let this publication know if you strongly agree or disagree, though be willing to share your thoughts publicly, keeping them polite and informative.

I'll begin each extract with its published headline.

Be advised, the excerpts are not necessarily from the opening paragraphs of the columns.

Pig welfare is priority one

The festive season for we human animals typically involves feasting on our preferred proteins.

In many Australian households, including mine, Christmas Day lunch had leg ham as its centrepiece.

The very next day, for the Boxing Day cricket test match at the MCG, leftover ham with mustard sandwiches bowl me over.

Having reminded myself of our annual ham indulgence, I reflected on the lives of the pigs and what they may or may not enjoy and experience up to the point of being stunned, killed and processed into those yummy hams.

Overcoming hurdles to stall free pig production

The January issue of RSPCA's *Animal Welfare Science Update* headlined a story with 'Technology could help overcome challenges of stall-free pig production'.

This caught my attention as I've long been acutely interested in how best to introduce industry-wide stall-free pig production, while acknowledging there are very real challenges



Pork adobo pie on the road. No matter how busy the year was, I always made time for a perfect pork pie, in this case a fabulous Filipino version.

Cant Comment

by BRENDON CANT



along the way to that preferred path.

Issues of trust by association

At the heart of every industry association must be trust between it and its members.

Such trust is threatened when those members who rightfully question performance are marked down.

Stunning alternatives revealed in breath-taking inquiry

I note that while the welfare of pigs pre-slaughter is in the spotlight, it must be acknowledged that though carbon dioxide stunning remains the industry endorsed stunning system, there have been documented significant failings where pig welfare has been cruelly compromised.

Admittedly, some of those failings have perhaps reflected poorly on the design, mechanics and maintenance of the stunning platforms or carousels rather than the gas itself.

However, outcomes for the pigs so precariously placed must be addressed.

Quiet achiever and rare breed, Bruce Mullan

While many scientists and researchers – dare I say it, even in the pig/pork discipline – like to publicly make far too much of their academic qualifications, honours, salutations and publications, those who go quietly about the business of improving the lives and businesses of producers are a rarer breed.

One such individual is Bruce Mullan, who has recently retired after more than 30 years of impeccable public service to Western Australian and national agriculture, much of it in the porcine paddock.

I've liaised with and worked with Bruce in a range of capacities during his career and

always found him to be calm, considerate, knowledgeable and informative, and also a good listener.

Picture perfect pork

I cook pork and pork-based products in the home, I eat pork when out of the home and, whenever I can, I promote its many virtues to the unfamiliar and unconvinced, even going so far as trying to turn on vegetarians.

I don't bother with vegans... too many agendas running there.

Waste not want not

A considerable proportion of the cost of rearing pigs in Australia is related to feeding.

In Australia, pig feeds are predominately based on cereals and cereal by-products, pulses and/or oilseeds, rendered animal products, and dairy products for young pigs.

Let's waste no more time and start utilising the massive mountains of food waste we produce.

And keep it out of landfill.

And use it productively in pig production – with appropriate safety and biosecurity measures in place of course.

Waste not want not, surely?

Animal welfare matters

While my partner is vegetarian and I relish sharing plenty of good vegetarian food, I will never permanently cross the protein bridge, simply because, I believe eating meat that is ethically sourced and preferably raised and grown on pasture in high welfare environments is the best source of protein to power my increasingly needy body.

It's tasty too.

Meat has done its job fairly well for more years than I care to remember, so I'll stick with my recipe, albeit



Carbon dioxide stunning was on the nose in 2024. While many words were penned, so too were many pigs. Let's hope there's some light at the end of that dark tunnel.

I've recently tinkered with meat consumption in terms of quantum and type.

Indiscriminate antibiotic use must be resisted

While I quite like Australian Pork Limited's motto, 'as little as possible, as much as necessary', when it comes to antimicrobial stewardship in Australian pork-producing businesses, I'd add that encouraging production environments that are less conducive to creating and spreading of pathogens in the first place would be a smart pre-emptive strike.

Improved animal welfare has a knock-on effect

Improving animal welfare typically comes at a cost to both producers and consumers.

