

# About the authors

## **John Moran**

For over 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 has 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 milk production, ruminant nutrition, calf and heifer rearing, forage conservation and whole farm business management. Following his retirement from DPIV in June 2011, John has managed his 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 three years, working in beef cattle and buffalo research. Since 1999, he initiated and conducted training programs on smallholder dairy production to farmers, advisers and policymakers in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and East Timor. In 2013 he was appointed as the 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. In addition to the smallholder dairy industries of tropical Asian countries, John is now consulting for large-scale dairy feedlot farms in Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia and India.

As a result of his Asian programs, in 2005 John wrote his first dairy manual, *Tropical Dairy Farming: Feeding Management for Smallholder 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 June 2013, these two books had received over 120 000 'hits' on the internet, indicating their relevance particularly to Asian tertiary teaching institutes and government livestock departments.

The in-depth 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 Farms in Asia*, was an update of one of his earlier books, but written specifically for tropical

smallholder farmers. His fifth book on tropical dairy farming, *Cow Talk: Understanding Dairy Cow Behaviour to Improve Their Welfare on Asian Farms* concentrates on animal welfare, a very valid topic for the current emphasis on the importation of exotic dairy heifers to many tropical countries. All his tropical dairy farming manuals are freely downloadable from [www.publish.csiro.au](http://www.publish.csiro.au).

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. All his books are commercially available through CSIRO Publishing. In 2016, John was invited to Kenya to develop a farmer manual for smallholder farmers in that country.

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, stands him in great stead to write *Blueprints for Tropical Dairy Farming*, his sixth tropical manual, which complements his previous books. This book was written in conjunction with Dr Philip Chamberlain, who has collaborated with John on several recent consultancies.

### **Philip Chamberlain**

Philip is an Australian veterinary and project management consultant, with over 25 years' experience in tropical dairy development, production, genetics, health, management and strategic planning in northern Australia, Asia and Europe. He teaches dairy and aquaculture husbandry and management at several international veterinary schools in the Asian region, as well as developing veterinary science and animal production curricula at universities in Australia, Vietnam and Cambodia. In addition, he provides advice and training programs to large and smallholder cattle farm developers in Malaysia, Myanmar, China, Indonesia and India, as well as investment and development advice to large-scale cattle operators in China. He is currently managing several large-scale dairy extension training programs in China and India, which include the importation of suitable tropical dairy genetics through *in vitro* fertilisation (IVF).