



**Northern Beef
Research Update
Conference**

Bush to bright lights

19–22 August 2019
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

North Australia
Beef Research Council

PROGRAM

MONDAY, 19 August 2019

4.30pm – 8.00pm	Conference Registration Boulevard Auditorium Foyer, Boulevard Level, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC), South Brisbane
6.30pm – 8.00pm	Welcome Reception <i>Official welcome from Jason Strong, Managing Director, Meat & Livestock Australia</i> Boulevard Auditorium Foyer, BCEC

TUESDAY, 20 August 2019

7.00am	Conference Registration Boulevard Auditorium Foyer, Boulevard Level, BCEC
8.00am	Boulevard Auditorium Welcome <i>Andrew Gray, Chair NBRUC Organising Committee</i> Conference Opening <i>Hon. Mark Furner MP Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries</i>

Session 1 – Boulevard Auditorium - Northern Beef Industry	
Chair – Ed Charmley	
8.25am	Keynote An international perspective for managing calf mortality - Using technology to help quantify calf loss <i>Dr Raoul Boughton, Institute of Food and Agricultural Services, University of Florida</i>
9.10am	Putting more “value” into the value chain for northern production systems <i>Mick Crowley, Meat & Livestock Australia</i>
9.35am	The RDE&A for the northern beef industry – feast or famine <i>Bob Karfs, DAF</i>
10.00am	Morning tea – Boulevard Auditorium Foyer
Session 2 – Boulevard Auditorium - Our northern production systems	
Chair – Andrew Ash	
10:30am	What can we learn from producer experiences? 1. Michael Lyons (Wambiana Station Qld) 2. Jay Mohr-Bell 3. Kevin Bell (Pardoo Station WA) - <i>Grazed irrigated tropical pastures as a beef production system in the Pilbara</i> 4. Sam Ditchfield (Ebor Beef)
11:00am	Panel discussion <i>Ben Barrett, ANZ</i> <i>Ian McLean, Bush AgriBusiness</i> <i>Jay Mohr-Bell</i> <i>Kevin Bell, Pardoo Station WA</i> <i>Michael Lyons, Wambiana Station</i> <i>Sam Ditchfield, Ebor Beef</i>
11.45am	The impact of drought and growing resilience for beef producers <i>David Phelps, DAF</i>
12.15pm	Lunch – Boulevard Auditorium Foyer
Session 3 – Boulevard Auditorium – Adoption and extension	
Chair – Brigid Nelson	
1.00pm	Keynote Pitching beef research <i>Robert Faff, The University of Queensland</i> Top tips for students, post-graduates and career researchers to get their message across the public, peers and funding agencies with impact. Robert will give a "taster" of a hypothetical Shark Tank experience and share some pointers on how the “pitch” can be used towards achieving meaningful engagement and a lasting impression for RDE&A.

2.00pm – 3.00pm		
Concurrent session – Soapbox presentations		
<p>Boulevard Auditorium – Chair Tim Mahony</p> <p>Animal welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 The effect of insecticidal fly tags on cattle liveweight gain in the Douglas Daly region, NT, Tim Schatz, NTDPIR • 201 Do insecticidal fly tags protect against three day sickness? Tim Schatz, NTDPIR • 202 A single-shot 5-in-1 vaccination at the time of dehorning/castration and prevalence of ‘missing’ animals at future mustering events, Kieren McCosker, NTDPIR • 203 Paraboss for cattle; a new web resource to assist with the control of ticks, flies, lice and worms of cattle, Jess Morgan, DAF • 204 Impact of dehorning and wound infection on live weight gain of beef calves, Melissa Wooderson, NTDPIR • 205 Cattle tick research – realisTICK progress, Alicja Tabor, The University of Queensland <p>Nutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 206 Grazing weaners on oats: the effect of compensatory gain on productivity and profitability, Kylie Hopkins, DAF • 207 Measurements of feed efficiency in protein-deficient diets, Peter Carmona, The University of Queensland • 208 Estimating diet nitrogen use efficiency from isotopes of tail hair in cattle, Diogo Costa, The University of Queensland • 209 Supplementation effects on growth and fertility in lactating Bos indicus cows in the Katherine region, Kieren McCosker, NTDPIR • 210 Desmanthus: A tropical legume for reducing methane emissions in Northern Australian beef cattle, Bénédicte Suybeng, James Cook University 	<p>Room B1 – Chair Dionne Walsh</p> <p>Building human capability for a sustainable industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 217 The FORAGE “Pasture Growth Alert” report: assessing risks to pasture growth and pasture resilience, Grant Stone, Queensland Department of Environment and Science • 218 The role of FutureBeef in marketing and extension, Jodie Ward, DAF • 219 Proposal for consideration: Increasing adoption through campdrafting, Jane Douglas, NTDPIR <p>Agritech and smart farming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 220 Extension activities to improve technology use on farm, Eloise Moir, DAF • 222 E-Beef Smart Farming in Northern Queensland – improving pasture and business sustainability through adoption of the latest tools and technologies, Anne Alison, Southern Gulf NRM • 223 Watching the grasses grow: using UAVs and satellites to monitor rangeland species composition, Milou Dekkers, The University of Queensland • 224 FutureBeef: northern beef industry collaboration, Nicole Sallur, DAF • 225 Ceres Tag – Development of a smart ear tag for livestock, Greg Bishop-Hurley, CSIRO • 226 Assessing the potential for Automated Livestock Management Systems 4. Paddock Based Validation of Automatically Derived Dates of Birth, Lauren O’Connor, CQUniversity • 227 Understanding percentiles for climate and grazing land management decisions through story-telling animation, Grant Stone, Queensland Department of Environment and Science • 228 Calf Watch – Developing a system to remotely monitor calving and study calf 	<p>Room B3 – Chair Maree Bowen</p> <p>Presentation from Rob Dixon</p> <p>All things “P”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 233 Effective phosphorus supplementation improves profitability, Maree Bowen, DAF • 234 Risk factors of cows associated with plasma inorganic P concentration of calves at weaning, Kieren McCosker, NTDPIR • 235 The post-weaning performance of calves from cows with and without access to P during pregnancy and lactation, Kieren McCosker, NTDPIR • 236 Effect of Phosphorous supplementation on female reproductive performance in phosphorous deficient country in the NT, Tim Schatz, NTDPIR • 237 Phosphorus supplementation and female PiP levels in the VRD, NT, Tim Schatz, NTDPIR <p>Reproduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 238 Brahman and F1 Senepol x Brahman heifer performance in the NT, Tim Schatz, NTDPIR • 239 Probability of visualising a corpus luteum with ultrasound in cycling heifers, Jarud Muller, DAF • 240 Addressing vibriosis (bovine genital campylobacteriosis) diagnostics, Alicja Tabor, The University of Queensland