The trick is to always first convince the buying public of the intrinsic value proposition of the transition to higher welfare.

If they are convinced that superior animal welfare outcomes are a win-win, they will eventually back it at the checkout.

While they may buy a little less as they adjust to incremental increases due to higher production costs being passed down the line, their buying patterns will lift over time.

Penning wise welfare words

My premise has long been those pigs, those intelligent sentient animals that give us so much while expecting so little in return, should be able to live lives free of unnecessary confinement where they are able to practice natural behaviours.

Such natural and vital behaviours include foraging, rooting, wallowing, nest building and socialising.

Surely it's fair and reasonable to expect pork producers and the consuming public to honour and respect such simple life drivers, even if that means – as it typically does – increased costs at production and the checkout.

Pigs having a field day

With large-scale factory farming of pigs in Australia – now so often 'on the nose' with the public, governments and animal welfare advocates – perhaps the time has come to seriously consider gentler production systems, even if that is at the expense of productivity.

Meanwhile, best wishes to everyone for 2025.

It's sure to be yet another pig of a year! 🐷

www.porknews.com.au

Snack Brands sticks with trusted pumps

HYDRO Innovations was proud to have been selected to provide Gorman-Rupp pumps and other specialised pump equipment to the new 30,255sq m Snack Brands Australia manufacturing and logistics facility under construction at Erskine Park in western Sydney.

Snack Brands will use this facility for its manufacturing and distribution needs, consolidating several existing Sydney facilities into the new high-tech hub.

Snack Brands Australia – known for brands such as Kettle, Thins, Samboy and Cheezels – produces over 200 million packets of these snacks annually.

Hydro Innovations has been supplying water and wastewater pump equipment, service and technical support to both the Snack-brands Blacktown and Snack Brands Smithfield facilities for many years, specifically the Gorman-Rupp wastewater and water pumps,

recognised as the world leading product in this field.

Snack Brands Australia project manager Mark Harrison insisted on again employing Hydro Innovations and Gorman Rupp pumps for the new facility for their reliability, safety features, longevity, ease of servicing and maintaining the product.

On this project, Gorman Rupp T4A71S-B HDI (hard iron) fitted pumps were chosen to handle the often-challenging wastewater being pumped.

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The new 30,255sq m Snack Brands Australia manufacturing and distribution facility under construction.



Snack Brands Australia insisted on employing Hydro Innovations and Gorman Rupp pumps.



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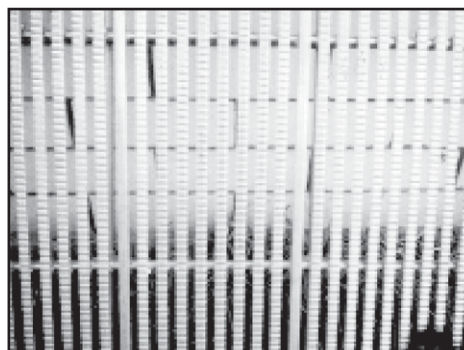
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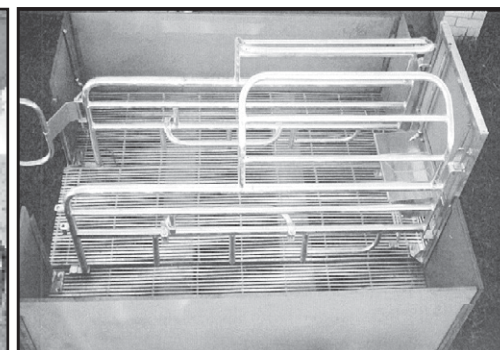
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TABLE 1. AusScan Early Harvest Report

