Notice of satellite meeting to ISAG July 21st 2012

Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, Queensland, Australia

Genetic solutions for reducing enteric emissions from livestock

The Animal Selection, Genetics and Genomics Network (ASGGN) was formed following a May 2011 workshop supported by the Livestock group of the Global Research Alliance for reducing greenhouse gases from agriculture.

The purpose of the ASGGN is to provide an international forum for discussing scientific opportunities utilising animal breeding technologies to reduce enteric methane emissions from livestock.

You are invited to participate in the first ASGGN meeting on July 21 2012, following the ISAG (International Society of Animal Genetics) Conference; being held in Cairns, QLD, Australia.

The purpose of this meeting is to identify current and proposed research activity in the area of genetic and genomic selection (across species) that can be applied to reducing enteric methane emissions from livestock.

Call for discussion papers / presenters on three major themes

1. Measurement of methane emissions from individual animals.

This can include definition of the trait, and measurements required, including measurement of feed intake.

2. Estimation of genetic parameters.

This can include current estimates, those in progress and implications of results to date for measurement methodologies. It may also include early results on potential biological consequences of selection (genetic correlations, phenotypic associations).

3. What is the likely role of genomic selection in mitigating enteric methane emissions from livestock?

Sharing ideas and data to ultimately conduct analyses across countries (including potential arrangements for estimation of genomic breeding values, or other indirect methods of selecting animals with "genes" associated with low emissions).

We invite written papers (up to 4 pages) for submission by 30th of May 2012. From these we will select a number for presentation (10 minute with 5 minutes for questions) at the meeting.

All papers will be collated and made available to participants prior to the meeting. The purpose of the papers should be to inform the participants prior to discussion of the topics above,

The selected presentations will provide the opportunity to highlight key aspects of your work consistent with the objectives of the ASGGN and the workshop.

Registration/attendance/participation enquiries and expressions of interest to contribute a paper (and presentation) should be addressed to

Dr Hutton Oddy email: h<u>utton.oddy@dpi.nsw.gov.au</u> and/or Grant Shackell email: <u>grant.shackell@agresearch.co.nz</u>