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Vietnam-Australia Beef Cattle Symposium

14-15 November 2023, Hanoi, Vietnam



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Symposium Website

Reimagining innovation and development of the Vietnam-Australian beef cattle sectors. Strengthening technical collaboration, trade, and investment.



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WELCOME

We are thrilled to welcome you to the 2023 Vietnam-Australian Beef Cattle Symposium in the vibrant heart of Hanoi, Vietnam!

This symposium will bring together over 100 experienced beef sector stakeholders from across Vietnam, Australia, and beyond. We look forward to the conversations and collaborations that lie ahead. Our shared commitment to the history of technical collaboration, research, trade, and investment in the beef and cattle sectors brings us together for this unique event.

In the midst of evolving markets, trade dynamics, and external influences, this symposium provides a platform to collectively assess our current situation and explore new opportunities for technical collaboration, investment, trade, and capability development. This symposium is also an opportunity to chart a course for the future.

We hope this symposium provides an opportunity for all of us to forge new friendships and enjoy each other's company. Join us for the Symposium Networking function at Turtle Lake Brewing Company on Monday evening and enjoy good beef, wine, and company at the Symposium Dinner at Los Fuegos Steakhouse on Tuesday night.

We particularly thank our valuable Government and Industry partners, the Vietnam Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), the Institute for Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD), The Department of Livestock Production (DLP), the National Institute of Animal Science (NIAS), the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries Forestry (DAFF), and Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA). Special acknowledgement also goes to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for their grant funding under the Australia-Vietnam Enhanced Economic Engagement Grant Program.

For any inquiries, please reach out to Ms. Nga Le at +84971 064 187 (mobile, Zalo, WhatsApp) or nga@focusgroupgo.com.

We are looking forward to an inspiring and enjoyable symposium!

Dominic Smith

Project leader
Griffith University

Nga Le

Organiser and convenor
FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific

Rodd Dyer

Organiser and convenor
FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific



Monday 13th November 2023

18:30 - 21:00

Networking function

Turtle Lake Brewing Company, 105 Quảng Khánh, Tây Hồ

150 min

Tuesday 14 November 2023

Vietnam-Australia beef cattle symposium program

08:00 - 08:15

Arrival and Registration

15 min

08:15 - 08:20

Official welcome

Dr. Nguyen Anh Phong, Deputy Director General, Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD)

5 min

08:20 - 08:30

Opening remarks

Dr. Phung Duc Tien, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

10 min

08:20 - 08:30

Opening remarks

H.E. Andrew Goledzinowski, Australian Ambassador to Vietnam

10 min

08:40 - 08:50

Official Photographs

10 min

8:50 - 10:10

Session 1. Current beef cattle industry, markets and trade situation, priorities, and outlook

80 min

Chairs: **Dr. Pham Kim Dang**, Deputy Director General, Department of Livestock Production (DLP) and **Assoc. Prof. Dominic Smith**, Griffith Asia Institute (GAI), Griffith University

08:50 - 09:00

Strategic priorities for growing Vietnam's beef cattle sector

10 min

Dr. Pham Kim Dang,
Deputy Director General, Department of Livestock Production (DLP)

09:00 - 09:10

Navigating an uncertain future. Opportunities to strengthen collaboration and trade in the beef cattle sector

10 min

Mr. Tony Harman, Counsellor (Agriculture), Australian Embassy, Hanoi

09:10 - 10:00

Sector panel session Recent drivers and trends in beef cattle markets and trade in the Asia region – outlook and implications

10 min

Panel moderator: **Assoc. Prof. Dominic Smith**, GAI, Griffith University

- **Assoc. Prof. Hoang Kim Giao**, **President**, Vietnam Ruminant Husbandry Association (VinaRUHA)
- **Mr. Tran Bao Son**, General Director, Thaco Agri Company
- **Mr. Mark Harvey Sutton**, CEO Australian Live Export Council (ALEC)
- **Mr. Wayne Collier**, CEO LiveCorp
- **Mr. Spencer Whitaker**, SEA Market Manager, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA)
- **Representative**, Laos, Department of Livestock and Fisheries (DLF) of Laos PDR

