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APRIL Chief Scientist and CEO Prof John Pluske.

APRIL first appointment of CEO and Chief Scientist

JOHN Pluske has been appointed inaugural Chief Scientist and CEO of Australasian Pork Research Institute Limited.

Prof Pluske from Murdoch University, Western Australia will commit more than half his time to APRIL, while maintaining academic roles and duties at Murdoch University.

APRIL is an independent research entity continuing the collaborative approach to research and development of the very successful Cooperative

Research Centre for High Integrity Australian Pork (Pork CRC), which is winding down to its June 30, 2019 conclusion.

APRIL actively partners with industry and educational institutions to deliver research outcomes to the Australasian pork industry and commercial outcomes that generate financial returns for APRIL to support ongoing research, development and training.

APRIL invested \$900,000 in 13 projects across programs covering resilience, cost and return

on assets in 2018/19, its inaugural funding year.

APRIL Board chairman Dennis Mutton was delighted Prof Pluske agreed to take up the APRIL positions, with Murdoch University's backing.

"There are exciting research prospects ahead for the pork industry and John's sound research background and international reputation augers well for meeting the high goals and KPIs we've set for APRIL," Mr Mutton said.

Murdoch University Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation David Morrison said the university was committed to agriculture and research.

"This opportunity is a win for the pork industry and enables Murdoch University to retain one of our prominent researchers, which is fantastic for our research capability and for our students," Prof Morrison said.

Prof Pluske welcomed the challenge, saying APRIL would consider all funding opportunities, including competitive research grants, to ensure the Australasian pork industry had the necessary

financial backing and research and development capacity to be sustainable and internationally competitive.

APRIL will work closely with Australian Pork Limited to jointly provide access to research facilities through base funding and ensure the pork industry has access to high-quality scientists and generates research outcomes capable of enhancing capacity, profitability and sustainability.

Mr Mutton acknowledged the tireless work of APRIL interim CEO Roger Campbell.

"Having so ably led Pork CRC as CEO since its 2005 inception, Dr Campbell extended his commitment to the pork industry by driving APRIL in its initial stages and APRIL members and the Board appreciate it," Mr Mutton said.

Prof Pluske's research career, including many years as a Pork CRC sub-program leader, has focused on nutrition-gut disease interactions in pigs, growth and development, feed and ingredient evaluation.

www.APRI.com.au



APRIL chairman Dennis Mutton and Murdoch University Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Innovation David Morrison, signed the agreement between APRIL and Murdoch for the appointment of Prof John Pluske as APRIL Chief Scientist and CEO.

Keeping on top of the fever

IT'S difficult for any subject to break through what has been the major issue on the lips of everyone in the pork industry for the past 18 months or so – low pig prices – but it has happened and it's only three words also – African swine fever.

We've learnt over the past month or two that China, the world's biggest consumer and producer of pork, has a big problem with ASF.

To date, they've identified more than 20 individual cases in their country, and the scary thing is they are in some cases thousands of kilometres apart.

This would seem to indicate the spread is not due to movement of diseased pigs, rather swill feeding of diseased pork products, probably originating out of eastern Europe.

As you might imagine, there's a lot of speculation about whether the authorities in China are going to be able to get on top of the issue, considering the significance of backyard piggeries in their industry.

What is true in China is once they set their mind to something, with a central government decision-making process, they are able to act quickly and decisively.

We'll see how that goes for their stamping out of ASF.

Scarier still is the discovery a couple of weeks ago of ASF in Belgium.

There have been a number of wild pigs discovered (as carcasses) in that country which have tested positive to the disease.

There are pros and cons around the disease being in the wild pig population.



Point of View

by ANDREW SPENCER CEO



The pro is the disease isn't in the commercial pig herd, which means the threat of exporting the problem to international customers is reduced.

The con is the wild pig population is much more difficult to manage in terms of where they are, where they are moving to, and how many of them there are with the disease.

Some of the diseased carcasses have been found close to the French border, and remember that in western Europe there are no hard borders, so wildlife can freely cross from one country to another.

In terms of the distances we're used to talking about in Australia, Belgium is also very close to the Netherlands (sharing a border) and not far from Denmark.

These two countries are significant exporters to Australia (and a host of other large importers including China and Japan).

The Australian biosecurity authorities acting out of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources have quickly moved to manage the risks arising from the ASF outbreaks.

They have shut off

all imports of pork for processing in Australia from Belgium, as have a host of other countries (we don't allow any imports of this kind from China anyway).

They have ramped up the surveillance of what they consider to be the highest risk avenues for disease entry, being the movement of people into Australia (international travellers) and the high volume of international mail.

Both these avenues present considerable risks around illegal importation of pork origin products.

They are also communicating with ourselves on more or less a daily basis to advise us of new developments through which we can also update them on industry intelligence we are hearing that may be of interest to their investigators.

The relevant people in the Department are linked into the global network being continuously updated with information, including the actions of the authorities in Belgium and other countries at risk of an ASF outbreak in western Europe.

A number of producers have asked why we don't immediately cease all pork imports

continued P2

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Pig Industry Calendar of Events

2018

OCT 17 - 19 – Vietstock Expo & Forum, Saigon, Vietnam www.vietstock.org

NOV 11- 14 – Space 2018, Rennes, Francia, France www.space.fr

NOV 13 - 16 – EuroTier, Hannover, Germany www.eurotier.com/en

NOV 15 - 18 – Allen D. Leman Swine Conference, Saint Paul, Minnesota, US www.ccaps.umn.edu/allen-d-leman-swine-conference

NOV 15 – Australian Pork Limited Annual General Meeting, Melbourne VIC E: rachel.blake@australianpork.com.au T: 02 6270 8807

NOV 19 – National Pig Awards, London UK www.nationalpigawards.co.uk

2019

JAN 8 - 10 – Banff Pork Seminar, Banff, Canada www.banffpork.ca

MAR 9 - 12 – 50th AASV Annual Meeting, Florida, US www.aasv.org/annmtg

JUN 5 - 7 – World Pork Expo, Iowa US www.worldpork.org

How to supply event details: Send all details to Australian Pork Newspaper, PO Box 387, Cleveland, Qld 4163, call 07 3286 1833 fax: 07 3821 2637, email: ben@porknews.com.au

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Rural RnD4Profit – Waste to Revenue – Novel Fertilisers and Feeds

THIS month I'd like to outline the key outcomes from a large and recently completed Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources-funded Rural RnD4Profit – Waste to Revenue – Novel Fertilisers and Feeds Project that Australian Pork Limited led.

The research for this project was conducted by the University of Queensland (Dr Damien Batstone, Dr Tim Huelsen and Dr Stephan Tait) and the University of Western Australia (Dr Sasha Jenkins) over three years.

This collaborative research partnership investigated new waste treatment technologies to improve sustainability, productivity and profitability of primary industries.

The project explored the conversion of low-value agricultural waste products, such as piggery manure and effluent, into innovative fertilisers and feeds to create new markets for primary industries and to decrease primary production costs.

The project also sought to overcome key barriers to the use of novel fertilisers by engaging with regulatory bodies as part of the project activities.

Collaboration partners included: Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, Australian Pork Limited, Meat & Livestock Australia, the RIRDC Chicken Meat Program, Dairy Australia Limited, Sugar Research Australia Limited and Australian Egg Corporation Limited.

The final report was recently submitted to the Department.

Summarised outcomes: Waste processing

Processing technologies that turn nutrients and carbon in agricultural industrial wastewaters into high-protein, high-value products while simultaneously treating the wastewaters were trialled.

This was done at small laboratory batch scale, then at larger laboratory pilot scale and finally at pilot scale at an agricultural industrial site.

Novel wastewater treatment technology

Microalgae and purple



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



phototrophic bacteria were grown off wastewater.

The studies showed it was feasible to treat real wastewater with these products.

Harvesting and separation of the microalgae and PPB biomass was greatly simplified by growing it directly attached to illuminated surfaces.

The biomass was harvested directly, reducing energy inputs and processing cost (such as drying).

For microbial biomass to be captured, open algal ponds can be integrated downstream of anaerobic treatment (covered pond or anaerobic digester) to allow energy recovery as biogas and then subsequently use residual carbon and nutrients to grow microbial biomass.

In contrast, a PPB system can be a standalone (complete treatment) or placed upfront of anaerobic treatment as it is more resilient to high ammonia than microalgae and can directly use carbon and nutrients from high-strength wastewater.

Novel feeds

Microbial biomass (algae and PPB) has a high protein content and the potential to be suitable as a food additive for use as intensive animal feed.

Aquaculture is the fastest-growing animal food production industry, with over 50 percent of all food fish produced in aquaculture systems.

However, aquaculture is dependent on fishmeal, making sustainable growth near impossible.

