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Australian Pork

NEWSPAPER

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Dr Katelyn Tomas was awarded the APRIL Industry Placement Program with JBS Pork Australia.

Rising star secures 2026 APRIL Industry Placement Program Award with JBS Pork Australia

THE Australian Pork Industry Education and Training Committee met on December 9, 2025 to assess applications for the 2026 APRIL Industry Placement Program.

This round followed a recent decision to increase cash contributions towards the IPP for the first two years of a three-year placement, with host employers covering 100 percent of salary costs in the final year.

The overall aim of the IPP scheme is to retain high-quality graduates in the industry by sponsoring their placement in commercial pork production.

As this is an Australian Pork Research Institute Limited supported position, the IPP award is only available for Gold APRIL participants – currently SunPork Group and JBS Pork Australia.

Dr Katelyn Tomas, an early career research scientist with JBS Pork Australia, was selected as the successful applicant for 2026.

Katelyn recently completed her PhD at the University of Queensland, supported by an APRIL top-up scholarship, before being accepted into an industry-based research scientist role with JBS Pork Australia.

The second aim of the IPP scholarship is to assist in the ongoing development and understanding of how research and development can be used to benefit the Australian commercial pork industry.

During her three-year IPP placement, Katelyn will play a key role in the planning, implementation and analysis of existing and future APRIL and Australian Pork

Limited-supported research projects at JBS Pork Australia.

She will also be leading annual performance reviews of different farrowing pen systems across sites to guide future building developments and inform management strategies.

You can catch Katelyn at the upcoming 'Pork and Talk' industry events in NSW and Victoria.

These events will be an opportunity for producers to learn about both APRIL and APL-supported projects that focus on the theme 'Farrowing house management'.

For more information on the Industry Placement Program or the APL industry 'Pork and Talk' roadshow, contact Dr Sophie Ward at s.ward@april.edu.au or refer to the APRIL website, apri.com.au

APRIL

A strong start for pork in 2026

THIS year is off to a strong start for Australian pork and the broader agriculture sector.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences projects the value of national agricultural production to reach \$99.5 billion in 2026, showing Australian agriculture's resilience and critical contribution to the national economy.

Meanwhile, Bendigo Bank's 2026 Australian Agriculture Outlook points to a largely positive year for the Australian agricultural sector, with ongoing growth and stability across key commodities despite the challenges facing global supply chains and ongoing market volatility.



by MARGO ANDRAE
CEO



ties despite the challenges facing global supply chains and ongoing market volatility.

For Australian pork producers, 2026 is shaping up to be another strong year.

Across the summer period and into the new year, pork continued to deliver value for money, support local farmers

and strengthen Australia's agricultural sector.

Consumers continue to favour pork's versatility, strong nutritional credentials and affordability, particularly when compared with other red meats, with fresh pork's share of fresh meat continuing to grow.

In the four weeks to

December 28, 2025, fresh pork delivered strong retail performance, with volume sales (kg) up 3.9 percent.

Value growth outpaced volume, with retail sales dollars increasing by 5.8 percent.

Christmas cuts performed particularly well.

Pork roasts recorded volume growth of 4.8 percent, reflecting strong seasonal demand, while total ham volumes increased by 5.6 percent across the category.

Even more pleasing, the positive result was not limited to the festive period.

continued P2



Pork roasts recorded volume growth of 4.8 percent, while pork mince volumes rose 17.9 percent. Recipes highlighting pork's versatility can be found on the pork.com.au website.



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Pork Industry Calendar of Events

2026

MAR 2-4 – Animal Health, Nutrition and Technology Innovation 2026 – London, United Kingdom. <https://ahnti-eu.com/events/ahnti-eu>

MAR 4-6 – National Pork Industry Forum 2026 – Kansas City, USA. <https://porkcheckoff.org/events/2026-national-pork-industry-forum>

MAR 10-12 – Health & Nutrition Asia – Bangkok, Thailand. <https://healthandnutrition.viv.net>

MAR 18-20 – Alltech ONE Conference 2026 – Lexington Kentucky, USA. <https://one.alltech.com>

MAR 24-25 – Ontario Swine Conference 2026 – Niagara Falls, Canada. <https://ontarioswineconference.ca>

APR 15-17 – Pork+593 – Cuenca, Ecuador. <https://pork593.aspe.org.ec>

MAY 12-14 – Food with Purpose – Gold Coast, Queensland. <https://www.pix.au/conf26>

MAY 13-14 – British Pig and Poultry Fair – Birmingham, UK. <https://pigandpoultry.org.uk>

MAY 13-15 – 17th European Symposium of Porcine Health Management – Florence, Italy. <https://www.esphm2026.org>

JUN 2-4 – VIV Europe 2026 – Utrecht, The Netherlands. <https://www.viveurope.nl>

JUN 3-4 – World Pork Expo 2026 – Des Moines, USA. <https://www.worldpork.org>

JUN 16-19 – IPVS 2026 – Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam. <https://ipvs2026.vn/>

SEP 19-22 – Allen D. Leman Swine Conference 2026 – St Paul Minnesota, USA. <https://lemanconference.umn.edu>

SEP 22-24 – Expomeat 2026 – Sao Paulo, Brazil. <https://www.expomeat.com.br/>

OCT 6-8 – International PRRS Symposium 2026 – Barcelona, Spain. <https://iprrs2026.org>

OCT 21-23 – Pork Expo Mexico – Aguascalientes, Mexico. <http://pork-expo.org/>

How to supply event details:
Send all details to Australian Pork Newspaper, PO Box 162, Wynnum, Qld 4178, call 0450 672 553 or email design@collins.media

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A strong start for pork in 2026

from P1

Growth was also driven by an increase in everyday cuts.

Pork mince volumes rose 17.9 percent, accounting for 76 percent of total fresh pork growth, making it the fastest growing mince on the market and on average the most affordable.

We're also seeing pork appear more frequently on local menus, particularly in fast food and casual dining settings, reinforcing that fresh Australian pork is not only a home-cooked favourite but a protein well suited to all dining occasions.

