



BEEFEX PROGRAM 2026



22-24 SEPTEMBER 2026

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre

Proudly hosted by ALFA - Australian Lot Feeders' Association

Register now

Register now for the high energy showcase of Australia's grain fed beef sector.

Get ready to be part of a supersized program that will inspire, challenge and create opportunity far beyond the feedlot.

Immerse yourself in three days of all things grain fed beef at BeefEx 2026.

An enormous thank you to ALFA partners, sponsors and supporters for ongoing support and investment into Australia's premier grain fed beef event.

Major conference partner



Welcome function proudly supported by



Gala dinner proudly supported by



BeefEx Sponsors



BeefEx highlights

Perspective & impact: economics, trust and the 2040 feedlot

BeefEx 2026 is set to challenge your thinking as we bring together some of the brightest minds and leading thinkers to provide fresh perspectives on the future of the Australian feedlot sector.

Former ANZ Chief Economist and market analyst guru **Saul Eslake**



will lean on Deloitte analysis and the global lens to examine the rise of grain fed beef and what is coming next. The focus then turns towards the wit and candour of former Federal Minister **Christopher Pyne** on what it takes to survive scrutiny, rebuild trust and keep communicating when the crowd gets noisy.



Futurist **Anders Sörman-Nilsson** will also look to the 2040 feedlot and the opportunities that will challenge and inspire with insights from scientists, lot feeders and

industry experts as they stitch together the vision of the Australian beef feedlot of the future.

Meet your MC for BeefEx, Channel 7 media personality turned QLD beef farmer **Kimberley Busteed**.



Su McCluskey is putting the case for why agriculture

must remain strong, trusted and future-ready in an era of geopolitical disruption and growing scrutiny of the food system.



Bold Nebraskans changing the game

Take a closer look into one of the boldest feedlot builds in North America – not just for its planned scale, but for the thinking behind it. Founding partner of Blackshirt Feeders **Dr Kee Jim** takes us inside the Nebraska project which is using roller-compacted concrete, tighter systems and new technology to reduce footprint while lifting capacity to 150,000 head. This is a unique look at the design decisions, commercial logic and practical innovation behind a feedlot built for the next era of grain fed beef.



Moments that define you – Glen Boss

Few know what it means to perform when everything is on the line quite like champion jockey **Glen Boss**.

Best known for three Melbourne Cup wins on the great Makybe Diva, Glen built a career on backing his judgement, trusting his preparation and finding another gear when it matters most. In a fitting close to BeefEx, Glen reflects on the moments that define you – and what it really takes to back yourself when the pressure is on.



The Morning Bunk Call brought to you by ProTernative – run the beach **NEW!**

Introducing the BeefEx Morning Bunk Call with a healthy dose of fitness and fellowship thanks to ProTernative and the team at Lallemand! A sharp 6am start and you'll be back at your bunk by 7am in time to get ready for a big day.

Future Feeders Network Function

Brand new event on Day 1 – Launch your BeefEx 2026 experience with 90 minutes of exclusive access to VIP speakers and industry mentors. Move from the bunks to the boardwalks as you connect with some of the finest minds in the industry and expand your professional network.

Early opening for BeefEx Trade Show

The BeefEx trade hall has literally 'beefed' itself up in 2026 with a record number of exhibitors and we are opening the doors early on Tuesday afternoon so you can make the most of the lot feeding smorgasbord that awaits! Make the most of the extra time before we set BeefEx alight with a spectacular welcoming event.

Grain fed beef industry achievers

BeefEx is the platform for recognising outstanding achievement within Australia's lot feeding sector. From the pinnacle Australian Feedlot of the Year Award to Young Lot Feeder, Education Medal, Innovation Competition, Communicate Your Research and Community Heroes. Join us as we celebrate those who have been paving the way forward with ingenuity, insight and innovation. Winners to be announced throughout BeefEx 2026.



BeefEx 2026 Program

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

3.00pm

Future Feeders Networking Function

Hosted by **ALFA Future Feeders Network (FFN)** and sponsored by **Freemantle Feeds**



Venue: Exhibition Hall Stage

Networking 101 for BeefEx newcomers & ALFA Alumni. Kickstart your BeefEx 2026 experience with an interactive 90 minutes of VIP speakers and industry mentors. This exclusive session will take you from bunks to boardwalks, providing an opportunity for you to expand your network and rub shoulders with some of our industries finest.

