

*AAABG was formerly known as the Australian Association for Animal Breeding and Genetics. Following the 1995 OGM the name was changed when it became an organisation with a joint Australian and New Zealand membership. The Association for the Advancement of Animal Breeding and Genetics is incorporated in South Australia.*

## **THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ANIMAL BREEDING AND GENETICS INCORPORATED**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- (i) to promote scientific research on the genetics of animals;
- (ii) to foster the application of genetics in animal production;
- (iii) to promote communication among all those interested in the application of genetics to animal production, particularly breeders and their organisations, consultants, extension workers, educators and geneticists.

### **To meet these objectives, the Association will:**

- (i) hold regular conferences to provide a forum for:
  - (a) presentation of papers and in-depth discussions of general and industry-specific topics concerning the application of genetics in commercial animal production;
  - (b) scientific discussions and presentation of papers on completed research and on proposed research projects;
- (ii) publish the proceedings of each Regular Conference and circulate them to all financial members;
- (iii) use any such other means as may from time to time be deemed appropriate.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Any person interested in the application of genetics to animal production may apply for membership of the Association and, at the discretion of the Committee, be admitted to membership as an Ordinary Member.

Any organisations interested in the application of genetics to animal production may apply for membership and, at the discretion of the Committee, be admitted to membership as a Corporate member. Each such Corporate Member shall have the privilege of being represented at any meeting of the Association by one delegate appointed by the Corporate Member.

### **Benefits to Individual Members**

- While it is not possible to produce specific recommendations or “recipes” for breeding plans that are applicable for all herd/flock sizes and management systems, principles for the development of breeding plans can be specified. Discussion of these principles, consideration of particular case studies, and demonstration of breeding programs that are in use will all be of benefit to breeders.
- Geneticists will benefit from the continuing contact with other research workers in refreshing and updating their knowledge.
- The opportunity for contact and discussions between breeders and geneticists in individual members’ programs, and for geneticists in allowing for detailed discussion and appreciation of the practical management factors that often restrict application of optimum breeding programs.

### **Benefits to Member Organisations**

- Many of the benefits to individual breeders will also apply to breeding organisations. In addition, there are benefits to be gained through coordination and integration of their efforts. Recognition of this should follow from understanding of common problems, and would lead to increased effectiveness of action and initiatives.
- Corporate members can use the Association as a forum to float ideas aimed at improving and/or increasing service to their members.

### **General Benefits**

- Membership of the Association may be expected to provide a variety of benefits and, through the members, indirect benefits to all the animal industries.
- All members should benefit through increased recognition of problems, both at the level of research and of application, and increased understanding of current approaches to their solution.
- Well-documented communication of gains to be realised through effective breeding programs will stimulate breeders and breeding organisations, allowing increased effectiveness of application and, consequently, increased efficiency of operation.
- Increased recognition of practical problems and specific areas of major concern to individual industries should lead to increased relevance of applied research.
- All breeders will benefit indirectly because of improved services offered by the organisations which service them.
- The existence of the Association will increase appreciably the amount and use of factual information in public relations in the animal industries.
- Association members will comprise a pool of expertise – at both the applied and research levels – and, as such, individual members and the Association itself must have an impact on administrators at all levels of the animal industries and on Government organisations, leading to wiser decisions on all aspects of livestock improvement, and increased efficiency of animal production.

### **CONFERENCES**

One of the main activities of the Association is the Conference. These Conferences will be structured to provide a forum for discussion of research problems and for breeders to discuss their problems with each other, with extension specialists and with geneticists.