



YEAR IN REVIEW
2022



ALFA

THE AUSTRALIAN LOT FEEDERS' ASSOCIATION

The Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA) is the peak national body representing the Australian cattle feedlot industry.

OUR VISION

ALFA works towards delivering a profitable and sustainable feedlot industry recognised and valued by the community for producing quality grain fed beef to the highest ethical, environmental, humane, and animal welfare standards.

OUR MISSION

ALFA strives to improve the profitability, professionalism and community standing of the feedlot industry and does this by working on behalf of our members to deliver:

- ▶ Industry representation
- ▶ Strategic levy investment
- ▶ Industry development and extension
- ▶ Membership services

OUR GOALS

- ▶ Be the recognised voice of the Australian cattle feedlot industry.
- ▶ 100% representation of all Australian cattle feedlots.
- ▶ Increase the profitability and sustainability of our members' businesses.
- ▶ Influence the operating environment to enable feedlots to continually improve, adapt, and innovate.
- ▶ Be a leader in animal welfare, environmental and production standards.
- ▶ Attract, retain and grow a professional and skilled feedlot industry workforce.

OUR REPRESENTATION

ALFA is proud to have a strong membership of feedlot operators that collectively represents over 85% of Australia's cattle feedlot capacity.

OUR VALUES



COMMUNITY: Members are our top priority.



INFLUENCE: We are effective in our advocacy efforts.



EXCELLENCE: We strive for quality and continuous improvement.



INTEGRITY: We adhere to the highest standards and act with composure, respect and fairness.



PROFESSIONALISM: We adhere to best practice governance.



COLLABORATION: We work with others to achieve our goals.



CARE: We care about our cattle, our people, our community, the environment, and our markets.



AUSTRALIAN FEEDLOT INDUSTRY **FAST FACTS**



ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

VALUE: Turnover equated to \$4.9 billion and contributed \$748 million to Australia's GDP in 2020.*

ESSENTIAL INDUSTRY: The Australian economy would shrink by \$10.3 billion and shed 49,000 full-time employees if feedlots ceased to exist.**



QUALITY ASSURANCE CREDENTIALS

ACCREDITED: Operates under Australia's oldest agriculturally-based quality assurance program, the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS).

CERTIFIED: Certified 'Grain Fed' beef must come from an NFAS accredited feedlot.

ANIMAL WELFARE: 96.7% compliance with NFAS Animal Welfare requirements, up from 95% in 2020, ensuring cattle are cared for according to world's best practice standards.†

ENVIRONMENT: 99.5% compliance with NFAS Environmental requirements, up from 96% in 2020, ensuring our land and waterways are cared for according to world's best practice standards.▲

AMS: Moved toward 100% compliance with the requirement for accredited feedlots to have an Antimicrobial Stewardship Plan in place. Previously, 62% of NFAS audited feedlots voluntarily adopted an Antimicrobial Stewardship Plan in 2020, up from 59% in 2019 and 39% in 2018.◊

SHADE: 58% of capacity has shade structures voluntarily constructed.◊◊



SIZE OF INDUSTRY

FACILITIES: 389 NFAS accredited feedlots.▲

CAPACITY: 1.49 million head.▲

EMPLOYMENT: Employs 2,000 people directly and 30,000 indirectly.††

OWNERSHIP: 98% are family owned and operated.

EQUALITY: Over 1/3 of employees are female.



PRODUCTION

ON FEED: Cattle on feed averaged 1.18 million head per quarter in the year to March 2022.▲

RECORD NUMBERS: Cattle on feed reached a record 1.27 million head in March 2022.▲

GRAIN FED BEEF: From October to December 2021, grain fed beef accounted for a record 54.5% of total beef production and over 50% of the cattle slaughtered in Australia.‡

* State of the Industry Report 2021, MLA

** Deloitte Australia

▲ NFAS Annual Report 2020, AUS-MEAT

† Independently verified at 2020 NFAS audits, AUS-MEAT

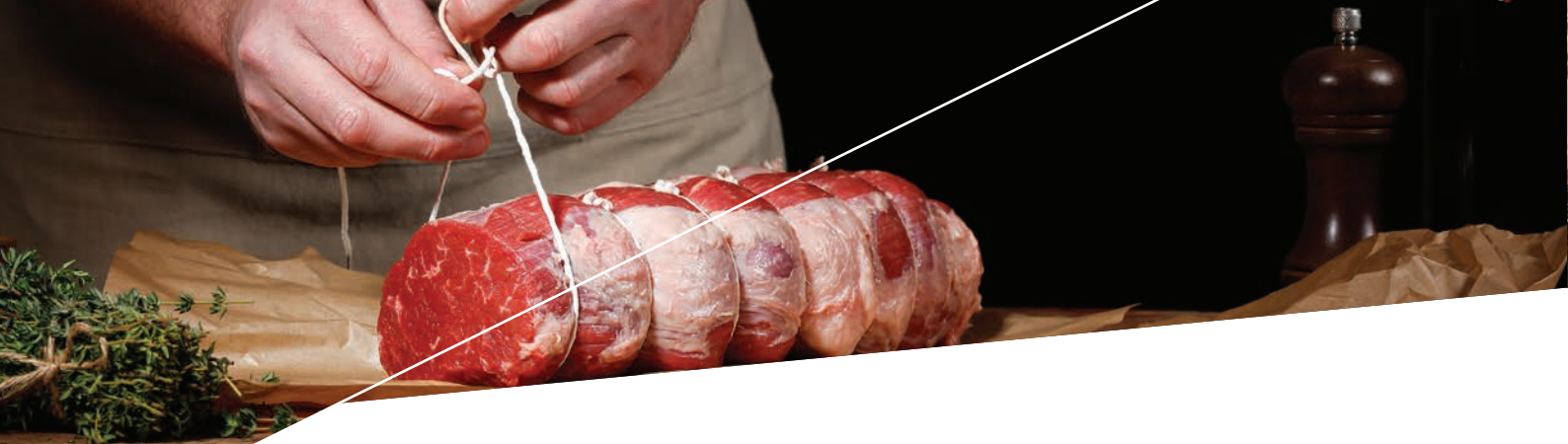
▲ Independently verified at NFAS audit during 2021

◊ AUS-MEAT NFAS Audit questionnaire, March 2020-2021

◊◊ ALFA/MLA Technical Services Officer survey, 2021

▲ MLA/ALFA Quarterly Feedlot Survey, March 2022

‡ ALFA/ MLA Grain Fed Beef Survey February 2022



DELIVERED ON BEHALF OF LOT FEEDERS | **2021-22**

A REFINED STRATEGY FORWARD

The ALFA Council undertook a comprehensive review of the Association's Strategic Operating Plan (SOP) to revise its goals and activities, publishing the ALFA Initiatives 2020-2023 in 2020, which identifies seven priority focus areas for ALFA and industry:

PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS	1 OUR PEOPLE
2 OUR CUSTOMERS, CONSUMERS AND COMMUNITIES	3 OUR LIVESTOCK
4 OUR ENVIRONMENT	5 OUR MARKETS
6 OUR SYSTEMS	7 OUR ASSOCIATION

The SOP was influenced by member feedback, input from ALFA Committees, and endorsed by the ALFA Council. ALFA initiatives align with the strategic direction collectively set by the red meat and livestock industry in RED MEAT 2030.

This ensures our efforts also contribute to the industry's overall objectives for prosperity. An annual review process is in place to ensure our SOP is continually guided by the principle of delivering value to members and the grain fed beef sector.





