Graham Centre Livestock Forums (Producer Day)

Wednesday 4 July 2018
Joyes Hall, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga

This year the Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation (Graham Centre) will include our annual sheep and beef forums in the program for the final day of the Australian Society of Animal Production 2018 conference. The day will remain focused on the practical application of research, linking science to on-farm outcomes. We will hold concurrent sessions on sheep and beef cattle, showcasing the latest research from the Graham Centre and industry while giving producers an opportunity to meet and network with industry experts and each other.
## Schedule

### 9.00am–10.30am

**Opportunities for productivity improvements in extensive livestock systems**

Tailoring the diets of livestock systems not only benefits productivity but also provides flow-on benefits for consumers. This session will focus on work being done in extensive livestock systems and how it can be applied to benefit livestock and humans.

- **Professor Fred Provenza, Utah State University** – How palates link soil and plants with herbivores and humans.
- **Dr David Masters, The University of Western Australia** – Practical implications of mineral and vitamin imbalance in grazing sheep.
- **Dr Maree Bowen, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland** – Grazing pressure, land condition, productivity and profitability of beef cattle grazing buffel grass pastures in the sub tropics of Australia: a modelling approach.
- **Dr Stephanie Muir, Agriculture Victoria** – Sheep residual feed intake and feeding behaviour: are ‘nibblers’ or ‘binge eaters’ more efficient?

### Morning tea

### 11.00am–12.30pm

**Concurrent session 3.1: Sheep health**

- **Dr Emily Stearman, Riverina Local Land Services** – Ovine brucellosis: how would this affect my business?
- **Dr David Jenkins, Graham Centre, Charles Sturt University** – Sheep measles: how can we control its insidious impact on the Australian sheep meat industry?
- **Dr Aleta Knowles, Virbac Australia** – Worm problem? What problem?
- **Ms Jane Kelly, Graham Centre, Charles Sturt University** – Seed contamination in sheep: new investigations into an old problem.

**Concurrent session 3.2: Cattle management and production**

- **Professor Bruce Allworth, Fred Morley Centre, Charles Sturt University** – A comparison of the effectiveness of a single active macrocyclic lactone drench with an abamectin/levamisole combination drench, and the effect on weight gains, in beef cattle in southern New South Wales.
- **Dr Jeff McCormick, Graham Centre, Charles Sturt University** – Mineral supplementation with salt, magnesium oxide and lime increases steer growth rates when grazing a failed wheat crop during early spring.
- **Mr John Piltz, NSW Department of Primary Industries** – Beef production opportunities for conserved cereal and canola crops.
- **Dr Timothy Biffin, Riverina Local Land Services** – FMD: risk mitigation initiatives for your farm; applying lessons from Nepal.

### Lunch

### 1.30pm–3.00pm

**Concurrent session 4.1: Sheep economics and production**

- **Dr Sue Hatcher, Makin Outcomes** – Ewe culling and retention strategies to increase reproductive rates in Merino sheep.
- **Dr John Young, Farming Systems Analysis Service** – Ewe culling and retention strategies to increase reproductive rates in Merino sheep: economic analysis.
- **Dr Susan Robertson, Graham Centre, Charles Sturt University** – Opportunities for improving gross margins for mixed sheep/cropping farms.
- **Producer case study**

**Concurrent session 4.2: Cattle economics and new technologies**

- **Dr Eliz Braddon, Riverina Local Land Services** – National Livestock Identification System: does it have value beyond traceability requirements for producers?
- **Ms Demelsa Lollback, Meat & Livestock Australia** – Livestock Data Link: an online application for supply chain information sharing.
- **Producer case study**
- **Professor Robert Banks, Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit, University of New England** – How useful are genomic tests for commercial cattle? (Or Should I read the fine print?)
Register now for the 2018 Graham Centre Producer Day!

$55 per person
Includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea

PREPAYMENT IS ESSENTIAL – NO BOOKINGS WILL BE TAKEN ON THE DAY

Prepay at: asap.asn.au/2018-conference/registration

You can also purchase tickets to join us at the Conference Dinner, Charles Sturt University Convention Centre, 7–11pm. Be entertained by Murray Hartin – a poet, author and entertainer who puts a fresh edge on original contemporary bush-style poetry – and enjoy the best local Riverina food and wine. Tickets can be purchased at the point of registration for $125 per person.

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