

Genetic Evaluation Consultative Committee Terms of Reference



Background

The TransTasman Angus Cattle Evaluation is the genetic evaluation program adopted by Angus Australia for Angus and Angus influenced beef cattle. The TransTasman Angus Cattle Evaluation uses Best Linear Unbiased Prediction (BLUP) technology to produce Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) of recorded cattle for a range of important production traits (e.g. weight, carcase, fertility).

The TransTasman Angus Cattle Evaluation is an international genetic evaluation and includes pedigree, performance and genomic information from the Angus Australia and Angus New Zealand databases, along with selected information from the American and Canadian Angus Associations.

The TransTasman Angus Cattle Evaluation utilises a range of internal and external genetic evaluation software and providers, including the BREEDPLAN® system and the Angus Genetics Incorporated program, with the American Angus Association.

Purpose

The purpose of the Genetic Evaluation Consultative Committee is to:

- Provide a forum for consultation between users of Angus Australia's genetic evaluation services and the Angus Australia Board of Directors and management team
- To communicate and represent the views and requirements of users of the TransTasman Angus Cattle Evaluation in relation to the operation, implementation of improvements, and future development needs of AngusAustralia's genetic evaluation services.

The Genetic Evaluation Consultative Committee is not a policy decision making body but may make policy recommendations for consideration by the Angus Australia Board.

Any recommendations need to be made through the Committee Chairman, and be supported by Issue or Discussion papers as appropriate

Membership

The Genetic Evaluation Consultative Committee will consist of at least four Angus Australia members. The Board's Chair, Genetic Improvement Committee Chair, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager Genetic Improvement will be ex-officio members. Other Angus Australia members or non-members with special expertise may be appointed at the discretion of the Board.

Selection Criteria

Applicants for the Genetic Evaluation Consultative Committee will be assessed by the Angus Australia Board based upon their suitability against the following criteria:

- Experience in breeding, production and marketing Angus seedstock:
- Knowledge of the key principles of cattle breeding and genetics
- Knowledge of the TransTasman Angus Cattle Evaluation and companion technologies (e.g. genomics, mate allocation tools)
- Vision of future opportunities for breeding and genetics innovation

Genetic Evaluation Consultative Committee members will be appointed for a two year term, with outgoing committee members entitled to re-apply for additional term/s.

Chairman

The Angus Australia Board will appoint a Committee Chairman from members of the Consultative Committee.

Secretary

The General Manager Genetic Improvement will be the Secretary of the Consultative Committee.

Other attendees

Other Angus Australia staff or relevant RD&E organisation staff (e.g. AGBU, ABRI) may be invited to be present for all or part of the meetings.

Meetings

Meetings will be conducted as often as deemed necessary by the Consultative Committee Chairman or as required by the Angus Australia Board.

Meetings will generally be held twice per year, via either face-to-face meetings or teleconferences as appropriate. All reasonable travel expenses (e.g. flights, accommodation) for a face-to-face meeting will be covered by Angus Australia.

Reporting procedures

The Secretary shall circulate the minutes to the Consultative Committee following each meeting. The minutes along with any feedback from the Consultative Committee will be included in the papers for the subsequent Genetic Improvement Board Committee and Angus Australia Board meeting.



Northern Development Consultative Committee Terms of Reference



Background

Angus Australia's Northern Development Program has the objective to "Increase the infusion of Angus genetics in the northern Australia beef herd to benefit Angus Australia members and the whole beef supply chain through increased use of registered Angus bulls and genetics

The reason for focussing on northern Australia is that a significant proportion of the beef breeding population and production occurs in northern Australia, particularly for beef cattle operations that are not currently influenced by Angus genetics. For example, at least 50% of the breeding cows are based in northern Australia, while northern based feedlots and abattoirs account for over 50% of Australia's production and output.

A key initial initiative is the continuation of a Consultative Committee to help guide Angus Australia's Northern Development Program.

Purpose

The purpose of the Northern Development Consultative Committee is to:

- Provide guidance in developing policies, strategies and plans relating to Angus Australia's Northern Development Program.
- Monitor activity, progress and results of the Northern Development Program.
- Communicate and represent the views and requirements of northern Australia beef breeders in relation to Angus genetics and Angus influenced cattle.

While the Northern Development Consultative Committee is not a policy decision making body, it will make policy recommendations for consideration by the Board's Strategic Projects Committee.