Not a member of FFN yet? No problem, you are still very welcome to join us!

3.00pm

BeefEx Trade Exhibition Opens

In a new format for BeefEx – get in early and discover our biggest ever trade show. You will need every available break in BeefEx to soak up all that is on offer, so this special early entry is your time to do business and be right on hand for the opening moments at 5pm.

5.00pm-
7.00pm

Welcome to BeefEx 2026

Sponsored by **GrainCorp Animal Nutrition**



Venue: Plenary Theatre reimagined

Be right there for the spectacular opening moments of the **GrainCorp Animal Nutrition's** Welcome Function, ahead of being introduced to this year's finalists in the **Performance Feeds Young Lot Feeder of the Year**. Enjoy the camaraderie of reconnecting with old mates and being introduced to new ones, while enjoying tastiest morsels of grain fed beef cocktail style.

NOTE: this won't be enough for your dinner – just enough to be immensely proud of your product and remind you that you will enjoy exceptional grain fed beef at every meal in ample quantities as you navigate BeefEx 2026!

BeefEx 2026 Program

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

6.00am

BeefEx Morning Bunk Call

Brought to you by **ProTernative**



Venue: Kurrawa Park, Broadbeach

Get active with the BeefEx Morning Bunk Call thanks to ProTernative and the team at Lallemand. Put on your wellness gear for an early start and take in the Gold Coast Beach at a pace of your choosing. You can run alongside some famous faces (top secret) or keep up the rear with other notable personalities! Fun, fitness and fellowship – and heck – you’re on the Coast so get out of bed and soak up the vibe. You can’t miss this! A 6am sharp kick off and you’ll be back at your bunk by 7am in time to get ready for a big day.

8.00am

BeefEx Trade Exhibition Opens

Session 1: How people are everything

9.00am

BeefEx 2026 Opening spectacular followed by a message from ALFA President **Grant Garey**

9.15am

Quiet strength: What feedlot people and soldiers have in common

Retired Australian Army Brigadier turned defence and security academic **Professor Ian Langford** knows the meaning of service above self. And, he has just discovered that this same quiet commitment runs deep in the feedlot industry. It’s not just the work ethic. It’s also the reality that, all too often, the wider public doesn’t understand the real story behind the fence. In this powerful opening to BeefEx, one of the Army’s most decorated leaders draws on decades of leading soldiers in demanding environments to explore the culture that holds when the pressure is on.

10.00am

The food front line: agriculture, trust and Australia’s resilience

Food production sits at the centre of Australia’s national interest – feeding people, protecting biosecurity, trading with confidence, earning public trust and investing in systems that can withstand pressure. As a beef producer, former Special Representative for Australian Agriculture and one of the country’s most respected policy voices **Su McCluskey** suggests what agriculture must do to remain strong, trusted and future-ready.

10.30am

Break – sponsored by **BEC Biotech**



Session 2: The big picture

11.15am The rise of grain fed beef and what comes next

Australian grain fed beef is on a remarkable growth trajectory. But what does that growth look like when viewed through the lens of global markets, capital flows and geopolitical disruption? Former ANZ Chief Economist **Saul Eslake** has been asked to examine the latest Deloitte analysis of the industry and then step back and interpret what it means. Fresh from a feedlot visit, Saul draws on decades of experience analysing global markets to explore the forces shaping the sector's future - from shifting trade dynamics to political uncertainty - and what he thinks this means for feedlot investors and operators.

11.50am How close were we, really?

Australia's food system depends on fuel, fertiliser and other critical inputs arriving through the just-in-time supply chains we have come to rely on. **Andrew Henderson**, who is leading the Australian Government's National Food Supply Chain Assessment, gives us the frank assessment: How exposed *were* we when conflict disrupted the Strait of Hormuz, how exposed are we *now* - and what must change before the next supply shock reaches the farm gate?

12.10pm Chaos, Capital and Cattle (panel discussion)

The global beef market is being reshaped by trade tensions, shifting supply chains and unpredictable politics. Yet the Australian grain fed sector continues to expand. So, are the fundamentals strong enough to sustain that growth? In this fast-moving panel, MLA's General Manager of International Markets **Andrew Cox** is joined by ALFA CEO **Christian Mulders** and JBS COO **Brendan Tatt** to unpack the opportunities and risks ahead. From trade deals and tariffs to shifting global supply and demand, they bring the discussion back to the question that matters most for this room: what does all this mean for the feedlot business?

