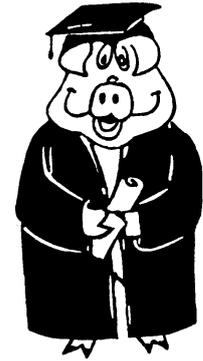


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# APSA UPDATE

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NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALASIAN PIG SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (INC.)

**President:** Dr Pat Spicer  
**Secretary:** Ian Barugh  
**Newsletter Editor:** Geogy Philip

June 2005

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## ***President's Column***

Hello again, its time for another update and just so that everyone keeps the important things foremost in their mind, I'd just like to remind you that the 10<sup>th</sup> APSA conference is only about five months away now. So, you should all be making plans to visit Christchurch NZ in November for the next APSA conference, which simply promises to be the best yet.

If you've forgotten the dates again, the conference runs from **November 27th to November 30th**.

We have put together a challenging and exciting scientific programme that covers a diverse range of pig science fields. I am certain that everyone will find something of special interest in the program because it covers many issues that are crucial to modern-day pig science and production.

We trust that the content of the reviews and symposia in the programme, along with the accompanying 1-page papers, is sufficient to get you to New Zealand.

The scientific programme for the 10th biennial conference is as follows:

## REVIEWS

### ***Review I: The A.C. Dunkin Memorial Lecture***

#### ***Strategies and Coping Mechanisms for the Modern Scientist***

Prof Frank Dunshea  
Primary Industries Research Victoria  
Victorian Institute of Animal Science (VIAS)  
Werribee, Victoria, Australia

### **Review II:**

#### ***Opportunities to manipulate pork to improve it's health characteristics***

Dr. Darryl D'Souza  
Alltech Biotechnology Pty Ltd  
Victoria, Australia

### **Review III:**

#### ***Gene Markers -How they can be used in selection?***

Prof. Chris Moran,  
Centre for Advanced Technologies in Animal Genetics and Reproduction (Reprogen)  
Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney, NSW, Australia

### **Review IV:**

#### ***Effects of dietary fibre on pig behaviour***

Prof. Martin Verstegan  
Animal Nutrition Group  
Wageningen University  
The Netherlands

### Review V

#### ***Beta-agonists - From mechanism to commercial application***

Prof. Harry Mersmann

Baylor College of Medicine

USDA, Houston, Texas, USA

### Review VI

#### ***Sow Group housing***

Dr. Rebecca Morrison

QAF Meat Industries

Corowa, NSW, Australia

### Review VII

#### ***Air Quality-What effects does it have on animal health?***

Dr. Patricia Holyoake

Senior Lecturer Intensive Animal Industries

University of Sydney

Faculty of Veterinary Science

Camden, NSW, Australia

### Review VIII

#### ***Mycotoxins-What are they and how do they impact on animals?***

Prof. Trevor Smith

Department of Animal and Poultry Science,

University of Guelph,

Guelph, Ontario, Canada

## SYMPOSIA

### Symposium I:

#### **Health Strategies for the modern Pig Industry**

##### ***Speaker 1***

Dr. Steven Driesen,

Program Leader, Intensive Industries

Pig Health and Research Unit

Department of Primary Industries, Bendigo,  
Victoria, Australia

##### ***Speaker 2***

Dr. Bruce Welch,

PIC New Zealand

Christchurch, New Zealand

##### ***Speaker 3***

Prof. Roger Morris

The EpiCentre

Massey University

Palmerston North, New Zealand.

### Symposium II:

#### **Gilt and first litter management to achieve lifetime performance**

##### ***Speaker 1***

Prof Paul Hughes,

Pig & Poultry Production Institute

Livestock Systems Alliance

Roseworthy Campus

Roseworthy, South Australia, Australia

##### ***Speaker 2***

Prof Don Levis,

Extension Educator

University of Nebraska, USA

##### ***Speaker 3***

Mr. Rob Smits

Research Manager

QAF Meat Industries

Corowa, NSW, Australia

Finally I would encourage all of you to start thinking of a worthy candidate for the 2005 Batterham Memorial Award. Guidelines for nomination are can be found in this Newsletter.

