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NATIONAL Poultry

NEWSPAPER

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Understanding the animal health and biosecurity practices of Australian egg producers

AUSTRALIAN Eggs is supporting research focused on producers' approaches to animal health and biosecurity.

The research is being undertaken by the Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation at Charles Sturt University in collaboration with researchers from Sydney University and the University of Tasmania.

The overall aim of the project is to investigate biosecurity awareness, understanding and implementation among Australian egg producers.

The project is focusing on producers keeping between 1000 and 100,000 birds and will provide recommendations to improve biosecurity engagement.

This study is being conducted in three main phases.

The first phase investigated the institutional and policy context of biosecurity within the industry and was focused on various stakeholders within the egg industry such as government agencies, industry associations and animal health experts.

The second phase of the project, which is nearing completion, involves information gathering from egg producers to better understand how they engage with biosecurity and the social, economic and environmental factors that enable or constrain their adoption of recommended practices.

Information is being gathered through semi-structured interviews with producers, either face-to-face or by telephone.

The third and final phase of the project will use findings from phases one and two to develop recommendations at strategic, tactical and operational levels of policy practice for supporting producers with implementation of biosecurity.

This will comprise a series of recommendations and workshops with producers and other industry stakeholders.

Producer interviews have been a crucial part of this project.

The researchers wanted to get a much better understanding of the diversity of approaches and

experiences that occur across the industry.

They have been able to do this in the context of cage, barn and free-range production, differing flock sizes, and the experience level of producers.

The interviews have provided a wealth of information that can be used to ensure producers are supported in the implementation of their biosecurity and flock health management practices.

Interviews with producers have covered:

1. Approaches to biosecurity and animal health;
2. Understanding of responsibilities and roles in systems of biosecurity; and
3. Information sources and networks used in biosecurity and flock health management.

The researchers are still interested in hearing from any producers who would like to participate in the study.

Brian Furze from Charles Sturt University can be contacted by phone on 0411 746 781.



Lego chickens are part of the ice breaker activities on hand for poultry job ready training.

What's in store for 2019

WELCOME to 2019.

The Poultry Hub team is excited to start the year and get cracking on many of the exciting and engaging programs and activities we have planned.

We would also like to welcome a new member to our team: Hailey Cameron, who will be assisting in the office. She has only just started with us but has already hit the ground running.

Welcome, Hailey.

First up, we are busy organising our first poultry job ready training.

This training is aimed at young people aged 15-24 and seeks to engage them in all things poultry while providing them with useful and practical skills.

To ensure the training is engaging, we have designed six modules that are high-tech and hands-on.

Some of the modules include a virtual reality chicken, chicken grading game, chicken clicker training and of course Lego.

Our first training session will be held in March in Tamworth following an en-



by **TAMSYN CROWLEY**
Director



agement day that features a chicken barbecue.

For more information and dates, check out poultryhub.org

George the Farmer has landed!

I can finally share the wonderful experience Poultry Hub had recently with the excellent team at George the Farmer and of course Kerry the chicken farmer in South Australia.

This short clip has been produced to help kids (and possibly their parents) understand the amazing process of how chicken meat gets to our dinner tables.

Don't forget to share it

with all your networks through your social media channels!

The clip can be found at youtube.com/watch?v=v5-wWZwT1UI

Later this month we will attend the Australian Poultry Science Symposium in Sydney.

This meeting has been running for 30 years and is a fantastic opportunity to learn and engage with many brilliant poultry scientists from both Australia and abroad.

In conjunction with APSS, this year PHA will be fa-

continued P2



Photo: www.ryanpoultyservices.co.uk

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Poultry Industry Calendar of Events

2019

FEB 18 - 20 – Australian Poultry Science Symposium, Sydney, NSW
www.apss2019.com.au

FEB 19 - 20 – EvokeAg Food Farm Future, Melbourne, VIC
www.evokeag.com

FEB 20 – Alltech Round Table Dinner, Sydney, NSW Call Damien Kelly 0448 273 114

FEB 28 – World's Poultry Science Association Qld Forum, Gatton QLD
E: wpsaqld@gmail.com

APR 17 - 18 – Poultry Symposium for Production & Processing, Arkansas, US
www.thepoultryfederation.com/events/4-production-symposium

MAY 19 - 21 – One 19 Alltech Ideas Conference, Lexington, Kentucky US
www.one.alltech.com

JUN 10 - 13 – European Symposium on Poultry Nutrition, AmberExpo in Gdansk, Poland
www.espn2019.com

JUN 12-13 – Australian Biosecurity Symposium, Gold Coast, QLD
www.biosym.com.au

JUN 13 – Entries close – Royal Melbourne Poultry Show, The Grand Pavilion, Melbourne, VIC
www.rasv.com.au/royal-melbourne-poultry-show

SEP 16-20 – World Veterinary Poultry Association Congress, Bangkok, Thailand
www.wvpac2019.com

How to supply event details: Send all details to National Poultry Newspaper, PO Box 387, Cleveland, Qld 4163, call 07 3286 1833 fax: 07 3821 2637, email: design@poultrynews.com.au

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Activists challenging the right to farm

THE anarchic view that 'one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws' is one that many animal rights activists use to justify trespassing on farmers' properties and wilfully disrupting and creating unacceptable risks to businesses.

No matter how valid some may believe their cause, they do not hold some sort of privileged position above every other citizen.

Animal rights charity Aussie Farms has taken this hard-line view, recently publishing the location and contact details of farmers around Australia.

The group has accused intensive animal farmers and abattoirs of animal exploitation and is encouraging people to submit information, photos, video and documents relating to the addresses disclosed on the interactive website.

Not only are these accusations inaccurate for the clear majority of farmers, they show no respect for the rights of others and knowingly encourage un-



by **TRAVISTOBIN**
CEO

lawful behaviour.

An organisation that conducts itself like this should not receive the benefits afforded to a charity and it was encouraging to see Agriculture Minister David Littleproud write to the Charities Commission asking it to consider revoking Aussie Farms' charity status.

The radical and unjustified actions of this website invade farmers' privacy, threaten the welfare of their animals, pose unacceptable risks to their businesses and have implications for Australian food security.

There have already been several incidents of



animal activists entering Queensland poultry farms without permission, causing much distress to these farmers and their animals.

Last year, animal activists were charged with stealing after illegally entering a chicken farm and removing 13 birds.

A few months ago, 80 protesters raided a Mount Cotton chicken processing facility, causing more than \$50,000 in business losses and a number of birds to die in the process, and the next protest could be only days away.

Besides the emotional and financial toll on these farm businesses, the biosecurity risks to the whole

sector are immense.

Concerningly, this website is likely to increase trespassing.

Queensland Farmers' Federation and poultry member industries have been working with the Queensland Government for some time to better address these issues, but this new tool for activists has now made government action urgent.

