

## In this Issue

- Technical Update
- WAPPA AGM
- APL Membership
- Welfare Code
- Daph's Kitchen

# WAPPA

## Pork Yarns



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## WAPPA Supports National Disease Action Plan

**More than 20 producers and industry stakeholders attended an Industry Liaison Officer (ILO) training seminar at Pastoral House, Belmont on June 28, to prepare WA's pork industry for an emergency disease outbreak.**

WAPPA, in conjunction with APL and Animal Health Australia, conducted the training as part of the national Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) program, giving producers the necessary skills and information to be part of an exotic disease response.

The workshop was developed to provide ongoing, proactive education and training to producers, veterinarians and other stakeholders in Australian livestock industries.

Expected outcomes include:

- Contributing to the Local Disease Control Centre (LDCC) team in EAD management.
- Communicating effectively with people in the LDCC and the pork industry.
- Keeping accurate, up-to-date records in accordance with LDCC requirements.
- Providing advice on the nature of the local industry.
- Understanding the process of EAD management in the context of the LDCC.

Senior Veterinary Officer, Dr

Michelle Rodan and Bill Trend, both of DAFWA, presented the workshop and led participants through a range of exercises, including working in an emergency response, communication channels, disease scenarios and stress management.

Dr Rodan said the workshop and subsequent accreditation of participants contributed to WAPPA's obligation of providing ILOs to assist in a disease outbreak.

"By having a number of trained ILOs, WAPPA is contributing to the national response arrangements, as required by APL's agreement with Animal Health Australia," she said.

"These programs give industry representatives the knowledge to make significant contributions to a response and to assist in minimising the impact of the disease on their respective industries."

One of the day's key themes was defining the operating arrangements and communication within a LDCC. Clear lines of communication between the centre, producers and media are critical for an effective response.

"It's important to have consistent and clear messages about the response communicated to producers and the public," Dr Rodan said.

"The ILO's industry knowledge is



JEFO Australia General Manager, Wayne Bradshaw, Portec Australia Consultant, Dr John Carr, WAPPA Vice-President, Richard Evison and JEFO International Vice-President of Sales and Marketing, David Mair at the June 25 Pork Production Technical Update. Presenters covered a variety of feed topics, including innovations in the North American feed industry and maximising feed conversion efficiency in times of high feed prices. See story on page 2.

crucial in ensuring messages developed in the response are appropriate to their industry."

WAPPA Executive Officer, Russell Cox, also outlined the necessity of such courses for appropriate management of issues within the industry.

"Providing these workshops ensures the pork industry understands the EAD plan, which minimises the economic impact of a disease outbreak," he said.

"This is another example of the industry putting its hand up and doing something positive and

beneficial, not just for the pork industry, but for other livestock industries in WA."

Mr Cox said, as part of the process, WAPPA and DAFWA have developed a state EAD valuation schedule where producers would receive market value for their product if they needed to be destroyed due to a disease outbreak.

WAPPA is working with DAFWA to ensure an appropriate valuation schedule to ensure producers receive fair compensation if animals are affected by an emergency disease.



PPC pork suppliers Roy Christmass of Pinjarra and Jennie Conley of Narrogin undress a well dressed WA carcass in a Singapore boning room earlier this year.



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Agribusiness Manager, Lui Rinaldi, 0417 172 153 General Manager, Ron Penn, 0418 906 278

# Pictured at WAPPA Supported Pork Industry Seminars



JEFO Australia General Manager, Wayne Bradshaw, Pork CRC CEO, Dr Roger Campbell, JEFO International Vice-President of Sales and Marketing, David Mair and Portec Australia Consultants, Dr John Carr and Dr Sandy Adsett presented at the Pork Production Technical Update.



WAPPA Executive Officer, Russell Cox discusses the main points of the Industry Liaison Officer workshop with Robert Forrester of Southern Cross.



North Dandalup producer, Adrian Holloway and Pork Industry Training Officer, Emalyn Loudon pictured at the Industry Liaison Officer workshop.