Combined with strong export performance and international demand, Australian pork continues to perform both at home and abroad.

While reflecting on these home wins, it's also been interesting to see how the conversation around meat is shifting globally.

The recently released US dietary guidelines encourage Americans to prioritise protein in their diets.

While these guidelines may have emerged from a complex regulatory environment, they reflect a broader trend – people around the world are increasingly recognising the value of protein-rich foods such as pork as an essential part of a balanced diet.

Australian research also shows a growing consumer focus on protein and its role in healthy eating on our own shores.

This is also evident in the rapid expansion of protein-fortified products on supermarket shelves, from bars and powders to pasta and yoghurt.

However, consumers can't overlook the superior nutritional value of whole food sources.

Pork offers high-quality protein along with essential vitamins and minerals in a natural accessible form.

Australian Pork Limited's own research shows Australian pork is an affordable source of high-quality bioavailable (readily

absorbed) protein, providing all the essential amino acids your body needs from dietary food sources.

It also contains B vitamins, minerals and the antioxidant selenium, making it a powerful addition to a balanced diet.

This year, APL is committed to helping all Australians better understand pork's role in a healthy balanced diet.

We're excited to release our 'Pork Power: Value-Packed Nutrition' health report, authored by accredited practicing dietitian Teri Lichtenstein, to make sure all Australians get the message that Australian pork is a value-packed nutritional powerhouse.

As a natural nutrient-dense whole food, fresh pork is a powerful combination of affordability, accessibility and nutritional value, and APL will continue to push for it to play a larger role in our own dietary guidelines and continue encouraging shoppers to get more pork on their forks. 🐷

Strengthen your farm biosecurity with ExoFlare

BIOSECURITY is a critical part of protecting livestock and maintaining a resilient viable operation.

Having a robust plan in place to manage potential threats – whether from disease or activist incursions – is essential for reducing risk and ensuring you comply with state regulations.

Digital biosecurity management platforms such as ExoFlare are a useful tool to strengthen on-farm defences.

ExoFlare replaces manual paperwork with more streamlined connected digital systems, allowing farms to manage visitor sign-ins, transport scheduling, quarantine controls and other biosecurity protocols in one place and in compliance with state regulations.

If an incursion occurs, ExoFlare's dynamic quarantine controls automatically update exclusion zones and stand-

down periods across all sites.

Interactive dashboards provide real-time insight into site activity, identifying risks before they become problems and enabling producers to respond quickly.

Physical measures remain important too.

Clear durable signage at farm gates supports compliance and helps prevent unauthorised entry, reinforcing the first line of defence.

ExoFlare also offers durable biosecurity signs that meet state-specific legislative requirements and clearly warn against unauthorised entry, supporting compliance with state regulations.

With proven success in the pork industry and beyond, ExoFlare delivers visibility, control and confidence, helping producers turn biosecurity from a compliance burden into a strategic advantage.

Adoption of inte-

grated biosecurity systems is already proving effective, including for the pork industry, where visibility and control are key to maintaining herd health.

Those interested in learning more about digital biosecurity management can book a free consultation with the ExoFlare team by scanning the QR code below.

ExoFlare is offering a 10 percent discount on the 12-month subscription list price for the first 50 APIQ-certified customers who book a consultation, for the first 12 months. 🐷

ExoFlare and Australian Pork Limited



Scan to book a free consultation with the ExoFlare team.

Haemoglobin, iron and strengthening breeding herd longevity

THE author was the winner of the Australian Pork Limited-supported 2025 Doug Ross Travel Award.

He attended the fifty-ninth Allen D Leman Swine Conference in St Paul Minnesota.

Ryan Kristen works as a veterinarian with Dr Barry Lloyd in South Australia.

Here, he reflects on his takeaways from the conference.

Over the past decade, sow productivity in the US has improved dramatically.

However, this progress has coincided with a rise in sow replacement rates.

This compromises both sustainability and farm profitability, largely because reduced sow longevity increases production costs.

Recent research has targeted identifying the key drivers of poor longevity and the practical solutions that can reverse it.

Haemoglobin decline and its impact on performance

One study presented at the Allen D Leman Swine Conference monitored gilt and sow haemoglobin levels across their reproductive lifespans.

Researchers found that haemoglobin progressively declined over the last trimester of gestation and successive parities, indicating both an initial deficiency in gilts and a prolonged recovery period during the sow's reproductive life.

Anaemic sows (defined as haemoglobin <10g/dL) experience twice the duration of normal farrowing.

Because farrowing ideally should be completed within 300 minutes, prolonged duration increases the risk of stillbirths.

Higher haemoglobin levels and better body condition were strongly associated with reduced early sow removal. **Nutrient enrichment to support late gestation**

A separate study investigated nutrient enriched diets, finding that diets containing double the standard levels

of vitamins and trace minerals, fed from gestation day 70 to 110 reduced farrowing duration by an average of 78 minutes and increased total born and live-born piglets by 2.4 and 2.7 respectively.

Though it is difficult to see how late gestation nutrition could directly influence total born, farrowing duration clearly affects stillbirth rates and therefore numbers born alive.

These findings raise the question, are our highest-performing animals being provided with the nutrient density they require?

Iron status and boar performance

In another study, boars that failed to mount or provide a collection off 'dummy sows' were shown to have low haemoglobin levels, but semen quality parameters remained unaffected.

These failed collections increased time per collection, disrupted workflow and led to higher culling rates of genetically valuable animals.

Future research will investigate whether injectable iron can improve libido and reduce these inefficiencies.

Because intestinal absorption of dietary iron is naturally limited, attention is shifting to the strategic use of intramuscular iron injections to rapidly restore iron stores when needed.