12.55pm Presentation of the Education Medal, sponsored by Zoetis

1.05pm Lunch sponsored by Zoetis

zoetis

Session 3: What can growth look like?

2.15pm

More cattle, less footprint - Inside the Blackshirt Feeders model



Blackshirt Feeders is one of the boldest feedlot builds in North America - not just for its planned scale, but for the thinking behind it. Founding partner **Dr Kee Jim** takes us inside this Nebraska project which is using roller-compacted concrete, tighter systems and new technology to reduce footprint while lifting capacity to 200,000 head. This is a unique look at the design decisions, commercial logic and practical innovation behind a feedlot built for the next era of grain fed beef. Dr Kee Jim brought to BeefEx 2026 by Apium.

3.00pm

Don't just get bigger. Get Better.

Engineer, Wagyu breeder and lot feeder **Darren Hamblin** has built his businesses by continually challenging the status quo. His view is simple: before you grow, you need to know what you will do differently when that growth arrives. At Struggle Downs on Queensland's Darling Downs, the installation of Wasserbauer Eco Shuttle feeding robots is the most visible example of that philosophy. But Darren's story is not really about robots. It is about the thinking that came first, the changes made across the business - and how technology and data can create the capacity to grow differently.

3.30pm

Break - sponsored by Phibro Animal Health



Session 4: Science that changes the thinking

4.00pm

Front-loading performance

Shade and shelter have become a visible part of the feedlot welfare story. Less visible but just as important, is the work happening before cattle arrive at the feedlot. Pre-vaccination programs for incoming feeder cattle have grown significantly over the past decade. As the industry looks to lift animal health, welfare and performance, the question is no longer just whether these programs work - but how far and how fast they should go. MLA's Feedlot R&D Program Manager, **Dr Tony Batherham** will quantify the change so far, look at what is still holding uptake back, and preview the next suite of preventative health strategies that may soon be within reach. Tony will be joined by **Edwin Cooke**, General Manager Livestock, JBS Northern Division, and **Caitlin Herbert** from Gundmain Feedlot at Eugowra, who will share what pre-vaccination programs have meant in practice for their businesses.

4.30pm

ALFA Communicate Your Research Competition Finalists, sponsored by Bovine Dynamics



Meet the best of the best from this coveted program who have mastered the skill of explaining complex feedlot science in a way that captivates. Hear what's coming next in feedlot R&D from the finalists in Q&A format Hosted by **Melissa George** from Bovine Dynamics.

5.00pm

Day 1 Close

6.30pm

BeefEx Gala Dinner

Hosted by MSD Animal Health



A spectacular evening to celebrate the Australian grain fed beef sector including ALFA Award winners Young Lot Feeder of the Year; Feedlot of the Year; special announcements and, the auction of the BeefEx Charity Bell, with all proceeds going to LifeFlight. **Dress code:** Cocktail

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

6.00am BeefEx Morning Bunk Call

Brought to you by **ProTernative**



Venue: Kurrawa Park, Broadbeach

Return to the beach for Day 2 of the BeefEx Morning Bunk Call thanks to ProTernative and the team at Lallemand. This morning may be a little bit harder and only for the true stayers of the feedlot industry.

8.00am BeefEx Trade Hall Opens

Get around to those you missed on day 1 at the biggest BeefEx trade hall on record.

Session 1 - Scrutiny spotlight

9.00am Welcome back to Day 2

9.05am Has the town square gone feral? Cancel culture, public trust and surviving judgement

In a world where outrage travels faster than reason, the public square can feel like an unforgiving place. One wrong word, one unpopular decision, one complex issue reduced to a headline – and suddenly you're no longer explaining the facts, you're defending your right to be heard. After more than 25 years in Australian politics, the **Hon Christopher Pyne**, Former Federal Minister knows what it takes to survive scrutiny, rebuild trust and keep communicating when the crowd gets noisy. With trademark wit and candour, he'll explore what public life can teach any industry that knows what it's like to be watched, questioned and misunderstood.

9.50am Walking towards the fire

As the American and Australian grain fed beef industries continue to realise the benefits of intensification – the trade-offs involved put pressure on reputation and standing with the community. **Should we as lot feeders be worried?** Managing Director of Australian Eggs **Rowan McMonnies** takes us on the journey of the egg industry response to community pressure on similar issues – providing an easy 'how to' guide to follow if you dare.

