

Expression of Interest

National Livestock Genetics Consortium

Skills Based Taskforce Vacancy – Prime Lamb Producer

Date: 30th November 2017

MLA Program: Livestock Genetics

Livestock Genetics Program Manager: Hamish Chandler – hchandler@mla.com.au

1. Purpose:

Meat & Livestock Australia and the National Livestock Genetics Consortium are seeking expressions of interest from individuals with extensive professional experience in prime lamb production.

2. Relevant and necessary background

The National Livestock Genetics Consortium (NLGC) was established in October 2016 and is governed by a skills based taskforce (Taskforce). The NLGC provides direction and support to increase collaboration, transparency, communication and investment in livestock genetics research, development and adoption (RD&A) in Australia. The primary aim of this initiative is to significantly increase the rate of genetic progress achieved in the sheep and beef industries. The NLGC functions as a collaborative co-investment vehicle for new investments in genetics and genomic RD&A that utilises MLA and MLA Donor Company (MDC) governance structures to engage and oversee projects.

The aims of the NLGC are:

- To double the annual rate of improvement in industry genetic value by 2022.
- To coordinate research, reduce timelines and costs ensuring delivery of world leading genetic improvement.
- The seamless transfer of information to industry and provision of easy-to-use data sharing products and services – a national data platform.
- Improve adoption through unifying the delivery of genetic RD&A across the livestock industry.
- Deliver an additional \$400 million in industry improvements to the commercial livestock industry value chain.

Through supporting projects that deliver one or more of the following imperatives:

- World leading Research & Development
- Cultural Change
- Disruptive Technologies
- National accessible data platform
- Disruptive partners/collaboration

The NLGC taskforce provides advice to MLA on key areas of investment for the advancement of livestock genetics. Recommendations from the Taskforce are considered by the MLA Board and Peak Industry Councils in making decisions on major investments into genetics and genomics RD&A that address the NLGC aims. When formulating advice, the Taskforce seeks a consensus position across industry representatives.

3. Discussion

The National Livestock Genetics Consortium (NLGC) provides direction and support to increase collaboration, transparency, communication and investment in livestock genetics research, development and adoption (RD&A) in Australia through an advisory capacity.

One of the key factors in delivering on the objectives of the NLGC is producer engagement and consultation. To ensure relevant and practical research outcomes, there needs to be ongoing representation in the Livestock Genetics R&D sector. The NLGC Taskforce are seeking to find an individual to represent the Prime Lamb industry, who has extensive genetics and breeding experience. As well as having the skills to ensure investments through the NLGC will deliver greater impact for livestock producers and the red meat value chain.

Terms of Reference

The NLGC is currently seeking an individual with the following essential experience and skills:

- Current or preceding Australian Prime Lamb Producer
- Knowledge and understanding of livestock genetics and breeding
- A proven track record in delivering high rates of genetic progress
- Extensive experience in utilising genetic and genomic tools in a prime lamb enterprise

Applicants with the following knowledge and understanding will be preferred.

- Tertiary qualifications or equivalent industry experience in livestock production and/or genetics
- Involvement in strategic thinking and planning
- Background in the red meat sector.
- Experience reviewing and assessing project applications.

For further information on the role of taskforce members please refer to the NLGC Taskforce Terms of Reference.

Submissions:

Applicants should submit both a cover letter and CV to **Hamish Chandler** hchandler@mla.com.au by the close of business on the **22nd of December 2017**.