




## PROGRAM

### TUESDAY 2 AUGUST 2011

|                |  |   |
|----------------|--|---|
| 3.00 – 6.30 pm | <b>Conference Registration</b><br>Level 1, Holiday Inn Esplanade Darwin            |   |
| 6.30 – 8.30 pm | <b>Welcome Reception</b><br>"The Raft", Ground Floor, Holiday Inn Esplanade Darwin | <b>Sponsored by:</b><br> |

### WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 2011



|   |  |
|---|--|
| 8.00 am   | Conference Welcome<br><i>Ralph Shannon, Chairman, North Australia Beef Research Council</i><br>Conference Opening<br><i>Honourable Konstantine (Kon) Vatskalis, Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources</i> |
| <b>Session 1 - Northern beef industry - Issues and challenges for the future</b><br><b>Chair - Ralph Shannon</b>    |  |
| 8.15 am   | Industry issues and R,D &E challenges for northern Australia<br><i>Don Heatley, Chairman, Meat &amp; Livestock Australia</i>   |
| 8.50 am   | Live export - industry issues, trends, and challenges for RD&E<br><i>David Beatty</i>  |
| 9.20 am   | The financial performance of northern beef producers – no pain, no gain?<br><i>Terry McCosker</i>  |
| 10.00 am  | Morning tea  |
| <b>Session 2 - Improving reproductive performance</b><br><b>Chair - Geoff Niethé</b>                                |  |
| 10:20 am  | Recent advances in beef cattle reproduction - how science will improve herd performance<br><i>Michael McGowan</i>  |
| 11:00 am  | Cash-cow - exposing northern breeder herd productivity<br><i>Kieren McCosker</i>   |
| 11:30 am  | Cost-effectively improving heifer conceptions and herd productivity<br><i>Tim Schatz</i>   |
| 12.00 pm  | Poster viewing:<br>Litchfield Room – Posters 1 – 9. Arafura Ballroom – Posters 41-48   |
| 12.30 pm  | Lunch  |
| 12.45 pm  | Presentation by Pfizer Animal Genetics   |
| <b>Session 3 - Improving animal health and welfare</b><br><b>Chair - Wayne Hall</b>                                 |  |
| 1.15 pm   | Recent R&D for improved welfare outcomes<br><i>Carol Petherick</i>   |
| 1.55 pm   | New R&D for better herd health and productivity<br><i>Geoff Niethé</i>   |
| 2.35 pm   | Poster viewing<br>Litchfield Room – Posters 10 – 19. Arafura Ballroom – Posters 49 - 56  |
| 3.05 pm   | Afternoon tea  |
| <b>Session 4 - Enhancing sustainable grazing land management in northern Australia</b><br><b>Chair - Mick Quirk</b> |  |
| 3.25 pm   | New insights for grazing land management<br><i>John McIvor</i>   |

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| 4.05 pm | Grazing management options for improving profitability and sustainability <i>Joe Scanlan</i>  |
| 4.35 pm | Grazing systems: Insights from studies in northern Australia <i>Trevor Hall</i>   |
| 5.45 pm | Buses depart from foyer Holiday Inn Esplanade Darwin to travel to Darwin Ski Club for Conference Dinner.  |
| 6.00 pm | <b>The Angus Society of Australia – Certified Australian Angus Beef Conference Dinner</b><br><b>‘Thongs &amp; Sarong Night’ - Darwin Ski Club</b> |

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**THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2011**



*“CSIRO is pleased to continue its support of the Northern Beef Industry through research to support a competitive and sustainable industry.”*

**Session 5 - Improving herd profitability with genetics and genomics**

**Chair – Geoffry Fordyce**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 8:30 am  | Genomics for the northern beef industry - past, present and future <i>Mike Goddard</i>                                      |
| 9:10 am  | Genetics of whole herd profitability <i>Matt Wolcott</i>  |
| 9:40 am  | Accelerating gains - practical application to selection and breeding of cattle for northern Australia <i>David Johnston</i> |
| 10:10 am | Morning tea   |

**Session 6 - Coping with climate change - adaption, mitigation and soil carbon**

**Chair - Andrew Ash**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 10.30 am | Measuring and reducing methane emissions from beef cattle in northern Australia<br><i>Ed Charmley</i>            |
| 11:10 am | Adapting to climate change <i>Chris Stokes</i>   |
| 11:50 am | The truth about soil carbon - challenges of measurement, monitoring, modelling and management <i>Diane Allen</i> |
| 12:20 pm | Poster viewing<br>Litchfield Room – Posters 20 – 29. Arafura Ballroom – Posters 57 - 64                          |
| 12:50 pm | Lunch  |

**Session 7 - Nutrition strategies to improve liveweight gain and reproduction**

**Chair – Sarah Streeter**

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|---------|--|
| 1:35 pm | Recent advances in nutrition for improving liveweight gain <i>Stu McLennan</i>   |
| 2.15 pm | Phosphorus nutrition and management - overcoming constraints to wider adoption<br><i>Rob Dixon</i>   |
| 2:55 pm | Growth, carcass and eating characteristics of young short-fed Bos indicus entire males and steers. Are young bulls a realistic market option? <i>Tony Parker</i> |
| 3:25 pm | Poster viewing<br>Litchfield Room – Posters 30 – 40. Arafura Ballroom – Posters 65 - 72  |
| 3:55 pm | Afternoon tea  |

**Session 8 - Is R&D on track to support future industry needs?**

**Chair - Greg Harper**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 4:15 pm | Investor - <i>Wayne Hall</i>                  |
| 4:30 pm | Producer - <i>Tom Stockwell</i>               |
| 4:45 pm | R&D stakeholder NABRC - <i>Ralph Shannon</i>  |
| 5:00 pm | Questions and Discussion- <i>Greg Harper</i>  |
| 5:30 pm | Closure - <i>Neil Macdonald</i>               |
| 6.00 pm | <b>Mindil Beach Markets Dining Experience</b> |

## **FRIDAY 5 AUGUST 2011**

Full Day Tour – 7.00 am to 5.00 pm - Melaleuca Station – flood plain farming operation, owned by Paspaley pearling family and managed by floodplain grazing specialist, Tony Searle. Also includes visits to Beatrice Hill Research Farm, Berrimah Live Export yards and if time permits the Darwin Wharf.

Half Day Tour – \*7.00 am to 12.00 pm – Visit Windows on the Wetlands, drive through floodplain to Beatrice Hill Research Farm featuring flood plain cattle and buffalo. Smoko includes buffalo cheese tasting. Return to Darwin via the airport for delegates on afternoon flights.

\*Load luggage into vehicle before boarding tour bus.