

# 3rd Quarter Update: AAco in the global context

#### ASX Announcement No. 62/2011

14 October 2011

Following is a presentation to be delivered to institutional investors by David Farley, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, and Phil Beale, Chief Financial Officer, commencing 14 October 2011.

-- ends --

#### Issued by:

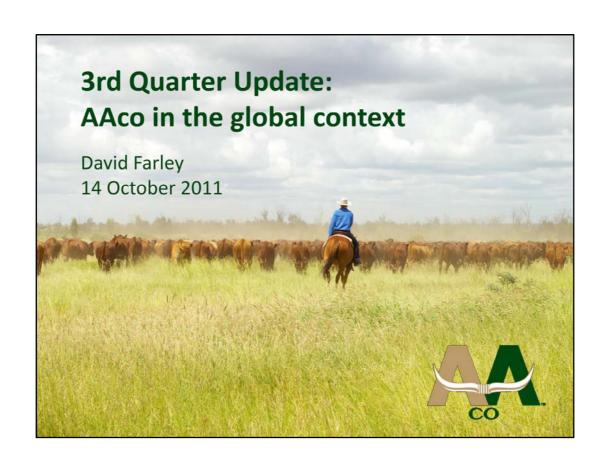
Bruce Bennett
Company Secretary
www.aaco.com.au

#### **AAco**

Australian Agricultural Company Limited – AAco (ASX:AAC) – is the largest beef cattle company in Australia. AAco was established in 1824 and is one of the oldest companies in Australia.

#### For media queries please contact:

Marsha Cadman or Bruce Ruddy Rowland. 07 3229 4499

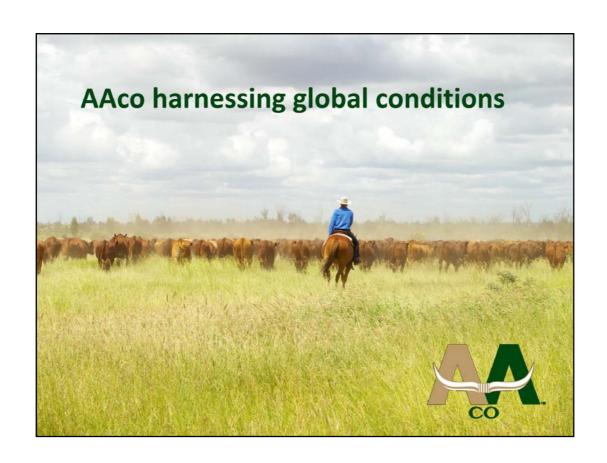


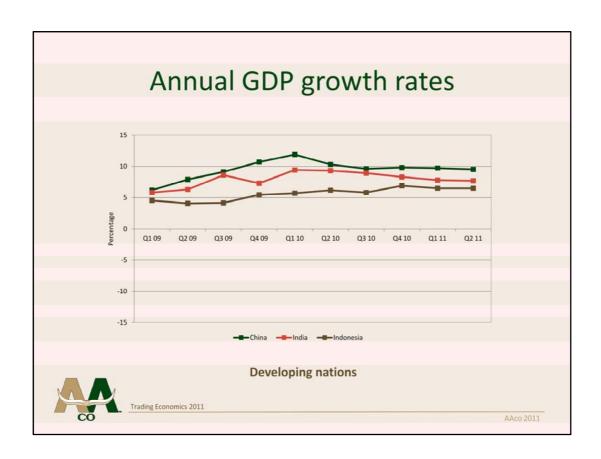
# AAco in the global context

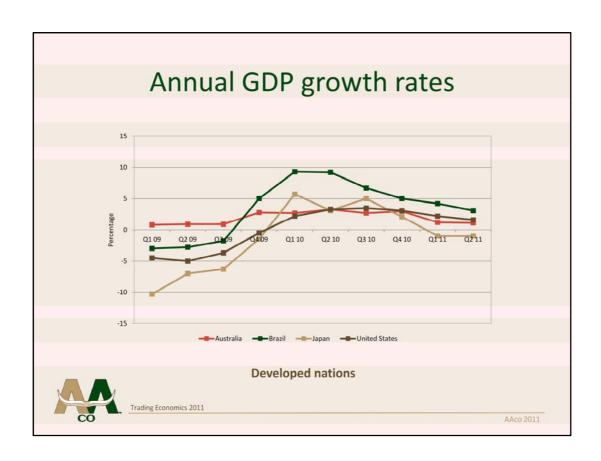
- AAco harnessing global conditions
  - AAco herd growing in contrast to global decline
  - Global demand for protein driving pricing increases
  - Live export situation secured
- AAco well positioned
  - Herd growth strong with ideal seasonal conditions
  - Well executed strategic initiatives are realising benefits
  - Stable to slightly ascending land values.

