

# NATIONAL

Vol 8. No. 10 October 2025 National Poultry Newspaper PO Box 162 Wynnum 4178 Phone 0450 672 553 Email ben@collins.media

## **ACMF champions poultry's** central role in Australia's food security strategy

THE Australian Chicken Meat Federation continues to play a leading role in shaping Australia's national food security agenda - working closely with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to ensure poultry's vital contribution to the nation's food security is recognised and supported.

As the peak industry body for the chicken meat sector, ACMF has consistently advocated for a coordinated whole-of-system approach to food security, emphasising the importance of key enablers to a secure supply chain, such as strong freight infrastructure,



workforce development, migration pathways and robust emergency and biosecurity preparedness.

This latest submission to DAFF builds on ACMF's sustained engagement on this vital topic, including its contributions to the House of Representatives inquiry into food security and the Jobs and Skills Australia food supply chain capacity

study, both of which supported the development of a national food security strategy.

ACMF chief executive officer Dr Mary Wu said, "Chicken meat is Australia's most consumed animal protein, and our industry is uniquely positioned to deliver affordable, sustainable and nutritious food at scale."

"We're excited to see food security elevated as a core national priority, and proud to be part of this conversa-

"With consumption forecast to reach 55kg per person per year by 2025-26, poultry is set to play an even greater

continued P2



# Farewell and thank you from outgoing PHA director

AS I prepare to step away from my role as director of Poultry Hub Australia, I find myself reflecting on what an extraordinary

journey this has been.
After more than eight and a half years in the role, I can honestly say it has been one of the greatest privileges of my ca-

When I first took on the position, I knew it would be an exciting challenge, but I could not have imagined just how rewarding the experience would

It has been an honour to lead this organisation and to work so closely with the poultry industry, and I have enjoyed every aspect of the role.



by TAMSYN CROWLEY From the outset, my

vision was to ensure PHA could be a place where research, education and training came together to deliver meaningful outcomes for industry.

Looking back, I feel proud of what we have achieved across these three core ar-

In research, we have been able to support and deliver projects

that have had real impact.

From initiatives improving bird health and welfare to advancing sustainability and biosecurity practices, the research we have fostered has not only pushed scientific boundaries but also provided producers with practical tools and knowledge.

It has been deeply satisfying to see ideas

translated into solutions that directly benefit the industry and the wider community.

In education, one of the highlights for me has been building programs that inspire young people to learn about the poultry sec-

We have created resources for schools, hosted interactive workshops and opened doors for students to connect with science and industry.

Watching students' curiosity grow and knowing we have helped open pathways to careers in agriculture and science has been one of the most rewarding parts of the

continued P2



The chicken meat industry has consistently grown at about 2.5-3 per-





## **ARE YOU PREPARED FOR SUMMER?**

WITH SUMMER LESS THAN 3 MONTHS AWAY, NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME TO GET ORGANISED.

Ensure your farm is fully stocked with essential parts to maintain peak performance throughout the season.

For more information, please call +61 (0)408 617667 or email Jonathan (jonathan@bigdutchman.com)



## POULTY NEWSPAPER

## Poultry Industry Calendar of Events

#### 2025

**OCT 4-8** – Anuga, Cologne, Germany. https://www.anuga.com/trade-fair/anuga/

OCT 6-10 – XXIII World Veterinary Poultry Association Congress, Kuching, Malaysia. https://www.wvpac2025.com/

**OCT 7-9** – International Congress on Aviculture and Animal Nutrition, Miami, Florida. https://lpncongress.com/en/

**OCT 8-10** – Poultry Asia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. http://www.poultryasiaexpo.com/

**OCT 8-10** – 13th European Symposium on Poultry Genetics, Gdansk, Poland. https://espq2025.org/

OCT 10 – World Egg Day

**OCT 15-16** – Dutch Pork & Poultry Expo, s-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands. https://www.dutchporkexpo.nl/en/

**NOV 26-28** – Poultry India, Hitec City, Hyderabad, India. https://www.poultryindia.co.in/

#### 2026

**JAN 27-29** – IPPE 2026, Atlanta, Georgia. https://www.ippexpo.org

**FEB 9-11** – APSS 2026, Sydney, Australia. https://www.apss2026.com.au

**APR 22-24** – International Conference on Poultry Intestinal Health, Istanbul, Türkiye. https://icpih.com

How to supply event details: Send all details to National Poultry Newspaper, PO Box 162, Wynnum Qld 4178, call 0450 672 553 or email design@collins.media

poultrynews.com.au **0450 672 553** 



Mary Wu at the hearing convened by the House of Representatives standing committee on agriculture's inquiry into Australia's food security.

## ACMF champions poultry's central role in Australia's food security strategy

rom P1

role in meeting Australia's growing food needs."

ACMF's submission highlights a range of strategic priorities relevant to the development of a comprehensive food security strategy.

These include the importance of cross-portfolio policy coordination, targeted in-

vestment and support for low-input and highoutput sectors such as poultry, which are strategically aligned with the strategy's key outcomes.

We also emphasise the need for enduring principles to guide food security outcomes, alongside attention to workforce development, emergency preparedness and emerging challenges such as cybersecurity.

Promoting food security has long been a core focus of AC-MF, as reflected in our initiatives – such as the chicken meat sustainability framework, the High 5 project for highly pathogenic avian influenza preparedness and the AgriFutures Chicken Meat Program RD&E

Plan 2022-2027.

We welcome the government's recognition of food security as a strategic priority and encourage efforts that complement existing industry-led programs.

This consultation has provided a valuable opportunity to demonstrate the importance of collaboration over duplication and highlights our sector's pro-

active leadership and longstanding commitment to securing Australia's food future.

The Australian Chicken Meat Federation is committed to co-designing a strategy that delivers tangible outcomes for Australia's food system and supports policy settings that enable industry growth.

ACMF

## Farewell and thank you from outgoing PHA director

from P

In training, I have seen firsthand the difference that skills development makes across the workforce.

Working with industry to provide upskilling opportunities, leadership programs and technical training has ensured the sector remains resilient and forward-looking.

Helping to build the next generation of leaders in the poultry industry has been an achievement I will always treasure.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the incredible team I have had the honour of

working alongside.

The Poultry Hub Australia team has been nothing short of amazing – committed, creative and passionate.

Every success has been a team effort, and I have been continually inspired by their drive to make a positive difference.

I am equally grateful for the strong support we have received from the University of New England.

UNE has provided a nurturing and supportive environment that has enabled us to grow, innovate and deliver for industry.

UNE has now ap-

pointed an interim director to ensure continuity, and the university has commenced the search for a new director to guide PHA into its next chapter.

I have every confidence that the organisation will continue to thrive under strong leadership.

As I look ahead, I am excited for the next challenge in my life.

While it is bittersweet to close this chapter after eight and a half years, I do so with immense pride in what we have achieved and with optimism for the future.

