



STOCKYARD
INDUSTRIES

Phone: 07 4697 3344 • Fax 07 4697 3532
www.stockyardindustries.com

NATIONAL Poultry

NEWSPAPER

Vol 1. No. 6 June 2018 National Poultry Newspaper PO Box 387 Cleveland 4163 Phone (07) 3286 1833 Fax (07) 3821 2637 Email ben@poultrynews.com.au

Gary Sansom Scholar boosting youth appeal of chicken meat industry

UNIVERSITY of Adelaide Honours student Ashlee Morgan has been awarded the inaugural 2018 Gary Sansom Scholarship, supporting leadership in chicken meat research.

The Gary Sansom Scholarship was awarded to Ashlee for her research project on understanding factors for attracting and retaining youth in the poultry industry, a key focus of the AgriFutures Chicken Meat Program, and her keen interest in contributing to the poultry industry in the long-term.

The Gary Sansom Scholarship is named in honour of AgriFutures Chicken Meat Advisory Panel Chair and Australian Chicken Meat Federation president Gary Sansom, who passed away in March 2017.

Mr Sansom was a long-standing supporter of programs encouraging new people into the chicken meat industry and championed several communication and training initiatives vital to the industry.

Ashlee has worked for Ing-hams Enterprises as a breeder

farm manager and is currently employed by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions, South Australia as a project officer focused on planning and development of the chicken meat industry.

The scholarship will allow Ashlee to identify the causes of skills shortages and barriers to young people pursuing a career in the poultry sector.

"I'm thrilled to receive the Gary Sansom Scholarship – the industry mentorship was a huge drawcard for me as it will open doors for career progression," Ms Morgan said.

"Australia's chicken meat industry offers dynamic career opportunities.

"My project aims to boost the appeal of the industry – I want young people to get excited when I tell them about my work and see that it is a good career choice."

AgriFutures Australia general manager Research and Innovation Michael Beer said the new scholarship will support future industry leaders to make their mark on the industry.

"The scholarship is a fitting initiative to celebrate Gary's commitment and involvement in the chicken meat industry," Mr Beer said.

"Ashlee's project will pave the way for more young people to consider a career in the industry."

The prestigious Gary Sansom Scholarship recognises high-quality students, fosters a career pathway in the chicken meat industry and supports industry-relevant research.

The new scholarship will be an annual award funded by the AgriFutures Chicken Meat Program and supported by industry.

Ashlee was selected as the inaugural scholarship recipient by the AgriFutures Chicken Meat Advisory Panel, in conjunction with industry representatives and Gary's family.

The inaugural Gary Sansom Scholarship was presented to Ashlee at the 2018 Poultry Information Exchange on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 by Gary's wife, Julie Sansom.

Learn more at agrifutures.com.au/chicken-meat



Kids learnt all about eggs at Rural Discovery Day.

Poultry Hub Australia out and about

LAST month Poultry Hub Australia attended EKKA's Rural Discovery Day in Brisbane.

Now in its 15th year, the popular 'ag-ucational' day brings the country to the city to teach primary school students that food comes from farms and not the supermarket shelf.

Over 1100 students attended a variety of different exhibitors from agricultural industries to learn from the farmers themselves and take part in hands-on activities and to get up close to their favourite farmyard animals.

Our exhibit was focused on eggs and the importance of having eggs with strong cuticles.

We engaged the students by talking about where eggs come from and what a great source of protein they are.

This was further enhanced by a mini science experiment that enabled students to get their hands dirty (literally) and test the strength of the cuticle.

Students were heavily engaged and asked a variety of questions including "How does the yolk form?", "How long does it take to lay an egg?", "Are you a real scientist?" and slightly more curly



by **TAMSYN CROWLEY**
Director

questions like "How are baby chickens made?"

We ensured the latter question was referred to their parents and teachers!

The day was busy, rewarding and immensely enjoyable for all involved and we look

forward to being involved in the future.

Poultry Hub Australia is committed to motivating young people to see the poultry industry as a great industry that delivers a range

continued P4



Zoe Parkin and Lila Segal from Bulimba State School.



AgriFutures Chicken Meat Program Manager Ashley Radburn, Julie Sansom, Ashlee Morgan and Vivien Kite of the Australian Chicken Meat Federation.

NEXT-GENERATION HIGH-PERFORMANCE FANS

AirMaster Blue 170C – profitability in climate control



- High performance
- Motorised shutter, making it airtight
- Can be connected and used as 24V emergency opening
- Non-corrosive materials
- Direct drive
- IP65 rated
- Quiet operation



www.stockyardindustries.com

sales@stockyardindustries.com

54 King Street, Clifton QLD 4361

07 4697 3344

www.poultrynews.com.au

Opening the eyes of the public

Poultry Industry Calendar of Events

2018

JUL 22 - 24 – Chicken Marketing Summit, Florida, US www.wattglob.com/chickenmarketingsummit

JUL 23 - 26 – Annual Poultry Science Association Meeting, Texas, US www.poultryscience.org/psa18

AUG 1 - 5 – Asian Australasian Animal Production Congress, Borneo Convention Centre Kuching, Sarawak

AUG 31 - SEP 2 – International Exhibition on Poultry, Livestock & Technologies, Bangalore India www.iplexpo.com

SEP 17 - 21 – European Poultry Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia www.epc2018.com

OCT 28 - 30 – International Poultry Symposium, Chitwan, Nepal www.afu.edu.np/vet/ips2018

NOV 11 - 13 – Australian Veterinary Antimicrobial Stewardship Conference, Sunshine Coast QLD www.avams2018.w.yrd.currinda.com

2019

FEB 12 - 14 – International Poultry Expo, Atlanta, US www.ippexpo.com

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

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

poultrynews.com.au
07 3286 1833

EGG Farmers of Australia has had an incredibly busy year.

The animal welfare standards and guidelines for poultry farming have been a trying process for farmers.

EFA understands the frustration in farming communities for the way our industry has been represented in the media and we know it has been particularly problematic during the public consultation, which was completed at the end of February.

But now it is onwards towards a finalised version of the poultry animal welfare standards and guidelines that will be decided upon by Australian Ministers of Agriculture.

During this public consultation, we took a beating from animal welfare organisations in the media and I know how tough that was for each of us.

However, it is notable that at the end of this period only one minister had voiced dissent with the industry.

We may have lost the trial by media but we are still in this fight and have a plan to press our case.

Animal activist campaigns may have been well funded but we were prepared for them.

In the media and in parliamentary offices around the country, we have pedalled the message that we are open to criticism and want to improve.

All we want in return is for people to have a proper look at our farms and seek to understand what they are truly like and why we farm the way we do.

Over the past couple of months, we have invited people onto farms to see the reality of farm life.

These people were from a range of different backgrounds – some bought cage free, some bought caged, some voted Greens and others voted Coalition.

We had a broad church when it came to engagement and we want to continue in that manner.

On these farm tours, participants were given the opportunity to hear presentations from a representative from EFA, an animal welfare scientist, a vet and a farmer.

On completing farm tours, participants were impressed with the level of care farmers had for their birds.

In exit surveys conducted at the end of visits, most reported feeling positive shifts in the way they perceived egg farming.

The announcement of Australian Eggs' sustainability framework released at the end of April has greatly enhanced our ability to discuss the long-term plans the egg industry has for animal welfare



by **JOHN DUNN**
CEO



improvements.

This framework has provided EFA with a roadmap for the egg industry's future – a future in which the egg industry will reclaim the respect of community through ongoing and direct channels of communication.

EFA has had strong engagement with representatives from federal and state governments.

This current period of the standards and guidelines process will be less media but more work.

We'll need even more engagement, farm tours and a greater commitment to prove farmers care for our birds and about the community.

We know welfare is important – we know we must improve and we know we must show how we do that every day.

We can win this argument.

We can regain control of the issues.

EFA Female Leadership Grant – Angela Griffin (EFA Policy Advisor)

On International Women's Day, EFA announced it was going to invest in the future leadership of our industry by launching a female leadership program in partnership with the Australian Federal Government.

For the first time, the egg industry has a specific scholarship that is dedicated to the development of our promising female farmers.

As we all know, women are incredibly well represented on our farms.

They work in packing, admin, planning and manufacturing.

When you enter our boardrooms, however, fe-

participants the opportunity to hone their leadership skills through participation in a series of workshops run by the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation.