For many farmers, their property is their business, their workplace and their family home and it is time governments took a harder stance against the actions of animal activists and ensure the legal protections and punishments reflect the crimes.

Disobeying 'unjust laws'

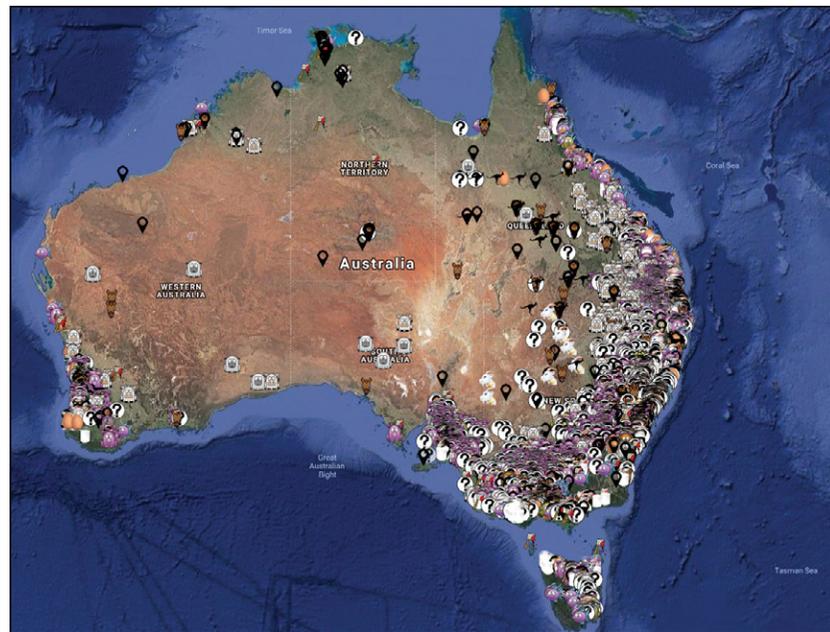
is still breaking the law.

But unless we have greater deterrents, the unfortunate reality is these sorts of incidents will continue.

Greater protections for farmers' basic right to privacy and safety in their own homes, businesses and workplaces are clearly needed, but legislative amendments take time.

So, for the immediate future, poultry farmers are encouraged to check if their name and address features on the Aussie Farms map.

If it is included, request directly for Aussie Farms to remove your details and complain formally to the Australian Information Commissioner.



The 'Aussie Farms' map.



A young person experienced a virtual reality chicken as part of poultry job ready training.

What's in store for 2019

from P1
cilitating a mentoring event designed to get the whippersnappers and dinosaurs talking. This will take place during the conference in a 'speed dating' format and promises to be an 'eggciting' event!

We look forward to what this year will

bring and the many exciting programs we have starting, including 'meet the farmer', which launches at the end of February.

If you would like to get involved or have any ideas to share, please contact us at poultryhub@une.edu.au

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When it comes to the egg chicken industry, males are out and females are in.

Littleproud asks Charities Commission to revoke extreme activists' charity status

MINISTER for Agriculture David Littleproud will write to the Charities Commission asking it to consider revoking the charity status of animal rights group Aussie Farms.

The move follows Aussie Farms publishing online the addresses of hundreds of Australian farming families, and fears extremists could use that information to trespass or worse.

Minister Littleproud will also write to the Attorney General asking for him to consider whether the Information Commissioner can investigate if the publication of the addresses

online breaches privacy rights; whether the purpose or intent of publishing the addresses is to encourage a breach of law; and seek advice on possible law reform to prevent this occurring in future.

"None of us would like it if our home address was put online," Minister Littleproud said.

"Worse, these addresses are being put up alongside information that has already been proven wrong in many cases.

"At one point these people had a picture of a pig in their deer section.

"The publication of home addresses of our

farming families is despicable and I won't stand for it.

"These people don't deserve charity status.

"We need to explore all options to see whether the law has been broken and if not, make sure this sort of thing can't happen.

"This is the age of the internet and we need modern laws which deal with that.

"Australia is a free country – you can choose not to eat meat, you can oppose livestock farming but it's not OK to put the addresses of farming families including children online." 🐔

Shedding new light on perplexing production problems

ALONG with the juxtaposition of egg-laying chickens being bred and raised to lay eggs consistently and quickly and meat chickens being bred and raised to lay down meat consistently and quickly, comes welfare issues.

Such a negative relationship between egg production and fattening performance in chickens has resulted in specialised strains for egg and meat production.

Along with this comes the egg industry killing off one-day-old male chicks because they serve no economic purpose.

A recent article I read in the January issue 63 of the RSPCA's always-informative and thought-provoking 'Animal Welfare Science Update' discussed the current developments in Germany and the three different methods to avoid killing male layer chicks.

The first is in ovo sex determination, which involves sexing the eggs using endocrinological or optical methods and destroying male embryos before hatching.

This system is 98 percent accurate by the ninth day of incubation and commercially available in Germany.

The second method involves using dual-purpose breeds, where hens from these lines lay a sufficient number of eggs, while the males have an acceptable fattening performance.

Using dual-purpose breeds allows females to be used for egg production and males to be fattened for meat production.



Cant Comment
by
BRENDON CANT

However, these breeds will never achieve the high production rates of the specialised breeds and are not yet available on a commercial scale in Germany.

The final method is rearing males of specialised egg production strains for meat production, something that is currently being employed by the organic sector as an interim method while dual-purpose breeds are developed, as in ovo sex determination is unacceptable to this sector.

The number of male layer chicks raised in Germany has increased from 100,000 per year in 2015 to 270,000 per year in 2018 and they take 8.5 to 18 weeks to reach a marketable weight.

In terms of animal wel-

fare, rearing male layers is largely unproblematic, with 89 percent of German consumers willing to pay more for eggs if the male chickens were raised.

According to RSPCA's Science Update, while there are challenges in raising male chickens in a resource-friendly and ecologically sustainable manner, this practice shows how an industry can react to societal concerns immediately, before longer-term solutions are available for the entire system of modern poultry production.

The same edition shone a light on another chicken welfare issue: how the quality of artificial lighting enjoyed (or not) by indoor broiler chickens can influence behaviour and welfare.

According to a UK study investigating the effect on broiler chicken welfare of providing artificial UVA and UVB light, providing UVA light, part of the UV spectrum, appears to make the environment more attractive, encouraging foraging activity and preening while reducing fearfulness and stress.

Though news to me, apparently chickens can see ultraviolet light that we can't.

The research, by James, Asher and Herbor, published last year in the journal 'Applied Animal Behaviour Science', also revealed that UVB light supports synthesis of vitamin D, which increases bone strength.