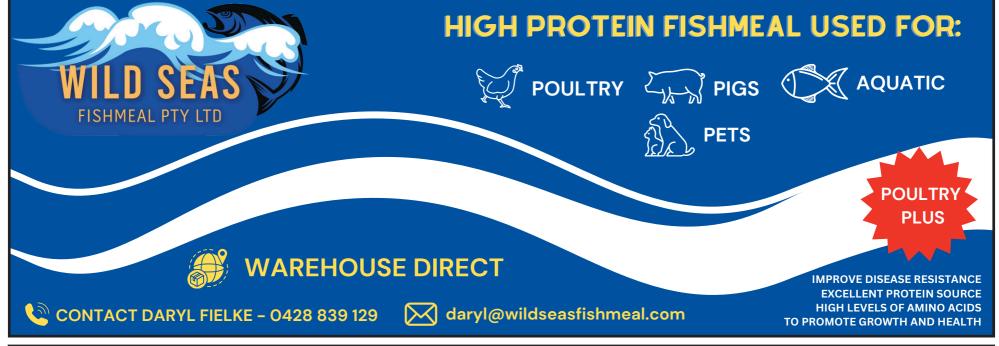
I know that Poultry Hub Australia is in a strong position, and I wish the organisation every success as it continues to serve and strengthen this vital industry.

This role has been an extraordinary privilege, one that has given me lifelong friendships, professional growth and a deep appreciation for the people who make this industry so special.

I leave with gratitude, pride and excitement for what lies ahead, and I will always carry with me the memories of this remarkable journey.



Outgoing PHA director Tamsyn Crowley.



© Collins Media Pty Ltd – Contents may not be reproduced in whole or in part without written permission from the publisher. It is the responsibility of advertisers to ensure the correctness of their claims and statements. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the publisher.

## **Our Website Has Hatched**

Visit the new specialisedbreeders.com.au



You can now find everything you need from SBA in one place.

Breed insights. Reseller contacts. Technical support.

We supply Hy-Line Brown, Lohmann Brown and now Lohmann LSL Classic day-old chicks and point-of-lay pullets across Australia.

Same commitment to quality, welfare and performance. Now with an easier way to connect.



**Explore more at:** specialisedbreeders.com.au



## Kemin workshop shares practical solutions for salmonella control

ON the eve of the Australian Eggs Roadshow, egg producers, nutritionists and poultry specialists gathered in Melbourne for the 'Let's Salmonella Talk: Control – Workshop for the Egg Industry', hosted by Kemin Animal Nutrition and Health Australia and New Zealand.

The session highlighted that salmonella control is all-encompassing, requiring attention to the environment, water, feed and hens at every stage of production.

The focus was on practical everyday actions that can make

a real difference on chaired the evening farm.

To bring a collective view on the continuum of salmonella control, Kemin engaged leading industry experts Dr Peter Groves from the University of Sydney and director of Zootechny Pty Ltd and Judy O'Keeffe from Sure Feed Nutrition, alongside expertise from Kemin's Dr David Isaac.

Together they covered vaccination, feed safety, environmental management and nutritional strategies to help build flock resilience.

Greg

Speaking at the Australian Eggs Roadshow

was Kemin Agrifoods Asia's technical sales

manager Dr David Isaac.

Heeney



Kemin's Greg Heeney chaired the recent industry event 'Let's Talk: Salmonella Control Workshop for the Egg Industry'.

and wrapped it up, bringing it all together with the services Kemin provides to

the sector. Kemin country president ANZ Trina Parker said the business sees the provision of education and partnering with customers to provide solutions as central to supporting the sector.

"At Kemin, our aim is to educate everyone working in the industry on how their everyday tasks, along with relevant control steps, can help manage this potentially devastating disease," Ms Parker said.

"With our expertise, resources and well recognised leadership in feed safety and quality, we see these events as a great opportunity to partner with industry and give back, while also giving our customers, feed mills, nutrition-

ing out." The workshop wrapped up with dinner and an open discussion, giving farmers the chance to share real-world experiences and network with peers and technical experts. Kemin

ists and farmers the

chance to connect

over a relaxed even-

## **Stop rodent-borne diseases with Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait**

RODENTS are more than a nuisance on poultry farms - they are dangerous disease carriers.

From salmonella to leptospirosis, rats and mice spread infections that put flock health, food safety and your farm's reputation at

Protecting your poultry sheds starts with effective rodent control. Why farmers choose Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait

Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait is specially designed for farm conditions:

- Irresistibly palatable high-quality grains and vegetable fats make it more attractive than competitor baits
- Proven in trials - farmers in poultry houses consistently saw higher bait consumption and faster rodent control
- Tough in farm environments - maintains integrity in hot environments, it stays fresh and effective for longer
- Versatile soft baits can be secured, such as conventional blocks in bait stations or placed directly in tight hardto-reach places where rodents live and blocks won't fit, and work on all key poultry pests

- mice, roof rats and brown rats.

How it protects your

Rodents don't just eat feed, they contaminate

Droppings, urine and hair spread disease and cause costly losses.

By using Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait, you cut off this contamination at the source.

Rodents take the bait quickly, ingest a lethal dose and infestations collapse before they spread further.

### Easy to use, fast to

Place Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait in bait stations around sheds, along runways and near entry points.

Its strong scent draws rodents in, even when feed is available, ensur-

ing fast results. Regular monitoring and replenishment keep your farm pro-

#### tected. The bottom line

Every day rodents remain on your farm, they cost you money and put your flock at

Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait gives you the confidence that you are using a rodent control solution proven in real poultry houses to stop the spread of diseases and protect your business.

For more information, visit www.desan gosse.com.au 🤝



Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait, Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority registration number 80386.

# **Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait**

Superior palatability. Superior control.

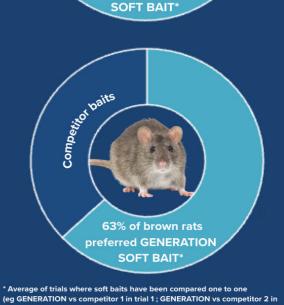
Rodents pose a major biosecurity risk in poultry facilities, transmitting harmful bacteria, viruses, and parasites. Even with thorough cleaning and disinfection, chickens remain vulnerable to infection from rodent droppings.

Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait sets a new standard in rodent control. Formulated with the latest active ingredient, Difethialone (25ppm), it delivers superior efficacy. Laboratory trial results show a clear preference from both rats and mice over competitor soft baits.

Produced with premium cereals, vegetable oils, and a unique manufacturing process, **Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait provides** exceptional palatability, driving rapid consumption and superior control.







74% of mice preferred **GENERATION** 



Generation Blue Rodenticide Soft Bait APVMA registration number: 80386 Distributed by De Sangosse Australia PTY LTD, 17/45 Huntley Street, Alexandria, NSW 2015. www.desangosse.com.au



## Mycotoxin news from dsm-firmenich •••

# Deactivate Mycotoxins Activate Performance



Powered by science to actively defend against multiple mycotoxins\*

#### Get to know the mycotoxin Zearalenone

As reported in a previous article in National Poultry Newspaper, results from the long running dsm-firmenich Global Mycotoxin Survey consistently identified that the three major mycotoxins of economic importance in poultry feedstuffs in Australia are deoxynivalenol (DON), fumonisins (FUM) and zearalenone (ZEN), with aflatoxin and ergot alkaloids making regular appearances.

Looking into data for the last three years, fumonisins were the most frequently detected mycotoxin class (64% of samples had FUM). ZEN is routinely found in about 25% of samples tested and the levels are quite variable across years with an average of contamination level of 211 ppb, which is deemed to be a significant risk for poultry, especially egg laying birds. As mentioned in previous articles, the presence of two or more mycotoxins often has a much more significant impact on the animal than the level of a single mycotoxin.

Zearalenone is commonly found in grains and protein meals, especially soybean meal. Although ZEN can affect gut heath and immunity in all birds, especially in the presence of other mycotoxins like DON, the main concern with ZEN is its effects on reproduction and fertility in developing pullets and egg laying birds, including breeders.

