

AROUND THE PENS

ISSUE 276 18 MARCH 2019



ALFA DIARY

19 March

Shepparton AHW
Workshop

20 March

Hahndorf AHW Workshop

26 March

Narrogin AHW Workshop

28 March

AMS Webinar Part-One

1 April

2019/20 ALFA Membership
Fee invoicing commences

4 April

AMS Webinar Part-Two

1 May

ALFA Annual Recognition
of Excellence Program
Launch

15-16 May

MPM Program Session 2,
Sydney

22-23 May

ALFA Council Meeting

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE

1800 675 888

CONTACT

GPO Box 149, Sydney NSW 2001
P: (02) 9290 3700
F: (02) 9290 2808
E: info@feedlots.com.au



ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP WEBINAR

ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP (AMS) WEBINAR - REGOS CLOSE SOON

ALFA will be running a two-part webinar this month that will provide lot feeders and associated industry professionals practical information on antimicrobial resistance and deliver an industry specific framework to ensure appropriate use of antimicrobials to reduce the risk of antimicrobial resistance and safeguard the use of these important animal health tools well into the future.

The two-part webinar will cover:

- What is Antimicrobial Resistance & Stewardship
- Introduce the Australian Cattle Feedlot Industry Antimicrobial Stewardship Guidelines
- 5R Framework of Antimicrobial Stewardship
- How to Develop an Antimicrobial Stewardship Plan for your Feedlot
- Launch and Live Demonstration of New Industry e-Learning Tool
- Antimicrobial Stewardship and Grain Fed Beef Integrity Systems
- What it all means for your business

The webinar will run over two x 1-hour sessions on 28 March and 4 April 2019 and will be suitable for feedlot managers, supervisors, training managers, quality assurance officers and veterinarians. Additionally, nutritionists, feed company representatives, veterinary product representatives will benefit from the information delivered.

The webinar is only \$50pp exc. gst for ALFA Members and covers registration for both webinars, pre-read materials, and access to post-webinar recordings. The webinars will also be a chance to be one of the first to access the new industry e-learning platform that will deliver AMS learning tools for lot feeders.

[Click here for more information on the webinar.](#)

[Click here to download a registration form.](#)

This webinar is proudly sponsored by Zoetis and Meat & Livestock Australia.

EUTHANASIA GUIDELINES – MLA R&D UPDATE

Appropriate and timely euthanasia of compromised feedlot cattle is essential for animal welfare as well as maintaining consumer and community support for grain-fed beef.

'Euthanasia of Feedlot cattle - Guidelines for managers and supervisors on criteria and methods of euthanasia for compromised cattle in feedlots' was delivered to NFAS accredited feedlots in October, 2016. Meat & Livestock Australia in consultation with ALFA, have made the guidelines available to feedlots and their consulting veterinarians to ensure the highest possible standards in animal welfare are implemented across the feedlot industry.

The manual outlines key criteria for euthanasia that should be considered; diseases and conditions where euthanasia is often warranted; and how best to manage the process of euthanasia.

Supplementary resources to benefit on-feedlot implementation of the guidelines include an easy to use ute flip book summarizing key points of the guidelines, and two wall posters on 'How to Euthanise' and (See Figure 1) and 'What to Euthanise'.

