



FSA Update

FSA Consulting
FSA Environmental
FSA Irrigation

FSA Update

October—December 2001

From the top.....

FSA Consulting commenced operating in January 1994 as Feedlot Services Australia Pty Ltd. Our initial charter was to provide a complete consultancy service for the beef lot feeding industry. While this proved successful, clients who also operated piggeries, dairies, egg and meat chicken farms, abattoirs and irrigation farms were soon demanding help with these enterprises.

Since the name, Feedlot Services Australia, did not adequately represent the expanded scope of clients and work, the names FSA Environmental and FSA Irrigation were registered. Today the name FSA Consulting is used as an over-arching name covering all of our work areas.

We know that many clients are not aware of the full range of service that FSA Consulting now provides. Hence, this newsletter.....

FSA Consulting now has 12 staff and 3 offices across eastern Australia. Our staff include agricultural, environmental and irrigation engineers as well as agricultural scientists.

We offers services in:

- Feasibility studies.
- Planning applications.
- Environmental management.
- Engineering design.
- Training.
- Research and Development.

The industries we currently serve include:

- Pigs.
- Cattle feedlots.
- Dairy.
- Poultry.
- Abattoirs.
- Irrigation (cotton, sugar).

Our growth has been based on providing up-to-date technical knowledge to solve client's problems. We believe our personal one-to-one approach is the key to our, and your, success.

Peter Watts & Robyn Tucker
Directors

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <i>National Co-ordinator—APL Environmental Training Package</i> | 2 |
| <i>Mushroom Code of Practice</i> | 2 |
| <i>Victorian Intensive Dairies—Colac</i> | 2 |
| <i>Compost & Pecans—Moree</i> | 3 |
| <i>Farm Dams for Sugar Farms—Bundaberg</i> | 3 |
| <i>Staff Profile—Eugene McGahan</i> | 4 |
| <i>It's a girl..... it's a girl</i> | 4 |
| <i>FSA Consulting Contact Details</i> | 4 |

Go surfing at www.fsaconsulting.net

FSA is constantly updating and adding information to its website:

www.fsaconsulting.net

So take the time to have a look. There are many features that you will find very useful such as:

- Utilities page which has links to government departments, manufacturers, climate data, maps & satellite images and much more.
- Publication page where articles written by our staff can be accessed.
- Projects page containing briefs and maps from some of our projects.

Visit us @ www.fsaconsulting.net



Victorian Intensive Dairies - Colac, Vic

FSA Environmental was contracted to develop an environmental management plan for an intensive (free-stall) barn dairy in southern Victoria (Timboon). This included MEDLI modelling of the manure stream and prediction of the manure output using an adaptation of a newly developed manure output model (DairyBal—DPI, Queensland).

The farm is expected to grow the majority of the forage crops used in the dairy. Nutrient application from both the liquid effluent and manure-streams were matched to crop uptake on the farm.

For further information contact:

Eugene McGahan (07) 4632 8230
0428 328 233
Eugene.McGahan@fsaconsulting.net

*Picture-->
Eugene getting some
hands-on experience!*



Compost & Pecans - Moree, NSW



Commercial pecan growers have the option of adding nitrogen to irrigation water when flood-irrigating the orchard. However, the trees use only about 20% of each

annual application. The remaining nitrogen may speed up the loss of organic carbon supplies in the soil, or may combine with soil calcium or magnesium supplies to be transported by water below the rooting zone. This is economically inefficient, and environmentally unsustainable.

FSA Environmental met on-site with the orchard management team, to assess the feasibility of

using a compost as an alternative source of fertiliser. The merits of locally-available organic waste materials were evaluated for their potential to improve both the nutrition of the pecans, and the vitality of the orchard soil.

Appropriate organic by-product processing and reuse has the potential to improve the triple bottom-line of many intensive rural industries, for both producers and end-users.

For further information contact:

Pam Pittaway: (07) 4632 8230
Pam.Pittaway@fsaconsulting.net

Farm Dams for Sugar Farms - Bundaberg, Qld

As part of the Rural Water Use Efficiency Initiative, the Bundaberg sugar industry has been developing a range of initiatives to encourage the construction of small on-farm water storages.

FSA Irrigation was contracted to provide engineering assistance, including feasibility analysis and preliminary storage design to 20 interested canegrowers.

Using the examples studied in the consultancy, guidelines were developed for farm dams and recycling systems to be used

across the industry. A training workshop was also conducted to transfer the findings to personnel operating in the area.

For further information please contact:

Graeme Cox: (07) 4632 8230
0409 623 590
Graeme.Cox@fsaconsulting.net





Staff Profile—Eugene McGahan

Eugene McGahan is an agricultural engineer with 13 years experience in the areas of research and design of environmental management systems for intensive livestock industries; design of machinery and components in broadacre agriculture, solar hay drying and grass seed harvesting; and irrigation design.

Since working for FSA Consulting, Eugene has been involved in intensive livestock research and development projects. Eugene has published numerous scientific and technical papers. He is a co-editor of the "Environmental Code of Practice for Queensland Piggeries".

Position:

Senior Consultant

Special Work Interests:

Environmental management of intensive animal industries. Spent many years primarily working in the feedlot and piggery industries, but now does a significant amount of work in the dairy and chicken meat industries.

Leisure Time Interests:

Fishing on Fraser Island

Farming on a beef cattle property (not sure if this is really leisure!!)

Eugene McGahan

(07) 4632 8230

0428 328 233

Eugene.McGahan@fsaconsulting.net



It's a girl.....It's a girl !!



Pictured Right: Robyn, David & Gaby

Robyn Tucker and her husband David Pike welcomed the arrival of a baby girl, Gabrielle Amber, on 23 July 2001. Having got the feeding, sleeping and "manure management" matters in-hand, Robyn is back at work on a part-time basis.



Pictured Left: Peter, Julia & Mary

Peter and Julia Nicholas also welcomed the arrival of a baby girl, Mary Julia, on 19 March 2001. Having re-organised her parents' schedules appropriately, Mary is settling down to life in sunny Toowoomba.



FSA Consulting

Toowoomba Office

PO Box 2175
(11 Clifford St)
Toowoomba Qld 4350

Ph: 07-4632 8230
FAX: 07-4632 8057
Email:
fsa@fsaconsulting.net

Horsham Office

12 Hayes Dr
Horsham Vic 3400

Ph: 03-5381 0709
FAX: 03-5381 0719
Email:
Robyn.Tucker@fsaconsulting.net

Tamworth Office

50 Denman Ave
Kootingal NSW 2352

Ph: 02-6760 5465
FAX: 02-6760 5466
Email:
Ian.Kruger@fsaconsulting.net