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 211 Progardes Desmanthus - an update, Chris Gardiner, James Cook University • 212 Shifting cattle from grazing extensive pastures to floodplain pastures in the Northern Territory: Effect on rumen microbial communities, Rosalind Gilbert, DAF <p>Genetics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 213 Accelerating genetic gain for fertility: The Northern Genomics Project, Shannon Landmark, QAAFI • 214 Introducing new genomic evaluation BLUP in Brahman, Gilbert Jeyaruban, Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit • 215 New diagnostic tools helping poll breeding for sustainable beef cattle production, Imtiaz Randhawa, The University of Queensland • 216 Genetic control of fertility traits across species: variance in heifers' age at puberty explained by women's age at menarche genes, Roy Costilla, QAAFI 	<p>loss in extensive situations in Northern Australia, Tim Schatz, NTDPIR</p> <p>Farming systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 229 Intensive rotational grazing of improved pasture in the NT – update, Tim Schatz, NTDPIR • 230 Benchmarking to improve long-term carrying capacity estimates for extensive grazing properties in Queensland, Gabrielle Penna, DAF • 231 The re-emergence of dieback in pastures across Queensland, Stuart Buck, DAF • 232 The Drought Map Sequence viewer: arranging rainfall and pasture maps for explaining drought situations, Grant Stone, Queensland Department of Environment and Science 	
3.00pm	Afternoon tea – Boulevard Auditorium Foyer		
Session 4 – Boulevard Auditorium – Funding strategies for northern Australia Chair– Peter Johnston			
3.30pm	Directing levy funds through the producer consultation process - looking back on four years <i>Irene Sobotta, MLA</i>		
4.00pm	Managing and reversing the decline in funding for on farm R&D <i>Wayne Hall, DAF</i>		
4.30pm – 5.15pm	Panel discussion Our funding challenge and opportunities hosted by <i>Lea Diffy, Advance Qld</i> <i>Wayne Hall, DAF</i> <i>Stephen Moore, The University of Queensland</i> <i>Phil Cummins, QIC/NAPCO</i> <i>Jed Matz, CRC For Developing Northern Australia</i>		
6.30pm	Conference Dinner and Awards Night Pre-dinner drinks. Recognition of Brian Burns (David Reid, DAF) Presentation of NABRC Medals. MC and entertainment by Jean Kittson Grand Ballroom, The Greek Club, 29 Edmonstone Street, South Brisbane		

