

The University of Queensland

PhD Scholarship – Beef Cattle Management

The School of Animal Studies is one of Australia's leading schools in animal research (www.animal.uq.edu.au).

Research in Animal Production remains the largest single research area with separate research interests in the beef, pig, dairy, equine, poultry and goat industries. The primary research disciplines active across these areas are production, health and welfare, nutrition, toxicology, reproduction, product quality, waste management and cellular and molecular biology in the areas of rumen microbiology and reproductive physiology.

Students living in Gatton enjoy an active outdoor lifestyle, easy access to Brisbane and coastal areas, affordable accommodation, and convenient public transport.

The role

The aim of this research is to develop automated, individual animal, weighing, condition scoring and drafting systems for beef cattle suitable for use in extensive grazing systems. Based on machine vision (image recognition and analysis) technology there will be added benefits of improved management of animal breeding/pedigree and surveillance for health/disease monitoring and individual animal feedback and traceback. Outcomes of the research will be improved cattle management tools that do not require extra labour and can be applied in a paddock situation.

Within this framework this PhD project is specifically focused on the development of animal management using advanced technologies. The successful candidate may focus on a number of areas within the project including:

- Cattle behaviour and welfare within automated handling systems
- Measurement and assessment of weight and body conformation using the automated handling systems.

The person

Applicants should have a research interest in beef cattle production and should possess a Bachelor's degree with upper second-class or 1st class honours, or a master's degree with a research component. You must also be an Australian or New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

Remuneration

The stipend will be at the APAI rate of \$26,669 per annum for 3 years (tax exempt).

Contact Obtain the position description and selection criteria [online](#).

General enquiries regarding the scholarship can be directed to
Dr John Gaughan on (07) 54601036 or email j.gaughan@uq.edu.au.

Send applications to:
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Applications close 24th July 2009

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