10:00 - 10:10	<p>Launch of Vietnam’s National Animal Welfare Standards</p> <p>Representatives from Department of Animal Health (DAH) and MLA</p>	10 min
10:10 - 10:30	<p>Morning tea</p>	20 min
10:30 - 12:00	<p>Session 2.</p> <p>Meeting net zero emission targets in the beef cattle sector</p> <p>Chairs: Assoc. Prof. Le Thi Thanh Huyen, Head of Department of Livestock System and Environment Research, National Institute of Animal Science (NIAS) and Assoc. Prof. Dominic Smith, GAI, Griffith University</p>	90 min
10:30 - 10:35	<p>Brief overview of session – importance, context, and purpose</p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Dominic Smith, GAI, Griffith University</p>	10 min
10:35 - 10:50	<p>Net zero emission targets, activities and opportunities in the beef and livestock sector in Vietnam</p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Le Thi Thanh Huyen, Head of Department of Livestock System and Environment Research, (NIAS)</p>	15 min
10:50 - 11:05	<p>Carbon Neutral by 2030 (CN30)</p> <p>Dr. Margaret Jewel, Program Manager, Environmental Sustainability, MLA</p>	15 min Remote

11:05 - 11:20	Meeting net zero emissions in the beef cattle sector	15 min Remote
	Prof. Ben Hayes, Research Director, Zero-Net Emissions CRC, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI)	
11:20 - 11:35	The role of finance in transitioning the beef & livestock sectors: lift to shift, lessons from Australia	15 min
	Mr. Guy Williams, Executive Director, Pollination Group	
11:35 - 12:00	Questions and comments	25 min
	Assoc. Prof. Le Thi Thanh Huyen, Head of Department of Livestock System and Environment Research, (NIAS)	
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	60 min
13:00 - 15:00	Session 3. Profitable forage and fattening systems	120 min
	Chair: Dr. Pham Kim Dang, Deputy Director General, DLP	
13:00 - 13:05	Session overview, context, and importance	5 min
	Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific	
13:05 - 13:25	Green forage solutions for fattening beef cattle	20 min
	Mr. Hoang Van Hoang, Director, HTL Company Limited	

13:25 - 13:45	<p>Insights from 30 years of cattle feeding and feedlot management in Indonesia</p> <p>Mr. Greg Pankhurst, Feedlot consultant, Queensland Livestock Exporters Association, Frontier International PTY Limited</p>	20 min Remote
13:45 - 14:40	<p>Industry panel – Managing challenges in the commercial fattening and feedlot sector in Vietnam</p> <p>Panel moderators: Dr Pham Kim Dang, Deputy Director General, DLP and Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Hoang Van Hoang, Director, HTL Company Limited • Mr. Tran Van Thang, Director, Thang Loi Development and Trade Ltd. • Ms. Pham Thi Phuong, Vu Yen Breeding Import and Export Company Limited • Mr. Nguyen Viet Dung, Import Officer, Hoa Phat Agriculture Development Joint Stock Company 	55 min
14:40 - 15:00	<p>Questions and comments</p> <p>Dr. Pham Kim Dang, Deputy Director General, DLP and Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p>	20 min
15:00 - 15:20	<p>Afternoon tea</p>	20 min
15:20 - 17:00	<p>Session 4. Profitable forage and fattening systems 2</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Pham Kim Dang, Deputy Director General, DLP</p>	100 min
15:20 - 15:40	<p>Moving into more profitable beef production systems: case studies from Indonesia</p> <p>Prof. Dennis Poppi, University of Queensland and Dr. Dinh Van Tuyen, De Heus Company Limited</p>	20 min

15:40 - 15:55	<p>Innovations in forage production and conservation for enhanced beef cattle fattening systems in Vietnam</p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Le Thi Thanh Huyen, Head of Department of Livestock Systems and Environment Research, (NIAS) and Dr. Melanie Blanchard, CIRAD</p>	15 min
15:55 - 16:10	<p>Utilization of agricultural byproducts as feed for cattle</p> <p>Dr. Nguyen Thi Vinh, Vice Dean, Faculty of Animal Science, Department of Animal Husbandry, VNUA</p>	15 min
16:10 - 17:00	<p>Mini-panel session – insights from cattle producers and exporters</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p>	50 min
16:10 - 16:20	<p>Production and feeding strategies for the Vietnam live export market</p> <p>Dr. Steve Petty, Clean Agriculture, and International Tourism, TH Group</p>	10 min
16:20 - 16:30	<p>Feeding for profitability - live export and feedlot markets in Central Queensland</p> <p>Mr. Ryan Olive, Raglan Live-export yards and feedlot, Private sector</p>	50 min
16:30 - 17:00	<p>Questions and discussion</p> <p>Dr. Pham Kim Dang, Deputy Director General, DLP and Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p>	30 min