Protein Moisture and Energy Values for Cereal Grains



**Australasian Pork Research
Institute Ltd APRIL**

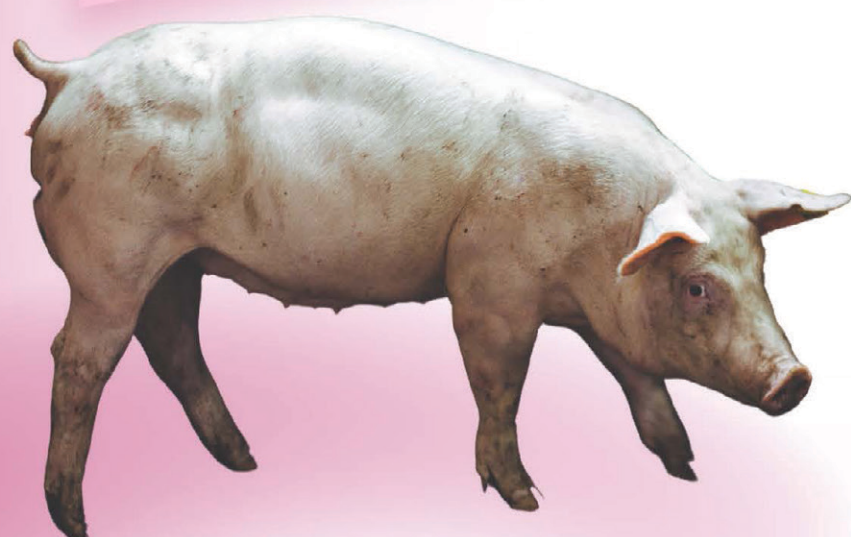
November

2024

Barley																											
Region*	Protein %				Moisture %				Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				IDE/FDE Ratio			Broiler AME MJ/Kg				Broiler AME Index			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
NSW1	9.3	1.14	6.9	11.9	10.6	0.86	9.2	13.6	13.3	0.17	13.0	14.0	10.7	0.38	10.2	12.2	0.80	0.78	0.87	12.1	0.24	11.7	12.9	70.4	2.4	65.2	78.1
QLD	11.0	0.87	9.3	12.9	10.6	0.91	8.4	11.9	12.4	0.09	12.2	12.6	9.8	0.14	9.4	10.0	0.79	0.77	0.79	11.6	0.30	10.9	12.1				
QLD1	11.5	1.27	9.8	13.9	10.8	0.65	9.1	12.5	12.4	0.11	12.2	12.6	10.0	0.38	9.4	10.7	0.81	0.77	0.85	11.6	0.28	10.7	12.0				
SA1	9.5	1.29	7.4	12.0	13.2	0.96	11.2	14.4	13.3	0.36	12.9	14.3	11.0	0.61	10.5	12.8	0.83	0.82	0.90	12.6	0.60	12.2	14.3	69.7	4.1	66.3	80.9
SA2	10.5	1.59	7.4	12.9	12.5	0.75	10.8	14.0	13.3	0.10	13.0	13.5	10.8	0.15	10.3	11.2	0.81	0.79	0.83	12.3	0.28	11.5	12.9	67.9	2.4	61.1	73.6
VIC	10.5	1.79	5.8	15.2	10.0	0.69	8.9	12.4	12.5	0.16	12.2	13.0	9.7	0.27	9.2	10.5	0.78	0.75	0.81	11.3	0.40	10.7	13.7				
VIC 1	9.6	0.58	8.6	10.9	10.1	0.64	8.7	10.9	12.6	0.06	12.4	12.7	10.3	0.20	10.0	10.7	0.82	0.81	0.85	11.5	0.23	10.8	11.8				
VIC 2	10.1	1.43	7.4	14.2	10.1	0.59	8.6	11.3	12.6	0.15	12.2	12.9	10.1	0.15	9.7	10.5	0.81	0.79	0.81	11.4	0.27	10.6	11.9				
VIC 3	9.9	1.60	5.8	12.1	10.1	1.17	8.6	14.7	12.6	0.34	12.3	13.8	10.3	0.55	9.7	12.1	0.82	0.79	0.87	11.5	0.60	10.8	13.4				
Sorghum																											
Region*	Protein %				Moisture %				Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				IDE/FDE Ratio			Broiler AME MJ/Kg				Broiler AME Index			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
