

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING – LIVESTOCK 2020

Priority Issue

Develop measures and systems to objectively measure lifetime health and wellbeing in livestock

Actions Required

1. Review wellbeing indices available in livestock industries (and emerging in human health fields).
2. Develop an index for livestock wellbeing that can be deployed throughout the supply chain.
3. Use the index to underpin development of new opportunities for improvement in livestock wellbeing and to identify associated productivity benefits.
4. Develop a framework for communicating the livestock wellbeing index to ensure that consumers and the community understand the wellbeing outcomes of animals in our care.

Potential Partners

Not clearly specified at the conference, but likely to include:

- Depts. of agriculture
- Universities
- Medical research organisations
- AHA
- Livestock RDC's
- Major supermarket groups
- Animal Welfare Strategic Partnership
- Cattle Council Australia
- Sheep Producers Australia

Comments re Animal Health and Wellbeing priority:

- Requires Data – also applies to the intensive industries (i.e. Pork, Poultry etc) – should this be discussed with the new cross-industry RDC company?
- Linkages to Animal Welfare Strategic Partnership – good to involved them in the conversation
- Too focussed on index – should place a focus on the areas of animal health and wellbeing (i.e. husbandry, anaesthetics) (more scope to do more work)
- Just a note that the title is Animal Health & Wellbeing, but the focus is really just on Wellbeing?

General Comments:

- Include PIC's and potentially the other RAC's in any future steps in all priority areas, and even other organisations / people / partnerships (not funders, but collaborators)
- Maybe other potential partners are the drug companies/pharmaceuticals?
- Whilst promoting all measures to improve animal wellbeing, health and productivity we need to be mindful of the views of our constituents as well as the wider population