17:00	Close	
18:00	Bus depart Pan Pacific for Los Fuegos Argentine Steakhouse	
18:30 - 21:00	Symposium dinner – Los Fuegos Argentine Steakhouse @ 35A, Alley 12 Đ. Đặng Thai Mai, Tây Hồ	150 min

Wednesday 15 November 2023

08:00 - 08:15	Arrival and Registration	15 min
08:15 - 10:10	Session 5. Improving breeding and genetics in Vietnam Chairs: Dr. Pham Doan Lan , Deputy Director General, NIAS and Dr. Rodd Dyer , FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific	115 min
08:15 - 08:20	Session overview, context, and importance Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific	5 min
08:20 - 08:35	National cattle breeding and genetic improvement strategies and opportunities in Vietnam Dr. Pham Thi Kim Dung, Head of Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, DLP	15 min
08:35 - 08:50	Advancing Meat-Oriented Beef Breeding Formulas and Some Recommendations for the Future of Beef Cattle Development in Vietnam Dr. Phung The Hai, Deputy Director, Vietnam Ruminant Breeding Center (Vinalica)	15 min
08:50 - 09:10	Applications of genetic and breeding technologies and lessons from Australia Prof. Wayne Pitchford, School of Animal and Veterinary Science, University of Adelaide	20 min

09:10 - 09:30	<p>How can genomic tools support breeding and genetic improvement in Vietnam?</p> <p>Prof. Ben Hayes, Centre Director, Animal Science, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation</p>	20 min Remote
09:30 - 10:10	<p>Questions and discussion</p> <p>Dr. Pham Doan Lan, Deputy Director General, NIAS and Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p>	40 min
10:10 - 10:30	<p>Morning tea</p>	20 min
10:30 - 12:15	<p>Session 6. Applied approaches to breeding and genetic improvement</p> <p>Chairs: Dr. Pham Doan Lan, Deputy Director General, NIAS and Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p>	105 min
10:30 - 10:45	<p>Breeding beef cattle to suit the environment and meet market specifications. A case study from northern Australia</p> <p>Mr. Tim Schatz, Head of Livestock, Northern Territory Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade</p>	15 min
10:45 - 11:00	<p>Importation of Australian breeding cows.</p> <p>Mr. Neil McDonald, Beef cattle consultant</p>	15 min

11:00 - 11:15	<p>Maximising genetic gain by improving reproductive performance of productive breeders</p>	15 min
	<p>Dr Kieren McCosker, Senior Research Fellow, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, Queensland University</p>	
11:15 - 11:55	<p>Industry and expert panel – new technologies and approaches for breeding and genetic improvement in Vietnam</p>	40 min
	<p>Dr. Pham Doan Lan, Deputy Director General, NIAS and Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assoc. Prof. Le Thi Thuy, Chief of International Cooperation Department, VinaRUHA. • Dr. Ngo Dinh Tan, Director, Ba Vi Cattle and Forage Research Centre, NIAS • Mr. Do Van Huong, Director, Breeding and Genetics, Thaco Agri • Mr. Tran Van Luyen, Chairman, Quang Ninh Livestock Breeding Company • Ms. To Tue Lang, Director, Asia Pacific Dairy Company 	
11:55 - 12:15	<p>Questions and discussion</p>	20 min
	<p>Panel moderator: Dr. Pham Doan Lan, Deputy Director General, NIAS and Dr. Rodd Dyer, FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific</p>	

12:15 -13:15	Lunch	60 min
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13:15 - 15:10	<p>Session 7. Modernizing processing, value adding and integrity systems</p>	115 min
	<p>Chair: Representative from National Agro-Forestry-Fisheries Quality Assurance, Processing and Market Development (NAFIQPM)</p>	

