



# Update

Your latest news from the FutureBeef program

Hi <<First name>>

This issue is bursting with dry season pasture and breeder management strategies, the NT Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade's commercial scale wet season spelling trial, an update on the low preg test rates in the north, why it's important to vaccinate weaners for tick fever, cattle tick vaccine research update and more!

If you didn't get a chance to join Rick Young's webinar on preparing cattle for transport there is a link to the recording below. Rick's presentation was very practical—backed up with years of experience and data.

The next BeefConnect webinar *Breeding for poll in AACo – modelling to implementation* with Matthew Kelly (Principal Scientist, AACo) and James Copley (Quantitative Geneticist, AACo) is on Wednesday 10 July from 12:30–1:30pm AEST. To register, [click here](#).

Kind regards

Felicity  
on behalf of the FutureBeef team

P.S. Let us know what you think of the FutureBeef eBulletin via [email](#) or call us on 13 25 23 (for the cost of a local call in Queensland). You can also connect with us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [LinkedIn](#), or check us out on [YouTube](#). We'd love to hear from you!

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## Preparation for transport and setting cattle up for optimum performance and health

In this BeefConnect webinar, Rick Young (NAPCO's Supply Chain Manager) explains the importance and associated dollar value of good animal handling and preparation for transport. This includes the consequences of not doing it well – which can be long lasting.

[Watch the webinar recording →](#)



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## Turning leaf into beef – Part 2: Best management practice



Tune in for Part 2 of the Northern Beef Project's 'Turning leaf into beef' video series. 'Best management practice' covers the importance of preparing a grazing plan and adhering to established grazing guidelines, including careful monitoring of entry and exit points.

[Read more and watch the video →](#)

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## Seeing is believing: Commercial scale implementation of wet season spelling for Mitchell grass recovery



The NT Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (DITT) is working with producers in the Barkly Region to look at all aspects of wet season spelling. The aim is to understand the factors that influence pasture and soil health, in particular Mitchell grass, a major component of the Barkly Tablelands.

[Read more →](#)

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## Controlling buffalo flies and fly lesions: What have we learned?



Buffalo flies are the costliest health issue in Australia's northern cattle industries. In this presentation, Dr Peter James gives us an in-depth look into the issues in managing buffalo flies and lesions and the implications of recent research outcomes.

[Watch the ParaBoss webinar recording →](#)

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## Will your grass last the whole dry season?



Forage budgeting is a tool that can help you plan for the dry season. Estimating how much grass is in your paddock and then how long it will last is easy if you have the right tools!

[See how it's done →](#)

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## Stylos to combat Indian couch and grader grass in North Queensland



Indian couch and grader grass dominate large areas of north Queensland. The DAF team are testing methods to reliably establish stylos into this country to lift productivity. Their planting techniques are giving helpful results.

[Find out how →](#)

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## Weaning: An ideal time to vaccinate for tick fever



With weaning occurring across Queensland, graziers in ticky country are being encouraged to vaccinate their cattle for tick fever.

[Find out why it's important →](#)

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## Vaccine for cattle ticks takes next step towards commercialisation



Thanks to an Australian Economic Accelerator Seed Grant awarded to Dr Hannah Siddle (Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation), the cattle tick vaccine candidate is being tested on 30 cows in a proof-of-concept trial for commercial adoption. This trial will allow the research team to bridge the gap between the basic research and proving it's a cost-effective vaccine that works in a larger number of animals.

[Read more and watch the video →](#)

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## Ag-tech delivers data nuggets



Taking over the reins of a new property presents a steep learning curve and is where ag-tech can help. When Emma King arrived at 'Echo Hills' in 2021, she relied on a mapping tool to help navigate the property. Today Emma uses a range of ag-tech tools to help improve their beef business.

[Find out which ag-tech and how →](#)

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## Managing breeder herds in the dry season



Graziers are encouraged to consider breeder herd management during the dry season. Year-round mating sees many calves born when low-quality feed makes it difficult to meet the needs of lactating cows.

[Here are some strategies that can help →](#)

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## Preg test results shock the north



Variable pregnancy test results across the north have questions being asked around possible causes. Some herds are experiencing 10–20% falls from usual or expected rates. Charters Towers beef reproduction consultant and former research scientist with the University of Queensland, Geoffry Fordyce has some thoughts around why this might be the case.

[Read more →](#)

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## Moove over ChatGPT – artificial intelligence is being trained to monitor cattle!