10.30am **Break** – sponsor to be announced

Session 2 - Feedlot '40

11.00am

From induction to exit and the consumer beyond



In this remarkable journey, we bring to life just what a feedlot of year 2040 could look like. We will be inspired by latest and emerging innovations and speculate on some blue-sky technologies that are still at concept stage. Narrated by futurist **Anders Sörman-Nilsson**, this is a segment where you will be introduced to opportunities that will challenge and inspire you. Expect to meet scientists, lot feeders and industry experts as they stitch together the vision of the Australian beef feedlot of the future.

12.45pm

ALFA Communicate your Research award, sponsored by Bovine Dynamics



12.50pm

ALFA Community Heroes Award, sponsored by Lallemand Animal Nutrition



1.00pm

Lunch sponsored by Laird Manufacturing



Session 3 - Back to the people

2.15pm

ALFA Innovation Award sponsored by Integrated Animal Production



2.30pm

New Australians at the bunk - from one worker to a workforce

In 2004, **Arnel Corpuz** became one of the first Filipino workers to join an Australian feedlot. Today he helps build the workforce that keeps many of them running. Drawing on his own journey, Arnel shares what it means to leave family behind to build a life in Australia - and how feedlot businesses can help create workplaces where people from different cultures truly become part of the team.

2.45pm

The Safe Horse

With the changing dynamic of workforces on feedlots, often with little or no horse-riding experience, the need for a truly safe horse for pen riders is growing. So, can you prepare a pen riding horse for someone whose never ridden - and be confident that person can safely ride the pens? Horse trainer **Brett Welsh** explains the culture of a safe horse.

3.00pm

Who's backing you - and are you backing yourself?

Few know what it means to perform when everything is on the line quite like champion jockey **Glen Boss**. Best known for his three Melbourne Cup wins on the great Makybe Diva - a champion now gone but never forgotten - Glen built a career on backing his judgement, trusting his preparation and finding another gear when it matters most. In this fitting close to BeefEx, he reflects on the moments that define you - and what it really takes to back yourself when the pressure is on.

3.30pm

Closing remarks

Followed by Sundowner drinks thanks to **Roto-Mix**



Speakers

In order of appearance



Ian Langford, Professor (Brigadier [Retd]), PhD, DSC and Bars.

Professor (Brigadier Retd) Ian Langford is a former senior officer of the Australian Defence Force with 30 years of leadership experience in complex operational and strategic environments. During his military career, he commanded the 2nd Commando Regiment, led multiple Special Operations Task Groups in Afghanistan and Iraq, and served twice as Head of Land Capability, overseeing the Army's future capability development, major acquisitions, and strategic investments.

His operational service included deployments to Timor-Leste, Afghanistan, Bougainville, Solomon Islands, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, and the South-West Pacific. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross on three occasions, was appointed Honorary Aide-de-Camp to the Governor-General of Australia in 2019, has been patron of the Defence Entrepreneur's Forum

and is a Distinguished Graduate of the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College and the School of Advanced Warfighting.

Ian holds a Bachelor of Management, Master of Arts, Master of Defence Studies, Master of Strategic Studies, and a PhD from Deakin University. He is also a Distinguished Graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors and has competed the Senior Executive Leadership (ANU), Senior Leadership in National Security and the Senior Leadership in Government (Harvard) programs. Since retiring from the Army in 2023, Ian has founded Burran Consultancy, serves on several boards, is a Professor at the University of New South Wales, and is Executive Director of the Security and Defence PLUS Alliance and has been published many times as an independent author, essayist and editor.



Su McCluskey, Chair, Crawford Fund for Food Security

Su McCluskey is Chair of the Crawford Fund for Food Security, Director of LiveCorp, a member of the National Food Council and the CSIRO Food and Agriculture Advisory Group and a CPA and ATSE Fellow. A beef cattle farmer from Yass NSW, Su was most recently Interim Chief Executive of the National Farmers' Federation and prior to this was Australia's inaugural Special Representative for Australian Agriculture, advocating for sustainability, global food security and trade and market access. Su was a Director

of Australian Unity, Commissioner for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Commissioner on the National COVID-19 Advisory Board, a member of the Harper Competition Policy Review, CEO of the Regional Australia Institute and the Council of Rural Research and Development Corporations and the Executive Director of the Office of Best Practice Regulation. She has also held senior positions with the Business Council of Australia and the Australian Taxation Office.