We have been overwhelmed by the quality of applicants and are currently going through the confirmation stage, after which, participants will be chosen.

EFA believes it is the responsibility of those in current positions of leadership to ensure the next generation of leaders is equipped to take on responsibility for feeding our nation.

EFA also recognises there is a long way to go

when it comes to having equal representation of men and women in boardrooms for any industry.

This being said, we want to show that the egg industry is committed to diversity.

We have already proven ourselves to be the industry that leads the way on animal welfare – now we have set our sights on being the industry that has taken a proactive approach to solving gender inequality.

I am incredibly proud to be providing opportunities for the smart and capable young women who will be the future of the egg industry. ♡



Participants in farm tours discussed all things eggs.



The farmer taught the city people.



Brian gave participants a tour of an egg farm.

NATIONAL Poultry NEWSPAPER

Vol 1, No. 5 May 2018 National Poultry Newspaper PO Box 387 Cleveland QLD 4163 Phone (07) 3286 1833 Fax (07) 3821 2637 Email ben@poultrynews.com.au

Australian Eggs builds on Sustainability Framework

Poultry Hub is industry aligned and impact driven

Now Online
poultrynews.com.au

High performance
Mass load shuttles making it airtight
Can be closed and used as 200 emergency opening
Non-corrosive materials
Direct drive
PPE rated
Quiet operation

Visit us at **POKAMC** on Stand 208-211

STOCKYARD INDUSTRIES
54 King Street, Clifton QLD 4361 | 07 4697 3344



The new processing plant extension.

Golden Cockerel invests \$40 million in world-class processing plant upgrade

A NEW \$40 million, 5000sq m 'front end' of Golden Cockerel's Mount Cotton, Queensland processing plant recently came on-line, incorporating new live-bird transport and handling systems, controlled atmosphere stunning and up-scaled immersion chilling – all contributing to greater throughput capacity and efficiency.

With live birds arriving daily from as far as two hours away by road,

the upgrade ensures more birds can be processed in a shorter time frame, meaning less overtime and a more efficient operation that sees processing wrap up at 7pm daily, before commencing again at 2am the next day.

The upgrade features the latest Stork Atlas poultry processing equipment, including multi-phase controlled atmosphere stunning, widely regarded by industry and the RSPCA to be very humane and de-

liver the highest available welfare standard.

Live-bird handling and transport processes have also been streamlined thanks to the new Stork system, meaning the birds are kept cleaner and more comfortable than was previously possible.

Despite a 40 percent increase in production efficiency, equalling the most efficient production systems in the world, the team at Golden Cockerel, headed by CEO and industry veteran Alan Wilson, is not resting on its laurels, instead striving to further upgrade the Mount Cotton facility over the next five years.

In terms of other efficiency-focused measures, Mr Wilson said a new and improved self-contained wastewater treatment and irrigation system means no stress on sewers and a recently upgraded power supply network ensures the plant does not unnecessarily deplete the grid.

"The past 12 to 18 months of upgrades have effectively future-proofed the plant and reaffirmed a commitment to the current site for at least the next 20 years," he said.

The current processing number of around 650,000 birds per week is forecast to rise as the plant becomes increasingly efficient, spurred by consistently strong consumer demand, with three of the 10 biggest-selling lines in supermarkets being chicken products.

Directly employing about 400 people, the business has long been one of the biggest in the Redlands area since form-

ing in the early 1970s.

And the new processing plant upgrade, while not necessarily creating any new jobs initially, has confirmed employment going forward by reducing costs and enabling the business to grow and create more jobs in the future.

Forward planning has seen the creation of more useable space on the current hilltop site, allowing for expansion and new building projects in the long term.

While already exporting a relatively small amount of product to numerous Pacific Island countries and other locations including Hong Kong, the company is remaining abreast of the export climate and is looking into the possibility of expanding its export portfolio in coming years.

One advantage of the Brisbane-centric location is Brisbane Airport has no curfews, meaning product can leave via air freight 24/7, and throughout the Pacific region the Golden Cockerel brand is well recognised, further supporting the prospect of more exported product.

Being a fully integrated business, Golden Cockerel encompasses the full range of poultry operations – from feed mills, to parent birds that produce fertile eggs on multiplication (or breeder) farms, to hatcheries, to broiler farms (mostly contract growers) from where the chickens make their way to the Mount Cotton facility at 35 to 50 days of age.

The Redlands region in which Golden Cockerel's headquarters are based was one of the original poultry growing areas in Australia, and many broiler farms still thrive throughout the region, making the factory ideally placed to receive their product.

With a focus on a strong future through production efficiency, constant improvement and supplying a high-quality product to major retailers, takeaway food chains, specialty poultry shops and butchers, Golden Cockerel looks set to continue as an industry powerhouse in years to come. 🐔



Golden Cockerel CEO Alan Wilson and QA staff member Lindsay Tomlinson.



The plant upgrade includes new utilities.



Another view of the plant extension.



Protect your reputation – and your business from Escherichia coli and Salmonella with the Poulvac modified live bacterial vaccines: **Poulvac E coli and Poulvac ST**. These vaccines from Zoetis offer a vaccination program for your flock that helps fight the threat of two major bacterial diseases. Your business depends on safety and quality. It's your brand. It's your reputation. The Poulvac portfolio from Zoetis helps protect both.

To learn more about the Poulvac range visit us at Zoetis.com.au or call 1800 814 883

POULVAC®
ST and E coli

10-year ag RD&E plan needs more action

THE Queensland Government recently released its 10-year RD&E Roadmap and Action Plan for agriculture – a document designed to underpin a productive, profitable and sustainable agriculture sector.

As the government's vision for RD&E through to 2028, the Action Plan is its strategy for how to capitalise on our competitive advantages and realise the opportunities for the sector's growth.

First, it is encouraging that the government has developed a forward-looking blueprint for the state's agriculture and food RD&E, recognising the sector's fundamental importance, continued strength and ongoing transition.

A vision from govern-



ment for our sector has been lacking and Queensland Farmers' Federation welcomes and commends this step.

But plans are only as good as their implementation, with the level of resourcing key to this.

There remains a disconnect between what is said and written about the future of Queensland agriculture and demonstrable government action and support.

Considering funding, the Action Plan recognis-

es the importance of public sector RD&E investment to ensure agriculture productivity gains.

It highlights that total funding for rural R&D in Australia increased from \$2.3 billion to \$3 billion in real terms over the past decade.

However, this increase is largely due to substantially greater investment (over 60 percent) from the private sector.

By contrast, total R&D funding from state and territory governments has decreased by more than 27 percent over the past decade, even though governments acknowledge that every \$1 invested in RD&E returns \$10.51 over the course of 25 years.

The Australian Government on the other hand has increased agriculture R&D over the past decade

by about 18 percent.

However, total funding for the agriculture portfolio has decreased at an average annual rate of 0.8 percent in real terms over the past 15 years.

By comparison, total funding for the education, health and social security portfolios has increased at an average annual rate of 4.5 percent, 4.1 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively.

There is a compelling case for increasing RD&E funding for agriculture.

Governments have reformed market interventions to the point where the level of agricultural support is the second lowest in the OECD area at under 3 percent of gross farm receipts.

These reforms made decision-making in Australian agriculture more re-

sponsive to market forces, but the productivity gains have now largely run their course.

Structured and meaningful RD&E is an important element for raising productivity.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, between now and 2050 the world's food system will need to produce 70 percent more food to feed an increasingly crowded planet.

Continued productivity growth and improved management of existing land and resources is key to meeting these demands.

For Queensland agriculture to capitalise on this opportunity, it will need to move to more intensive farming systems and maximise the use of scarce resources.

Therefore, if Strategy 3 'Support the existing sector to grow and develop new business' is to be realised, we must better address the acute and chronic energy and water stressors affecting intensive agricultural productivity.

And we must better protect and utilise our best agricultural land.

While the Action Plan provides aspirational goals for the future, the current operating environment appears to be too disjointed to see how they might be achieved.

However, rapid improvements in fundamental issues like energy, water, land use and planning would enable greater RD&E clarity and focus on the longer-term enablers and drivers for an intensified agriculture sector.



R&DG Sanday

Leaders in shed design and technology, we are able to help you achieve the optimal environment for your flock. We are experts at incorporating natural ventilation with both minimum and tunnel ventilations, which result in increased bird performance at a lower energy cost. We specialise in free range, intensive broiler and egg sheds as well as duck sheds using all Australian products.