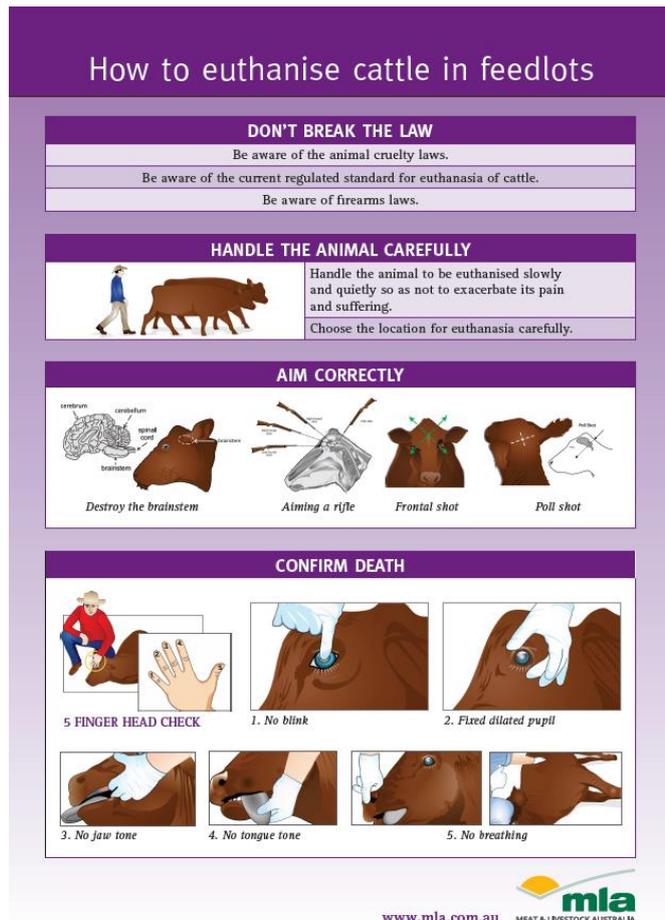
Hard copies of the flip book and two wall posters will be sent out to NFAS accredited feedlots in March, 2019. To obtain extra hard copies of the resources, contact ALFA-MLA Technical Service Officer, Jeff House, jeff.house@feedlots.com.au.

To obtain training in appropriate euthanasia, please contact your consulting veterinarian.

Article by Dr. Joseph McMeniman, jmcmeniman@mla.com.au

For a PDF copy of the wall poster, please email Joe on the above email address.

Figure 1. RHS - How to Euthanise wall poster



DISPOSE OF YOUR UNWANTED OR OBSOLETE AGVET CHEMICALS IN ONE EASY COLLECTION.

ChemClear is a not-for-profit chemical collection and disposal service for unwanted and unknown agvet chemicals. Chemclear only happens every 2 years in Qld so now is the time for ALFA members to get involved if they have suitable product for disposal. QLD producers can register their chemicals by mid-April at ChemClear www.chemclear.org.au/register-your-chemical (1800 008 182) for free collection and disposal. See below for more information.

FREE collection of Group 1 chemicals:

- with readable labels
- still in original containers
- not mixed with other products
- within 2 years of expiry or deregistration
- from drumMUSTER participating companies

For more information contact Colin Hoey at AgSafe on 0428 964 576.

CATTLE ON FEED REMAINS ABOVE 1 MILLION – QTRLY FEEDLOT SURVEY RESULTS

Cattle on feed for the October – December 2018 quarter decreased by 15,977 head, or 1.4% from the record set in the September quarter, to finish the year at 1,110,689 head according to the results of the latest Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA) and Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) National Accredited Feedlot Survey.

The modest decrease in numbers on feed were recorded in Queensland and New South Wales. Queensland decreased by 20,788 head, or 3.2%, to 631,286 head; while New South Wales decreased by 20,636, or 5.9%, to 326,322 head, compared to the previous quarter. These declines were somewhat offset by gains in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia which were up 6.8%, 17.1% and 60.5% from the September quarter to 73,173 head, 40,439 head and 39,469 head respectively.

[Click here](#) to view the full Media Release and survey results.