This project, for the first time, tested the bulk replacement of fishmeal with PPB biomass, specifically for barramundi.

It was found that fishmeal can be bulk substi-

tuted with PPB.

Both feed intake and fish survival were not affected by feeding PPB.

However, PPB inclusion reduced both fish growth rate and feed conversion efficiency.

It is important to note that while this trial was preliminary, it demonstrated bulk replacement of fishmeal was feasible and potentially commercially viable, with fishmeal at a price of \$US1400-1800/tonne.

The estimated PPB production cost was estimated to be up to \$US1600/tonne of dry PPB product, but this does not consider savings on wastewater treatment by instead treating with PPB.

Considering typical discharge costs of organics, nitrogen and phosphorous, up to \$US1400/tonne PPB product could be saved.

This results in a net production cost of \$US200/tonne PPB.

It is recognised that this needs to be confirmed in a demonstration plant.

Novel fertilisers

Novel fertiliser products were developed; specifically, black soldier fly larvae (frass), microalgae

and advanced compost performed as well as synthetic fertiliser.

A three-year field trial showed there were increased financial gains in terms of increased productivity and reduced input costs by applying beef compost with synthetic fertiliser at the reduced rate of 60 percent without affecting crop yield.

Research outcomes were used to negotiate and amend the Biosecurity & Agricultural Management Act 2007, now permitting poultry litter/compost to be applied to broadacre agriculture in previously banned shires in WA.

This is a major cost saving to WA producers.

Applying compost to dairy pastures in WA led to better retention of carbon and nitrogen in soils resulting in better soil function, structure and stability, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and nutrient losses via leaching.

Applying chicken compost to soils raised soil pH and improved biological function, nutrient retention and nutrient availability.

This can partially overcome current constraints of grain production in WA.

A pot trial found that microalgae biomass from piggery waste supported up to 85 percent of shoot production and behaved like a bio-stimulant of plant growth.

Conclusion

Importantly, benefits for producers across the agricultural sector were identified, reflecting the

scalability of this research.

Though in early stages, it was shown piggery waste can be further developed into high-quality by-products for feed and fertiliser.

APL is continuing to collaborate on other waste management projects being funded through the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources as part of the RnD4Profit Program, as well as a new proposal to build upon the learnings from the 'Waste to Revenue' study.

Further research recommendations include:

- Developing frass, PPB, microalgae and digestate as a slow-release fertiliser amendment including optimisation of the product (pellets, agglomerates, encapsulation) so the product can be applied with an airseeder.

- Understanding the mode and mechanisms of how these slow-release fertilisers act in the soil to enable commercialisation.

- Evaluating the application of manure by-products at depth to determine if they can improve crop productivity, nutrient supply, ameliorate subsoil acidity, soil compaction, water repellence, nutrition and reduced GHG through methane uptake.

For further information on this topic, please do not hesitate to contact either Denise Woods on 02 6270 8826 or at denise.woods@australianpork.com.au or me on 0423 056 045 or at heather.channon@australianpork.com.au

Keeping on top of the fever

from P1

from western Europe.

The fact is, our authorities are only able to put a stop on imports from a country once a relevant emergency disease is 'present' in that country.

To act unilaterally without this risks action through the disputes process of the World Trade Organisation and our exports being

turned off by our importing customers – not just for pork but for any commodity from Australia.

What can our pig farmers do? It is time to look at your processes around maintaining the biosecurity status of your farms, including the management of the movement of people onto the farm and es-

pecially if those people have recently been travelling internationally.

The bottom line is the global ASF outbreaks are a significant threat to our Australian industry, increasing the risk of a local outbreak.

Those responsible for managing this risk are acutely aware of its significance and working very hard to keep ASF out of Australia.



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Winning ways of collaboration



Pork CRC supported Animal Science Honours student, Danica Evans, pictured in June last year with her supervisor Prof John Pluske, received First Class Honours and topped her year. She is now undertaking a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, also at Murdoch University.

AS Pork CRC is winding down to its conclusion on June 30 next year, its effective replacement, APRIL, is winding up to what promises to be a significant role in Australasia's pig and pork R&D.

News in late September of the appointment of John Pluske as APRIL's inaugural CEO and Chief Scientist is proof that APRIL is now well and truly down to business.

In a statement issued by Murdoch University, where Prof Pluske has worked for almost 20 years, he said he looked forward to the challenge of building on the great

**Cant
Comment**
by BRENDON CANT



work of Pork CRC and ensuring the delivery of research-backed solutions to the industry.

He went on to say his new APRIL roles would also deliver benefits to Murdoch University's

program of research and teaching in animal agriculture, as it would help him to establish new partnerships and collaborations of benefit to Murdoch students and scientists.

Murdoch University Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Innovation David Morrison described the appointment as a win-win situation for Murdoch and the pork industry.

"Murdoch is committed to world-leading, industry-connected research in agriculture and Prof Pluske's appointment will mean we have one of our most-prominent researchers leading developments at the interface between industry and research, which can only benefit our research capability and students," Prof Morrison said.

APRIL Board chairman Dennis Mutton concurred with Prof Morrison, saying he was delighted Prof Pluske had taken up the APRIL positions, with Murdoch University's backing.

"There are exciting research prospects ahead for the pork industry and John's sound research background and international reputation augers well for meeting the high goals and KPIs we've set for APRIL," Mr Mutton said.

Since joining Murdoch in 1999, Prof Pluske has held several leadership positions, including director of the Animal Research Institute and Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Development) on two occasions.

Between August 2014 and February 2015 he was the Australian-American Fulbright Commission's Inaugural Distinguished Chair in Agriculture and Life Sciences, based at Kansas State University.

He has been president of Murdoch Academic Council since March 2015.

His research includes studies into the nutrition and digestive physiology of pigs and alternatives to antimicrobials in piglet diets.

Having worked closely with John for many years via my consulting role managing Pork CRC's communications and his as a Pork CRC subprogram leader and Board member, I can say he is an individual of great integrity and one with an obvious and sincere passion for pigs and the pork industry.

If you add to this his considerable clout as an internationally recognised

researcher, primarily in the fields of nutrition-gut disease interactions in pigs, growth and development, feed and ingredient evaluation, you quickly realise why APRIL pulled out all stops to get his services after lengthy deliberations with the Murdoch Chancellor.

John's big test will be how he handles the transition from academia to the commercial world.

Having set and marked countless tests in his time as a lecturer/teacher, he'll make his mark with distinction.

As Messrs Mutton and Morrison, the two key players in the appointment negotiations, have acknowledged, the effective job-sharing arrangement between Murdoch and APRIL is a win-win.

And it's win-wins that Australasia's pork industry needs more than ever as it works hard to get through a difficult time and position itself capably for a strong, sustainable future.

APRIL's stated objective is to support research and adoption that improves sustainable production and efficiency in the pork value chain for the Australian and New Zealand industries.

The only way this can be achieved is through collaboration and the APRIL/Murdoch alliance reflects precisely the sort of collaboration that is needed.



Murdoch University PhD student Samantha Sterndale and her supervisor Prof John Pluske relaxed with Linley Valley Pork R&D manager Dr Megan Trezona after formalities concluded at a Perth dinner in May last year when WA researchers and industry representatives workshopped opportunities and ideas for innovative R&D as Pork CRC transitioned to APRIL, which commenced in November 2016.

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Preparing for African swine fever in Denmark

AS many readers will be aware, African swine fever was confirmed in two dead wild boars in Belgium on September 13.

ASF is a highly infectious and contagious viral disease of domestic and wild pigs of all breeds and is usually fatal in infected animals – there are no vaccines or cures.

Humans are not susceptible to ASF, however, the disease has serious socio-economic consequences for affected countries.

While the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration estimates the risk of Denmark being affected by ASF remains low, they do admit finding the disease in Belgium is concerning.

There is certainly a plan currently being enacted to prevent the disease entering the country, which I will outline in this article.

There are also significant surveillance and management programs being enacted throughout the EU – currently managed by the European Food Safety Authority.

A number of precautions are being taken by Denmark to reduce the chance of ASF entering the country.

One of the more controversial methods is the raising of a 'pig-proof' fence at the border between Denmark and Germany.

The purpose of the fence is to eliminate wild boars in Denmark – there have been few sightings but they are now confirmed to be present.

Any boars that are now seen on Danish soil are to be shot on sight – an action that has been legislated by the Danish Nature Agency.

There are several communication strategies the DVFA has employed to improve ASF surveillance programs, including increasing veterinary capability, increased information to farmers and farm staff as well as communicating with hunters.

