

AROUND THE PENS

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ALFA DIARY

- 1 April**
2019/20 ALFA Membership
Renewal invoicing
commences
- 4 April**
AMS Webinar Part-Two
- 7 April**
Daylight savings time ends
- 19-22 April**
Easter Long Weekend
- 25 April**
ANZAC Day
- 1 May**
ALFA Annual Recognition
of Excellence Program
Launch
- 15-16 May**
MPM Program Session 2,
Sydney
- 22-23 May**
ALFA Council Meeting
- 30 June**
Last day of 2018-19 ALFA
Membership Year

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE

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NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR JUST AROUND THE CORNER

As we draw to a close on the current membership year, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your valued support via ALFA Membership during 2018-19.

ALFA operates under a direct membership model and so it is extremely important to us that we continue to fulfil our duty as the peak national body for the Australian cattle feedlot industry and deliver value to our members. ALFA's four main roles are to represent the cattle feedlot industry; responsibly direct the expenditure of the grain fed cattle transaction levy; improve the industry through standards, training, events, leadership, awards, careers development and employment facilitation; and provide a high-quality membership service to you, our members.

The current membership year will conclude on 30 June 2019. This week you will receive an invite to renew your membership for the 2019-20 membership year, which will commence on 1 July 2019. Our renewal process has started a little earlier this year, allowing members a three-month period to renew. This will help ALFA to provide an uninterrupted membership service to those choosing to renew.

If you do not receive your invitation to renew by the end of the week, please contact ALFA's Membership Manager at madeleine.hamilton@feedlots.com.au.

ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP (AMS) WEBINARS TO LAUNCH E-LEARNING MODULES

Australian lot feeders will soon have access to free online learning modules to help them develop antimicrobial stewardship plans for their feedlots.

The modules, developed by MLA in consultation with ALFA, will be launched later this month on the ALFA and MLA websites to complement the release of the Antimicrobial stewardship guidelines for the Australian cattle feedlot industry.

ALFA has already run the first part of a two-part webinar on AMS and will provide an insight into the new e-learning modules during the second webinar scheduled for this Thursday. More information on the launch and access to the e-learning platform will be provided to members later this month.

LOT FEEDING OUTLOOK: WHAT LIES AHEAD?

While growing Asian demand continues to drive investment in the lot feeding sector, uncertainty surrounding cattle and grain supply could provide a challenge in 2019.

A declining Australian dollar and expanding export opportunities have supported finished cattle prices for the last two years, while feeder cattle (a major feedlot input cost) have eased. These dynamics have helped support feedlot margins; however, elevated grain prices continue to represent a major challenge.

Looking ahead, the supply of quality feeder cattle will likely be impacted by adverse weather conditions across many production regions.

[Click here to read more.](#)

MANAGEMENT OF EFFLUENT IN LIVESTOCK SUPPLY CHAIN

The Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters' Association (ALRTA) held a workshop in Canberra on Thursday, 28 April to discuss the ongoing management of effluent in the livestock supply chain.

With representation from all aspects of the supply chain, presentations on current pre-transport guidelines, common practice and industry research, demonstrated commonality in recognising the need for establishing effective and practical control measures to minimise identified risks.

With Heavy Vehicle National Law now incorporating chain of responsibility and effluent loss seen as a breach in load restraint requirements the implications of effluent loss to those operating throughout the supply chain have increased.

In an effort to create a collaborative approach to effluent management throughout the supply chain, ALRTA are proposing the development of a Code of Practice – Managing Effluent in the Livestock Supply Chain. A steering committee to oversee the development of the Code of Practice will be developed before a draft is released for industry consultation.

ALFA will continue to engage with ALRTA to ensure that the interests of the feedlot sector are incorporated into the Code of Practice and ensure that regulatory burden can be managed and minimised appropriately.

AUTO-DELIVERY SYSTEM ON-TRACK

A prototype feed truck auto-delivery system, suitable for retrofitting on existing feed trucks in feedlots, has been developed to ensure more consistent and efficient delivery of feed into bunks.

In a joint project between MLA and Bindaree Beef Group, the technology has been developed to address productivity, staff training and safety issues in commercial feedlots.

Automation and robotics solution company Manobotix designed the technology and is now in a second phase of testing the system on a Roto-Mix feed truck at Bindaree Beef Group's Myola Feedlot at North Star, NSW.



[Watch the video](#) to the right to find out more about how the system works.

[Click here to read more.](#)

REMINDER CATTLE HEAT LOAD TOOLBOX (CHLT) END OF SEASON SURVEY

With the 2018-2019 summer coming to an end, it is hoped that CHLT has been a useful management tool to minimise the risk of heat stress.

In this regard, all CHLT registered users should have now received an email with a link to a very short end-of-season survey, consisting of only 5 questions.

It would be greatly appreciated if feedlots could please provide their feedback on CHLT by promptly completing this end-of-season survey.

If you have not received the email link, please contact the CHLT team at chlt@katestone.com.au

As with previous years, although CHLT alerts are not activated from April to September, you still have access to CHLT website throughout these months and the forecast is updated daily.

BIOSECURITY ENTITY REGISTRATION IN QUEENSLAND

Biosecurity Queensland is urging livestock, horse, poultry and beehive owners to check if they're registered to help protect their animals.

Livestock, horse, poultry and beehive owners must be registered as a biosecurity entity in Queensland. Registration helps Biosecurity Queensland quickly locate animals in a pest or disease emergency and keep owners informed.

Please find information below regarding biosecurity entity registration, why registration is important and how to check if you're registered and how to ensure your contact details are up to date.

[Click here to check if you're registered](#) - Owners and keepers of animals may already be registered either because they registered since entity registration commenced on 1 July 2016, or because they were automatically registered based on existing property identification code (PIC) details.

If you need more information about biosecurity entity registration requirements contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries on 13 25 23 or +61 7 3404 6999 from outside Queensland.

HONOURING THE LEGACY OF TREVOR SCHOORL

Following the passing of Trevor Schoorl in late 2018, Trevor's family, friends and colleagues at Lallemand Animal Nutrition wish to thank everyone for their kind words and actions. An Education Fund has been established to honour Trevor's legacy by his family, friends and colleagues to help ensure Trevor's family have a secure future.

The family's first objective is to ensure Charlie (currently in year 11) and Abigail (in first year university) continue on their education paths. The second objective is to contribute something back to the industry to which Trevor gave so much of himself, and from which he gained many personal and professional rewards. Part of this fund will support a bursary in Trevor's name to be awarded to a young person so that they too can have the opportunity to both further themselves and contribute to the forage and dairy industries. The bursary will contribute to education expenses to expand the recipient's knowledge and appreciation of the practices through which Trevor made such an impact: forage preservation, free stall dairy farming and practical dairy nutrition.

If you would like to contribute and support The Trevor Schoorl Memorial Education Fund initiative please contact madeleine.hamilton@feedlots.com.au for the fund details and these will be forwarded to you along with the formal letter from the family, friends and colleagues.

ALFA thanks its Platinum Members for their ongoing support of ALFA and the Industry