I hope you enjoy this issue of APSA Updates. If you have any feedback or news, we would be happy to include details in the next issue.

##### **Pat Spicer**

**President, APSA (inc.)**

##### ***Post APSA tour***

The APSA team in New Zealand has arranged an exciting two days of visits in the Canterbury region at the conclusion of the 2005 APSA Conference in Christchurch. These visits will allow you to "get to grips" with a number of New Zealand production systems, while taking in some of the South Island scenery.

##### **Day 1**

Visit to a 3,000 sow outdoor pig farrow to finish unit where all progeny are reared on straw bedding followed by lunch at the historic Hurunui Hotel, an icon in North Canterbury. Following lunch we will visit the unique Hamner Springs.

These natural hot springs are nestled in a valley at the base of the New Zealand Southern Alps. During the visit there will be opportunities for swimming in hot pools, bush walks, tourist shopping and possibly jet boat rides. On our return to Christchurch the group will visit a winery where you can sample and if desire, purchase some of the stunning wines that New Zealand has to offer.

## **Day 2**

The group will travel west over the Canterbury plains to the scenic Rakaia Gorge to visit a 190 sow outdoor farrow to finish operation. This will be followed by lunch at the Homestead, Mt Hutt Station. Situated on an 8000 acre deer farm this visit will provide visitors with a taste of high country living in Canterbury. During this visit the group will have a 40 minute tour of the deer farm.

Following lunch we will follow a scenic route back to Christchurch, with a planned visit to a large dairy operation. The final stop en-route to Christchurch will be to an 1100 sow outdoor operation with four radial setups, to view a novel sow feeding system. Because of the limited number of seats available, this tour is planned for overseas delegates and will be operated on a "first come first served" basis.

The tour will start and finish at the Christchurch Convention Centre, the venue for the 2005 APSA Conference.

## **Web site**

[www.apsa.asn.au](http://www.apsa.asn.au)

The official APSA website has been completely re-designed and now offers a lot more features and options compared to what we had previously. The website contains up to date information on the conference, and payment of registration can now be done either on-line or by downloading a fax form that can be completed and sent to the Secretariat in New Zealand. Information on the webpage relating to the conference includes details of the program, social events, accommodation options, post-conference tours and other tours that you might be interested in if staying in New Zealand longer.

Many of you will have submitted your papers for the first time using the on-line facility.

Thanks to those who helped fix a couple of minor problems we had with that part of the webpage. It is likely that those asked to referee papers will use this on-line facility rather than using faxes.

The webpage also has details on how to purchase copies of previous issues of the proceedings, contact details of the current committee and options to now pay your 2-year membership on-line. Each member will be assigned a four digit password that you can use at any time to check the status of your membership. This facility has taken some time to set up but will ultimately make it easier for both members and the Treasurer of APSA.

## ***The Batterham Memorial Award***

The Batterham Memorial Award recognises the contributions of the Late Dr Ted Batterham to the Australasian Pig Science Association and the Australian pig industry. Following Ted's death in February 1994, an award was quickly established by APSA in his honour. Ridley Agriproducts Pty Ltd. proudly sponsors the prestigious 2005 Batterham Memorial Award.

Nominations are now open for the sixth Batterham Memorial Award. The award consists of a framed certificate and a \$3,000 cash prize to "stimulate and develop innovation and initiative in the pig industry". It is anticipated that the award will enable the recipient to broaden his or her exposure to national or international pig science.

The cash component of the award is to be used to promote the development and initiative of the recipient and may include:

- Travel.
- Research development (visiting relevant laboratories, learning new techniques).
- Professional development (e.g., communication course).
- Development of research capabilities (design and construction of a new piece of equipment).
- Any other purpose that, in the opinion of the selection committee, represents the best opportunity to promote the development and initiative of the recipient.