## Technical Update Focuses on Feed Utilisation

**Portec Australia, in conjunction with the Pork CRC and JEFO International, presented a Pork Production Technical Update in Perth on June 25, attended by about 30 producers, representatives and other stakeholders wanting to advance their technical knowledge of pork production.**

Speakers included JEFO International Vice-President of Sales and Marketing, David Mair from Canada, Pork CRC CEO, Dr Roger Campbell from Adelaide and Portec Australia veterinary consultants, Dr John Carr and Dr Sandy Adsett.

They addressed global and local feed issues, including efficiency and variety innovations in the current environment of increasing global feed ingredient commodity prices.

They noted it was increasingly difficult for producers to keep costs down, with high feed prices and the increasing incidence of disease creating sustained pressure on declining profit margins.

Dr Campbell addressed enhancing feed efficiency by outlining some of the variables associated with canola meal due to the extraction process from canola seed and the potential that exists to reduce the loss of lysine to maximise its nutritional value.

He noted the quality of local canola meal was generally superior to what was produced in Canada, but there were opportunities to further enhance the quality and this was a focus for the Pork CRC.

Dr Campbell was also excited by early trials that indicated the addition of arginine (an amino acid) into gilt and gestating sow diets for a 14 day period resulted in a significant increase in piglets born alive, due to its effect on reducing foetal death loss.

This outcome could have major benefits to the pig industry.

Portec veterinarian, Dr Chris Brennan said this program of technical updates assisted producers to keep up with developments in their industry and encouraged discussion which allowed experience and knowledge transfer between producers.

"These seminars are important because they provide specific technical information, plus research and development advances that impact producers' bottom lines," he said.

"What's happening right now in the global feed industry is particularly relevant to local producers because of the need for cheaper and more efficient alternatives to traditional feeds."

Other topics covered by the presenters included North American feed innovations and the impact of ethanol, realising the production potential of the modern pig, water as an often forgotten nutrient and optimising feed intake in lactating sows.

**For information on future technical update seminars and to acquire the CD of the presentations from this seminar, contact Portec, Tel 9479 3100.**

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# President's Address

by Graeme Dent,  
WAPPA President

**WAPPA and our members have again been busy confirming WAPPA as a leader not only in the pork industry, but across all livestock industries.**

While the politicians 'umm and ahh' over matters of sustainability, pork producers have always understood that an eye to the future means the difference between success and stagnation.

That's why it's so important for producers to be involved in industry activities that will ultimately benefit our businesses.

Programs such as our recent Industry Liaison Officer (ILO) semi-



nar reflect WAPPA's desire to future-proof the pork industry for generations to come.

While none of us want to think too hard about an exotic disease

outbreak devastating our industry (just think foot and mouth in the UK), it's necessary to put in place safeguards to protect producers in the event of such a scenario.

By providing ILO training, WAPPA satisfies its agreement with Animal Health Australia and APL and seats us alongside other peak livestock bodies at the main table.

We understand that it's one thing to be prepared for the worst, but what happens after the worst is over? Where do producers go from there?

More than just providing training in disease management, WAPPA is also involved in securing producers fair and equitable

remuneration should their pigs have to be destroyed as a result of an exotic disease.

That's why WAPPA has worked with DAFWA to negotiate fair market value to be paid to all producers for each pig that would need to be destroyed.

Representation and leadership have always been the cornerstones of WAPPA's constitution, which is why we are working so hard to advance the pork industry. Whether it be providing ILO training, QA seminars or implementing the reworked Pig Welfare Code, to us it's all about providing WA's pork producers with the tools they need to maintain sustainability and profitability.

## APL Membership Makes for a Happy Christmass

**APL membership is available to all pig slaughter levy paying WA producers, whether they sell one pig or thousands.**

Pinjarra producer, Roy Christmass, believes APL has played a critical role in his 29 years in the pig industry.

"APL is a reference point for individual members. If there are problems or information we require, APL is the contact point," he said.

"I think the delegate system works really well, with representatives from each state ensuring producers' voices are heard.

"I've spoken to my delegate several times about a variety of issues and have received a detailed written response from APL, so I know the system works.

"Anyone who isn't a member should not be part of our industry," he said.

### APL Membership

APL membership lasts three years or until a producer stops paying the pig slaughter levy.

