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Research highlights the importance of human-animal interactions and resulting relationships.

Pork has small but punchy contribution at AAAS conference

IN mid-July, the thirty-seventh Australian Association of Animal Science Biennial Conference was held in Adelaide, an event combining researchers and industry representatives from across Australia and overseas to discuss advances in animal science.

While the three-day program was largely dominated with ruminant research, the Australian pork industry



made a strong contribution through several presentations highlighting key research in animal welfare, meat science and sow nutrition.

Dr Lauren Hemsworth from the University of Melbourne delivered the prestigious Barnett Lecture, named in honour of Associate Professor John Barnett (1949-2009), a leading expert in stress physiology and animal welfare.

Drawing upon her extensive experience in pig welfare research, Dr Hemsworth explored how scientific understanding and

continued P2

Industry-led research building momentum for Australian pork

WITH Australian Pork Limited's September expression of interest call for industry priority projects now underway, it is a timely moment to reflect on how far research and innovation in the Australian pork industry has come and why industry-led ideas are so important to its next stage.

Effective research and innovation are among the most important drivers of a thriving pork industry.

Increasingly, knowledge is a critical responsibility of APL and the Australasian Pork Research Institute, to ensure our industry continues doing things faster, better and more efficiently.

As an industry, we have always been progressive and embraced innovation – whether that's investing in reducing emissions or improving the welfare of our animals.

Supporting this progress is a responsibility that APL and APRIL take seriously.

It's why we have strengthened our approach to delivering effective research and innovation in recent years.



by **REBECCA MORRISON**
General Manager R&E



During my time as general manager of research, innovation and extension at APL, I have been proud to see our approach shift towards a model that starts by listening to industry.

That means research investment is directed towards the priorities producers and the broader supply chain identify together.

This change has been driven mainly by the new industry Green Paper process, which has transformed the way APL and APRIL set research priorities.

Through this process, industry challenges and opportunities are captured, considered and translated into clear priorities for investment.

This means all our research is firmly industry-led and APL and APRIL can align invest-

ment more closely, so every dollar is directed towards work that is relevant, practical and connected to industry need.

The Green Paper process is led by the chief scientist for the Australian pork industry and informed by industry input, including the Pork Industry Insight Panel.

Recent improvements have broadened the voices involved, strengthened links with state pork organisations and ensured priorities capture the whole supply chain – not only the farming side of the industry.

Since the Green Paper process was implemented in November 2024, we have seen more than 70 research and innovation projects underway across APL and APRIL, bringing forward a greater diversity of

ideas and contributors.

We have also streamlined the EOI process to make it easier for researchers to apply.

Instead of asking for a lengthy application up front, the one-page expression of interest gives researchers an elementary way to put an idea forward.

That lower barrier to entry has helped APL and APRIL tap into a broader range of researchers, research groups and potential collaborators, while still ensuring proposals are anchored in industry priorities.

This has translated into 18 new APL industry priority projects commissioned in 2025, targeted at addressing the nine priority areas identified as part of the 2025 Green Paper process.

Now we are asking a new cohort of researchers to help keep that incredible momentum building this September.

The September call invites researchers and industry partners to bring forward practical ideas that respond to the priorities identified

continued P2



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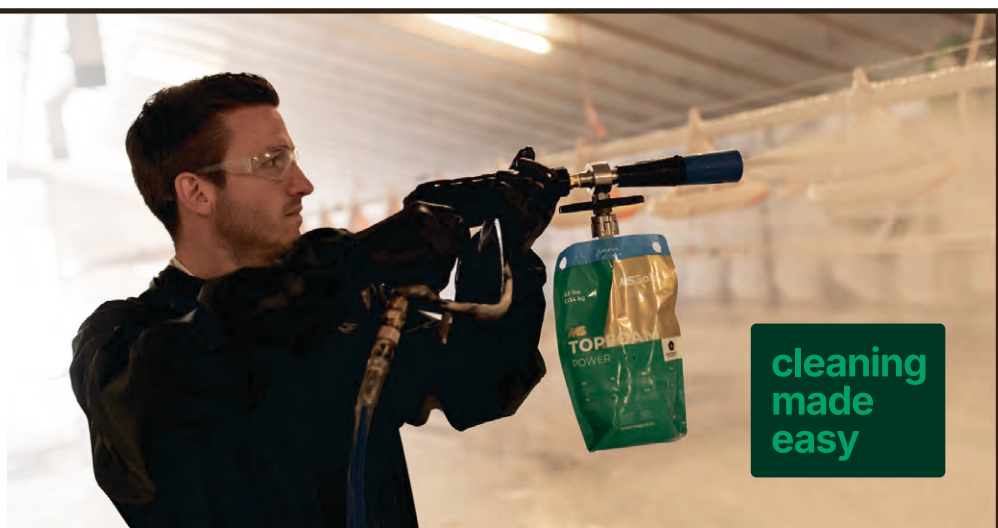
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All producers are encouraged to send in emails or letters to be published in APN, outlining any concerns or issues you may have with the industry.

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**Australian
Pork**
NEWSPAPER

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Pork Industry Calendar of Events

2026

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 1-3 – XXVII Feira Nacional do Porco – Montijo, Portugal. <https://feiranacionaldoporco.pt>

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

OCT 14-15 – Dutch Pork & Poultry Expo 2026 – Hardenberg, Netherlands. <https://www.porkpoultryexpo.nl>

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

OCT 26-29 – 2026 Inaugural APHVA Conference – Hobart, Tasmania. aphvapresident@gmail.com

NOV 10-13 – EuroTier 2026 – Hanover, Germany. <https://www.eurotier.com/en/>

2027

JAN 5-7 – Banff Pork Seminar 2027 – Banff, Canada. <https://www.banffpork.ca/>

JAN 15-16 – International Conference for Swine Viral Diseases (23rd NAPRRS/NC229) – Chicago, USA. <https://vetmed.illinois.edu/about-the-college/pathobiology/north-american-prrs-symposium/>

MAR 9-11 – National Feral Pig Conference 2027 – Surfers Paradise, Queensland. <https://feralpig.com.au/national-feral-pig-conference-2027/>

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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0450 672 553

Pork has small but punchy contribution at AAAS

from P1 societal expectations of animal welfare have evolved over time.

