QUARTERLY PROGRESS SUMMARY: April – June 2016

Red Meat Profit Partnership (RMPP)

Summary of progress during this quarter

Overall

- Some good stories are being printed in the media around the pilot farms and the value that has been added through involvement in the RMPP programme.
- eASD Proof of Concept almost completed.
- Two computer courses launched.
- Full partner review of RMPP programme has been conducted.
- A very good response to our first e-newsletter – TheGroundUp – which will be produced every two months. Subscribe through our website at www.rmpp.co.nz.

Sector Capability

The science based agricultural resources will be presented at the Science Teachers Conference showing what has been developed for the general curriculum. Several TeenAg clubs attended a programme of activity at Fieldays taking the opportunity to speak to teachers and students regarding the new agriculture secondary school resources that are being trialed.

The Computer Upskill Programme for farmers commenced with Waikato, Canterbury and Southland being the most popular regions for bookings. Many attendees booked for both the initial "Getting Started" programme as well as "Using your Farm Data" when signing up.

Understanding Your Farming Business, the programme for women, has had a lot of media attention throughout local New Zealand newspapers. A number of regional women's groups have been set up following initial programmes being run across the country. Three programmes have also been designed and are being run for Maori women across the Central North Island.

Farmer Focused Extension Networks

An Extension System Strawman has now been designed based on learnings from our pilot research. The model demonstrates the interactions between the different RMPP project areas, and will enable partner organisations to identify their roles at a national level and on local basis.

Work has also begun in developing learning pathways, with the topic of genetics as the starting point. This work will bring together the people capability, data and systems and extension design project areas, and will be tested within the farm pilots with involvement by external organisations (Beef and Lamb Genetics).

Systems and Data Integration

The Data Linker has been built, but testing progress has been slower than anticipated. The first data transfer test is to be done by the end of July.

The eASD (electronic Animal Status Declaration) proof of concept has been extended by a month and investigation into a possible wider pilot is in progress. Valuable feedback has been received from farmers and processors involved during the pilot programme, and this will now be used to refine the process for a possible enhanced end to end trial.

The benchmark models have been reviewed and approved. These have been tested with some of our pilot farmers. The Info Hub which is just beginning development, will be used to provide this information to farmers. Initially connection to the Data Linker is required to deliver the data necessary to generate the benchmarks.

Quality Assurance

A baseline Quality Assurance standard has been agreed, and a trial is underway with farmers. The trial will be evaluated in the next quarter with the feedback being used to improve the documentation in readiness for use by industry. The deer industry (DINZ) have been involved in this programme as we look to provide a baseline competency standard across the red meat sector.

Key highlights and achievements

- Continued success and development of Understanding Your Farm Business to now include Maori women.
- Extension System Strawman design completed and available for discussion across the industry.
- Expansion of eASD pilot across one site of three different processors.
- Trialing of the NZ Farm Assurance standard.

Collaboration with other PGP programmes

There are multiple areas where RMPP is continuing to collaborate with other PGP programmes – such as:

- **People (sector capability):** Collaborating with the Transforming the Dairy Value Chain (TDVC) PGP across a number of initiatives.
- **Extension networks:** Discussions continue with FarmIQ, Ravensdown, Ballance, Firstlight Wagyu, and DINZ PGP's around provision of coaching and guidance with extension activities enabling RMPP to gain further insights into uptake of new innovations.
- **Systems and data integration:** Continuing work on the Data Linker (integration layer) which is a common project between the RMPP and the TDVC PGP programmes:
  - Data standards (Animal, Land Application, Finance, Effluent and Irrigation), is a jointly funded collaboration between RMPP and the Dairy PGP.
  - IT Platform – RMPP continues to work closely with FarmIQ as we review benchmarking platforms and options for development.
- **Standardised QA:** Being developed in conjunction with DINZ.

Upcoming

- Increase communications inline with increasing activity across our Programme.
- Extending eASD across additional sites for further trials.
- Exchange data between provider and consumer using Data Linker.
- Evaluate Farm Assurance programme and ready for rollout.

Investment

Investment period	Industry contribution	MPI contribution	Total investment
During this Quarter	$844,385	$844,385	$1,688,770
Programme To Date	$6,676,902	$6,676,902	$13,353,804