



Safeguarding Australia's Livestock Industries: *Improving biosecurity in pig production systems*

ADOPTION FORUM

Sydney, 21-22 August 2008

Executive Summary

An adoption forum held at the University of Sydney on 21-22 August 2008 brought together a range of delegates with interest in the small-scale sector of the Australian pig industry including representatives of the industry, other livestock industries, state and federal governments, universities and the Australian Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre (AB-CRC). The forum supported by Australian Pork Limited (APL), The University of Sydney and the AB-CRC aimed to i) inform delegates of the key findings from an AB-CRC funded project conducted by a University of Sydney research team related to the demographics and biosecurity practices of pig producers who trade at saleyards in Eastern Australia and ii) facilitate identification of actions to overcome gaps and deficiencies identified by the research.

The key research findings were presented and considered by the delegates through facilitated group discussions and activities related to a series of focus questions. The recommendations arising from the forum were the following actions:

Action 1: The listed set of minimum biosecurity standards generated by forum participants will be submitted to the APIQ Standards Review Committee through the provision of this report to Mr Bill Salter (Pig National Livestock Identification Scheme Committee) and Dr Pat Mitchell (Australian Pork Ltd) for consideration in the review of the Australian Pig Industry Quality Assurance program (APIQ).

Action 2: Animal Health Australia (AHA) to develop recommendations on an action plan on national swill feeding audits to be presented to Animal Health Committee (AHC) for discussion.

Action 3: The University of Sydney research team to provide to the Pig National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS) Consultative Committee a report of the research findings about level of ability to meet the National Livestock Traceability Performance Standards (NLTPS) and Forum recommendations for the components of a national approach to traceability.

Action 4: Pig NLIS Consultative Committee to develop a strategy for a national approach to traceability based on the information provided by Action 3 and to lobby state governments to comply with this strategy.

Action 5: AHA to incorporate biosecurity and disease detection into relevant training programs as part of emergency animal disease preparedness.

Action 6: APL to liaise with AHA regarding the ability of the E-Surveillance program to capture data on suspect pigs at abattoirs.

Action 7: APL to develop an extension strategy with AHA and state governments relating to issues of compliance.

The full Adoption Forum Final Report is available as a PDF on the AB-CRC website: <http://www.abcrc.org.au/>