OUR PEOPLE

OUR GOALS

- ▶ Attract, retain and grow a professional and skilled feedlot industry workforce.
- ▶ Increase the profitability and sustainability of our members' businesses.

INITIATIVES

- ▶ Feedlot TECH - training, education and careers hub.
- ▶ ALFA annual Recognition of Excellence Program.
- ▶ ALFA Events and Training Programs.
- ▶ Technical support and extending research.

FEEDLOT TECH TRAINING, EDUCATION AND CAREERS HUB



ALFA recognises that building capable, high-performing teams is the key ingredient to operational excellence, and that attracting the

workforce of the future is essential for business continuity and growth.

Launched in October 2021, Feedlot TECH is an online platform that showcases the many career, employment, and professional development opportunities available within the feedlot sector, across all career stages. Central to the initiative is the provision of online training and education resources housed in a learning management hub which provides feedlot operators and individuals better access to training, professional development and career path opportunities.

The tool provides the Australian feedlot sector, its businesses, and current and prospective employees with a clear career pathway and associated training, professional development and support networks. Feedlot TECH is designed to do this through:

Career Pathways: Feedlot TECH promotes the vast feedlot career opportunities and pathways available to individuals coming into the sector, along with the associated training required to progress through the industry.

Training: Feedlot TECH provides links to training and professional development opportunities through a 'directory' that relates training courses to feedlot teams and stages along the career pathways. The online Training Hub provides training courses that are practical, cover core feedlot skills and can be easily integrated into daily operations and training of staff. A range of online training courses and resources are available, including training on Feed Shed Loader Operations, Feed

Truck Operations, Cattle Backgrounding and Induction, Antimicrobial Stewardship, Pen Cleaning, Manure and Environmental Management, Caring for Cattle, Practical Bovine Post-mortem Techniques, and more.

Resources: Feedlot TECH brings together feedlot-specific resources in one easily-accessible location, including up-to-date information on new technologies, best practices, 'how to' guides and links to standards and guidelines, to assist lot feeders with daily feedlot operations.

Feedlot TECH is a joint project between ALFA and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), and its continued investment will rely on successful feedlot uptake. Visit www.feedlots.com.au/careers for further information.

CAREER ADVICE FROM INDUSTRY LEADER TESS HERBERT



Tess Herbert is known for her many roles held during her expansive 20-plus years in the feedlot industry.

Co-owner of Gundamain Pastoral with her husband Andrew, Tess is a past ALFA Councillor and was the first female ALFA President. She

also spent three years as Chair of the Australian Beef Sustainability Framework steering group, and now she's helping emerging leaders through the [Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program](#).

Her resume reads of hard work, self-investment, and being open to opportunities when they come knocking.

Despite all this, Tess maintains that her favourite part of lot feeding is being on the ground, where the connection between cattle and people is evident in each and every action, and passion for the industry flourishes.

Recent staffing challenges aside, Tess said it's an exciting time to be in the industry and the initiatives that are in place are encouraging people to learn more.

"The opportunities are there and the pathways that the **Feedlot TECH hub** provides, whatever level you're at, there's an option there for you," Tess said.

"We recognise that some people don't have leadership aspirations, they just want to do their job and do it well; Feedlot TECH provides training opportunities for those who just want to do their job better.

"And for those who are interested in extra training or leadership positions, those opportunities are also there. Programs like the [Young Lot Feeder of the Year Award](#) and the [MPM Program](#), all of those are creating a pathway for people who are interested in what else they can do."

Read the full story on Feedlot TECH: [How Tess Herbert became an inspirational leader in ag](#)



ALFA ANNUAL RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Encouraging excellence in the feedlot sector is ALFA's passion. ALFA's Recognition of Excellence Program aims to attract, retain and grow a professional, skilled workforce via the recognition of business and individual excellence. It does this via the promotion and management of a suite of industry awards and scholarships aimed at celebrating excellence and encouraging continual development.

While not all programs are run annually, ALFA's Recognition of Excellence Program includes the following:

- ▶ Australian Feedlot of the Year Competition
- ▶ ALFA Young Lot Feeder of the Year Award
- ▶ ALFA Excellence in Feedlot Education Medal
- ▶ ALFA Award for Innovation
- ▶ ALFA Community Heroes Award
- ▶ ALFA Outstanding Services to the Feedlot Industry Award
- ▶ ALFA Life Membership Award
- ▶ Grain Fed Beef Industry Scholarship to Australian Rural Leadership Program (ARLP)
- ▶ Grain Fed Beef Industry Scholarship to Training Rural Australians in Leadership (TRAIL)
- ▶ ALFA Conference Student Scholarship

ALFA 2021 Awards Ceremony

In a first for ALFA, our 2021 Recognition of Excellence Program culminated with an Awards Ceremony held virtually on 20 October. Professionally hosted by Gerry Gannon and live streamed nationally, over 200 participants enjoyed a highly-engaging night celebrating industry success. Feedlots were encouraged to host an event on site for their teams to celebrate together, whilst being connected to the rest of industry via the webinar ceremony.



ALFA YOUNG LOT FEEDER OF THE YEAR 2021

This award aims to foster qualities in our next generation of leaders that empowers them to think outside the square, be bold in their vision, and continuously develop and challenge their thinking about the Australian lot feeding industry and its potential. The award, proudly sponsored by Performance Feeds, recognises and encourages the industry's most valuable asset, its people, who are vital to the industry's future prosperity and sustainability.

From the below four Grand Finalists, the winner was announced on 20 October as James Guest.

- ▶ James Guest, Smithfield Cattle Co, QLD
- ▶ Lucy Morris, Lake Preston, WA
- ▶ Kailen Hodgson, Teys Australia Charlton, VIC
- ▶ Simon Kensit, AACo Goonoo, QLD



ALFA EXCELLENCE IN FEEDLOT EDUCATION MEDAL 2021

The Medal, proudly sponsored by Zoetis, recognises and awards individuals within the feedlot sector that are demonstrating excellence in feedlot operation skills and who are applying skills or knowledge as a result of participating in, or graduating from, training.

Brenton Watterson - Livestock Manager, AACo - Aronui QLD was named the winner in 2021.



ALFA COMMUNITY HEROES AWARD 2021



Australian feedlots are vital to the fabric of rural and regional Australia by creating jobs, supporting families, and contributing to local economies and the environment. This award, proudly sponsored by Lallemand Animal Nutrition, recognises and rewards those feedlots that are actively nourishing their local communities and environment by going above and beyond to support their community, that 'give back' and better the environment around them.

In its inaugural year, the ALFA Community Heroes Award was awarded to Smithfield Cattle Company – Smithfield Feedlot, Queensland, for their community-minded initiative that is connecting students and teachers to the feedlot industry.

ALFA AWARD FOR INNOVATION 2021

Sponsored by Integrated Animal Production, this award acknowledges feedlots and their employees that have implemented clever, non-commercialised innovations that genuinely make a difference to the functionality of day-to-day operations at the feedlot.

Ryan Smith of Rangers Valley won first place with the PVC Fly Trap innovation; second place was awarded to Shane Bullock of Jindalee Feedlot for their posthole digger.



Grain Fed Beef Industry Scholarship to ARLP Course 28

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. ALFA, with the support of MLA and grain fed levies, supported Emily Perkins and Don Madden to participate in Course 28. Jeff Schuller, Thomas Foods International Feedlot, SA, graduated from Course 27 in 2021.