She noted the growing focus is not only on minimising negative experiences for livestock but also creating opportunities for positive experiences that support animals having a “good life.”

Dr Hemsworth noted the importance of human-animal interactions and resulting relationships, largely

influenced by the quality, frequency and context of interactions shared.

Research has shown that positive stock-person attitudes and behaviours can actually buffer the stress associated with routine husbandry procedures.

In pigs, regular positive human interaction early in life has been shown to reduce fear of humans and improve resilience to common production practices.

The University of

Melbourne was also represented by food and sensory science researcher Dr Melindee Hastie, who presented research investigating how the timing of the second Improvac (immunocastration) vaccination influences pork quality.

Meat science researcher Huiling Huang shared preliminary results of the impact of breeding objectives on muscle fibre characteristics and meat quality.

Representing Adelaide University, Australasian Pork Research Institute Limited postgraduate student Thien Van presented his findings on the effects of dietary ammonium chloride during late gestation on sow reproductive performance in spring and summer seasons.

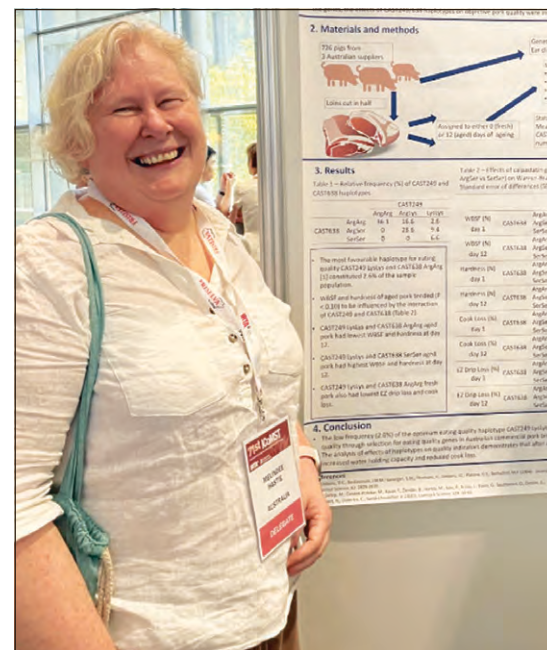
These results have helped refine his current APRIL-funded large-scale validation study investigating the effects of feeding am-

monium chloride to sows on piglet growth and survival.

Conducted under commercial production conditions, the project aims to confirm the practical benefits of ammonium chloride supplementation by reducing farrowing duration and stillborn rates, improving pre-weaning piglet survival and growth and enhancing sow colostrum quality and milk production.



Dr Lauren Hemsworth from the University of Melbourne.



Dr Melindee Hastie

Industry-led research building momentum for Australian pork

from P1 by industry, bring new thinking to persistent challenges and help turn opportunity into practical progress for Australian pork producers and the whole supply chain.

Researchers and industry partners are encouraged to review the current priorities, consider where their idea fits and contact

the APL research team if they would like to discuss a potential expression of interest.

The process has come a long way – now is the time to keep building on it.

Just as importantly, the work does not stop once a final report is submitted.

APL has strengthened its focus on ex-

tension so research outcomes reach industry quickly, with a target of making findings available within 30 days of a final report being accepted.

The current average is only five days, helping ensure research reaches the people who can use it while it is still timely and relevant.

For researchers, that also means ensuring proposals are not only technically sound but also show how the work will be used.

Considering extension from the beginning – including who will use the findings, what they may need to do differently and how the results can be shared – helps APL turn research into real tangible industry value.

The same principle applies beyond formal research projects.

The strongest ideas are often those shaped by the people working directly with industry challenges every day.

One of the strongest learnings of recent years is the value of producer-led learning, producer-to-producer sharing and practical ideas developed on farm.

The 2026 Producer Innovation Challenge will again provide an opportunity to showcase that kind of innovation and recognise ideas with direct relevance for the industry.

Applications for the Producer Innovation Challenge are also currently open.

All producers with an idea to share are invited to apply by emailing extension@australianpork.com.au

Together, the Green Paper, simplified EOI process, stronger extension capability and producer-led innovation mean we can all stay focused on achieving outcomes that lift the bar for our industry.

I can't wait to see the brilliant expression of interest submissions we receive this month, and to see the entire industry continue to go from strength to strength as we advance together.

For more information on the September EOI call, scan the QR code below.



**2026
Inaugural
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**27-28
October 2026**

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DESIGNING SEPARATION SYSTEMS FOR OVER 20 YEARS

VEBS Facilitator Project strengthens producer biosecurity capability

PROTECTING Australia's pork industry from African swine fever starts long before an outbreak occurs.

Across Australia, producers and industry experts are working together to augment on-farm biosecurity through the Voluntary Enhanced Biosecurity Standards.

Introduced into the Australian Pork Industry Quality Assurance Program in 2022 as the optional Option C VEBS-ASF module, the standards provide producers with practical measures to help reduce the risk of ASF entering and spreading

between pig farms.

They also support business continuity by helping prepare producers for the movement of live pigs and semen during an ASF response.

Building capability across the industry

The APL-funded VEBS Facilitator Project is continuing to gain momentum, building a national network of trained facilitators to support producers through the VEBS accreditation process.

The project focuses on:

- Developing facilitator capability to assist producers with implementing APIQ Option C VEBS-ASF
- Providing practical guidance, tools and resources for producers, facilitators and auditors
- Supporting production sites to achieve VEBS accreditation.

The project builds on the successful VEBS 1 pilot, which commenced in 2025 and was primarily delivered in South Australia through joint investment from Pork SA and APL.

A Queensland node also demonstrated that the model could be successfully adapted to other production systems. The pilot delivered a suite of practical tools, templates and guidance materials to help facilitators and producers implement VEBS requirements and prepare for APIQ audits.