QLD1	9.2	0.40	8.2	9.7	12.3	0.89	11.5	13.9	14.5	0.20	14.1	14.6	11.7	0.37	11.3	12.2	0.81	0.80	0.83	14.7	0.30	14.4	15.2				
Wheat																											
Region*	Protein %				Moisture %				Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				IDE/FDE Ratio			Broiler AME MJ/Kg				Broiler AME Index			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
NSW1	10.5	0.80	8.6	14.3	10.6	0.34	9.4	11.3	13.9	0.10	13.7	14.2	12.0	0.14	11.7	12.4	0.86	0.85	0.87	12.9	0.19	12.4	13.3	77.8	1.9	73.6	81.7
QLD	12.2	0.62	11.2	13.4	10.6	0.96	9.0	12.5	13.9	0.05	13.8	14.0	11.7	0.11	11.5	11.9	0.84	0.83	0.85	12.8	0.24	12.2	13.2				
QLD1	12.4	0.97	10.4	13.9	11.0	1.08	9.4	13.6	13.9	0.08	13.6	14.0	12.0	0.20	11.5	12.4	0.86	0.85	0.88	12.8	0.24	12.4	13.4				
SA	11.6	0.68	10.5	12.8	9.9	0.92	8.8	11.1	13.8	0.08	13.6	13.9	11.5	0.16	11.1	11.7	0.84	0.82	0.84	12.6	0.16	12.4	12.8				
SA1	9.7	1.61	7.0	14.8	10.3	1.10	8.3	12.6	13.9	0.08	13.7	14.0	12.3	0.14	12.0	12.6	0.89	0.88	0.90	13.6	0.33	12.7	14.1	78.0	2.2	72.2	81.6
SA2	11.0	0.94	9.8	12.8	10.4	1.38	8.9	16.0	13.9	0.09	13.6	14.0	12.4	0.13	12.0	12.6	0.89	0.88	0.90	13.4	0.33	12.1	13.8	76.6	2.1	68.8	79.1
VIC	11.0	0.77	9.6	13.0	10.4	0.56	9.3	12.0	13.8	0.05	13.7	13.9	11.6	0.09	11.3	11.8	0.84	0.82	0.85	12.7	0.18	12.2	13.2				
VIC 1	11.1	0.77	9.2	13.2	11.1	0.83	9.4	12.9	13.7	0.11	13.4	13.9	11.9	0.16	11.5	12.7	0.87	0.85	0.91	12.8	0.22	12.0	13.4				
VIC 2	10.7	0.91	8.7	14.0	10.8	0.72	8.5	12.9	13.9	0.05	13.7	14.0	11.8	0.11	11.5	12.1	0.85	0.84	0.87	12.8	0.20	12.3	13.4				
VIC 3	11.0	0.91	8.0	15.2	10.5	0.76	8.7	16.3	13.8	0.14	12.4	14.6	11.9	0.23	8.8	12.4	0.86	0.71	0.85	12.7	0.28	11.7	14.8				

