



**Summary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting of DEERResearch Ltd**  
**Wednesday 24 October 2007, by teleconference**

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**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
  2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (25 July 2007)
  3. Matters Arising
  4. Register Update
    - A. Interests
    - B. Intellectual Property
  5. Financial Report
  6. Statutory Compliance
  7. Research Updates (remainder of 2006/07 projects, 2007/08)
  8. Venison Processing/Quality Funding Options
  9. AgResearch-University Collaboration
  10. Deer Industry Funding Pathways (role of Game Industry Research Trust)
  11. General Business
  12. Suggested Meeting Dates and Calendar of Key Events
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## Present

- C Isaacs (Chairman), N Beatson, P Benfell, M Buick, F Griffin, G Keeley, M O'Connor

## Attending

- L Fung (DINZ), G Asher (AgResearch, for Agenda Item 1-3, 7, 9), D Smith (VPTC, for Agenda item 8)

## Matters Arising

06/07-19: *Prepare licence agreement for DEERselect.* Awaiting decision on ownership of software. Ongoing.

06/07-32: *Clostridia test kit – obtain costings for further work.* AgResearch require some indications from processors as to how the test kit would be used: In-plant diagnostic tool or as a testing service provided by AgResearch. Purpose of use is also important in developing costings: monitoring levels within DSP (following clean-up), downgrading contaminated meat or diverting to appropriate market, quality assurance for markets. Ongoing – see 07/08-01 below.

07/08-01: *Clostridia test kit – obtain feedback from VPTC.* Email drafted to VPTC but awaiting AgResearch clarification of licensing cost (frequency and who pays). Ongoing.

## Research Update

The Board approved the final payment for completion of project 6.08 Integrated Livestock Management.

It was noted that:

- *Project 7.02: Venison Supply Systems, Trial 1.1.1 Oestrous cycling.* Rising two-year-olds were starting to waste from Johne's disease. Only a small percentage of the herd was affected by liveweight (loss).
- *Project 7.02: Venison Supply Systems, Trial 2.2.1 Parasites.* Major parasite burden is becoming noticeable at both Massey and Hindon. It is not known how significant sub-clinical Johne's disease is affecting the trial; three out of the six sentinels slaughtered had lymph node lesions (c.f. two out of six previously). A substantial report will be provided by 31/12/2007.
- *Project 7.02: Venison Supply Systems, Trial 3.2.1 Extensive systems.* GPS collars have been re-fitted to hinds covering a range of rankings in the herd. A lay article is due out in the November issue of *The Deer Farmer*.

## **AgResearch – University Collaboration**

- The memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the Venison Supply Systems programme does not prevent universities from undertaking research and seeking funds in other areas.
- A general clause will be added stating that the MoU does not create a precedent around defined roles for AgResearch and universities. The revised MoU will be endorsed by the Board.

## **Venison Processing/Quality Funding Options**

The Board broadly agreed that an approach similar in manner to the ‘joint promotional’ fund could be used for DEEResearch funded venison processing and quality research. Additional aspects and criteria need to be developed and other considerations include:

- The VPTC having an active role in evaluation of proposals.
- Proposals for DEEResearch funds could take many forms – a single company, multiple companies, VPTC endorsement.
- The funds, while offered annually would need to have a time limit on availability, dependent upon uptake (e.g. if funds not well utilised after six months, the funds should be re-allocated towards other projects/research areas).
- A set of high level criteria for proposals seeking DEEResearch funds for venison processing/quality research will be developed.
- The lamb QSM FRST-funded programme can still offer a good opportunity to leverage and continue work on clostridia. The technology developed in that programme works well for lamb and could be extended to venison. A presentation will be made to the VPTC outlining opportunities for clostridia work under the lamb QSM programme.

## **Deer Industry Funding Pathways (role of Game Industry Research Trust)**

The paper was noted. GIRT allows smoothing of research funds between years despite fluctuations to income from levies due to kill rates.

## **General Business**

The MIRINZ workshop held at Ruakura on 16, 17 October 2007 was very informative. Presentations from the MIRINZ workshop that relate to venison will be provided on the DEEResearch website and links to AgResearch and Meat Industry Association websites will be provided once all the workshop presentations are available.

## **Suggested Meeting Dates and Calendar of Key Events**

- 20 February 2008 (VSS Governance Group) in Wellington