NO IMPORTED PRODUCTS USED IN OUR SHEDS *PERIOD*



Just an example of one of our many natural ventilation solutions we have to offer



Fully experienced in all aspects of poultry shed design and construction



Flexible design which can be adapted to meet any client needs and shed size



Highest quality workmanship and materials



Fully licensed throughout Australia



Competitive prices



Reliable and friendly service

Call Ron Now
0404 489 573

URL: RDGSanday.com

Email: Ron@RDGSanday.com



Kids involved on the day were able to get hands-on with plenty of eggs.

Poultry Hub out and about

from P1

of valuable food products and to also highlight future job prospects.

We recently launched our researcher in industry program, a unique way to get researchers and industry talking.

The aim of this program is to bridge the gap between what happens on farm and in the laboratory, increase levels of engagement and hopefully highlight new areas for research and collaboration.

We are also looking forward to our PoultryGrad farm visit and workshop in late August.

This program is focused on enabling young re-

searchers to see what the poultry industry is really like, providing them an opportunity to go on farm.

For more information on any of our programs, please contact us at poultryhub@une.edu.au

Poultry Hub Australia and the team really enjoyed attending PIX 2018 and meeting and talking with a wide variety of people at the 'Chook Chat Shack', a joint initiative between PHA, Australian Eggs and AgriFutures.

We hope you enjoyed the comfy meeting spaces and checked out the array of information on all the fantastic initiatives and research that all three organisations undertake.



The Poultry Hub team was glad to take part in Rural Discovery Day.

It's not about what came first. It's about what comes next.

For over 50 years, Australia's egg farmers have trusted SBA's quality layers to keep their egg supply moving. We're Australia's largest specialist supplier for a reason: our genetically superior Hy-Line and Lohmann day-old chicks and point-of-lay pullets are bred in the world's most advanced facilities. And we are still investing in superior biosecurity, logistics and genetics to protect the future of our food security – and support your farm at every stage, from chicken to egg.

With SBA as your production partner, you can have confidence in what comes next.

WWW.SPECIALISEDBREEDERS.COM.AU



SPECIALISED BREEDERS AUSTRALIA

Warm welcome to feathered friends

ACCORDING to University College London geneticist Mark Thomas, about 1000 years ago there was massive evolutionary pressure for domestic chickens to lay eggs all year round and be less aggressive, thereby allowing many individuals to be confined in a small space.

At the same time, chicken bones became much more common in the archaeological record, showing that people were eating more of them.

Remarkably, also according to Thomas, this coincided with a decree from Benedictine monks to avoid eating four-legged animals on fast days.

Birds and eggs were, of course, exempt.

Though chickens were first domesticated about 6000 years ago, the features that essentially led to the chickens we know



Cant Comment
by
BRENDON CANT

the DNA sequence of the extinct woolly mammoth. Quite a 'tusk' (sorry!).

So, having now revealed something of the origins of today's laying hens, it's time to reveal some history on myself, by way of introduction to my inaugural monthly NPN column.

For those familiar with Collins Media's other animal industry tabloid, *Australian Pork Newspaper*, you may already have read my monthly Cant Comment column there, which I've been writing for 21 years.

While that version covers pork/pigs and this will cover chicken meat/eggs, there is a definite crossover between the lives of our feathered friends and those of our precious pigs.

With intensive animal production increasingly under the spotlight and animal welfare front and

centre in that debate, poultry and pigs share some common ground or, as some would put it, dangerous territory.

Likewise, with grain a key component in the formulated diets of both, escalating grain prices are another common and topical focus.

Then, on the meat front, both of course compete as preferred protein choices for shop shelf and plate space.

With a mountain of pork now available in Australia, due to a 12-month-long blowout in pig numbers, pork consumers are in heaven and producers in hell.

I bought, for example, delectable, tender, juicy pork fillet steaks at one of the big two supermarkets the other day for \$15/kg, while battling pork producers are trying to tough it out (or get out in some

cases) with grain prices approaching \$400/tonne and many being paid less than the cost of production for their pigs, whether sold direct or at auction or privately.

Chicken, consistently well priced, also regularly finds its place on my protein plate.

Likewise eggs, with my usual source the Wilson family's 14,000 Hylines hen egg farm only a few kilometres down the track from my South Fremantle home.

Their Fremantle Egg Company-branded jumbo free range eggs, bought direct from their recently built on-farm shop, are well priced and simply fantastic.

Some of you will no doubt know the proprietor Ian Wilson, who is also president of the Commercial Egg Producers Association of WA and a

director of Egg Farmers of Australia.

Daughter Rachel is playing an increasingly significant role at the farm.

She too takes her industry seriously.

She is executive officer of CEPA WA.

Anyway, as for my promised history, perhaps the contributor profile below from *Australian Pork Newspaper's* website will suffice, albeit my journalistic and PR career for the past 40 years has covered pretty much all farming facets and agribusiness business.

Feel free to call me on 0417 930536 or email me at brendon@iinet.net.au if there's any poultry matters you want dis-

cussed or covered.

Contributor profile

Since 1984, Brendon Cant has provided public relations and media services to Australia's pork industry, including the fresh pork, smallgoods, R&D and producer sectors.

From 1977 to 1984 he was an agricultural journalist with *Elders Weekly*, *Farmers Weekly*, *Western Farmer & Grazier*, *Countryman*, *Merredin Advertiser* and *Esperance Express*.

During this period, in 1980, he moved to Canberra to start and manage an agricultural news bureau, servicing the *Stock Journal* and the *Farmers Weekly*. 🐔

today were arguably brought about by a religious decree.

An interesting aside: in 1994 Thomas was one of the first people to read



Happy hens, or Bali bantams, in Ubud, Bali, a couple of weeks ago. A strange, but obviously workable mixture of free range and caged, it seems. While certain they'd have tasted just right to the local villagers, the author didn't get to sample them.

New wastewater pumps from Gorman-Rupp

GORMAN-Rupp, the world leader in solids-handling, self-priming centrifugal pumps, has released the most advanced pump for handling solids-laden liquids according to Australian distributor Hydro Innovations.

Called the Eradicator Solids Management System, the technology is ideal for the challenges facing wastewater pumps, including the handling of stringy solids such as rags, feathers and twine, which find their way into meat processing plant wastewater systems.

The new system comes as an option on the Gorman-Rupp range of Super T series pumps, and is also available as an upgrade kit on existing Super T pumps already in the field.

The Eradicator system features an aggressive self-cleaning wear plate incorporating a number of notches and grooves, as well as a patent pending lacerating tooth that helps break up stringy materials, scrape them off the impeller vanes and pass them through the pump – all without impacting performance or interrupting service.

A special cover plate with the system includes a smaller, patented lightweight in-

spection cover that can easily be removed if necessary to inspect pump internals.

System benefits include improved operational efficiency, increased uptime, reduced maintenance costs, lower lifecycle costs and easier access to the impeller.

Operators will also find the lighter cover plate is easier and safer to work with.

Eradicator-equipped pumps do not require expensive chopper blades that need periodic replacement, but rely on passing large solids and stringy materials straight through the pump.

The system is available with carbon steel or hardened alloy steel wear plates.

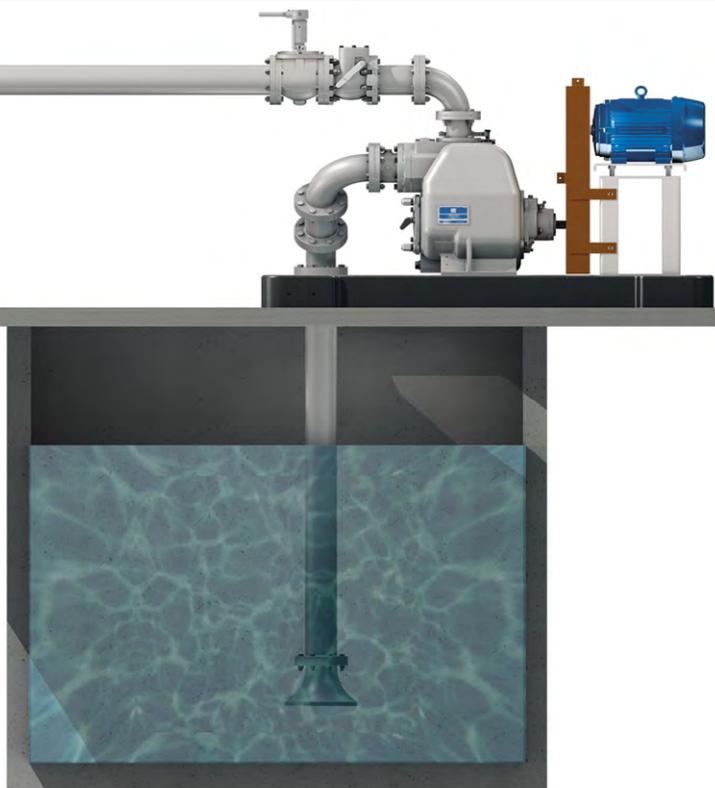
Pumps can handle flows from 5l/s through to 200l/s and heads to 45m, and Gorman-Rupp Super T pumps are able to be mounted high and dry above the wastewater (up to 7.6m), so operators gain easy access without the need for cranes or other lifting devices.

