



Program Outline

Many farmers in the Wheatbelt with all-grain operations have been wondering whether they should be rethinking their enterprise mix as a result of the recent sustained good prices for livestock and wool. Things have changed since the days when almost everyone ran cattle and sheep, and getting back into livestock successfully needs new ways of thinking and the use of new techniques can help to make the changes. **The WAFarmers Field Day and Forum will give you the opportunity to discover the essential information you need to make decisions on systems, ideas, species and technologies that will make them productive.**

Time	Session and Details
Wed, 6 Feb 5.30 – 7.00 pm	Registrations at Reception - Kellerberrin Recreation Centre Connelly Street
Morning – Livestock Field Day	
Thurs, 7 Feb 7.00 am	Registrations at Reception - Kellerberrin Recreation Centre Connelly Street
8.00 am	Bus departs from the Kellerberrin Recreation Centre
8.35 am	<p>Kylagh Backgrounding and Cattle Feedlot, Quartermaine Road, Quairading (meet at offices)</p> <p>Ivan and Jill Rogers built their Tammin feedlot, Kylagh, from humble beginnings of about 500 head capacity 17 years ago to the current 5,000 head. The Rogers concentrate on all aspects of feedlot operations from cattle health and welfare through to feed and pen management to achieve cattle wellbeing and product specification. Kylagh supplies Harvey Beef with the Coles Finest 100 day Angus Steer product in addition to being an approved supplier of 100-day grain fed within the Taurindi Beef Alliance.</p> <p>Guests Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <u>Chris Grieger, CGRural Co</u>: Chris will provide an excellent and practical presentation on water access, storage, quality, etc. ❖ <u>Craig Forsyth</u>: Craig will speak on getting back into livestock without the upfront costs.
10.15 am	Bus departs to travel to Anameka Farms, Tammin
10.45 am	<p>Tony York, Anameka Farms, 561 Tammin/Wyalkatchem Road, Tammin</p> <p>Tony York, along with brother Simon and son Oscar, runs a mixed cropping and livestock enterprise across 17,000 hectares. This area is prone to having salt affected land and there are approximately 4000 ha of salt affected land spanning across Anameka. Well-managed salt land can significantly improve farm production. Anameka integrates perennials, in particular salt tolerance species such as blue bush and Anameka salt bush.</p> <p>Guests Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <u>Dr Hayley Norman, CSIRO</u>: Hayley will highlight the value and research of salt tolerant plant assessment programs. ❖ <u>Graham Dixon</u>: Despite many farmers heading in the cropping direction over the last decade, Graham Dixon will discuss his successful family’s mixed sheep and cropping enterprise of 4450 ha.

12.15 pm	Bus travels to back to Kellerberrin Recreation Centre
1.00 - 2.00 pm	Lunch
Afternoon – Livestock Forum	
2.00 pm	Welcome MC Professor David Lindsay
2.05 pm	Session One – Professor John Howieson, Murdoch University Nutritional systems options The rejuvenation of pastures in the Wheatbelt and new alternatives for people getting back into livestock.
2.30 pm	Session Two - Dr Rick Llewellyn, CSIRO Smart Farming Initiatives Rick's project activity is investigating the potential for virtual fencing to boost livestock production in mixed farming regions as well as some related work looking at increasing the profitability of mixed farming.
2.55 pm	Session Three – Annie Brox, Origo.farm Smart Farms – learning from mixed farming Annie is managing wholly WA owned and operated innovator and service provider Origo.farm. From starting in grains and mixed operations, Origo.farm is now working to customise and make digital tools available for the pastoral industry. Origo.farm has been able to match and further develop mature digital technologies from other industries to fit with our agriculture conditions and requirements.
3.20 pm	Session Four – Tim Watts, Chair of the WA Livestock Research Council (WALRC) What will drive the next gain in productivity for your livestock system? WA Livestock Research Council chairman and Pingelly farmer Tim Watts leads a rapid-fire and interactive discussion session focusing on the challenges of your livestock production system and the opportunities for overcoming them.
3.55 – 4.15pm	Afternoon Tea
4.15 pm	Session Five – Professor Ross Kingwell, UWA The relativity of different livestock mixes in cropping enterprises If sheep are coming back into farming systems, how much should they come back? Do sheep really play much of a role in farm profitability? Have their pros and cons changed much? Can we manage sheep enterprises differently? These are the sorts of questions to be discussed.
4.40 – 5.40pm	Session Four – Live export panel session, chaired by WAFarmers CEO Trevor Whittington <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ David Jarvie Live exports – ASEL, Moss and McCarthy ❖ Steven Bolt Implications of a live export phase out – what will the industry look like ❖ Dr Graham Gardner, Murdoch University Merino lamb production systems
5.40pm	Wrap Up
5.45pm	Close
6.00pm – 9.00pm	AWI Barbecue and Producer Engagement session