13:15 - 13:20	<p>Session overview, context, and importance</p> <p>Mr. Spencer Whitaker, Market Development Manager, MLA</p>	5 min
13:20 - 13:35	<p>Strategies, priorities, and opportunities for modernizing beef processing, food safety and value adding</p> <p>Representative from NAFIQPM</p>	15 min
13:35 - 13:50	<p>Improving meat quality and adding value in beef processing</p> <p>Mr. Greg Butler, Consultant, MLA</p>	15 min
13:50 - 14:05	<p>Vietnam's abattoir sector animal welfare and integrity</p> <p>Dr. Michael Patching, Director, Alta Food and Agriculture Company</p>	15 min
14:05 - 14:50	<p>Industry panel – challenges and innovations in improving beef processing – meat quality, food safety and value adding</p> <p>Panel moderator: Mr. Nguyen Huy Tien, Business Development Manager, MLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ha Thuy Hanh, Vice President of the Vietnam Farming and Agricultural Enterprises Association (VFAEA) • Mr. Nguyen Dang Phu, Deputy General Director, Vissan • Representative from Đông Thành • Representative from VinaBeef-Sojitz • Representative from Pacow International Company 	45 min
14:50 - 15:10	<p>Questions and discussion</p> <p>Mr. Nguyen Huy Tien, Market Development Manager, MLA</p>	20 min

15:10 - 15:30	Afternoon tea	20 min
15:30 - 17:00	Session 8. Key stakeholder messages and next steps for collaboration Chairs: Dr. Pham Kim Dang , Deputy Director General, DLP and Assoc. Prof. Dominic Smith , GAI, Griffith University	90 min
15:30 - 16:00	Key messages, opportunities and recommended next steps for collaboration from key stakeholders <i>Priorities and next steps for technical collaboration, industry, and trade in the beef cattle sector between Vietnam and Australia (G2G and B2B priorities)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assoc. Prof. Hoang Kim Giao, President, VinaRUHA • Mr. Ha Van Thang, President, Vietnam Agribusiness Council • Representative from Australian cattle sector • Representative from the Government of Lao PDR • Mr. Tony Harman, Counsellor (Agriculture), Australian Embassy 	3-5 min each 30 min
16:00 - 16:20	General stakeholder comments 3-5 min per comment	20 min
16:20 - 16:30	Closing comments, key takeaways, call to action for future collaboration Dr. Pham Kim Dang, Deputy Director General, DLP	10 min
16:30	Close	

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Mr. Tony Harman

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Tony Harman is the Agriculture Counsellor based at the Australian Embassy in Hanoi, having moved to Vietnam with his family in September 2020 to take up the role. Posted by the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Tony has nearly 30 years professional experience working on a wide variety of agricultural industry matters across a range of government departments. Tony has qualifications in agricultural science and agricultural economics.



Prof. Hoang Kim Giao

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Prof. Hoang Kim Giao is the Chairman of the Vietnam Ruminal Husbandry Association (VINARUHA) and the Director of the Dairy Research Institute at TH True Milk Group. He has a long and distinguished career in the livestock sector, having served as the Director of the Department of Livestock, the Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture, and the Deputy Director of the National Institute of Animal Science (NIAS) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD). He is also a lecturer of genetics and animal breeding at Agricultural University No.2. He has a doctorate in embryology technology from Bulgaria and a specialization in livestock reproduction, especially artificial insemination and embryo transfer. He has led several projects on dairy farming development and bovine embryo transfer in collaboration with JICA, Japan and Belgium.

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Mr. Mark Harvey-Sutton

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Mr. Mark Harvey-Sutton is the CEO and Company Secretary of the Australian Livestock Exporters' Council (ALEC), a peak industry body representing the livestock export sector. He joined ALEC in January 2019, after working for various organisations in the rural sector, such as the National Farmers' Federation, the Sheepmeat Council of Australia, and the Cattle Council of Australia. He also has experience in the Australian Government, where he held positions in the Department of Agriculture and the Minister's office for Regional Australia. He has a law degree from James Cook University, a legal practice diploma from the Australian National University, and a company directors' certificate from the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is a qualified lawyer in the ACT. He is a respected and experienced leader in the livestock industry, with a strong understanding of the issues and challenges facing the sector.



