

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SOLVE A COSTLY PROBLEM

MLA Donor Company and Queensland University of Technology are seeking a partner to further develop and commercialise a market-ready product to solve a costly problem in the Australian feedlot industry: cattle dags.

The problem

Dags are primarily composed of chaff, dung, soil and urine.

They pose a major problem to the feedlot, meat processing and hide tanning sectors, affecting up to 800,000 cattle/year.

Feedlot cattle are most prone to dags, typically during winter when pens remain wet after rainfall and cattle have longer coats.




Managing feedlot dags typically involves washing cattle with high pressure water and mechanically removing dags using rakes or electric shears. These methods have limited effectiveness.

Dags cause animal discomfort during removal, compromise food safety through carcass contamination and reduce the quality of the end product. They can also cost up to \$15/head to remove, amounting to up to \$12 million/year nationally.



The solution

Meat & Livestock Australia and Queensland University Technology (QUT) have developed an effective, easily applied and fast-acting bio-solution to manage dags.

-  **Effective**
-  **User-friendly**
-  **Fast-acting**

With further development and trialling, a product could be applied on farm, in feedlots or at a processing plant to aid dag removal.

Initial lab results look promising and an Australian provisional patent application has been lodged.

Further activities to understand the full cost of dags at the feedlot, processor and tannery levels are currently being supported.

The opportunity

MLA Donor Company and QUT are now seeking a commercial partner to further develop and commercialise the product.

MLA Donor Company will co-invest with the successful partner to further develop the product¹.

This may involve:

- assessing how the treatment technology responds to dag variation
- formulation refinement
- techno-economic assessments
- process design (for cost effective application of the cleaning agent)
- field testing
- registration/regulatory plan.

More information

For more information or to register your interest in partnering with MLA Donor Company and QUT, please contact:

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¹Any application will be subject to the normal MDC approval process