In the study, 638 broiler chicks were randomly

assigned to one of three lighting treatments: UVA light only for 18 hours a day; UVA and UVB light for eight hours a day; or standard LED light with no UV wavelengths (control).

The UVA plus UVB treatment needed to be limited to eight hours a day to avoid overexposing the birds to UVB.

Each treatment group was housed in a separate room until 35 days old when the experiment ended.

Three measures were used to assess the welfare of each treatment group: feather condition, fearfulness and walking ability.

The feather condition of each bird was assessed at 24 days old using a five-point scoring system.

A sample of 100 birds per treatment were tested for fearfulness at 29 days old, using the duration of tonic immobility after gentle restraint.

Walking ability was assessed for half the birds using a five-point scoring system at 31 days old.

The results suggest UVA and UVB light may offer welfare benefits to indoor-reared broilers.

The UVA plus UVB treatment led to improved walking ability and a tendency to be less fearful.

UVA reduced fearfulness and improved walking ability and feather condition in male broilers.

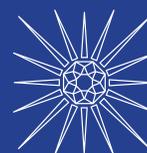
The conclusion: installing UV lights in broiler farms could improve the welfare of indoor-reared broiler chickens. 🐔

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Egg Standards of Australia

AUSTRALIAN Eggs is pleased to present the complete Egg Standards of Australia program with the release of ESA for Grading and Packing and the update of ESA for Rearing and Laying late last year.

ESA can now be used by egg businesses as a compliance framework to demonstrate best practice management with the rearing of chicks and laying and collection of eggs, through to the grading, packing and processing of eggs and egg products.

Businesses still on Egg Corp Assured for Grading and Packing have until March 31 to transition to ESA for Grading and Packing.

From April 1, 2019, all ESA audits (for farms and packing floors) will be to the November 2018 version.

Workshops and supplementary materials are available to assist egg businesses with the transition from ECA.

ESA is a voluntary quality assurance program, replacing the previous program ECA.

It has been developed through an extensive consultation process and represents a robust, credible and workable QA standard that meets the needs of regulators and retailers.

ESA is a practical mechanism for delivering more consistent quality outcomes across the egg industry and provides the framework

to demonstrate compliance to hen welfare, egg quality, biosecurity, food safety, work health and safety and environmental management.

ESA aims to provide farmers with more flexibility when booking audits and there are four Certification Bodies to choose from.

To improve auditing standards and ensure consistent outcomes, all registered ESA auditors have undergone the same training with the same instructor and are required to attend calibration sessions to ensure auditing standards are maintained and any issues are identified and addressed.

To ensure ESA remains a relevant and robust standard, the program is reviewed annually to ensure it continues to meet the needs of industry, regulators and retailers.

Every farmer and every business is different, and therefore ESA is structured into three levels to enable egg farmers to join the program at the level that best suits their business needs and customer requirements.

Level 1 – Basic

An entry level for egg farmers who are new to the egg industry or who have not previously participated in a quality as-

urance program.

Egg farms certified at this level are audited to Level 1 compliance criteria.

Note that this level is not available to grading floors.

Level 2 – Core

An intermediate level suited to egg farmers and packers with a more developed compliance system and record-keeping procedures.

Egg businesses certified at this level must be audited against both Level 1 and Level 2 compliance criteria.

Level 3 – Comprehensive

An advanced level suited to egg farmers and packers with a fully developed compliance system and record keeping procedures to meet the requirements of major retail customers.

Egg businesses certified at this level must be audited against all three levels of compliance criteria.

The structure is aimed at encouraging broad industry participation and improved compliance outcomes as egg farmers transition through Level 1 and Level 2 over a two-year period.

To find out if ESA is right for your business, visit the Australian Eggs website or contact AUSMEAT on 07 3361 9200.



2019 Queensland WPSA Poultry Industry Forum

THE Queensland sub-branch of the World's Poultry Science Association is pleased to announce the 2019 Queensland Poultry Industry Forum.

It has been several years since the Queensland branch has been active and we are excited to bring you our first forum for 2019.

The program is relevant for both layer and broiler industries and will cover the practical applications of current topical issues.

Invited speakers are:

• Dr Jessica Jolley and Alex Howard – SARDI Adelaide – 'Review of rodent control for the Australian chicken meat and egg industries'

• Dr Stephen McGoldrick – Poultry Specialist and Consultant – 'Husbandry practices to maintain gut health and disease challenges while reducing antibiotic use'

All involved in egg and chicken meat production, from producers to service providers to researchers are welcome to attend.

Lunch and afternoon tea

will be provided.

• When: Thursday February 28, 2019.

• Where: Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre, Lakeview Room, 34 Lake Apex Drive, Gatton.

• Time: 12 noon to 3.30pm.

• RSVP: Register via Eventbrite (eventbrite.com.au) by February 22.

For WPSA members this is a free event, for non-members there is a \$20 charge.

Membership forms are available by emailing a request to wpsaql@gmail.com

Time	Topic	Speaker
12.00pm	WPSA meeting	All welcome
12.30pm	Lunch	All welcome
1.15pm	Welcome	Rachele Osmond President, WPSA QLD sub-branch
1:30pm	Review of rodent control for the Australian chicken meat and egg industries	Dr Jessica Jolley & Alex Howard SARDI, Adelaide
2.00pm	Husbandry practices to maintain gut health and disease challenges while reducing antibiotic usage	Dr Stephen McGoldrick Poultry vet and consultant
3.00pm	Close and thank you	
3.10pm	Afternoon tea	Please stay for afternoon tea to catch up with industry colleagues and presenters



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Rodent control around poultry operations



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RODENTS are one of the biggest problems we face in poultry farming.

They cause damage to buildings and insulation, eat valuable feed and carry a multitude of potentially serious diseases.

Species we encounter in Australia include the house mouse (*mus domesticus*), Norway rat or brown rat (*rattus norvegicus*) and black rat (*rattus rattus*).

Rats can have three to six litters per year and produce seven to 10 young per litter, while mice can have seven to eight litters per year, with up to 16 young per litter.

So a pair of brown rats can become 200 in the space of a year, while a pair of mice can become 60 within three months.

With a single rat eating up to 25g of feed a day, they can quickly cost you

considerably in lost feed and poorer feed conversion results.

Mice and rats carry lice, mites and fleas, which are linked to poultry diseases and food safety contaminants such as salmonella, *E. coli*, coryza, fowl cholera, mycoplasma and internal parasites.

Rats are also known to bite birds when they are roosting, causing infection and fear in the birds, and



Vet's View
by ROD JENNER

even causing a flock to become flighty with subsequent production losses.

Control strategies – management

- Clear up any food spills.

- Keep the area around buildings clear of vegetation and clutter and keep grass short. This will deter rodents due to the risk of predation and allow you to spot signs of activity more easily.