* Each row represents a Feed Mill in the Region, for example QLD and QLD1 represent different feed mill companies within the state.

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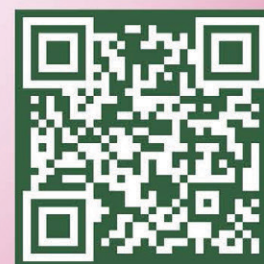
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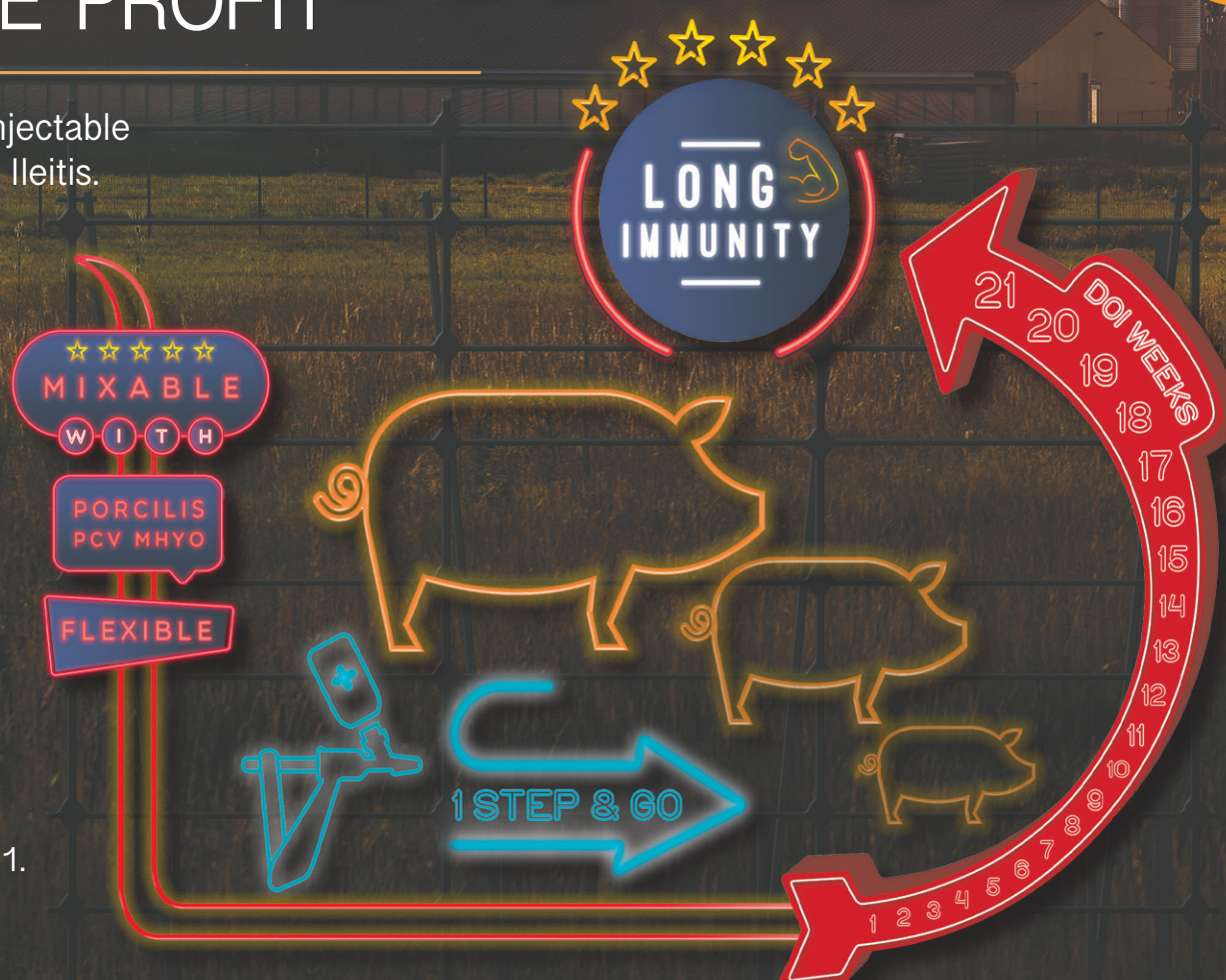
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Indo piggery goes Aussie

INDONESIA'S largest and most advanced piggery ships close to 1000 pigs every night across the straits to Singapore.

The advanced piggery design and procedures owe a lot to the influence of Australian piggery engineers, who originally set up and ran the very efficient and hygienic operation.

Aussie Pumps chief engineer John Hales said: "We're proud they chose our Aussie Scud pressure cleaners to keep the piggery clean with minimum labour and maximum efficiency."

The machines – built

in a heavy duty but ergonomically designed stainless-steel trolley frame – feature top quality Honda engines, with some diesels also in production.

The pumps are 'Big Berty' Bertolini heavy duty triplex pumps with gearbox drive.

"That provides the machine to run at 1450rpm, with machines lasting many years in this occasionally harsh environment," Mr Hales said.

The machines have a unique combination of 15LPM flow and 3000psi pressure.

Turbo lances – Aus-

sie's heavy duty Turbo-master – are used to add extra efficiency and cut cleaning times dramatically.

"We're very proud of the Scud design," Mr Hales said.

"Advanced piggeries like the easy manoeuvrability of the machine, its heavy duty capability and low operating costs."

The big Aussie machines have done a tremendous service over the years, largely due to the close connection of the users with Aussie Pumps engineering support.

Free training course

Aussie Pumps has developed a free safety training course for operators of pressure cleaners.

It focuses attention on the safe operation of the machines and explains the basics of how the triplex pump technology is used in high-pressure water blasting works.