Mr. Wayne Collier

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Before becoming CEO of LiveCorp in 2021, Mr. Collier spent nine years leading various initiatives, including market access, regulation, innovation, training, and research and development. His analytical skills and industry knowledge have enabled him to provide technical advice and contribute to policy development. He has facilitated market access for over 21 markets and represented LiveCorp in the Middle East, China, and Indonesia.

Mr. Collier holds degrees from Deakin University and Monash University. His interest in land management and primary industries led to roles in both federal and Victorian agriculture departments, equipping him with strong governance knowledge, policy formulation, and technical advisory skills.

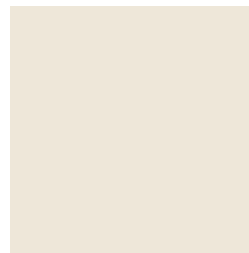
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**Assoc. Prof.
Le Thi Thanh Huyen**

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Assoc. Prof. Le Thi Thanh Huyen is the head of the Livestock System and Environment Research Department at the National Institute of Animal Science. She has over a decade of experience with the Uplands program, focusing on sustainable land use in Southeast Asia's mountainous regions. Her PhD research centred on sustainable beef production. She coordinated ACIAR beef projects LPS/2015/037 and AGB/2020/189 and has led various national and international livestock projects. Her expertise lies in working with farmers, coordinating farmer groups, and developing livestock value chains for household farms. Her research also focuses on mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change in the livestock sector.



**Assoc. Prof.
Dominic Smith**

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Dominic is an Associate Professor in the Griffith Agribusiness research stream based in the Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University. Dominic's work has a concentration on agriculture, livestock and animal health economics, rural development, food systems, value chains and marketing, pro-poor development, and decentralised finance and planning. He has 31 years research and development experience throughout South-East and East Asia and is currently leading the policy, social and economic impact assessment of the Global Burden of Animal Diseases (GBADs) case study in Indonesia and the Australia Vietnam Enhanced Economic Engagement Grant project "Reimagining collaboration in the Australian and Vietnam beef cattle sectors".

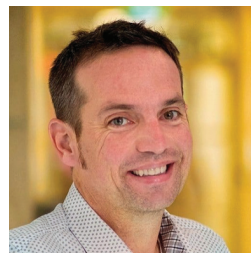
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Dr. Margaret Jewell

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Dr Margaret Jewell is Meat & Livestock Australia's (MLA's) Program Manager - Environmental Sustainability. She is an Agricultural Scientist with a PhD in plant genetics and 15 years' industry experience. Margaret is privileged to be a position that enables her to work with red meat producers, agricultural industry stakeholders, and national and international research organisations, non-profit organisations, and governments. Her work contributes to improved production of red meat (which is fundamental for human nutrition), directing investment into grazing management opportunities to improve and rehabilitate vast areas of Australia's land mass, and worthy global challenges such as food security, biodiversity depletion, and climate change. Margaret is committed to ensuring that Australian agriculture can prosper while remaining sustainable and contributing to Australia's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.



Prof. Ben Hayes

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Professor Hayes has extensive research experience in genetic improvement of livestock, crop, pasture and aquaculture species, with a focus on integration of genomic information into breeding programs, including leading many large-scale projects which have successfully implemented genomic technologies in livestock and cropping industries. Author of more than 300 journal papers, including in Nature Genetics, Nature Reviews Genetics, and Science, contributing to statistical methodology for genomic, microbiome and metagenomic profile predictions, quantitative genetics including knowledge of genetic mechanisms underlying complex traits, and development of bioinformatics pipelines for sequence analysis. Thomson Reuters highly cited researcher in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

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Mr. Guy Williams

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Guy Williams is an Executive Director at Pollination and has worked at the leading edge of innovation and strategy in biodiversity and natural capital for the past 20 years, providing science-based solutions to solve new and emerging global challenges. A professional ecologist with a focus on elevating nature with businesses as a means to manage risk and capitalise on new environmental markets. Prior to joining Pollination Guy has held global roles with some of the largest global consulting and advisory firms, as well as being an integral part in the development of many nature-related frameworks and standards such as the Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosure, and GRI Biodiversity. Based in Hanoi, Vietnam Guy currently sits on expert advisory panel of the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity Credits and Science Based Targets Network and is deeply involved in driving nature action across the agriculture and finance sector.