- Minimise access to buildings and close off potential entry points. It is virtually impossible to make a poultry shed totally rodent-proof, but you can make life more difficult for them by ensuring that dwarf walls fit flush to the main walls and prevent access to the insulation layer. If rodents do get through, it should be very easy to see pieces of insulation scattered around. Ensure that doors provide an effective barrier by being structurally sound, with no gaps between frames and walls. Keep them shut whenever possible to prevent rodents entering from outside.

- Milling and mixing rooms provide an ideal environment for rats and mice, as well as a potential conduit into poultry sheds. Keep these areas clean and tidy at all times.

- Store materials that could provide potential nesting sites in secure areas or move them regularly to disturb rodents and move them on.

- Develop a rodent control program to ensure it becomes part of your daily routine.

Rodenticides

A number of rodenticides are registered for use in and around poultry sheds, but care must be taken to ensure their correct use in order to achieve maximum effectiveness.

Three types of chemical with very different modes of action are available:

- Anticoagulant rodenticides;
- Cholecalciferol-based rodenticides; and
- Corn gluten meal-based rodenticides.

Rotation strategy

Each of these types of rodenticides has a unique action, which makes rotation of types a useful management tool.

Rodents can become res-

sistant to anticoagulant chemicals if used continuously for a long period, and they have also been shown to become smart and avoid them over time.

Rotation of the different classes of chemical eliminates these problems.

Non-target species

Non-target species of animals and birds are a major concern with the use of anticoagulant rodenticides, either by direct ingestion of the chemical, or by ingesting rodents that have been killed by the rodenticide.

Tamper-proof and rodent-specific bait stations have been developed to limit exposure of non-target species to rodent baits.

Bait stations

Placement of the bait stations is quite important to the success of a baiting program.

Rodents are habitual creatures, so we can monitor their behaviour and place bait stations where they are most likely to be encountered.

Finding their tracks allows you to place stations strategically.

It is wise to monitor bait activity regularly so stations not being used can be moved to more appropriate locations.

Monitor continually for signs of droppings, urine, rub and tail marks, tracks and damage to the buildings.

If more than a few rodents are present, you should be able to smell them.

In summary, rodent control is not a set-and-forget exercise.

Activity needs to be monitored, baits replenished and rotated as required, shedding needs to be maintained, feed spills and rubbish cleaned up daily and harbourage locations removed.

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House mouse (*mus domesticus*).



Norway rat or brown rat (*rattus norvegicus*).



Black rat (*rattus rattus*).

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Alltech Global Feed Survey estimates world feed production increase

THE 2019 Alltech Global Feed Survey estimates international feed tonnage has increased by a strong 3 percent to 1.103 billion tonnes of feed produced in 2018, exceeding one billion metric tonnes for the third

consecutive year.

The eighth edition of the annual survey includes data from 144 countries and nearly 30,000 feed mills.

The feed industry has seen 14.6 percent growth over the past five years,

equating to an average of 2.76 percent per annum.

As the population grows, so does the middle class, which is well reflected in an increase in overall protein consumption.

The top eight countries are China, the US, Bra-

zil, Russia, India, Mexico, Spain and Turkey.

Together, they produce 55 percent of the world's feed production and contain 59 percent of the world's feed mills, and can be viewed as an indicator of the trends in agriculture.

Predominant growth came from the layer, broiler and dairy feed sectors.

Alltech president and CEO Dr Mark Lyons said, "Alltech works together with feed mills, industry and government entities around the world to compile data and insights to provide an assessment of feed production each year."

"We are proud to present the eighth annual Alltech Global Feed Survey and share the results publicly to demonstrate the importance of the animal feed

industry as we strive to provide for a planet of plenty."

The Alltech Global Feed Survey assesses compound feed production and prices through information collected by Alltech's global sales team and in partnership with local feed associations in the last quarter of 2018.

It is an estimate and is intended to serve as an information resource for policy-makers, decision-makers and industry stakeholders.

Regional results from the 2019 Alltech Global Feed Survey – Asia-Pacific

The Asia-Pacific region is home to several of the top-10 feed-producing countries, including China, India and Japan, and accounted for more than

36 percent of the world's feed tonnage.

China maintained status as the top feed-producing country in the world with 187.89 million tonnes, 10 million tonnes more than the US.

Increased production for Asia-Pacific came from India, with 13 percent, due to growth in layer, broiler and dairy feeds.

Other countries that demonstrated higher growth variance included Pakistan, Myanmar and Laos.

Southeast Asia's feed production represented over 20 percent of the Asia-Pacific region's feed production, with Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Thailand contributing to 93 percent of Southeast Asia's feed production.

Europe

Europe saw an overall growth of about 4 percent over last year, making it the second-fastest-growing region in the survey, resulting from feed production increases in layer (7 percent), broiler (5 percent), aquaculture (5 percent), dairy (4 percent) and pig (3 percent).

Beef was the only primary protein species to decline, though it was less than 1 percent.

Much of the region's growth can be attributed to smaller countries such as Turkmenistan, Macedonia, Azerbaijan, Montenegro, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, which all saw increases in overall production estimates of 20 percent or more.

Additionally, larger-producing countries like Russia, Spain and Turkey saw strong increases in feed production estimates, which added to the overall production growth.

North America

North America saw steady growth of 2 percent over last year due to an increase in the major species, with beef and broilers leading the growth at 3 percent each.

The US remained the second-largest feed-producing country globally, behind China.

Feed prices in North America are the lowest globally across all species, and with the availability of land, water and other resources, the region is expected to remain a primary contributor to feed production.

Latin America

As a region, Latin America was relatively stagnant this year. Brazil remained the leader in feed production for the region and third overall globally.

Brazil, Mexico and Argentina continue to produce the majority of feed in Latin America, with 76 percent of regional feed production.

Brazil stayed flat, while Mexico and Argentina saw growth of 1 percent and 4 percent, respectively.

Colombia's feed production grew by about 8 percent, primarily due to an increase in pork and egg production.

Several countries saw a decline in feed production, such as Venezuela (-27 percent), El Salvador (-16 percent) and Chile (-8 percent).

Africa

Africa continued strong growth with a 5 percent increase in overall feed production, and no country in the region saw a decline.

Morocco demonstrated strong growth across dairy, beef, layers, broilers and turkeys.

The areas that declined for feed production were equine (-4 percent) and pets (-14 percent).

These two areas represent a very small proportion of Africa's overall production, so the impact is minimal.

Most of the major animal production species in ruminant and poultry contributed to the overall growth of the region.

Notable species results from the 2019 Alltech Global Feed Survey – poultry

In the poultry industry, major growth areas for layer feed included Europe, Latin America and Asia-Pacific.

In Europe, Poland and Uzbekistan each saw growth of about 200,000 tonnes.

Latin America had increases in Colombia, Peru, Brazil and Mexico.

