Calling all breeding enthusiasts!

A wonderful line up of visiting experts across all disciplines of the Herd Improvement industry is in store.

March 11 & 12
Bendigo All Seasons Resort
McIvor Highway, Bendigo

Proudly brought to you by:

FOR PROGRAM & REGISTRATION DETAILS SEE:
www.nhia.org.au
www.adhis.com.au
www.holstein.com.au

EVENT ORGANISED BY:
EPP Events Pty Ltd
donna@eppevents.com.au
tel: 1800 177 636
PROGRAM DAY 1

SESSION CHAIR: DANIEL ABERNETHY, General Manager, ADHIS

9:30
Arrival and registration

10:30 - 10:40 **Opening.** ADHIS Chair and NSW dairy farmer Adrian Drury provides the opening address to welcome delegates from the Australian dairy community to Bendigo.

10:40 - 11:10 **Irish Collaboration.** The Irish Cattle Breeding Federation’s Director of Innovation and Geneticist Andrew Cromie will share tales of a decade-long story about partnership, leadership and commitment to produce a better breeding service for Irish farmers.

11:10 - 11:55 **Impact of genomics.** Paul Van Raden, USDA, has worked at the heart of genomic technology development since its invention. Paul will talk about the impact of collaboration and how genomics is producing results that may surprise us.

11:55 - 12:15 **Ten years ahead.** As Dairy Futures CRC CEO, David Nation has his finger firmly on the pulse of global, cutting-edge, animal and forage breeding research. So what does the Australian dairy landscape look like in 2025?

12:15 - 1:15 Lunch

SESSION CHAIR: CHRIS MURPHY, Group Manager Farm Productivity & Delivery Dairy Australia

1:15 - 1:45 **Where we need to be.** The cows we breed produce the milk that fills processing plants so what does the dairy industry need to be successful and globally competitive and where does herd improvement fit? Industry leader and Fonterra Director, Bruce Donnison joins the conference to discuss.

1:45 - 2:15 **Where are we heading.** Since joining Dairy Australia, Matthew Shaffer has driven the development of a national herd improvement strategy. He will explain how the dairy industry plans to improve dairy herd productivity by 2020.

2:15 - 2:45 **From woe to go.** AgSource Cooperative Services is one of the largest full-service Dairy Herd Improvement organisations in the United States. It’s Chief Operating Officer, Patrick Baier will share the organisation’s story of how business leadership and direction can make a difference.

2:45 - 3:15 **Using data to tackle difficult on-farm challenges.** Maria Thielen will describe German milk quality initiatives such as milchQplus to get more out of data on farm.

3:15 - 3:45 Afternoon tea

SESSION CHAIR: CAROL MILLAR, General Manager, NHIA

3:45 - 4:05 **Does AI synchronization really save money?** Andrew Parkinson, Wellbred Genetics analyses case study data to profile the economic impact of synchronisation.

4:05 - 4:20 **The Genetic Progress Report in action.** Peter Williams (ADHIS) and Paul Quinlan (ABS) team up to demonstrate how Genetic Progress Reports impact breeding decisions.

4:20 - 4:40 **New genetic reports.** Zoetis has been a key driver of genomic testing in the USA. Jason Oosterstock will talk about how genomic testing is used by American dairy farmers and new reporting services.

4:40 - 5:00 **Sexed semen is changing the face of breeding programs but new tools are now available to make the most of this technology.** Warrnambool Vet Clinic’s Jon Kelly is actively involved in developing evidence-based approaches to selecting animals for sexed semen and will share his experiences.

5:00 - 5:20 **Herd testing – Canadian style.** HICO’s Joanne De Moel has had the time of her life studying the herd test system in Canada and has some maple-flavoured stories to tell.

7:00 Dinner, Chaired by Graeme Gillan, Chair, NHIA – Sponsored by Dinner speaker, Geoff Akers, Dairy Australia
PROGRAM DAY 2

8:00 Arrival and registration

SESSION CHAIR: MATTHEW SHAFFER, Program Manager – Genetics & Data Management - Farm Profit and Innovation, Dairy Australia

8:30 - 8:35 Chair’s welcome and opening address – David Johnston, Federal President, Holstein Australia

8:35 - 8:50 Continuous improvement as a philosophy and a practice is fundamental to all that we do. Paul Van Raden returns to the stage to explain why genetic progress requires continually improving methods.

8:50 - 9:40 New Australian breeding indices set an exciting path for genetic improvement in Australia. Geoff Akers will open by introducing why Dairy Australia supported a review of the National Breeding Objective Review. Michelle Axford will describe the review process and how farmer preferences and industry feedback has made a difference. Jennie Pryce will explain what we can expect from using the new indices and how to maximize progress.