DAF has teamed up with Infarm to create an automated camera system that uses machine vision and artificial intelligence to detect cattle and monitor their condition. The system's first job is to identify cows and calves to help producers combat low fertility rates in extensive beef herds. Once it's got the hang of that, it

will be trained to identify injuries, disease symptoms and other issues affecting cattle.

[Read more in this Beef Central article →](#)

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## High fire load? Start planning now



There is a pretty high fuel load across Queensland this year. This is a good opportunity for planned and controlled use of fire for specific management purposes. Fire can assist in woodland management, weed control and pasture improvement. The purpose of the burn will influence the type of fire required. Getting it right needs careful planning well in advance of when you need to burn.

[Read more about using fire in grazing country →](#)

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## Six years in the making – Brian Pastures Field Day 2024

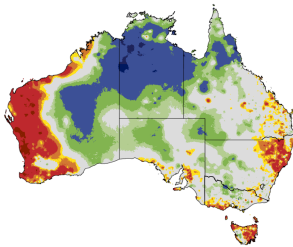


Over 200 people attended the recent Brian Pastures Field Day which showcased the facility and current research projects. A result of ongoing collaboration between the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries who manage and AgForce who own the facility, it was the first field day held on site since 2018.

[Read more →](#)

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## Updated rainfall posters now available



The well-known posters depicting historical rainfall and pasture growth variability were recently updated. You can download these and other posters from The Long Paddock website.

[Download a copy today →](#)

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## 2025 AgCAREERSTART applications open

Applications for people wanting to participate in AgCAREERSTART next year will be open from the 22 July to 29 September 2024. Check out the AgCAREERSTART website for more information and join their mailing list to get updates.

[Apply today →](#)

## Upcoming events (times are displayed in AEST)

Get reacquainted with your SOILS	<a href="#">Kogan</a> , 6 July
Joint AAAS & AAAP Animal Production Congress	<a href="#">Melbourne</a> , 8–12 July
New trends in silage production	<a href="#">Gatton</a> , 9 July
Keeping Coccidiosis at bay - in sheep, cattle and goats	<a href="#">Online</a> , 9 July
Breeding for Poll in AACo: modelling to implementation	<a href="#">Online</a> , 10 July
BredWell FedWell	<a href="#">Drillham</a> , 12 July
Tiaro Field Day	<a href="#">Tiaro</a> , 13 July
Farm security afternoon tea	<a href="#">Chahpingah</a> , 13 July
Parasite management workshop	<a href="#">Nindigully</a> , 15 July
Forage management workshop	<a href="#">Taroom</a> , 15 July <a href="#">Moura</a> , 16 July <a href="#">Springsure</a> , 17 July <a href="#">Capella</a> , 18 July <a href="#">Dysart</a> , 19 July
RCS Grazing Clinic	<a href="#">Emerald</a> , 16–18 July
Animal nutrition and soil health: Post flood learnings	<a href="#">Gympie</a> , 16 July <a href="#">Gayndah</a> , 17 July
Legumes for profitable pastures workshop	<a href="#">Walkamin</a> , 17 July
Soil pit day	<a href="#">Jambin</a> , 23 July <a href="#">Rolleston</a> , 24 July <a href="#">Kilcummin</a> , 25 July
SprayWise application information session	<a href="#">Kilcummin</a> , 23 July <a href="#">Capella</a> , 24 July <a href="#">Springsure</a> , 25 July
GroWQ Innovation Expo	<a href="#">Longreach</a> , 25–26 July

Breeding EDGE	<a href="#">Katherine</a> , 24–26 July <a href="#">Cloncurry</a> , 29–31 July <a href="#">Longreach</a> , 12–14 August
QFF Resilience in Agriculture workshop	<a href="#">Theodore</a> , 30 July
Burnett Mary Paddock to Reef Regional Science Forum	<a href="#">Bundaberg</a> , 7 August
Preventative measures for flood recovery	<a href="#">Upper Glastonbury</a> , 8 August
GrazingforProfit	<a href="#">Roma</a> , 14–20 August
Victoria Research Station Field Day & BeefUp Forum	<a href="#">Katherine</a> , 20–21 August
Grazing land management (GLM) EDGE	<a href="#">Rockhampton</a> , 21–23 August

If an event is listed here, it does not imply endorsement of the event nor its content by DAF or FutureBeef. Please read our [full disclaimer](#).

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**Future**

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## Working together for a profitable and sustainable northern beef industry

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