ZEN is known to negatively affect all aspects of follicle development and ovulation and can lead to reduced egg number, egg weight, shell strength and hatchability of fertile eggs.

ZEN has also been shown to reduce testicle size and sperm quality in males.

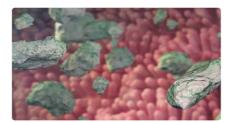
The reason that ZEN impacts reproductive performance is that, in simple terms, ZEN is chemically very similar to the female hormone oestrogen and will bind to the oestrogen binding sites in therefore inhibiting the proper action of oestrogen. As the oestrogen is not being recognised, in some cases this may cause the bird to overproduce oestrogen, leading to conditions such as polycystic ovary syndrome.

Like many of the mycotoxins, ZEN has a chemical structure that does not permit it to be easily bound by simple binders. Therefore, the most effective way of reducing the impacts of ZEN in poultry is to enzymatically cleave – in the intestine before the ZEN is absorbed – the ZEN into non-oestrogenic products. Irreversible deactivation of ZEN is achieved through the use of Mycofix® Plus. The other benefits of Mycofix® Plus are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Function of the ingredients in Mycofix® Plus.

Counteracting strategy	Mycotoxins	Mycofix Plus
Bio- transformation	Zearalenone	
	Trichothecenes	
	Fumonisins	
Bio- protection	Gut integrity	
	Immune support	
	Liver protection	
Adsorption	Aflatoxins	
	Ergot alkaloids	25
	Endotoxins	
	Adsorbable MTX	

#### How does the Mycofix<sub>®</sub> product line work?



#### Adsorption

The mineral adsorbent selectively binds adsorbable mycotoxins and endotoxins



#### **Riotransformation**

The combination of patented enzymes and biological components converts mycotoxins into non-toxic metabolites



#### Bioprotection

The plant and algal extracts support the liver, immune system and gut integrity

Contact Us casey.van-der-berg@dsm-firmenich.com or 0488 144 194

emma.bradbury@dsm-firmenich.com or 0487 268 869

dsm-firmenich •••

For more information on Mycofix Solutions, scan here:



John Urane is fighting to keep the North West Island feral fowl breed



A hardy North West Island feral fowl rooster.

# Feral fowl story of survival

WHO doesn't love a story of survival?

Especially one involving isolated animals that have survived in tough environments, adapting over time and ultimately becoming a hardy line of their particular species, and therefore - if appropriately and sensitively encouraged and sourced - may become commercially valuable.

That's why an ABC Far North story hatched and put together by reporter Chris Calcino captured my attention, and I hope it gets you in too.

In the pantheon of desert island survival stories, the North West Island feral fowl deserves its own place alongside Daniel Defoe's fictional Robinson Crusoe character, so the ABC reported.

This breed of chicken endured abandonment, starvation and near-constant predation to survive on an

Cant Comment by **BRENDON CANT** 



island with no permanent fresh water source for about a century.

Its story has captured the fascination of poultry conservationists, such as Logan in Queenslandbased John Urane, who has made it his life's mission to save the breed from extinction.

In the 1880s, a global guano boom led to the rapid development of mines as countries tapped into rich deposits of bat droppings for use as natural fertiliser.

One such operation was established on North West Island an unremarkable outcrop about 30km off the central Queensland coast.

"The birds, we believe, came to North West Island with miners that I've recently established were Japanese," Mr Urane said.

"From then, the island was not occupied until about 1924, when a turtle soup factory was established.

"That lasted for about four years and then there was no human habitation, other than visitors to the island, up until 1980 when it became a national park."

For that entire century of basic abandonment, these chooks were beset by feral cats that presumably also arrived with those early guano miners.

To make matters worse, North West Island was missing one important element for sustaining life.

The feral fowl, surprisingly, existed on this coral cay (a small sandy island formed on top of a coral reef) in the absence of permanent water.

But there's a grass that grows on the island called bird's beak grass and the birds developed a technique to harvest water off the leaves.

Cereal grains which typically make up the bulk of a chicken's diet - were non-existent.

was varied from figs (from the fig trees that grow on the island) to insects, mice, turtles that washed

Urane said. "A high protein diet, including cockroaches, but no cereal grain as such."

up or dead fish," Mr

The durability of these birds was so extraordinary that several scientists have investigated them over the years.

"Glenorchy McBride studied the birds and estimated their numbers would increase to about 1500 annually and they'd be trimmed back to about 500 individual birds by the feral cats," Mr Urane said.

"When Parks and Wildlife eventually poisoned, trapped and shot the feral cats to remove them, they recorded over 100 cats."

The only time the chooks were safe from predation was during the annual breeding migration of mutton birds to the island.

"They're much easier prey for the cats to capture, so they didn't bother feeding on feral fowl when the mutton birds were present for two or three months," Mr Urane said.

"The feral fowl could come to the ground, raise their chicks, build their numbers up.

"Only the smartest and those best able to survive the cat predation passed on their genetics to future generations."

That constant predation made these chooks very skittish operators — and it affected their behaviour in other ways too.

"I had a trio – a rooster and two hens," Mr Urane said.

"One of the hens laid eggs and she started to incubate.

"The second hen, she just went about her business until the chicks arrived and she immediately displayed the same behaviour as a broody hen – a clucky hen with a chick.

"She would call "So the birds' diet them and feed them."

something of an oddball.

"The rooster could actually imitate the hen with a clucking call to attract the chicks and he would beak-feed the chicks," Mr Urane said.

"He'd also brood the chicks at night.

"That's unheard of among other breeds but, with feral fowl, it's a family affair."

Work to clear North West Island of feral animals began when it was declared part of Capricornia National Park in 1980.

That included the wholesale slaughter of those pesky cats but it also meant the removal of chickens.

Fortunately a handful of poultry enthusiasts rescued and bred some of them in isolation from other runof-the-mill chooks.

Rare Breeds Trust of Australia poultry coordinator Susan Locke said protecting breeds such as the North West Island feral fowl from extinction was of huge scientific and historical importance.

"The North West Island feral fowl and the King Island turkey — which are both 'in-the-wild' breeds if you like — are of great scientific value for studying the characteristics of poultry in a non-controlled environment," said.

"Exhibition breeds tend to be highly selected for form and colour by breeders but these breeds respond to entirely natural environments in breeding and survival.

"Their genetics are important for biodiversity studies in environments where they effectively need to survive and adapt to natural conditions themselves."

Mr Urane is the latest in that line of custodians fighting to keep these bloodlines alive.

"I'd like to see more people dedicated to preserving the future of these birds," he said.

"Although we've established satellite flocks in Queensland, there are certainly fewer than a dozen populations.

"As long as they're not interbred with other breeds of poultry that exists.

"Once that occurs, you've basically just got a chicken," Mr Urane concluded. 🤝



**MADE IN AUSTRALIA FOR AUSTRALIAN CONDITIONS SINCE 1990** Ph: 08 8359 1588 E: sales@titanfan.com.au

### Light eliminators available in 20mm and 40mm spacing

Made to your specifications.