Grain Fed Beef Industry Scholarship to TRAIL 2021

ALFA, with the support of MLA and grain fed levies, supported four positions on the ARLF's TRAIL Program in 2021-22. TRAIL is a cross-sector, challenge-based leadership program set in Canberra and region, for Australia's future emerging rural leaders. Ben Emery (2019 Young Lot Feeder), Molly Sage (2020 Young Lot Feeder), James Guest (2021 Young Lot Feeder) and Kailen Hodgson (2020 Young Lot Feeder Grand Finalist), were awarded scholarships to attend the 2021/22 TRAIL Program which commenced in March 2022.



AUSTRALIAN FEEDLOT OF THE YEAR 2021

The Australian Feedlot of the Year Competition is an initiative of ALFA. Since its inception in 1991, the competition has endeavoured to encourage continuous improvement within the feedlot industry and recognise those feedlots that are operating their business at the forefront of the principles of the National Feedlot Assurance Scheme (NFAS).

ALFA launched its revamped Australian Feedlot of the Year Competition in October 2020, and set out over a 12-month judging process to uncover Australia's best NFAS accredited feedlots. This highly-prestigious award involves independent assessment of competing feedlot operations, such as their quality assurance culture, environmental and animal welfare responsibility, staff retention programs, and contingency planning.

The second-round judging process was completed online due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions imposed on the judging panel at the time and involved an online interview with the judges, as well as a submission of photos, a promotional video, and questionnaire.

The Australian Feedlot of the Year 2021 proudly sponsored by ALFA, AUS-MEAT and Integrity Systems Company was awarded to the following feedlots per size category:

- ▶ **Under 3,000 head** - Paradise Beef Feedlot, WA
- ▶ **3,000 – 8,000 head** - Gundamain Feedlot, NSW
- ▶ **8,000 – 15,000 head** - Gunnee Feedlot, NSW
- ▶ **Above 15,000 head** - Teys Australia Jindalee Feedlot, NSW

Congratulations to the feedlot teams who took out the awards and all those who participated. Special recognition goes to AUS-MEAT who managed the competition and provided valuable analysis and benchmarked feedback to competition participants.

PARADISE BEEF FEEDLOT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Paradise Beef aims to be leaders in the community. They make a positive contribution to the feedlot industry by employing passionate people and providing them with opportunities to reach their full potential and goals. They inspire their team to always think outside of the box on ways they can improve animal welfare, how they can enhance the quality of the beef they produce, and ensure a safe, fulfilling workplace. They also encourage and support their staff to participate in further training to develop their careers.

Paradise Beef's team strives to provide customers with high-quality, innovative service and a premium product, and they attribute their success to working as a team.



GUNDAMAIN FEEDLOT, NEW SOUTH WALES

Gundamain Pastoral Co’s vision is to continue to be a fully sustainable, adaptive, resilient and intergenerational family agribusiness, producing high-quality food and fibre for domestic and export markets. Gundamain Feedlot forms the core part of the operation and is run in conjunction with an extensive backgrounding program, a commercial Angus breeding herd, a fine wool Merino property, a first-cross ewe operation producing lambs and wool, and a cropping and hay program. Gundamain Pastoral operates a feedlot and manages 13,000 acres of grazing, cropping and native vegetation in central and southern New South Wales.



GUNNEE FEEDLOT, NEW SOUTH WALES



The 2GR brand, of which Gunnee Feedlot belongs, has a vision to become the most recognised Wagyu brand in the world for delivering a product of a consistently high standard of both quality and service. Animal welfare is paramount to everything they do, and they operate with a ‘Safety Culture’ at their forefront, where integrity and honesty are the core values that all team members live by. They strive to lead the industry in innovation.

TEYS AUSTRALIA JINDALEE FEEDLOT, NEW SOUTH WALES



Teys Australia is a family business with family values, delivering the best Australian product they can produce every time. This is why they have customers around the world who trust them with their protein requirements, bringing Teys into their homes as part of their meals, and into their family time.

Each year the business reviews its strategy and goals, to ensure they are not just going to be successful in the coming year but for coming generations. Teys says success will not just come from being good operationally; they have identified they must also be leaders in safety, animal welfare, environmental management, sustainability and social accountability as their licence to operate truly is valued above all.



ALFA EVENTS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

ALFA is highly engaged in fostering our industry's talent and leaders and is dedicated to building industry capability. ALFA does this by delivering vibrant events and training programs each year that aim to engage, educate, inspire and challenge our feedlot community.

Whilst COVID-19 continued to interrupt the completion of several planned activities, it provided ALFA with the opportunity to explore new ways of delivering membership services. While in-person activities were not always possible, webinars continued to provide a good substitute to deliver information to our members and community. Often this achieved higher participation rates than we have ever seen before, due to the reduction in time required to attend when receiving training online.

SmartBeef Bites webinar series - Grain fed sector embraces virtual conference pivot

SmartBeef is the premier technical conference for the Australian grain fed beef sector and is normally held in person every other year. SmartBeef 2021 was scheduled to be held over three days in Queensland, including a feedlot tour and R&D demonstration day at Teys Australia Condamine Feedlot.

However, in light of ongoing developments with COVID-19 and after thoughtful consideration for the health, safety and well-being of delegates, speakers, sponsors, and suppliers, ALFA made the decision to pivot to an online format. Delivered via a four-part SmartBeef Bites webinar series, the program included a range of highly-engaging speakers across the themes of Smart Environment, Smart Sustainability, Smart Tech and Smart Business. The series was received very well by delegates and stakeholders alike, with 169 virtual groups attending.

ALFA Managing Summer Heat – Online Training

To ensure ALFA could continue to deliver our ever-important Managing Summer Heat workshop, we developed an all-new online course so that industry could receive this content despite COVID-19 lockdowns.

The course involved a series of training videos, a live Zoom session, an online assessment questionnaire and included a certificate of completion. The course is now available on Feedlot TECH for enrolment throughout the year and includes recordings of the live webinar topics.

A total of 79 groups registered for the training, with 260 individuals enrolling in the course on Feedlot TECH. A total of 169 individuals registered for the Zoom training session, with 72 users/groups dialling in for the live session. A recording was issued to registered groups post-delivery, to allow those that could not attend the live session to view it in their own time.

ALFA Certified Animal Welfare Officer Training

In March 2020, when the COVID-19 outbreak commenced, ALFA was forced to postpone its Animal Welfare Officer Training mid-delivery and rescheduled for late 2020. As COVID-19 continued to disrupt our ability to deliver in-person training, ALFA was required to cancel the training indefinitely until face-to-face training could recommence.

With the COVID-19 situation improving during late 2021 and early 2022, ALFA was able to deliver the training in March and April 2022. However, it was not without challenges, as COVID-19 caused further disruptions resulting in two workshops being cancelled, and an additional workshop disrupted due to QLD flooding. Subsequently, these sessions will be held later in 2022 to align with the planned Nutrition & Milling workshops. Despite these disruptions, over 150 feedlot employees were able to complete the Animal Welfare Officer Training, building on the 500 staff already trained in this area over the years ALFA has been providing it.

ALFA Margin & People Management (MPM) Professional Development Program

MPM is an ALFA-run professional development program which provides aspiring employees with business and people management training and promotes the importance of a healthy workplace culture and its role in achieving productivity and profitability.

Delivery of Course 12 was disrupted by COVID-19. The program commenced in February 2022 via online sessions covering Advocacy, Red Meat Representation, MLA's Feedlot R&D Program, and Commodity Price Risk Management. The feedlot and abattoir tours were completed in Wagga, NSW, and surrounds. The penultimate session was held in Brisbane alongside the May Council Meeting, with the Zoetis DiSC Profiling and WeTrain Professional Presentation Skills session. The course wrapped up in June 2022, with the final session covering finance, team performance and crisis management.

