

# BetterBeef Conference

## 24 June 2026

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA



## Whole Farm Beef Systems program

Turning today's challenges into tomorrow's opportunities

### Keynote speakers

<b>John Francis</b> <i>Agrista</i>	The biggest risk in beef production is the way you think: profit, production and breaking loss-aversion traps
<b>Angus Gidley-Baird</b> <i>Rabobank</i>	Domestic and international beef market outlook
<b>Elle Moyle</b> <i>Pathfinder Angus</i>	Managing through drought – experiences, challenges and lessons learnt – a producer's perspective.
<b>Prof. Wayne Pitchford</b> <i>Adelaide University</i>	Strategies to improve maternal productivity and efficiency in a beef enterprise
<b>Mark Dempsey</b> <i>Gallagher, eShepherd</i>	The beef farm of the future: virtual fencing and the commercial realities
<b>James Knight</b> <i>The Sisters Pastoral Co</i>	
<b>Travis McKenzie</b> <i>Halter</i>	

### Concurrent sessions

<b>Fiona Baker</b> <i>Agriculture Victoria</i>	Quality information drives quality decisions
<b>Dr Craig Wood</b> <i>Terang and Mortlake Veterinary Clinic</i>	Pink eye: management, prevention and treatment
<b>Lach McKenzie</b> <i>McKenzie Ag</i>	Setting weaners up for success
<b>Nicole Frost</b> <i>Peak Pasture and Livestock</i>	High performing perennial pastures
<b>Nicole Frost</b> <i>Peak Pasture and Livestock</i>	Multispecies pastures: benefits for soils, plants and animals
<b>Dr Leah Tyrell</b> <i>Mackinnon Project, University of Melbourne</i>	Liver fluke in beef cattle: prevention and management

## Program structure

The program features two commercial beef enterprise streams: Feeder Steers and Whole Farm Beef Systems, covering the issues that matter most to Victorian producers. Sessions are delivered in structured blocks, giving participants the opportunity to move between.

This event is proudly delivered by Agriculture Victoria as part of the Victorian Government's statewide Drought Support Package, and supported by Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and Angus Australia/Angus Victoria.

## Feeder Steer Masterclass

Brought to you by Mortlake BetterBeef group, MLA and Angus Australia/Angus Victoria

### 1. The feeder steer market evolution

<b>Grant Garey</b> <i>Australian Lot Feeders' Association and Teys Australia</i>	Australia's feedlot growth and evolution
<b>Jon Condon</b> <i>Beef Central</i>	Feeder steer specs and preferences
<b>Jeff House</b> <i>Jeff House Livestock Pty Ltd</i>	Insights from 16 years of feedlot and carcass data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grant Garey, ALFA</li><li>Jon Condon, Beef Central</li><li>Jeff House, Jeff House Livestock</li></ul>	Q&A panel session

### 2. Optimising supply chain productivity and eating quality

<b>Jake Phillips</b> <i>Phillips Livestock Solutions</i>	Commercial application of EBVs
<b>David Packer</b> <i>Meat &amp; Livestock Australia</i>	Understanding carcass value
<b>Prof. Pete McGilchrist</b> <i>School of Environmental and Rural Science, University of New England</i>	Where to next on eating quality?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jake Phillips, Phillips Livestock Solutions</li><li>David Packer, MLA</li><li>Pete McGilchrist, UNE</li></ul>	Q&A panel session

### 3. Value-based marketing

<b>Sarah Strachan</b> <i>Meat &amp; Livestock Australia</i>	Value-based marketing for feeder steers
<b>Charlie Perry</b> <i>Trent Bridge Wagyu</i>	Value-based marketing using genomic feeder checks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sarah Strachan, MLA</li><li>Charlie Perry, Trent Bridge Wagyu</li></ul>	Q&A panel session

### 4. On farm – setting steers for success in the feed yard

<b>Lachlan McKenzie</b> <i>McKenzie Ag</i>	Nutrition for high performance feeder steers
<b>Dr Brad Hine</b> <i>Angus Australia</i>	Animal health for high performance feeder steers
<b>James Sage</b> <i>Thomas Foods International</i>	Frontline insights on high performance feeder steers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lach McKenzie, McKenzie Ag</li><li>Brad Hine, Angus Australia</li><li>James Sage, Thomas Foods International</li></ul>	Q&A panel session

Full program and ticket purchases visit: [agriculture/networks-conference-2026](https://agriculture/networks-conference-2026), or scan the scan the QR code. For more information contact Deanne Kennedy 0419 878 055, [deanne@jaydee.net.au](mailto:deanne@jaydee.net.au)

