

- MLA undertakes research and marketing on behalf of over 47,000 beef, sheep and goat producers.

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- The company collects a levy from farmers who sell their cattle through the saleyard system.

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- Australia is the largest exporter of sheep meat in the world.

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- Around 172,000 people are employed in the red meat industry, including on-farm production, processing and retail



🔑 CASE STUDY

# GENETIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT



Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), the Australian Government, and others in the MLA animal genetics & genomics RD&E 'program' make investments in genetic and genomic technology to improve productive traits in livestock (meat and wool sheep, and beef). Meat and Livestock Australia needed to understand the return generated from their investment over a 10-year period, relative to the counterfactual and relative to the return generated from investments made by the other investors.

AbacusBio completed an extensive economic evaluation of the past and future impact of animal genetics and genomics RD&E investment in the Australian red meat sector. The analysis captured benefits, driven by genetic trends in evaluated traits, to seed stock producers, cattle and sheep producers, owners of land, feedlot operators and meat processors, alongside the community, and consumers.

Realised benefits were calculated in the light of adoption (of genetic improvement technology and tools generated from investment) and the counterfactual to MLA investment. The scale of benefit was checked for credibility using industry case studies demonstrating real change in performance.

AbacusBio finished the project by providing a perspective on future MLA investment in the context of the methodology and findings. The independent investment performance analysis and reporting provided by AbacusBio supported MLA in justifying investment in animal genetics & genomics RD&E.

**"A clear perspective on future MLA investment in the context of methodology and findings"**