Course 12 MPM Program participants:

- ▶ **Moses Mpandamabula** - TFI Iranda Beef
- ▶ **Tracy Lee-Bye** – JBS Prime City
- ▶ **Joel Maniscalco** - JBS Riverina Beef
- ▶ **Mitchell Elliott** - AACo Aronui Feedlot
- ▶ **Nathaniel Gidley** - Peechelba Beef
- ▶ **Tim Brennan** - NH Foods Whyalla Beef
- ▶ **Tom Leahy** – Smithfield Cattle Co Sapphire Feedlot
- ▶ **Isabelle Hare** – Associated Feedlot
- ▶ **Angus Lee** – ACC Opal Creek Feedlot
- ▶ **Tim Mitchell** - Condabri Feedlot
- ▶ **Ricky Wilson** - Lillyvale Feedlot

For more information on MPM visit www.feedlots.com.au/mpm





TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND EXTENDING RESEARCH

Continuing to provide one-on-one technical support for lot feeders



As a complimentary service to all lot feeders, ALFA, in partnership with MLA, offers a dedicated Technical Services Officer, Jeff House, who delivers the latest technical information, education, training and support to feedlot operators in the field. Each feedlot visited receives a *Research Extension Information Pack* consisting of ALFA and MLA research and development resources. Cross-border COVID-19 travel restrictions imposed by state governments disrupted visits in 2021, however Jeff still managed to visit over 100 feedlots.

To request the complimentary services of the ALFA/MLA Feedlot Technical Services Officer, contact Jeff House on:

M. 0419 262 207

E. jeff.house@feedlots.com.au

Feedlot Shade Research Webinar – February 2022

In conjunction with MLA, ALFA delivered a webinar that extended the research findings of MLA Research Projects in relation to shade projects. With the goal of promoting understanding and adoption of shade on Australian feedlots, the webinar attracted strong engagement. A total of 157 groups registered for the webinar.

Presented at the webinar was early research findings from R&D on shelter undertaken at the University of New England. One of the main aims of the study was to gather data for southern feedlots, with Tulimba based in the colder New England region of New South Wales and *Bos taurus* cattle used in the pens. Assuming a price of \$9.00/kg HSCW, the data presented showed lot feeders would gross over \$63/head more for the cattle under the waterproof shelter, compared to the no shade or shade cloth treatments.

This was one of a number of initiatives in promoting the adoption of shade to support ALFA's Shade Initiative that encourages all Australian feedlots to make a pledge to provide cattle under their care with access to shade by 2026.

BunkBot demonstrations

With the support of ALFA, MLA's Feedlot Research & Development program has invested grain fed levies into feedlot automation. One of the first solutions to move to commercialisation is the BunkBot - an autonomous robot that manoeuvres a bunk scanner around a feedlot, providing estimates of unconsumed feed that have proven to be more accurate and precise than humans. On-site demonstrations of the technology in a commercial setting commenced in 2021 at Mort & Co's Pinegrove Feedlot near Millmerran, Queensland. To date, there have been five demonstrations held, with a total of 49 people attending to see the technology in action. With the adoption of BunkBot, Pinegrove Feedlot have introduced night calls to their operations, enabling them to collect more data, improve feed utilisation and increase knowledge of feed intake.





OUR CUSTOMERS, CONSUMERS & COMMUNITY

OUR GOALS

- ▶ Influence the operating environment to enable feedlots to continually improve, adapt and innovate.
- ▶ To be the recognised voice of the Australian cattle feedlot industry.

INITIATIVES

- ▶ Promote the feedlot industry's production, welfare and environmental credentials.

PROMOTE THE FEEDLOT INDUSTRY'S PRODUCTION, WELFARE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CREDENTIALS

Since ALFA – in collaboration with MLA - launched grainfedbeef.com.au 12 months ago, the platform has showcased the attributes of the grain fed beef production system and the people who make up this great sector, to enable the feedlot industry to better tell its story about how we nourish cattle, land and communities.

The platform was developed to proudly promote what we do, educate consumers about our industry, and meet their desire to know how and where their food is produced.

Inaccurate claims are sometimes made about the production of grain fed beef, alongside a growing competition from alternative proteins, a rise in food and animal activism, and changes in diet trends.

This dedicated resource is designed to build a stronger collective voice about how we care for our livestock, the environment and the people and communities around us. It is also designed to support brand owners, suppliers, and foodservice in answering queries related to grain fed beef production in Australia.

The site, Instagram account [@grainfedbeef](https://www.instagram.com/grainfedbeef), regular blogs and a newsletter will continue to deliver tantalising stories on how grain fed beef is produced and how people like to enjoy the tender, juicy flavours that is consistent with grain fed beef.



Talk to any beef producer in Australia and you'll quickly come to understand that raising cattle is not a job, it's a way of life.

Whether they're a small hobby farmer or one of Australia's oldest and largest cattle companies, as is the case with The North Australian Pastoral Company (NAPCo), each and every story will showcase their passion for producing quality beef in an ethical and sustainable way.

At the heart of this is animal welfare, and an unwavering commitment by both grass fed and grain fed beef producers to ensuring the cattle in their care are happy and healthy.

For NAPCo, the commitment to animal welfare comes from the simple and long-standing belief that "cattle are not a commodity to us".

As Rick Young – manager of NAPCo's Wainui Feedlot – tells it, NAPCo staff have a connection with every animal in their care.

Read the full story: [Why cattle are more than just a commodity](#)



OUR LIVESTOCK

OUR GOALS

- ▶ To lead in animal welfare, environmental and production standards.
- ▶ Increase the profitability and sustainability of our members' businesses.
- ▶ Influence the operating environment to enable feedlots to continually improve, adapt and innovate.

INITIATIVES

- ▶ Continual improvement of feedlot animal welfare practices.
- ▶ Encourage adoption of shade in feedlots.
- ▶ Encourage adoption of antimicrobial stewardship in feedlots.
- ▶ Continue to partner with MLA on feedlot research and development for the betterment of grain fed levy payers.

CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT OF FEEDLOT ANIMAL WELFARE PRACTICES

Managing Summer Heat in Australian Feedlots



Preparation and contingency planning are essential to getting ahead of issues before they arise. With La Niña conditions prevailing through summer 2021-2022, the increased rain and humidity proved to be a challenging environment for cattle management. ALFA's Guide on *Managing Summer Heat in Australian Feedlots* was provided to members in Spring 2021 to help lot feeders prepare for and

manage excessive heat events. Information contained in the guide supports the decision-making process and provides practical management practices that can reduce the risk of heat and help protect cattle welfare.

Handbook of best practice guidelines for the Australian feedlot industry



Continual improvement and striving to operate to best practice are a key focus of the feedlot industry. Developed by ALFA and MLA, and provided to all accredited feedlots in May 2022, the *Handbook of best practice guidelines for the Australian feedlot industry* provides a concise reference document for feedlot operators and their employees

to promote improved management practices in the Australian feedlot industry.

The handbook is a tool designed to assist feedlot operators in identifying outcomes and key operational procedures for best practice standards in alignment with the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS). The document is not a substitute for the quality management system in feedlots, but rather a practical guide for feedlot operators to consider in their operational and management programs and assist in the development of in-house procedures.