#### **Direct Drive EC energy efficient** tunnel fans available in 48" and 54" OR retrofit your existing 48" and 54" Titan Fans to NEW energy efficient direct drive



Variable speed

**Wall Mounted Fan** 

WM1220/1.1kW/3B/3Ph/Direct Drive

820mm



Part Number: PF8125 Height: 1380mm Width: 1380mm

Spare parts readily available

LOCALLY manufactured at Titan's factory 12-14 Kenworth Rd, Gepps Cross, South Australia 5094

ORIGINAL Stir Fan available ON/OFF 1ph/3ph



David Littleproud, Julie Collins and Michelle Landry.

## EFA celebrates World Egg Day at Parliament House

ON Thursday Sep- tance of keeping the tember 4, Egg Farmers of Australia marked its second annual celebration of World Egg Day at Parliament House in Canberra.

The final sitting week before the official World Egg Day on October 10, the event provided a unique opportunity for members of Parliament, senators and their staff to enjoy the versatility of eggs, while engaging with Australia's egg industry leaders.

The celebration showcased the central role eggs play in everyday Australian life.

Attendees treated to freshly made egg and bacon rolls and traditional Portuguese tarts, both of which proved to be crowd favour-

Adding to the festive atmosphere were Sunny Queen Farm smiley eggs, a fun and cheerful reminder of the simple joy that eggs bring to the table.

Branded merchandise was also available, ensuring guests left with a lasting impression of the industry's commitment to quality and community.

The event was more than just a culinary showcase.

It also offered a platform for meaningful conversations about the future of the egg industry in ing that Australian Australia.

EFA chair Brett Langfield, chief the industry and to executive officer the farming families Melinda Hashimoto and organisation coordinator Kylie Jackson welcomed MPs and staffers to discuss current opportunities and challenges facing egg farmers.

These discussions included topics such as sustainability, animal welfare, food security and the importance of maintaining strong supply chains to ensure Australians continue to have access to affordable nutritious eggs.

Mr Langfield highlighted the imporconversation about eggs active in Parlia-

"World Egg Day is a chance to celebrate not only the nutritional value of eggs but also the hard work of Australian egg farmers," he said.

ment House.

"Events such as this allow us to connect directly with decision-makers and showcase the contribution our industry makes to both the economy and the health of Australians.'

Ms Hashimoto emphasised the value of engaging with government representatives in an informal

"Sharing a bacon and egg roll together is a powerful way to start conversations," she said.

celebrating World Egg Day here in Parliament House, we can highlight the role eggs play in Australian households, while also reinforcing the strength, resilience and innovation of our farming community."

The enthusiastic response to the event reflected the warmth appreciation Australians feel towards eggs and those who produce them.

By hosting the celebration in Parliament House for a second consecutive year, EFA has reinforced its commitment to ensurpolicymakers remain closely connected to who work tirelessly to supply fresh eggs every day.

As guests departed, the 2025 celebration stood as another successful step in strengthening the bond between Australia's egg farmers and their elected representatives.

With World Egg Day around the corner, the message is clear - eggs continue to be a staple food, a source of joy and a vital part of Australia's agricultural future. 🦫

## **High quality wastewater pump for Junee Prime Lamb**

JUNEE Prime Lamb is one of the leading producers of premium quality lamb in Australia.

A family owned and operated business since 1997, the company specialises exclusively in prime Australian lamb and supplies its products to many parts of the world.

Junee Prime Lamb owns and operates modern lamb processing facilities on the outskirts of Junee, occupying 182,000sq m and employing nearly 300 highly trained and dedicated staff.

Its state-of-the-art production line is equipped with the latest technology, maintaining strict hygiene standards and regularly reviewing processes

to ensure the highest quality for the industry is met.

**Why Junee Prime** Lamb selected a Gorman-Rupp wastewater pump

When operations manager Scott Newton needed a wastewater pump for the facility, he sought out the best and most reliable product for the job.

Scott already had experience with Gorman Rupp self-priming pumps at another large NSW abattoir and because of the history of reliability, ease of maintenance and proven long service life even when operating in very harsh conditions he opted for Gorman Rupp pumps again in the Junee upgrade.

The team at Hy-

dro Innovations offered a Gorman-Rupp T3A60S-B 'Super T Series' self-priming solids-handling pump.

Capable of handling solids up to 63mm and also stringy materials because of its selfcleaning wear plate system.

The pump also has a lightweight inspection cover plate to allow quick access for operators to inspect pump internals or remove large pieces of debris.

Being self-priming, it could be located at surface level, up to 7.5m above the wastewater level.

#### The result

Scott has been very happy with his investment and is a firm believer that buying quality equipment provides not only tangible returns in operational efficiency but also intangible returns in peace of mind.

The Gorman-Rupp Super T Series range is available in sizes from 2" (50mm) through 10" (250mm), with flows from 3L/s through to 200L/s.

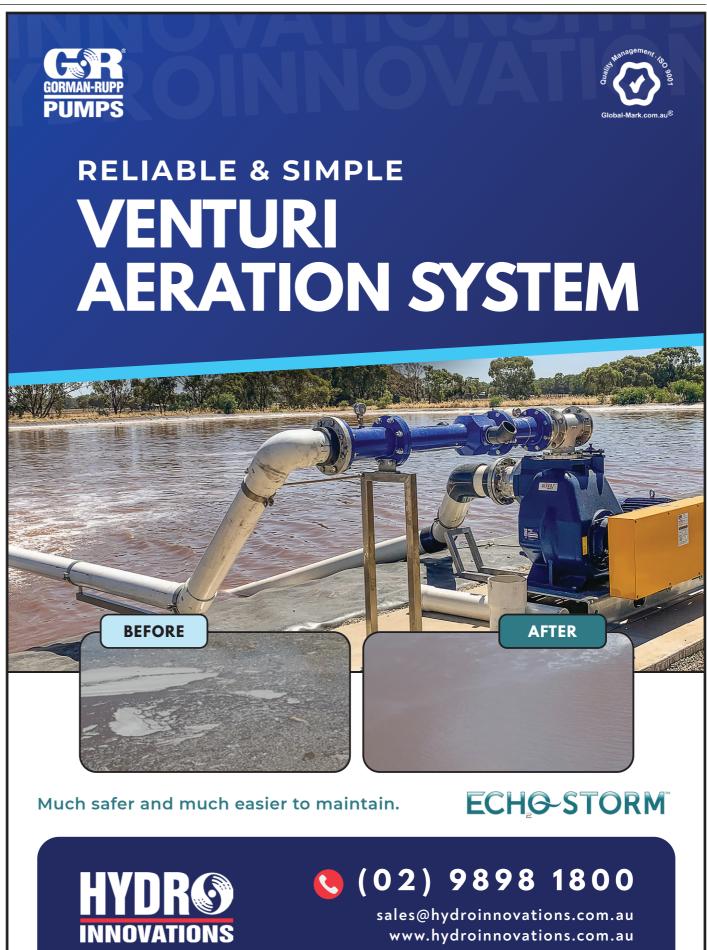
They are also available in various materials of construction to suit specific applications, such as stainless-steel

components for corrosive wastewater and hardened components for abrasive fluids.

For further information regarding the extensive range of Gorman Rupp self-priming pumps and the services that Hydro Innovations is able to offer to remedy your wastewater, sewerage, aeration and any pump issues, visit www.hydroinnova tions.com.au or phone 02 9898 1800.



The GR-T Series pump.





People are often confused when they see the salmon Faverolles male (pictured), the colours of each sex are quite different.



The Crèvecœur was imported into Australia in the nineteenth century, based on its reputation for early maturity and as a producer of fine flesh.