Building on this success, the VEBS 2 project expanded the program nationally later in 2025. Facilitators and participating production sites are now involved across all

major pig-producing states, representing a diverse range of production systems and business sizes.

Today, the VEBS 1 and VEBS 2 projects include 20 facilitators supporting 21 production sites across South Australia, NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia.

Through the project, three sites have successfully achieved VEBS accreditation, while other participating sites continue to strengthen their biosecurity systems and work towards accreditation.

Facilitators also have access to a growing suite of supporting resources developed with subject matter experts, including:

- Feral pig exposure assessment tools
- Disease transmission likelihood assessment tools
- Mass disposal planning tools
- Composting guidance
- Environmental site assessment resources for disposal planning.

This collaborative approach is helping ensure producers receive consistent advice while continuing to strengthen Australia's preparedness for an ASF emergency.

Did you know?

- To achieve VEBS accreditation, produc-

tion sites receiving semen must source it from a VEBS-accredited boar stud

• The adoption of enhanced biosecurity practices today is comparable to the introduction of workplace health and safety systems on Australian farms two decades ago – an investment that strengthens everyday operations while improving preparedness for future emergencies.

As more producers and facilitators become involved, the VEBS program continues to strengthen Australia's preparedness for ASF while supporting a more resilient and bio-secure pork industry.

For more information about the project, contact APL program manager health and biosecurity Mandy Bowling at mandy.bowling@australianpork.com.au

Australian Pork Limited



Producers and industry experts are working together to augment on-farm biosecurity through VEBS. Photos: SunPork Group

PREMI-BOOST+ PIGLETS

Vetsense Premi-Boost+ is a specialised nutritional paste designed to support the health and vitality of weak, underweight and premature piglets.

Formulated with a precise blend of essential vitamins, minerals and amino acids, Premi-Boost+ provides comprehensive support for the early development and growth of piglets.

- ✓ Supports growth, development and vitality
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- ✓ Promotes immune function, digestive health and overall wellbeing
- ✓ Aids in the prevention of nutritional deficiencies and supports optimal growth trajectories
- ✓ Easy-to-administer paste formulation ensures accurate dosing and maximum effectiveness.

CONVENIENT DOSING APPLICATOR

Premi-Boost+ 250mL comes with a separate dosing applicator that delivers precisely 2mL per dose. This ensures accurate and convenient administration to newborn, underweight and premature piglets.

The applicator simplifies the dosing process, making it easy for caregivers to provide the necessary nutritional support to young animals.



DOSE RATE

PACK SIZE: 250ML

ONE PUMP = 2ML

2mL: Newborn, underweight and premature piglets soon after birth.

Repeat the following day if necessary.

For any remaining product, reapply the original bottle cap and store in a cool/dry place for up to 3 months. **Rinse and clean trigger prior to reusing.**

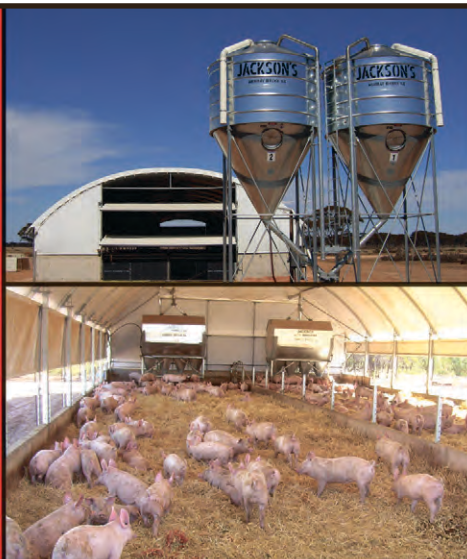
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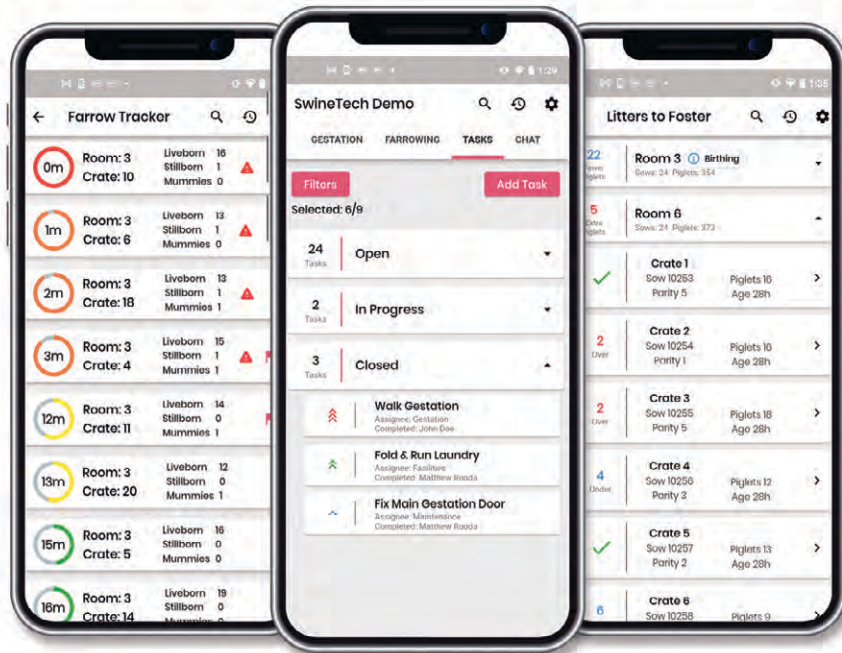


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Empower employees with human centered automation driven by operational intelligence on smart devices, allowing them to efficiently collaborate together, execute tasks, and provide exceptional care.

What We Do

We guide caregivers with directed workflows, driving greater process compliance resulting in increased employee engagement, operational efficiencies, and overall pig care.



Our Results

PigFlow improves barn staff productivity by optimising breeding herd efficiency and outcomes, to increase pigs weaned per man-hour and drive better margins.

