



FSA Update

FSA Consulting
FSA Environmental
FSA Irrigation
Feedlot Services Australia

FSA Update

April - June 2002

More growth at FSA

There are big personnel changes occurring at FSA Consulting.

Pieter Deinum is joining FSA Consulting and will be opening an office in Gawler, South Australia. Pieter has extensive experience in the pig industry both in Australia and overseas.

Originally from the Netherlands, Pieter started his engineering career working with De Boer BV in Holland developing methane digestors and other waste management systems. Pieter moved to South Australia in 1981 where he worked for a number of years designing piggeries and their waste management systems. In 1986, Pieter started Agri-waste Consultants, known by many pig producers in Australia. AWC's work was similar to FSA Consulting. Since 1998, Pieter has worked with

Rotecna in Europe and North America.

Megan Howard (see Staff Profile) is moving from Toowoomba to our Horsham office. This move is in response to our growing client base in southern Australia.

Ian Kruger has resigned from FSA Consulting to take up his old position with NSW Agriculture. We thank Ian for his contribution to FSA in recent years and wish him success in his new (or old) venture.

Our **overseas students** are now on board (see Staff News).

New Positions—If you have qualifications in agricultural or environmental science or engineering, and are looking for a new career with an enthusiastic and growing consultancy, please contact us. You'll never know if you never have a go!

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STOP PRESS !

FSA CONSULTING TO PREPARE NATIONAL PIGGERY GUIDELINES

Australian Pork Ltd has just contracted FSA Consulting to develop **Model National Piggery Environmental Guidelines**. The guidelines will aim to provide direction for environmental assessments for developing piggeries and tools producers can use to achieve good environmental performance and compliance with environmental regulations. They will include the latest research on piggery environmental management. The guidelines will effectively replace or complement existing state codes of practice and guidelines by addressing each state's environmental and planning issues. If you are a pig producer and you want some changes to the environmental guidelines that affect you, contact **Robyn Tucker** (03-5381 0709) as soon as possible so that your opinions can be included!

Visit us @ www.fsaconsulting.net



Solids Removal from Piggery Effluent—what's the best way?

As part of an APL-funded project on odour reduction from piggeries, FSA Consulting has undertaken a comprehensive review of methods for removing solids from piggery effluent. The report includes a review of the characteristics of piggery effluent and the different principles of solids removal. Following visits to several operating piggeries, **fourteen Case Studies** of different systems are presented.

For further information, go to our website and download the project reports (<http://www.fsaconsulting.net/publications.htm>.)

For further information contact:

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or **Eugene McGahan** 07-4632 8230 0428 328 233

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Feedlot Development in Western Australia



A new client of FSA Consulting has a long and solid background in lot feeding in Texas, USA. However, when he wanted to establish a new large feedlot in Western Australia, he called on FSA Consulting to develop a feedlot layout to suit the site and to prepare all of the documentation required to obtain development approval. As part of the analysis, **MEDLI** was used to model the performance of the feedlot's holding pond as an evaporation pond—another interesting application of the MEDLI model.

For further information contact:

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LOAD-BASED LICENSING REVIEW—NSW EPA, APL, MLA - FEEDLOTS & PIGGERIES

Australian Pork Limited, Meat & Livestock Australia and NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) have contracted FSA to develop a resource manual for the sustainable reuse of effluent and solid by-products from piggeries and cattle feedlots. This manual will include sustainability indicators in a risk assessment process to assist intensive livestock producers with sustainable effluent and solid by-product reuse. This information is also intended to be utilised in the NSW EPA administered load based licensing (LBL) scheme. The LBL scheme is the NSW pollution licensing scheme. The scheme links licence fees to potential environmental impact. Under the scheme, licensees may receive up to a 100% rebate of load fees for sustainable reuse of effluent. The LBL scheme includes piggeries and cattle feedlots under the Intensive Livestock Production activity category. Stage 1 of the LBL scheme has been implemented, with Intensive Livestock Production excluded because of the absence of readily available techniques to estimate nutrient loads. Techniques developed in this manual will be used by industry and the NSW EPA to develop appropriate calculations of loads for Intensive Livestock Production.

For further information contact: **Eugene McGahan:** 07 - 4632 8230

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Meat Chicken EMS Project—RIRDC

The Australian meat chicken industry has expanded significantly over the past thirty years. At the same time, community interest in environmental issues has heightened. To ensure the long-term sustainability of the industry and of individual farms, it is important that environmental concerns are carefully managed.

To enable a coordinated approach to environmental standards within the industry, the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (**RIRDC**) funded **FSA Consulting** to develop a

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE MEAT CHICKEN INDUSTRY (Meat Chicken EMS).

The Meat Chicken EMS comprises:

- Manual of Good Environmental Practice
- An example Environmental Management Plan and Explanatory Notes
- Generic Environmental Management Plan
- An Environmental Risk Assessment Workbook so individuals can self assess their individual enterprises and identify any environmental improvement or monitoring that is required.
- Management tools upon which farmers can base their own farm-specific plans, including Meat Chicken Environmental Technical Notes, Mass Balance Excel Spreadsheet for Meat Chicken Farms, Example Environmental Management Plan and Generic Environmental Management Plan.
- Recommendations for training industry participants in environmental awareness and environmental management.



Specific documentation relevant to each State will need to be developed prior to implementation of this Meat Chicken EMS.

To oversee the development of the Meat Chicken EMS and to provide feedback on document development, an industry based steering committee was assigned to the project.

As part of this project, FSA Consulting developed

MEAT CHICKEN TECHNICAL ENVIRONMENTAL NOTES

For further information, go to our website and download the technical notes (<http://www.fsaconsulting.net/publications.htm>.)

For further information contact:

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Staff Profile—Megan Howard

Megan Howard is an Environmental Engineer with experience in the areas of soil research, water resources engineering, natural resources management and environmental impact assessment.

After finishing her engineering studies at the University of Southern Queensland in Toowoomba, Megan moved to Brisbane and worked for GHD as a Water Resources Engineer. Her main involvement was with the DNR SWP Distribution Efficiency Review. A year later she returned 'home' to take up a position with FSA Environmental.

Since working for FSA Environmental she has worked on various projects covering several intensive livestock industries such as abattoirs,

piggeries and feedlots.

In early July, Megan will be relocating to our Horsham office ensure we have more people 'on the ground' in the southern states.

Position: Project Engineer

Special Work Interests:

Abattoir Irrigation Management Plans
MEDLI modelling

Leisure Time Interests:

Socialising with friends, going to the gym and walking the dog (but not in winter!), and more recently, snapper fishing off Whyalla (still very much an amateur!).

Megan Howard

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Staff News

Jock and Jill

*Jock and Jill have had their fill
of trying to understand the Aussie style.
Jock's team fell down, they lost their crown
and Jill came skipping after.
Allez le Bleu! - Go Skippy!*



Jocelyn Jhebaut—France



Gillian Roos—Canada

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