## French Houdan, Crèvecœur and Faverolles fowls

IN the late nineteenth century, the French had a reputation for producing some of the finest table fowls in Europe.

The French farmers who produced those birds were not interested in exhibition points, but rather focused on breeding birds that were fast maturing and produced flesh of the finest quality.

Ironically, many of the French breeds that had their origins as farmers' table fowls possess some of the more unusual feather adornments that can be found in exhibition breeds.

Though never considered a commercial proposition here in Australia, about half a dozen breeds of French origin are bred by a small number of dedicated fanciers.

Of those, three the Houdan, the Crèvecœur and the Faverolles - have a history in this country that pre-dates the 1948 embargo on importa-

Records indicate that both the Houdan and the Crèvecœur were imported during the nineteenth century, while the Faverolles was imported early in the first decade of the twentieth century.

The Faverolles breed garnered the most enduring support among fanciers in this country - having been imported for its table properties, it also gained support as an exhibition breed.

When encountered, it is easily recognised by its well-developed beard and muffling, feathered legs and five toes.

It is often claimed that the Faverolles' five toes are a legacy from the English Dorking. which is regularly cited as being one of the breeds used in its early development.

Ideally, the Faverolles has a cloddy appearance somewhat like the Dorking, though a little longer in the leg, and should grow to weights approaching those of that breed.

The principal colour variety encountered in this breed is known as the salmon, yet a range of other colours that are rarely seen are standardised.

People who are unfamiliar with the breed are often confused when they see the salmon male and the salmon female for the first time, as the colours of each sex are quite different.

The male has black beard and muffling, black breast and cherry-red back, with straw-coloured neck hackles.

other hand has a creamy-white beard and muffling, creamcoloured breast and thighs, with the remainder a wheatenbrown colour.

While the Faverolles commands a reasonable number of fanciers who are attracted to it by its stunning appearance and calm nature, it is not commonly encountered at poultry exhibitions.

The Houdan is another French breed that sports a beard and muffling, a well-developed crest and, as does the Faverolles, has five toes on each foot.

This breed almost died out here in the 1990s but was revived, largely thanks to one dedicated breeder.

Though the Houdan is standardised in two colour varieties, mottled (black with white mottles) and white, it is the mottled variety that is most frequently met with.

The Australian birds received a much-needed genetic boost after stock from the United Kingdom was imported in 2016, the breed subsequently gaining a lot more supporters than had previously been the case.

There are many recorded instances of Houdans having been imported into Aus-

The female on the tralia in the nineteenth century because of the reputation they had for producing flesh of the finest quality, yet for some reason they didn't attract enough supporters to ensure their long-term popularity.

specimens Early were also reported to be reasonably good layers of white eggs.

Like the Houdan, the Crèvecœur was imported into Australia in the nineteenth century, based on its reputation for early maturity and as a producer of fine flesh.

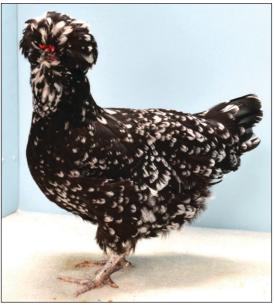
Unfortunately, the Crèvecœur either wasn't as hardy as the other breeds of the day or the stock that was imported didn't live up to expectations in the Australian climate, as the breed had become extinct here by the middle of the twentieth century.

However, new stock was imported in 2015 and the breed has been taken up by a small number of fanciers.

Like the previous two breeds, the Crèvecœur has a muffled face.

It also sports a crest that is inclined a little to the back to expose its V-shaped comb.

Two colour varieties are recognised - the black and the blue. **Grant Andrews** 



The Houdan sports a beard and muffling, a well-developed crest and has five toes on each

# Custom-designed, climate-controlled chick transport system.

## Engineered for compliance, reliability, and peace of mind.

Built in Australia for Australian conditions, the TRS Smithway is a purpose-built, climate-controlled trailer designed to safely transport live chicks. Featuring the world-renowned Smithway ventilation system, it delivers precision airflow, dual power backup and smart environmental controls to protect chick welfare and reduce livestock loss.



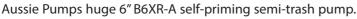
Smarter airflow. Better welfare.

1800 317 510 | Scan the QR code











## Aussie Pumps goes stainless

APART from being Australia's leading high-pressure water blaster manufacturer, Aussie Pumps is also a major supplier of pump equipment to piggeries, abattoirs and meat processing plants and even feed lots.

Its speciality is high-pressure ton pumps with a range from 2000psi to 7000psi, matched with flows from 9LPM to 125LPM.

This capability gives Aussie the ability to match pumps to applications quite precisely to the benefit of the user, the installer and even the chickens involved.

The company know that everything in a poultry farm has to work and there is no room for shortcuts.

Another area of Aussie Pumps' focus is on trash pumps, suitable for moving large amounts of wastewater. Aussie Pumps chief

engineer John Hales said, "The challenge we faced was the corrosive nature of that liquid.

Our heavy-duty castiron pumps are doing a great job, but we're also seeing corrosion and sometimes cavitaimpellers where the pumps have been incorrectly selected for the job.

"Our huge 6" pump, the big B6XR-A, does 4000LPM flow, self primes and has a front opening port to make it easy to clear a choke," Mr Hales said.

Powered by big 415V heavy-duty electric motors, these pumps have done a wonderful

Aussie is now moving to replace the old pumps that are out there already and replacing the impellers with 316 stainless steel.

"We're doing this as a gesture to the industry,' Mr Hales said.

"We'll do changeout free of charge, even though these impellers cost \$3000 each."

Aussie Pumps thinks it's the least it can do, considering the terrific support the poultry industry has given the business over the years.

"We first started working with key poultry operators and are now very close to a number of those major businesses," Mr Hales

"It's great to be of service, by working with the industry to come up with better solutions than have been available in the past."

The Aussie Pumps range also provides misting equipment and the team are now specialising in a new version of the famous 'Muck Off' enginedrive pressure cleaner that will pump 125LPM at 40 bar pressure.

"These machines break records in cleaning sheds," Mr Hales

"We can run two guns at the same time, and it all happens with our super heavy-duty turbo guns, which have the added advantage of operator control."

Aussie has come up with a new 'Pumpology' training course too, with Mr Hales also responsible for the free safety training course.

The company has thousands of people from farms all over the country where pressure cleaners are used in potentially dangerous environments.

For more information, visit www.aussie pumps.com.au or call 02 8865 3500.



Biosecurity is the poultry industry's strongest line of defence.



EFA CEO Melinda Hashimoto, Sunny Queen's Isabelle Dench and EFA organisation co-ordinator Kylie Jackson.

## **Australia's biosecurity backbone**

## ■ Our poultry industry's strongest line of defence

THE Australian poultry sector has long been recognised for its efficiency, innovation and commitment to producing safe high-quality food for consumers.

Yet as the global landscape shifts and animal health challenges evolve, one thing remains constant - biosecurity is the industry's strongest line of defence.

Recent outbreaks of high pathogenic avian influenza across several continents have underscored the reality that the poultry sector is never far from disease

For Australian farmers, who operate in one of the most highly regulated environments in the world, vigilance has never been more important.

The lessons from overseas are clear preparedness and rapid response are critical to minimising disruption and safeguarding both animal welfare and the food supply chain.

Biosecurity is not only a set of rules imposed from above, it is a daily practice.

From limiting unnecessary visitors on farms, to ensuring equipment is sanitised, to the careful movement of feed



and water – every detail

Farmers understand that lapses can have serious consequences.