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

How it Works

Step 1 Install Hardware & Software



Network Connection



Mobile Devices



Enterprise Management

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

- Farrow Tracker
- Fostering Management
- Treatments & Vaccinations

Team Collaboration

- Transparency and Accountability
- Task Prioritisation & Optimisation
- Multi-lingual Messaging

Integrated Insights

- Real-Time Data Collection & Visibility
- Performance Analytics
- Evaluate Targets & Reports

The benefits of automation will directly impact the entire team.



100% Operational Visibility



12.5% Efficiency Increase



4-5% Increase in PSY



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A better start for a better finish

NEW research shows how weaning management can improve lifetime performance.

An Australian Pork Limited-funded project led by JBS Pork has delivered new insights into how early-life management decisions can improve pig performance, feed efficiency and profitability across Australian pork production systems.

The project combined the analysis of more than 130,000 commercial pig records with targeted research trials to identify the factors that have the greatest impact on pig performance after weaning.

The findings confirmed that the weaning transition is a critical stage in a pig's life and that management decisions made before and during weaning can have lasting effects through to sale.

Three key factors stood out.

First, older weaning age consistently improved post-weaning survival and lifetime growth performance.

Pigs weaned at older ages were better able to cope with the nutritional, social and environmental challenges associated with weaning.

Second, fostering practices mattered.

Pigs that were not fostered generally performed better than fostered pigs, while pigs fostered after the first day of life showed the poorest outcomes.

Where fostering is necessary, completing it within the first 24 hours appeared to minimise negative impacts.

Third, and perhaps most importantly, the project showed that a tighter weaning age spread can deliver significant benefits.

Pigs grouped within a narrow age range – ideally within three days and no more than seven days where the production system allows – had improved growth, feed intake, feed efficiency, size uniformity and in some cases heavier carcass weights at slaughter.

The research suggests that reducing the mixing of pigs at very different developmental stages can help support a smoother transition after weaning.

For producers, the key takeaway is that improving performance does not always require costly interventions.

Practical management changes such as increasing average weaning age, mini-

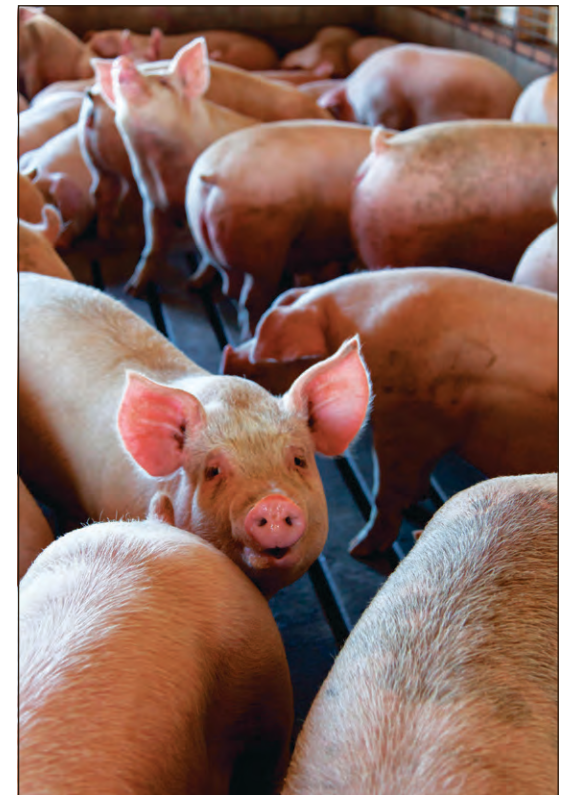
misising late fostering and reducing weaning age spread offer realistic opportunities to improve pig robustness, production efficiency and lifetime performance.

While the economics will vary between farms – particularly depending on labour and infrastructure constraints – tighter weaning management has the potential to deliver measurable returns and contribute

to lower cost of production across the industry.

The final report is available on the APL website, scan the QR code below.

Australian Pork Limited



The weaning transition is a critical stage in a pig's life.

View the current edition online as a digital flip book.

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Gorman-Rupp 'Super T Series' self-priming wastewater pumps are easily accessible for monitoring and maintenance.

Bulletproof pumps for wastewater at Bush's Proteins

BUSH'S Proteins is part of Australian family company group A J Bush & Sons.

The business has been operating since 1909 and operating in the rendering industry since 1950s in NSW and 1970s in Queensland.

The business provides the essential service of 'rendering' to the meat industry.

Bush's Proteins Bromelton collects organic animal material from butcher shops and abattoirs in and around the greater Brisbane metro area and nearby regional centres.

Rendering is the hygienic treatment of high moisture material from the meat industry that is not sold for human consumption.

From this material, Bush's Proteins manufactures nutrient-rich protein meals and tallows.

Rendering contributes to the circular economy by diverting putrescible material from landfills into an organic recycling process.

The options

The Bush's Proteins team has always looked for equipment that offers the best return on investment, in that the selected equipment should offer features and benefits commensurate or greater than the price they pay.

For wastewater pumps, the team choose Gorman-Rupp.

According to plant engineering manager Byron Boyers,

www.porknews.com.au

"I have more than 10 Gorman-Rupp T3s and the T10 we got recently is doing a great job."

"They're pretty much bulletproof pumps."

The solution

G o r m a n - R u p p 'Super T Series' self-priming wastewater pumps are mounted at ground level, above the wastewater pits.

This makes them easily accessible for monitoring and maintenance.

Their internal clearances can be adjusted in minutes, allowing operators to keep pumps at their peak efficiency for the life of the pump.

They are also capable of pumping solid materials such as rags, ear tags, gloves and other debris that might block other pumps.

Their large removable cover-plates also allow a single operator to remove any larger blockage in minutes, without disturbing piping or having to employ lifting devices such as cranes.

G o r m a n - R u p p wastewater pumps can deliver flow rates from 5L/s through to 200L/s, with pressures to 90m.

They can also be provided in materials of construction to cater for abrasive and/or corrosive wastewater streams.

