Anthony Coates Chairs ABRI

At its 31st Board Meeting in November, 2005 Edward Wright AM retired as Chairman of ABRI’s Board but will continue as a Director. Edward has been Chair of the Board for a decade during which time the company has quadrupled its team and expanded the market penetration of its key products in both Australia and overseas. Mr Wright, a former President of the Cattle Council of Australia, said that it was a privilege to have chaired such a successful company during its dramatic growth phase.

The incoming Chairman is Mr Anthony Coates of Eidsvold Station in Central Queensland. Anthony is the representative of the Australian Registered Cattle Breeders’ Association on the ABRI Board. With his wife, Sally, Anthony has been breeding registered Santa Gertrudis cattle for the longest period of any stud in Australia. And for most of that time the cattle have been performance recorded. He is also Treasurer of the Santa Gertrudis Breeders Association and is regarded as one of Australia’s leading beef cattle judges. Under his guidance, Eidsvold Station cattle have competed in prime cattle and carcass competitions for decades winning championship awards against strong competition.

Anthony has been a Director of ABRI from the day the company was incorporated in January, 1993. For 12 years he has chaired the National Beef Recording Scheme Sub-Committee of ABRI’s Board. Anthony was one of the first graduates from UNE’s fledgling Rural Science degree in the early 1960’s. He brings a scientific background and 40 years of industry experience to the Chairman’s role.

Anthony is a highly committed user of BREEDPLAN but stresses that it must be combined with traditional selection for structural traits and breed characteristics in order to make desirable and sustainable improvements in beef herds. He hopes that during his Chairmanship the BREEDPLAN system will greatly enhance the beef industry’s capacity to satisfy global demand for dietary animal protein.

Ian Locke has been elected to the position of Chairman of the NQRS Sub-committee that was vacated by Anthony Coates in November, 2005. Ian completed his Agricultural Economics degree from UNE in 1988 and worked as a financial consultant for six years before taking up a key role in the Wirruna Poll Hereford Stud at Holbrook. Wirruna has a long history of performance recording and in 1995 was winner of the State and National “Seedstock Producer of the Year”.

Ian brings youth, vision and energy to the Chairmanship of the NQRS Sub-committee. He is an active user of the ABRI technology package of HerdMASTER, BREEDPLAN, BreedObject and Sale Cataloguing on Internet Solutions and can therefore bring a very practical perspective to the Company’s endeavours. Ian is committed to using the latest technology to keep Wirruna at the forefront of the seedstock industry and strongly encourages other BREEDPLAN members to take a similar position.

Anthony Coates
New Chairman, ABRI Board

Ian Locke recently elected Chairman of the NQRS sub-committee

Anthony Coates
New Chairman, ABRI Board

Arthur Rickards
Managing Director, ABRI