9:40 - 10:00 New directions for Type ABVs. In partnership with industry and researchers, ADHIS is changing the expression of Type ABVs and has plans for further developments as presented by Daniel Abernethy.

10:00 - 10:20 Q&A panel about Australia’s new indices. Featuring this session’s speakers alongside National Breeding Objective Review Task Force Members Patrick Glass and Jo Dickson. Moderated by Ian Halliday, Dairy Australia

10:20 - 10:40 Morning tea

SESSION CHAIR: MICHELLE AXFORD, Extension and Education Manager, ADHIS

10:40 - 11:15 What’s Next: Scientists at the Dairy Futures CRC continue to push the boundaries in the world of genomics. As head of the animal improvement research program, Ben Hayes will take us through highlights such as the 1000 bull genome project.

11:15 - 11:45 Dairy Futures CRC students: Ben Hayes will join us back on stage to introduce us to some next-gen scientists who will explain the potential impact of their research.

11:45 - 12:00 Perfect data. Paul Douglas works with some of Australia’s best herd data recorders through Ginfo and the Healthy Cow Project. He will provide some insights on how we can make the most of perfect data.

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

SESSION CHAIR: GRAEME GILLAN, General Manager, Holstein Australia

1:00 - 1:20 Turning data into collaborative decision making. Patrick Baier returns to centre stage to explain the value of herd recording information and its delivery to farmers as well as their advisors and allied industry partners.

1:20 - 1:40 Industry panel – industry collaboration and managing change in the business environment. Panels have been long considered one of the highlights of the HERD conferences. In this edition, the heads of three of Australia’s largest semen suppliers examine how they view the value of collaboration in a changing environment.

Jayne Senior, Genetics Australia
James Smallwood, ABS Australia
Mike Huth, CRV Australia
Moderated by NHIA Chairman and Holstein Australia General Manager, Graeme Gillan

1:40 - 2:00 The Australian dairy data story has evolved since Herd ‘11 but Tony Francis will provide his perspective on where we need to get to.

2:00 - 2:30 When 1+1 is more than 2. The Irish have demonstrated rewards from close connections between herd test and genetics. Andrew Cromie will describe the keys to the Irish success.

2:30 - 2:50 CLARIFIDE Launch by Zoetis

2:50 Closing remarks by Graeme Gillan followed by afternoon tea
# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Contact person for all correspondence: 
Trading Organisation for tax receipts: 
Address: 
P/Code: 
Email: 
Phone: 
Fax: 

Are you, or is your company claiming the membership rate?  
Yes  No
Are you, or is your company  
NHIA Members  Holstein Australia Members

## PART A CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

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**TOTAL DELEGATE REGISTRATION** $  

## PART B CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION

- [ ] Yes, subject to availability, please reserve me on-site accommodation at the Bendigo All Seasons.*
- [ ] Yes, I authorise you to allocate a delux room at $190 if I have requested standard ($150) and there are no more standard rooms left; or
- [ ] No, if I have requested standard and there are no more standard rooms left, please don’t book me into the more expensive room, I will make an alternative arrangement
- [ ] I do not require accommodation at Bendigo All Seasons

*Once the conference hotel is full late registering delegates will be asked to purchase their own accommodation directly with other nearby hotels.

There are a total of 69 rooms at the All Seasons and we encourage twin sharing where possible to enable most of our delegates to stay on site.

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- [ ] No. Standard Rooms @ $150 x No. nights  
- [ ] No. Delux Rooms @ $190 x No. nights  

**TOTAL ACCOMMODATION: $**

## PART C SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Please indicate here if you have any special dietary needs you’d like us to take care of

## TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED: (PART A + PART B) $ 

**INDICATE YOUR FORM OF PAYMENT:**
- [ ] Cheque: Made to EPP Events Pty Ltd
- [ ] EFT: BSB 306 015 Ac 011 523 0
- [ ] Credit Card: _ _ _ / _ _ _ / _ _ _ / _ _ _  3 Digit Ref _ _ _ Expiry: _ _ / _ _ 

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**LODGING YOUR REGISTRATION FORM**

Your registration form needs to be returned to the Herd 15 Conference managers, EPP Events Pty Ltd (EPP)

By Fax: 1800 831 663 or +61 8 9525 5008  |  By Post: Box 341, Mundijong WA 6123

By Email: donna@eppevents.com.au

**GENERAL ENQUIRIES**

Phone EPP Events Pty Ltd
Tel: 1800 177 636; + 61 8 9525 9222

A Tax Invoice will be issued upon receipt of your registration and payment.