It is anticipated that this will provide a prompt and effective response to each suspected case or outbreak of any notifiable infectious livestock disease.



by **ASHLEY NORVAL**
R&I Manager
Benchmarking and Leadership



At the recent 'Fagligt Nyt' meeting, all pig consultants were updated on this process and urged to spread the message to all their clients.

This, no doubt, will also be reiterated to farmers at the Kongres in a few weeks.

In accordance with EU legislation, no swill feeding is allowed in EU member states.

In Denmark, the DVFA has the responsibility of the surveillance and enforcement of this, including the importation of illegal food (that is, food that has been produced with a risk of swill feeding).

Farm staff remain one of the biggest risks of ASF infection in Denmark.

Many farms employ staff from eastern Europe who pose a risk to industry when returning to Denmark after visiting their home countries.

Visitors are allowed to bring up to 50kg of food into the country, which can include processed pork products.

Danish farmers are being urged to educate their staff on these risks and to discourage this.

There is no border control/authority to confiscate these products upon entering Denmark.

In accordance with EU legislation, vehicles used for the transport of pigs, cattle, sheep, goats and poultry in connection with trade between EU countries must be cleaned and disinfected after each transportation journey, and all drivers must keep logs of activities and sanitation at all times.

In addition, all vehicles entering Denmark with the purpose of transporting pigs or cattle have to be washed and disinfected

at approved facilities after crossing the border.

While the cost of this is high, these efforts are being intensified after the outbreak in Belgium.

Farmers are also being advised to only buy feed, straw and other supplies from enterprises that have taken serious precautions to ensure their farm is not infected with ASF.

A tighter quarantine matrix has been devel-

oped and implemented for all pig transportation vehicles entering/exiting Denmark – extending the timeframe in which they can move pigs if they have been somewhere that is confirmed as having ASF present.

Further information on the EU efforts to contain and manage the disease can be found on the European Food Safety Authority's website at efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/african-swine-fever

There is also a short video titled 'African Swine Fever: how to stay one step ahead' on the website that is currently being distributed around the EU and I encourage you to look at it.

For any further information on this article, please don't hesitate to contact me at ashley.norval@australianpork.com.au

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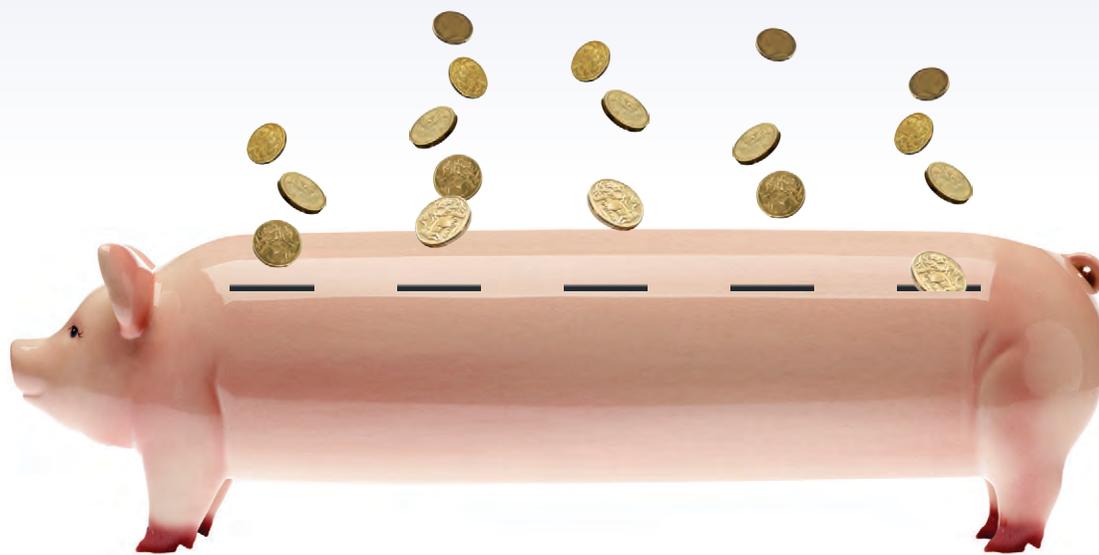
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Veterinarians inspected a dead boar during an African swine fever outbreak exercise in Germany in June. Photo: CNN

APL CEO notifies intention to step down after 13-year tenure

MR Andrew Spencer, CEO of Australian Pork Limited has advised his Board he will not be seeking renewal when his present contract expires, effective July 21, 2019.

In his 13 years as CEO, Mr Spencer has guided the pork industry through the full gamut of good and bad times, some resulting in significant industry adjustment, and helped ensure more Australians are eating more pork than ever before, with pork now the second-most consumed meat in the country.

Mr Spencer advised the APL Board he believed it was time for renewal in the organisation, and APL now having a new Chair for the first time in 13 years made the middle of next year about the right time to move on.

"My only regret could be to leave the industry before it emerges from the present oversupply and grain price difficulties, so I'll continue to work flat-out for the next 10 months to improve conditions for our pig farmers."

Mr Spencer advised he had no specific professional plans at present for life after APL, but that he would be keen to further pursue, among others, his recently announced chairmanship of the Australian Farm Institute.

Mr Spencer will remain at the helm of APL while a suitable successor is found and to ensure an effective transition of leadership.

APL Board Chair David

Lock acknowledged Mr Spencer's important contribution to the Australian pork industry.

"Andrew has helped navigate the industry through an array of challenges throughout his time at APL including the large increases in imported pork volumes, the 'Swine Flu' pandemic of 2009 and the price slumps of 2007/8 and 2017/18," Mr Lock said.

"Despite all this, Andrew has overseen a long period of consumption growth, which has resulted in pork becoming the second-most consumed meat in Australia.

"Andrew has also overseen the introduction of world-leading animal welfare standards such as the introduction of the voluntary phase-out of gestation stalls across the industry, and delivered APL's transparency strategy, which throws open the doors of Australian pig farms to tell a broader sto-

ry of what the industry has achieved.

"Above all, Andrew – together with the recently departed former Board Chair Mr Enzo Allara AM – has helped APL punch above its weight through effective cross-sectoral engagement and collaboration with government, other RDCs, farmer groups, retailers and other stakeholders across the supply chain.

"On behalf of everyone in the sector, I thank Andrew for his leadership and dedication to supporting the productivity and profitability of Australian pork producers," Mr Lock concluded.

The APL Board will now embark on a comprehensive recruitment process to secure a qualified, experienced CEO to take APL forward and it looks forward to working with Mr Spencer to ensure an effective transition of leadership in 2019. 🐷



Photo: farmonline.com.au

Changes to planning requirements for Victorian livestock producers

IN June 2018, the Victorian Government announced changes to a range of animal industries planning laws, expected to come into effect from September.

All Victorian pig producers need to be aware of the new requirements for planning approvals on their piggeries.

After a number of high-profile planning cases, the Victorian Government prioritised updating state planning requirements to deal with new challenges arising from the shift in agricultural production.

That is, there are now less of the larger, more intensive production operations and more of the smaller, less intensive operations and the planning requirements needed to reflect this.

The reforms are a result of extensive stakeholder consultation, with 170 written submissions from industry, local government, community and advocacy groups, 22 public information sessions held in 11 locations across the state and further targeted consultation.

So what is changing?

The reforms aim to adapt the planning system to better support the establishment and expansion of productive, competitive and market-responsive animal industries in Victoria, while balancing environmental outcomes and community expectations.

The reforms provide:

- Clearer regulation that recognises and supports the diversity of contemporary animal production systems and anticipated future development;

- Reduced regulation to give greater flexibility to producers to make farm decisions, manage risks and respond to opportunities and innovation; and

- Greater guidance for local government to assess and determine planning applications through a risk-based planning approach.

Specifically, the amendments include new land use terms and definitions, including the definition of a 'pig farm' and more specifically, risk-based planning controls and new guidelines for 'low density mobile outdoor pig farms'.

What does this mean for producers?

- All pig producers require a permit.

- A simplified application process is available, if the below conditions can be met:

- > The number of pigs does not exceed 150 sows or 1000 standard pig units.

- > The stocking density does not exceed 12 SPU/ha.

- > A nutrient management plan that demonstrates pigs are kept outdoors on paddocks with:

- A minimum of 50 percent ground cover.

- Mobile housing and feeding infrastructure that is relocated at least every three months.

- > Any area used as a pig range, including associated buildings and works, is set back a minimum distance of:

- 100m from a building used for a sensitive use.

- 400m from land in a residential zone.

- > The boundaries of the pig paddocks are at least 30m from a waterway declared under the Water Act 1989.

- If the conditions as specified in the streamlined process cannot be met, the standard application process is required under the interim Pig Farming Planning Practice Note.

What government support is

available to pig producers?

The Victorian Government is providing the following support to implement the reforms:

- Training for planners and planning professionals through the Planning Institute of Australia's PLANET program.