The research provides an opportunity to test strategies in Australian breeding herds to address iron deficiency and thus enhance reproductive performance and improve both sow and boar longevity and welfare. 🐷

Dr Ryan Kristen for Australian Pork Limited



Dr Ryan Kristen

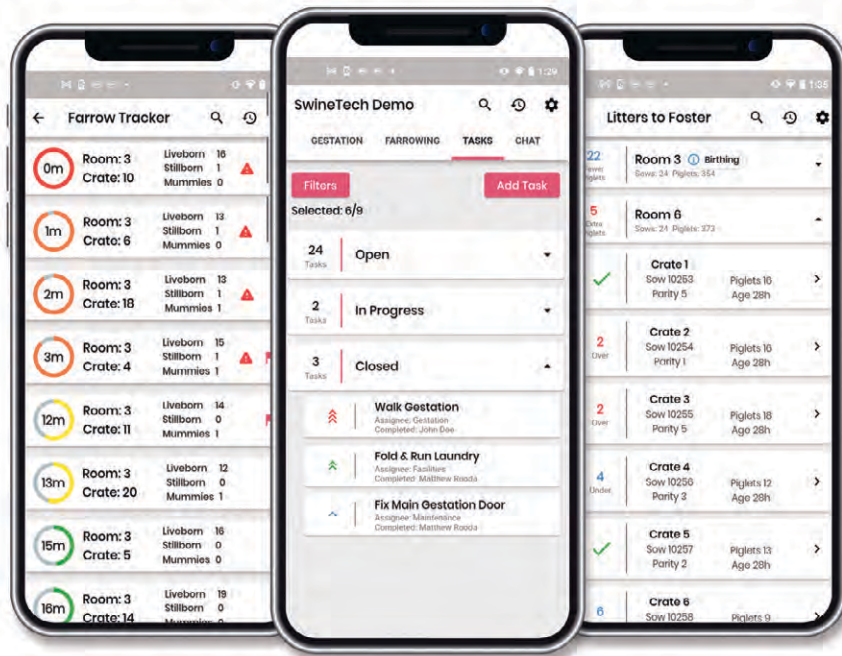


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PigFlow provides app-based workflows and operational intelligence to increase employee engagement, efficiencies and pig care.

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Step 2 Define Operations



Manager

Sets the goals, expectations, SOPs (What do we need to happen?)



Workflow

Reinforces the correct actions and behaviours (When do we need to do it?)



Process

Ensure completion and compliance (Are we doing a good job?)

Step 3 Direct Execution

Daily Workflows

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- Fostering Management
- Treatments & Vaccinations

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- Task Prioritisation & Optimisation
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Setting camera traps – simple tips for better feral pig monitoring

CAMERA traps have become one of the most useful tools for detecting and monitoring wildlife, including feral pigs.

While these devices are increasingly common and increasingly affordable, many are set up incorrectly, leading to poor or missed detections.

Understanding how camera traps work is just as important as where you place them.

Camera traps rely on radiant heat differentials to trigger a photo.

When a warm-bodied animal such as a feral pig moves across a cooler background,



NATIONAL
FERAL PIG
ACTION PLAN

by HEATHER CHANNON
National Feral Pig
Management Coordinator



the camera's passive infrared sensor detects the change and fires the shutter.

A photograph of an animal will only happen when the heat signature of the animal is detected by and moves across the PIR sensor.

A key component of the field camera is the Fresnel lens – the textured plastic panel on the front of the camera.

This lens concentrates light and divides the detection area into zones, helping the camera pick up movement at the right angle and distance.

Different camera models vary in lens design, which means detection performance can also differ.

The way that a camera detects heat can also be influenced by the type and model of passive infra-red sensor, that sits behind the Fresnel lens.

If the camera is not positioned correctly, it may fail to capture the temperature difference between the pig and its surroundings, resulting in weak or no detection.

Camera traps are often strapped to a tree or post, but placement isn't as simple as pointing and walking away.

To get clear early images of feral pigs, the PIR sensor must be aligned so it can detect movement before the animal passes the camera.

A poorly placed camera may only trigger once the animal is leaving the frame or miss the animal altogether.

Researchers from the Department of Primary Industries NSW Vertebrate Pest Research Unit have outlined a practical calibration method to

help land managers get better and more consistent detections.

Here's a simplified version anyone can follow.

Determine the detection zone

- Use a rope or measuring tape to place a peg 4-6m from the camera at about a 23-degree angle to the direction the animal will pass the camera trap

- Fix the rope at 50cm above the ground on both the camera post and the peg

- Avoid placing the camera where vegetation is so close that it can blow into the field of view

- Avoid having shadows, reflective surfaces and rock outcrops in the field of view

- Should be deployed for a minimum of four weeks.

Align the camera

- Use the peg as a visual guide to centre and level the camera at the correct height

- If using bait or free feed, or you are monitoring a trap, make sure the camera directly points to the target area.

Test the trigger

- Crawl towards the peg at 'pig height' (low to the ground) so the camera captures you.

Check the first detection

- Remove the SD card and view the images using software that allows overlays

- Locate the photo where you first appear

- If you aren't detected before or as you reach the peg, adjust the camera slightly

- Pay attention to how the camera's detection bands line up with where you were first seen.

Repeat until optimised

- Keep testing until the camera fires early

continued P5

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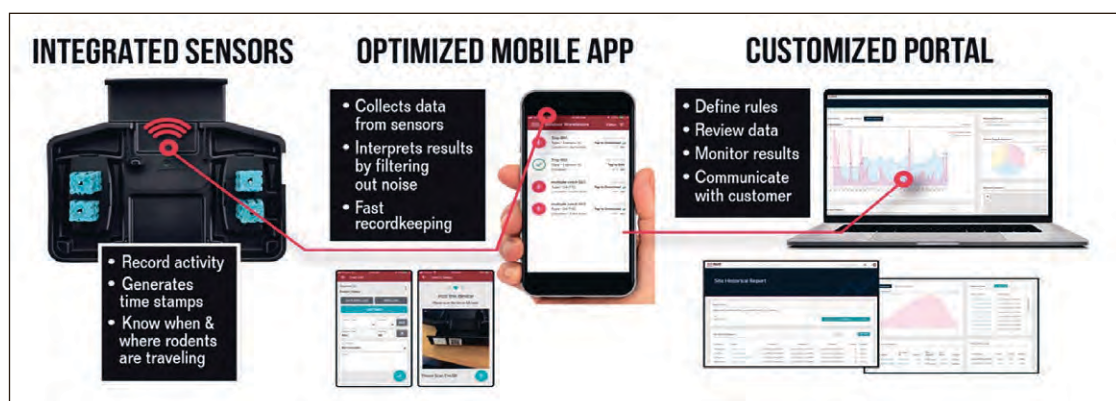
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New and improved rodent control from Rudduck

WITH the latest science and newest technology from Rudduck, rats and mice don't stand a chance.