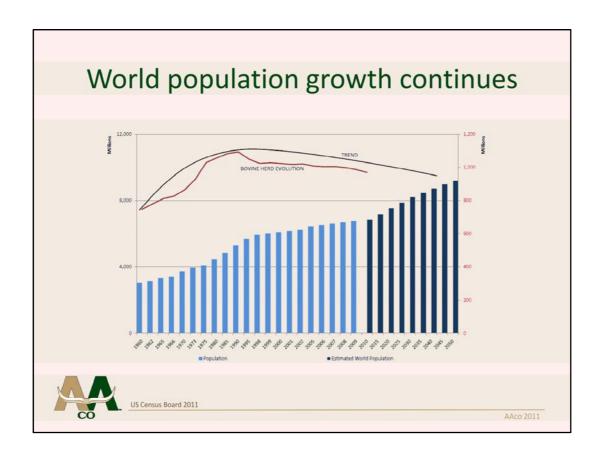


AAco 2011

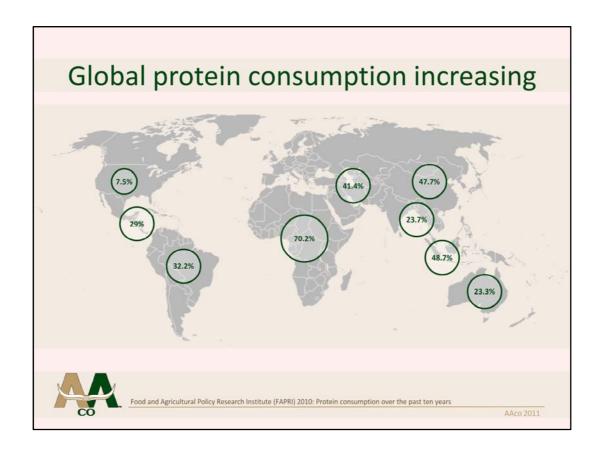








Population growth combines with the decrease in herd number and increasing protein consumption to provide an opportunity for AACo.

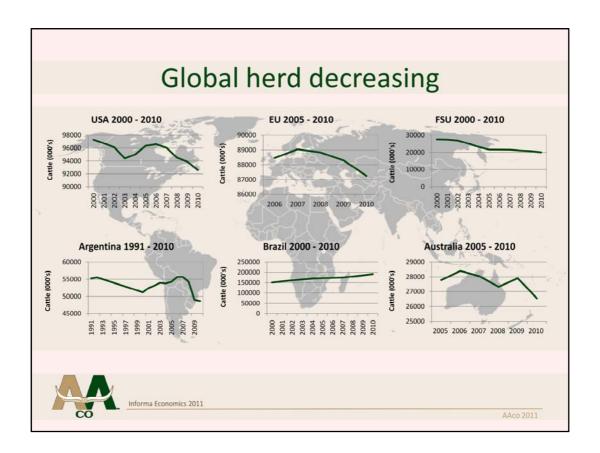


#### **Global protein consumption**

A shift in global dietary patterns is taking place.

Increased incomes and living standards are enabling the expanding global middle class to adopt higher protein diets.

Global consumption of livestock products is increasing, driven mainly by substantial growth in meat and dairy consumption in developing nations.



#### **Cattle numbers**

#### US

Weekly cow kill is at its highest since 1997.