Mr. Hoang Van Hoang

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Mr. Hoang Van Hoang is the Director of Vietnam HLT Co., Ltd., a company that provides veterinary products, services and tools for raising large cattle in Vietnam. He has a Master's degree in Livestock Engineering and a career goal of connecting and developing a large cattle industry in Vietnam. He has been leading HLT for more than three years, growing its customer base to over 30,000 and its technical support staff to nearly 20 across Vietnam. He is also the founder and host of HLT CHANEL/GIAI PHAP CHAN NUOI HIEU QUA, a popular online platform that offers technical advice and reviews of livestock farms in Vietnam. He has nearly 220,000 followers on YouTube and Facebook.

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Mr. Greg Pankhurst

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Mr Greg Pankhurst is a livestock expert with over 30 years of experience in Asia, especially Indonesia. He started his career as the feedlot manager for Tipperary Indonesia, an Australian-Indonesian joint venture, where he managed 17,000 head of cattle in Sumatera. After surviving the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis, he partnered with Dicky Adiwoso, a local Indonesian businessman, and Consolidated Pastoral Company, owned by the Packer family, to build two modern feedlots in Sumatera. He has been involved in the importation, feeding, and marketing of more than 2 million head of Australian cattle in Indonesia. Currently, he is a shareholder of Frontier International, a leading supplier of live cattle to Vietnam and Indonesia. He also serves as the Chairman of Queensland Livestock Exporters Association and the Head Consultant for Lampung Livestock, which provides consultancy services to feedlots across Southeast Asia and Australia.



**Assoc. Prof.
Pham Kim Dang**

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Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pham Kim Dang is the General Deputy Director of the Department of Livestock Production (DLP) under the Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development (MARD). He is a former Dean of the Faculty of Animal Science at the Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA). He has a DVM from VNUA, an MSc in Animal Health and Production, and a PhD in Animal Production from the University of Liege, Belgium. He has over 24 years of experience in animal science, livestock production, and biotechnology. He has conducted research on various topics such as by-product use, antimicrobial use, antibiotic residue, and antibiotic alternative in livestock. He has published more than 130 scientific papers on these topics. He is also interested in developing strategies and policies for transforming and sustaining the livestock sector.

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Dr. Rodd Dyer

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Rodd is an agri-food, agribusiness, and international development professional, with over twenty years' experience working as a program manager, researcher, and consultant throughout Australia, Southeast Asia, the Pacific, and China. Rodd spent seven years as the Agribusiness Research Program Manager with the Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research (ACIAR). Prior to that he spent six years with Meat and Livestock Australia as Project Manager for the Northern Beef Program. Rodd's broad practical experience has been shaped by nine years working as a researcher in the Northern Territory of Australia, two years as a beef cattle technical officer in northern Queensland and two years with one of Australia's largest pastoral companies.

Rodd is co-founder and Director of FocusGroupGo Asia Pacific (FGG AP), a small Vietnam based research, project management and consultancy company. Since 2018, FGG has successfully completed over forty projects throughout the Asia Pacific.



**Emeritus Prof.
Dennis Poppi**

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Dennis Poppi is an Emeritus Professor of Animal Nutrition at the University of Queensland. He has been involved in ACIAR projects in Indonesia, Myanmar, and Vanuatu, as a visiting scientist to Brazil and Uruguay and in MLA projects across northern Australia, all looking at ways to improve beef production systems.

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Dr. Dinh Van Tuyen

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Mr Tuyen has 27 years- experience in Ruminant nutrition and husbandry. He started his career at Cattle Research Division of the National Institute of Animal Sciences in 1996 and had been working for the Institute as a researcher till 2012. During the period of 16 years working for the Institute, he had spent 4 years in The University of Queensland, Australia, to obtain a PhD degree in nutrition for beef cattle and 1 year in Wageningen University, The Netherlands, to complete a Postdoctoral Program in roughage processing.

He moved to work as a Product Manager Cattle for De Heus LLC Vietnam, the leading animal feed company in Vietnam, in 2012 where he has been focusing on nutritional and technical aspects of feeds for beef and dairy cattle. Working in both academic and industrial environments has allowed him to turn scientific knowledge into the practical implications for livestock production in general and cattle production in particular.