More information on these pumps and the Eradicator system can be obtained from Hydro Innovations at fo@hydroinnovations.com.au or by calling 02 9898 1800. 🐔

WASTEWATER PUMP RUGGED & RELIABLE GORMAN RUPP

- Self Priming Pump
- Wastewater containing feathers, gloves, plastic bags
- Easiest pump to maintain

Don't be fooled by cheap imitations. Insist on Genuine, Rugged, Dependable Gorman-Rupp brand.



www.hydroinnovations.com.au
T: 02 9898 1800
E: sales@hydroinnovations.com.au



Why scientists created a human-chicken hybrid embryo

ONE of the biggest mysteries of human life is how we develop from a tiny ball of cells into a being with bones, muscle and organs.

The process starts inside the mother's womb shortly after conception, but legal and regulatory restrictions on research involving human embryonic tissue have stymied scientists' efforts to explain the process.

Now scientists have found a workaround.

By transplanting human embryonic cells onto chicken embryos, researchers at Rockefeller University in New York City have created a hybrid embryo they say will bring insights into foetal development — and perhaps lead to new cures for several diseases — without bumping up against the so-called '14-day rule' that prohibits research on human embryos more than two weeks old.

Popular media blasted the interspecies mash-up, with one headline reading 'Half human-half chicken abomination created in US lab', even though no one is talking about creating a race of human-chicken beings.

And the scientists defend their work, saying the hybrid embryo will help them understand why some human cells grow into the brain and nervous system, for example, while others

form the trunk and limbs.

Ali Brivanlou, head of the university's Laboratory of Stem Cell Biology and Molecular Embryology and the leader of the research said, "We know a lot about the development of a human embryo from a single cell to about 200-300 cells by the time it's transplanted into the mother at the end of the first week."

"But for the second week and beyond when the body axis, the structures of the head start forming, and these major decisions are made, it's a black box."

Eric Siggia, a professor of developmental biology at Rockefeller and another scientist involved in the research, said while there's no proof hybrid embryos will behave in the same way as their human-only counterparts, this hybrid system is the next best thing.

"It's a compromise to gain some data on this unknown aspect of human development in a socially responsible yet scientifically valid way," he said.

But not everyone is on board with the idea of mashing up cells in this way.

New York University professor of bioethics Arthur Caplan said, "They seem to think this is a wonderful solution, but I think they are

just creating a different problem."

"While in their case they're not making a half-man, half-chicken, many politicians will be unnerved that other people could take this and it could be turned into potential cross-species creatures.

"Engineering unnatural things with your genetic knowledge is touching one of people's deepest fears.

"It's like Frankenstein."

Caplan says a better solution would be if scientists were allowed to conduct research on human embryos discarded from IVF clinics.

"There are hundreds of thousands of these excess embryos which are left unwanted due to couples who wanted children divorcing or destabilising or even dying in the meantime," he said.

"At the moment they're just in freezers, and no one knows what to do with them."

For now, it seems likely scientists will pursue research on the human-chicken hybrid embryos.

The Rockefeller scientists plan to use them for research on Huntington's disease, a deadly neurological disorder.

The mutant gene that causes Huntington's is already at work in the earliest stages of embryonic development, and the scientists say under-

standing how it affects the first few weeks of life could lead to new treatments, possibly within a decade.

The scientists also hope to use the hybrid embryos to find cures for other complex diseases caused in part by mutant genes, including amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease) and Alzheimer's.

To study Huntington's disease, Brivanlou is planning to insert the mutant gene into hybrid embryos to see how their subsequent development differs from that of hybrid embryos that lack the gene.

Ultimately, he hopes it will be possible to identify drugs that might counteract the abnormal developmental processes and enable humans with the gene to develop normally.

"For every disease where the problem genes are expressed early on in human embryonic development, but the symptoms develop many decades later in life, it would be a good idea to start attacking the problem sooner," Brivanlou said.

"In my opinion, this could change reproductive medicine.

"If we're able to find out what goes wrong early on, maybe we have a better chance of curing it."

Originally published at nbcnews.com

KFC goes vegetarian with plans to test plant-based chicken

KFC plans to sell a vegetarian equivalent of its famous chicken.

The company's unit in the United Kingdom and Ireland recently announced it plans to test the faux chicken with customers later this year.

If successful, it could launch the product in 2019.

The move isn't being billed as a concession to animal-rights activists.

Rather, the vegetarian option is part of a plan to reduce calories by 20 percent per serving by 2025.

The vegetarian option is believed to be the first time a major fast food chain is putting fake chicken on the menu.

"We always look to respond to the latest changes in lifestyle and dining habits of our customers and a key part of that for our business in the UK is offering lighter options and more choice," the company said in an e-mail.

"That's why we're looking into vegetarian options that would offer the great taste of KFC to new and existing customers who are changing their dining habits."

KFC UK and Ireland's foray into vegetarian dishes stems from a growing trend not just in Europe, but also in the US.

More people want to have healthier lifestyles and to know what's in their food, experts say.

Consumers increasingly seek out organic and less-processed foods, while those with concerns about antibiotics and animal welfare are turning to plant-based alternatives.

About 14 percent of US consumers, or 43 million people, regularly use plant-based alternatives to traditional foods, such as almond milk, tofu and veggie burgers, according to research firm NPD Group.

Of those, 86 percent don't consider themselves vegan or vegetarian.

Other big chains are trying their hand at faux animal proteins, too.

In April, White Castle introduced a plant-based equivalent of its Cheese Slider, made with Impossible Foods plant-based meat.

It's for sale in the New York, New Jersey and greater Chicago areas, but the burger chain said it could be available nationally later on.

And late last year, Mc-

Donald's added its faux beef burger, called the McVegan, to menus in Sweden and Finland.

In February, Ikea announced it would start selling vegetarian hot dogs in Malmo, Sweden, with plans to bring them to the rest of Europe in August and the US in 2019.

In 2015, the company added a vegan equivalent of its iconic meatballs to its menu.

Orlando-based global restaurant consultant Aaron Allen predicts large restaurant companies will increasingly unveil more vegetarian options, like KFC's.

"How sharply has vegetarianism increased in the US?" he said.

"Double and triple digits.

"We're talking about millions of people dramatically changing their diets.

"Chains will take note of that and change their menu offerings."

