CRC III Funded

In this section of the newsletter, for the past several years, we have reported on outcomes from the Beef CRC research group. Much of the genetics information is built into BREEDPLAN (feed efficiency, IMF%, scanning, etc). It was therefore very good news last December, to hear of Federal government approval of a third Beef CRC. This will start in June 2005 and allow a lot of current work to continue and be expanded.

The CEO of the new CRC is Dr Heather Burrow, who is deputy CEO in the current CRC. Heather comes from a CSIRO research background, with many years based at Rockhampton where she worked on important projects. A key one, which she led, indentified the temperament trait flight time and proved its links with important matters such as feedlot performance and meat tenderness.

The overall theme of CRC III is *Gene Discovery and Gene Expression* under which the research team will address four industry priorities:

- High Quality Beef for Global Consumers.
- Feed Efficiency, Maternal Productivity & Responsible Resource Use.
- Adaptation & Cattle Welfare.
- Female Reproductive Performance.

As you will see from diagram above, there is considerable collaboration planned with research groups all over Australia and many other countries. This will bring extra benefits, and is a considerable advance from the four Australian groups starting CRC 1 in 1993 (CSIRO, UNE, NSW Agriculture and Queensland DPI).

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