More information about these pumps may be obtained from the Hydro Innovations website or emailing info@hydroinnovations.com.au

Hydro Innovations

Pork fraud puts spotlight on industry financial risks

FOUR people connected to the Australian pork industry have been charged over an alleged long-running fraud operation involving about \$10 million in undeclared sales and more than \$30 million in cash moved between NSW and Queensland.

The case has raised questions for Australian pork producers about the vulnerability of legitimate agricultural businesses to financial crime, particularly where complex supply chains, interstate freight and large-value transactions are involved.

The Queensland Crime and Corruption Commission and NSW Police allege the activity occurred between 2017 and 2026 and involved four people described as business owners or representatives within the pork meat industry.

According to investigators, sales records covering approximately \$10 million in transactions were either deleted or never created, allowing proceeds to be kept outside business records and allegedly retained for personal use.

More than \$30 million in cash was also allegedly transported from NSW to Queens-

land, with investigators alleging substantial amounts were concealed in interstate freight vehicles.

The scale of the alleged operation has attracted particular attention because the money was moved through an industry involving the routine transport of livestock and meat products across state borders.

The investigation, known as Operation Ragamuffin in Queensland and Strike Force Danberta in NSW, involved the Queensland CCC, NSW Police Anti-Money Laundering Unit and NSW Crime Commission.

Two Queensland-based people have been charged with offences including fraudulently destroying records, making fraudulent omissions in records, fraud, receiving tainted property and making false declarations.

Two NSW-based people have also been charged with offences relating to the destruction or concealment of accounting records with intent to defraud. Authorities have seized more than \$3 million in cash and two vehicles, while assets worth more than \$25 million have been restrained as suspected pro-

ceeds of crime.

The Queensland defendants are scheduled to appear in Brisbane Magistrates Court on September 14.

As the matter is before the courts, all allegations remain just that and the accused are presumed innocent until proven otherwise.

For the broader Australian pork industry, the case reinforces the importance of transparent records, sound financial controls and strong governance — not only to protect individual businesses but also to protect the integrity and reputation of the industry as a whole.