ENCOURAGE ADOPTION OF SHADE IN FEEDLOTS

ALFA Shade Initiative

To maximise cattle wellbeing, meet welfare standards, increase productivity, and meet community expectations, ALFA is committed to seeing the adoption of shade in feedlots increase over time.

To support this, ALFA launched the ALFA Shade Initiative in November 2020; a project asking all Australian feedlots to make a pledge to provide cattle under their care with access to shade by 2026.

ALFA continued to promote shade adoption

throughout 2021 and 2022 via the delivery of engaging content, including videos and articles such as:

- ▶ Why shade and shelter are important to [Jalna Feedlot](#)
- ▶ Deciding the [best shade system](#) for your operation
- ▶ Why shade is important to [Killara Feedlot](#)
- ▶ [ALFA shade initiative](#)
- ▶ [Why shade is important and how to decide the best system for your operation](#)

The dedicated ALFA Shade Hub houses a range of key resources including a [Unlocking the benefits of Shade Handbook](#), which contains information on the [benefits of shade to animal welfare and feedlot productivity](#), the [design and construction of shade](#) and answers to [frequently asked questions](#).

Since the announcement of the ALFA Shade Initiative, the voluntary installation of shade has increased by 2% of feedlot capacity, meaning an additional 29,200 head of cattle now have access to shade.

ADOPTION OF ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP IN FEEDLOTS INTO NFAS



Antimicrobial stewardship guidelines for the Australian cattle feedlot industry



Throughout 2021 and 2022, ALFA continued to promote the adoption of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Guidelines. The world-leading [Antimicrobial Stewardship Guidelines for the Australian Cattle Feedlot Industry](#) was originally released in 2018, and provides practical information on critical antimicrobial agents, antimicrobial resistance and a framework to continue to

ensure appropriate use of antimicrobials within feedlots.

Most importantly, the guidelines arm feedlot managers with a framework to reduce the risk of antimicrobial resistance and safeguard antimicrobial use in the future.

Stewardship is a key action industry can take to preserve the efficacy of these medicines, help prevent the emergence of resistance and, importantly, ensure we can continue to access these important tools into the future.

In October 2021, ALFA stepped up its commitment to antimicrobial stewardship by announcing that the guidelines would become a mandatory requirement for all feedlot operators by making them an auditable requirement of the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS) from 1 January 2022.



When one thinks of the concept of shade, it traditionally means protection from the sun.

But as David and Katy Gillett have seen at their Jalna Feedlot in southern Victoria, the benefits and value-adding opportunity of investing in shade go far beyond a cool place to stand.

Since installing a shed structure in 2017, David said the returns to their business have been clearly apparent.

“By the time you factor in water, fertiliser, social license and performance, there’s big returns to us for the investment we’re putting into sheds, and it’s definitely going to be the way we’re going in the future,” he said.

While it’s a big investment, David said shade is a necessity.

“If we want to continue to operate as we do in this industry, we’ve got to be prepared to put investment into this sort of infrastructure,” he said.

“We see it as a benefit to us as a lot feeder, for animal welfare, and for the social license to operate a feedlot.

“It’s important that we continue to be proactive when it comes to animal welfare, and shade and shelter are certainly helping us progress in that area.”

Read the full story: [Benefits of shade clear at Jalna Feedlot](#)

The move was a significant milestone undertaken to further elevate Australia’s position as global leaders when it comes to antimicrobial stewardship. It built on the commitment from feedlot operators who indicated in 2021 that 62% had voluntarily adopted an Antimicrobial Stewardship Plan within their operations, up from 59% in 2020 and 39% in 2019.

CONTINUE TO PARTNER WITH MLA ON FEEDLOT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE BETTERMENT OF GRAIN FED LEVY PAYERS

MLA’s Research & Development Feedlot Program is funded from grain fed levies, with a matching contribution from the Australian Government, and addresses the specific research, development and adoption requirements of the cattle feedlot sector.



The MLA Feedlot Program is developed through consultation between ALFA's Research & Development Committee and MLA. Through this process, priorities for feedlot industry research are identified, projects developed and levy funds allocated to ensure they are delivered.

Guided by [Red Meat 2030](#) priority areas of 'Our Livestock' and 'Our Environment', the Feedlot Program is also aligned with MLA's strategic initiatives to enable the Australian feedlot industry to be world leaders in animal health, welfare and production practices.

Several key projects were delivered or commenced by MLA in partnership with the ALFA Research & Development Committee and grain fed levy payers during 2021-22.

- ▶ **Feedlot sustainability** – Demonstration that 3-NOP (Bovaer; DSM Nutritional Products) can suppress methane by 90% in finishing diets. Publication of a technical manual for feedlot industry – *Moving Towards Carbon Neutrality*. Revision of the Nitrous oxide prediction equation results in 20% reduction in emissions from feedlot sector; successfully incorporated into the National Inventory. In addition, R&D has demonstrated the current equation used by National Inventory to predict methane from feedlot cattle potentially overestimates methane prediction. An R&D project was initiated to determine the most accurate way to predict methane emissions from feedlot cattle and this R&D will be submitted to DISER to incorporate into National Inventory.
- ▶ **Shade and shelter benefits** – Delivery of initial results of a novel two-tiered shade and shelter tarp system designed by MLA and Polytex solutions, which resulted in a 7kg HSCW gain in 100-day, short-fed implanted steers over mild wet summer conditions. A significant R&D program commenced in shelter and partial shelter in feedlots, including a best practice design and management guide, odour measuring and modelling, and a project to evaluate potential benefits of retrofitting partial shelter in a commercial feedlot.
- ▶ **Effect of feed withdrawal on truck effluent, animal welfare, carcass characteristics and microbiological contamination of feedlot cattle** – Demonstration of a linear decrease in carcass weight (1.8 kg in domestic unimplanted heifers) with feed withdrawal (0, 4, 8 vs 12hrs of feed withdrawal), with no overall difference in effluent captured in tanks for the entire journey, or transport shrink or spillage.
- ▶ **Short duration lairage** – A project to evaluate the impact of time in lairage at abattoir on carcass quality, yield and food safety parameters was initiated. Preliminary data demonstrated a 6.5kg HSCW benefit in animals that underwent three hours of lairage compared to 15 or 27 hours of lairage at abattoir.
- ▶ **Automated bunk management** – Successfully delivered an automated bunk management system with algorithms operating at least equivalent to a highly-trained bunk caller.

- ▶ **Bunkbot battery life and range** – Delivered a battery system upgrade to the BunkBot system using lithium batteries, which has enabled the device to achieve an improved range of 40km before recharging is required.
- ▶ **Grain devitalisation** - Demonstration of Near Infrared Light Source Penetration Technology to devitalise corn, wheat, barley and sorghum which is exciting early-stage pilot research for the potential importation of grain to meet biosecurity requirements. Commercial scaling and testing of a larger unit is now required, prior to testing the grain importation pathway.
- ▶ **Liver defect impact** - Demonstration of the impact of liver defects on carcass characteristics, performance and health of feedlot cattle. A finding of interest and warranting further research was the discovery that infection of Wagyu cattle with hydatids resulted in a carcass weight loss of 9kg. MLA is working with an animal health company and a processor to investigate the feasibility for commercialisation of a hydatid vaccine developed in Australia 20 years ago.

DISEASE PREPAREDNESS AND ENGAGEMENT

The recent confirmed outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in Indonesia is a concern for the Australian beef industry and an emerging threat. While these diseases are not in Australia, it is more important than ever to remain vigilant.

ALFA, together with other industry councils through the Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC), is working with government and industry stakeholders to both prevent LSD and FMD being transmitted to Australia and prepare for potential outbreaks.

