

You are invited to International Dairy Week's Seminars for 2018

Venue: Tatura Tennis Clubrooms, Albert Street, Tatura (just over the road from IDW)

TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2018

9.30am



ImProving Herds - Presented by DataGene

ImProving Herds has been a cornerstone R&D Project funded by the Gardiner Dairy Foundation and Dairy Australia and led by Agriculture Victoria with collaborative support from DataGene, Holstein Australia and the National Herd Improvement Association of Australia. ImProving Herds set out to look at how farmers could improve their rates of genetic gain by demonstrating the value of genetics and herd improvement. The project aims to encourage farmers to make informed "evidence based" herd decisions to influence farm profitability and strengthening the dairy industry overall. DataGene's Project Liaison Manager, Erika Oakes and Genetic Evaluation Manager Michelle Axford will provide an insight into the research outcomes and how these can be implemented on farm.

10.45am



What the MUC - Presented by MaxCare

This presentation will centre on assisting farmers to move towards highly efficient calf rearing systems. It will include practical tips which can be implemented the next day, along with some interesting case studies from Matthew Petersen's time in the industry. Matthew has worked in the local dairy industry in Southern NSW for 6 years. He regularly consults to the local dairy region on all aspects of calf health. His focus has centred on peri-calving care, colostrum management, hygiene and infrastructure, calf behaviour, nutrition and staff training. Matthew is proud to work with many farms in the area who continue to exceed industry animal health benchmarks with efficient calf rearing systems.

12.00pm



Lift Milk Production & Improve Cow Health Without In-Feed Antibiotics - Presented by ProviCo

ProviCo is excited to introduce Clara Berger from LeSaffre Phileo Animal Care division. Clara is EU based nutritionist where antibiotics (including in-feed ionophores) have been removed from dairy diets due to regulatory constraints. LeSaffre is one of the world's largest yeast manufacturers with a commitment to animal health and performance. LeSaffre has generated significant trial data to give dairy farmers confidence in using non-antibiotic feed ingredients to increase fibre digestion and milk production, avoid risk of rumen acidosis, reduce SCC and also mitigate the negative production effects of heat stress and feed changes. Clara's talk offers practical and proven ways of improving rumen and cow health without in-feed antibiotics.

1.15pm



How Choosing the Correct Cow Bedding Improves Health and Production - Presented by McLanahan Corporation

During this seminar we will highlight the link between cell count, herd health, stability, comfort and bedding materials on intensive and semi intensive dairy farms. We will discuss the emerging trends in bedding types and re-use practices, along with the new technologies that are available to help dairy farmers reduce risks and the costs associated with adequately housing their dairy cows.

Andrew Lenehan is the Technical Sales Specialist at McLanahan Corporation and has spent his whole life involved in the Agricultural industry. He has been involved in Australia's largest single site dairy farm providing advice and a system to remove the sand from manure and to assist in the drying process to help eliminate bacteria and pathogens.

2.30pm



Vaccination - Getting it right so that you don't waste your money - Presented by Zoetis

Why, How and When can you get vaccination right? Vaccination will assist with disease prevention, improved herd health and better conception rates thus the potential to make decisions that increase profitability is vital. Andy Hancock, Veterinary Operations Manager (Livestock) will answer these questions and more about vaccinations. Andy graduated from Charles Sturt University in Wagga in 2010 and began his career working at The Vet Group, Timboon. At The Vet Group he was a mixed practice veterinarian with an emphasis on dairy cattle. Between 2013 and 2016, whilst embedded at The Vet Group and still working as a full time clinician, Andy completed the University of Melbourne Dairy Residency Program obtaining a Masters in Veterinary Studies/ Masters of Veterinary Science and Membership of the ANZCVS in Veterinary Epidemiology.

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WEDNESDAY 24 JANUARY 2018

9.30am



A New Era in Sexed Genetics & Breakthrough in Sexing Technology - Presented by ABS SEXCEL

Sexcel harnesses ABS's best genetics and is produced through a novel, proprietary technology for sexing bovine semen. This innovative technology does not subject the cells to the high pressures, electric currents and shear forces used to produce the sexed semen historically available to farmers. The result is a superior sexed genetics product that helps customers maximize their profitability in line with their individual economic and herd goals.

