



CATTLE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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Cattle Council of Australia takes Canberra to the bush

Representatives from Canberra-based government departments are to gain grass roots insights into the beef cattle industry in northern NSW and Queensland as part of the week-long Cattle Council of Australia (CCA) Rural Awareness Tour, which starts today.

The Rural Awareness tour (or RAT as it is affectionately known) is to be hosted by CCA Vice President, Greg Brown.

Now in its 16th year, it has taken more than 150 Canberra-based representatives to properties, sale yards and beef production facilities across Australia to provide better understanding of issues affecting producers and the industry.

"It is a highly important event to ensure that those who develop and implement government policy affecting Australian producers have an appreciation of how issues are managed on the ground and to see the processes that we put in place first hand," says CCA Vice President Greg Brown.

The 2007 RAT will visit a number of beef cattle properties in Queensland as well as the Beef CRC and University of New England in Armidale, Oakey Abattoir, Queensland Choice Meats in Toowoomba, Longreach Pastoral College, Goonoo Feedlot and Emerald Saleyards.

Those attending include representatives from the Department of Environment and Water, the National Residue Survey, the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry, Bureau of Rural Sciences, Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and ABARE.

Ends

For further information contact:

Selena Jensen, Pegasus Communications on (03) 9645 1292 or 0400 626 782 or

Rachel Galvin, Cattle Council of Australia on 0409 654 015.

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Cattle Council of Australia Incorporated (A2929)

PO Box E10 KINGSTON ACT 2604 Ph: 02 6273 3688 Fax: 02 6273 2397

E-mail: cca@cattlecouncil.com.au Web: www.cattlecouncil.com.au