"Understanding how the machine works helps the operator to avoid errors, such as dry running, and aids in their confidence and safety," Mr Hales said.

Further information on Aussie Scud pressure cleaners for piggery operations is available from Aussie Pumps, including the brand new *Blaster Blitz 9* catalogue.

You can access it online or call Aussie Pumps on 02 8865 3500 to have a free copy sent out.

It has loads of information, including troubleshooting, safety and is an indispensable guide for making the right decision on pressure cleaner selections.

Effluent pumps too

Aussie Pumps is also famous for its range of Aussie GMP cast iron and 316 stainless-steel self-priming centrifugal pumps.

Big 6" pumps that will handle huge flows are available.

"These pumps are all built to ISO 9001 quality standards and are top quality, not imported knock offs," Mr Hales said.

The large 6" pumps are part of the GMP range.

These pumps start from 1" and go all the way up to 6" monsters, with Mr Hales working on an 8" pump for launch by mid 2025.

"There's a demand for more flow at an economic price," Mr Hales said.

"We offer value packed prices for products that are designed to go the distance but stripped of unnecessary features.

"Self priming is essential and our entire range is designed around that feature," he said.

"Plus, they're cheaper than you'd think!"

Further information on the stainless-steel pumps and the full catalogue is readily available from aussiepumps.com.au



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Mycotoxin news from dsm-firmenich

Deactivate Mycotoxins Activate Performance



Powered by science to actively defend against multiple mycotoxins*

Why is my herd's performance so variable?

Variability, or lack of uniformity, in the grower and sow herd negatively impacts throughput and profitability of a pork operation in many ways. The problem can manifest itself as delays in achieving market weight or meeting optimal carcase specification or effects on sow performance and litter growth rates. Extensive research by dsm-firmenich in understanding of the mode of action of mycotoxins is shedding more light on the role mycotoxins can be playing in the variability of pig performance across all production phases.

Mycotoxins consists of a wide range of chemically distinct compounds which affect different aspects of a pig's metabolism. The main mycotoxins routinely identified to be a concern in feedstuffs for pigs over the many years the dsm-firmenich mycotoxin survey has been undertaken are shown below.

Deoxynivalenol (DON; commonly found in grains, by-products and bedding), in simple terms, affects how proteins in the body are synthesised. Proteins in the gut wall lining and the array of immunoglobulins and other proteins involved in immunity and health are targeted by DON. The effects of DON are typically seen as reducing feed intake and nutrient absorption and depressed immunity. Even a few days exposure to DON can trigger profound effects which last many weeks and lead to variability.

Zearalenone (ZEN; commonly found in grains and protein meals) is a compound that can also have effects in the gut but is mostly a problem in the breeding herd as ZEN interferes with oestrogen

activity and therefore can cause delays in ovulation and heat and successful maintenance of pregnancy. The reproductive performance of boars can also be affected by ZEN.

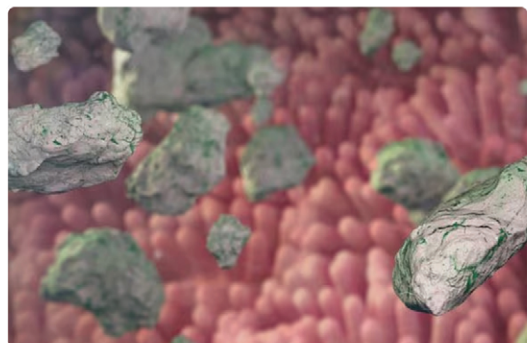
Fumonisin (FUM; found in almost all feedstuffs surveyed) can have wide ranging effects on gut function and organs such as the lungs, liver and kidneys. Fumonisin work by interfering with the lipid component of cell membranes (especially the brain) and so all cells are potential targets. Pigs in particular are sensitive to FUM and FUM can cause significant lung damage.

Ergot Alkaloids (ERG; commonly found in sorghum) typically affect feed intake and digestion and lead to poor growth rate and milk production. Higher levels of ergots severely affect blood flow and necrosis (cell death) of extremities such as ears, tails and teats have been observed in Australia.