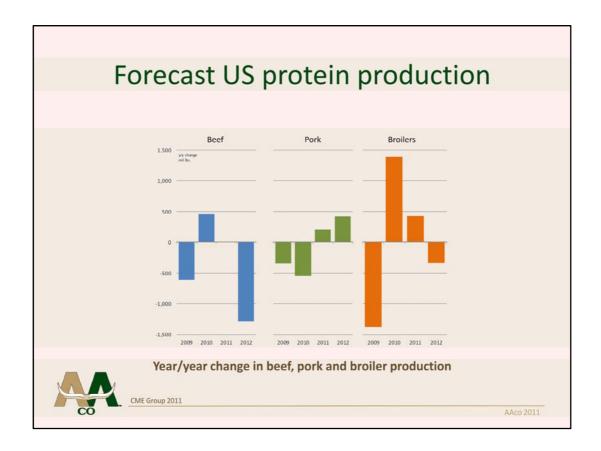
Longer term, this rate is unsustainable, and they will have to import – supporting prices. US herd is at its lowest level for 60 years. Contraction forecasted to continue until 2013.

**Argentinean** cattle numbers won't return to pre-liquidation levels for at least 10 years (Argentinean Catholic University).

- The Argentinean cattle herd fell by 10 million head between 2007 and 2011
- Negative government policies focused on increasing low-priced beef supplies to the domestic market
- Severe drought in 2009
- Relatively small player in the global trade, as beef supplies remain very low.

#### **Breeding rates**

Argentina: 50% in the more marginal northern region, and 69% in the highly productive central 'pampa' region – historically the most important cattle production area in Argentina. Expected to continue to be a supplier of young cattle to the central 'pampean' zone.



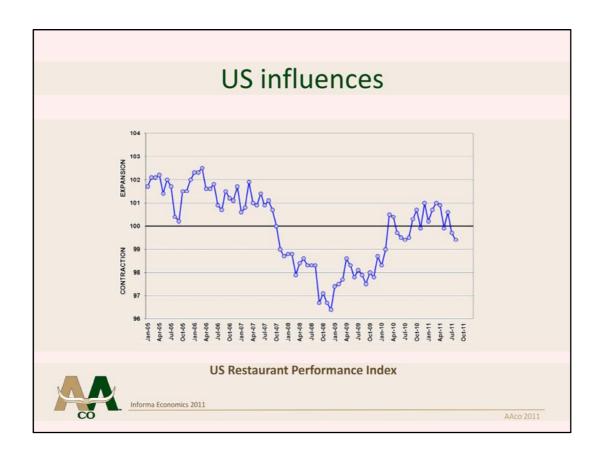
The latest USDA WASDE report includes some major revisions to forecasts for US beef, pork, and poultry supplies in 2012.

USDA currently expects a major reduction in beef and broiler supplies for 2012 and slight increase in pork output.

The current forecast for total US beef production for 2012 is 25.135 billion pounds. This is 1.285 billion pounds or 4.9% lower than 2011.

The forecast for US broiler production in 2012 is 36.604 million pounds, 0.9% lower than in 2011.

The projection for US pork supplies in 2012 is 23.074 billion pounds, 110 million pounds higher than the September forecast.