Dr. Melanie Blanchard

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Dr. Mélanie Blanchard is an animal scientist at CIRAD's Selmet Unit (Mediterranean and Tropical Livestock Systems Unit). She was based at the National Institute of Animal Science (NIAS) in Hanoi, Vietnam, for 6 years and now works at CIRAD in Montpellier (France). She serves as a scientific coordinator for the ASSET project and is a member of the Research & Training Platform in Partnership ASEAN, focusing on agroecology in South-East Asia.

Melanie's research is centred on the integration of crop-livestock and the co-design of innovations to foster sustainable farming system development. She investigates the transition of livestock systems and practices of crop-livestock integration in Southeast Asia. Her work includes assessing the productive and environmental efficiency and impact and collaborating with stakeholders to co-design innovative livestock systems. This encompasses forage production options, manure management, feeding systems, and animal mobility.

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Dr. Nguyen Thi Vinh

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Dr. Nguyen Thi Vinh, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Animal Science at Vietnam National University of Agriculture, is a lecturer in the Department of Biology and Zoology. Her research focuses on animal feed, genetics, and breeding, contributing to nearly 40 international and national publications. As Vice Dean, she oversees scientific research and international cooperation. Dr. Vinh also coordinates an international project aimed at enhancing human resources in Animal Husbandry for the university. Her dedication to her field and commitment to education make her a vital asset to the institution and the broader scientific community.



Dr. Steve Petty

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Dr Steven Petty is the General Manager of the Clean Agriculture and International Tourism (CAIT) cattle business. He is a highly experienced, published, agricultural consultant with a strong technical and scientific background who has a practical approach and is focused on the economic sustainability of cattle and farming businesses. He has over 35 years of experience managing businesses, analysing the economic performance and management of cattle businesses and developing these businesses. More recently he has been involved in supporting producers working with carbon projects.

Steven has worked in North Australia for over 35 years and is married with 4 children. He has a pilot license, enjoys living in rural Australia, swimming, and running.

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Dr. Pham Thi Kim Dung

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Dr. Pham Thi Kim Dung is the Head of Animal Breeding division at the Department of Livestock Production (DLP), where she has been working since 2009. She has over 27 years of experience in livestock production, animal genetics and breeding, and estimated breeding values (BLUP). She holds a Bachelor of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Medicine from Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA) and a PhD in Animal Genetic and Breeding. She is a prolific researcher and author of many scientific publications on animal genetics and breeding, livestock development policies, and livestock husbandry laws and regulations. She has received several awards for her contributions to livestock production and development, including an award from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam and the Young Scientist Award from the Crawford Fund of Australia.



Dr. Phung The Hai

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Dr. Phung The Hai is the Deputy Director of the Vietnam Ruminant Breeding Centre (VINALICA) and the Secretary General of the Vietnam Ruminant Husbandry Association (VINARUHA). He has been working as a main researcher at VINALICA since 2003, focusing on cattle reproduction and reproductive diseases. He obtained his PhD from the Vietnam National University of Agriculture in 2013. He has led and participated in several scientific research projects on livestock husbandry, veterinary medicine, breeding, and nutrition at the national and ministry levels. He has also been managing the breeding facility of male cattle producing frozen semen and breeding females since 2016. He is actively involved in the activities of VINARUHA, a professional association for ruminant livestock.

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Prof. Wayne Pitchford

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Professor Wayne Pitchford has been teaching Animal Breeding and Genetics, Livestock Production and Meat Science at Adelaide University since 1992. He is currently Director of the Davies Livestock Research Centre and leader of the University's AgriFood and Wine strategic plan. He has been an executive and program leader in Beef CRCs, non-executive director of Pork CRC and supervised postgraduate students in Sheep CRC. Recently he has been a program leader in the Advanced Livestock Management Technologies program. He has produced 270 publications and supervised 40 PhD and 57 Honours students and is a Fellow of the Association for the Advancement of Animal Breeding and Genetics. He runs a farm with his wife and son.