WEDNESDAY, 21 August 2019

Session 5 – Poster presentations			
8.30am	Boulevard Auditorium Foyer Chair – Jill Alexander Farming systems	Room B1 Chair – Don Menzies Agritech and smart farming, and Building human capability for a sustainable industry	Room B2 Chair – Sarah Meale Nutrition, Animal welfare, and Genetics
			Room B3 Chair – Tim Schatz Reproduction and All things “P”
Session 6 – Concurrent session – On farm R&D investments			
9.25am	Boulevard Auditorium Panel discussion Moderator – Marie Vitelli Managing plant toxins and animal health across N Australia <i>Johann Schröder (MLA)</i> <i>Chris McSweeney (CSIRO)</i> <i>Mary Fletcher (QAAFI)</i> <i>Diane Ouwerkerk (DAF)</i>	Room B1 Panel discussion Moderator – Steven Bray Managing and measuring the value of the northern value chains <i>Tim Moravek (DAF)</i> <i>Phil Holmes</i> <i>Ben Barrett (ANZ)</i> <i>Mark Harrison (QUT)</i>	Room B3 Panel discussion Moderator – Peter O'Reagain Getting more from a sustainable feedbase <i>Gavin Peck (DAF)</i> <i>Kendrick Cox (DAF)</i> <i>Bron Christensen (TLN)</i> <i>Robyn Cowley (NTDPIF)</i>
10.25am	Morning tea – Boulevard Auditorium Foyer		
Session 7 – Concurrent session – Today, tomorrow, technology			
10.55am	Boulevard Auditorium Chair – Bob Shepherd Owen Keates, Hitachi Consulting	Room B1 Chair – Johann Schröder Christine Purdy, MLA	Room B3 Chair – Raoul Boughton David Johnston, AGBU
11.25am	Panel discussion The data dilemma <i>Ed Charmley (CSIRO)</i> <i>Don Menzies (CQU)</i> <i>Ben Dwyer (ACBH)</i> <i>Ben Hayes (QAAFI)</i>	Panel discussion Animal welfare for tomorrow <i>David Smith (Ceres)</i> <i>Simon Kensit (AACo)</i> <i>Dana Campbell (CSIRO)</i> <i>Alan Tilbrook (QAAFI)</i>	Panel discussion Improving breeder herd efficiency <i>Nick Sangster</i> <i>Tim Schatz (NTDPIR)</i> <i>Ian McLean (Bush AgriBusiness)</i> <i>Luis Prada e Silva (QAAFI)</i>
12.25pm	Lunch – Boulevard Auditorium Foyer		

Session 8 – Boulevard Auditorium – Getting into gear for a carbon neutral northern beef industry	
Chair – Beverley Henry	
1.25pm	CN30 R&D update and opportunities for Northern Australia <i>Doug McNicholl, MLA</i>
1.55pm	Opportunities to reduce emissions – How the ERF could assist <i>Karen King, Department of the Environment and Energy</i>
2.25pm	Emissions reduction fund <i>Geoff Murrell, Paraway</i>
3.00pm	Afternoon tea – Boulevard Auditorium Foyer
Session 9 – Boulevard Auditorium - Our industry, our R&D, our future	
Chair – Ed Charmley	
3.30pm	BeefLinks – a coordinated RD&E programme for WA beef <i>Phil Vercoe, UWA</i>
4.00pm	New blood – new guns for the north, <i>Alison Larard, DAF</i>
4.20pm	Awards and Farewells from NBRUC 2019, <i>Andrew Gray, NBRUC 2019 Conference Chair</i>
4.40pm	More from less – concluding remarks, <i>Lee Fitzpatrick, NABRC Chair</i>
6.30pm	NBRUC After Party Southbank Beer Garden, 30ba Stanley Street Plaza Theme: Viva BrisVegas!

THURSDAY, 22 August 2019

Field trip 1 – ACC Cannon Hill operations and Felons Brewery	
7.30am	Depart Brisbane Travel to ACC Operations 117 Colmslie Rd, Cannon Hill QLD
8.15am	Tea and Coffee on arrival
8.30am	Introductory to site and induction (allocate to groups)
9.00am – 11.30am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Overview of ACC Canon Hill operations and overview of production 2) Tour of processing facility and packaging options for diverse markets 3) Meat quality, food safety and the role of MSA in ensuring a quality product
12.00pm	Depart ACC Canon Hill
12.45pm	Arrive Felons Brewery New Farm
1.00pm – 3.00pm	Light lunch, beer tasting and tour of brewery
3.00pm	Participants are welcome to stay on at Felons for dinner and/or return to their accommodation independently

Field trip 2 – ACC Opal Creek feedlot and The University of Queensland, Gatton campus	
6.30am	Depart Brisbane Travel to Plainlands – light breakfast
8.30am	Toowoomba rest stop
09.45am	Arrive feedlot
10.00am	Introduction to site, induction and overview (allocate to groups)
10.30am – 12.30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Overview of feedlot and role of feedlot operations in maintaining supply into the value chain 2) Tour of site facilities, pen operations, induction, feeding, stock management and dispatch 3) Feed formulation and preparation – managing diet and environment for production gains
1.00pm	Lunch on site
2.00pm	Depart feedlot
3.30pm	Arrive UQ Gatton College <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Inspection of research facilities (Queensland Animal Science Precinct) and presentations on ongoing research 2) Darbalara visit 3) Sunset BBQ – Old Homestead building
6.00pm	Return to Brisbane (eta 8.00 pm)