- A \$450,000 support program for small pig and poultry farms will include workshops and grants to help producers prepare their planning permit applications. More information will be posted on the Agriculture Victoria website soon.

- Guidelines to assist in interpretation of the land use terms 'grazing animal production' and 'intensive animal production' are available on the Agriculture Victoria website.

- A Pig Farming Planning Practice Note will be available on the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website in coming days.

APL was on both the Planning for Sustainable Animal Industries Ministerial Independent Reference Group and Technical Reference Group that were established to oversee the development of the reforms. An Animal Industries Ministerial Advisory Committee was established to consider how the planning system should balance the needs of producers and community.

Further information on these reforms can be found at agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/2018-planning-reform

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at grantley.butterfield@australianpork.com.au or on 02 6270 8820. 🐷

Grantley Butterfield
Policy Manager – Planning and Environment

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MOST of the safety issues/risks associated with surface aerators can be eliminated by using 'bank-mounted' Venturi Aerators without performance reduction, according to Australian distributor Hydro Innovations.

With surface-mounted aerators, operators need to access them via floating walkways or some kind of vessel, requiring working over water.

Alternatively, the aeration devices may need to be lifted out with cranes or other lifting apparatus.

Venturi Aerators are 'powered' by Gorman-Rupp self-priming centrifugal pumps, so they can be mounted on the banks of lagoons.

This means operators

can perform all required servicing and maintenance without having to work over water, work at heights or work with heavy swinging weights.

When attempting to minimise risks associated with the aeration of ponds and lagoons, designers can eliminate most of them by simply choosing Venturi Aerators over other technologies.

This does not mean efficiency has to suffer.

Venturi Aerators have been tested to produce as much as 1.86kg/kW of oxygen transferred per kW, per hour.

Maintenance of these units is relatively simple as well.

With no moving parts in the aerator, only the

Gorman-Rupp pump will require any level of maintenance, and these pumps have a long track record of reliability and dependability.

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More information on this technology can be obtained from Hydro Innovations info@hydroinnovations.com.au



Pork operations produce large quantities of watery sludge from their wastewater processing operations. New KDS technology reduces this to drier, less-hazardous and more easily transported output.

New money-saving KDS sludge dewatering for pork and livestock processors and food plants

A COMPACT and cost-efficient alternative to conventional dewatering technologies is being introduced to Australia and New Zealand to eliminate costs and OH&S hazards associated with damper and heavier output from pork

processing and major food preparation operations.

The KDS Multidisc Separator system from CST Wastewater Solutions, which requires no washwater while capturing 90-99 percent of solids, is engineered to

overcome the limitations of technologies such as screw presses, belt presses and centrifuges currently used.

Applications include small-to-medium pork, meat and livestock, poultry, fish and dairy plants as well as large-scale food

and beverage kitchens and catering facilities that face the challenge not only of handling heavy, sticky wet waste, but also the volume and cost and OH&S hazards of transporting such unhygienic material to disposal facilities.

CST Wastewater Solutions managing director Mr Michael Bambridge said benefits of particular importance to installations for the pork industry include:

- Removal of solids from waste streams;
- Dewatering of sludges and solids;
- Screening and dewatering of pork processing wastes;
- Removal and dewatering of solids from wastewaters;
- Dewatering of chemical sludges from DAF floats; and
- Treatment of pig farm raw manure and sludge with cake dryness of 20-30 percent.

The largest energy-saving KDS unit can handle about 100kg of dry solids an hour at 98 percent solids capture to produce a more hygienic and more compact output that is easier and cheaper to handle and transport.

Used for dewatering of dissolved air flotation sludge – a very common application throughout wastewater operations – the KDS achieves solids capture of 97 percent thickened sludge at a dryness of 17 percent.

Waste-activated sludge dryness levels are typically 15-18 percent dryness.

The high-quality, Japanese-manufactured technology:

- Uses minimal energy, consuming as little as 0.06kW/h of electricity;
- Operates at low (63dBa) non-intrusive noise and vibration levels;
- Requires minimal daily maintenance, saving costs and enhancing OH&S performance;
- Occupies typically half the space or less of conventional dewatering plants; and
- Is available as fixed compact units or skid-mounted types that can be carried on truck or trailer.

This lighter, drier waste it produces reduces the need for manual labour in cleaning and transport operations and curtails the

continued P9



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LALLEMAND

New money-saving KDS sludge dewatering for pork and livestock processors and food plants

from P8

need for staff to handle sloppy heavy waste potentially hazardous to health.

“With the KDS’ minimal water, power and space demands, it is ideally suited to both smaller-to-medium businesses and those operating in remote or environmentally sensitive situations,” Mr Bambridge said.

How it works

The clog-free automatic liquid-to-solid waste separator dewateres solids and conditioned sludge on a self-cleaning wedgewire belt.

This static belt is cleaned by a unique set of rotating oval-shape plates.

After the drainage and thickening zone, the thickened sludge passes a dewatering zone that consists of an adjustable plate, actuated manually or by pneumatic cylinder to further squeeze the solids.

The KDS’ unique self-cleaning dewatering and conveying system features an oval plate separation and transfer structure that prevents clogging and permits automatic continuous operation that handles oily and fibrous material with ease.

This simple-to-maintain separator offers a high throughput within a small body, with the smallest model being just under 350mm wide and weighing 50kg.

The compact rotational oval plate structure achieves high transporta-

tion and separation efficiencies, while the simplicity of the machine’s overall structure offers low maintenance, achieving cost and OH&S benefits through less handling being required to clear hazardous materials.

“The KDS separator uses a fraction of the power of a centrifuge and requires no water usage during operation, unlike a belt press or a screw press,” Mr Bambridge said.

“For a relatively low investment cost, it also offers a high-performance alternative to sludge drying beds and geobags, for example.

Applications for which the separator is designed include:

- Pig farm raw manure and sludge, with cake dryness of 20-30 percent.
 - Food processing waste, including poultry and snackfoods, kitchen and restaurant waste, raw wastewater (primary screening) and sludge.
 - Abattoir, feedlots and dairy farm wastewater and sludge. Cattle manure cake dryness of 25-35 percent is typically achieved.
 - Barrel polishing water, water-based paint wastewater, grease trap waste, dyeing wastewater, waste oil and plastic recycling.
 - Seafood processing.
 - Sewage treatment, including raw wastewater (primary screening) and sludge to landfill
- For further information, visit cstwastewater.com

Are sales catching up with supply?

THE oversupply situation since January 2017 has obviously been a nightmare for producers.

Likewise, the current grain situation is another cause for grave concern that has grain-using industries such as pork, poultry, dairy and red meat working together to see what can be done to find new solutions to that problem.

While marketing and supply chains don’t make much impact on grain prices, we are still working flat-out to get sales growth to continue.

From a retail fresh pork consumption perspective, the news is good.

Over the past two years consumption of Australian pork has increased by almost 2kg per Australian.

Consumption is increasing both in-home and out-of-home, with pork appearing in 11.2 percent of out-of-home meals in the latest quarter, compared to in 9 percent of meals out-of-home the previous year.

In retail, we are seeing some evolution in which types of stores are driving the growth.

Aldi has been driving growth through its own growth in stores and shopper visits.

However, IGA and butchers who drove growth for pork in 2017 have started to lose volume to resurgent Coles,



Marketing Matters

by PETER HAYDON
General Manager Marketing



which has reset its range and has been growing impressively since early July.

However, sales growth overall has started seeing some shifts upwards in wholesale prices in many places and this has been reflected in growth in pig prices in

recent weeks.

All this is encouraging. However, we don’t know that this will continue for sure.

As a consequence, the industry continues to hope for the best but plans to continue increasing sales.

Clearly the oversup-

ply is most intense in Western Australia and the additional marketing activity, half funded by Australian Pork Limited and half funded by WA producers, started on radio two weeks ago, with additional TV advertising starting on October 7.

This activity targets increasing sales by between 400 and 800 pigs per week between October and January.

In addition, the APL Board approved an additional \$458,000 to support sales nationally between January and Easter in 2019, and the team is working with the supply chains to leverage this to best effect.

So, is demand catching up with supply?

We have growth in demand of around 5 percent for the past year.

We have current supply growth for the past year estimated until September 22 at 4.3 percent.

That seems encouraging.

What we don’t know is whether the productivity growth of the past couple of years is completed or not.

Then there are other wildcards like what implications African swine fever being found in other European countries than Belgium might have or what the looming US-China trade war might mean.