Saul Eslake, Economist

Saul Eslake is a leading Australian economist with more than 25 years' experience in financial markets, including senior roles as Chief Economist at ANZ, Bank of America Merrill Lynch (Australia & New Zealand), and McIntosh Securities, as well as Chief Economist (International) at National Mutual Funds Management.

He was Director of the Productivity Growth Program at the Grattan Institute before establishing his own economics consultancy in Hobart in 2015. He also serves as a Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Tasmania.

Saul has advised multiple Australian governments on fiscal policy, including reviews of Tasmania's public sector finances and assessments of government business divestments, and is currently

advising an ACT Legislative Assembly Select Committee on fiscal sustainability. He is also a member of the Australian Parliamentary Budget Office Advisory Panel, the Australian Taxation Office Tax Gap Advisory Panel, the Advisory Board of Jamieson Coote Bonds, and the Board of the Council on the Ageing.

He holds a first-class Honours degree in Economics from the University of Tasmania, a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and Investment from the Securities Institute of Australia, completed the Senior Executive Program at Columbia University, and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws (LLD) by the University of Tasmania in 2012.



Andrew Henderson, Principal of Agsecure & Senior Fellow at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute

Andrew Henderson believes the strength of rural and regional Australia is inseparable from the strength of the nation. As a leading strategic policy specialist, he works to build its prosperity, its resilience and its recognition as a pillar of national security.

He is an experienced independent chair and committee member across food security, biosecurity, traceability, food safety and research and development. He has shaped and championed Australia's national food security preparedness arrangements and led reform of the country's red meat and livestock integrity systems.

Andrew is the Principal of Agsecure, a Senior Fellow at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute and a non-executive director

of End Food Waste Australia and Sheep Producers Australia. He has advised the Commonwealth on biosecurity, red meat and live animal exports, Northern Australia development and climate change.

A published author on biosecurity, food security, agricultural and food system supply chains, Andrew is reframing how Australia values its agriculture sector and the vital role rural and regional Australia plays in the security and stability of our nation and our region.



Andrew Cox, General Manager, International Markets for Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA)

Andrew is the General Manager -International Markets for Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), based in Singapore. He manages a team of over 60 staff in 20 locations throughout Asia, the Middle East, Europe and USA. In partnership with industry, his responsibilities include offshore promotion of Australian beef, lamb and goat meat, customer relations/business development, livestock exports program management and activities to improve market

access. Prior to moving to Singapore, Andrew lived in Tokyo for 6 years, where he managed MLA's programs in Japan and Korea. He originally joined MLA in Sydney from insights and brand consultancy Kantar Group, where he managed relationships with clients such as Unilever, Kellogg's and Campbell Arnotts. Andrew's family run a mixed grazing, cropping and vineyard/cellar door operation in Mudgee, NSW.



Christian Mulders, CEO, Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA)

Christian Mulders is Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA), a position he has held since 2016. He leads ALFA's work to support the continued growth and development of Australia's grain fed beef industry, with a focus on industry capability, product integrity, productivity and sustainability.

With more than 25 years of experience across the red meat and livestock supply chain, Christian has held senior leadership roles with the Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC) and Meat &

Livestock Australia (MLA). He has been involved in the development of a range of national industry programs and systems spanning food safety, traceability, biosecurity and animal welfare, and works closely with industry, government and international stakeholders on issues affecting the sector's long-term success.



Brendan Tatt, Chief Operating Officer – Northern Operations, JBS Australia

Brendan Tatt is Chief Operating Officer, Northern Operations at JBS Australia, overseeing 5 beef processing plants and 5 feedlots supplying domestic and global markets. With a background spanning international trade, livestock and commercial operations,

Brendan brings a grounded, operational perspective on how capital and strategy are being managed amid continued volatility across the supply chain.

Speakers *continued*



Dr Kee Jim, Global Head – Animal Health, Strategy & Animal Health, TELUS Agriculture

Kee Jim was born and raised on a small seedstock/commercial cow calf operation located in the Interior of British Columbia. He received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) in 1983 from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Following graduation, he moved to Okotoks, Alberta and established G.K. Jim Farms and the consulting company Feedlot Health Management Services Ltd.