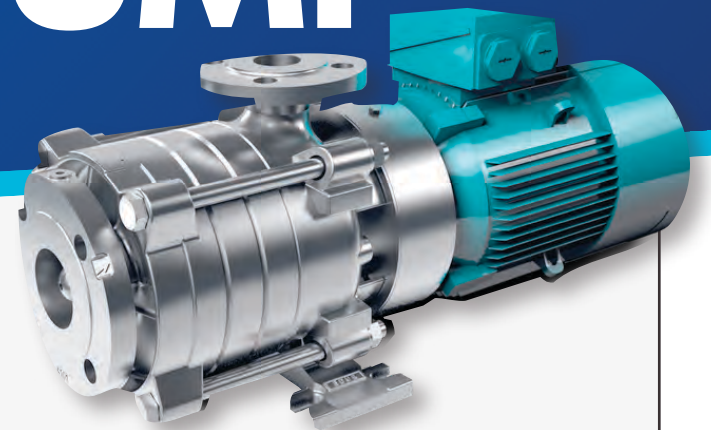


INNOVATIVE DAF PUMP

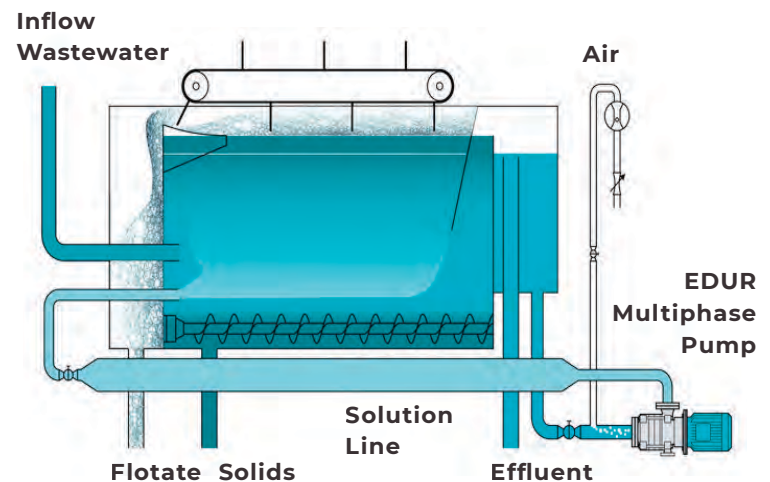


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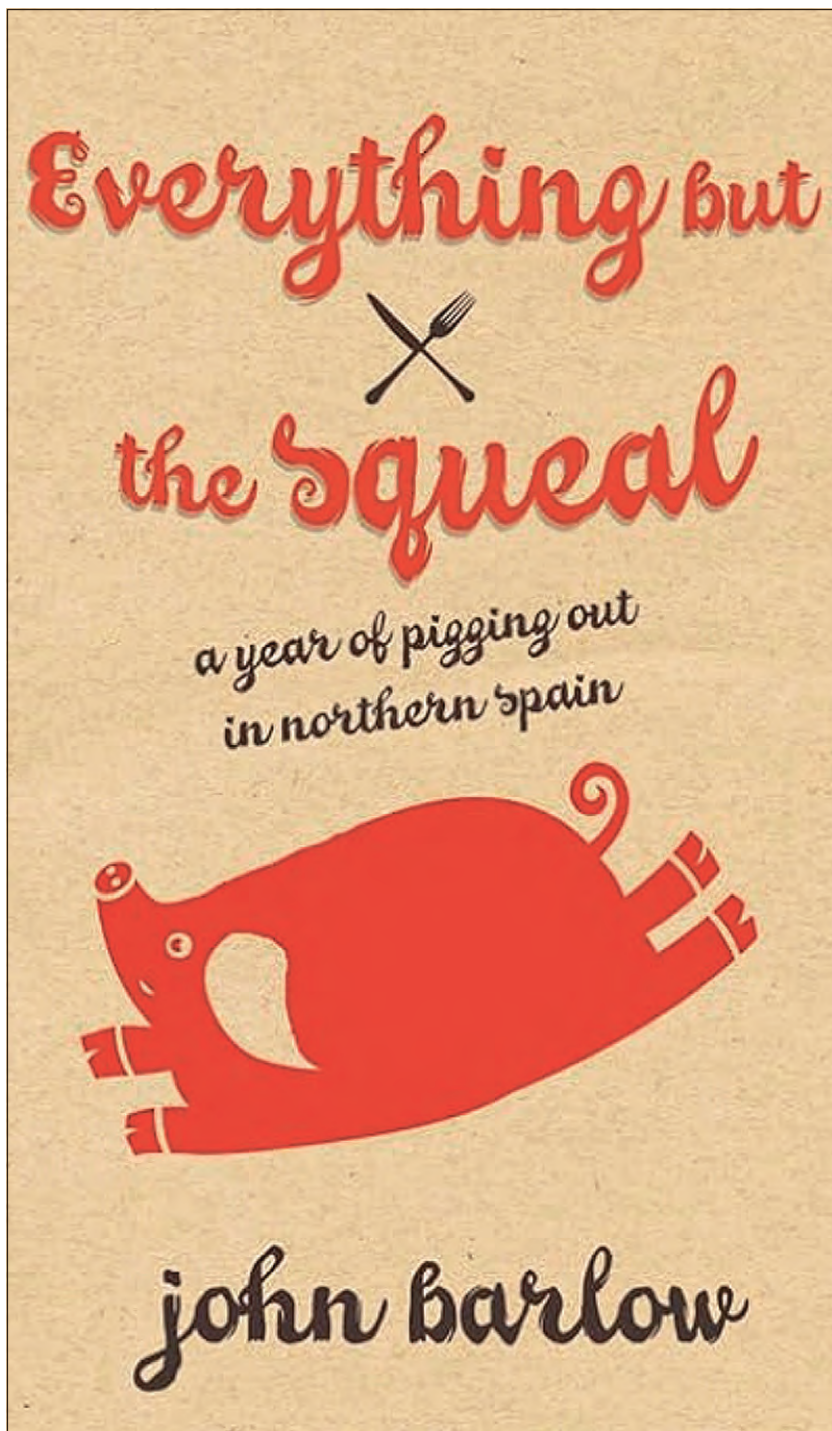


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Everything but the Squeal: A year of pigging out in northern Spain is a nose to tail read.



Albeit delicious, diced pork belly would rate as one of the book's more 'conservative' pork cuts.

Pigging out in northern Spain

FANCY eating every part of the pig?

I do and I have made some inroads over the years.

But never quite in the same way or at the same level as English writer and Cambridge educated John Barlow went about it, as portrayed in his humorous, engaging and revelatory 2008 book *Everything but the Squeal: A year of pigging out in northern Spain*.

It chronicles his year-long gastro-nomic journey

Cant Comment by BRENDON CANT



through Galicia, a lush remote region in northwest Spain.

Embracing the region's deep reverence for the pig, Barlow makes a vow to eat every possible

part of the animal.

The narrative explores the cultural, historical and culinary significance of pork in Galicia, while touching on the light friction his mission

creates with his vegetarian wife.

It serves not only as a food-lover's travelogue but as a perceptive look into local traditions, agriculture and our relationship with what we eat.

Humour arises from his culinary obsession which contrasts with his wife Susana, an Andalusian vegetarian who frequently has to stomach his oh so heavy pork-eating exploits.

Barlow travels the region sampling an

continued P9

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Pigging out in northern Spain

from P8

array of traditional, wobbly and gristly dishes, including pigs' ears, feet, brains and stomach.

He writes bewitchingly of so stuffing himself to capacity that he became worried his stomach lining might burst.

All this overeating began when he made his home in Coruna in Spain with wife Susana (a galega) and their son Nico.

He committed to travel around Galicia, the country's cold, remote and stubborn northwest, and complete a self-issued challenge: "To eat every part of the pig, in as many different places as possible."

Though Barlow dutifully ticks off the various wobbly and gristly pork bits – ears, hooves, brains – he seems to have been most engaged when wandering through remote and frequently depopulated Galician hamlets, in which electricity was a recent innovation and pig slaughters were viewed as amusing fun for the whole family.

The book goes beyond the plate to explore local traditions, such as the thousand-year-old Carnival in Laza, which involves ant throwing and feasting on steaming pig heads.

He visits remote hamlets, joins wild carnivals with ancient rituals and observes traditional family pig slaughters.

Barlow's book chronicles a year spent eating as many parts of the pig as possible, as served in different parts of Galicia.

He succeeds in finding dishes made from essentially all the animal's edible parts in mostly humble kitchens, domestic and commercial, but also some fancy types found in both countryside and city.

What adds a beyond food dimension to the book is his well-informed appreciation of Galicia's history, sociology and natural and cultural landscapes.

The book is not a recipe collection or travel guide – directions to homes and venues are more entertaining than compass-like – but a different deeper memoir of places, some of their regional festivals, much of their language, culture, local architecture

styles and provincial flavours.

Generally in Spain, much of the pig is preserved – salted, dried or marinated and lightly cooked for storage under lard or oil.

Sausages, hams, side-meat, back-fat and lard, blood sausages, marinated loins and ribs make up much of the meaty and flavouring component of the stews – largely legume and/or potato-based – consumed during the year.

In Galicia, as elsewhere, pigs' faces are preserved (salted and hung) and kept whole or halved.

They host the important meaty components of ears, cheeks and snouts.

Many Spanish households today supplement their pig slaughter with purchased pork, Spain's largest selling meat, which they preserve at home unless bought already in preserved form.

Fresh pork has a minimal presence at the table and has sometimes been regarded as difficult to digest, hence its pairings in Europe with mustard and arugula, considered digestives.

Barlow does not say these things but demonstrates them nonetheless.

The least preservable parts of the pig – liver and lungs, tongue, brains and kidneys – are associated with the slaughter season, when they are eaten fresh in a variety of dishes.

Barlow knows and respects pigs for their likeness to us humans – intelligent, social, curious, omnivorous and traditionally household members.

Indeed, some pig organs are now being used to prolong or save human lives via transplants.