When you consider the above brief summary of which feedstuffs mycotoxins contaminate and the diverse nature of their actions, it is not surprising that even low levels of different mycotoxins can be a significant and intermittent factor in the variability of pig performance, even without seeing 'mouldy' feedstuffs.

For more information on the Mycotoxin Survey results and how you can mitigate the effects of mycotoxins in your herd, please contact Elize Terblanche at dsm-firmenich, details below.

How does the Mycofix® product line work?



Adsorption

The mineral adsorbent selectively binds adsorbable mycotoxins and endotoxins



Biotransformation

The combination of patented enzymes and biological components converts mycotoxins into non-toxic metabolites



Bioprotection

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- ✓ Easy-to-administer paste formulation ensures accurate dosing and maximum effectiveness.

DOSE RATE

ONE PUMP = 2ML

2mL: Newborn, underweight and premature piglets soon after birth.
Repeat the following day if necessary.

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Rinse and clean trigger prior to reusing.

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Pork industry shows capability and biosecurity leadership

IN October last year, pork industry representatives and Australian Pork Limited attended a cross-sector Liaison Livestock Industry exercise program Exercise Auditor in Victoria.

Exercise Auditor aimed to improve the delivery and performance of the LLI function to help ensure industry and government are ready to respond to an emergency animal disease outbreak that has the potential to severely impact the Victorian livestock industry.

LLI representatives within the exercise

control centre were presented with a mock scenario of a suspected fictional outbreak of foot and mouth disease on a cattle farm within Victoria.

Alongside the exercise, APL wanted to test the capability to pull PigPass data quickly in an EAD response.

The team worked with the pork representatives in the exercise and used the information they were provided to identify all farms within the control area.

Within 30 minutes, APL staff were able to advise there were 169 farms within the control area and within two hours were able

to advise of all movements on and off those farms.

This highlights the incredible traceability capability the Australian pork industry has with PigPass and how prepared the industry is to respond to an EAD outbreak.

APL thanks the Liaison Livestock Industry representatives who gave their time and expertise to participate in the exercise.

If you would like to become a representative for LLI or were after more information, contact the APL policy team.

Charley-Rose Ford
APL Policy Manager

Letter to the Editor

It is the responsibility of those making submissions to ensure the correctness of their claims and statements. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the publisher.

THIS letter is about a study conducted by SunPork – published in *Frontiers in Veterinary Science* in August 2024 – titled ‘A five domains assessment of sow welfare in a novel free farrowing system’.

The study was also referred to in the *Landline* report on the ABC on October 27, 2024.

I sincerely thank SunPork for research that many of us smaller players in the industry cannot do.

I am aware that there is a need to continue to research how to improve farrowing crates and to continue to explore alternatives to what we currently do in all aspects of pig production.

I would like to ask some questions and make some observations about the study.

There were only 171 sows in the study and of those only about 30 were filmed.

This is a very small group on which to base decisions or describe as ‘robust’ science.

The study was conducted over only two short periods, both in summer.

Winter usually has higher pre-wean mortalities.

The sows and piglets in the maternity ring crates had two heat sources – a lamp and a mat for the piglets, whereas the piglets in farrowing crates had only one source of heat – a lamp.

Additional management practices used for the maternity ring crates make the study a little unbalanced.

The group in farrowing crates are reported to have 70 percent with udder damage on leaving the crate.

I am not aware of udder damage to anywhere near 70 percent of sows in normal farrowing crates.

Another measures of sow welfare included in the study were facial scratches.

I am not aware of facial scratches being an issue within commercial herds.

Other measures of welfare used in the study – nesting and bar biting – are only suggestive of welfare issues, according to the study.

The study states that frustration behaviours were not different between the groups.

Nor were the presence of shoulder sores.

Is it correct that the sows in farrowing crates weaned 1.5 extra pigs – though these were excluded from the study for being underweight and were fostered?

This wasn't mentioned on *Landline*.

Is it correct that piglet mortality was not recorded in the study?

I understand there are a number of further research projects underway to see if the results of this study are repeated – I thank you in advance for sharing the results.

It would be great to have access to the results of previous studies too, particularly the piglet mortality figures of these.

I hope others read the study too – it is interesting and quite

different to what was reported on *Landline*.

