



A collaborative research and development project between Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) and University of Western Australia (UWA) for the WA beef industry

Understanding feedlot performance and eating quality of beef cattle sourced from rangelands through the WA supply chain

About

This [BeefLinks](#) project aims to drive improvement in the on-station management of rangeland cattle by understanding how cattle perform in the WA supply chain. Changes to on-station management may also diversify market options for rangeland cattle producers.

The project is underpinned by a reference group of cattle producers and industry that will provide data and insights. Integrating other datasets collected under the BeefLinks program is a key part of the project. Cattle buyers may benefit from access to higher performing cattle from alternative cattle suppliers.

Research activities

Beef producers, backgrounders, feedlot operators, processors and cattle buyers will be interviewed to better understand the:

- cattle performance required for feedlots
- current cattle husbandry practices used on-station and across the supply chain
- meat quality of cattle from the rangelands.

An economic assessment will be conducted to evaluate the changes to on-station management, for example breeding and nutrition, that are necessary to achieve various market specifications.

Project outcomes

- identification of the rangeland cattle best suited for the southern finishing system
- development of a performance data feedback loop to help inform changes to bull purchasing strategies and nutritional management programs
- a set of recommendations and best practice guidelines produced to inform on-station practice changes that can increase access to domestic markets as well as alternative export markets
- capacity building and support for the WA beef industry to identify and implement activities to optimise cattle performance.



Get involved

BeefLinks is all about collaboration and is always looking for new partners and participants. Contact us to learn out more about the project, find out how you can contribute to research, trials and data collection and keep up to date with project progress.

For more information, please contact:

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