That is why investment in training staff, refreshing on-farm protocols and keeping up to date with new research is so essential.

Industry leadership has also played a pivotal role in strengthening Australia's biosecurity resilience.

Egg Farmers of Australia and other key organisations continue to work closely with government departments to ensure preparedness plans are not only fit for purpose but responsive to the realities of farm

In addition, the presence of dedicated engagement officers has meant that new government staff working in animal health quickly understand the practical needs of producers and have direct lines of communication with industry representatives.

Technology is also offering new tools.

Remote monitoring systems, digital recordkeeping and even artificial intelligence are being trialled to improve early detection of disease.

While nothing can replace the eyes and experience of the farmer on the ground, these innovations add extra layers of protection and confidence.

Of course, biosecurity is not only about preventing disease from entering farms.

It is also about community trust.

Consumers want to know that the eggs they purchase are safe and responsibly produced.

By upholding the highest standards, the

poultry sector reinforces its reputation for quality and safety, which is vital for both domestic and export markets.

Looking ahead, the industry recognises that biosecurity is a shared responsibility.

Governments must continue to invest in surveillance and laboratory capacity, industry bodies must keep driving awareness and training and individual farmers must remain uncompromising in their day-to-day practices.

When all three elements come together, Australia is well positioned to withstand global disease pressures.

In many ways, biosecurity is like insurance – it is an investment we hope we never need to rely upon.

But if and when the time comes, it is the strength of that investment that will determine how quickly the industry can recover.

For poultry farmers across the country, biosecurity is not an abstract concept - it is the very foundation of their livelihoods and of the trust that consumers place in Australian





Judge Brian Bennett with national championship Poultry Young Judges

## Victoria wins prestigious national Poultry Young Judges championships

AGRICULTURAL fort that they have put showcase agricultural Shows Australia held into my showing," Mr excellence, boost the the prestigious national finals of the Poultry Young Judges competition recently, hosted by South Australian Country Shows at the Royal Adelaide Show.

The finalists, aged between 15 and 25, travelled from South Western Australia, Australia, Victoria and NSW, and were tested on their assessment of various breeds of poultry against that of championship judge Brian Bennett.

There was just one point separating the competitors after three rounds of judging.

"It is the highest quality of young judges I have ever seen at any young judging competition in Australia," Mr Bennett said.

"We are seeing clearly the best of each state."

Young poultry judge competitions are run at agricultural shows around Australia, with the best of the best making the national championships.

The results were livestreamed on the Agricultural Shows Australia Facebook

Champion Josh Hancock from Merbein in Victoria comes from four generations of agricultural show involvement.

"It feels amazing

Hancock said.

industry and shine a

light on outstanding

achievements.

"It is such an honour to be named the national champion of young judges in the poultry section."

Runner up Thomas Spencer from Muchea in Western Australia has been hooked on the show ring for 16 years, showing poultry and stud cattle at the Perth Royal Show and beyond.

"I have been lucky to compete in a number of young judging competitions and it has been an absolute pleasure being here with all of the officials and competitors," Mr Spencer said.

Third place was awarded to Bryson Lee, 16, from Maclean in NSW.

Bryson is a Year 11 student from Maclean High School with a love for agriculture shaped by life on his family's beef cattle property.

"My grandfather Peter Lee and my father Ashley Lee have both mentored me with my breeding and judging, and there are also many other poultry breeders who have helped me along the way," Mr Lee said.

Held in a different part of Australia each year, Agricultural Shows Australia chair Jacqueline Wilson-

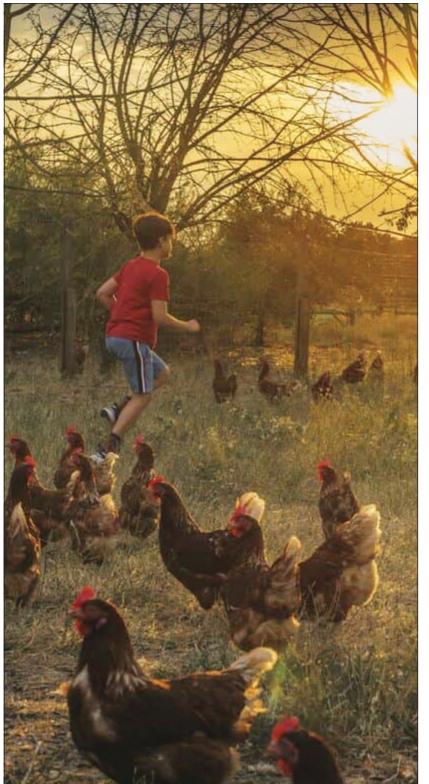
to make my parents proud after all the ef-Smith said the national championships

Runner up Thomas Spencer from WA.



Western Australian Thomas Spencer, South Australian Eddie Lock, ASA chair Jac Wilson Smith, judge Brian Bennett, winner Victorian Josh Hanock and NSW competitor Bryson Lee.





The Mear family is working toward carbon-neutral waste-free commercial poultry production.



Wood Farm houses close to 28,000 free-range hens.

# **Planet of Plenty advances** agricultural storytelling, advocacy and education

leader in animal nutrition and crop science, launched Planet of Plenty in 2019.

A business entity dedicated to scienceled storytelling, advocacy and educational initiatives that amplify agriculture's vital role in creating a sustainable future, this initiative builds on Alltech's vision of

a planet of plenty.

Uniting the agrifood community in creating a world where agriculture thrives, nutritious food is abundant and accessible, and our planet's natural resources are replenished for generations to come.

While most families had ties to agriculture just two generations ago, many people today lack firsthand exposure to how the world's food is produced.

This disconnect can lead to misconceptions and oversimplified narratives about agriculture's environmental impact, the role of farmers in creating climate solutions and the complexity of feeding a growing population while protecting natural resources.

Through powerful storytelling, advocacy and educational initiatives. Planet of Plenty aims to bridge that gap.

Alltech president and chief executive officer Dr Mark Lyons said, "Through Planet of Plenty, we can take viewers on a global journey – into fields, research labs and farming commu-

working together for nities - where they will see firsthand the intricate relationship between agriculture. the environment and food and economic security.'

Planet of Plenty will serve as a collaborative hub where those within the agri-food community and beyond can:

- Promote sciencebased storytelling
- Advocate for the world's agri-food producers
- Support educational initiatives
- Broaden the conversation about agriculture's role in shaping a more sustainable future.

Following is the Planet of Plenty story of four simple steps toward carbon-neutral poultry production.

For centuries, Wood Farm has been a mainstay of the Cambridge-Bedfordshire border in the United Kingdom.

Waresley, the quaint village where Wood Farm is located, dates back to at least 1086, when it was recorded in William the Conqueror's Domesday Book.

Charles Mear, the current custodian of the land, believes his farm was established not long after.

The Mear family's residency on Wood Farm does not date back that far, but the land has been under their care for several generations.

Charles' grandfather moved his family there in 1948.

Coming from a dairy background in Cheshire, he wanted to transition into arable farming, and where better than the relatively flat and wooded 'breadbasket of the UK'.

However, the family set out to explore one way of farming, there were many changes on the horizon.

