

YOU'RE INVITED TO

Leading Breeder 2021

Theme

Investing in innovation, for genetic improvement

Date

Thursday 25 March 2021

Registration

Click [here](#) to register by **14 March**.

For more information, contact Sheep Genetics at:
info@sheepgenetics.org.au or phone: 02 8055 1818

About

Leading Breeder is a biannual conference hosted by Sheep Genetics to update clients on the genetic evaluations and showcase the innovations in development to achieve genetic improvement.

With the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the format of the conference must cater for the varying restrictions that apply across states and territories. We want attendees to be able to come together to learn and share ideas in a safe environment.

As a result, the 2021 event will involve a combination of livestreamed and face-to-face presentations running simultaneously across three regional locations.

The main event will be hosted and livestreamed from Armidale, NSW. However, you will be able to attend local venues in some states to view the conference, where parts of the agenda will run as face-to-face presentations.

Time

Thursday 25 March, 11am to 4.30pm AEDT.

For attendees in South Australia, this is 10.30am–4pm local time, and in Western Australia, this is 8am–1.30pm local time.

Locations

- New South Wales:**
Armidale Ex Services Club,
137 Dumaresq St, Armidale NSW 2350
- South Australia:**
Rydges, Adelaide,
1 South Tce, Adelaide SA 5000
- Western Australia:**
Muresk Institute,
1 Muresk Rd, Northam WA 6401

Attendees are warned that locations and venues are subject to last-minute changes, due to the rapidly evolving nature of COVID-19.

If a venue is unable to host people face-to-face, attendees can participate virtually in the conference.

[Register here](#)

Program

Session 1 Enhancements and updates impacting your business	Conference open and welcome (10 min) Luke Stephen Technical Specialist Sheep Breeding, NSW DPI
	Delivering better breeding values – an update from Sheep Genetics (30 min) Gus Rose Operations Manager, Sheep Genetics, MLA
	Database redevelopment – what does it mean for you? (30 min) Peta Bradley Senior Project Officer, Genetics, MLA
	Reproduction – now and into the future (30 min) Andrew Swan Principal Scientist, Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit, UNE
Session 2 Investing in reference populations	The Resource Flock – an industry reference creating data (30 min) Hamish Chandler Program Manager, Genetics, MLA
	Investing in new traits – where are the opportunities? (35 min) NSW Brad Hine CSIRO – Immune competence SA Mark Hutchinson University of Adelaide – Pain and wellbeing WA TBC
	First look at the MSA Mark II Model (30 min) Jessira Perovic Project Manager, MSA R&D and Analytics, MLA
Session 3 Taking ownership for investment where it matters for you	Blue sky genetics investment (35 min) Livestream to all locations Harrison Lamb University of Queensland – Crush side genotype to accelerate genetic gain in livestock NSW Ben Hayes University of Queensland – Predicting age of livestock from DNA samples SA Rachel Ankeny University of Adelaide – Community attitudes toward Gene Editing in the Red Meat Sector WA Caris Jones Project Manager, Genetics, MLA – Project showcase
	The MLA genetics campaign (30 min) Clara Bradford National Adoption Manager, Genetics, MLA
	Conference wrap-up – where to from here? (10 min) Luke Stephen Technical Specialist Sheep Breeding, NSW DPI

Interested in what is happening at other venues?

The presentations delivered face-to-face will be filmed and distributed following the conference.