A highly respected veterinarian and cattle industry leader, Dr. Jim has received numerous honours, including the American Association of Bovine Practitioners Practitioner of the Year, the Beef Award for Excellence in Preventative Medicine, the Canadian Animal Health Institute Leadership Award, and recognition as one of the six VIPs of Feedlot Medicine by Bovine Veterinarian.

Over four decades, he has grown G.K. Jim Farms from the purchase of six percent share pen of 300 head into a major cattle enterprise

operating across Canada and the United States, with interests in backgrounding, grazing, feeding, and feedlot operations. G.K. Jim Farms operates across numerous geographies including Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, Idaho, California, New Mexico, Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Georgia.

He has also served on the boards of numerous industry organisations, including the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, Canada Beef Export Federation (Chair), and the Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association (Vice Chair), while advising leading food and agriculture policy institutions. His recent recognitions include induction into the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame (2024) and the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame (2025), as well as being named among the Top 10 Innovators of Canadian Agriculture and one of the Top 12 Canada's most influential farmers by Country Guide 2011.



Darren Hamblin, Owner & Manager Strathdale Wagyu & Struggle Downs Feedlot

Darren Hamblin is the owner and manager of Strathdale Wagyu and Struggle Downs Feedlot, with more than 25 years' experience across the Wagyu beef supply chain. Since beginning Strathdale Wagyu in 2000, Darren has built a vertically connected business spanning breeding, backgrounding, custom feeding, carcass data, genetics, branded beef and feedlot finishing. His approach has been shaped by a strong focus on performance, traceability

and continuous improvement. The development of Master beef -a carcass assessment and reporting platform - reflects his long-running interest in using better data to drive better decisions. More recently, Struggle Downs Feedlot has brought that same thinking into a purpose-built, fully shedded feedlot environment, combining practical stockmanship with technology, automation and bold infrastructure investment.



Tony Batterham, Feedlot R&D Program Manager, MLA

Tony has been a senior veterinary consultant to beef feedlots in Australia for 25 years and also served Apiam Animal Health as a business unit manager for intensive animals and ACE laboratories. He is a veterinary graduate of Sydney University and holds a Diploma of Veterinary Clinical Studies, and additionally a Master of Clinical Epidemiology and Graduate Certificate of Data Analytics from University of Newcastle. Tony is also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has served two terms as an ALFA councillor along with several ALFA committees since 2015. His special interest is in advanced diagnostics for feedlot animal health conditions, objective measures of animal welfare

and antimicrobial stewardship. Tony also donates his time as an external lecturer in feedlot medicine to University of Melbourne and Marcus Oldham College. He is currently a PhD candidate at Sydney University. Tony has led projects for Meat and Livestock Australia investigating benefits of acclimation and comparing diagnostic modalities for BRD in beef feedlots and is currently involved in several projects researching autogenous vaccines and wearable technology for remote diagnostics and well-being assessment. Tony will move into a new role as Program Manager for feedlot R&D with Meat and Livestock Australia in mid-July 2026.

Speakers *continued*



Edwin Cooke, General Manager Livestock Northern, JBS Australia

Edwin has more than 30 years of experience in the agricultural, meat processing, and regional business sectors, with a strong focus on operational excellence, workforce development, and business growth. He is currently General Manager - Livestock Northern at JBS Australia, overseeing livestock procurement for five processing plants and five feedlots, supplying domestic and export beef markets across Australia. Over the past two decades, Edwin has led large-scale workforce recruitment and settlement programs for regional businesses and has held directorships across organisations in recruitment, health services, animal health, pharmaceuticals, and business consulting. He also operates a cattle and horticultural

enterprise in Central Queensland and provides advisory services to leading agricultural businesses and investment funds. His industry involvement includes serving as an Honorary Council Steward (Beef Committee) for the Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland and as a member of the AgForce Work Health and Safety Committee. Edwin holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Rural Management) with First Class Honours from the University of Queensland, an MBA from Melbourne Business School, University of Melbourne, and a Master of Applied Finance and Investment from FINSIA.