All current APL members will be sent a 2007 membership renewal Statutory Declaration, which requires:

- Information on the pig slaughter levy paid in the financial year ending June 30, 2007.
- Signature of a person before whom a statutory declaration may be made.
- Replies to a simple member survey.

Membership renewal information must be returned to APL by September 3.



Roy Christmass of Pinjarra

### Associate Producer

The Year of the Pig (2007) has brought exciting new changes to the associate membership category, which is available to all non-levy paying producers e.g. grow-out units and breeders.

To be eligible for this category, nominations must be sponsored by an existing APL member.

Associate producer members receive annual reports, notices of general meetings and all other documents and information available to APL members and can attend and address general meetings, however they have no voting rights.

**For more information on APL membership, contact APL Membership Officer, Alison Everett, Tel 02 6285 2200 or email [alison.everett@australianpork.com.au](mailto:alison.everett@australianpork.com.au)**

## WAPPA AGM and Annual Dinner

WAPPA looks forward to all members attending its Annual General Meeting at 1pm Friday, August 31 at Pastoral House, Belmont.

AGM notices, including Executive Committee nomination forms, will be mailed to members in mid-July, with nominations closing August 24.

The AGM will be followed by the Annual Industry Dinner at the Broadwater Pagoda Resort Hotel, Como commencing at 6.30pm with pre-dinner drinks. Dinner invitations and accommodation details will be mailed with notice of the AGM.

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# Daph's APL Kitchen

by Daph Kavanagh,  
State Manager,  
Australian Pork Limited

Well, for all of you who say you don't have time to cook restaurant style meals at home, here's a recipe that's so quick there will be no excuses.

Using the crisp clean flavours of mint, chives and parsley, this recipe uses delicate Mediterranean flavours to accentuate the pork, with the mustard giving the dish a slight tang and a hint of heat.



This is a great dish to whip up in a hurry, but the flavour is far from simple.

**Bon Appetit!**

## Pork leg steaks with fresh herbs and mustard

Serves Four

Preparation Time: 5 mins Cooking Time: 4 mins

4 pork rump steaks or other pork steaks  
2 tbs Dijon mustard  
1 tbs finely chopped flat leaf parsley  
2 tsp finely chopped mint  
2 tsp finely chopped chives  
Freshly cracked black pepper  
1 tbs olive oil

Combine the mustard, herbs and pepper and spread evenly over both sides of the pork. Heat the oil in a non-stick frying pan over a medium heat and cook for 2 minutes each side, depending on the thickness. Rest the pork for a minute before serving.

Serve with a crisp green salad and crusty bread.



## Model Rehearsal Over

As most producers know, on April 20, the new Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals-Pigs (Pig Code) was endorsed by the Primary Industry Ministerial Council.

The Pig Code provides a foundation for animal welfare legislation while promoting good practices, containing standards, recommendations and guidelines to ensure good animal welfare outcomes for pigs under intensive and extensive systems.

Previous guidelines have not been consistently implemented and enforced across all states and territories, an issue currently being addressed by APL.

The Government has set a two year implementation and issues resolution timeframe.

### Working Group

Comprising senior representatives from relevant government departments, an Implementation Working Group (IWG) will oversee the process.

The IWG will play an essential role in constructively resolving matters of concern to the industry and government in a short time frame.

APL and WAPPA support the IWG's role and will work closely with it to ensure the industry's in-

terests and concerns are well represented, as WAPPA Executive Officer, Russell Cox acknowledged.

"If WAPPA and pork producers don't work together, implementing the Pig Code will be very difficult, which will be detrimental to our industry and how the public perceives us," he said.

"Its implementation requires consistency of policy at state and local government level so that the new welfare standards can be equitably implemented."

APL stresses that it is critical governments adhere to agreed policies for implementation and consistent regulation of standards, including their interpretation, verification and wording, as identified and agreed upon by the IWG.

### TRG Response

APL's focus is the Pig Code's implementation on-farm, via the development of a working manual and establishment of a technical reference group (TRG).

The TRG will be the liaison point between industry and the IWG and will include two working committees, covering human resources training and quality assurance.

Terms of reference are being developed and TRG positions will later be advertised.

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