In the Asia-Pacific region, South Korea, India and Indonesia all saw growth of several hundred tonnes.

North America experienced overall growth of 2 percent, in which both the US and Canada saw increased production.

Africa saw a small decrease in layer production due to declines in both Egypt and Seychelles.

Globally, broiler production increased by approximately 3 percent in 2018.

There was growth in all regions, except for Latin America, in which a very small decline was observed.

Africa showed 9 percent growth, demonstrating an overall trend that as populations grow and become wealthier, interest in protein – particularly in palatable chicken – does as well.

Pig feed production saw an increase of nearly 1 percent in 2018.

The primary producing region for pig feed is Asia-Pacific, but this was also the only region that saw a decline in pig feed production as Mongolia, Vietnam, China, New Zealand and Japan experienced decreases.

From a tonnage standpoint, Europe saw the largest growth at approximately 2.2 million tonnes.

Russia and Spain accounted for the majority, while Finland, Denmark, France and Poland also contributed.

Latin America saw the greatest growth in pig feed as a percentage at 5 percent, with the largest growth seen in Mexico and Argentina.



The 2019 Alltech Global Feed Survey estimates world feed production increased by 3 percent to 1.103 billion tonnes, with the top eight countries producing 55 percent of the world's feed production.



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Environmental protection takes to the road with new skid-mounted solid-liquid separator that slashes waste transport costs by half

A HIGHLY efficient low-maintenance liquid-to-solid waste separator has extended its versatility by being offered in skid-mounted format that can be carried by truck or trailer to remote and environmentally sensitive applications.

The KDS separator is being introduced to Australasia by CST Wastewater Solutions for compact dewatering applications ranging from intensive poultry operations, food processing, food waste, grease trap and waste oil through to municipal wastewater sludge, live-stock manure and agribusiness processes.

The compact KDS multi-disc roller separator can also be used to help minimise the high cost of transporting sod-

den, sticky and hazardous wastewater by-product to controlled environments where it doesn't threaten groundwater.

The cost of transporting by-product to comply with environmental regulations can be steep – upwards of \$150 a tonne, according to CST Wastewater Solutions Managing Director Michael Bambridge.

KDS technology removes more than 50 percent of the water from wastewater sludge to provide a 50 percent reduction in transportation costs.

"The new skid-mounted KDS technology offers potential users a highly effective plug-and-play solution to waste processing needs," Mr Bambridge said.

Measuring only 3.8m by

2m, it offers the type of low-maintenance high efficiency that is so important where agribusiness, industrial and municipal operations don't have the resources to place engineering staff on close standby.

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

Designed for efficiency, sustainability and conservation of resources in small-to-medium applications, the energy-efficient KDS separator consumes as little as 0.06kW hr of electricity and uses no wash water.

"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," Mr Bambridge said.

"The compact rotational oval plate structure achieves high transportation 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 no water during operation unlike a belt or screw press.

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

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

Waste-activated sludge dryness levels are typically 15-25 percent.

Applications for which the separator is designed include:

- Intensive livestock operations, including poultry and food processing waste (snackfoods, kitchen and restaurant waste), raw wastewater (primary screening) and sludge.

- Pig farm raw manure and sludge, with cake dryness of 20-30 percent.

- Abattoir, feedlot 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.

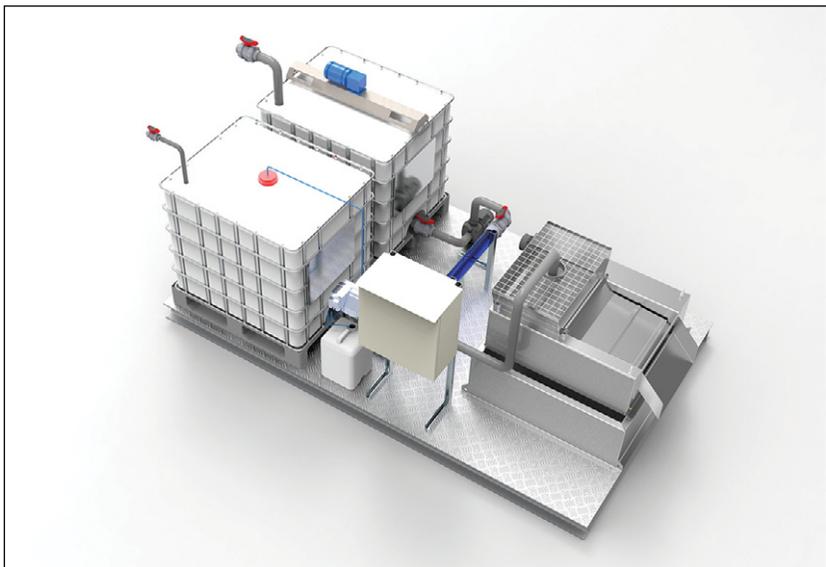
- Seafood processing.

- Sewage treatment, including raw wastewater (primary screening) and sludge to landfill.

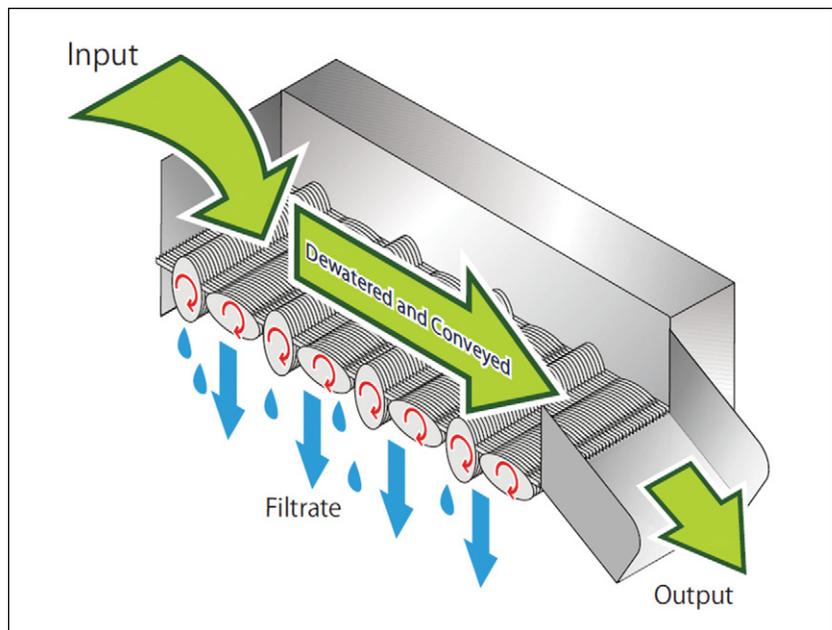
For further information, please contact CST Wastewater Solutions managing director Michael Bambridge on 02 9417 3611, email info@cstwastewater.com or visit cstwastewater.com



Where sodden waste and transport costs are an issue, KDS technology offers a solution.