Membership

The Northern Development Consultative Committee will consist of:

- An Angus Australia member based in northern Australia that breeds bulls (Herd Book or Angus Performance Register) for use in northern Australia.
- An Angus Australia member based in southern Australia that breeds bulls (Herd Book or Angus Performance Register) for use in northern Australia.
- An Angus Australia member that breeds Multi Breed Register recorded bulls for use in northern Australia.
- A northern Pastoral Company representative using Angus genetics.
- A northern based commercial breeding enterprise (e.g. large family business) representative using Angus genetics.

Where required, consultation with the other representatives from the beef supply chain (feedlots, processors, livestock agencies) will also be sought.

The Angus Australia Board may appoint other members at its own discretion from among the Society's Membership or non-members with special expertise. This may include representatives from northern focussed research and development organisations.

The Angus Australia Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer will be ex-officio members of the Committee.

Selection Criteria

Applicants for the Northern Development Consultative Committee will be appointed by the Strategic Projects Committee based upon their suitability against the following criteria:

- Knowledge and understanding of the northern Australia beef supply chain.
- Experience in the guidance of industry based programs.
- Vision of current and future opportunities for Angus genetics and Angus influenced cattle in Northern Australia.

Northern Development Consultative Committee members will be appointed for a two-year term, with outgoing committee members entitled to reapply for additional term/s.

Chairman

The Angus Australia Board will appoint a Committee Chairman from members of the Consultative Committee.

Secretary

The CEO or their representative will be the Secretary of the Consultative Committee.

Other attendees

Other Angus Australia staff or relevant beef industry representatives with specific skills or knowledge may be invited to be involved in full meetings or for specific items for a meeting.

Meetings

Meetings will be conducted as often as deemed necessary by the Consultative Committee or as required by the Angus Australia Board. This will generally include one face-to-face meeting and one teleconference per year. All reasonable travel expenses (e.g. flights, accommodation) for a face-to-face meeting will be covered by Angus Australia.

Reporting procedures

The Secretary shall circulate the minutes to the Consultative Committee following each meeting. The minutes and any recommendations will be included in the papers for the subsequent Board meeting following the Consultative Committee meeting.



Angus Sire Benchmarking Program Consultative Committee Terms of Reference



Background

The Angus Sire Benchmarking Program (ASBP) is a major R&D initiative of Angus Australia with support from industry partners. The objective of the ASBP is to "Grow the phenotype and genotype reference population with contemporary Australian Angus animals, particularly on hard-to-measure traits, for enhanced genetic evaluation, collaborative research and innovative development."

Purpose

The purpose of the Angus Sire Benchmarking Program Consultative Committee is to provide guidance to the Angus Australia in developing policies, strategies and plans relating to the Angus Sire Benchmarking Program (ASBP) which are consistent with the Angus Australia Strategic Plan. The specific duties of the committee, which are in line with the ASBP Objectives, include:

- Reviewing the overall operations and progression of the ASBP and where required, provide recommendations to the Board.
- Considering ASBP related proposals and where appropriate, recommend them to the Board.

Membership

The Committee will consist of:

- At least 3 x bull owner representatives
- At least 1 x cow herd representatives
- 1 x feedlot representative

The Angus Australia Board may appoint other members at its own discretion from among the Society's Membership or non-members with special expertise.

The Angus Australia Board Chair, Chief Executive Officer, General Manager Genetic Improvement, R&D Specialist and ASBP Project Officer will be ex-officio members of the Committee.

Selection Criteria

Applicants for the Angus Sire Benchmarking Program Consultative Committee will be assessed by the Genetic Improvement Committee based upon their suitability against the following criteria:

- Involvement in the Angus Sire Benchmarking Program (e.g. Bull nominations).

- Knowledge and understanding of the objectives of the Angus Sire Benchmarking Program.
- Experience in the guidance of research projects in livestock production.
- Vision of future opportunities for Angus Sire Benchmarking Program.

Angus Sire Benchmarking Program Consultative Committee members will be appointed for a two year term, with outgoing committee members entitled to reapply for additional term/s.

Chairman

The Angus Australia Board will appoint a Committee Chairman from members of the Consultative Committee.

Secretary

The R&D Specialist will be the secretary of the Consultative Committee.

Other attendees

Other Angus Australia staff or relevant R&D organisation staff (e.g. AGBU, CSIRO, DPI) may be invited to be present for all or part of the meetings.

Meetings

Meetings will be conducted as often as deemed necessary by the Consultative Committee or as required by the Angus Australia Board.

These will generally occur twice per year via teleconference and once by a face-to-face meeting. All reasonable travel expenses (e.g. flights, accommodation) for a face-to-face meeting will be covered by Angus Australia.

Reporting procedures

The Secretary shall circulate the minutes to the Consultative Committee Chair following each meeting. The minutes and any recommendations will be included in the papers for the subsequent Board meeting following the Consultative Committee meeting.