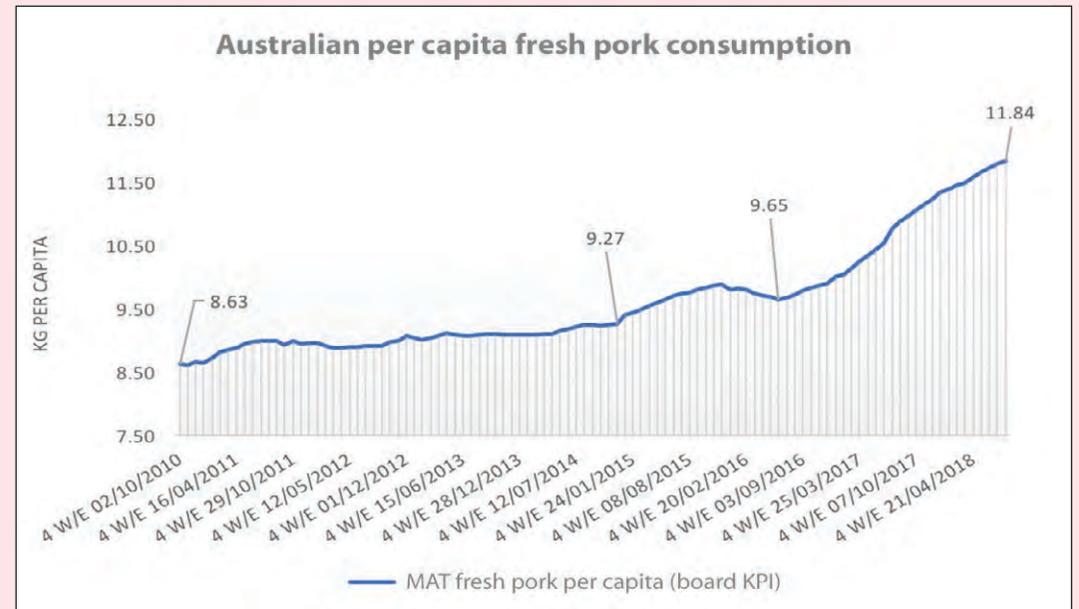


Figure 1

NEW KDS sludge dewatering separator

For no-fuss quality you can count on

CST’s new KDS liquid-to-solid waste separator is clog-free and easy to maintain. Its simple operation, which requires no washwater, provides energy savings and sustainability benefits.

Used for thickening of dissolved air flotation sludge – a very common application throughout wastewater operations – the KDS achieves solids capture of 97%.

Ideally suited to small-to-medium pork processing plants, the KDS can screen and dewater pork and livestock processing wastes with high efficiency and minimal environmental impact.



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CST Wastewater Solutions

Gold pork on your fork



A FREE-range pork grower who gave up shearing three years ago to work on the property his family has farmed for four generations has won a prestigious Sydney fine food award.

Sustainable, hormone-free farming practices are at the core of the pork operation Steve Slape and his wife Rose, an electrician, run through family owned Diamond Springs Pastoral Company at Furner, about 400km southeast of Adelaide.

Mr Slape said his major commercial buyer, Adelaide Hills-based Skara Artisan Smallgoods, along with the support of his parents Helen and Leon had been vital to the success of the venture.

“Our operation expanded to help meet growing

consumer demand for Skara’s products, and I’ve been able to leave shearing and return to work on the family farm,” he said.

“The quality of our pork largely reflects changes in the pigs’ food intake as the weather fluctuates – it leads to periods of compensatory growth, which result in fat deposits that store moisture and flavour in the meat.

“We go through about 22 tonnes of Coprice pellets per week – it’s an uncommon move in pig production to opt for a ration with no restricted animal material, but sheep and cattle can’t have RAM, so we went vego to eliminate risk.

“The pigs also dig for bugs and shoots.”

Diamond Springs won the Branded Meat Champion Pork gong at the 2018 Sydney Royal Fine Food Show on Friday, September 21.

Mr Slape, whose charcuterie of choice is Hungarian salami, runs 2000 pigs on 120 acres of the 1400-acre property, where his family has produced prime beef and lamb for about 80 years.

“The positive impact the pigs have on the soil has led us into holistic regenerative farming prac-

tics, mimicking natural patterns and seeking out natural products over synthetics,” he said.

“We also encourage the pigs to follow a natural breeding cycle and the benefits are obvious when sows have a new litter as their previous litter is going out the gate.

“That said, I value the animals’ comfort more than high production targets.

“If my weaning rates are slightly behind average or my growth rates are four weeks behind sheds, (non-free-range farms) I can sleep easy knowing I’ve produced a clean and happy product.”

Diamond Springs free-range pork farm facts

The operation:

- 170 sows and seven boars for breeding;
- 26 grower pens and several farm paddocks in rotation;
- 17 farrow pens sized at 1500sq m, with three sows per pen as they are social creatures;
- Three creche pens;
- A 100kg baconer is transported to Skara Smallgoods for production at 24 weeks; and
- Diamond Springs is one of nine APIQ[✓] free-range accredited pork farms in SA.



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Prof Kent Schwartz



Dr Vijaykrishna Dhanasekaran

Australian Pig Veterinarians' Annual Conference

THE Australian Pig Veterinarians focus on preventative medicine and promote to members a holistic view of veterinary science, particularly regarding pigs in their various environments.

Veterinarians who work with pigs make a very important and global contribution to society by ensuring adequate and safe food is available, while maintaining the health and welfare of pigs.

Increasingly, pig veterinarians are extending the scope and delivery of veterinary science by becoming involved in training programs for pig producers, quality assurance programs, and establishing and managing production systems and global disease prevention.

Pig veterinarians work in various types of private practice, government departments, universities, research institutions and a wide range of commercial companies that produce pigs, feed, products for pig production and pharmaceuticals.

This year's APV Confer-

ence will be held at Stamford Grand, Adelaide from October 17-19, 2018.

The conference will run over three days (lunchtime Wednesday to lunchtime Friday), allowing plenty of time to travel to the conference and home for the weekend (or to tour the nearby Barossa Valley) and will provide an opportunity to hear from leading international and local pig industry experts.

Conference highlights

Keynote speaker Prof Kent Schwartz will be presenting a series of eight talks over the three days of the conference.

His coverage of important pig disease syndromes will be broad, with topics covering respiratory and enteric diseases, lameness, sepsis and serositis, to exotic diseases and new disease investigations.

The focus of these talks will be from both a pathological, diagnostic and practical disease impact point of view.

Around this strong science backbone Australian speakers will be drawn

from our practitioners, academics, industry and government and will be presenting sessions on investigations into brachyspira and swine dysentery management (Dr Tom La), the latest on Lawsonia research (Dr Hugo Dunlop), Dr Tony Fahy will talk on recent vaccination trial work and Dr Sue Skirrow will present on an investigation of an outbreak of tremors.

Our Gold (Australian Pork Limited, Boehringer-Ingelheim Ltd, MSD and Zoetis) and Silver (Feedworks) sponsors will also make presentations over the three days of the conference.

We have included a session on influenza outbreaks, including a practitioner-led discussion on recent influenza outbreaks and their management, followed by sessions on the latest in influenza vaccination technologies (Dr Linda Lua, from the University of Queensland) and on the origin of influenza viruses isolated from Australian swine by Dr Vijaykrishna Dhanasekaran

from Monash University.

Dr Dhanasekaran is hoping for volunteers from our meeting to contribute a respiratory swab to continue his work into determining exposure history to influenza viruses in our industry.

The program includes reports on current Australian research programs, including the veterinary antimicrobial prescribing guidelines project (Dr Amanda Black, NSW DPI), and recent work on standardising antimicrobial susceptibility testing in Australian diagnostic laboratories presented by Dr Sam Abraham from Murdoch.

The latest on pasteurella research will be presented by Dr Conni Turni and erysipelas genomic typing by Dr Ian Marsh from NSW DPI, with Dr Louise Edwards from Ridley talking on a recent study into water quality on Australian pig farms.

Local Dr David Hamilton will update us on the Health4Wealth abattoir health monitoring project, with Dr Roy Kirkwood presenting on reproduction efficiency and Dr Andrew Pointon will talk on his work in

clarifying and updating description of the carcass condemnation dispositions

Dr Paul Hemsworth will provide an update on the direction of animal welfare research and how that is supporting/leading best practice in the Australian pig industry.

The Australian Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Mark Schipp will address the group on the opportunities and challenges to our industry from antimicrobial resistance.

We have also included updates on FMD control strategies by Dr Wilna Voosloo from CSIRO, and Dr Jennifer Manyweathers from CSU information on disease surveillance on-farm.

Dr Diana Turpin will also provide an update on the student projects we heard about at Fremantle last year.

To register for this year's conference, go to etouches.com/apv18 (registrations close COB Friday, October 12).