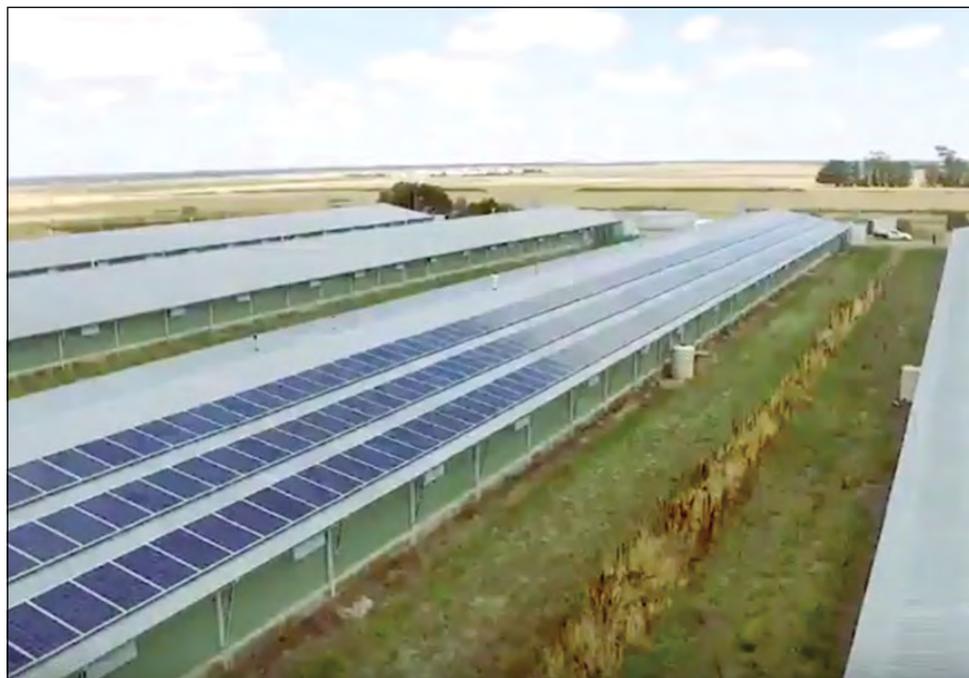
Originally published at usatoday.com



TOUCHING LIVES IN AUSTRALIA FOR THE PAST

25 YEARS

Improving feed stability, safety and performance



RFM Poultry invests in solar energy for Victorian farms

RURAL Funds Management, as responsible entity for the contract chicken growing business RFM Poultry, is pleased to announce it has completed a solar installation program on the four Victorian farms it operates.

The installation of solar infrastructure was a response to rising energy costs and to improve environmental sustainability.

The project continues the increased use of solar energy on farms managed by RFM.

The farms, located at Lethbridge near Geelong, are owned by the RFM-managed Rural Funds Group.

Each farm has five poultry sheds, with about

3000sq m floor area per shed.

The Lethbridge operations contract grow chickens for Victoria's largest chicken processor, Turi Foods.

Turi Foods supplies chickens to major and independent supermarkets and well-known quick-service restaurants.

Completed in December 2017, 100kW solar systems have been installed on each of the four farms, with the total cost of the installation about \$400,000.

The investment is forecast to generate a competitive return, with a portion of the benefits shared with Turi Foods.

The solar infrastructure across the four farms is

expected to generate 508,000kWh of electricity per annum, with roughly 400,000kWh consumed by the farms and a further 108,000kWh exported to the energy grid.

Much of the energy used on-farm is to maintain bird comfort within the sheds, with electricity used for cooling in the hotter months.

RFM engaged the services of solar installation provider Solar Professionals, based at Wagga Wagga in regional NSW, to install the systems.

RFM is also working with Solar Professionals to investigate renewable energy options on its NSW almond farms, including solar-powered irrigation pumps.

A number of RFF's cattle properties already have solar infrastructure contributing to on-farm energy supply.

RFM chief operating officer Stuart Waight said the project was undertaken both as a response to rising energy costs and in order to improve environmental sustainability.

"In recent years RFM Poultry has observed rapidly rising electricity costs," he said.

"RFM undertook investigations into a range of energy options and this included looking at renewable energy."

"Ongoing improvements to solar technology, potential savings and revenue from grid feed-in tariffs and more certainty sur-

rounding government policy and incentives led RFM to select solar as the most suitable option."

As part of the installation program, RFM has access to a digital dashboard linked to the solar panels.

"The dashboard assists RFM to monitor the production and consumption of the solar energy in real time from RFM's corporate office in Canberra, assisting us to maximise the performance of the system," Mr Waight said.

According to Solar Professionals managing director Andrew Meurant, the installation was a significant project that will help RFM improve sustainability on the farms.

"The huge rooftop PV array designed and delivered by Solar Professionals at RFM's Lethbridge facility consists of 1440 275W Trina solar panels and 16 25kW SMA inverters," Mr Meurant said.

"With a combined capacity of 396kW and an average yearly electricity generation capacity of over 500,000kWh, the solar system will contribute about a third of the annual power needs of the poultry farms.

"RFM should be commended for a common-sense approach to the financial and environmental benefits of solar energy and Solar Professionals was pleased to assist in achieving the objectives."

About RFM Poultry

RFP is one of Australia's largest contract chicken growers, producing about 30 million chickens every year.

The chicken growing facilities that RFP operates are situated in Griffith, NSW and Lethbridge, Victoria.

These facilities are leased from the Rural Funds Group, a listed entity that owns a suite of agricultural assets including poultry farms, almond orchards, vineyards, macadamia orchards, cattle and cotton assets.

All chicken production is backed by long-term grower contracts with two large processors.

RFM is the responsible entity of RFP.



Mr Ric Clark with mentee Ms Mary Retallack.

Pledge to support women in ag take on leadership roles

IN what has been described as a 'watershed moment', 11 leading agricultural bodies have pledged to ensure more women take on leadership roles within their organisations.

AgriFutures Australia and 10 other leading bodies within the agricultural sector have pledged a commitment to support women in agriculture develop their leadership skills and take on positions of influence.

The pledges are part of



the Diversity in Agriculture Leadership Program, led by the National Farmers' Federation.

NFF president Fiona Simson said it's a watershed moment for agriculture.

"It is an extremely powerful message delivered

by these leading bodies within our industry," she said.

"Government, agribusiness and farm representation bodies have made it clear: no longer are positions of influence and leadership in agriculture only the domain of men."

The pledges deliver powerful messages and can be found on the Australian Farmers website. **AgriFutures Australia's pledge**

Currently at AgriFutures Australia:

- 42 percent of Board members are women;
- 50 percent of leadership team are women; and
- 30 percent of AgriFutures' Advisory Panel members are women.

The AgriFutures pledge is to support women in agriculture develop their leadership skills, experience and confidence and to work with industry partners to facilitate their smooth transition into leadership roles including membership on AgriFutures Australia Advisory Panels.

AgriFutures Australia managing director John Harvey said the organi-

sation is committed to improving gender diversity and said this goes beyond encouraging flexible working arrangements and building awareness about the issue.

"We are taking practical steps to ensure more women take on leadership roles and positions of influence," he said.

"The Diversity in Agriculture Leadership Program is an excellent practical step and we are proud to be involved as partners.

"Eight inspiring female leaders have been matched with mentors who will discuss their leadership goals and help guide them on their leadership journey."

One of the mentors is AgriFutures Australia Board member Mr Ric Clark.

He has been matched with mentee Ms Mary Retallack who is a viticulturist and the managing director of Retallack Viticulture.

"The agricultural sector has a wealth of untapped talent and I'm honoured to be able to contribute to making meaningful

change towards increasing gender diversity," Mr Clark said.

"It was a privilege to meet the eight women selected as mentees and to spend the day with them at Parliament House, celebrating the official launch of the program.

"All the mentees are highly accomplished leaders in the agricultural sector and I look forward to helping my mentee take these skills to the next level."

Mary Retallack, who was also the 2012 Rural Women's Award winner, said she is looking forward to working with Mr Clark in the one-on-one mentoring program.

"I am looking forward to working with Ric throughout the mentoring program to reflect, set goals, fine-tune my skills and identify leadership opportunities in agribusiness, advocacy, philanthropy, science and international development," she said.

"It is a tailored professional development opportunity, and the next exciting step in my career."

Partners involved in the Diversity in Agriculture Leadership Program have committed to continually measure their progress towards increased gender diversity.

www.agrifutures.com.au



CCD
animal health

Your partners in intensive animal production

- ✓ Animal Health Products
- ✓ Pest Control
- ✓ Litter Beetle Sprays

- ✓ Biosecurity & Farm Hygiene
- ✓ Supplements
- ✓ Fast service delivery



Exclusive Australian Distributors for Dox-AI Italy
- Leaders in dustless BMP technology

CUSTOMER SERVICE & ORDERS
1300 791 009
ccdsales@ccdanimalhealth.com.au

Aussie Muck-off



QCA offers no bright spark for agriculture

THE Queensland Competition Authority released its final determination on 2018-19 regulated retail electricity prices for regional Queensland recently, again ignoring farmers and other regional businesses on transitional and obsolete tariffs by not recommending network electricity price savings be passed on.

Queensland Farmers' Federation president Stuart Armitage said while there was some good news for regional households who would see typical bills fall by 1.3 percent, and small businesses on tariff 20 who will see a 3.4 percent drop, there was no relief for farming businesses on transitional and obsolete tariffs.