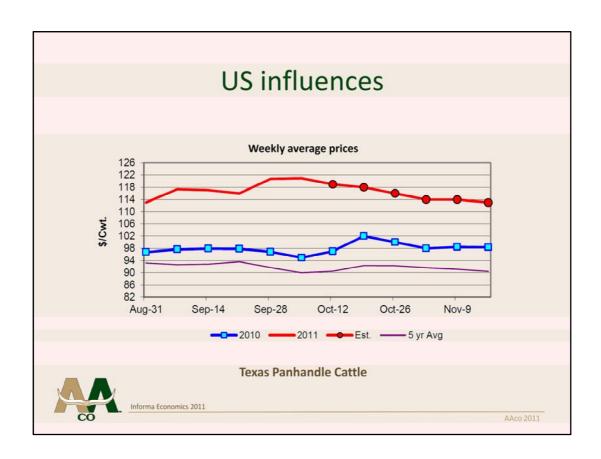


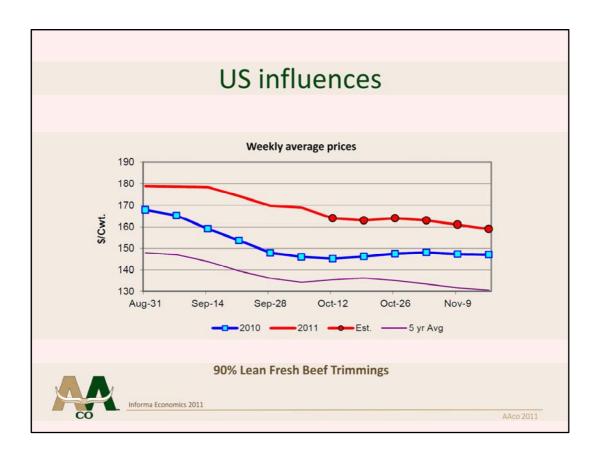
#### **US** influences

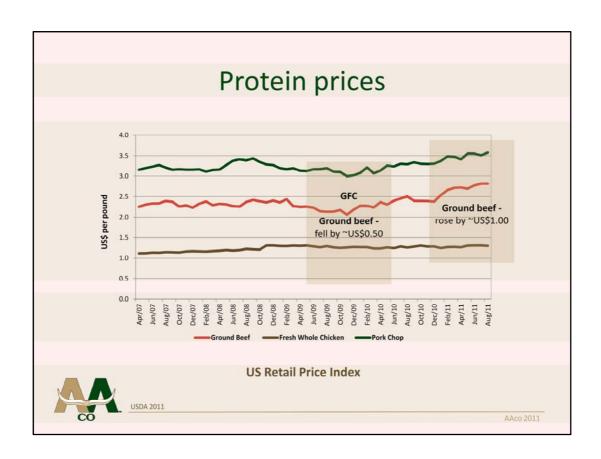
This index tracks the health of, and outlook for, the U.S. restaurant industry and is an indicator of overall consumer confidence.

Importantly, the industry's 2011 performance is a substantial improvement over 2008-2009.

This positive trend was recently burdened with the debt ceiling crisis and the downgrade in the nation's credit rating.

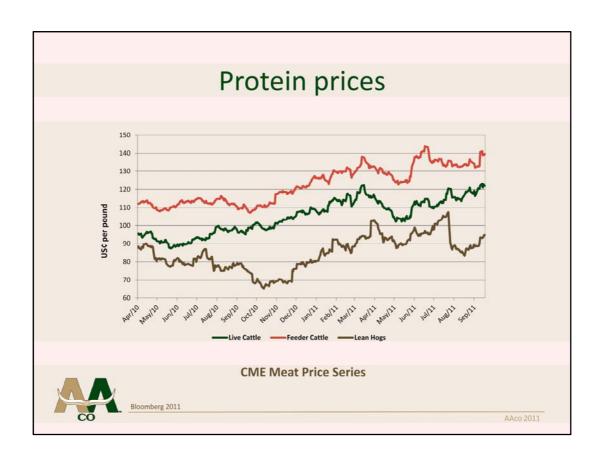


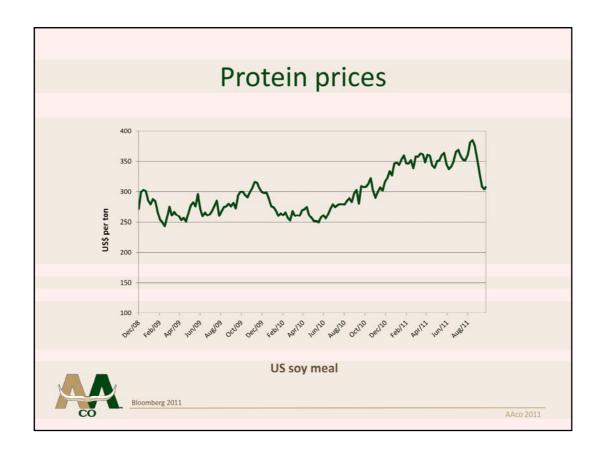




#### **US Retail Price Index**

Beef price fell by less than US\$0.50/lb during the GFC and has since risen by approximately US\$1.00, twice the increase in pork prices.



