

Association for the Advancement of Animal Breeding
and Genetics



Proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Conference

*Animal Breeding
at the Crossroads*

Association for the Advancement
of Animal Breeding and Genetics



The University Club of Western Australia
Hackett Drive, Crawley, WA 6009

26 – 28 July 2023

Preliminary pages

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the organising committee, I am very pleased to welcome you to the 25th Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Animal Breeding and Genetics. We are meeting at the University of Western Australia which sits on sacred soil alongside the Derbal Yerrigan (Swan River) on Whadjuk Noongar Booja. We acknowledge that this has been a place of learning for tens of thousands of years and look forward to continuing that learning at AAABG.

The theme of our conference is Animal Breeding at the Crossroads. We will reflect on our achievements in animal breeding since the inaugural AAABG conference in 1979 and explore the role of genetics in a future with ever-increasing community concern for climate change, environmental impacts, animal welfare, and meat consumption.

A highlight of our conference will no doubt be the WA Livestock Research Council's Producer day where we aim to "link science with farm". We are taking the opportunity to provide a producer audience with the latest developments in animal breeding and genetics as well as showcasing emerging geneticists and launching the 2023 Farm a Friend Program. This program pairs emerging scientists with progressive farmers in a mentoring program designed to ensure science is grounded in practical farm reality and priorities. The Producer Day program will be meeting one of the major aims of AAABG, which is to "develop communication among all those interested in the application of genetics to animal production, particularly breeders and their organisations, consultants, extension workers, educators and geneticists".

Thank you to all our sponsors for your generous support of the conference and an enormous thank you to all members of our organising committee and the conference organising team from Conference Design. Finally, thank you to Dr Sue Hatcher, AAABG Editor and AAABG Executive Officer, for putting together these proceedings.

We hope you enjoy your time in Perth and take the opportunity to interact and network with students, researchers, and producers from all corners of the animal-breeding community.

Bronwyn Clarke
President