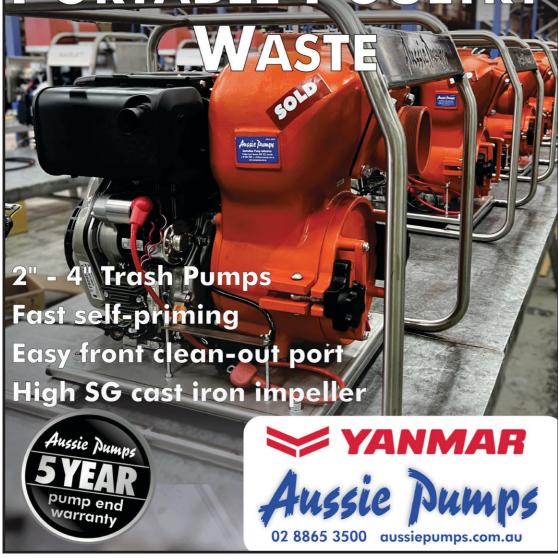
"My father, in the 1980s, started more in producing fattening pork and pigs," Charles said.

"And then in the 1990s, we had beef cattle."

After finishing school and working on the farm full time, Charles took it in yet another direction, seeing opportunity in the demand for freerange eggs.

Free-range make up nearly 12 percent of the European market.

In the UK alone, continued P13





Free-range eggs make up nearly 12% of the European market, with the U.K. packing around 130 million dozens of eggs in 2022.

## Planet of Plenty advances agricultural storytelling, advocacy and education

from P12

the market share was about 65 percent, packing around 130 million dozen eggs in 2022.

Under Charles' tenure, Wood Farm houses close to 28,000 free-range hens.

A successful freerange egg production is not the only thing that Charles and his wife Jo have implemented on Wood Farm.

Through basic changes in how they operate, the family is working toward carbon-neutral wastecommercial poultry production.

Each change contributes to a significant impact on planetary health, from the welfare of their birds and land to cleaner energy for the community.

### Giving back to

nature

Waresley is known for its woodland, which is how Wood Farm got its name.

Waresley Wood itself is famous for its bluebells.

However, these stretches of wild countryside were not always considered

something of which to be proud but something that was in the way of production success.

"When my greatgrandfather came here, the fields were much smaller," Charles said.

"There was a lot more woodland, a lot more trees.

"And during the 1960s, the government was encouraging farmers like my grandfather to rip up the trees, rip up the hedgerows, make the fields bigger, make them more productive, grow more wheat and feed the nation.

"That was the goal in the 1960s really, and probably early 1970s.

Since then, perspectives have changed and farmers now see environmental benefits of maintaining a connection with nature.

On Wood Farm, the Mear family tries to give back to the land.

This began with Charles' grandfather, who sold Waresley Wood to the Wildlife Trust.

and Jo Charles continued this tradition by replanting the hedgerows and woodland that were removed, reinstating natural wildlife habitats and creating corridors that cross through the farm.

This simple act of planting trees also helps reduce the farm's emissions by removing carbon dioxide from the air.

Local sourcing

Along with giving back to the Earth, the Mears have reassessed how they source materials from

They realised that the journey their feed supplies took to get to them was unnecessarily long.

"Originally, our food was coming from over 100 miles away," Charles said.
"And the lorries

would turn up every five days, deliver us food and then turn around and get wheat or barley from our neighbouring farmers, take it back to their base and mill it. and then bring it back to us."

This round trip had an unnecessary impact on the environment, one that the

Mears negated with one simple step building their own feed mill.

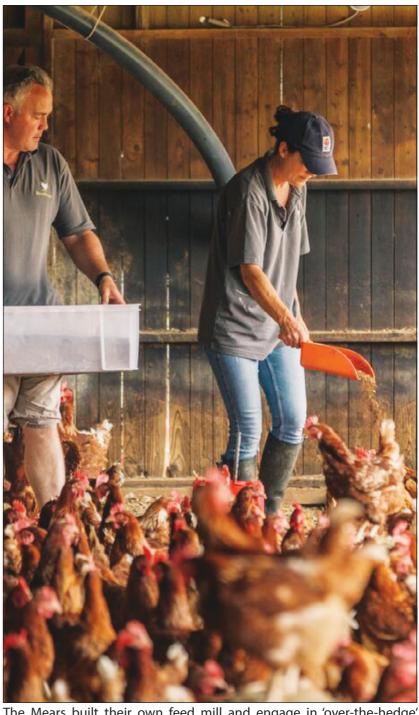
By doing this, they could cut out the middleman and engage in 'over-the-hedge' farming, where their neighbours can supply the wheat and barley that makes their poultry feed.

Keeping this process inhouse not only brings their operation closer to carbon neutrality by keeping vehicles off the road – it also saves the Mears time and money.

Another benefit of this process is that Charles knows exactly what is going into his birds' diet and can ensure that what they are being fed is of the highest quality and will keep them healthy, inside and out.

Combining homemade feed with nutritional technologies from Alltech, the Mears have been able to implement an antibiotic reduction program, enabling their birds to build their natural defences against health challenges.

continued P15



The Mears built their own feed mill and engage in 'over-the-hedge' farming, where their neighbours can supply the wheat and barley that makes their poultry feed.



## **NUTRITION SOLUTIONS TO** ENHANCE PERFORMANCE

#### **BEC Feed Solutions**

offers an unparalleled range of animal nutrition solutions, designed, sourced and blended to support our customers' needs.

We manufacture and supply nutritional premixes, feed ingredients, additives and stock feed commodities, as well as providing our customers with technical support.





# 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.



#### Associate Professor Reza Barekatain BSc, MSc, PhD

Poultry Research Foundation Level 2 Centre Faculty of Science JL Shute Building, 425 Werombi Road Brownlow Hill NSW 2570 Australia +61 2 9351 1612 +61 421 454 929 reza.barekatain@sydney.edu.au sydney.edu.au

## **Altech®** LIENERT

Regional Sales Representatives

Theo Olivier (SA) Nutritionist Tel: 0409 128 673

Winston Cheng (Qld) Tel: 0429 200 444

**Shane Nicholson (National)** Tel: 0427 200 262

Carlos Ramirez (Vic) Tel: 0448 273 114

Michael Pritchard MTB - Biosecurity Tel: 0407 764 850

1800 649 231

Alltech Lienert Australia 8 Roseworthy Rd, Roseworthy 5371, South Australia



**Advertise** your business card here

in colour, great value at

Now available

call 0450 672 553



Insurance Risk Management Consulting

2/74 Gheringhap Street Geelong, VIC 3220

PO Box 1852, Geelong, 3220

Brad.Tresidder@ajg.com.au D + 61 (0)3 9823 3754 M + 61 488 282 424 AJG.com/au



Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

Luke Chrzanowski

MIns&RiskMgt, BComm, Dip FS, NIBA QPIB

2/74 Gheringhap Street Geelong, VIC 3220

Luke.Chrzanowski@ajg.com.au D + 61 (0)3 9823 3768 M + 61 432 594 805

PO Box 1852, Geelong, 3220



Phone: 1300 815 888 (+61) 07 3281 3200 enquiries@santrev.com.au

PO Box 95, Ipswich Queensland Australia 4305 www.santrev.com

The Chicken Grower's Choice

poultrynews.com.au



Alison Leary - Technical Services Manager Mob: 0488 715 151 | aleary@lallemand.com

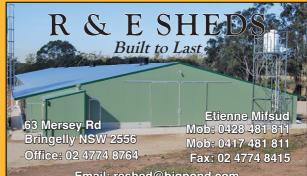
Nathan Lister - Technical Services Manager Mob: 0438 190 388 | nlister@lallemand.com

