



Levy payers get *bang* for buck

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Red meat peak bodies Cattle Council of Australia and Sheepmeat Council of Australia are pleased at the first year results of an evaluation of the return from Australia's 15 rural research and development corporations (RDCs).

RDC's delivery of the funding partnership between Government and industry saw approximately \$540 million invested in R&D and subsequent outputs - \$325 million from industry and \$215 million from Government.

"There has been notably strong collaboration between RDC's and the rural sector ensuring targeted and useful research outcomes for cattle producers and linking industries," said Greg Brown, President of the Cattle Council of Australia.

"Any levy money used for research must be carefully measured in term of the benefits derived by cattle beef producers and their sustained profitability.

"This monitoring role is the task of the Cattle Council and we will continue to ensure Meat and Livestock Australia invest the levies of our cattle beef producers wisely.

"I am pleased to inform that this research is returning dividends to the cattle sector in the form of practical and innovative on farm management solutions, better use of our natural resources and assurance of a safe and quality end product for the consumer," said Greg.

Kate Joseph, President of the Sheepmeat Council of Australia recognised the benefits for sheepmeat producers in RDC's research efforts.

"There is an average return of \$11 for every dollar invested through the RDC's. It demonstrates that our levy money, through MLA is being utilised effectively.

"Producers benefit from on-farm productivity gains and as an industry it enables us to meet consumer demand through lower prices and/or higher value products," Kate said.

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