Rudduck is launching two new and very exciting products for the war against rodents in intensive animal production facilities.

The first is Fastrac – a new and better bait with a new non-anticoagulant active ingredient that is extremely fast acting and effective.

Traditional anticoagulant rodenticides – both first generation (multi-feed) and second generation (single feed) – will take up to a week to kill a rat, and during that time it will keep eating.

These active ingredients have been clearly shown to build up in the food chain and traces are commonly found in dead birds of prey as well as dogs, cats and even pigs and poultry.

The active ingredient in Fastrac is brometh-

alin, which will kill a rat in a day or two and causes a stop-feed reaction as soon as a lethal dose is consumed.

This means that population control happens much faster and with much less bait than with an anticoagulant – and it will control anti-coagulant resistant rodent populations.

Fastrac is registered in Australia for use up to 30m from buildings and permanent structures, which makes it ideal for fenceline baiting.

Fastrac is an excellent option for bait rotation and particularly for clean-out of animal housing.

The other tremendous innovation from Rudduck is a rodent bait station that incorporates a fully integrated Bluetooth sensor for detecting, reporting and timestamping rodent activity at that station.

This means that a producer can have a complete overview and timestamp of ro-

dent activity around their facility.

It is also a huge time saver – no longer does the operator have to open every single bait station on each inspection to see if bait has been taken – other than when routine bait replacement is scheduled.

A quick walk-past scan will tell if rodents have been active in any particular station, so only those stations need to be opened and bait checked.

Pulse Rat iQ is the perfect solution for livestock producers, especially pig and poultry facilities where rodent populations are high and biosecurity is critical.

Each rodent bait station includes a fully integrated Bluetooth sensor for detecting and timestamping rodent activity.

The station holds up to eight blocks of bait or two snap traps.

All that is required for this monitoring is a mobile phone with the Bell IQ App down-

loaded and matched to the stations.

There is no on-going cost to the system beyond purchasing the stations.

Rudduck is a supplier that provides pest control solutions to farmers and rural customers through a network of rural resellers.

With a 100-year heritage and expertise in pest control, they provide their customers with the knowledge, support and confidence to solve many pest control problems.

Rudduck's current product range includes a range of professional pyrethrum-based products including Rudduck Py Matic and Rudduck Py Zap (pyrethrum concentrate), specialist rodent products and fogging equipment.

With active growth plans underway, the product range is expected to expand significantly into the future.

Visit www.rudduck.com.au **Rudduck**

Setting camera traps – simple tips for better feral pig monitoring

from P4

– ideally as you cross the first detection zone.

Following this simple calibration process will help to ensure feral pigs are detected as soon as they enter the camera's field of view.

Early detection also means more images will be captured across the pig's movement path, giving land managers better informa-

tion for monitoring and planning control programs.

This method is based on research published in *JOJ Wildlife and Biodiversity* by Paul Meek and colleagues from DPI NSW Vertebrate Pest Research Unit, who developed, tested and routinely use this practical approach for improving wildlife detection using camera traps.

This open access article can be viewed via the relevant QR code below.

Further information is available in a DPI NSW Primefact document, 'Guide for camera trapping wild dogs, foxes and feral cats'.

A recording of a National Feral Pig Action Plan Stakeholder Forum presentation by Dr Andrew Bengsen

from DPI NSW VPRU that covered the 'Practicalities of camera trapping to detect and count feral pigs' is available via the relevant QR code below.

If you'd like to discuss the content of this article or have any questions related to effective feral pig management, contact me on Heather.Channon@feral pigs.com.au or 0423 056 045.



Understanding how camera traps work is as important as where you place them. Photo: Hunter Land Management

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Scan for the JOJB published research.



Scan for Dr Bengsen's presentation.

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Highlights from Food with Purpose 2024.



Food with Purpose 2026 – where insight, innovation and industry converge

AS Australia's pork industry faces accelerating change, Food with Purpose 2026 arrives at a critical moment for connection, collaboration and forward thinking.

Taking place at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre from May 12-14, Food with Purpose 2026 will see the Poultry Information Exchange, Australian Milling Conference and Australian Pork Limited come together to bring industry leaders, innovators and decision-makers to explore what's next for the poultry, milling and pig industries.

A defining feature of Food with Purpose 2026 is its strong keynote program, headlined by two highly respected industry voices – Dr Scott Bolland and Dr Jo Coombe.

Together, they set a compelling tone for an event focused on practical insight, scientific credibility and real-world impact.

Dr Scott Bolland is widely recognised for

his expertise in industry transformation, leadership and innovation adoption.

His keynote will address how businesses can build resilience and remain competitive in an environment shaped by technological disruption, evolving markets and increasing sustainability demands.

With a reputation for delivering clear actionable insights, Dr Bolland's session will resonate strongly with those navigating change across production, processing and supply chains.

Joining him on the keynote stage, Dr Jo Coombe brings deep experience at the intersection of science, strategy and stakeholder engagement.

Her work translating research into tangible industry outcomes has made her a trusted voice across food and agricultural systems.

At Food with Purpose 2026, Dr Coombe will explore the future of food systems, consumer trust and the power of

collaboration between industry, research and policy – offering perspectives that challenge conventional thinking and inspire collective action.

Beyond the keynote program, Food with Purpose 2026 will feature pork-specific and joint speaking sessions covering on-farm biosecurity and water hygiene, the role of protein in the diet, future-fit talent, food trends, social licence and many more.