Your registration will also include a conference proceedings USB, the APRIL 2018 Conference Dinner and JEFO Conference Welcome Poolside Barbecue. ☺



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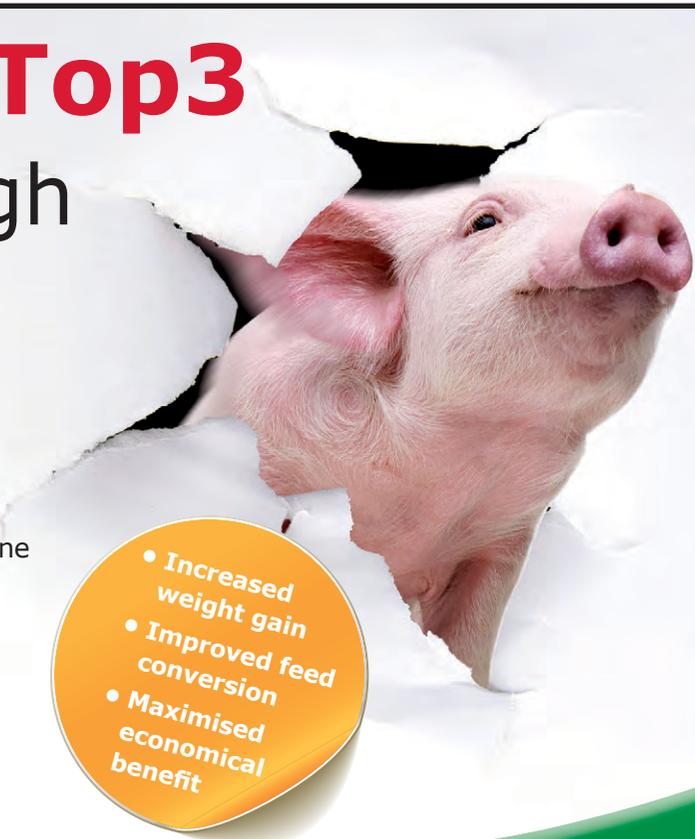


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Dr Paul Hemsworth

Naturally ahead

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Lamb defies the drought to triumph at the Sydney Royal Spring Fine Food Show

LAMB entries have again defied the devastating drought to be named winner of the 2018 Dick Stone Perpetual Trophy at the Sydney Royal "Taste of Excellence Awards" held recently at The Stables, Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park.

The Dick Stone Perpetual Trophy was won by Victoria's Woodward Foods Australia for its export grade lamb (US).

The Trophy is decided among the Championship winners to emerge from the Branded Meat section of the coveted Sydney Royal Spring Fine Food Show held in September.

Dick Stone was a true gentleman of the Australian Meat Industry that was resolute in his commit-

The championship pork winner in the branded meat category was Diamond Springs Pastoral Premium Free Range Pork.

ment to promoting excellence in the sector.

This is the first year the Dick Stone Perpetual Trophy has been expanded to include pork, beef and lamb classes presented to the expert judges.

Chair of the Sydney Royal Spring Fine Food Committee and Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Councillor Lachlan Bowtell said this year's competition was a testament to resilience.

"Even through the rav-

ages of drought Australian lamb producers have delivered yet again," Mr Bowtell said.

"The high quality and flavours of the lamb presented to the judges this year made their role even more difficult.

"The Sydney Royal Fine Food Awards aim to reward excellence and this year was a true testament to the commitment and passion of not only lamb, but pork and beef producers, at times under dire

circumstances."

Chair of judges in the Branded Meat competition George R Ujvary agreed.

"The overall quality of beef exhibits this year was very high and it was interesting to see the gap between the marbling quality of grass fed and grain fed beef exhibits closing yet again this year," Mr Ujvary said.

"The marbling of Wagyu exhibits this year was exceptional and flavour across all categories was very good.

"In the lamb competition, the standard of some exhibits was exceptionally high this year despite the conditions seen across the country that presented a number of challenges to producers.

"The top exhibits were sweet in flavour, extremely tender and exceptional in mouth feel and appearance.

"While the pork competition is still in relative infancy, the standard of competition was high and we all look forward to seeing this competition develop in coming years.

During the competition, 11 gold medals were awarded across seven classes in 'branded meat', one of a series of time-honoured competitions conducted by the RAS and Sydney Royal across the calendar year.

The championship pork winner in the branded meat category was Diamond Springs Pastoral Premium Free Range Pork. 🐷



Pork champion Steve Slape. Photo: Katrina Ilardo

Outcomes of the mycoplasma hyopneumoniae advisory group inaugural meeting

AN advisory group of Australian experts recently met to discuss up-to-date and effective mycoplasma hyopneumoniae control measures for the Australian pork industry.

Sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health Australia, the group aims to utilise its field and diagnostic expertise to devise M. hyo control strategies suited to the herd health status of Australian pig production sites.

The challenge

M. hyo is a leading cause of porcine respiratory disease complex throughout the entire pig industry.

Indeed, infections with M. hyo are highly prevalent in almost all pig-producing areas, and they cause significant economic losses due to increased medication use and decreased performance of the pigs.

M. hyo vaccination plays a key role in the control of PRDC, allowing M. hyo-positive herds to operate at a much more economically efficient level.

Controlling M. hyo infection within the entire production chain has been shown to provide optimum results.

However, to successfully control the disease, it is necessary to understand when and where to implement disease management strategies in a way that is individualised to the needs of the particular herd.

Initial action plan

The group agreed that lack of systematic collection of data on the epidemiology of pig diseases in Australia is a key challenge that must be addressed to improve PRDC control.

This information would help clarify the economic significance of M. hyo www.porknews.com.au

and determine which geographical areas were most at risk.

This would then allow for the development of more tailored approaches to M. hyo control.

To help address this issue, the group is collecting epidemiological data to establish the prevalence of M. hyo shedding in gilts and progeny across Australia.

The group will also meet again just prior to the Australian Pig Veterinarians' Conference in October 2018 to further progress the goal of implementing practical and cost-effective solutions based on collaborative scientific knowledge and expertise to help ensure a well-managed M. hyo infection control strategy in Australian pig herds.

The advisory group members are: Dr Tony Fahy (Chair), Arrow Animal Health Advisory; Dr Mauricio Bara, IPVC; Dr Hugo Dunlop, Apiam Animal Health; Youssef Abs El-Osta, Pig Services Centre DEDJTR; Dr Bernie Gleeson, SunPork Solutions; Dr Trish Holyoake, Holyoake Veterinary Consulting; Dr Barry Lloyd, Dr Barry Lloyd Pty Ltd; Dr Andrew Morris, Riverbend Pork Group; Dr Sarah Medhurst, SunPork Solutions; Dr Greg Tuckett, Rivalea; Dr Conny Turni, University of Queensland; Dr Ruel Pagoto, Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health Australia; and Dr Kitty Wong, Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health Australia.

For more information on M. hyo control strategies, please contact your veterinarian or Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health Territory Manager.

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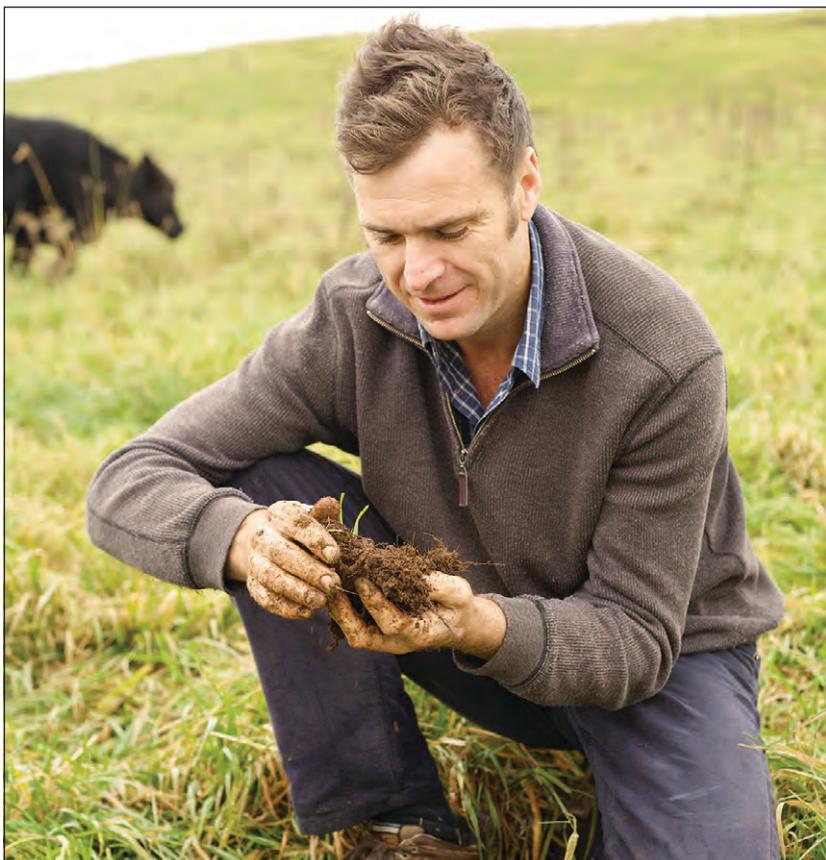
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Bart Davidson

Drought-affected farmers take better control of their farms through forecasting and data management

AGRICULTURAL industry veteran Bart Davidson and Maia Technology provide a webinar series and free tools to help farmers minimise the devastating impact of droughts.