I do not think the study supports the conclusion that “sows housed in the maternity ring experience higher animal welfare standards than those housed in farrowing crates” – as per page 13 of the research document (which can be viewed in its entirety by scanning the QR code below).

Further, the measures of sow welfare that the study states were different between the systems are not currently problems in sow crates, so I am not sure that the study can reasonably conclude there were any significant improvements in sow welfare.

However, it does seem that more piglets died in the maternity ring crates.

Again, I thank SunPork for sharing the work, but it would be misleading to use this study as a basis for any welfare claims or change in specifications.

And to call it “cage free” suggests the rest of us keep our pigs in cages, which would be very insulting and should not be supported.

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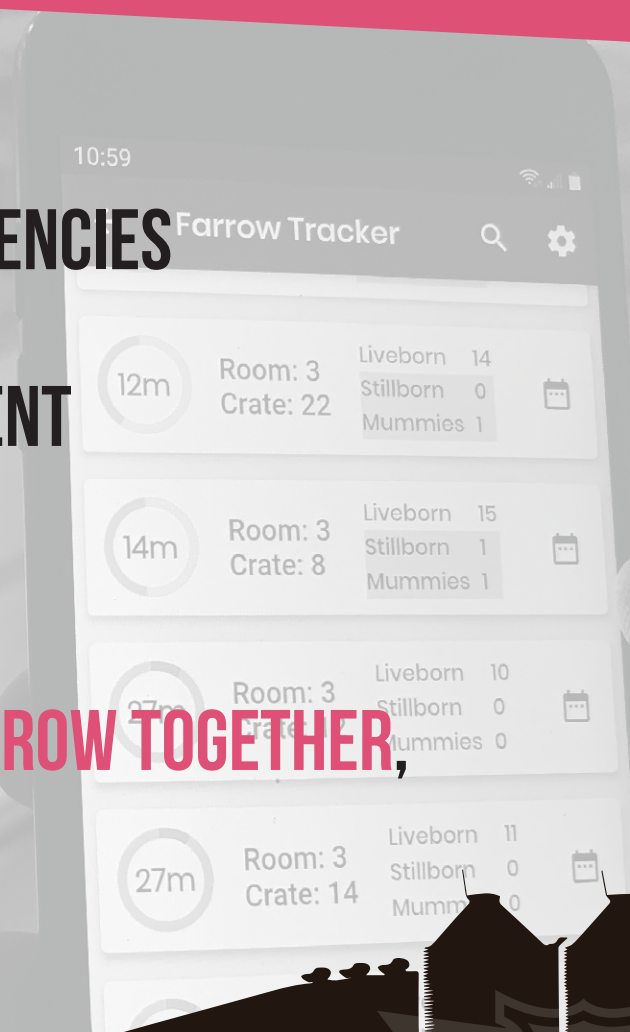
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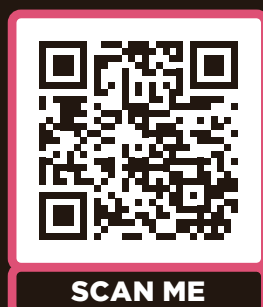
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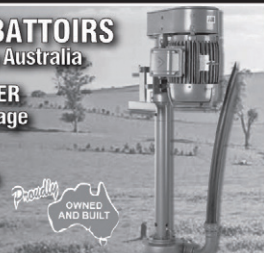
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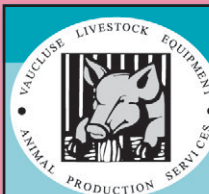
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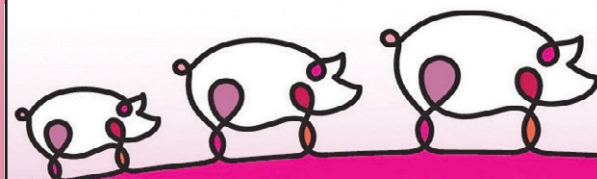
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¹ AVERAGE OF 13 PUBLISHED STUDIES. Assumptions for the calculation: FCR improvement = 0.141, Live weight = 100 kg, Number of animals sold per year = 3000, Vaccination costs: \$7,139.

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