

Industry update

January 2019



14
Current & contracting projects



\$328,904
Invested in RD&E October-December 2018



\$1,734,091
Committed to RD&E from 1 July 2018

Project spotlight (current): Understanding, reducing the effects of heat stress on TB stallion fertility

Project ID: PRJ-011268

Research Organisation: The University of Newcastle

One of our exciting projects is looking into the effect of heat stress on stallion fertility. This is a PhD research project with Aleona Swegen who is looking into climatic conditions experienced by stallions in major Thoroughbred breeding hubs of Australia. Preliminary data has shown a relationship between ambient temperatures and per cycle conception rates.

This study will examine the relationship between ambient temperatures, sperm DNA damage and stallion fertility. Understanding these mechanisms will provide short-term reproductive efficiencies and will also look towards the development of novel management strategies to alleviate the effects of heat stress on fertility.

Project spotlight (current): PhD student Laura Nath

Project ID: PRJ-011357

Research Organisation: The University of Adelaide

How did you identify the need for this project?

Cardiac arrhythmias are an important and not well understood cause of impaired athletic performance, collapse and potentially death in racehorses. Relatively little work has investigated cardiac arrhythmia in comparison to other causes of racing and training fatalities. The outcomes of this research will hopefully assist in reducing racehorse fatalities and jockey injuries and could also have relevance to human athletes.

What inspires you to work in the thoroughbred horse industry?

The thoroughbred horse industry has important social, economic and cultural connections within Australia and globally. Whilst the role of the horse in society has diminished over the last 100 years, thoroughbred racing remains as the premier opportunity for the public to interact with and share in the grace of the horse.

AgriFutures™ Thoroughbred Horses Program Advisory Panel

- Prof. Nigel Perkins (Chair)
- Dr Catherine Chicken (Deputy Chair)
- Derek Field
- Jacqueline Stewart
- Dr Judith Medd
- Tas Reilley
- Annelies McGaw (AgriFutures Australia Manager, Research)

Upcoming events

4 Feb

AgriFutures™ Thoroughbred Horses Program Advisory Panel meeting

13 Feb

AgriFutures™ Thoroughbred Horses Program Open Call closes

19-20 Feb

evoke^{AG}, Melbourne

1 Mar

AgriFutures™ Horizon Scholarship applications close

Sign up to the AgriFutures™ Thoroughbred Horses Program newsletter to receive regular program updates

Current projects

Wellbeing from pregnancy to racing - horse demographics

Principal Investigator: Meredith Flash

Research Organisation: The University of Melbourne

Expected Completion Date: 1 June 2019

Project ID: PRJ-011251

Postgraduate Scholarship

Principal Investigator: Laura Nath

Research Organisation: The University of Adelaide

Expected Completion Date: 1 July 2019

Project ID: PRJ-011357

Computational modelling of limb loads from galloping horses on different tracks

Principal Investigator: Chris Whitton

Research Organisation: The University of Melbourne

Expected Completion Date: 30 April 2020

Project ID: PRJ-011237

PhD Understanding, reducing the effects of heat stress on TB stallion fertility

Principal Investigator: Aleona Swegen

Research Organisation: The University of Newcastle

Expected Completion Date: 1 July 2020

Project ID: PRJ-011268

The uterine microbiome - key to equine fertility?

Principal Investigator: Natali Krekeler

Research Organisation: The University of Melbourne

Expected Completion Date: 31 August 2020

Project ID: PRJ-011248

Non-invasive ventilatory support for foals

Principal Investigator: Sharanne Raidal

Research Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Expected Completion Date: 31 October 2020

Project ID: PRJ-011159

Improved bacterial identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing

Principal Investigator: Sharanne Raidal

Research Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Expected Completion Date: 31 December 2020

Project ID: PRJ-011233

Improving jockey safety through virtual reality and biomarkers of concussion

Principal Investigator: Brad Wright

Research Organisation: La Trobe University

Expected Completion Date: 15 May 2021

Project ID: PRJ-011192

Improving the detection of parasitic infections and control strategies of horses

Principal Investigator: Abdul Jabbar

Research Organisation: The University of Melbourne

Expected Completion Date: 30 November 2021

Project ID: PRJ-011191

Maintaining welfare and integrity in Australian Racing

Principal Investigator: Glenys Noble

Research Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Expected Completion Date: 20 December 2021

Project ID: PRJ-011188

Wellbeing - Racing demographics, reasons for retirement and post racing destinations

Principal Investigator: Meredith Flash

Research Organisation: The University of Melbourne

Expected Completion Date: 30 December 2021

Project ID: PRJ-011271

Understanding the epidemiology of Chlamydia psittaci infections in mares

Principal Investigator: Peter Timms

Research Organisation: University of the Sunshine Coast

Expected Completion Date: 31 December 2021

Project ID: PRJ-011402

Contracting projects

Rapid diagnosis of infectious agents of equine reproductive loss

Principal Investigator: Cheryl Jenkins

Research Organisation: NSW DPI

Expected Completion Date: 1 October 2019

Project ID: PRJ-011628

Learn more

agrifutures.com.au/thoroughbred-horses