

# The Feedlot Industry

#### Wendy Denning





#### **DISTRIBUTION**

- 450 feedlots throughout
- Variation
- Import / Export

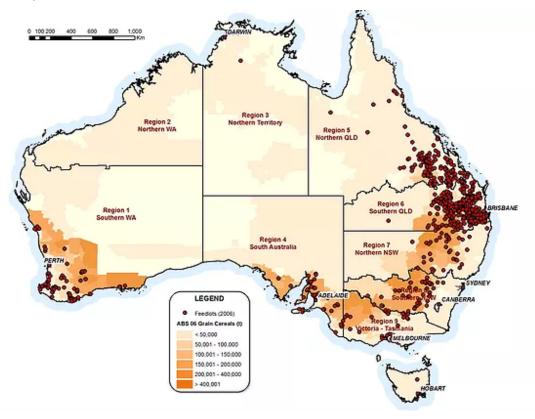


Image: Feedlot Technology Adoption Group



#### WHY HAVE FEEDLOTS?

- Market Demand
  - People like grain fed beef!
- Drought management
  - Ensure consistent quality even through unfavourable conditions
  - Meet nutritional needs



#### **AREAS**

- 5 areas:
  - Livestock
  - Feed & Mill
  - Farming
  - Maintenance
  - Administration





### LIVESTOCK



**PURCHASE** 

ARRIVAL

**INDUCTION** 

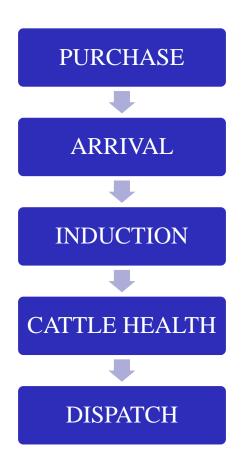
CATTLE HEALTH

DISPATCH



#### **PURCHASE**

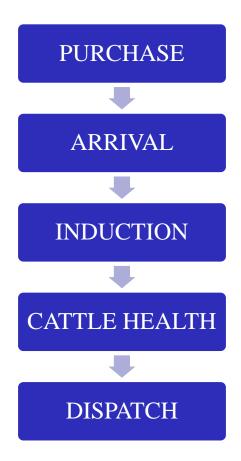
- Paddock / Saleyard
- Specifications:
  - Weight
  - Breed
  - Dentition
  - Sex





#### **ARRIVAL**

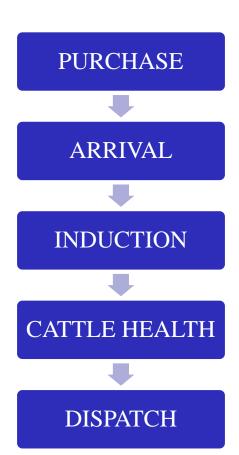
- Scan
- Weigh
  - Office
  - Cattle
- Visual Inspection
- Record
- NVD





#### **INDUCTION**

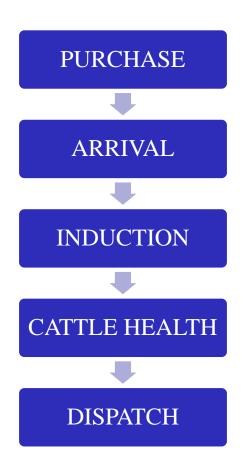
- Weigh
- Specification
  - Dentition
  - Sex
  - Breed
- Feedlot Management Tag
  - Unique ID
- Record





#### HEALTH & WELFARE

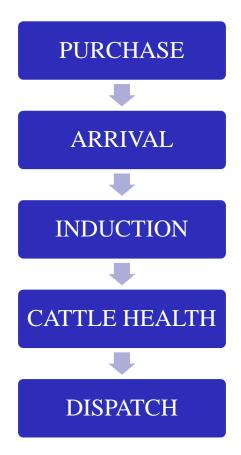
- Pens checked daily
  - Injured / unwell cattle removed
- Diagnosed / treatment
  - Conjunction with consultant vet
- Record





#### HEALTH & WELFARE

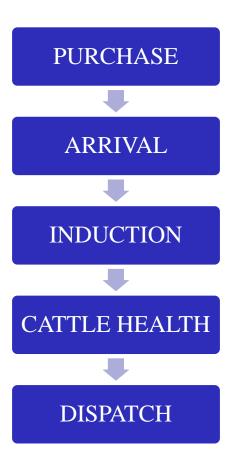
- Acclimation
  - Handle cattle
  - Low Stress
- Check pen condition
- Check Water troughs





#### HEALTH & WELFARE

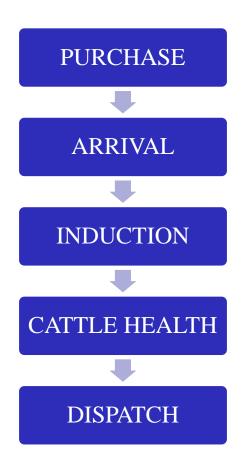
- Autopsies
  - Diagnosis
  - Record
  - Consult





