



CATTLE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$9 million commitment to livestock industries in Q Fever funding

The Cattle Council of Australia welcomes the Federal Government's decision to commit \$9 million towards the funding for a specialised Q Fever manufacturing facility.

Cattle Council Acting President Greg Brown says that the funding demonstrates a long-term commitment to the viability of livestock industries in Australia.

"The Cattle Council has been tightly engaged with the issue for many years with government, and we are confident that the needs of the cattle industry have been taken into account," Mr Brown says.

"We congratulate Minister McGuaran for giving this issue the urgent attention that it requires.

"An ongoing supply of the vaccine will have a positive impact on the industry's ability to attract skilled labour and maintain a strong supply chain of beef for domestic and international customers.

CSL advises that the new Q Fever manufacturing facility will have the capacity to increase production of the Q Fever vaccine from around 20,000 doses per annum to 50,000 doses per annum, with the first vaccines available in June 2009.

Current stocks of the vaccine have been rationalised to ensure that those at highest risk can continue to gain priority access to the vaccine.

"Prevention is the best cure for Q Fever, so we urge producers and meat industry workers to be diligent in this time of short supply," says Mr Brown.

"Those who are not sure if they have been vaccinated in the past should consult with their doctor or health department for further information."

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Cattle Council of Australia Incorporated (A2929)

PO Box E10 KINGSTON ACT 2604 Ph: 02 6273 3688 Fax: 02 6273 2397

E-mail: cca@cattlecouncil.com.au Web: www.cattlecouncil.com.au