CST Wastewater Solutions' new skid-mounted KDS separator, which, at 3.8x2.2m, can be trailer or truck-mounted for portability.



The unique self-cleaning action of the KDS separator, which is available in hydraulic capacities from about 1000-15,490lph with input solids content of 2 percent.

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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 poultry processing plants, the KDS can screen and dewater chicken processing wastes with high efficiency and minimal environmental impact.



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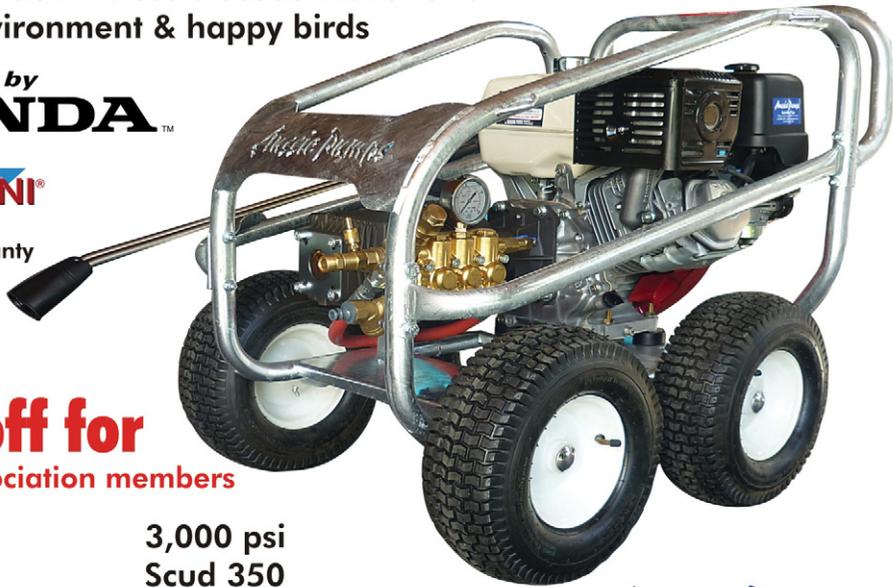
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Jefo to invest \$30 million in a new production plant

JEFO, a global leader in high-performance non-medicated nutritional solutions for animals, officially announced its plan to build a new 200,000sq ft production plant in Saint-Hyacinthe, Canada.

This new building will be located in the Théophraste Industrial Park.

The area, acquired in 2018, is strategic due to its proximity to other Jefo Group facilities, which include, among others, a transportation company, a trans-shipment site, research centres for poultry nutrition, warehouses, the production plant and the Jefo Campus that was inaugurated in 2017 to become Jefo's headquarters, a centre for knowledge exchange on agribusiness and a privileged meeting venue for leaders of all industries in the region of Saint-Hyacinthe.

Jefo Group vice presi-

dent Jean-François Fontaine said, "We aim to generate \$1 billion in revenue by 2025, so this project is necessary to support our current growth and ambitious goal."

"In addition to increasing our production capacity, the new production plant will reduce the risk of producing in a single facility."

The first phase of the project consists of two production lines, with potential expansion to six lines, which translates to the creation of 20 new jobs in the near future and 60 in the long run.

Jefo's current production plant features four production lines that generate more than 5000 tonnes of animal feed additives annually.

These products are marketed in more than 80 countries.

Founded in 1982, the family owned company

employs over 320 people globally.

Jefo aims to improve animal health and increase human longevity by offering better sources of protein for the growing population.

Jefo wishes to improve animal health and increase human longevity by feeding growing populations with better protein sources.

With its 'life, made easier' commitment in mind, Jefo uses a practical approach to share its results based on complex scientific research and testing methods, while implementing different solutions via its programs for the different life stages of production animals: Jefo Care – Health and Prevention; Jefo Peak – Performance and Production; and Jefo Cycle – Reproduction.

For further information, please visit jefo.com

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Stockyard Industries installs the first Big Dutchman Relax Breeder nest at Hazeldene's in Victoria

STOCKYARD Industries recently handed over the install of the first Big Dutchman Relax Breeder Nest in Australia.

The two sheds located near Lockwood in Victoria house 9500 hens.

Relax Breeder is a group laying nest,

which has been newly developed by Big Dutchman especially for broiler breeders.

Products used in the shed:

- The Dol 99 destination feeder;
- Plastic cool pads;
- MVT tunnel inlet;
- Energy efficient Big

Dutchman blue fans;

- Chain feeding system;
- Stainless steel drinking system; and
- Viper control system.

The Stockyard and Big Dutchman team installed and commissioned all the equipment.



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At SBA, quality is just part of our DNA.





Aussie Pumps' Scud 351 high-pressure blaster clearance means poultry producers can save hundreds of dollars buying direct from the manufacturer.

Poultry producers profit as blasters clear

FOR a limited time, poultry farmers can buy top-quality Aussie Pumps blasters at clearance prices direct from the manufacturer.

The huge sale, billed as the Aussie Pumps 'Gals Gotta Go' program, is a result of the company changing from galvanised steel frames to new stainless steel models.

The blasters in the clearance must be sold because the company is already in high gear with the production of the new stainless steel range.

Prices for the clearance models start from \$1498 plus GST.

Aussie Pumps manufactures a unique range of high-pressure water blasters that are ideal for poultry shed wash-down.

Called the Aussie Scud series, the engine-drive machines deliver a combination of flow and pressure that facilitates fast, efficient cleaning.

Typical of this range is the Scud 351.

Aussie Pumps product manager Mal Patel said, "The Aussie Scud 351 has been hugely successful in cleaning poultry sheds Australia wide."

"However we're now replacing this model with a new stainless steel version.

"That means we're clearing galvanised frame blasters with savings up to 20 percent off.

"Farmers can buy these units direct from us or through their local dis-

tributor at the same price. "This is a huge opportunity to get the best and safest blasters at a great low price."

The clearance includes models with Honda GX390 petrol engines with either recoil or electric start.

A diesel-drive version, using a Yanmar L100 10hp electric-start engine, is also part of the clearance program.

The heart of the machine is a 'Big Berty' Bertolini triplex pump that delivers 21l/pm flow.

The slow-speed, gear-box-drive pump has a pressure capability of 2600psi, which is ideal for wash-down application.

Poultry operators need the high flow and pressure

to wash and flush.

The machine comes in a unique Aussie 'Scud' hot galvanised one-piece steel frame with four big 13" pneumatic-tyred wheels.

The Scud design, a unique Australian development, provides a combination of OH&S friendly features with ergonomics not found on any other machines.

"Users are surprised at the Scud's agility, even with the diesel-drive version that weighs in at about 100kg," Patel said.

"Moving this machine around is child's play."