Over the past 20 years, Bart Davidson has built relationships with grazing businesses right across Australia in his work as a grazing consultant.

Bart has witnessed firsthand the pain caused by the drought and believes that with his knowledge and data management tools, the impact on many farmers can be reduced.

“With a large proportion of Australia in drought and 100 percent of NSW drought declared, it’s tough to see many farming families struggling with a lack of feed and

starving livestock,” Bart said.

“Farmers in immediate crisis need support now, but many also see the benefits of exploring longer-term improvements to their decision-making process as part of the current drought-time discussion.

“One thing we all know for sure is this won’t be the last drought.”

The dominating theme of Bart’s webinars covers the drought situation.

Bart discusses how farmers have reduced the effects of drought conditions in the past and the methods that can be used to mitigate the risks.

The training is accessible to all farmers regardless of their expertise.

“Each and every graze is a decision, so the amount

of feed available in a paddock today is the result of many incremental decisions in the past, over a period,” Bart said.

“Every decision matters.”

Woodburn, a 2536ha property in Walcha, NSW, is just one example of a farming operation that has moved to a data-driven approach to grazing management and is seeing the benefits.

In the past five years the property has been through three major dry spells.

Looking at their situation retrospectively, during the first dry period in 2013/14, the data showed they were more than 60 percent overstocked.

This meant they had to destock in a falling market and buy back into a rising market.

In the second dry spell of autumn 2016, they responded more quickly thanks to available data and having implemented some basic decision-making principles around carrying capacity.

This led to early weaning and selling culls to ultimately be 30 percent above their carrying capacity.

During the most recent 2018 drought period, the Woodburn team has been able to take corrective action, find agistment early and minimise stress on all aspects of the business.

The property is presently just 10 percent above where the data suggests they should be for the 12 months of rainfall they’ve received.

This shows a better than four-fold improvement in drought management response.

This example illustrates how data can inform farmers on where their stocking rate is now versus where it should be for the season they have experienced, so they can make confident decisions and big calls before it is too late.

“Nothing on a farm ever stays the same and the only certainty is there will be variations and that’s why it’s fundamental to truly understand your stocking rate versus your carrying capacity at all times,” Bart said.

Johannes Meier of Dantonion Farm, NSW, participated in one of the recent webinars and believes that by having tailored data

on-hand to allow accurate forecasting, you can plan well ahead of time and make decisions based on fact, not speculation or hope.

Due to the overwhelming response to the interactive webinars run by Bart, more have been scheduled in coming months.

“We have had close to 100 Australian graziers participating in each webinar so far and the thirst for knowledge about data-driven grazing decisions is very apparent,” Bart said.

“It’s really satisfying to see we can play a role in helping equip farmers to make informed grazing decisions, day-in, day-out, that will ultimately assist them as dry times continue in the future.

“The data is telling us that making informed grazing decisions as dry times approach helps to avoid overstocking, which can therefore reduce the severity and long-term implications of dry times on graziers’ bank balances, their stress levels and the environment.”

You can sign up for a free upcoming webinar via the MaiaGrazing website at maia grazing.com/upcoming-events

About MaiaGrazing
MaiaGrazing is a product of MaiaTechnology, an innovative Australian agricultural technology business that’s making a mark in the agricultural industry globally.

MaiaGrazing is establishing a track record of results both here in Australia and abroad. Clients are coming on board in many countries throughout the world, including the US, South America, South Africa and New Zealand.

Bart Davidson is a key innovator behind the MaiaGrazing software platform.

Bart is trained as an ecologist, mathematician and soil and ruminant nutritionist.

This foundation led to the challenging search for processes to drain the risk from farming and build greater predictability into grazing management.

Over the past 20 years Bart has worked as a grazing consultant with grazing businesses right across Australia. 🐷

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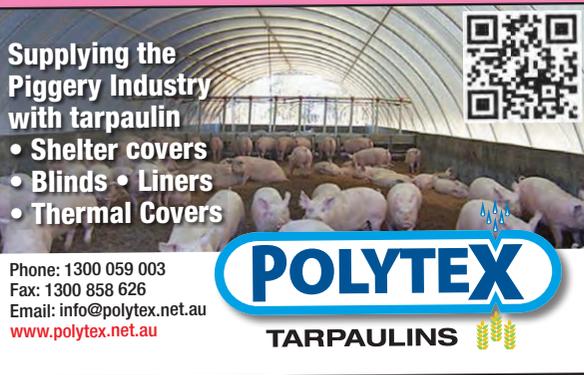
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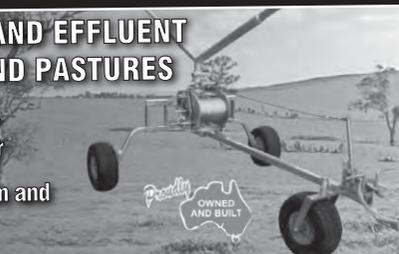
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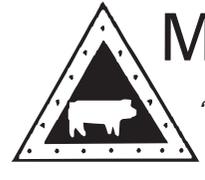


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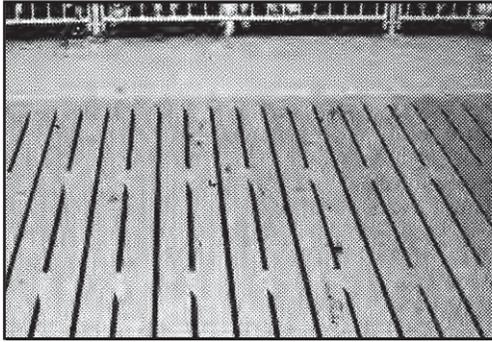
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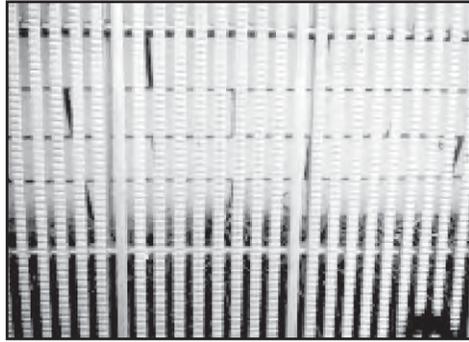
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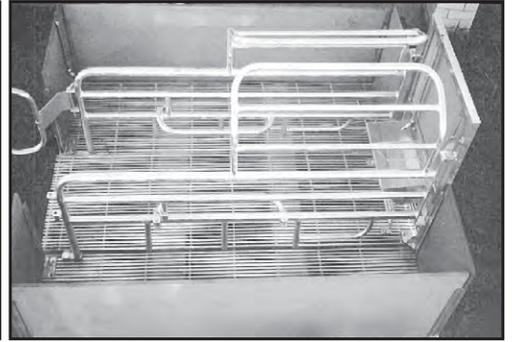
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The Aussie Pumps Bushfire Survival Guide gives homeowners and property owners an insight into preparing their properties ahead of a horrific bushfire season.

Brutal fire season on the way

AUSSIE Pumps, Australia's leading fire pump supplier, has rushed to get a new version of its Bushfire Survival Guide out to the public.

Called 'Aussie Pumps Fire Ready', the document is a user's guide to prepare for the worst.

As if the Californian and Greek fires weren't a big enough warning, the fire outbreaks in Queensland and NSW in the early part of August have shown this is going to be a season from hell.

National parks, forested areas and coastal scrub are all tinder dry and just waiting for a lightning strike, a dropped cigarette or unattended fire to become a major holocaust.

Aussie Pumps' Brad Farrugia said, "Too often, homeowners and even farmers are a bit cavalier about fire season."

"They don't start to prepare equipment, carry out elementary protection around the home or farm building or even ensure adequate water supply around those locations until they see smoke on the horizon.

"Our survival guide covers the essentials but delves into detail often not found even in documents produced by government-funded bodies.

"For example, it gives details on how to install

a sprinkler system on the roof of your house.

"You can't do that when you see the fire coming.

"If you're in a vulnerable area, you need to move immediately."

Aussie Pumps' frontline product is the Aussie Fire Chief.