Data from ABS Global's Real World Data® (RWD™) database demonstrates that Sexcel achieves a 90 percent relative conception rate when compared to conventional semen and a higher relative conception rate than other sexed semen used by dairy farmers. RWD contains real results from real customers and is sourced from more than 37 million cows from herds located in key dairy markets throughout the world.

10.45am



Breeding for Heat Tolerance - Presented by DataGene

Changing weather patterns are creating a trend towards higher temperatures in most Australian dairying regions. When the combination of heat and humidity reaches a certain point, cows eat less resulting in reduced milk production. The latest tool in the continuing challenge to keep cows cool is to breed dairy cows that are more tolerant to heat and humidity. The R&D work has been conducted here in Australia over the past 2 years and has resulted in the development and release of world first genomic breeding value for Heat Tolerance.

DataGene Extension Officer Lucy Webb-Wilson and Peter Williams who will explain how the new Heat Tolerance Breeding Values (ABV's) can be used to breed cows more suited to warmer climates.

12.00pm



Why Not to Crossbreed - Presented by Holstein USA

Carl Kent, International Marketing Co-ordinator with Holstein USA will show participants the tremendous genetic gains Holsteins have achieved and the data and reasons why farmers should continue to breed Holsteins without venturing into a crossbreeding program. This presentation was originally presented by Dr Tom Lawlor HAUSA Research Geneticist. Carl travels extensively promoting registered Holsteins and has also spent the last 12 years in the Genetics Division for Genex/CRI.

1.15pm



Achievable and Profitable Cow Housing – Making it work for Australian conditions – Presented by Daviesway

With over 50 years' experience in the dairy industry, Philip Schultz will share his insights on avoiding the pitfalls of cow housing here in Australia and how, through better planning, design and staged construction, a housing cow system can be an achievable and profitable goal for your business.

2.30pm



Bobby Calves – Industry Opportunity or Threat? – Presented by Murray Dairy

We will explore how other countries are turning an industry threat into an opportunity by improving supply chain integrity. Join us and explore dairy and beef rearing systems contexted to consumer product and perceptions in different markets around the world. Peter Havrlant, Development Officer, Dairy at NSW DPI was awarded the Jack Green Churchill Fellowship in 2016. He will provide insights from his recent travel to the USA, UK and EU and work with NSW DPI.

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THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2018

9.30am



Improve Dairy Farming Efficiency and Productivity through LED technology – Presented by Sonaray

This seminar focuses on how the latest LED technology can help farmers to reduce installation, operational and maintenance cost as well as improving the well-being of cattle for increase productivity. This seminar will examine the view point of an actual dairy farmer on how the LED has improved his operation; a lighting engineer will present how LED technology works, what are the pitfalls and essentials you must know before deciding and the electrician's view on installation, lighting plans and simulations.

A seminar for the farmers who want to know how the latest technology will help.

10.45am



Helping dairying into the future –through value adding your calves - Presented by Dairy Beef Alliance (DBA)

This presentation, hosted by DBA General Manager Peter Wilkinson, will focus on how dairy farmers can value add their existing operations by joining their Holstein Cows to Wagyu. DBA have been producing Holstein/Wagyu Cross (F1) beef for over 15 years. They are the livestock production arm of meat company Security Foods Pty Ltd.

Peter has been working for DBA since the inception of the business in 2001. He has an extensive knowledge of the calf rearing and dairy beef industry, prior to becoming the manager of DBA he was the treasurer of the Australian Limousin Society. Peter encourages producers to ask a lot of questions in this presentation to find out what options DBA could offer their enterprise.

12.00pm



Maintaining Our Social Licence to Operate - Presented by Murray Dairy

What is a social licence and why is it important for dairy farmers? While it is natural to focus within our own industry, the reality is that we operate within the wider Australian community and community and consumer perceptions matter. From health and nutrition to animal welfare and environmental sustainability, the political and regulatory environment we operate in – not to mention the market for our dairy products – are all affected by the public's trust in dairy.

But how important is this? Which issues really matter? And what can we actually do about it?

Kira Goodall is Issues Management and Government Relations Manager at Dairy Australia. She will be discussing Dairy Australia's work on understanding consumer perception in relation to social licence issues and how we can be proactive in addressing risks to our social licence to operate.