

BetterBeef Conference

24 June 2026

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA



Whole Farm Beef Systems program

Turning today's challenges into tomorrow's opportunities

Keynote speakers

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

Concurrent sessions

Fiona Baker <i>Agriculture Victoria</i>	Quality information drives quality decisions
Dr Craig Wood <i>Terang and Mortlake Veterinary Clinic</i>	Pink eye: management, prevention and treatment
Lach McKenzie <i>McKenzie Ag</i>	Setting weaners up for success
Nicole Frost <i>Peak Pasture and Livestock</i>	High performing perennial pastures
Nicole Frost <i>Peak Pasture and Livestock</i>	Multispecies pastures: benefits for soils, plants and animals
Dr Leah Tyrell <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 supported by Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA).

Feeder Steer Masterclass

Brought to you by Mortlake BetterBeef group

1. The feeder steer market evolution

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

2. Optimising supply chain productivity and eating quality

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

3. Value-based marketing

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

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

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

For more information and to book tickets, visit agriculture/networks-conference-2026 or scan the scan the QR code

