

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CAMEL INDUSTRY FORUM



**FORUM**

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## AGENDA

Duxton 1 Function Room  
 DUXTON HOTEL No. 1 St. Georges Terrace Perth 6000  
 WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2004

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| 08:45 | <b>WELCOME &amp; OPENING ADDRESS</b>   |
| 09:00 | <b>Key Note Address</b> Considerations for New Industry Development (Mr Andrew Quin)   |
| 09:30 | <b>Key Note Address</b> Camel Industry Vision: A Meat Processor's Prospective (Mr Jack Semini)   |
| 10:00 | <b>MORNING TEA - DUXTON FOYER</b>  |
| 10:30 | <p><b>Camel Numbers and Location Issue Discussion</b></p> <p>1.1.1 Re-defining the demographic focus to concentrate on areas of recognised high-density camel populations and strategic advantage for industry development</p>   |
|       | <p><b>Incentive Pricing Issues Discussion</b></p> <p>1.2.1 Consideration should be given to consulting with regional area groups interested in supplying camel tracking, mustering, holding, processing and marketing services.</p> <p>1.2.2 How do we lift the pricing incentive to muster camels?</p> <p>1.2.3 While it is possible required skills will be available in certain remote locations under CDEP systems, the issue of support facilities such as vehicles and fuel costs will immediately arise. It is recommended that the meeting discuss how these support facilities could be provided to the service provider.</p> <p>1.2.4 If Aboriginal groups wish to become involved in the initial segments of the camel supply chain, it is important that working arrangements are designed with the required degree of flexibility to accommodate Aboriginal cultural practices and traditions.</p> <p>1.2.5 Provision of a bonus "per head returned" payment over and above the CDEP stipend may be needed to provide a necessary incentive.</p> <p>1.2.6 The National Feral Animal Control Program may consider supporting the broad-scale removal of feral camel pests from vacant crown land in Western Australia.</p> <p>1.2.7 Methods for reducing camel mustering costs, for example, the viability of using traps around water points, should be considered.</p> <p>1.2.8 The use of mustering services combined with CDEP labour - Is this a viable option?</p> |
|       | <p><b>Constancy of Supply Issues Discussion</b></p> <p>1.3.1 Rangeland animal production is hampered by seasonal conditions. The inability to access product supply due to periods of heavy rain, or alternative commitments for time on pastoral leases, means that supply of animals existing in a totally uncontrolled environment (i.e. opportunistic feral harvesting), to any given specification can never be guaranteed.</p> <p>1.3.2 Without being able to match supply with the market, the camel industry will find it difficult to achieve viability. It is therefore necessary to determine an approach that acts to hold a supply of camels in a more controlled environment for distribution.</p> <p>1.3.3 The degree of "farming" camels that could take place within this controlled environment is something that may evolve through time as further research is conducted. Initially however, a single area, or number of areas that could act as holding paddocks should be investigated. These areas would (a) need to be large enough to maintain camel condition and/or product quality without significant external feed and management inputs; (b) contain adequate infrastructure (fencing, shade and water); (c) be in close proximity to a main highway and accessible in most weather conditions; and</p>   |

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|              | <p>(d) be central to a large source location of camels so that the majority can be walked into the holding area.</p> <p>1.3.4 The costs of holding camels in a controlled environment should be kept to a minimum as there is currently insufficient economic, market and production research available to suggest that value adding activity and/or alternative husbandry practices will increase industry returns or improve its competitive position.</p> <p>1.3.5 Camel transport issues - Methods and management.</p> <p>1.3.6 Viable camel numbers required for specialised transport.</p>   |
| <b>12:30</b> | <b>BUFFET LUNCH - DUXTON GRILL RESTURANT</b>   |
| <b>13:30</b> | <p><b>Camel Farming Issues Discussion</b></p> <p>2.1 The potential for value adding to camels through increased feeding or the development of parallel products (dairy) should be given consideration. However, this should not take place at the expense of addressing industry structural issues particularly in regard to supply chain management and the reduction of costs associated with this component of the industry.</p> <p>2.2 The production of milk, fibre, offal and their value-added derivatives are likely to contribute initially as only part-cost-subsidisation measures for the main industry focus of supplying high quality young camel meat to global markets. In order for these sectors to become viable it is likely that the main meat-focused industry will need to first achieve a level of ongoing viability. In other words, it is unlikely at this stage that an industry based on stand-alone complementary products would achieve a level sufficient to warrant substantial research expenditure</p> |
|              | <p><b>Camel Processing Issues Discussion</b></p> <p>3.1 The viability of partially processing camels closer to holding facilities or farms, for rapid, cost-effective transport and further processing in the south needs to be considered.</p> <p>3.2 Further discussion is needed regarding access to more northern processing facilities.</p> <p>3.3 Consideration will need to be given to export limitations and approvals on these processing facilities, particularly in relation to the primary target markets of the Middle East, South East Asia and the USA.</p>  |
|              | <p><b>Market Issues Discussion</b></p> <p>4.1 Further direct contact with importers of camel meat in primary target markets should take place to determine potential demand and product mix/cut requirements. It is very important that this information be collated across the market options and not be focused singularly on one market like that of the Middle East.</p> <p>4.2 Beyond this preliminary importer contact, early industry development efforts should be concentrated around industry structural issues of supply chain management because at this stage they are of greater importance to industry success than further in depth market analysis.</p>   |
|              | <p><b>Regulatory Issues Discussion</b></p> <p>5.1 Close liaison with relevant government authorities should be maintained and progressed, preferably driven by some industry body.</p> <p>5.2 Are there any regulatory issues limiting the industry?</p>   |
| <b>15:00</b> | <b>AFTERNOON TEA - DUXTON FOYER</b>  |
| <b>15:30</b> | <b>Recapping Key Resolutions</b>   |
| <b>17:00</b> | <b>CLOSE</b>   |