A vibrant exhibition will showcase the latest technologies, products and services supporting primary industries.

From agtech and data solutions to inputs, infrastructure and professional services, the exhibition floor remains a central hub for innovation, networking and commercial opportunity.

Demand for exhibition space is already high and, with limited exhibition space available, prospective exhibitors are encouraged to secure their place early.

Food with Purpose consistently attracts a highly engaged audience of decision-makers and influencers, making it a valuable platform for businesses looking to increase visibility, launch innovations and build long-term relationships.

Early bird registrations are now open, providing attendees with the opportunity to secure their place at a reduced rate and be part of one of Australia's leading primary industry events.

Food with Purpose 2026 is more than a conference and trade show – it is a meeting point for ideas, partnerships and progress.

With a strong keynote lineup, a dynamic exhibition and a future-focused program, it promises to deliver insight and impact well beyond the event itself.

To register, exhibit or learn more, visit www.pix.au and be part of the conversation shaping the future of Australian poultry, pork and milling industries.



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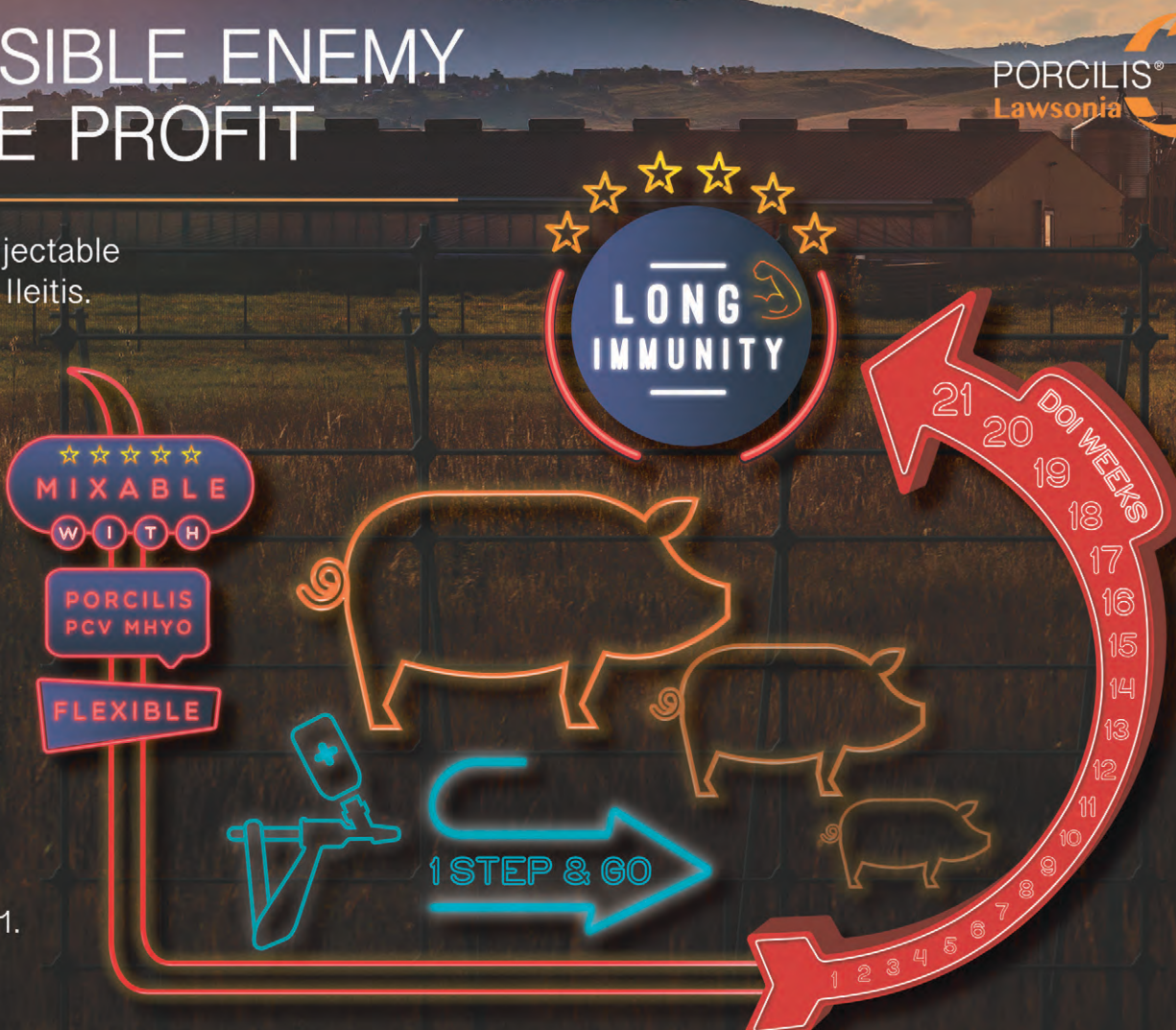
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Why not have a heart

Cant Comment

by BRENDON CANT



WHILE reading a story in *The Guardian* in late December (see below) about pig organ transplants into humans, I was reminded of a time – 2011 – when a then client of mine, Craig Mostyn Group/Linley Valley Pork, was supplying pig heart valves to the human medical research market.

Curious and seeking an update, I subsequently contacted CMG chief executive officer Wayne Crofts asking him what, if any, pig organs CMG/LVP was currently supplying for potential human use and, if so, to what markets?

Understandably, Wayne referred my emailed enquiry to LVP general manager Kaine Tamlyn.

Three weeks down the track and I still await a response from Wayne, despite a gentle reminder on January 19 – two days ago at the time of writing.

As this is such ex-

citing science and I have an old schoolmate who owes his revitalised heart health – and probably his life – to a pig valve, I deemed it worthy of an update.

As Craig Mostyn Group is such a dynamic and visionary family-owned company, I'm guessing they're still working in that space.

When and if I have clarity, I'll be sure to keep readers informed.

Meanwhile, here's an edited version of *The Guardian* story, for your information.

A leading surgeon behind a clinical trial of transplanting pig kidneys into living humans has said they

could one day be superior to those from human donors.