"While the reductions

for regional households and some small businesses are good news, they hardly roll back the increases from last year, let alone offer any real price relief," Mr Armitage said.

"And it is very disappointing that the QCA has maintained the 2017-18 price levels for transitional and obsolete tariffs, the tariffs that many farming businesses are still on, despite QCA acknowledging that Ergon's network charges and generation costs are declining."

"Irrigation electricity tariffs in Queensland have risen a minimum of 136 percent over the past decade, and for some more than 200 percent, while CPI has increased by just 24 percent over the same period.

"Yet today, we did not even see a 1 percent relief in irrigation and some business tariffs."

Many regional customers face further bill increases in excess of 50 percent when they are forced on to standard tariffs mid-2020.

"Last year there were 698 small business disconnections by Ergon Retail – a substantial increase on the 384 disconnections recorded in 2015-16," Mr Armitage said.

"This year, we have seen over 200 more small regional business disconnections – a major contributor to this decline has been the high cost of electricity.

"Downward pressure on electricity prices must be across the board."

A NEW high-pressure wash-down rig has been developed by Aussie Pumps.

Combining both high pressure and high flow, the new Aussie Pumps machine sets records in cleaning times for livestock waste wash-down.

The product was developed in collaboration with a shed cleaning contractor, Hunter Valley-based Pro Wash Poultry Service.

The Aussie Muck-off is designed for cleaning feedlots, piggeries, sale yards and chicken sheds.

The heart of the system is a Kappa 150, Udor four-diaphragm pump.

It produces a whopping 150l/pm flow combined with a maximum pressure of 50 bar (725psi).

The power is delivered to the pump through an integrated six to one reduction box driven by a Honda 20hp industrial petrol engine.

Aussie Pumps product manager Brad Farrugia said cleaning contractors love the big pump because of its reliability.

"It makes a hard job easier and less time consuming," he said.

The big positive-displacement pump self-primers and can draw water from a vehicle-mounted tank or stationary reservoir.

"We recommend the pump be mounted close to a source from which it can draw adequate water flow," Farrugia said.

"With the pump's huge flow it can empty a 1000-litre tank in seven and a half minutes."

The big Aussie machine plays a vital role in minimising the time it takes to clean and sanitise.

Aussie Pumps estimates a 50,000-bird shed can be cleaned and sanitised within three to four hours.

Stock crates could also be cleaned effectively because of the machine's big flow at high pressure.

An added bonus is its multiple-gun operation.

"150 litres a minute at 50 bar is a lot of water for one person to hang onto," Farrugia said.

"The machine can be

set up so that up to three guns can be used simultaneously, getting big jobs done fast."

"Aussie Pumps owes a big debt to Pro Wash Poultry, who provided invaluable feedback and ex-

perience in development of this equipment."

Further information on Aussie Pumps' Muck-off range is available from aussiepumps.com.au or by phone on 02 8865 3500.



Pro Wash's Michael Cooper completed another chicken shed clean-up with Aussie's spray rig.

POULTRY EQUIPMENT & PARTS SUPPLY



Thank you!

The AAS team would like to sincerely thank all who visited our stand at PIX/AMC.

It was a great success and fantastic to meet many new faces.

We are excited to work with you moving forward.

Peter Mathews



WEBSITE: WWW.AUSAGSERVICES.COM.AU PHONE: 07 3829 3242 EMAIL: PETER@AUSAGSERVICES.COM.AU

Chicken nugget/doughnut hybrid takes away \$100,000 deal on Shark Tank



The Donugs with their three different sauces. Photos: Network Ten



The business has already made \$8000 profit from two events.



The Sharks were impressed with the taste of the Donugs.

A CHICKEN nugget crossed with a doughnut is something you'd think would have happened a long time ago.

Now, Melbourne man Crag Carrick and his wife Rachel Dutton have invented it, and they picked up a \$100,000 deal on *Shark Tank* to bring it to the world.

The couple entered the show seeking \$100,000 for a 20 percent stake in their new business, Donug.

"I'm not changing the world with this product," Mr Carrick said.

"I'm giving something that's fun, it's easy to understand, people get it straight away."

While the Donug is a combination of doughnut and chicken nugget, Mr Carrick said there was nothing sweet about it.

"It's all savoury," he said.

"It's 98 percent chicken that has our unique and top-secret spice mix.

"The Donug has then got a cornflake and panko crumb and three different sauces — a cheesy dijon béchamel, a golden Japanese curry and mozzarella and a hot chilli, or you can have it just on its own."

Mr Carrick said every day he went on social media and saw some crazy new food trend coming up in Japan or LA.

"I want this to be the crazy new food trend coming out of Melbourne," he said.

RedBalloon founder Naomi Simson was impressed, saying she "wouldn't eat a chicken nugget" but would "definitely eat that".

"People are looking for a full meal, and I think it is a whole meal," she said. "It's quite substantial."

While the Sharks were impressed with the taste, they were more impressed with the numbers.

Donugs sell for \$9 but cost \$2.20 to make, with that figure to rise to \$4 at the manufacturing stage.

Mr Carrick said he had only done two events so far but had already made \$8000 in profit.

He wanted the investment to "take it to the next level".

"I want to go to the manufacturing stage," he said.

"I've been working with a manufacturer so far trying to get a prototype together."

"\$100,000 basically kickstarts the process."

"\$50,000 gets me my first 10,000 Donugs made, \$40,000 is for a

proper event setup, and \$10,000 is for insurance and branding."

Internet entrepreneur Steve Baxter loved the taste but had concerns about the viability of the business, saying it was a "very uncomplicated product".

"You mince up some chicken, throw some spice in, shape it," he said.

Investor Andrew Banks also wasn't convinced.

"I'm sitting here asking myself, is it a franchise?" he said.

"Is it partly frozen cooked at home?"

"The execution risk is huge."

"There's a million moving parts to get this from being a nice brand to something that's a really big business."

"I wish you well, but I'm out."

Greencross founder Glen Richards said he had

moved into the "wellness space" with his food investments.

"If you'd come on with a vegan, paleo, organic, nut-free, sugar-free, savoury snack, I'd probably go with you," he said.

Boost Juice founder Janine Allis said while she thought they were "onto something", they hadn't "proven their tenacity", asking them to "please come back next year".

But to everyone's surprise, Naomi circled in.

"I don't think you need to come back next year because I'm about to make you an offer," she said, countering with \$100,000 for 25 percent of the business.

The couple happily accepted.

"It's about getting Donugs sold here at every sporting ground, every servo, every fish-and-chip shop," Mr Carrick said.



Naomi Simson swooped in with a \$100,000 investment.

NATIONAL Poultry NEWSPAPER



Know someone who would be interested in this newspaper?

Visit our website to add them to the posted hard copy or digital flipbook mailing list for FREE!

www.poultrynews.com.au

Farmers call for agriculture to be at the heart of EU-Australia bilateral

THE National Farmers' Federation has welcomed the official start of negotiations towards a free trade agreement with the European Union, as announced by Trade Minister Steve Ciobo recently.

NFF president Fiona Simson congratulated Minister Ciobo and the Government and urged the minister to ensure agriculture was at the heart of a bilateral with the trading bloc.

"Enhanced trading conditions with the EU represent a significant opportunity for Australian farmers," Ms Simson said.

"A comprehensive and high-quality agreement could substantially improve market access for Australian agricultural products such as red meat (beef, sheepmeat and goatmeat), dairy, horticulture, grains and oilseeds, sugar, cotton, rice and wool."

Ms Simson, who led a delegation of farm sector representatives on a trade mission to the region in January, said a bilateral trade agreement with the EU would be another 'string in the bow' of

Australian farmers' marketing options. "The EU is a niche, premium market for Australian agriculture," she said.

"Our high-quality agricultural products are ideally suited to cater for the European consumer, a consumer who is particularly concerned about food and fibre provenance, food safety, animal health and environmental sustainability."

The negotiations also signal an opportunity to explore greater collaboration and investment that would benefit the agricultural pursuits of both Europe and Australia.

Ms Simson said statistics from the Australian Bureau of Agriculture, Resource Economics and Science showed trade in agricultural goods with the EU was underdeveloped.

"In 2016-2017 Australia exported about \$3.8 billion worth of produce to the EU, while we imported agricultural goods worth more than \$4.7 billion."

