

Central Queensland Livestock Centre of Excellence.

Practical and profitable solutions from the grassroots up.



The producer comes first at the Central Queensland Livestock Centre of Excellence.

They are the first people we call when we ask: 'What are the challenges facing industry? And how can we make a difference?' And they are the first people we ask when we test ideas to make sure they will work in the real world.

The Central Queensland Livestock Centre of Excellence is a newly formed research partnership between CQUniversity Australia, AgForce Queensland, the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) and the Qld Agricultural Training Colleges (QATC).

Our focus is to:

- Deliver improved on-farm productivity and practice change.
- Work with producers in designing and undertaking R&D activities
- Specialise in digital technologies to boost herd management, genetic performance, financial literacy.

We are unique in our ability to bring together the industry's first integrated group of beef research sites in Central Queensland, encompassing the cattle production chain from stud, breeder and finisher operations and headquartered in the Beef Capital of Rockhampton.

The CQ approach

Our research activities are framed by extensive producer engagement and projects are designed to include producer participants to guarantee the relevance of our solutions and encourage adoption.

Trials are conducted at our world-class laboratories at CQUniversity and at four research stations located at AgForce's 'Belmont', Rockhampton; and QATC's 'Berrigurra', Emerald, 'Narayan', Mundubbera, and 'Rosebank', Longreach.

These stations act as research 'hubs' in our 'hub and spoke' model of working with producers in developing and extending new technologies onto real-world farm businesses. The hubs also link with RD&E activity at the AgForce-owned and DAF-managed Brian Pastures facility near Gayndah, and the DAF-owned Spyglass facility near Charters Towers.

Producers are involved from the start with producer-owned cattle used during proof of concept phase at the 'hubs', before technologies are deployed to private 'spoke' properties which act as remote demonstration sites for cattle communities to test systems in their own environments.

Producers set the agenda for research and demonstrations

Producer

Research & Education Orgs

Next Gen R&D

Producers actively involved research and assisted in early adoption of new technology





Start the conversation today by contacting:

Michael Thomson
CQUniversity Australia
07 4930 6884
m.thomson@cqu.edu.au

Why a Centre of Excellence is needed.

Central Queensland is home to more than 3 million cattle, three major processing plants, and Australia's 'Beef Capital' Rockhampton.

As such an important region to the national industry, a Centre of Excellence is needed to drive locally focused research, development and extension activities that can drive productivity gains for producers now and into the future.

Each partner brings unique skills to service the industry, but by working together our capacity is greater than the sum of our parts – by collaborating we can bring the critical mass needed to work with producers in driving the innovation needed for the region.

The Centre will work to secure a greater share of Commonwealth, State, RDC and private research funding investment for projects based in Central Queensland and deliver exceptional RD&E activities.

What are we working on?

The Centre of Excellence is already delivering on the ground in Central Queensland, with funding secured for a number of projects including:

- ▀ Development of automated livestock monitoring systems (ALMS) to gather phenotypic performance data for integration into BREEDPLAN. This project is based at Belmont and will overcome the barrier of the time and labour costs for producers to participate in objective genetic selection programs (Partners: CQUniversity, AgForce, MLA Donor Company).
- ▀ Developing a 'how to guide' for implementing walk over weigh technologies on your farm (CQUniversity and the MLA Donor Company).
- ▀ GPS Cows: Improving digital literacy & engagement in rural students through an applied Agri-tech learning resource (CQUni, QDAF, QATC and NSW DET)
- ▀ Identification and prevention of livestock theft in rural Australia using smart sensors (Partners: AgForce and Qld SARCIS)
- ▀ Calf Alert Sensors to Reduce Calf Loss (QATC, CQUni, Charles Sturt Uni).

How to be involved.

Bring your production challenge to your next AgForce branch meeting or talk directly to DAF, QATC or CQUniversity researchers.

Field days at our hub sites will be a great chance for producers to see research in action and add your voice to the conversation.

We will also be working closely with industry bodies of all kinds and from all levels to deliver research with impact for producers across Central Queensland.