Caitlin Herbert, Sixth generation farmer, NSW

Caitlin Herbert is a sixth-generation farmer and third-generation lot feeder at Gundamain, a diversified family property near Eugowra in Central West NSW that has been in the Herbert family for over 150 years. Gundamain operates a cattle feedlot alongside an Angus breeding herd, prime lamb and wool enterprises, and broadacre cropping and hay production. Caitlin holds a Master of Science in Agriculture and completed a Nuffield Scholarship in 2024 investigating the Australian feedlot industry's role in drought proofing the beef supply chain. Caitlin works across all areas of

the business, with a particular interest in livestock procurement, animal health, and quality assurance programs. Gundamain was an early adopter of the Coopers Bovilis MH+IBR vaccine and has incorporated it into their health program for more than 15 years. Through her role at Gundamain, Caitlin has been involved in the practical application of pre-vaccination strategies for producers to support cattle health, welfare, and performance once they enter the feedlot.



The Hon Christopher Pyne, Executive Chairman, Pyne and Partners

The Hon Christopher Pyne served for twenty-six years in the Australian House of Representatives. He was a Minister across the Howard, Abbott, Turnbull and Morrison Governments serving as Minister for Ageing; Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industry Innovation and Science and as Australian Minister for

Defence was responsible for delivering a \$200 billion build-up of Australia's military capability, the largest in Australia's peacetime history. He is now an author, Visiting Professor in Leadership, strategic adviser, member of boards and a media commentator.



Rowan McMonnies, Managing Director, Australian Eggs

Rowan McMonnies has been Managing Director of Australian Eggs since 2016 – a time which he has led the industry-owned research and development corporation through a period of renewal as the egg industry adjusts to rapidly changing consumer preferences and industry developments. Rowan has been closely involved in agriculture sector initiatives on innovation, animal welfare, community trust and environmental sustainability. He was also Chair

of the Rice Marketing Board for the State of New South Wales until the industry was deregulated through legislative reform earlier this year. Rowan has a commercial, legal and compliance background. Prior to joining Australian Eggs, Rowan was a partner at global law firm, Baker & McKenzie, and held senior positions at the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.



Arnel T Corpuz, Feedlot practitioner (Philippines & Australia)

Arnel T. Corpuz is a feedlot practitioner with more than 30 years of experience in cattle production across the Philippines and Australia. Beginning his career at Dealco Farms in South Cotabato, he later moved to Australia in 2004 and became one of the early Filipinos to work in the country's commercial feedlot industry. Through his work and leadership, he helped pave the way for skilled Filipino agricultural workers in Australian feedlots, many of whom have since advanced into supervisory and management roles. Arnel has held leadership positions in major feedlot operations, including

at Goonoo Feedlot of the Australian Agricultural Company, and was a speaker at ALFA BeefEx 2012. Based in Brisbane, he supports workforce development for agricultural businesses while also managing Great Arch Farm in South Cotabato, a training and demonstration farm dedicated to improving cattle feeding practices. He is the author of The Philippine Cattle Feeding Handbook and a recipient of the 2014 Bagong Bayani Award, recognizing outstanding Overseas Filipino Workers.



Brett Welsh, Allstars Australian Performance Horses

Brett Welsh is a third-generation horseman from northern NSW, now based near Beaudesert in Queensland, where he operates Allstars Australian Performance Horses with his family. He has built a career around practical horsemanship, Australian Stock Horses,

campdrafting, live arena shows and performance horse training, with experience spanning station work, competition, entertainment and film. A more recent string to his bow is training safe horses for pen-riders in Australian feedlots.



Glen Boss, Champion jockey & Melbourne Cup winner

With three consecutive Melbourne Cup triumphs, Glen Boss is one of Australia's most accomplished and successful jockeys. His feats of piloting Makybe Diva to victory in the 2003, 2004 and 2005 Melbourne Cups not only guaranteed Boss a celebrated place in Australian turf history but rewarded his determination to return to the saddle after a serious race fall threatened his career.

When Boss slipped from his mount in torrential rain on a racetrack in Macau in June 2002 the initial medical verdict pointed to an abrupt ending to his high-profile career. Twelve months later, Boss lined up for the 3200 metres classic in 2003 knowing that victory would ensure him a place in Australian turf history. Victory on the first Tuesday in November 2004, when the nation stopped for Australia's most famous horse race, elevated Boss into a special

category – the first jockey to win back-to-back Melbourne Cups and then an incredible three-peat in 2005.

Beaudesert-born, Glen Boss has had a special relationship with horses since he was a toddler growing up on the family's cattle property at Caboolture. As a youngster he won a lot of pony club awards and did his share of breaking in horses. Leaving school at 15, he moved to Gympie to start his riding apprenticeship and after riding 60 winners in less than 10 months he moved on to the Gold Coast where success followed him and since his debut as a senior jockey in 1990 he has ridden 45 Group 1 winners in his home state of Queensland with the 2003, 2004 and 2005 Melbourne Cup victories aboard Makybe Diva stand out like a beacon.