Dr Robert Montgomery, the director of NYU Langone Transplant Institute, said the first transplant of the trial had already been carried out, with another expected to take place in January.

Six patients are initially expected to receive the pig organs, which have been genetically edited in 10 places to reduce rejection by the human body.

Should the US Food and Drug Administration give approval, the trial will be expanded to involve 44 further transplants.

The approach – called xenotransplantation (grafting or transplanting organs or tissues between different species) – is aimed at solving the shortage of human organs.

"The truth is that there's just never going to be enough human organs," Dr Montgomery told *The Guardian*.

While the idea of xenotransplantation has been around for decades, Dr Montgomery said recent developments had proved pivotal – including the ability to create genetically edited pigs.

"There were all these kind of jokes about xenotransplantation, like it's just around the corner and it's an awfully long corner," he said.

"But suddenly we're in it."

Dr Montgomery carried out the world's first gene-edited pig-to-human organ transplant in 2021.

While the recipient of the kidney was a brain-dead individual, he said it was an important step, showing the organs were not immediately rejected and providing crucial safety data that had opened the door for use in living people.

Dr Montgomery said it was even possible that pig organs could eventually become superior to human ones for transplants, with the possibility for further gene edits to make rejection less likely.

"They could be superior at some point because we can constantly modify them

◀ continued P9

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In early 2011, Linley Valley Pork general manager Ron Penn discussed the harvesting and sale of pig heart valves from the company's Wooroloo works with Western Australia's Minister for Agriculture and Food Terry Redman.

Why not have a heart

from P8

to make them better, where you can't do that with a human organ," he said.

Studies by researchers, including Dr Montgomery, have shown that transplanting the pig's thymus – an organ involved in the development and selection of immune cells – along with the kidney, can also improve tolerance, raising the possibility of eventually reducing or even eliminating the need for anti-rejection drugs.

"We're not there yet, but that's why we're doing those studies," he said.

While the new clinical trial is a first to be carried out with xenotransplantation, pig organs have pre-

viously been transplanted into a handful of humans, most of whom were already severely ill.

Some of these patients subsequently had to have the organs removed and others have died, albeit not necessarily from complications relating to the transplant.

However, Dr Montgomery said there were two living recipients of

pig kidneys who still had the organs.

A recipient himself of a human heart transplant in 2018 – due to the inherited heart disease dilated cardiomyopathy – Dr Montgomery said he would not be adverse to receiving a pig heart himself.

"Next time around, if I continue to be healthy and alive, I certainly would consider it." 🐷



While not life savers, these pig hearts – which the author bought from his local IGA supermarket – were enjoyed by his Blue Heeler, Djilba and the author love offal.

Minimal confinement lactation systems now legislated in Denmark

THE legislation of the implementation of minimal confinement lactation systems across Danish pig production has now been released, with the executive order effective from January 12, 2026.

The relevant changes to the legislation can be found (in Danish) by scanning the QR code below, though I have summarised the relevant points as follows.

- Pregnant sows and gilts must be placed in farrowing pens no later than three days before expected farrowing

- Sows and gilts must be provided with suitable nesting material in sufficient quantity from the time of introduction into the farrowing pen

- Sows and gilts must be kept loose in the farrowing pen, with the exception of temporary confinement around farrowing or the creation of a nurse sow (more details below)

- The farrowing pen must be designed to

allow for the sow or gilt to turn around unhindered and the piglets must have sufficient space to suckle without difficulty, the pen must have a floor area of at least 6.5sq m including a screened area for the piglets, at least 3sq m of the pen floor area must have a continuous solid or drained floor

- The freedom of movement of sows and gilts may be restricted by the use of farrowing bars in the period from immediately before expected farrowing until a maximum of four days after farrowing

- The freedom of movement of a nurse sow may be restricted by the use of farrowing bars

for a maximum of three days after receiving piglets that are not her own, the nurse sow may be restrained once in each lactation period in addition to the fixation in the period from immediately before expected farrowing and until a maximum of four days after farrowing. These rules now apply to all new farrowing stables built in Denmark – that is, farrowing crates are not allowed to be included in any new buildings.

For sites with existing minimal confinement farrowing pens, these rules do not apply until November 1, 2050 – in order to support farmers who have already made such

a transition, though they might not meet the entirety of the legislation in the current format.

For all other Danish production (currently conventional), there is a 15-year transition time, with the legislation coming into effect November 1, 2040.

There is currently no roadmap for financial support or otherwise for farmers to assist with the transition, though this is of course being heavily debated in Denmark currently, with Danish pig producers considering their case for legal action against the state – mostly around the timeframe in which conventional farms are expected to convert. 🐷



Scan for the legislation changes (in Danish).

Nordic News

by ASHLEY NORVAL



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Scan for the APIQ Certification Policies Version 6.0 1/2026.

APIQ major review key updates effective January 1, 2026

THE Australian Pork Industry Quality Assurance Program is currently completing a major review covering all key aspects of the program and its supporting documents.



Certification Policies
Version 6.0 1/2026

Among these are the certification policies, which define the processes, requirements and decision making applied from initial certification through to the management of critical corrective action requests and incidents.

Following extensive industry consultation throughout late 2024 and 2025, the updated CPs came into effect on January 1, 2026.

Key updates include the following.

Incident notification requirements

All APIQ sites must notify APIQ management by text, email or phone within 24 hours where issues arise relating to a site or business that may jeopardise pig, worker or site welfare or trigger public scrutiny of the site or Australian pork industry.

A full list of notifiable issues can be found in the Certifi-

cation Policies document (Version 6.0 1/2026), scan the provided QR code.

Joint certification management

Business entities (producers) comprised of two or more pig production sites with the same quality management system are eligible to apply for joint certification.

Not all joint certification sites are audited each year, however as of January 1, 2026, all sites under a joint certification must have a compliance audit at least once in every two-year period.

In the event that a site under a joint certification receives a critical corrective action request during an audit or incident investigation, all sites under the same joint certification will be required to be audited at the producer's cost, ideally within three months.

