## **MEDIA RELEASE**

July 27, 2018

## APRIL projects to progress pigs and pork

Australasian Pork Research Institute Limited (APRIL) research and development projects for 2018/19 to enhance the competiveness and sustainability of the Australasian pork industry have now been announced.

APRIL funded projects to a total value of more than \$900,000.

All successful applicants have now been advised, with all providing an additional 20 to 25 per cent cash contribution to the APRIL funding.

APRIL's three programs cover resilience, cost and return on assets.

Under resilience, it sought proposals on the more judicious use of antibiotics, antimicrobial resistance and novel assessment of animal welfare.

Under cost it sought proposals to help the Australian pork industry reduce reliance on more conventional feed ingredients and help insulate the industry from global grain and soybean markets.

APRIL's target is to reduce average feed cost by 10 per cent and cost of production by 40 cents, based on 'current' ingredient prices.

The return on assets program covers new science to markedly enhance reproduction and progeny health and performance.

Roger Campbell, Interim CEO of APRIL, said the supported projects would provide new insights into antibiotic resistance and how this might be avoided, the role of enzymes and ingredients on the gut microbiome and some out of the box means of enhancing performance and reducing cost.

"I am optimistic about the projects being game changers and excited about them getting underway," Dr Campbell said.

The supported projects are as follows:

A1-101 - Novel approaches for reducing antimicrobial resistant and pathogenic Gram-negative bacteria in the porcine gut - Dr Sam Abraham – Murdoch University

A1-102 - Proof of concept: Oral Fluids and quantitative assessment for Porcine Chronic Respiratory Disease (PCRD) in Australian field conditions – Dr Anke Woeckel – Rivalea (Australia) Pty Ltd

A1-103 - Improving enteric health, understanding impact on gut microbiome and weaner performance through the use of protease enzymes - Robert Hewitt – SunPork North



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A1-106 - A lab on a chip for real time pain and animal welfare biomarker measurement — Dr Robyn Terry — SARDI

**A2-101 - Protected vitamin and mineral premixes maintain performance of commercial pigs at reduced inclusion rates** – Rob Hewitt – SunPork North

**A3A-101 - Improved feed efficiency, control of P2 back fat and maintenance of pork quality in finishing pigs fed bitter extracts** – Dr Eugeni Roura – University of Queensland

A3A-102 - Review relationship between energy intake and protein deposition in 60-100 kg pigs with modern genetics using DXA scanner – Dr Fan Liu – Rivalea (Australia) Pty Ltd

A3A-103 - Feeding a single diet to pigs in the grower/finisher stage to reduce feed costs and improve feed efficiency – Dr Karen Moore – PIWA

**A 3B-101 - Using GnRH analogues for fixed-time AI and pregnancy support to address seasonal infertility in sows** – Dr Sean O'Leary – University of Adelaide

A 3B-102 - Nutritional supplementation to increase the number of pigs weaned and fertility of sows which farrow and are mated during summer /early autumn – Dr William van Wettere – University of Adelaide

A 3B-103 - Identifying reciprocal chromosomal translocations to reduce early embryo mortality — Dr Darryl D'Souza — SunPork Solutions

A 3B-104 - Seasonal fertility: a novel approach to alleviating seasonal infertility in sows – Dr Kate Plush – SunPork Solutions

A 3B-105 - Effects of negative DCAD and vitamin D in transition diets to increase piglet weaning numbers, improve piglet weaning weight, and minimise sow condition loss during lactation —  $\operatorname{Dr}$  Alice Weaver — Myora Farm

## www.APRI.com.au

Authorised by APRIL and issued on its behalf by

Brendon Cant, APRIL Communications Manager, Mob 0417 930 536

MEDIA CONTACT: Dr Roger Campbell, Interim APRIL CEO, Mob 0407 774 714

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