Australian Feedlot of the Year

Since 1991, the competition has driven continuous improvement across the feedlot industry, recognising operations leading the way under NFAS principles.

Young Lot Feeder of the Year

Proudly sponsored by **Performance Feeds**

The award recognises and encourages emerging leaders to bring bold ideas and fresh thinking to the future of Australia's lot feeding industry.



Communicate Your Research competition

Proudly sponsored by **Bovine Dynamics**

This competition is designed to back the next generation of feedlot industry researchers to present their science in way that lands with the feedlot sector.



Excellence in Feedlot Education Medal

Proudly sponsored by **Zoetis**

The award recognises individuals investing in their skills through Feedlot TECH, supporting a strong and capable feedlot workforce.



Community Heroes Award

Proudly sponsored by **Lallemand Animal Nutrition**

Feedlots play a vital role in regional Australia, supporting jobs, communities and the environment.

This award recognises those going above and beyond to give back and strengthen their local communities and surroundings.



Innovation Competition

Proudly sponsored by **Integrated Animal Production**

Feedlots and their teams delivering clever, non-commercialised innovations that improve day-to-day operations are encouraged to enter this competition.



Save *on* BeefEx 2026 registration.



Are you an ALFA member?

Save \$440 by signing up as an ALFA Member (Individual) today.

Special member rates apply to BeefEx registration. Individual membership is only \$625 + GST so sign up and save today.

ALFA membership offers a range of benefits including individual assistance, discounts to workshops, training course and events and much more.



The **ALFA Future Feeders Network (FFN)** is your gateway to connection, growth, and leadership in the feedlot sector. Created for passionate young people aged 35 and under, FFN is an inclusive and supportive membership designed to empower the next generation of lot feeders.

If you're ready to be part of an exciting community that champions young talent and fresh ideas, join the ALFA Future Feeders Network

To make the most of your BeefEx experience, join us for the inaugural **ALFA BeefEx Conference Pre Tour**, an exclusive six-day journey through the heart of Australia's grain fed beef industry in the Darling Downs region.

This unique tour offers unparalleled access to leading feedlots, where you will see innovation and best practice in action. Meet with key service providers and industry partners, gain valuable insights into the latest products, technologies and research shaping the future of the sector, and hear directly from the people driving progress across the industry.

Social functions

Future Feeders Networking Function for BeefEx newcomers & ALFA Alumni

Tuesday 22 September 3.00pm

Exhibition hall stage, Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre

Hosted by Future Feeders Network (FFN) and sponsored by Freemantle Feeds

Kickstart your BeefEx experience with exclusive access to VIP speakers and industry mentors providing an opportunity to expand your network and rub shoulders with some of our industries finest. Not a member of FFN yet? No problem, you are still very welcome to join us!



Welcome to BeefEx thanks to GrainCorp Animal Nutrition

Tuesday 22 September 5.00pm - 7.00pm

Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre

Be right there for the opening moments of the GrainCorp Animal Nutrition's Welcome Function, ahead of being introduced to this year's finalists in the GrainCorp Animal Nutrition's Young Lot Feeder of the Year. Enjoy the camaraderie of reconnecting with old mates and being introduced to new ones, while enjoying tastiest morsels of grain fed beef cocktail style.



The Morning Bunk Call by ProTernative morning run/stroll

Wednesday & Thursday, 23 & 24 September | 6.00am - 7.00am

Broadbeach Boulevard, Gold Coast

Rise and shine – it's the Bunk Call. Join us for an early morning run, walk or stroll along Broadbeach Boulevard. A sharp 6am start and you'll be back at your bunk by 7am, refreshed and ready for a big day. You're on the Gold Coast – you can't miss this.



LALLEMAND ANIMAL NUTRITION

Coopers Animal Health BeefEx Gala Dinner

Wednesday 23 September 7.30pm - 10.30pm

Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre

A spectacular evening to celebrate the Australian grain fed beef sector including ALFA Award winners Australian Feedlot of the Year; Young Lot Feeder of the Year; special announcements and, the auction of the BeefEx Charity Bell, with all proceeds going to LifeFlight.



Sundowner Farewell Drinks

Thursday 24 September 3.30pm

Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre

