

About the authors

John Moran

For 30 years, Dr John Moran was an Australian senior research and advisory scientist from Victoria's Department of Primary Industries (DPIV), located in northern Victoria. Over the last 10 years he spent half his time advising farmers in southern Australia and half his time working with dairy farmers and advisers in South and East Asia. His specialist fields include dairy production, ruminant nutrition, calf and heifer rearing, forage conservation and whole farm business management. Following his retirement from DPIV in June 2011, John formed a consulting business, Profitable Dairy Systems, located in Kyabram.

John graduated in 1967 with a Rural Science honours degree from New England University at Armidale in NSW, followed by a Masters degree in 1969. In 1976, he obtained a Doctorate of Philosophy in beef production from University of London, Wye College in England. During the 1980s, John lived in Indonesia for 3 years, working in beef cattle and buffalo research. Since 1999, he initiated and conducted training programs on smallholder dairy production to farmers, advisers and policy makers in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and East Timor. In 2013 he was appointed as Coordinator of the Asia Dairy Network, an international agency position to facilitate communication and collaboration of dairy industries from 15 countries throughout South and East Asia.

As a result of his Asian programs, in 2005 John wrote his first dairy manual, *Tropical Dairy Farming: Feeding Management for Small Holder Dairy Farmers in the Humid Tropics*. As well as hard copy, the book was published on the internet, making it freely available to dairy stakeholders throughout the world. In 2008 John wrote his second manual on tropical dairy farming, namely *Business Management for Tropical Dairy Farmers*. By August 2014, these two books had received over 250 000 'hits' on the internet, indicating their relevance particularly to Asian tertiary teaching institutes and government livestock departments.

The indepth review he conducted during a LIVECORP consultancy on developing management packages for tropical dairy production technology formed the basis of his third book, entitled *Managing High Grade Dairy Cows in the Tropics*. His fourth book, entitled *Rearing Young Stock on Tropical Dairy Farms in Asia*, was an update of one of his earlier books, but written specifically for tropical smallholder farmers. This, his fifth book on tropical dairy farming, concentrates on animal welfare, a very valid topic for the current emphasis on the importation of exotic dairy heifers to many tropical countries.

John has published more than 200 research papers and advisory articles. He has also written several farmer manuals on dairy and beef cattle nutrition, veal production calf and heifer rearing and on silage production. The first edition of *Calf Rearing: A Guide to Rearing Calves in Australia*, published in 1993, sold more than 10 000 copies. The second edition, published in 2002, is still selling widely throughout Australia. He also published a companion book on young stock management, *Heifer Rearing: A Guide to Rearing Dairy Replacement Heifers in Australia*. His book, *Forage Conservation: Making Quality Silage and Hay in Australia*, published in 1996, is now a set text for undergraduate study in several Australian universities. One of his latest books, *Feedpads for Grazing Dairy Cows*, which he wrote in 2010 with his DPI colleague Scott McDonald, is also a bestseller in the dairy industry. All books are commercially available through CSIRO Publications on <<http://www.publish/csiro/au>>.

John's initial training in a systems approach to livestock science, together with his many years working closely with dairy industries in Australia and South and East Asia stand him in great stead to write this fifth tropical manual, *Cow Talk: Understanding Dairy Cow Behaviour to Improve Their Welfare on Asian Farms* which complements his previous books.

Rebecca Doyle

As an early career researcher, Rebecca has worked in the area of ruminant welfare since 2007, commencing with a PhD on sheep behaviour with CSIRO and the University of New England. After completing her PhD in 2010, Rebecca joined Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, NSW as lecturer in animal physiology and welfare. She has recently been appointed as a Research Fellow at the Animal Welfare Science Centre in the University of Melbourne. She has worked with the beef cattle industry, both in Australia and Indonesia, to improve the welfare of exported cattle. In addition, Rebecca has conducted stock handling and welfare training programs for export sheep in the Middle East. With her experience in cattle behaviour and welfare, she has contributed to several chapters in this book.