



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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2025 Dairy Research Foundation Symposium *Program*

It's TIME

26th & 27th November 2025 | Wollongong, NSW



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*It's **TIME...** **T**echnology, **I**nvestment, **M**anagement & **E**nvironment*

These are the four pillars that define the future of the New South Wales dairy industry.

*Together, they form something even more valuable to every dairy farmer: **TIME**.*

*The Dairy Research Foundation Symposium offers you the chance to invest your **TIME** where it matters most.*

We invite you to make the most of this opportunity and take the **TIME to:**

- Reconnect and share experiences with industry colleagues
- See Dairy UP research and innovation in action
- Exchange insights and ideas
- Come together to help shape the future of dairy in New South Wales.



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Program at a glance

WIN Entertainment Centre | Wollongong, NSW

Wednesday 26th November 2025

DAY 1 – THE SYMPOSIUM

- Session 1:** Making the Power of the Cow Work for You
- Session 2:** DRF Trademark – Emerging Scientist Competition
- Session 3:** What is Holding Dairy Back – and What Will Drive it Forward?
- Session 4:** The Genetic Future
- Session 5:** Redefining the Future of Grazing in a Changing Climate
- Session 6:** DRF Trademark – Emerging Scientist Competition

THE NORCO DAIRY RESEARCH FOUNDATION SYMPOSIUM DINNER 2025

Thursday 27th November 2025

DAY 2 – DAIRY AUSTRALIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & THE FARM TOUR

Dairy Australia Annual General Meeting

Dairy Innovation Farm Tour – Philip & Craig Tate's Dairy Farm in Albion Park



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Program

Day 1 – The Symposium

Wednesday 26th November | The Premiers Room @ WIN Stadium | 8.00am to 5.30pm

8.00am Arrival and Registration

8.30am Official welcome from MC – *Paul van Wel – Dairy NSW*
The Hon Tara Moriarty, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional NSW and Minister for Western NSW
Matt Jensen (DLF Seeds)

8.45am **Session 1 | Making the Power of the Cow Work for You**

It's TIME to harness the science behind your herd: Can we put dairy science into action?

- Introduction – *Dr John Penry (Dairy Australia)*
- Harvesting the power of the cow – *Dr Ian Lean (Scibus)*
- Life and death in pasture and TMR farms – the fat? – *David Sheedy (The University of Sydney)*
- Artificial intelligence and heat stress – *Dr Anna Chlingaryan (The University of Sydney)*
- How early should you calve your heifers? – *Andrew Lean (Charles Sturt University)*
- When bugs go bad – who is attacking your calves – *Dr Barbara Brito (DPIRD)*

10.20am **Session 2 | DRF Trademark – Emerging Scientist Competition**

It's TIME to recognise the emerging minds shaping dairies future: Who are the voices driving dairy forward?

- Opening speech – *Allan Cameron (Gardiner Foundation)*
- Introduction – *Dr Helen Golder*
- Entry 1 to 4 of the Emerging Scientist Competition

11.00am Coles Morning Tea

11.30am **Session 3 | What is Holding Dairy Back – and What Will Drive it Forward?**

It's TIME to remove the roadblocks and reimagine what's possible.

- Introduction – *Greg Duncan (Dairy Australia)*
- Panel Session: *Alison Stone (NSW Agriculture Commissioner), Michael Perich (CEO Noumi Limited), Jane Sherborne (Dairy farmer), Mike Jeffrey (Norco) & Craig Tate (Dairy farmer)*



12.35pm **Session 4 | The Genetic Future**

It's TIME to focus on breeding: Are your cows up to the challenge?

- Prof. Jennie Pryce (Agriculture Victoria)

1.10pm **Pioneer Seeds Luncheon**

2.10pm **Session 5 | Redefining the Future of Grazing in a Changing Climate**

It's TIME to rethink how we graze for tomorrow's climate: Can we make grazing smarter not harder

- Introduction - Dr Tori Alexander (The University of Sydney)
- Harvesting the power of the pasture - Prof. Yani Garcia (The University of Sydney)
- Are we understanding the 'hoofprint' of pastures? - Prof. Luciano Gonzalez (The University of Sydney)
- How different is Kikuyu from... Kikuyu? - Prof. Richard Trethowan (The University of Sydney)
- How virtual fencing technology is changing pasture management and farm performance in Tassie - Troy Ainslie (Dairy Farmer, TAS)
- Dairy Farmer Panel Session: Justin Walsh (Jaspers Brush, NSW), Tim Bale (Stewarts River, NSW) & Fleur Tonge (Dobies Bight, NSW) & Troy Ainslie (Cressy, TAS)

4.10pm **Afternoon Tea**

4.40pm **Session 6 | DRF Trademark - Emerging Scientist Competition**

It's TIME to again hand the mic over to tomorrow's dairy changemakers: Who are the next dairy science pioneers?

- Introduction - Dr Helen Golder
- Entry 5 to 9 of the Emerging Scientist Competition

5.30pm **Matt Jensen (DLF Seeds)**

Wrap-up from MC - Paul van Wel - Dairy NSW

6.30pm **The Norco Dairy Research Foundation Symposium Dinner 2025
(The Premiers Room @ WIN Stadium) | 6.30pm to 10.30pm**





Day 2 – Dairy Australia Annual General Meeting & Farm Tour

Thursday 27th November | The Winners Room @ WIN Stadium | 9.30am to 12.30pm
& Tate Farm, Albion Park | 12.30pm to 5.00pm

Dairy Australia | Annual General Meeting

This year, the University of Sydney is partnering with Dairy Australia who will be hosting their Annual General Meeting on day two.

Please note that ticketing for Dairy Australia Annual General Meeting is free and managed by Dairy Australia. *To register your attendance for the AGM, please visit dairyaustralia.com.au/agm*

- 9.30am Light morning tea and registrations
- 10.30am Dairy Australia Annual General Meeting
- 12.00pm Lunch

Dairy Innovation Farm Tour | Philip & Craig Tate's Dairy Farm in Albion Park

Discover innovation in action at one of New South Wales most progressive and forward-thinking dairy operations:

- A showcase of *long-term investment* in dairy within a region experiencing increasing *urban encroachment*
- Tour a new, *top-of-the-range rotary platform* – designed for efficiency at scale
- Explore newly constructed *state-of-the-art facilities* built to temporarily and comfortably house cows
- Learn how the Tate family achieves *some of the highest production and reproduction KPIs* in the state

- 12.30pm Registration and Refreshments – Rabobank & Elanco Coffee Cart
- 1.30pm Official start time – Welcome & Introduction from our hosts; Philip & Craig Tate
- 2.00pm First rotation
 - Loafing Barn (Infrastructure); Philip Tate & Richard Grace – Consultant – Central Build
 - The Dairy (Technology); Craig Tate & Trent Lawrence – Director Sales Manager – Capital Goods – DeLaval
 - The Hay Shed (Effluent); Dr Stephan Tait – Senior Research Fellow – University of Queensland
- 2.40pm Second rotation (as above)
- 3.20pm Third rotation (as above)
- 4.00pm Bega Afternoon Tea – Mingle with Trade Sponsors. Q&A with Philip & Craig Tate
- 5.00pm Closure





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