Australia has robust systems in place to respond. The Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN) contains the nationally agreed approach for the response to emergency animal disease (EAD) incidents in Australia. The plan is captured in a series of manuals and supporting documents designed to assist coordination and management of an outbreak. ALFA has been engaged in reviewing these, together with reviewing the LSD National Action Plan.

All livestock producers play an incredibly important role in animal disease preparedness. It is imperative that feedlot staff can identify the signs and know how to report it to the appropriate authorities. To assist, ALFA developed [LSD](#) and [FMD](#) fact sheets and provided them to members in March and April 2022 to share amongst feedlot staff.

Early detection is critical for an effective response. LSD and FMD are reportable diseases so if you suspect either in your feedlot, you must immediately report it to The Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline 1800 675 888 or to your state or territory Chief Veterinary Officer.



OUR ENVIRONMENT

OUR GOALS

- ▶ To lead in animal welfare, environmental and production standards.
- ▶ Increase the profitability and sustainability of our members' businesses.
- ▶ Influence the operating environment to enable feedlots to continually improve, adapt and innovate.

INITIATIVES

- ▶ Feedlot industry's contribution to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030.
- ▶ Feedlot industry's contribution to Australian Beef Sustainability Framework.
- ▶ Heat load management in feedlots.

FEEDLOT INDUSTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO ACHIEVING CARBON NEUTRALITY BY 2030

The Australian feedlot sector has an active commitment to environmental stewardship and supports the wider industry initiative in creating a carbon neutral industry by 2030. ALFA worked with MLA through the Research & Development Feedlot Program to identify best practice measures to assist feedlots in defining, and where appropriate, reducing their carbon footprint.

ALFA continued to provide resources to assist feedlot operators to understand and act on the carbon neutrality commitment through its dedicated [Feedlot Carbon Neutral Hub](#) on the ALFA website. The hub provides all the tools a feedlot needs when researching what it means to be carbon neutral, how to reduce carbon emissions and how to go about registering a business as carbon neutral.

FEEDLOT INDUSTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO AUSTRALIAN BEEF SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

The Australian Beef Sustainability Framework (ABSF) defines what sustainable beef production looks like in practice and annually tracks how the industry is performing over a series of indicators.

The ABSF commits the Australian beef industry to a sustainable pathway of best practice and tracks performance through independent evidence against a series of critical indicators against the four themes of animal welfare, economic resilience, environmental stewardship, and people and the community.

ALFA has played an active role in the revision of the ABSF indicators, which were released in the 2022 Annual Update. This work focused on refining existing indicators and introducing new indicators to ensure the framework aligns with the expectations of stakeholders, while also meeting the priorities of industry. The feedlot industry indicators in the areas of adoption of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Guidelines and shade continue to be recorded in the framework and contribute to the overall picture of the beef industry.

HEAT LOAD MANAGEMENT IN FEEDLOTS

It's important to ALFA that feedlots continue to have complimentary access to the Cattle Heat Load Toolbox (CHLT). CHLT is operated by Katestone and provides site-specific forecasting for feedlot operators registered with the service.

Forecasting and early warning systems enable lot feeders to respond in real time and change management practices to reduce the risk of heat-related incidents.

The Katestone Heat Load forecast service continues to be funded through levies via MLA at the request of ALFA, to ensure it remains available at no direct cost to feedlots.

OUR MARKETS

OUR GOALS

- ▶ Increase the profitability and sustainability of our members' businesses.
- ▶ Influence the operating environment to enable feedlots to continually improve, adapt and innovate.

INITIATIVES

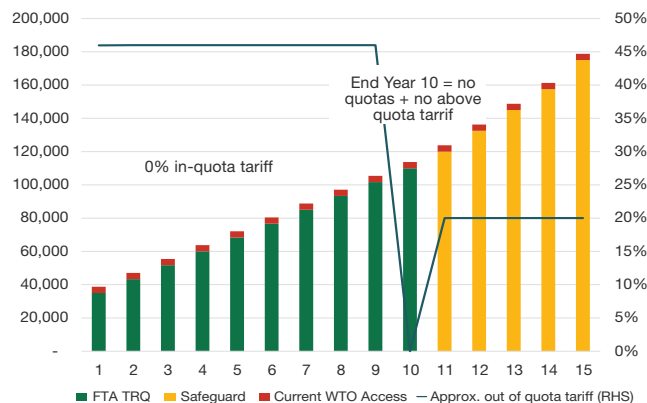
- ▶ Active engagement in Australia's FTA process to ensure we maximise our market access opportunities.
- ▶ Continued provision of Quarterly Feedlot Statistics.

ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN AUSTRALIA'S FTA PROCESS TO ENSURE WE MAXIMISE OUR MARKET ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES

A-UK Free Trade Agreement Reached

ALFA, as a member of the Australia-UK Red Meat Market Access Taskforce, worked during 2020-21 with other Peak Industry Councils and government to secure greater UK market access for Australian beef. In June 2021, industry welcomed the in-principal agreement between the Australian and UK governments that will see Australian beef access to the UK liberalised over a 10-year transition period. ALFA continues to work with key stakeholders to bring the agreement into force as this arrangement will provide industry with great opportunities not seen in that market for decades.

Australian Beef Access to UK under A-UK FTA



CONTINUED PROVISION OF QUARTERLY FEEDLOT STATISTICS

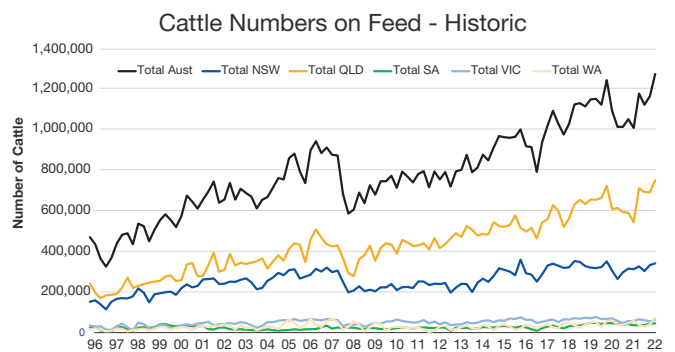
Record numbers remain for cattle on feed

ALFA, with support of MLA, continued to deliver the Quarterly Feedlot Survey results which provide cattle on feed and other important market indicators.

Cattle on feed continued to remain above 1 million head through 2021-22, which has been consistently achieved each quarter since 2018.

These results, coupled with national feedlot capacity increasing to a record level of 1,485,714 head in the March 2022 quarter, continued to demonstrate the confidence in the long-term outlook of the feedlot industry.

MLA reported that from October 2021 to December 2021, grain fed beef accounted for a record 54.5% of total beef production and over 50% of the cattle slaughtered in Australia, further solidifying the growing importance that the feedlot industry is playing in Australian beef production.



Cattle on feed continued to remain above 1 million head through 2021-22, which has been consistently achieved each quarter since 2018.



OUR SYSTEMS

OUR GOALS

- ▶ Increase the profitability and sustainability of our members' businesses.
- ▶ Be a leader in animal welfare, environment and production standards.

INITIATIVES

- ▶ Continual improvement of the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS).

CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE NATIONAL FEEDLOT ACCREDITATION SCHEME (NFAS)

The [National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme \(NFAS\)](#) is the feedlot industry's quality management system, which underpins the integrity of grain fed beef.

