

AROUND THE PENS

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ALFA DIARY

28 September

BeefEx 2018 Registrations Close

28 September

ALFA and MLA Vet & Nutritionist Meeting, Brisbane Qld

28 September

Grain Fed Beef Production System Website Project Agency Pitches

30 September

ARLP applications close

Innovation Award (BeefEx) applications close

7 – 15 October

TRAIL leadership course

8-10 October

BeefEx 2018 Conference



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Final week to register for BeefEx 2018



Tickets are close to sold out for BeefEx 2018, so we encourage anyone still yet to book their ticket to book today to avoid disappointment. To check out the speaker line up and social functions head to the [BeefEx 2018 website here](#).

Registrations will close at 5pm this Friday 28th September.

[Click here to register today.](#)

Get social at BeefEx 2018

Let ALFA Councillor, Bryce Camm, give you a run down on what you can expect on the social side at BeefEx 2018 by watching this YouTube Clip!



ARLP Industry Scholarship – applications close this week

Feedlot industry representatives looking to enhance their leadership skills are encouraged to apply for the industry scholarship funded jointly by grainfed levies and the Australian government.

The Australian Rural Leadership Program (ARLP) is based on the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation's (ARLF) 26 years of experience, with a leadership model that...

...reflects current thinking and practice in the areas of adult education, leadership and capacity building.

Each year, one scholarship is awarded for the prestigious ARLP. The industry funded scholarship is proudly supported by The Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA) and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA).

JBS Riverina Feedlot Manager, Will McCrohon, who was awarded the 2017 grain fed beef industry ARLP Scholarship, describes the experience as valuable on both a professional and personal development level in the video below.



ALFA and MLA are currently calling for Applications for Course 26 of the ARLP, which will begin in July 2019 and conclude in October 2020. Entries close this Sunday, 30th September 2018.

[Click here to apply](#) or [here for more information on ARLP](#).

Animal Welfare Officer Training – Geelong & Burra

If you are looking to attend the final AWO Training dates, we encourage you to book via the ALFA website by 7 October 2018.

- Geelong, VIC 23 & 24 October 2018
- Burra, SA 25 & 26 October 2018

[Click here](#) to book in for the remaining Animal Welfare Officer Training.

\$10 million in agriculture grants now available (Qld relevance only)

Local jobs in rural and regional Queensland will receive a boost thanks to the Palaszczuk Government's new \$10 million Rural Economic Development Grants Program.

Rural Economic Development Grants are available to fund rural economic development projects that contribute to primary production related economic development and job creation in rural areas. The Queensland Government program offers emerging projects up to \$250,000 in co-contributions to build industry and grow employment opportunities across the agricultural sector.

Expressions of interest are now open for Round 1 of funding, this...

Victoria Announces Animal Industry Reforms

Agriculture Victoria announced last Friday the reforms for animal industries.

The reforms introduce new land use definitions and associated planning controls for animal industries into the Victoria Planning Provisions and all local planning schemes in Victoria. The reforms provide farmers with greater flexibility, enabling them to make the most of market opportunities and manage seasonal risks.

The Victorian Government is providing the following support to implement the reforms:

- Training for planners and planning professionals through the Planning Institute of Australia's PLANET program.
- Guidelines to assist in interpretation of the land use terms grazing animal production and intensive animal production are available here.
- A number of Planning Practice Notes will be available in the coming days on the Agriculture Victoria website.

The reforms deliver on a significant portion of the Planning for Sustainable Animal Industries (PSAI) program. The focus will now be on delivering the remaining PSAI actions, including the code reform program. ALFA will continue to engage with the Victoria Government through their Technical Reference Group which will meet later this year.

The draft Great Artesian Basin Strategic Management Plan 2018 is currently open for consultation. Feedback closes 5 October 2018.

[Click here to have your say.](#)

... round closes on October 26, 2018. Additional rounds will be announced over a three-year period ending 2021.

[Click here](#) to see eligibility criteria and for more information on the application process.

New video showcasing NFAS



The National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme - or NFAS - is the quality assurance scheme for the Australian cattle feedlot industry.

