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Christmas
— & —
HAPPY NEW YEAR
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LIVESTOCK SA | NEWS

DECEMBER/JANUARY | 2017



From the president

With
GEOFF POWER



It has been a big end of the year for Livestock SA, with plenty of issues to cover as we head into 2017.

The recently announced sale of S. Kidman & Co to Gina Rinehart's consortium, and the sale of Anna Creek Station to the Williams family is good news for South Australia. The Williams family's business is a local, private company which employs and trains many young people. With the Rinehart and Chinese bid combined, and the Williams family being able to purchase Anna Creek, there is less foreign investment in this deal than what was originally proposed.

Livestock SA is pleased with the outcome of the Parliamentary Inquiry into Unconventional Gas which has addressed our concerns about the risks to livestock production in the South East. Livestock SA board member Jack England, together with many Livestock SA members, particularly David Smith, are thanked for their input into this inquiry.

Cattle deaths in the Upper North continue to be a huge concern for producers in the region. PIRSA Biosecurity has advised that pulpy kidney may be contributing to recent livestock deaths in the areas near

Hawker and Cradock and producers should vaccinate stock for this as soon as possible. PIRSA veterinarian Jeremy Rogers is staying in the region visiting properties, gathering information and undertaking disease investigations. Producers are urged to report any unusual deaths or sickness in sheep and cattle.

Livestock SA's final board meeting for 2016 was held in early December, focusing on future strategic direction over the next five years for the organisation. There were some excellent outcomes from the meeting, and I look forward to sharing these with our members in coming months.

Minister for Regional Development Geoff Brock's recent announcement of \$50,000 for a feasibility study for the Coorong Water Transportation Project was welcomed by Livestock SA. Water security continues to be a key priority and we are keen to see a better deal for livestock producers that have no other option than to use mains water. We will continue to follow this issue.

Livestock SA helped to convene a statewide feral goat management forum at Port Augusta on December 13, in conjunction with the SA Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board. The forum was driven by industry calls to loosen restrictions on feral goat management to allow producers to take advantage of high goat meat prices. Livestock SA believes the harvest of feral goats through

management adds value to pastoralists' incomes, has a positive effect on the flora and fauna and creates jobs and growth, enhancing the state's economy, as well as being an effective control measure of this feral pest.

Wild dogs continue to be an ongoing concern, with recent reports of dogs spotted near Jamestown and to the north of Burra. The issue is not only a concern for pastoralists, but all South Australians, as they get ever closer to peri-urban areas, including the Barossa Valley and Adelaide Hills. Livestock SA continues to advocate for more funding from the SA Government to be allocated to wild dog control. In particular, \$300,000 is urgently needed to employ expert wild dog trappers. Recently the State Government announced the appointment of a state wild dog coordinator, but Livestock SA believes more needs to be done and will continue to advocate for members on this issue.

Livestock SA wishes all members a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year and a profitable and productive 2017.

Details: To report animal health issues please contact PIRSA veterinarians Jeremy Rogers, 0427 608 133 and Nigel Baum, 0427 604 191, or Trent Scholz, Senior Animal Health Officer on 0427 970 453.



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Livestock SA Southern meeting

Livestock SA's Southern Region next meeting will be held on Friday, January 27, at the Robe Bowling Club from 6pm. While the program is still being finalised, Tim Collins, Regional Manager, Natural Resources South East, will be one of the speakers, providing details on the control of feral deer. Catering will be provided.

Details: Contact Peter Stock, 0427 817 326, or Tom Dawkins, 0402 406 965, to indicate an RSVP or apology and to give notice of any issues to raise.

Livestock SA Northern meeting

Livestock SA's Northern Region will meet in February at Mungerannie Station, via the Birdsville Track. The meeting will coincide with a Great Artesian Basin workshop discussing water licensing requirements in the region.

Details: Contact Livestock SA on 08 8297 2299 for more details.

