SBTS Workshop 2006

BREEDPLAN & Related Genetic Technologies - “Getting Back to Basics”

The first two SBTS workshops were successfully held in Inverell and Quirindi during February and created a 65% increase in participants perceived understanding of BREEDPLAN. A combined total of 60 people attended the workshops, ranging from long term users of the BREEDPLAN technology to producers looking to record their cattle with BREEDPLAN for the first time.

Feedback from the workshops has been very positive with producers leaving with a much better grasp of the fundamentals involved in BREEDPLAN, BreedObject and Internet Solutions.

Two surveys were conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of each workshop. Firstly, participants were asked to complete a true/false questionnaire at both the start and end of the day. Producer knowledge increased on average by 21.3% with participants being able to answer on average 80% of questions correctly at the end of the workshop.

Participants were also asked to rate their level of understanding on a scale of 1 to 9 in six key areas relating to BREEDPLAN and other genetic technologies. The results from this survey are illustrated in the diagram below.

Producers’ perception of their understanding increased by a massive 65% as a result of the workshops. Importantly, the survey shows that there is still room for further improvement in understanding of the technology and this vindicates the SBTS strategy of continuing workshop activity for four years.

Any member of the seedstock industry that is looking to improve their knowledge in the basics of BREEDPLAN, BreedObject and Internet Solutions is strongly encouraged to attend one of the upcoming SBTS workshops in 2006. Complete workshop details can be accessed from the SBTS website (http://sbts.une.edu.au) or by contacting the SBTS office on (02) 6773 3555.

Nick Wolverson
Nick has 25 years of commercial IT experience along with strong financial experience. He is the software author of Simply Budgets, which has sales in excess of 20,000 copies. He is joining the ILR2 team in March, 2006.

John Thomas
John Thomas joined ABRI in February, 06 as General Manager of Gelbvieh and Dexter. He has had 23 years experience in the ANZ Bank, worked for the Shorthorn Society and was the Finance and Administrative Manager of the Beef CRC II.