NFAS was the first agriculturally based quality assurance program in Australia and its success has seen it provide a framework for subsequent industry schemes.

AUS-MEAT and ALFA have collaborated to create a new video showcasing the NFAS and will be used to educate and promote the importance of NFAS to industry and the general public.

Click on the image above to watch the video on YouTube.

ALFA welcomes Verity Price as new Manager – Policy



ALFA is rejoiced to announce Verity Price has come on board as ALFA's new Manager – Policy. Verity has moved across from Cattle Council of Australia where she predominantly worked within a Marketing, Market Access and Trade role.

Verity will principally be working alongside the Feedlot Management Committee, Environment Committee and Animal Health and Welfare Committees.

Growing up on a prime lamb and cattle property outside Crookwell, NSW Verity recognises the need for practical policy which provides outcomes to industry. Verity believes the need to implement sound, science-based policy which represents that interests of the industry is crucial for the continued success of our sector.

Please feel free to contact Verity should you have any policy related matters at verity.price@feedlots.com.au or via the ALFA office on (02) 9290 3700.

Missed the Fit to Load Webinar?

Animal health and welfare are vital to the Australian cattle industry, and it is important that producers know when and when not to load livestock for transport. Current drought conditions across large parts of eastern Australia only add to the need for vigilance over appropriate livestock transport decisions.

Questions often arise about certain animals, and classes of animals, and whether they are fit to load.

This Webinar recording, made available via CCA and BeefCentral, is a valuable source of information on the topic for anyone along the beef supply chain.

Included presentations by industry experts:

- Veterinarian Dr Rob Barwell, Animal Health Australia
- Livestock Biosecurity Network's Rachel O'Brien (On-the-ground perspective)
- John Lethbridge, Lethbridge Livestock Transport (Transporters' and producers' perspective)
- Ross McCarthy, Dubbo Regional Livestock Market (Saleyard/feedlot perspective)

[Click here to access the free webinar.](#)

The ALFA Calendar Photo Competition is now open for entries!



The ALFA Calendar Photo Competition is an exciting opportunity for lot feeders to showcase their industry via images that they capture in their workplace and surrounds. It is open to all ALFA Members and anyone can vote. To vote for your favourite shot, simply head to the ALFA Facebook page and 'like' your favourite shots!

The Top 13 photos will then be included in the ALFA 2019 Calendar.

This initiative is proudly sponsored by ALFA's Platinum Member, Performance Feeds.

[Click here](#) for full entry criteria & to enter your photos. Entries and voting close 3 November 2018.

Bunk scanner proves its accuracy

Extensive in-feedlot testing of a prototype bunk scanner has demonstrated that it's more accurate in predicting feed remaining in bunks than human callers, offering potential productivity and profitability benefits to the feedlot industry.



[Click here to read more](#)



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



R&D showcase at BeefEx

A range of MLA-managed grain fed projects will be on show at BeefEx in October, where Lisa Sharp will be sharing some valuable insights on the beef industry's global trends.

Research and development into a range of projects managed by MLA will be showcased at BeefEx.

Projects including automation technology R&D, the **Cattle Heat Load Toolbox (CHLT)** and the **antimicrobial stewardship framework for Australian feedlots** will be addressed by a range of guest speakers during the conference, while MLA will also have a trade site at the event.

Enabled by grainfed levy investment, **automation and robotics solutions company Manabotix** has developed a prototype automatic bunk calling system for feedlots, and Managing Director, Dr Stuart McCarthy, will be among the presenters at BeefEx.

Brisbane-based **Katestone** provides the CHLT service to Australian feedlot sites and its Managing Director, Christine Killip, will be at BeefEx to discuss the advancements in weather intelligence that are helping to boost our understanding of how current conditions influence future weather events.

Following the release of the **Antimicrobial Stewardship Guidelines for the Australian Cattle Feedlot Industry** earlier this year, industry veterinarian Dr Kev Sullivan, Bell Veterinary Services, will provide an update of the framework and why the Australian lot feeding sector would be wise to take notice of the guidelines.

[Click here to book in for BeefEx 2018 to hear these talks.](#)