Similarities notwithstanding, we put the pig to death each year and consume it, blood and all, ex-

cepting the squeal.

Not surprisingly much of the literature published about pigs and how they have so effectively integrated into human societies, albeit to ultimately be killed and eaten, is written with warm affection and purposeful acknowledgement of their reason for being.

As is the case with *Everything but the Squeal: A year of pigging out in northern Spain.*



As does the book's John Barlow, the author fancies pork tongues and spuds.



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Animal welfare reforms under consideration include increasing the minimum weaning age from three to four weeks, phasing out routine tail docking and imposing tighter restrictions on antibiotic use.



Denmark also has ambitions to move away from permanent confinement of sows.

Denmark's pig sector faces major reforms under new government

DENMARK'S pork producers could be facing significant changes to the way pigs are housed, managed and marketed, following the election of a new government with a strong focus on environmental sustainability and animal welfare.

The potential reforms are being closely watched because Denmark is a major pork-producing and exporting nation, with implications for global pork markets,

including Australia. Denmark had a pig population of 12.3 million head in 2025, making it Europe's third-largest pig producer behind Germany and Spain.

About 85 percent of Danish pork production is exported, making the industry heavily exposed to changes in production costs and international market conditions.

Among the most significant proposals is the introduction of a livestock carbon tax

by 2030, which would add another cost to pork production.

Animal welfare reforms under consideration include increasing the minimum weaning age from three to four weeks, phasing out routine tail docking and imposing tighter restrictions on antibiotic use.

Longer term, Denmark also has ambitions to move away from permanent confinement of sows.

According to the Agriculture and Horticulture Development

Board – the United Kingdom levy board that supports the agriculture and horticulture sectors through market intelligence, research, analysis, knowledge exchange and industry development – the changes could have a significant impact on production costs and productivity.

For producers, increasing lactation periods could reduce the number of litters produced per sow each year, while changes

➔ continued P11

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Built for demanding agricultural applications, the company's GMP pump range has earned a reputation for reliability in harsh operating conditions.

According to Aussie Pumps chief engineer John Hales, livestock wastewater presents unique challenges because it is often both abrasive and corrosive.

"Pig operations generate wastewater containing manure, feed particles and other solids that can quickly wear conventional pumps," Mr Hales said.

"Keeping sheds clean is essential for animal health, but it also means the pumping equipment

needs to withstand continuous demanding use."

Cavitation cause and solution

Cavitation occurs when there is insufficient water entering the pump, allowing tiny air bubbles to form and collapse against the impeller.

These repeated impacts create small pits on the impeller surface that gradually reduce pump efficiency and performance.

When cavitation is combined with the corrosive nature of livestock wastewater, the result can be increased maintenance costs, reduced flow rates and costly downtime.

To help producers overcome these challenges, Aussie Pumps now offers selected GMP self-priming pumps fitted with cast 316 stainless-steel impellers.

Instead of replacing an entire cast-iron pump with a stainless-steel unit, farmers can upgrade the component that experiences the greatest wear.

The cast 316 stainless-steel impeller provides excellent resistance to corrosion and abrasion, extending service life while maintaining pump performance in demanding livestock applications.

Originally introduced for heavy-duty industrial applications, the stainless-steel impeller option is now being expanded across the Aussie GMP semi-trash pump range to support Australian agriculture.

For pork producers, the result is a pump that delivers dependable performance, requires less maintenance and helps keep essential wash down systems operating when they're needed most.

"Every farm is different and we're always keen to hear how our pumps perform in the field," Mr Hales said.

"Customer feedback helps us continue improving our products and developing practical solutions that meet

the changing needs of Australian producers."

For more than 30 years, Aussie Pumps has worked alongside farmers, councils and industry to develop pumping equipment suited to Australia's toughest environments.

Whether it's wash down systems, wastewater transfer or general farm water management, the company's focus remains the same – delivering reliable long-lasting equipment backed by local engineering support.

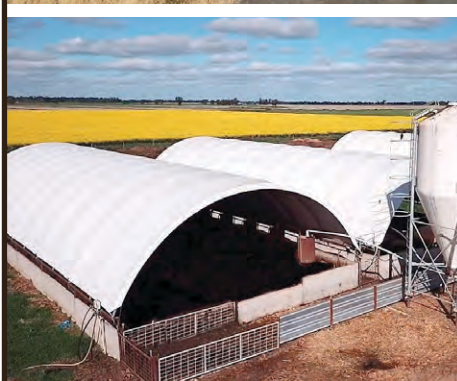
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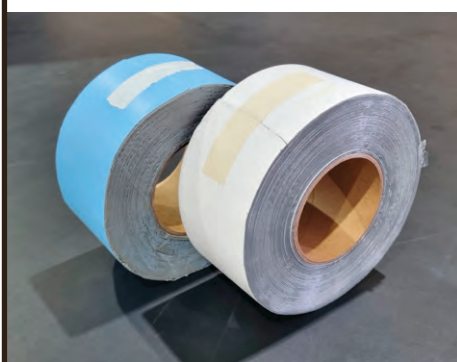


John Hales shows how cast-iron impellers erode in corrosive applications.

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Denmark's pig sector faces major reforms

from P10

to housing, management and husbandry practices are likely to require additional capital investment.

Potential impact on pork supply

The reforms could ultimately reduce Danish pork production and exports, potentially tightening pork supplies across Europe.

That could create opportunities for producers in other pork-producing countries, particularly if European buyers look elsewhere for supply.

Denmark is the UK's largest supplier of pig meat, accounting for about 21 percent of the UK's annual pork import volume.

However, the impact on global markets may not be straightforward.

AHDB noted that the Danish Government had indicated the industry would continue to focus on higher-value export products.

This means any reduction in Danish

production or exports could be more pronounced in some pork categories than others.

For Australian producers, the developments highlight the potential impact of environmental and welfare regulation on production costs, productivity and international competitiveness.

Denmark's experience also provides an indication of the challenges that can arise when new production standards require changes to housing, genetics, management systems and labour practices.