Alex Turney - Managing Director, AUS & NZ Mob: 0419 005 511 | aturney@lallemand.com

www.lallemandanimalnutrition.com



SPECIFIC FOR YOUR SUCCESS



# BC@PR

**Brendon Cant** 

T +61 8 9430 9463

M +61 417 930 536 E brendon@iinet.net.au

BCAPR Pty Ltd (ACN 159 299 966) PO Box 749 South Fremantle Western Australia 6162



**Patarker** 

Michael Bigeni Director

8 Robertson Place Jamisontown NSW 2750

P: 02 4732 5520

M: 0410 663 005

www.patarker.com.au





 Thermal & blockout blinds Poultry shade sails Cool cell covers

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



Key Account Manager Auspac Ingredients Pty.Ltd. Unit 1, 84-92 Barnes St Tamworth NSW 2340

Mobile +61 (0)408 242 141 Tel +61 2 6762 7708 Fax +61 2 6762 7709 pieter@auspacingredients.com.au



Dr. Avril Grieve 0438 352 443 Steven Black 0437 627 000 Ronnie O'Rorke 0419 648 433 0412 264 497

Zoetis Australia Pty Ltd www.zoetis.com.au



#### KEMIN (AUST.) PTY. LIMITED

694 Pacific Highway, Suites 7, Killara NSW 2071, Australia Office: +61 2 9844 5700 Website: www.kemin.com

**Greg Heeney** 

Sales Manager - Monogastric & Milling Greg.Heeney@kemin.com Mobile: + 61 456 294 643

Dr. David Isaac

Technical Sales Manager (ANZ) David.Isaac@kemin.cc Mobile: +61 455 039 478



**Trina Parker** Country President (ANZ) Trina.Parker@kemin.com Mobile: +64 274 872 524



П Storing The Nation's Grain

- 30 Bothistle Road,
- - sales@hesilos.com.au



**Craig McCann** NATIONAL KEY RELATIONSHIP

- +61 488 025 555
- c.mccann@becfeed.com.au
- Decfeed.com.au

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** 1300 884 593









Decfeed.com.au

+61 439 605 339

Ashley McAllister PRODUCT MANAGER - MONOGASTRIC

a mcallister@becfeed.com.au





#### **Ben Collins**

Managing Editor BBus DipBusMan GradDipEd

Mobile: 0439 708 602 Email: ben@collins.media

PO Box 162 Wynnum Q 4178 | Unit 14, 51 Industry PI, Wynnum Q 4178

#### **Natalie Schwerin**

AUSTRALIAN TECHNICAL & SALES MANAGER

- \_ +61 439 862 788 +61 7 3723 9856
- □ n.schwerin@becfeed.com.au
- n becfeed.com.au





SENIOR TRADER, SALES AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- \_ +61 487 442 003
- Decfeed.com.au



## **Planet of Plenty advances agricultural** storytelling, advocacy and education

from P13

The positive results of this are evident when you look at the farm's veterinary bills, or lack thereof.

"We've reduced our antibiotic usage immensely in past five years," Charles said.

"We think a lot of that's because we've been using Alltech products and making our own food."

#### Producing renewable energy

Installing an onfarm feed mill may cut down on environmental impact, but the added power needed to run the mill could be a source of further emissions.

Therefore, Charles and Jo also installed solar panels on the roof of their mill barn.

While this was the perfect solution for maintaining their carbon-neutral farming initiative, the couple considered how they could take it one step further and give back to the neighbours who provide them with their feed materials.

"Because we can't grow all our own feed, wheat and barley – which we rely on our neighbours for – we thought, well our farm is too small to do that, but it's not too small to produce all our own electricity," Charles said.

"So, we started putting in an application for an anaerobic digester in 2015."

An anaerobic digestor, as Charles puts it, is like a concrete cow stomach.

Materials fed into

the digestor - in the Mears' case, this is maize and rye silage, but can also include animal waste - are broken down by bacteria and converted into methane.

The methane is then run through a generator that turns it into electricity.

Of this electricity, Wood Farm only uses about 10 percent.

The rest is provided to local villages and helps power close to 350 houses.

Free electricity is not the only benefit of the digestor system.

Once the materials fed into the digester are broken down, the Mears are left with a digestate material.

This can then be composted to create a nutrient-rich mulch that they spread on their crops, helping them grow more materials that can be fed into the digestor.

This way, they have created a truly circular process with zero waste – just reward.

Furthermore, the excess mulch is sold to local farms and gardeners, helping diminish the overall carbon footprint of the community, while also putting money back into the pocketbook of Wood Farm. **Sourcing alternative** 

protein

Of course, finding carbon-neutral alternatives to everyday on-farm practices is not always so straightforward.

Some things require thinking outside the

One such challenge is trying to source sustainable protein.

Wood Farm is fortunate to be able to grow most of the materials it needs for its poultry feed or receive them from neighbouring farms.

However, protein is not as easily accessible.

Traditionally, this would come in the form of soy that has to travel across the Atlantic Ocean to get into the diet of the Mears' birds.

Soy is a great source of protein, but relying on it would mean that Wood Farm could never truly meet its carbon-neutral goals.

Charles and Jo are already experimenting with alternatives.

They are investigating replacing soy with more locally grown white lupins, peas and beans, while also supplementing with amino acid-rich black soldier fly larvae.

The farm began using black soldier fly larvae for chickens after being approached by the company Better Origin, a group of Cambridge University graduates whose primary goal is to reduce the consumption of soy in animal production.

Using artificial intelligence, the company uses food waste to feed and raise its larvae.

Within two weeks, the larvae can be added to animal diets as a sustainable source of protein.

Better Origin be-

ccdanimalhealth.com.au

Unit 2, 84-92 Barnes St

Tamworth NSW 2340

lieves that replacing the poultry industry's reliance on sov in this way could help avoid 117.934 metric tonnes of emissions, repurpose 145.15 metric tonnes of food waste and save 5.6ha of land from deforestation per year, while increasing poultry productivity and welfare.

For Charles, it means a carbon-neutral nowaste source of protein that he knows his birds enjoy.

"It's quite remarkable how they soon learn that you're feeding them this protein," Charles said.

"It gives them something to look forward to in the day."

Having already opened and closed many chapters - from pigs to beef to poultry, and from the removal of woodland to its slow return - Wood Farm has already lived many lives.

And by implementing these environmentally conscious changes, the Mear family is ensuring that this legacy will live on far into the future.

Scan the QR code below for the four simple steps toward carbon neutral poultry production video.



Scan for the video.

**Juan Diaz** 

0419 620 310

0437 408 96

National Key Account Manager - Poultry juan@ccdanimalhealth.com.au

National Kev Account Manager - Biosecurity

eddie@ccdanimalhealth.com.ai



The methane generated by the Mears' anaerobic digester produces electricity that helps power close to

## 350 houses

in the local community.



The farm began using black soldier fly larvae for chickens after being approached by Better Origin.



An anaerobic digestor is like a concrete cow stomach. Materials are fed into the digestor, broken down by bacteria and converted into meth-

**Ben Collins** 

Managing Editor

BBus DipBusMan GradDipEd

# 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.

**NATIONAL** Now available NEWSPAPER in colour, **Advertise** great value at your business card here call 0450 672 553

poultrynews.com.au





Mobile: 0439 708 602

Email: ben@collins.media