#### **DISPATCH**

- Scan
- Weigh
- Declarations
  - NVD
  - NFAS
  - MSA
- Record





### **FEEDING**



**RATION** 

BUNK CHECK

LOADING

**FEEDING** 

RECEIVAL

FEED PROCESSING

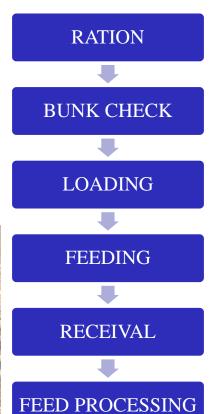


#### **RATION**

- Change from grass to grain
- Slow introduction



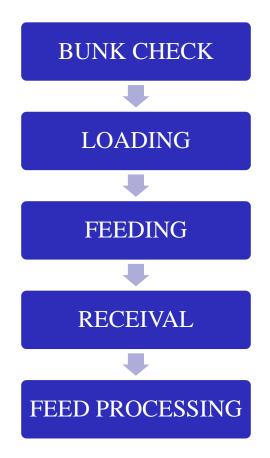






#### **BUNK CHECK**

- How much
- How long
- Which ration
- Maximise intake / minimize waste

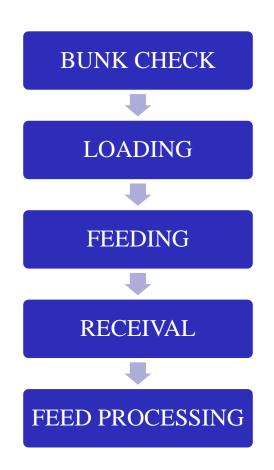




#### LOADING & FEEDING

- Feeders load trucks
  - Scales for accuracy
- Feed pen
- Record

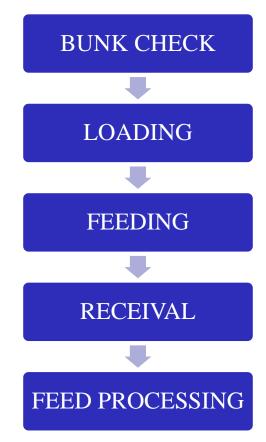






#### **COMMODITY RECEIVAL**

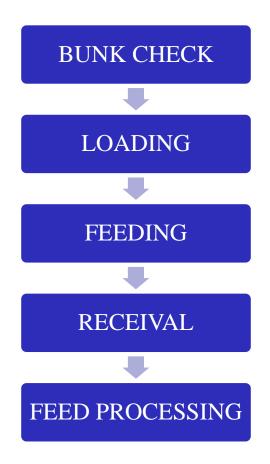
- Weighed
- Grain:
  - Sampled for quality
- Other feeds:
  - Visually inspected
- CVD





#### FEED COMMODITIES

- Milling
- Testing
  - Moisture
- Manage
  - Minimise spoilage
- Turn over
  - Old stock first





#### **FARMING**

- How best to utilize land
- Cropping vs Grazing
- Record
  - What planted
  - Spraying
  - Harvest
  - Cattle grazing
  - Soil Testing





#### **MAINTENANCE**

- Repairs
- Service vehicles
- Preventative maintenance
- Pen maintenance
  - Manure removal
  - Gravelling
  - Pen surface repairs





#### MANURE MANAGEMENT

- Stockpiled
- Composted
- Utilise
- On sell
- Testing



#### **ADMINISTRATION**

- Operation of weighbridge
- Accounts
- Payroll
- WHS
- Environment
- QA
- HR



#### **GENERAL ADMINITRATION**

- Weighbridge
  - Cattle
  - Commodities
  - Calibrated
- Accounts
  - Paid on time
- Payroll
  - Everyone must get paid!



## WHS / ENVIRONMENT /QA / HR

- Induction program
- Procedures
- Maintain manuals
- Audit
- Risk Assessments
- Compliance with licenses



# NOT AS SIMPLE AS FEEDING CATTLE IN A PEN!



# NATIONAL FEEDLOT ACCREDITATION SCHEME

- Capacity
- DOF
- Feeding / Energy requirement
  - 10mjME/kgDM
- Handling and welfare
- Documentation / records
- Environment
- Bio-security
- Animal Identification
- Audited annually
  - Aus-meat





#### **ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE**

- Issued by EPA
- Specific Compliance
  - Soil Monitoring
  - Water Monitoring
  - Complaints Management
  - Waste Management
- Annual Report



#### **ADDITIONAL SUPPORT**

- ALFA
  - National Body
  - Provide information
  - Workshops
- MLA
  - R&D projects







#### **TRAINING**

- On the job
  - Work instructions
  - QA manual
  - Sign off
- Consultants
  - Veterinary
  - Nutritionist

- External
  - Chem cert
  - First Aid
  - Confined Space
  - Heavy machinery
  - Cert III Feedlot Operations
  - Leadership



#### **TRAINING**

- Working in conjunction with MINTRAC
- Rider / Horse Assessment



#### **SUMMARY**

- ✓ Different functions to operate feedlot
- ✓ QA accreditation to ensure consistency across industry
- ✓ Recording is of high importance
- ✓ Procedures and training a must!



#### REFERENCE

• Australian Lot Feeders Association:

http://feedlots.com.au/

• NFAS:

https://www.ausmeat.com.au/audits-accreditation/nfas-feedlot-assurance.aspx

• MLA:

https://www.mla.com.au/



#### THE MARK OF QUALITY

