

meatup FORUM

For the latest in red meat R&D

Wrap up

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We are in the food game

- Supplying beef:
 - to specs
 - when the market (domestic; international) requires it
 - produced in a way that consumers require (production practices – enviro welfare)
- Focus on ensuring cost effective productivity, within and between years
- Marketing, market insights, R&D and information delivery underway
- Carbon Neutral 2030 target - Australian and industry goals (market access)

What's the impact of systems design?

Efficient system



\$ cost/kg

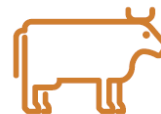
Greater intensity

More production

Better labour efficiency

Lower cost of production

Inefficient system



\$ cost/kg

Focus on production efficiency

- **Better pastures / forages & utilization – match feed supply & animal demand**
- **Winter forages** – ryegrass and oats to address short falls in feed supply
 - Explore addition of tropical grasses, winter forages
 - What could an additional 3-6 t DM of quality feed mean for your business?
- **Pasture dieback - grasses susceptible, alternate options (legumes)**
 - It is manageable

Good for business, good for the environment

- **Better pastures, higher organic matter into soils**
 - Soil organic material is the focus – not C
 - Benefits pasture growth, nitrogen mineralization, water holding capacity
 - *Faster growing animals, less methane – a good business outcome anyway*
 - *Improving SOM is good for your beef business anyway*
- Start with the ‘do now’ strategies (feed quality, legumes, faster growing animals)
 - These are “best practice management”

Genetic improvement; producing restockers

Profit = Income – Costs.....as driven by genetics

- New traits being recorded to inform future EBVs (ovaries to methane)
- New tools coming assists targeted selection (carcass value, fertility value)
- Financial drivers - Fertility, Weaning weight per cow and Sale weight
- A 5% increase in fertility = 7% increase in income
- **Focus on what you can control and get the simple things right**
- Know your Index - and what components you can influence

Take home messages

- Goal - manage cows & heifers to maximise live calves per breeding female
 - Thus increasing kg beef/ha
- Understand your production system and business opportunities
- **Focus on what you can control and get the simple things right**
- Do 'best practice management'- for business & industry goals (CN30)
- Materials and people are available via MLA, DPI, LSS, private sector to support developing your skills, knowledge and confidence for beef production

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