"This is a significant deviation from Australia's usual agricultural trade pattern, with Aus-

tralia being a net food exporter with all other major markets.

"We have an opportunity now to increase our exports to the EU."

Ms Simson said continued improved market access with a variety of trading partners was crucial to Australian farmers.

"Australia exports about 75 percent of its agricultural produce and our farmers are among the least subsidised in the world," she said.

"The liberalisation of trade and securing preferential market access is therefore a priority for the NFF."

Ms Simson said Australian farmers were already benefitting from preferential market access achieved through recent FTAs with China, Japan and Korea.

"We're also hopeful the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership will soon be ratified and begin to deliver benefits to farmers," she said.

"Trade is good for our farmers, our regional communities and the national economy as a whole."

Faster, smarter, simpler: AustSafe's new digital claims service goes live

AUSTSAFE Super members can now make insurance claims online, fast-tracking the claims process, with a user-friendly facility that guides members through the claim process and adjusts to claimants' responses.

Powered by AustSafe Super's insurance partner CommInsure, the dynamic online claims service allows members to lodge a claim online and track its progress as it is being assessed.

AustSafe Super chief executive Craig Stevens said the new digital ser-



vice will simplify the claims process for many members and will lead to faster claims turnaround times, ultimately improving outcomes for members with insurance claims.

"AustSafe Super's 100,000 members are spread throughout rural and regional Australia – including some remote parts of the country – so

for them to be able to fast-track an insurance claim online is something we're proud to be offering," he said.

"Our members still have the option of lodging claims the traditional way... the new offering further supports our member services initiatives by providing greater flexibility and access for members wishing to

make a claim."

The digital claims service is a web-based app for income protection, total and permanent disability and terminal illness claims, and will lead to claims being received by the insurer within minutes and removing the need for paper-based forms.

CommInsure general manager for Life Product and Distribution Craig Harrison said AustSafe Super members will find lodging and managing an insurance claim so much easier with this indus-

try-leading platform.

"We involved members extensively in design and testing to make this a user-friendly facility for members to lodge a claim and then show them exactly where they are in their claim journey."

Now in its 30th year of operation, AustSafe Super is the industry super fund for rural and regional Australia and looks after more than 100,000 members with \$2.4 billion funds under management.

Visit austsafe.com.au for more information.



Robin Achari and Philip Todhunter.

Bioproperties expands technical and sales support

BIOPROPERTIES has recently appointed Robin Achari as senior technical veterinarian, complementing the appointment of Philip Todhunter as sales manager.

These positions strengthen the sales support for the Australian domestic market and international markets and are associated with Bioproperties' overall growth.

Robin is a veterinarian who graduated from the University of Queensland and has had wide experience in government, poultry health and production.

He is currently completing a PhD on inclusion body hepatitis at the University of New England.

Philip was a poultry farmer in England involved in the production of clean commercial eggs for influenza vaccine.

Best known for its innovative mycoplasma vaccines, Bioproperties is expanding its poultry vaccine range in Australia with vaccines for ILT and broiler coccidiosis control.

Recent success in salmonella control with its live vaccine in breeders and layers has also generated more demand for support.

Bioproperties' partnership with the Australian poultry industries is valued and has made it possible to sell its vaccines internationally (which made it possible to be financially viable to manufacture in Australia).

Bioproperties keeps 12 months of vaccine in stock for the Australian market at all times.

For further information, contact Chris Morrow at Bioproperties on 03 9876 0567.



Debbie Harry the chicken used the prosthetics that West Michigan Aviation Academy students printed for her.

US students design 3-D printed feet for chicken

RACHAEL Diepstra named her chicken after a rocker.

"Debbie Harry – she's named after Blondie," she said.

Debbie Harry's name isn't the only thing that sets her apart from other chickens.

She also has no feet after she lost them to frostbite last winter, when Diepstra found her frozen to the floor.

After reading about a duck and a rooster who were able to be fitted with prosthetic feet, Diepstra posted on Facebook looking for someone with a 3-D printer.

That's how the students at the West Michigan Aviation Academy in Grand Rapids, US got involved.

It turned out to be quite the undertaking.

"You can't go on a website and go, 'Hey, let's print this off'," 11th-grader James Brouckman said.

"Some of that stuff you think of as a school project or an easy A.

"You can't do that." So he and his classmates started with the basics.

"We went in and took a couple of preliminary measurements with calipers and then we were like, we're going to 3-D

print it with the things we have here at the school," Brouckman said.

Recent graduate Payton Ward, who also worked on the project, said, "What we do is design 3-D models on design software SolidWorks and email them to a computer."

Engineering teacher Andrew Abissi said creating a set of prosthetic legs for Debbie taught his students about the design process and biomedical engineering – as well as giving them a big lesson in trial and error.

"This project has been a semester long and a lot of

error going into it, so the fact that they were able to continue to work hard has been a tremendous experience and learning opportunity," Abissi said.

A West Michigan Aviation Academy student and teacher put prosthetic feet on Debbie Harry the chicken.

The students' first design was essentially large chicken feet.

But those didn't work so well, so they moved on to a sled-like design.

The model Debbie uses now is among about 30 the students have tried, and it has produced the

best results so far.

They're still working on improvements.

"I think we'll use (the prosthetics) mostly for winter when it's cold and to help her roost at night," Diepstra said.

"They like to be up off the ground at night."

With or without the fake feet, Debbie can still cross the road – or go wherever else she wants to go.

"Really, she runs around the yard just like this," Diepstra said.

"Like no problem, she can full-out sprint."

Originally published at woodtv.com



A West Michigan Aviation Academy student and teacher put prosthetic feet on Debbie Harry the chicken.



Debbie Harry the chicken lost her feet to frostbite.

NATIONAL
FEED SOLUTIONS Pty Ltd

For all your livestock needs

Provides high quality products,
Delivered on time,
At competitive pricing,
Supported by the best

available technical service in
animal and livestock nutrition.

Ph: 02 9609 7922
Fax: 02 9609 7923

Kym 0439 066 054
kym@nationalfeedsolutions.com.au

Luke 0439 066 006
luke@nationalfeedsolutions.com.au

Bill 0499 009 293
bill@nationalfeedsolutions.com.au

Suppliers of Elite nutrition and solutions

www.nationalfeedsolutions.com.au

Here's my Card

THIS is a quick and easy way to locate the right people for any number of specialist services and facilities in the poultry industry.
Whatever the job you need to accomplish, here's a group of business cards that guarantee you the best available.



Lawrie Coutts
 Technical Service Manager – VIC
 0475 802 675
 lawriecoutts@specialisedbreeders.com.au



Tim Smith
 Technical Service Manager – NSW
 0407 104 185
 timsmith@specialisedbreeders.com.au



Jonathan Leslie
 National Sales and Marketing Manager
 0459 893 518
 jonathanleslie@specialisedbreeders.com.au



Dieter Karlin
 Technical Service Manager – QLD/WA
 0418 131 119
 dieterkarlin@specialisedbreeders.com.au



Regional Sales Representatives

Damien Kelly (Vic) Tel: 0448 273 114
Graeme Hinchcliffe (Vic) Tel: 0417 700 666
Michael Pretorius (NSW) Tel: 0409 600 377
Shane Nicholson (Qld) Tel: 0427 200 262
Tina Grech (SA) Tel: 0407 608 179
Michael Pritchard MTB - Biosecurity Tel: 0407 764 850
1800 649 231
 Altech Lienert Australia
 8 Roseworthy Rd, Roseworthy 5371, South Australia

alltechlienert.com.au



Patarker Pty Ltd
 Distributors in NSW to the poultry, dairy and pig industries
Michael Bigeni BCom, BAppFinn
 Customer Service
 8 Robertson Place,
 Jamisontown NSW 2750 Australia
 Phone: 02 4732 5520 Facsimile: 02 4732 5275
 Mobile: 0410 663 005 Email: michael@patarker.com.au

REDUCE YOUR ENERGY COSTS WITH ...

- Fan covers
- Door covers
- Brooder/air control curtains
- Thermal & blockout blinds
- Poultry shade sails
- Cool cell covers

POLYTEX
 TARPULINS

Phone 1300 059 003
 Email info@polytex.net.au
 Web www.polytex.net.au



Suppliers of Elite nutrition and solutions
NATIONAL FEED SOLUTIONS Pty Ltd

Kym Miller Mobile: 0439 066 054
Luke Steinborner Mobile: 0439 066 006
Bill Steinborner Mobile: 0499 009 293

Phone: 02 9609 7922
 Fax: 02 9609 7923
 admin@nationalfeedsolutions.com.au
 www.nationalfeedsolutions.com.au
 PO Box 6370 Wetherill Park BC NSW 2164



The industry super fund for rural and regional Australia
 Proudly supporting the poultry industry
 austsafe.com.au



Wayne Bradshaw
 Managing Director
 Australia & New Zealand
 T +61 (0) 7 4630 1500
 M +61 (0) 429 301 500
 wbradshaw@jefo.com
 www.jefo.com



Luigi Di Clemente

FarmMark Pty Ltd
 2/67 Colebard St West, Acacia Ridge QLD 4110
 Phone: 07 3274 6372 Mobile: 0412 934 892 Fax: 07 3277 8813
 Email: luigi@farmmark.com.au
 Website: www.farmmark.com.au



Advertise your business card here
 call 07 3286 1833

Now available in colour, great value at \$274 + GST for 4 months

poultrynews.com.au • ben@poultrynews.com.au



Steven Clohesy
 REGIONAL MANAGER
 Mobile: 0427 733 141
 Email: steven@stockyardindustries.com

54 King Street, Clifton
 Queensland, Australia 4361
 Telephone: 07 4697 3344
 Facsimile: 07 4697 3532

Better outcomes through advanced systems

Mark Hawes
 BScNano(Hons), MBA
 National Sales Manager
 Bulk Storage Division



12 Keith Campbell Court
 Scoresby Vic 3179
 +61 (03) 9702 4855
 Facsimile: (03) 9702 4865
 0447 852 211
 mhawes@lgpm.com.au

www.mightybulk.com.au

Peter Mathews
 Director
 0408 260 406
 peter@ausagservices.com.au



AAS
 AUSTRALASIAN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES PTY LTD
 18 Lennox Street
 Redland Bay, QLD 4165
 Australia
 P: 07 3829 3242
 F: 07 3829 1906
 www.ausagservices.com.au



TRESIDDER
 INSURANCE BROKERS

Luke Chrzanowski
 Associate Director
 0432 594 805
 luke@tresidders.com.au
 T + 61 3 9021 7703
 F + 61 3 9021 7701
 2/74 Gheringhap Street
 Geelong VIC 3220
 PO Box 1852
 Geelong Vic 3220
 www.tresidders.com.au



TRESIDDER
 INSURANCE BROKERS

Brad Tresidder
 Managing Director
 0488 282 424
 brad@tresidders.com.au
 T + 61 3 9021 7707
 F + 61 3 9021 7701
 2/74 Gheringhap Street
 Geelong VIC 3220
 PO Box 1852
 Geelong Vic 3220
 www.tresidders.com.au

PASQUALI WALKING TRACTORS



PETROL 4.8 to 11.7hp
DIESEL 10 to 12.2hp
 Available with
 Power Harrow or Rotary Tiller

For further information contact Darren on 0409 130 667

VIN ROWE FARM MACHINERY
 3 Endeavour Street, Warragul
 Victoria. Phone 1300 880 056



RON SANDAY
 Owner & Operator

0404 489 573
 40 Glenning Rd
 Ron@RDGSanday.com
 Glenning Valley, NSW, 2261

RDGSanday.com

Please send bills and invoices to invoices@rdgsanday.com



Garry Grant
 General Manager

T - (02) 9898 1800
 M - 0410 529 852
 E - ggrant@hydroinnovations.com.au

HydroInnovations.com.au

Five steps to move your animals' nutrition at the pace of genetics.



Issue
Assessment



Report



Formulation



Recommendation



Measurement

Both genetics and management practices have been rapidly advancing in agriculture over the past 10 years.

But has practical nutrition kept pace?

Has nutrition been focused on only meeting the nutritional requirements of the animal?

The Blueprint® Nutrition Program is that next step in nutritional evolution.

Blueprint

NUTRITION PROGRAM

FORMULATED WITH
Alltech®
SOLUTIONS

Alltech® LIENERT

Alltech Lienert Australia
8 Roseworthy Rd | Roseworthy 5371 | SA | Australia

Tel: 1 800 649 231

alltechaustralia@alltech.com

alltechlienert.com.au  Alltech Lienert



The Stockyard Industries team after a solid day on the stand.



Lawrie Coutts, Dieter Karlin, Matt Forster and Johnathan Leslie of Specialised Breeders Australia.



Bruce Hunt and John Reeves of Zoetis.



Al Sese, Da Hall & Co Australia; Amy Scott-Branagan, Charlie Price and Casey Brown, AgriLabour.



Part of the Jefe team Jake Frecklington, Rosemarie and Wayne Bradshaw.



Katalin Byatt, Raintree Country Australia; and Judith Mathews, Australasian Agricultural Services enjoyed the exhibition.



Enjoying the samples and golf on the Santrev stand.



The extended AusPac Ingredients team.



FIAAA executive manager Noelene Davis.



Feedworks managing partner Malcolm Mottram.



Rebecca of Macrospec Electrical and Automation.



Jim and Martin Weeks of Metroid Poultry Switchboards.



Eze Systems director Peter Van Den Akker.
Page 14 – National Poultry Newspaper, June 2018



Jason Zarew and Neal Lane of Bitwise Automation Engineering.



Mauro Pericoli of Termotecnica Pericoli.
www.poultrynews.com.au



Karla Caldicott, Stuart Maidment and Louise Hornery of Achmea Australia.



Percy Ziegenfusz, Brookview Park Australia; and Bob Hansen, Poultry Consultancy Group.



The Customvac team members were hard at work at the PIX event on the Gold Coast.



Prof Julie Roberts and Geof Runge.

Lindsay Bell Australian Egg Industry Award

THE Lindsay Bell Australian Egg Industry Award was created by Lindsay's family in 2004 to recognise the outstanding contribution Lindsay Bell of Altona Hatchery, Western Australia made to the development of the modern Australian egg industry. Lindsay was deeply involved

in the egg industry as a producer, serving on many committees and lobbying government to achieve recognition and improve the operating environment of the industry.

It is awarded to people who have done outstanding work that has directly benefitted a significant section of the Australian egg industry and indirectly the whole industry

and is a way of recognising industry leadership and achievement.

In addition, an award is presented to the award winner's family partner to recognise the support given to the winner.

This year the recipient of the Lindsay Bell Australian Egg Industry Award was Prof Julie Roberts of the University of New England.



Johnathon Millard and David Greeves.



Kelly McTavish and David Greeves.

PIX Life Membership Award



Geof Runge accepted the award from Peter Mathews. The PIX Life Membership Award is in recognition of a minimum of 10 years continuous membership and having made a significant contribution to PIX.

Jack Houweling Award recipients

THE Poultry Information Exchange Association with the support of Darwalla Milling and the Houweling family instigated the Jack Houweling Achievers Award in 2010 following Jack's untimely passing in 2008.

The award recognises an achiever in the farming sector of the chicken meat industry.

This year the Jack Houweling Award was presented to two

recipients: Johnathon Millard and Kelly McTavish.

The recipients of the award are provided with a two-week overseas study tour to investigate selected aspects of the livestock farming section of the chicken meat industry.

Financial support up to \$10,000 is provided for the study tour.

Jack was a long-time employee of Darwalla Poultry, a large

chicken meat growing company based at Mount Cotton, Queensland.

Here Jack took an active role in training and nurturing those working in his area of responsibility and in developing an industry training program for farm staff.

Jack was also very active in organisations associated with the industry, particularly PIX.

More PIX/AMC highlights next month!

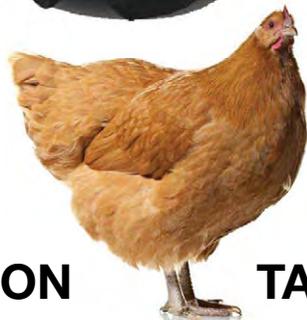


Walking Tractor and Implements

PETROL 4.8 to 11.7hp
DIESEL 10 to 12.2hp



Available with
Power Harrow or
Rotary Tiller



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

TALK TO DARREN ON 0409 130 667



VIN ROWE

FARM MACHINERY

3 Endeavour Street, Warragul. Vic 3820

Phone 1300 880 056