Mining review meetings

In response to the review of the Mining Acts, Grain Producers SA and Livestock SA will hold mining review meetings in early 2017 at Wudinna and Cummins on January 31, Maitland on February 2 and at Murray Bridge on February 3.

Details: Contact GPSA on 1300 734 884 for more details or visit www.yoursay.sa.gov.au to lodge a submission

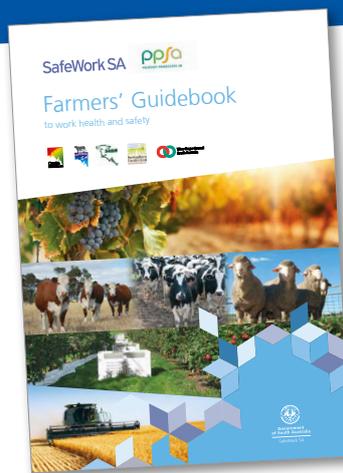
News In Brief

Dog & Cat draft regulations

On 6 July the *Dog and Cat Management (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2015* was passed in State Parliament. Livestock SA continues to advocate for members in relation to the draft regulations, with public consultation closing last month. Under the draft regulations, there will be a simplification of the registration categories from a minimum of eight to only two – a 'standard dog' (that has been both microchipped and desexed including applicable exemptions) and a 'non-standard dog'. With this change in registration categories, Livestock SA is concerned that working livestock dogs may lose the current local government registration concession that is available. As working dogs are an integral part of livestock producing businesses in South Australia, Livestock SA would like the regulations to mandate for a concession for working livestock dogs.

Farmers Guidebook to Work Health and Safety

Producers are reminded that they can download the new Farmers' Guidebook to Work Health and Safety on the Livestock SA website, or request a USB or hard copy (it will cost \$20 to cover the cost of packaging and printing the guide). The guidebook is a comprehensive and practical guide to making farms safe workplaces and has been developed to help farmers understand their legal responsibilities as well as provide practical solutions to health and safety issues to help prevent serious or fatal injury on their properties. It contains easy-to-use



proforma templates and policies with references to further resources.

Details: Visit www.livestocksa.org.au or contact Livestock SA for a printed or USB copy on 08 8297 2299.

Sign up to Blueprint eNews

Sheep industry stakeholders are encouraged to sign up to receive the latest news on the South Australian Sheep Industry Blueprint. The joint Livestock SA and South Australian Sheep Advisory Group initiative was launched earlier this year with the overarching aim to increase productivity and profitability by 20 percent by 2020. Livestock SA then partnered with the University of Adelaide in a five-year agreement to develop and implement the Blueprint, appointing Dr Stephen Lee as its manager. Whole of chain collaboration is key, with the Blueprint guided by a working group of sheep and wool value chain stakeholder members, chaired by Moorlands sheep producer Allan Piggott, who is also a Livestock SA board member.

Details: Visit www.livestocksa.org.au/blueprint

Beef producers urged to apply for industry funded course

Applications are open for training by the Australian Institute of Company Directors, sponsored by Cattle Council of Australia and Meat and Livestock Australia

For the second year in a row, CCA and MLA are sponsoring grassfed beef producers to complete the Company Directors Course to develop their skills in corporate governance. The course is a comprehensive five-day program designed to focus on areas of business management and skills development that are specific to cattle producers. Participants undertake assessment to achieve official recognition as a graduate of the course. Applications are open to all grassfed cattle producers that have a desire to provide leadership in the beef industry. Newest CCA board member Amanda Giles, a Livestock SA representative, encouraged producers to apply for the training. "Farmers need to contribute to their industry to ensure it is strong and provides a prosperous environment for businesses to operate in," she said. "Take the time to complete rural leadership and governance training programs – whatever is out there and available to you. Seek out opportunities, build a wide network and broad view of the beef industry, because one day you might want or need to be involved in advocacy or governance and it's important to have the skills to do your role and your industry justice." Applications for the course close at midnight on January 29, 2017.

Details: Visit www.cattlecouncil.com.au to find out more.