NFAS has enabled the Australian feedlot industry to gain a reputation of producing high-quality Australian grain fed beef that meets food safety, animal welfare and environmental requirements. NFAS is owned and operated independently by AUS-MEAT. The Feedlot Industry Accreditation Committee (FLIAC) oversees the management of the Scheme.

Following a review in 2020, NFAS Rules and Standards underwent a revision by FLIAC to further strengthen the Scheme and these changes were introduced in 2021 and became auditable in January 2022.

To assist feedlot operators in implementing the changes, ALFA has partnered with AUS-MEAT and the Integrity Systems Company to roll out communication and training materials.

This has included the introduction of a regular 'Open Forum' webinar, which features a different lot feeder discussing how they tackled their audit of the new standards. The development of supporting materials, including fact sheets and templates, continues to be disseminated to feedlots via the dedicated NFAS email newsletter.

As at March 2022, a total of 120 feedlots - or 31% of all accredited feedlots - registered for one or more of the Open Forums. The Open Forums are successfully attracting small to medium family-owned feedlots. 43% of registering feedlots have registered for two or more Open Forums, and attendance surveys have revealed:

- ▶ 96% of respondents found the information 'really useful' or 'somewhat useful'.
- ▶ 88% of respondents expect that they will use the wisdom from the forum to help be audit ready.
- ▶ 83% of respondents will do what they can to attend the next forum and may recommend to colleagues as well.



Grain Fed Beef - Guaranteed

A dedicated NFAS newsletter has been developed and is being well received, attracting 510 subscribers to date, with open rates ranging from 48% to 60%.



OUR ASSOCIATION

OUR GOALS

- ▶ Be the recognised voice of the Australian cattle feedlot industry.
- ▶ 100% representation of all Australian cattle feedlots.

INITIATIVES

- ▶ Continued best practice governance management.
- ▶ Strengthening government relations and advocacy.
- ▶ Best practice policy development framework.

CONTINUED BEST PRACTICE GOVERNANCE MANAGEMENT

ALFA prides itself on operating appropriate governance arrangements and being financially strong and capable of delivering a quality service to its members. Throughout the year, ALFA Council and the Secretariat continued to operate ALFA's Governance procedures, including implementing its Strategic Operating Plan 2020-2023, adhering to ALFA's Corporate Governance Schedule, reviewing ALFA's Risk Framework, and ensuring the Association continues to have capability to operate ALFA's Crisis Response Plan.

ALFA Annual General Meeting 2021

ALFA held its 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 21 October, which was broadcast to ALFA members via webinar due to COVID-19.

Highlights reported to members from [ALFA's 2021 Year in Review](#) included:

- ▶ Announcing major policies including the [ALFA Shade Initiative](#) that encourages all Australian feedlots to make a pledge to provide cattle under their care with access to shade by 2026 and stepping up our commitment to [Antimicrobial Stewardship](#) from 1 January 2022.
- ▶ ALFA, in collaboration with MLA, proudly launched [grainfedbeef.com.au](#) at Beef Australia 2021 to showcase the attributes of the grain fed beef production system and enable the feedlot industry to better tell its story about how we nourish cattle, land and communities.

- ▶ A new online training, education and careers hub, [Feedlot TECH](#), was launched by ALFA and MLA to showcase feedlot industry careers and provide feedlot operators and individuals better access to training, professional development and career path opportunities.
- ▶ Launching a dedicated [Carbon Neutral Hub](#) designed to assist lot feeders on the collective industry's journey to Carbon Neutrality by 2030.
- ▶ Delivered workshops on Nutrition and Milling, Animal Health and Welfare, Pen Cleaning, Carbon Neutrality and Shade with over 1,300 feedlot staff attending.
- ▶ Over 169 groups virtually attended ALFA's virtual conference program, SmartBeef Bites, in October 2021, showing true support for industry after COVID-19 forced the cancellation of the SmartBeef 2021 in-person event.
- ▶ Supporting feedlots through COVID-19 by delivering timely communications to help feedlots prepare for and manage the impact of the virus.
- ▶ Successful delivery of [ALFA's Recognition of Excellence Awards Program](#) which encourages and celebrates excellence via scholarships and awards such as the Australian Feedlot of the Year, Young Lot Feeder of the Year, the Award for Innovation, Community Heroes Award, and the Excellence in Feedlot Education Medal.
- ▶ Continued partnership with Meat & Livestock Australia to undertake effective Research & Development on behalf of lot feeders, with progress made in the areas of feedlot automation, dark cutting research, and methane emission suppression.

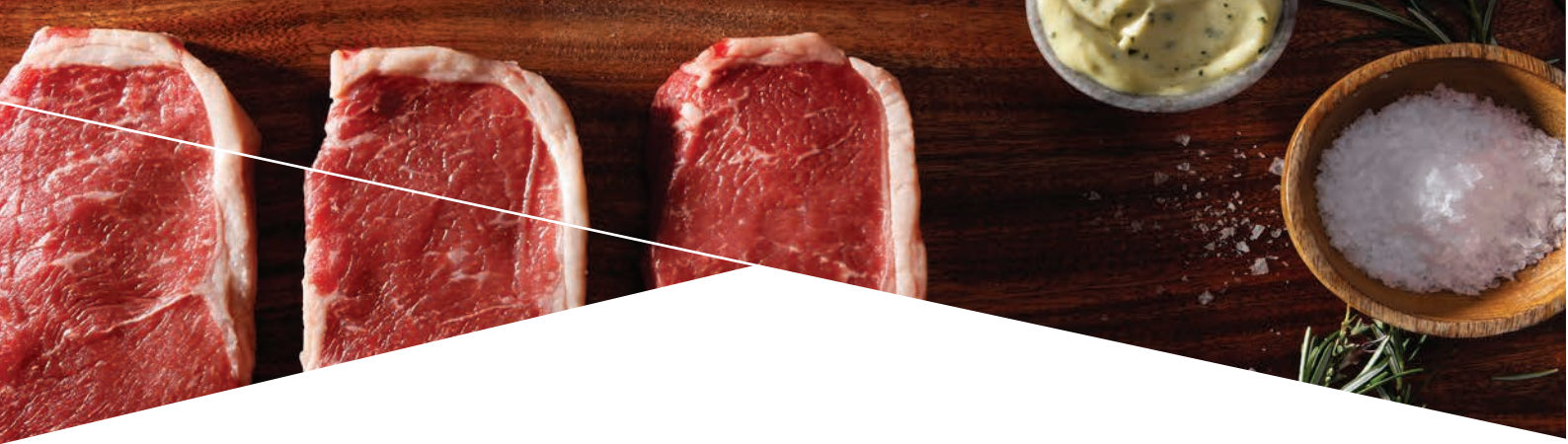
During the AGM 2021 proceedings, ALFA welcomed four new individual representatives elected by the membership to join the Council:

David Bailey - Australian Country Choice feedlots, Brindley Park; Brisbane Valley; and Opal Creek, QLD

Lauren McNally - Stockyard Lot Feeders Pty Ltd, QLD

Lucy Morris - Lake Preston Feedlot, WA

Andrew Talbot - Killara Feedlot, NSW



A change in office bearers was also endorsed at the AGM, including **Barbara (Barb) Madden** who was elected as ALFA President, following **Bryce Camm's** decision to retire from the position after completing his three-year term. **Bryce Camm** now fills the important role of Immediate Past President. **Amanda Moohen** was elected Treasurer, and **Grant Garey** and **Paul Vogt** re-elected as Vice Presidents.

