

FREE RANGE WORKSHOPS – SIZE DOESN'T MATTER!

Australian Pork Limited (APL) are offering their first free range workshop that incorporates Australian and world first research on land management and other environmental issues such as odour, dust and noise.

In recent years, there has been the increasing development of free range piggeries across Australia. The Australian pig industry through its industry representative body, APL, has recognised this and contributed significant funding over a number of years to research sustainable outdoor production systems. This research has been used to develop best practises, fact sheets, the Australian Pork Industry Quality (APIQ[✓][®]) Assurance program standards for free range, draft outdoor bred standards and environmental guidelines.

The workshop is targeted to anyone interested in setting up a free range pig farm or for producers who are currently managing a free range system. The workshops will be supported by Western Australia Pork Producers Association (WAPPA).

Size doesn't matter either - whether you have or are interested in a few pigs or a few thousand pigs, the information presented will assist you in maintaining an environmentally sustainable long term production system.

Contrary to popular belief, managing free range pigs is more than just letting them roam in a paddock. Recent APL data has identified information that has been used to develop best practise environmental management strategies for outdoor production to ensure farm health and long term productivity.

The workshop is designed to be interactive with a number of exercises and case studies included to demonstrate to participants how to determine nutrient loads, paddock rotations and cropping requirements for their specific situation.

Other information to be discussed includes: types of systems, is the amount of nutrients added as manure per pig, how much different crops remove, promoting more even nutrient distribution, remediating soils and paddocks after the pig phase, wallow management, how to develop a nutrient management plan, soil monitoring and interpretation.

This workshop will be held on Monday 15 October at the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DAFWA) Offices, 444 Albany Hwy, Orana Albany, WA from 10:00am to 3:30pm. Cost is free and lunch will be provided.

For catering purposes please RSVP to Janine Price, APL R&I Manager Environment, on 02 6270 8827 or janine.price@australianpork.com.au.

ENDS

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