The winner of the award will be announced during the dinner at the 10th Biennial Conference of APSA. The recipient will need to provide a written report to APSA within three months of completion of the development project and a copy of this report will be sent to all sponsors. A copy of the report and a summary will be distributed to APSA members via the newsletter.

To assist you with your nomination, the following eligibility and selection criteria have been prepared.

### Eligibility

*Either:*

- Within 10 years of graduation (undergraduate level) or
- Within 5 years of completing Masters /PhD studies or
- A current post-graduate student.

### And must

- Be a current financial member of APSA
- Be working in the pig industry or a related field
- Have not won the award previously.

### Selection Criteria

To assist judges with the difficult process of selecting a winner for this award, the following points should be addressed by the nominee as part of their application:

- Research outcomes delivered to the pig industry
- Pig research experience and recognition of research abilities
- Demonstrated degree of independence in the development of research programs
- Relevant scientific publications in the field of pig science
- Successful submissions for the conduct of research in pig science
- Any innovations in pig research
- Contributions to the promotion of pig science and the pig industry
- Collaboration with pig scientists and scientists in other research disciplines
- Application of pig science principles to solve problems for other industries or research fields

### Nominations

Nominations/applications should be made in writing to reach the APSA Secretary no later than 31st October 2005 and will include:

1. Signatures of both the nominator and nominee
2. Curriculum vitae of the nominee
3. A statement describing why the nominee is worthy of the Award (less than 1 page)
4. A brief outline of the nominee's achievements relative to the selection criteria for the award (less than two pages)
5. A description of the intended use of the award (less than 1 page)

### Selection Panel

- APSA President (Chair)
- Immediate Past-President of APSA
- APSA Vice-President
- Two independent representatives of the pig industry

The selection panel's decision will be final.

Remember, applications close on **31st October 2005**. Please send your application to:

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Fax +64 6 3505684  
Mobile 027 2462279

### **Pork CRC update**

The core and supporting participants of the Pork CRC are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Roger Campbell as their new CEO.

Currently based in Illinois, USA, where he is the President of AUSGENE, Roger has a worldwide profile as a researcher in the growth and development of pigs. Prior to joining AUSGENE, he served as the General Manager of Technical Services for BUNGE Meat Industries (presently known as QAF Meat Industries).

Roger will commence his appointment with the Pork CRC in the first week of July.

## **Australia Day Honours**

The Australian pig industry was pleased to see two of their more influential figures honoured recently in the Australia day honours list.

Drs John Holder (Holder Consultancies) and John Keniry (Chairman of Ridley Corporation) received a Member in the Order of Australia for their services to the Australian pig industry.

Dr Holder received his award for service to veterinary science, the pig industry and as a contributor to industry and professional organisations.

Dr Keniry received his award for service to the industry and applied science in agriculture and environmental settings through the promotion of research and development.

## **2007 Conference**

Expressions of interest are called for people or groups interested in hosting the 2007 conference of APSA. It is expected that the conference would be held in November 2007 and it would be preferable if the committee had some suggestions on options for where the next conference might be held prior to the 30th August 2005. If you have any thoughts on options for the next conference, please email the President of APSA, Dr Pat Spicer, outlining your option and reasons to support your case by the 30th August 2005.

## **Nutrition Award**

Congratulations to Dr Mangan Choct, University of New England, on receiving the Medal of Excellence at the recent Alltech Feed Industry Symposium in Kentucky, USA. Mangan won this award for his contribution to improving our knowledge of the nutritional value of alternative feedstuffs.

### **Pig Trivia**

How did Wall Street get its name?

Free-roaming hogs were famous for rampaging through the valuable grain fields of colonial New York City farmers. The Manhattan Island residents chose to block the troublesome hogs with a long, permanent wall on the northern edge of what is now Lower Manhattan.

A street came to border this wall -- named aptly enough, Wall Street.