New 'on probation' status

A status of 'current (on probation)' will be automatically applied when a producer has received a CCAR or is involved in a critical incident.

This status will apply for up to two years, with sites being audited twice per year at the producer's cost until the 'on probation' period ends.

At least one audit within this period will be an ad hoc audit.

Sites with a status of 'current (on probation)' may continue to operate and trade as APIQ certified.

Suspended and cancelled statuses and timeframes

A producer may be assigned a 'suspended' or 'cancelled' status for reasons including:

- Serious breaches of the APIQ standards or certification policies

- Failure to notify APIQ management of major issues or external investigations

- Conduct that jeopardises the integrity or reputation of APIQ, the pork industry or breaches the law.

A full list of reasons can be found in the full Certification Policies document, scan the provided QR code.

A suspended status applies for a maximum period of six months.

Cancelled status applies for a minimum of 12 months and will remain in place indefinitely, until or unless a site successfully completes a compliance audit to re-enter the APIQ program and certification is approved by the Australian Pork Limited Board.

Under these statuses the producer cannot claim to be APIQ certified and will not be

eligible for sale and delivery to markets that specify APIQ certification.

Other key changes include:

- Corrective action request escalation process

- The appeal and dispute process

- The expectation and use of photographs and videos during audits.

Note, review of the APIQ standards is still underway with no changes at this time.

A copy of the Certification Policies can be found under the APIQ resource library at australianpork.com.au/apiq or via the QR code accompanying this article.

If you have any questions or concerns about the updated CPs, reach out to APIQ management.

Australian Pork Limited

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New report backs health benefits of fresh Aussie pork

THE increasing appetite for fresh pork coincides with the recent release of a new dietitian-authored report 'Pork Power: Value Packed Nutrition', to inform health-care professionals about pork's impressive nutritional profile and health benefits.

Based on an in-depth nutrient analysis of eight common lean cuts of pork, the report highlights the benefits of pork beyond protein.

Report author and accredited practicing dietitian Teri Lichtenstein said, "Australians are fixated on eating more protein and the best sources of protein are those found naturally in foods."

"The protein in lean pork is high-quality, containing all nine essential amino acids that the body needs to obtain from food, as well as being highly bio-available, meaning it is readily absorbed.

"In addition to being

packed with 18g of protein per serving, consuming your protein from a natural source like lean pork comes with the benefits of all the other vitamins and minerals it contains, which work synergistically to support overall health."

The report highlights the health effects of the eight essential nutrients found in pork, including supporting healthy muscles, mood, bones, vitality, immunity, hormones, skin, heart health, metabolism and even reproductive health.

The good news for Australians wanting to

put more pork on their forks is that, not only is it versatile and delicious but it is the most affordable source of red meat protein.

An analysis of popular cuts of beef, lamb and pork sold at Coles and Woolworths in October 2025 showed that it costs 40 percent more to get your protein from beef and twice as much to get your protein from lamb.

The report 'Pork Power: Value Packed Nutrition' is available for download alongside other useful resources at pork.com.au

Australian Pork Limited



Scan for the report.



