

Industry Beef Consulting Pty Ltd.

P.O. Box 159

The Junction. 2291.

Feedlot Pregnancy Diagnosis Survey

Our names are Ian Blackwood and John Irwin and we are researchers engaged on behalf of Meat and Livestock Australia to conduct a survey for the purpose described below. The survey process is anonymous, and the results of the survey will be compiled.

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, '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.

Purpose

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.

We would very much like to hear from you and receive your feedback via the survey, so if you could respond to the attached survey by 31st August that would be greatly appreciated.

Please return the survey by mail to:

John Irwin

Consultant – All State Livestock Services

39 Edmondson Ave

Griffith, NSW 2680

M: 0409645417

E: gaeli@bigpond.com

Thank you in advance for your co-operation. We look forward to hearing from you.

Developing a National Standard for Pregnancy Diagnosis.

Feedlot Survey

Thank you for answering these questions in relation to your feedlot operation. Your participation is much appreciated and will assist in forming a National Standard for Pregnancy Diagnosis.

Induction

1. Number of female cattle induced in
2016: _____ 2017: _____
2. Are all induced females pregnancy tested? Yes / No
3. If **No**, what percentage are tested? _____%
4. Is pregnancy status determined
Prior to induction by a veterinarian? Yes/ No
OR
Prior to induction by a lay provider? Yes / No
If both are applicable, approximately what percentage of each?
Vet _____% Lay _____%
5. Are vet PD cattle PREgCHECK tagged and certified? Yes/ No
6. Are lay provider PD cattle issued with written certification of PD status? Yes/ No
7. Is pregnancy Status determined
At induction by a veterinarian? Yes / No
Is the Veterinarian PREgCHECK accredited? Yes / No
OR
At induction by a lay provider? Yes/ No
If both PD providers are used, approximately what percentage are PD by a
Vet _____% Lay Provider _____%

Method of pregnancy diagnosis

Tick appropriate answer or estimate percentage.

1. Are your cattle checked:
By a vet using rectal palpation _____ (_____%) or ultrasound _____ (_____%)
OR
By a lay provider using rectal palpation _____ (_____%) or ultrasound _____ (_____%)
2. Is the blood test (IDEXX) an acceptable PD method for your feedlot? Yes/ No
3. *Error rate*: Measured as 'the number (or percentage) of pregnancies misdiagnosed i.e. either born/slipped in the feedyard or detected at slaughter.'
Rectal palpation by vet _____ (_____%); Ultrasound by vet _____ (_____%)
Rectal palpation by lay provider _____ (_____%);
Ultrasound by lay provider _____ (_____%).
4. What is an 'acceptable' percentage error rate (regardless of method and technician)?
_____ %.

Thank you for your assistance