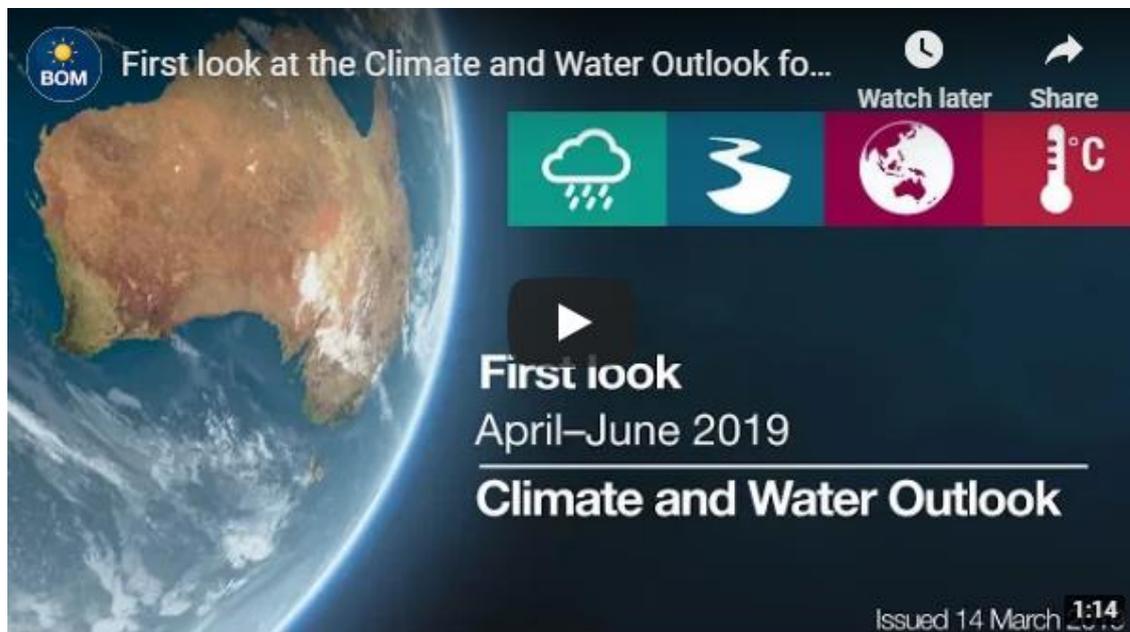
LATEST CLIMATE OUTLOOK

The BOM's latest climate outlook for the April to June period shows a significant improvement on the last outlook released a fortnight ago.

The Bureau of Meteorology's latest climate outlook shows no strong indication of a wetter or drier three-month period between April and June for most regions, apart from Cape York and some regions in south-east Australia.

While the forecast still suggests a dry end to the northern wet season and a dry start to the southern cool season, the outlook has improved significantly on the one released a fortnight ago – which, to be fair, couldn't have been much worse.

For more information on the updated climate outlook, watch BOM's latest video below.



THE AUSTRALIAN BEEF SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

The beef industry has developed the Australian Beef Sustainability Framework (the Framework). The Framework is a critical tool to enable the beef industry to work constructively with global customers, investors, banks and special interest groups. The Framework defines what sustainable beef production is and tracks performance over a series of indicators annually. Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) supports this strategy and is leading the preparation of the next Annual Update Report and we need your assistance in gathering sustainability data.

Please help demonstrate the Australian Beef Industry's sustainability credentials.

[Click here](#) to take a short 10-minute survey to assist the Australian Beef Sustainability Framework deliver data back to industry. Survey closes 20 March 2019.

ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE WORKSHOPS UPDATE

ALFA's Animal Health & Welfare Workshop series, proudly supported by Coopers & MLA, is now over half way delivered to record numbers. We will have trained over 250 lot feeders by completion, which is impressive! Thank you to the businesses that have sent employees and those that have registered themselves. Presenters, Kev Sullivan, David Frith & Jeff House have been delighted with the participant engagement at each workshop. Up next, we will be in Shepparton tomorrow, followed by Hahndorf on Wednesday. Next week will be Narrogin with a great roll out of WA lot feeders – so we are excited to head West for this one. See you there!



The Workshop Team: David Frith, Kev Sullivan, Madie Hamilton, Jeff House



We had almost 100 lot feeders in the room at the Oakey workshop last week

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

