

Expression of Interest

National Livestock Genetics Consortium

Skills Based Taskforce Vacancy – Composite Breeder

Date: 1st December 2023

MLA Program: Livestock Genetics

1. Purpose

Meat & Livestock Australia and the National Livestock Genetics Consortium are seeking expressions of interest from individuals with extensive professional experience in composite breeding, sheep or cattle.

2. Relevant and necessary background

The National Livestock Genetics Consortium (NLGC) was established in October 2016 and is governed by a skills-based 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 the NLGC is to increase the rate of genetic progress achieved for traits that drive value chain productivity & sustainability in the sheep and beef industries.

The outcomes of the NLGC 2030 Strategic plan are:

- An industry improvement of 2% in the rate of genetic gain annually through access to world leading genetic/genomic technologies
- Genetics is an established long-term enabler for achieving productivity and sustainability goals
- Genetic tools addressing sustainability outcomes are available to users across the supply chain
- Data platforms that enable genetic data to be leveraged in R&D to underpin continual data capture are established.

These will be achieved through supporting projects that align to one of the strategic pillars outlined in the NLGC plan:

- Enabling transparent and flexible investment
- Continuous improvement of world leading genetic tools
- Improved social, economic and environmental outcomes
- Delivering direct impact of genetic investment to industry through adoption
- Facilitating bold, collaborative and impactful R&D

3. Terms of Reference

The NLGC Taskforce are seeking to find an individual to represent the Composite breeding sector who has extensive genetics and breeding experience in either or both sheep and/or cattle. 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.

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

- Current or preceding composite sheep and/or cattle breeder
- Knowledge and understanding of livestock genetics and breeding
- A proven track record in delivery of high rates of genetic progress
- Involvement in utilising genetic and genomic tools in a composite breeding program

Applicants with the following knowledge and understanding will be preferred:

- Tertiary qualification or equivalent industry experience in livestock production and/or genetics
- Involvement in strategic thinking and planning
- 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 Sarah Day (sday@mla.com.au) by close of business on the **2nd of February 2024**.

Note: that it is preferred the successful applicant is available to attend the April 2024 NLGC meeting.