

AROUND THE PENS

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ALFA DIARY

20 August

AUS-MEAT Industry Forum

21 August

Consultative Committee for the Australian Beef Sustainability Framework

22 August

Young Lot Feeder of the Year Award 2018 Round 2 Judging, Sydney

23 August

Young Lot Feeder of the Year Award 2018 Advocacy & Media Training, Sydney

22-23 August

ALFA Council meeting

8-10 October

BeefEx 2018 Conference



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Top 6 Young Lot Feeders named finalists in Award

Following tough competition, the Young Lot Feeder of the Year Award Independent Judging Panel has chosen the Top 6 Award entrants who will progress to the second-round judging in Sydney next week. They will also gain advocacy and media training via Meat & Livestock Australia during their time in Sydney.

Congratulations to the 6 YLFY Award Finalists:

- Ben Attewell - BRINDLEY PARK
- Fiona MacDiarmid - TERENCE VALE
- Georgia Birch - SMITHFIELD
- Molly Sage - BEEF CITY
- Ricardo Massola - MYOLA
- Shay Pratt – IRANDA

We wish all Finalists luck in the next round and look forward to announcing who will be named our Top 3 Grand Finalists in the coming month. The overall winner will be announced at BeefEx 2018.

2018/19 ALFA Membership Year

All Membership Fee Invoices & Update Forms have now been sent to each Member. The ALFA Secretariat would like to thank those who have returned their update forms with any changes. This helps us to communicate better with you and continue to deliver exceptional member services and assistance.

If you have not received your Membership Renewal Pack – please inform Madie Hamilton at ALFA on madeleine.hamilton@feedlots.com.au.

Interested in being part of a paddock-to-plate tour showcasing feedlot operations?

[Wayward Trails](#) is a farming-family owned and operated company based out of the New England area. The company was conceptualized to bring paddock to plate and showcase regional Australia by making rural Australia accessible. They've recently expanded to food and beverage trails in the Coffs, Tamworth, Armidale, Uralla and Port Macquarie regions.

Wayward Trails are interested in providing their customers a tour of a grainfed beef operation as part of their offering, as there is some interest from foodies to gain more knowledge around this food production system. If you are interested or would like more information on the Wayward Trails, please contact Deb direct at info@waywardtrails.com.au to discuss.

Grain Fed Finished Standard introduced from 1 September 2018

A new additional Grain Fed beef standard titled Grain Fed Finished (or GFF) is being introduced from 1 September 2018.

Developed by ALFA through industrywide consultation, the Grain Fed Finished Standard increases flexibility around producing Grain Fed beef whilst continuing to ensure product integrity and eating quality.

This additional minimum standard requires cattle to be produced within the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS) production system, be raised on a specific high energy ration for a minimum 35 days on feed and successfully meet Meat Standards Australia (MSA) grading requirements when processed.

To read the full Media Release, [click here](#).



Animal Welfare Officer Training - Update

The first of the workshop series kicked off in Western Australia last week to great success. Presented by Paul Cusack and Jeff House, feedback has been positive, and we are now looking forward to delivering the remaining workshops over August, September & October.

The Early Bird Rate remains open until 17 August – so make sure you register as soon as possible to take advantage of this saving.

Training Locations & Dates

- Quirindi, NSW 30 & 31 August 2018
- Condamine, QLD 4 & 5 September 2018
- Oakey, QLD 6 & 7 September 2018
- Temora, NSW 10 & 11 September 2018
- Geelong, VIC 23 & 24 October 2018
- Burra, SA 25 & 26 October 2018

The workshop is proudly supported by Zoetis & Meat and Livestock Australia.

To register or for more information on Animal Welfare Officer Training [click here](#).

Feedlot Pregnancy Diagnosis Survey

Accurately diagnosing pregnancy status is vital for managing the reproductive efficiency of live export and feedlot cattle to improve animal welfare. A Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) project,

Communicate Your Research Student Competition – entries now open!

The Communicate Your Research Student Competition, proudly sponsored by Bovine Dynamics & Quirindi Feedlot Services, has just launched and we encourage tertiary students to apply.

The Communicate Your Research Competition is designed to promote excellence and scientific professionalism for the advancement of communication between tertiary institutions and the Australian cattle feedlot industry. The competition aims to provide students an opportunity to share their research in relevant intensive animal and veterinary science disciplines with the Australian feedlot industry.

The Competition is held at the Australian Lot Feeders' Association premier event, BeefEx Conference 2018, held in Brisbane on 8-10 October, 2018.

There are great cash prizes to be won.

For more information on the Competition go to:

<http://www.feedlots.com.au/events/awards>

Entries close 2 September 2018.



'Developing a National Standard for Pregnancy Diagnosis', will assess the supply and demand characteristics of pregnancy diagnostic services across Australia, investigate capacity to respond to the gaps identified and determine the need for ongoing research in this area.

The project was jointly initiated by Australian Lot Feeders' Association in conjunction with Australian Livestock Exporters' Council and Cattle Council of Australia.

The purpose of this survey is to gather data on the pregnancy diagnosis processes in Australia's feedlot industry. The survey results will assist in quantifying the existence and extent of any shortcomings in current pregnancy diagnosis services.

The data will be used to analyse these shortcomings and will help in defining how a National standard for pregnancy diagnosis in cattle might overcome these challenges.

All feedlots are encouraged to take part in the survey, which will assist in forming a National Standard for Pregnancy Diagnosis. To participate, click on the link below to download the short 1-page survey here to complete and send back to the researchers. Responses are anonymous.

Responses are due by 31 August, 2018.

[Click here](#) to take part in the Survey.

 <p>ALFA BEEF EX 8-10 OCT 2018 BRISBANE SHOWGROUNDS, QUEENSLAND</p>	<p>STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS</p> <p>APPLY TODAY AT: FEEDLOTS.COM.AU</p>
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BeefEx Student Scholarships

Do you know of, or are you a student, that wants to attend BeefEx 2018? Australian Lot Feeders' Association & Meat & Livestock Australia are offering a number of student scholarships (valued at \$660) to students interested in attending. It's easy to apply and you just need a genuine interest in the grain fed beef industry!

Head to <http://www.feedlots.com.au/AWARDS/BeefExStudent> to find out more and apply today.

Applications close 2 September 2018.



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



Livestock welfare during dry times

Animal welfare considerations are critical when managing stock during dry times, when feed and water resources are under pressure.

NSW DPI have developed some useful resources for producers applicable to all areas in drought or approaching drought.

Assess - Understand the circumstances and the options available. Seek help and consider expert advice on seasonal conditions, feed, fodder and stock market prices.

Act early - Early intervention ensures good animal welfare outcomes.

Be aware - You have a moral and legal responsibility for the welfare of stock animals and pets.

Seek help - The NSW Government is committed to working with producers to ensure they get the right advice regarding the management of stock during dry times.

For further information visit www.droughthub.nsw.gov.au

For information regarding transport roles and responsibilities for stock welfare during dry times [click here](#).

Source: ALPA, 20 July 2018

IS IT FIT TO LOAD?

The Meat & Livestock Australia's Fit-to-Load guide is available [here](#)

Check out the Fit-to-Load guide video [here](#)