**Australasian
Pork Research
Institute Ltd**
APRIL

TABLE 1. AusScan Early Harvest Report

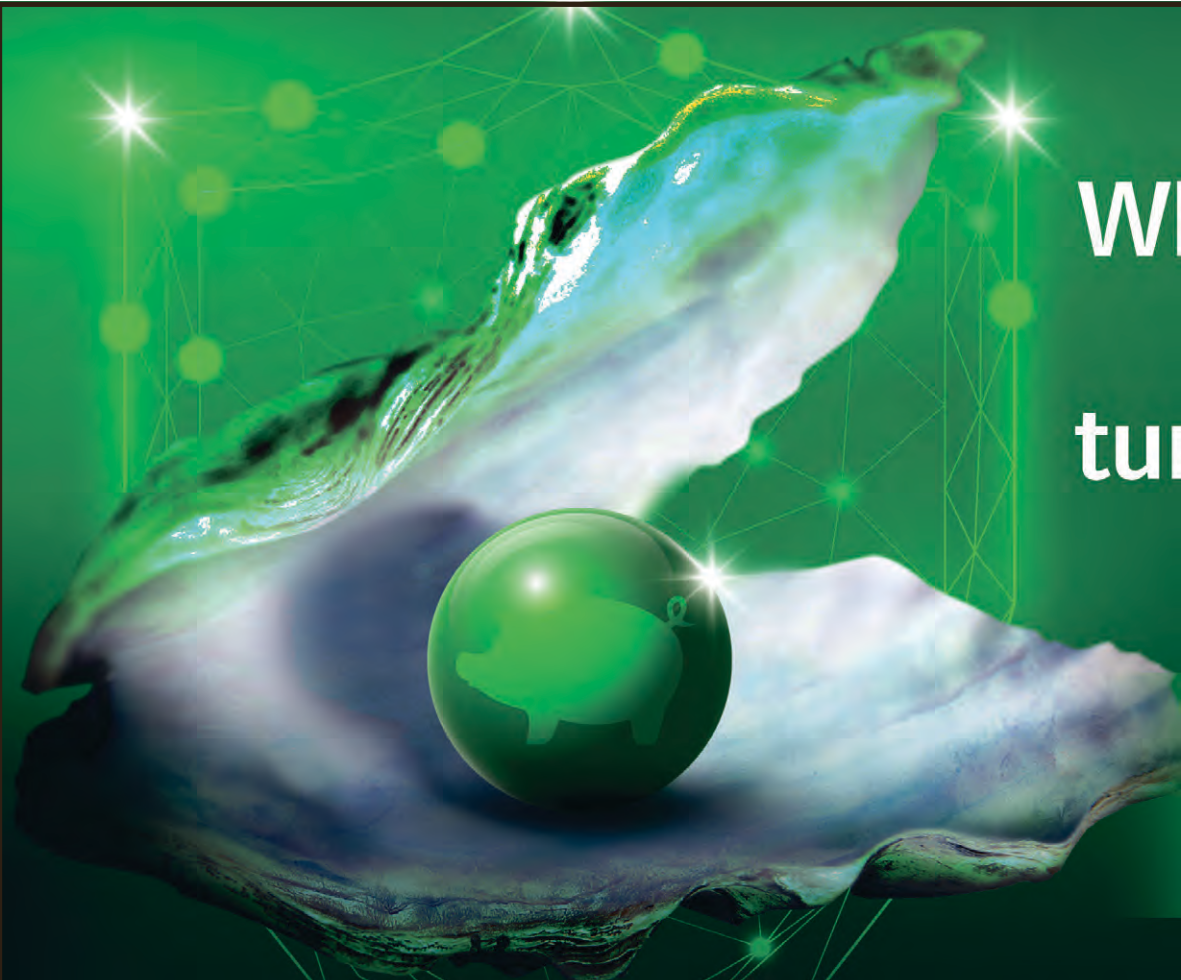
December

2025

Protein Moisture and Energy Values for Cereal Grains

Barley																											
	Protein %				Moisture %				Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				IDE/FDE Ratio			Broiler AME MJ/Kg				Broiler AME Index			
Region*	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	10.6	1.17	9.0	15.1	10.4	0.72	8.9	12.2	13.4	0.14	12.8	13.6	10.6	0.27	9.3	10.9	0.79	0.73	0.80	12.0	0.21	11.2	12.3	68.9	1.6	63.8	72.1
QLD	9.5	1.04	7.8	11.9	11.3	1.04	9.6	13.2	12.6	0.31	12.1	13.9	10.0	0.41	9.0	11.6	0.79	0.75	0.84	11.9	0.44	10.7	12.8				
QLD1	10.0	1.21	7.7	12.6	10.3	1.12	8.1	11.9	12.5	0.12	12.1	12.7	10.0	0.30	9.4	10.6	0.80	0.78	0.83	11.4	0.48	10.3	12.1				
SA1	10.0	1.20	8.0	12.5	11.7	0.90	10.6	14.3	13.5	0.21	13.2	14.0	11.2	0.19	10.9	11.8	0.83	0.83	0.84								
SA2	8.0	1.32	6.6	10.7	11.7	0.62	10.9	12.7	13.5	0.17	13.2	13.8	11.1	0.18	10.8	11.3	0.82	0.82	0.82								
VIC	11.7	1.50	9.0	14.7	10.2	1.07	8.1	12.4	12.5	0.16	12.2	12.7	10.3	0.28	9.9	10.8	0.83	0.81	0.85	11.2	0.41	10.5	12.0				
VIC 1	10.9	1.41	8.6	14.9	10.5	1.18	7.9	13.1	12.4	0.17	12.1	12.8	10.5	0.51	9.6	11.5	0.84	0.79	0.90	11.7	0.52	10.7	12.8				
VIC 2	11.1	1.24	9.5	12.9	10.7	0.94	9.2	12.7	12.5	0.12	12.3	12.8	10.5	0.19	10.3	11.1	0.84	0.84	0.87	11.7	0.31	11.2	12.3				
VIC 3	10.2	0.68	9.0	11.2	10.2	0.70	9.1	11.3	12.7	0.65	12.1	14.7	10.8	0.42	10.2	12.0	0.85	0.85	0.82	11.8	0.91	10.9	14.8				
Wheat																											
	Protein %				Moisture %				Pig Faecal DE MJ/Kg				Pig Ileal DE MJ/Kg				IDE/FDE Ratio			Broiler AME MJ/Kg				Broiler AME Index			
Region*	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	13.0	1.25	10.2	16.3	10.2	0.64	9.1	11.8	14.2	0.14	13.9	14.5	12.4	0.21	11.9	13.0	0.87	0.86	0.90	12.9	0.23	12.7	14.1	77.7	1.8	72.7	82.0
QLD	12.7	1.37	9.9	17.9	10.7	0.97	8.5	12.9	13.8	0.13	13.3	14.7	11.7	0.18	11.1	12.1	0.85	0.84	0.82	12.7	0.34	11.7	14.7	77.2	1.9	68.8	83.4
QLD1	12.6	1.22	9.7	14.9	10.7	0.75	9.6	12.2	13.9	0.05	13.7	13.9	11.9	0.17	11.4	12.3	0.86	0.84	0.88	12.7	0.22	12.2	13.2	77.2	1.0	75.5	79.1
SA1	10.2	1.36	7.2	14.2	10.6	1.01	8.6	14.2	14.1	0.12	13.7	14.2	11.8	0.13	11.5	12.1	0.84	0.84	0.85								
SA2	12.2	2.83	9.3	18.5	10.9	0.74	9.4	12.3	14.1	0.11	14.0	14.4	11.8	0.13	11.5	12.0	0.83	0.83	0.83								
VIC	11.8	1.18	9.7	17.2	10.3	0.89	8.2	12.9	13.8	0.06	13.1	13.9	11.6	0.15	11.1	12.2	0.84	0.85	0.88	12.6	0.23	11.7	13.2	77.7	1.1	71.5	80.9
VIC 1	12.3	1.37	9.0	16.3	10.1	1.06	7.9	13.3	13.7	0.08	13.4	13.9	11.9	0.20	11.5	12.8	0.87	0.86	0.92	12.8	0.37	11.3	14.6	78.4	1.5	73.4	83.1
VIC 2	11.6	0.93	9.1	14.2	9.8	1.08	7.7	13.7	13.7	0.07	13.6	13.9	11.8	0.16	11.5	12.4	0.86	0.85	0.89	12.6	0.30	11.8	13.4	77.6	1.2	75.5	82.1
VIC 3	11.3	1.12	7.9	15.9	9.8	0.90	7.8	13.5	13.7	0.09	13.2	13.8	11.8	0.18	10.8	12.2	0.86	0.81	0.88	12.5	0.35	11.5	14.6	77.4	1.6	69.4	81.8

* 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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For further information about **Tonistry Px**, please contact **CCD Animal Health**.

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