This special offer is available from Aussie Pumps and authorised distributors through Australia and the South Pacific.

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Biosecurity for the backyard chook

RECENT media interest in the animal and human health risks associated with keeping backyard poultry has revealed the need for improved biosecurity education.

Australian Eggs managing director Rowan McMonnies said the CSIRO's warning about risks to animal and human health was timely and backyard owners need to understand the responsibilities.

"Anecdotally, there has been an increase in the number of people keeping backyard hens and egg farmers understand the attraction to producing nutri-



tious and delicious eggs," Mr McMonnies said.

"People need to realise that once you're a suburban 'egg farmer' there are important biosecurity risks to protect against.

"Strains of avian influenza can occur naturally in populations of wild birds and if a wild duck comes into contact with a domestic hen, the virus can be transferred.

"Diseases spread quickly and widely and potentially transfer from backyard to commercial flocks can put food security for the broader community at risk.

"It's understandable that people think backyard farming is clean and natural but these setups can pose significant problems because of how accessible they are to wild animals.

"Australian Eggs spends a lot of time communicating these dangers to egg farmers but there is clearly a role in getting information out to backyard owners as well."

Below, Australian Eggs has issued a list of 10 things backyard poultry owners should practice to reduce biosecurity risks:

1. Always wash hands after handling chickens or eggs.

2. Keep chickens away from ponds and rivers as water birds are known carriers of avian influenza.

3. Ensure wild birds cannot access the chickens' feed or water. Diseases can be easily transmitted to poultry by contamination of feed or water.

4. Keep other animals such as domestic geese, turkeys and even cats

and dogs well away as they can bring disease to chickens.

5. Use safe water sources such as town water, good-quality bore water or sanitised surface water for chickens to drink.

6. Provide a secure rodent-proof enclosure for poultry because rats and mice are known carriers of disease.

7. Any kitchen scraps fed to chickens must be meat and animal free. When spoiled, these may carry dangerous bacteria.

8. Check hens regularly for anything unusual such as coughing, diarrhoea or swollen eyes.

9. If a chicken is showing signs of sickness, isolate the sick animal from others and seek veterinary advice in a timely manner.

10. Call Animal Health Australia's 24-hour emergency animal disease watch hotline on 1800 675 888 if there are unusual symptoms or signs of serious disease.

www.australianeggs.org.au

Wastewater pump selected for safety and reliability

A NSW fruit juice manufacturer has recently selected Gorman-Rupp self-priming pumps for its wastewater service.

The company selected Gorman-Rupp pumps because they were the safest option for operators, and because they were considered the most economical solution.

Gorman-Rupp pumps are installed at ground level, above the waste pit (by up to 7.6m above water level), so can be

monitored, inspected and repaired easily and safely.

Other technologies are not so easy to monitor and often require the use of cranes and the opening of wet well covers to expose operators to working over water and working at heights.

Gorman-Rupp pumps can be serviced safely by one person, with no confined spaces entry to worry about.

For this project, requiring a flow of 28l/s at a total head of 12m, a Gorman-Rupp V3B60-B was selected.

This pump is one of Gorman-Rupp's 'Ultra V Series' of pumps and is the most advanced self-priming wastewater pump on the market today.

The pumps have additional safety features to protect both opera-

tors and equipment, and have the most advanced maintenance features available.

Some applications can be abrasive or corrosive (or both), so Gorman-Rupp Ultra V Series pumps have a range of materials to best cope with the application, including hardened iron (for abrasive service), 316-grade stainless steel for corrosive applications and CD4MCu (a hard duplex stainless steel) for abrasive and corrosive applications.

Wastewater pumps from Gorman-Rupp are available with flows from as little at 4l/s through to 250l/s.

More information on these pumps can be obtained from Hydro Innovations at info@hydroinnovations.com.au



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Think ahead with poultry people

Farmers fight back in face of radical anti-farm group intimidation

AUSTRALIAN farming families are under siege from a malicious social media campaign run by an extreme anti-farm group. According to its website, Aussie Farms' 'core value' is a belief that animals should not be owned for human purposes.

The Facebook page links to a map with the details of hundreds of farmers implying a connection to animal cruelty and urging people to gather images, videos and other documents in relation to the addresses revealed.

National Farmers' Federation president Fiona Simson said the implications could be dire and has demanded Facebook close the page promoting the map immediately and for the group to be stripped of its charity status.

"Farmers' privacy, their right to farm and most disturbingly, their safety and that of their families and animals, are at risk," Ms Simson said.

"Australian farmers have had enough and we will not stand by and watch attempts to destroy farms, families and rural communities."

Ms Simson said the NFF had fielded calls from farmers who had been included on the

map, in some instances who were represented as running businesses that in fact, they do not. "They are rightly distressed that their name has incorrectly been linked to 'animal cruelty'," Ms Simson said.

"They are extremely anxious and very angry that their workplace, and their home, has become the target of extreme and dangerous activities."

Aussie Farms, unbelievably, a registered charity, has been linked to a number of trespass incidents, including an incident in December where 55 protesters forced their way into an abattoir in Nhill, Victoria.

"Their agenda is simple and straightforward: they want to see an end to farms, and that means an end to many farmers and the contribution they make," Ms Simson said.

The map comes only days after the 'dark arts' of Animals Australia were revealed with allegations the group paid ship workers to capture footage aboard live export vessels.

"Almost every day, we're seeing examples of activists accessing farms and businesses without permission, seeking to disrupt the work our farmers do,"

Ms Simson said.

"These types of stunts risk human and animal wellbeing and are deeply offensive."

"The presence of unapproved people in farm environments has the potential to spread bacteria and disease, which could impact the whole food chain, not to mention the trade implications."

"It's also important to remember that farms are also family homes."

Ms Simson said the NFF had called on Facebook to take the page down immediately.

The charitable status of the group must be retracted by the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission.

Their business model is to openly flout Australia's laws to undermine farming and agriculture in Australia.

"We have spoken with both the Minister and Shadow Minister for Agriculture, who have condemned the group's behaviours and objectives," Ms Simson said.

"I will also write to the police in each state and territory, alerting them to the 'library' of imagery on the Aussie Farms website, questioning how the material was collected."

Ms Simson said the NFF is seeking legal counsel on the implied link the map makes to the farmers represented and animal cruelty; and regarding any potential infringement of privacy and trespass laws.

"As a matter of priority, we will be advocating for laws that guarantee farmers' freedom to farm," she said.

"Laws that carry harsh penalties for those who seek to impede this freedom."

Remote control jetting

IN drought conditions, trees seek moisture from drains and sewer lines.

The roots cause blockages in sometimes difficult to access locations.

The new Aussie Viper mini reel is a lightweight, portable reel with control lever and 60m of sewer-cleaning hose.

It is designed for use with any high-pressure water blaster or sewer-cleaning jetter up to 5000psi.