This product has been on the market for a number of years and has won accolades all around the world.

It's regarded as the world's best portable lightweight firefighting pump, based on its performance, characteristics and features.

"It costs more to make a Fire Chief than competitor pumps or third-world knock-offs," Farrugia said.

"Yet we offer it at a reasonable and very highly competitive price because we are a low-overhead company.

"Aussie Pumps comprises less than 50 people and is not part of any large international conglomerate or public company

"We don't have voracious shareholders demanding returns on their investment.

"We're lean and mean and that's why the prices are low for what is a Rolls-Royce product."

The survival guide deals with product selection but stresses the need for an

adequate water supply to be available and properly prepared to defend.

"There's no point worrying about getting ready to fight a fire when you smell smoke," Farrugia said.

"The time to get organised is now.

"We work with great companies like TTI, Rapid Spray and Furphys who are all manufacturers of portable and stationary firefighting tank systems."

Trailer-mounted portable fire units may be appropriate for some areas, particularly where crop protection is a priority.

In that case, an Aussie Fire Chief, either with petrol or preferably diesel drive coupled to a trailer-mounted 2000 or 3000-litre tank makes a highly mobile firefighting unit that can be deployed promptly in the event of the worst.

Free copies of the Bushfire Survival Guide are available from authorised Aussie Pumps distributors, CRT locations, Landmark, NRI and irrigation and mower shops around Australia.

The company prints huge quantities of this vital document and stresses it is available for free.

The document is available online at aussiepumps.com.au

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MSD Animal Health announces Swine Technical Advisor

IT is with great pleasure MSD Animal Health announces the appointment of Dr Anke Woeckel to the role of Technical Advisor – Swine Australia and New Zealand.

Anke will bring to MSD a strong veterinary background and swine industry experience, most recently working as a veterinarian for a fully integrated Australian pork producer.

Anke has the knowledge, practical experience and passion for the swine industry and she will be a valuable asset to the MSD team.

Anke will be based in NSW and be the MSD Swine Business Unit technical support for both Australia and New Zealand,

working with Amanda Vardanega, National Key Account Manager – Swine ANZ.

Anke commenced this role with MSD Animal Health on Monday, September 10.

Amanda and Anke look forward to catching up with customers in the pig industry in Australia and New Zealand over the coming months.

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Dr Anke Woeckel

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AgriFutures Emerging Industries Advisory Panel

■ Apply by October 31, 2018

DO you have what it takes to help identify and grow Australian agriculture's emerging industries?

Applications for the AgriFutures Emerging Industries Advisory Panel are now open.

Entrepreneurs, economists and those with a research and development background are encouraged to apply.

AgriFutures Australia is seeking applications from suitably qualified individuals to be members of the AgriFutures Emerging Industries Advisory Panel.

The Advisory Panel will be a creative, open-minded team who will support the emergence of new agricultural industries, such as sheep milk and Manuka honey,

as well as help short-list research applications that will drive the future prosperity of these new industries.

Entrepreneurial, venture capitalist or investment banking talent on the Advisory Panel will be important to identify commercial opportunities that have a chance to succeed.

Equally important will be individuals with government and policy skills to keep the Advisory Panel focused on industry development.

AgriFutures Australia managing director John Harvey said the AgriFutures Emerging Industries Advisory Panel will play a vital role in helping achieve key organisational goals. "We've set an ambi-

tious goal of identifying and supporting the emergence of agricultural industries that can reach or exceed a \$10m per annum threshold in the next five years," Mr Harvey said.

"These emerging animal and plant industries play an important part in the Australian agricultural landscape, they contribute to the national economy, and they will be key to meeting global food demands."

AgriFutures Australia program manager Research & Innovation Duncan Farquhar said this is an exciting opportunity to make a real impact on the future of agriculture.

"We have already identified a number of niche industries with real poten-

tial," Mr Farquhar said.

"Now it's time to get a leading team together to identify how we are going to encourage people developing these industries to ensure their future sustainability and profitability."

Advisory Panel members are entitled to sitting fees and travel expenses for meetings.

The Advisory Panel will meet, on average, three times per year either in person or via teleconference.

Visit agrifutures.com.au/emerging-industries-advisory-panel/ for more information about the application process and selection criteria.

Applications close 5pm (AEST) Wednesday, October 31, 2018.

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THE Whole Hog is a full roasting pig that has been prepared by SunPork Fresh Foods retaining the head, hooves and tail.

Now available nationally from Costco Wholesale, The Whole Hog is sure to make your next event one to remember.

Perfectly suited to any celebration or special occasion, you can slow cook this roasting pig over a coal fire pit or barbecue on a spit or rotisserie.

Prior to cooking, remove all packaging and prepare the roasting pig by marinating or basting (for best results allow to marinate overnight).

Roast low and slow until core temperature reaches 74C.

Cook times will vary depending on cooking method, distance from the heat source and the size of the spit roast, but as a guide a 10kg pig will take four hours, a 15kg pig five hours and a 20kg pig six hours.

The Whole Hog is a 15-18kg 100 percent Australian pig fully prepared and ready to roast but must be

kept frozen and stored at -18C prior to cooking.

Thaw under refrigerated conditions less than 5C in original packaging.

Always thaw away from other food sources and avoid contamination during thawing process.

For any more information, visit sunporkfreshfoods.com.au



Fostera PCV MetaStim now available from Zoetis

ZOETIS has announced the availability of Fostera PCV MetaStim.

This monovalent killed PCV2 vaccine has been updated with the adjuvant MetaStim to help protect pigs against porcine circovirus associated diseases caused by porcine circovirus Type 2.

MetaStim, the common name for the squalane, Pluronic oil adjuvant, is an emulsion which preserves the vaccine protective components, releasing them slowly compared to many other adjuvants, giving the immune system more time to develop both humoral and cell-mediated immune responses to the virus.

Zoetis ANZ Pig Technical Sales Veterinarian Dr Merideth Parke said, "MetaStim has been used in pig, cattle and horse vaccines for years, including most recently, Fostera PCV MH."

"In fact, Fostera PCV MetaStim is the monovalent porcine circovirus fraction of our one-bottle combination vaccine - Fostera PCV MH.

For producers and veterinarians who prefer monovalent vaccines, we want to ensure our PCV vaccine offers the same demonstrated efficacy and safety as the combination vaccine."

Fostera PCV MetaStim has registered the same flexible dosing label claims as the combined bivalent Fostera PCV MH of either a single 2ml, or two 1ml dose options.

This allows producers the convenience, efficacy and safety with flexible options for both PCV2 and mycoplasma hyopneumoniae across the entire Zoetis respiratory range.

Fostera PCV MetaStim has been demonstrated to aid in preventing viremia, as well as aid in reducing PCV2 virus shedding.

In addition, Fostera PCV MetaStim is backed by the industry-leading 23-week duration of immunity against PCV2 - longer than its competitors.

The new Fostera PCV MetaStim has replaced Relsure PCV in the Zoetis portfolio of swine vaccines.

Fostera PCV MetaStim is available in 50 and 250-dose vials and can be bought through your veterinarian or pig health retailer.

For more information on Fostera PCV MetaStim, contact your consulting herd veterinarian, or any member of the Zoetis pig team.

For more information, visit www.zoetis.com.au/fostera



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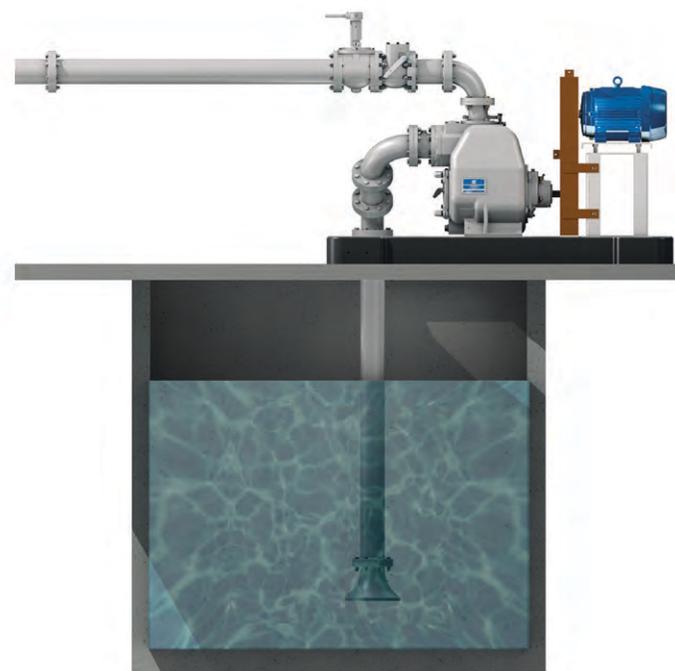
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