ALFA Office Bearers and Councillors confirmed for 2021/22 were:

- ▶ Barbara Madden (President)
- ▶ Bryce Camm (Immediate Past President)
- ▶ Amanda Moohen (Treasurer)
- ▶ Grant Garey (Vice President)
- ▶ Paul Vogt (Vice President)
- ▶ Scott Braund (Councillor)
- ▶ Daryle Belford (Councillor)
- ▶ David Bailey (Councillor)
- ▶ Lauren McNally (Councillor)
- ▶ Andrew Talbot (Councillor)
- ▶ Lucy Morris (Councillor)
- ▶ Thomas Green (Councillor)
- ▶ Stephen Martin (Councillor)
- ▶ Grant Melrose (Councillor)
- ▶ Todd Newton (Councillor)
- ▶ Andrew Rushford (Councillor)

STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND ADVOCACY

ALFA is recognised by government as the Peak Industry Council representing the interests of grain fed cattle producers. During 2021-22, ALFA continued to forge important relationships with both sides of Federal and State Governments.

How ALFA advocates on behalf of industry interests

ALFA represents the interests of members and the feedlot industry by responding to legislative reviews and changes that impact the business environment that feedlots operate in.

ALFA's submissions to various government agencies, in response to inquiries or changes in relevant legislation, included:

- ▶ Animal Care and Protection Act 2001 - Queensland Government
- ▶ NSW Agricultural Land Use Planning Strategy (ALUPS) – New South Wales Department of Primary Industries
- ▶ Waste and Resource Recovery Determinations – Victorian Environmental Protection Authority
- ▶ Meat Definitions Senate Inquiry - In June 2021, Senator Susan McDonald announced a Parliamentary Inquiry into 'Definitions of Meat and other Animal Products'. This inquiry was vital for the red meat industry to protect our beef brands and integrity systems.
 - There was significant support and participation from industry into the inquiry, which undoubtedly supported an overwhelmingly positive result.
 - In February 2022, the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee handed down its report from the inquiry, which supported industry's recommendation that a mandatory regulatory framework for the labelling of plant-based protein products be developed.
 - The committee also recommended that, as part of its review and modernisation of the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1999, Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) initiate a review in consultation with industry of section 1.1.1 – 13(4) of the FSANZ Code and recommended exempting its application to named meat, seafood and dairy category brands.
 - The result of the Senate Inquiry was overwhelmingly positive for the red meat sector and the lot feeding industry more specifically.
 - A full copy of the Senate Inquiry Report can be viewed here: [Don't mince words: definitions of meat and other animal products](#).



In addition to these submissions, ALFA continued to ensure effective engagement with key stakeholder groups through the period, including:

- ▶ Industry – RMAC, Peak Councils and Service Providers
- ▶ Industry – Other intensive industries, including the pork, chicken, eggs and dairy research and advocacy industries
- ▶ Political – State Agricultural Departments and Environmental Agencies
- ▶ Political – Federal Agriculture and Trade
- ▶ Regulatory – State Agricultural Departments, Planning Departments, Environmental Departments
- ▶ Regulatory – Commonwealth Agricultural Department, Export Department
- ▶ Retailers – Coles and Woolworths
- ▶ Feedlot Veterinarians and Nutritionists
- ▶ Environmental service providers
- ▶ RSPCA at the State and Federal level

BEST PRACTICE POLICY DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

ALFA Council continued to implement its best practice Policy Framework. The framework outlines the procedures and tools that facilitate efficient, succinct and effective policy development for ALFA and the feedlot sector.

ALFA Committees are charged with reviewing existing and developing new ALFA policies relevant to their area of expertise on an annual basis. ALFA's newly-developed Policy Register continues to be a living document, constantly reviewed and updated to ensure ALFA policies remain relevant, up-to-date and fit for purpose.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

ALFA remains committed to keeping members informed of the latest industry news, research and development, policy changes, and government updates through a range of channels. These channels include:

'Around the Pens' newsletter: This fortnightly update features latest industry matters, events and training, recognition of excellence, and tools and resources.

General messages: Used to keep members up to date as matters arise, prime examples of this includes latest COVID-19 information and requirements; weather event updates and available industry and government support; biosecurity advice and fact sheets.

Media releases: Distributed to members and media, releases facilitate the distribution of key information and talking points from ALFA, including quarterly survey data, awards announcements, and event promotion.

Lotfeeding Journal: Printed every two months by Australian Community Media, this publication is an in-depth roundup of all things lot feeding.

Fact sheets: ALFA develops and distributes fact sheets addressing a range of issues, to keep lot feeders informed as matters like LSD and FMD arise.

Australian Grain Fed Beef newsletter: Distributed every two months to a subscriber list of almost 900 contacts, this product helps industry to highlight the positives of the grain fed beef product and production systems by featuring people, products, chefs and feedlots.

Feedlot TECH newsletter: Distributed quarterly to almost 100 subscribers, this product is a round-up from the Training Hub, featuring people, careers and opportunities.

If you would like any further information on the Year in Review activities, please contact the ALFA Office on (02) 9290 3700.

During 2021-22, ALFA continued to forge important relationships with both sides of Federal and State Governments.

ALFA COUNCILLORS

ALFA's Board is comprised of directly-elected feedlot representatives; a model that has stood the test of time in delivering passionate industry talent who strive to deliver on ALFA's value proposition to feedlot businesses.

The ALFA Council is steely focused on representing the interests of lot feeders and delivering on our mission to improve the profitability, professionalism and community standing of the cattle feedlot industry via industry representation, strategic levy investment, industry development activities and membership assistance.

PRESIDENT



BARBARA MADDEN
Smithfield Cattle Company, QLD
Chair Executive Committee

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



BRYCE CAMM
Camm Agricultural Group, QLD
Chair Community
Engagement Committee

VICE PRESIDENT



GRANT GAREY
Tey's Australia, QLD
Chair R&D Committee

VICE PRESIDENT



PAUL VOGT
Associated Feedlots, NSW
Chair Membership, Events and
Industry Capacity Committee

TREASURER



AMANDA MOOHEN
Harvest Road, WA
Chair Feed Commodities and
Nutrition Committee



SCOTT BRAUND
Mort & Co, QLD
Chair Feedlot
Management Committee



GRANT MELROSE
Pakaderinga Feedlot, QLD



DARYLE BELFORD
Whyalla Feedlot, QLD



ANDREW RUSHFORD
Stanbroke Feedlot, QLD
Chair Animal Health and
Welfare Committee



STEPHEN MARTIN
Allied Beef, QLD
 Chair Marketing, Trade and Market Access Committee



DAVID BAILEY
Australian Country Choice feedlots, QLD



LAUREN MCNALLY
Stockyard Lot Feeders Pty Ltd, QLD



ANDREW TALBOT
Killara Feedlot, NSW



LUCY MORRIS
Lake Preston Feedlot, WA



THOMAS GREEN
Thomas Foods International Feedlot, SA



TODD NEWTON
Myola Feedlot, NSW
 Chair Environment Committee

ALFA COMMITTEES


Each ALFA Committee covers specific topics of responsibility that collectively make up the issues ALFA progresses on behalf of its members:


- ▶ Executive Committee
- ▶ Membership, Events, and Industry Capacity Committee
- ▶ Animal Health and Welfare Committee
- ▶ Research and Development Committee
- ▶ Feedlot Management Committee
- ▶ Feed Commodities and Nutrition Committee
- ▶ Marketing, Trade and Market Access Committee
- ▶ Environment Committee
- ▶ Community Engagement Committee

ALFA



**AUSTRALIAN LOT FEEDERS'
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