Aussie Pumps product manager Mal Patel said, "Most poultry industries have a decent pressure cleaner for general cleaning."

"This portable reel enables the blaster to be used to unblock drains effectively too."

The Viper consists of a 5000psi-rated hose reel with stainless steel

swivel mounted in a robust stainless steel carry frame to make it portable.

An integrated control lever and on-board pressure gauge mean the operator has remote control of the jetter or pressure cleaner.

The reel carries 60m of 3/16" 5000psi-rated high-pressure flexible sewer-cleaning hose.

It can be equipped with a wide range of drain-cleaning nozzles including the Aussie Turbo Root Mulcher.

The Mulcher is designed to chop its way through tree roots in record times.

"Drain cleaning has undergone a revolution, with plumbers opting for Aussie Pumps high-pressure jetters because of their efficiency and ease of use," Patel said.

"The Aussie Viper mini reel makes it convenient for a pressure cleaner to be used in the same way."

The Mini Reel also has connectors to hold up to three drain-cleaning nozzles so the operator

can select the right nozzle for the job.

Further information is available from Aussie Pumps or through authorised plumbing supply shops throughout Australia and the South Pacific.



Frederico Milani showed off the portable Aussie Viper Mini Reel that gives him control while cleaning drains remotely.



Farmmark/SKOV seminar Gold Coast Nov. 2018

SKOV training seminar on Gold Coast

A GROUP of very committed poultry farm managers and contract growers from all over Australia converged on the Gold Coast in

late-2018 for a SKOV product training seminar hosted by FarmMark Livestock Solutions.

Those in attendance found the Gold Coast to

be an ideal meeting location and were very interested in looking further into SKOV ventilation products and FarmMark poultry systems.

A number of breeder managers upgraded from 7" to 10" SKOV DOL 539 climate and production controllers, while industry powerhouse Ingham's was interested in getting FarmOnline on all its farms, as the company finds it a very useful tool.

Egg counters were also of great interest to the breeder component of attendees including Ingham's once again.

Those broiler producers in attendance were highly impressed with SKOV equipment and the service provided by FarmMark.

A large number of producers were looking into upgrading to the 10" DOL 539 controller, with significant orders expected.

FarmOnline also generated plenty of questions from broiler farmers and many realised they would be able to benefit from implementing the system on farm.

For any more information on SKOV and FarmMark products and services, visit farmmark.com.au or call 07 3274 6372.



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Ms Amy Moss and Ms Doreen Anene. Amy won the best student oral presentation (Mengan Croft Award) that was supported originally by the Poultry CRC and is presented annually at APSS for exceptional student presentations.



Ms Angela Scott, PhD student who is now working for PIRSA in South Australia, Amy, Doreen and Ms Ha Troung, past PhD student who is now working with CSIRO in Queensland. The PRF supports the Best Student Poster presentation, which is a relatively new concept at APSS.

30 years of the Australian Poultry Science Symposium

FROM February 17-20, the University of Sydney – Poultry Research Foundation, in conjunction with the World's Poultry Science Association, will host the 30th anniversary of the Australian Poultry Science Symposium.

APSS is the premier poultry science meeting in Australasia and is held in substantial

international regard, evident by the increasingly diverse international speakers and delegates.

APSS has come a long way since its humble beginnings as a small symposium held solely by the PRF way back in 1968.

From there it became the annual PRF symposium in 1983, and then in 1988 it was agreed the PRF would combine resources with the WPSA to organise an annual national conference that would maintain continuity and quality with the established PRF symposia.

The inaugural APSS was held on the main campus of the University of Sydney in Camperdown, from February 7-8, 1989.

It proved to be a resounding success with strong support received from all sectors of the industry as well as universities, WPSA, CSIRO and state Departments of Agriculture.

In particular, the financial support received from the Australian Chicken Meat and Egg Research councils was extremely important in establishing these early symposia, and their contributions have remained steadfast over the entire 30 years of the conference.

Attendance has steadily grown, from 50-100 delegates in the early years to consistently between 200 and 250 delegates from 2012-2016.



REGISTER NOW: APSS2019.COM.AU

In 2017, the decision was made to move the conference away from the university campus, seeking larger, higher-quality facilities and a greater range of accommodation options for delegates.

Sheraton on the Park in Sydney CBD has hosted the event for the past two years and will again welcome APSS in 2019.

Though a huge change, the move enabled growth, with delegations reaching a record number of 260 attendees in 2018, and sights are firmly set on breaking the 300 mark at this year's milestone event.

The increased size and prestige of the event has meant continual evaluation and introduction of changes in the conference organisation, however, the principles defined from the very first symposium still operate today.

Distinguished invited overseas scientists are supported by many Australian-based academics and researchers, with input also from industry personnel.

The Australian poultry industry is advantaged by the research and development, extension and rapid adoption enabled by APSS.

In addition, one of the most important services facilitated at the conference is to encourage the future of our industries, our young graduates,

postgraduate students and post-doctoral researchers by providing a vehicle for people to meet and communicate.

As has always been the case, a major problem relates to finding time to allow the presentation of all submitted papers within the three-day time period of the symposium.

Since 2012, the pre-registration and informal Avian Science Forum, which are held on the Sunday evening prior to the official opening of the symposium, have proved to be a great success.

The move to Sheraton on the Park in 2017 has afforded a successful re-introduction of a formal Poster Session, which takes place on Monday evening after the first day

of oral presentations.

By providing delegates with canapes and drinks, and a structured approach to displaying the posters, APSS has achieved a very high rate of discussion and interaction between authors and attendees.

The 2019 conference will focus on the overarching theme of 'Sustainable Poultry Production'.

There will be five international and two local invited speakers expounding upon global poultry nutrition, lower protein broiler diets, alternative feed sources, the importance of the intestinal microbiome and antimicrobial stewardship.

A special presentation celebrating the 30th anniversary will be delivered by Prof Wayne Bryden,

who was heavily involved in the early years of the PRF.

A record number of paper submissions have been received this year, and a draft program is now available online, along with registration and accommodation information.

We welcome attendees from all sectors of the poultry industry, the poultry research fraternity and anyone with a deep interest in poultry science.

After 30 years, APSS is a well-established international scientific meeting that has met and even surpassed the hopes of its founding organisers.

Members of both the Poultry Research Foundation and the Australian branch of the World Poultry Science Association should be rightly proud of their contribution to the success of this international symposium, as well as all those who have shown their support through sponsorship and attendance over the years.

The 30th anniversary of the Australian Poultry Science Symposium will be held from February 17-20.

For any further details, visit apss2019.com.au



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WPSA Australian Branch president Prof Julie Roberts with Dr Chris Morrow who was presented with the WPSA Australian Poultry Award. This award has been presented annually at the conference since 1964.

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