Importantly, many of the proposed Danish reforms are still subject to consultation and have not yet been implemented.

The direction of travel however is clear – Denmark's pork industry is preparing for tighter environmental and animal welfare requirements, with potentially significant consequences for how efficiently and competitively it can produce pork.



JBS deal could reshape our pork investment outlook

GLOBAL protein giant JBS is selling a 25 percent stake in its Australian and New Zealand operations to Danantara Investment Management, the investment arm of Indonesia's sovereign wealth fund, in a deal that could ultimately provide up to \$7.1 billion in investment capacity.

While the transaction covers JBS's beef, sheep meat, pork and other Australian businesses, the deal could have important implications for Australian pork producers given JBS's existing position as one of the country's largest pork producers and processors.

The joint venture will have \$3.57 billion in equity from Danantara, with an additional \$3.57 billion of investment capacity expected to be available for acquisitions, greenfield developments and other growth opportunities across Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand and South-east Asia.

For Australian pork, the key question is how much of that capital could ultimately be directed towards expanding JBS's domestic production and processing footprint or developing export opportunities into Asian markets.

JBS already has a major pork footprint

JBS Pork Australia expanded significantly in 2021 with its acquisition of Rivalea, bringing breeding, growing, fattening and finishing operations into the business and creating a vertically integrated pork production and processing operation.

JBS is now one of Australia's largest pork producers and processors, with production and processing assets forming an important part of its Australian protein portfolio.

The new investment partnership gives JBS greater financial capacity to expand that platform.

JBS said the partnership was designed to increase its investment capacity and accelerate growth in markets where protein consumption is expected to increase.

"The initiative is designed to expand JBS's investment capacity, accelerate regional growth and leverage its Australian operations as a platform to scale in markets considered strategic for global protein consumption," the company said.

"Australia remains a core pillar of JBS's geographic diversification, with strong export positioning and a key role in balancing JBS's global results."

What could it mean for pork producers?

For Australian pork producers, the most immediate issue to watch is whether JBS uses its increased investment capacity to expand its Australian pig production and processing operations.

The additional capital could potentially support new pig production capacity, expansion of existing farms, acquisitions, processing investment, technology and productivity improvements.

It could also increase competition for pigs, land, feed, labour and other resources across the pork supply chain.

JBS Australia chief executive Brent Eastwood said the partnership would not change the company's existing operations in the immediate term.

"Under the structure of the partnership, JBS Australia's operations remain unchanged – existing management retains day-to-day control, and nothing changes for our 17,000 team members, customers and producer partners," he said.

However, the longer-term implications could be more significant as the joint venture begins considering investment opportunities.

The company said

• continued P13

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JBS deal could reshape our pork investment outlook

from P12

the available capital could be used for acquisitions and greenfield and brownfield investments, meaning Australian pork producers should watch closely for any future expansion or acquisition announcements from JBS.

Potential opportunity for pork exports

One of the most significant longer-term opportunities could be the development of Australia's pork export market.

The partnership is explicitly focused on Indonesia and Southeast Asia, a region of about 745 million people in 2024, according to data from the ASEAN Secretariat.

JBS global chief executive Gilberto Tomazoni said the Australian and New Zealand operations would provide a platform for growth across the region.

"As a cornerstone of the broader JBS global platform, our Australian and New Zealand footprint provides strong operations, world-class standards and significant growth potential," Mr Tomazoni said.

"Together with Danantara, we are well positioned to expand our presence across Indonesia and Southeast Asia, strengthen regional protein supply chains, broaden market access and accelerate the development of Indonesia's protein sector."

For Australian pork, that raises the possibility of Australian production becoming part of a broader regional supply chain.

Australia's pork industry remains heavily focused on the domestic market and competes with substantial volumes of imported pork.

Any successful expansion into export markets would therefore represent a significant strategic opportunity for producers.

However, the deal does not mean Indonesian export markets are immediately opening to Australian pork, nor has JBS announced a specific Australian pork export program as part of the transaction.

The immediate focus of the partnership is broader regional protein growth, with specific Australian investments yet to be identified.

Indonesia could become strategically important

Indonesia's involvement is nevertheless significant.

The country is one of Southeast Asia's largest and fastest-growing economies, with increasing demand for animal protein as incomes rise and populations become more urbanised. JBS said the region combines population growth, rising incomes, urbanisation and increasing protein consumption.

"We are building a stronger platform to capture long-term growth in global protein consumption," Mr Tomazoni said.

"At the same time, we are creating the conditions to expand our presence in Asia, one of the industry's most dynamic regions."

While much of the initial focus is likely to be on developing Indonesia's domestic protein sector, Australian pork could potentially benefit if JBS develops integrated regional supply chains.

For Australian producers, the opportunity would be to establish pork as part of that regional protein

strategy rather than limiting growth to the domestic market.

Greater investment could mean greater competition

The transaction is not without potential challenges for the wider Australian pork industry.

If JBS uses some of the new capital to expand its Australian pig production, the company could become an even larger participant in the domestic pork sector.

That could mean increased competition for:

- Breeding and growing capacity
 - Suitable land
 - Feed grain
 - Skilled labour
 - Existing pig farms and businesses
 - Processing and supply-chain assets.
- For independent producers supplying processors, greater competition for pigs could potentially strengthen livestock demand.

However, further expansion of vertically integrated production could also increase the proportion of Australia's pigs produced within JBS's own supply chain.

That makes the nature of future JBS investment particularly

important for the broader industry.

Acquisition activity worth watching

The joint venture's ability to fund acquisitions could also accelerate consolidation across the Australian protein sector.

JBS already has a substantial integrated pork business following the Rivalea acquisition.

Further acquisitions could potentially involve pig production, processing or other businesses connected to the pork supply chain.



JBS Australia CEO Brent Eastwood.



JBS global CEO Gilberto Tomazoni.



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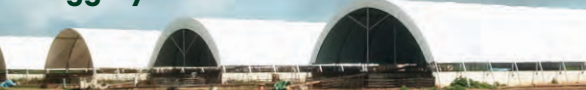
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