**Assoc. Prof.
Le Thi Thuy**

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Assoc. Prof. Dr Le Thi Thuy is the Director of the Vietnam Institute of Animal Science and Technology (AHAV) and the Head of the International Relations Department of the Ruminant Livestock Association (VINARUHA). She has a strong background in genetics, animal breeding and biotechnology, and has worked as the Head of the Animal Genetics Molecular Lab at the National Key Laboratory for Animal Cells and the Deputy Head of the Department for Scientific Management and International Cooperation at NIAS-MARD. She is also a postgraduate lecturer on biotechnology application in livestock production at several universities and institutes in Vietnam and Germany. She holds a post-doctoral degree from NIAR, Japan on animal genetic technology and conservation. She is currently leading a state-level project on applying science and technology to build a high-quality beef cattle farming model in Son La province.

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Mr. Tim Schatz

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Tim Schatz is currently the director of the Livestock Industry Development section of the Northern Territory Department of Industry Tourism and Trade. He has worked for the department for 22 years and previously worked in beef cattle research for the Queensland Department of Primary Industries as well as gaining experience on commercial cattle properties.

Tim completed a Bachelor of Rural Science at the University of New England and a Masters on heifer fertility at Charles Darwin University. The areas of cattle research that he has worked in are heifer fertility, crossbreeding, selective breeding, rotational grazing, nutrition and supplementation.



Mr. Neil MacDonald

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Neil MacDonald has worked in tropical animal production for 40 years, mostly in the Northern Territory of Australia. This included some projects in Southeast Asia, particularly Indonesia. He retired from the position of Director of Livestock for the Northern Territory in 2019 and now does part-time consultancy work related to cattle and buffalo research in Northern Australia and Asia. He has particular interest in breeding cattle and commercial systems, and also in buffalo.

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Dr. Kieren McCosker

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Kieren McCosker is an expert in tropical beef production, holding a degree in Agriculture Science - Animal Science from the University of Queensland and a Ph.D. from the School of Veterinary Science at the same institution. He has around 20 years of experience in investigating production issues in the northern beef production system and Southeast Asia. In addition to his work in northern Australia, Kieren has collaborated on several research activities aimed to improve smallholder productivity in Indonesia. His current research projects focus on various aspects of beef production, including the impact of heat stress, paddock infrastructure and nutrition on calf mortality and the utilisation of remote technologies for detecting crucial production events, such as calving and maternal behaviours. Additionally, Kieren is actively involved in various research initiatives focused on quantifying and mitigating methane production in the beef production sector.



Mr. Greg Butler

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Greg Butler is a meat industry consultant with over 20 years of experience in various markets across the world. He provides expert advice, training, and implementation on commercial viability, product quality, consumer satisfaction, marketing, design, infrastructure, food safety, quality assurance, and market assessment for live cattle traders, feed lots, abattoirs, processors, wholesalers, supermarkets, retailers, food service, and manufacturers. He has delivered successful training outcomes and increased sales and profits for his clients in Australia, Middle East, Asia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, and Uruguay. He has also designed and delivered the Australian Meat Seminars training program to promote Australian company brands and products. He is a well-connected and respected professional in the meat industry, with a wide network of key stakeholders and industry bodies.

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Dr. Michael Patching

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Dr Michael Patching is a veterinarian, animal welfare expert, and Asian market commentator. Michael has been involved in the Vietnam beef and cattle industry directly since 2015 as manager of Vietnam and then Southeast Asia for Meat & Livestock Australia. He now runs his own consultancy business, Alta Food and Agriculture Pte Ltd out of Singapore. Michael is dedicated to finding commercial and practical ways to improve animal welfare in abattoirs globally for businesses to remain profitable but also meet religious and community expectations. Michael also provides insights on regional trends and analysis in the meat and livestock sector in Asia.



Mr. Spencer Whitaker

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Spencer Whitaker is the Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), Market Development Manager for Asia Pacific. Spencer is based in Hanoi and his role covers the marketing and business development programs across three of industry's priority emerging markets; Vietnam, Thailand and the Philippines as well as the livestock export program for the Asia Pacific region (excluding Indonesia). MLA has recently significantly invested in this region, with Spencer moving from his previous post as the Trade and Access Manager for the MENA region in Dubai, to head up programs in these emerging markets with the support of locally engaged staff across the region and a regional manager and office in Singapore.



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For Evaluation of the Vietnam -
Australia Beef Cattle Symposium



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