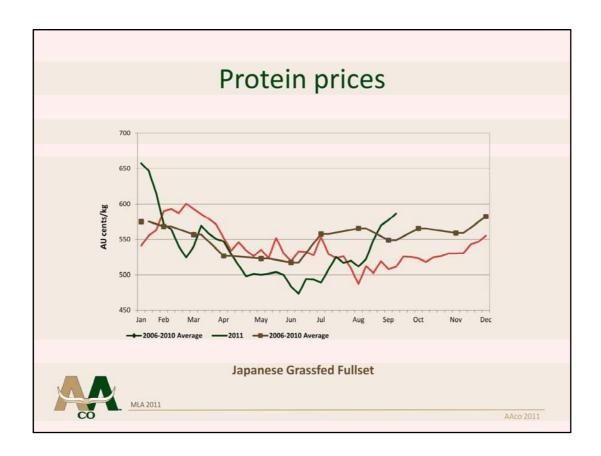


#### **US soy meal**

Soy meal experienced a significant price fall following a revised USDA crop forecast this week.

Price movement against the fundamentals of tightness of supply versus global demand, particularly for protein.

Revised USDA forecasts regarding reduced harvest should see a price uptick.

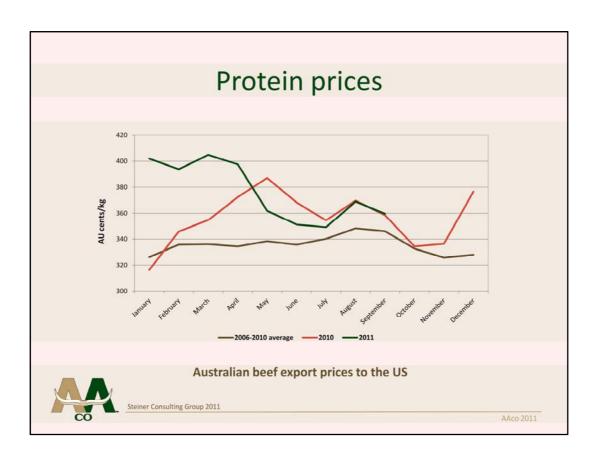


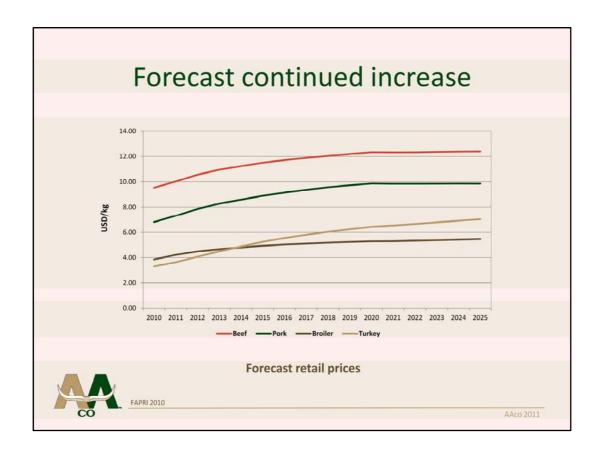
#### **Japanese Grassfed Fullset**

Japan is AAco's largest and most important beef export market.

Prices dipped as a result of the impacts of the Fukushima earthquake.

Positive price trend following radiation found in Japanese domestic meat supply and concerns radiation leaks from the Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear power plant may spread further.

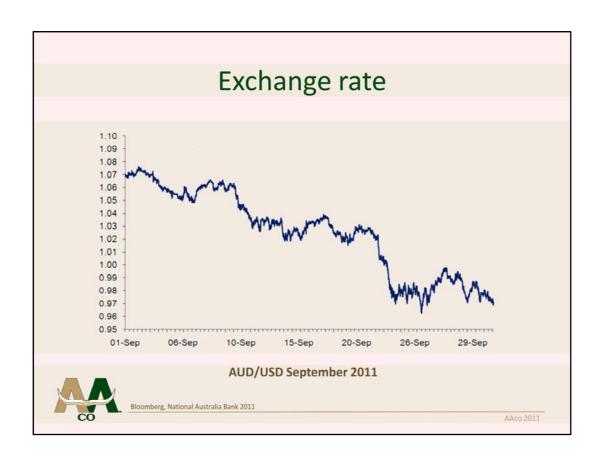


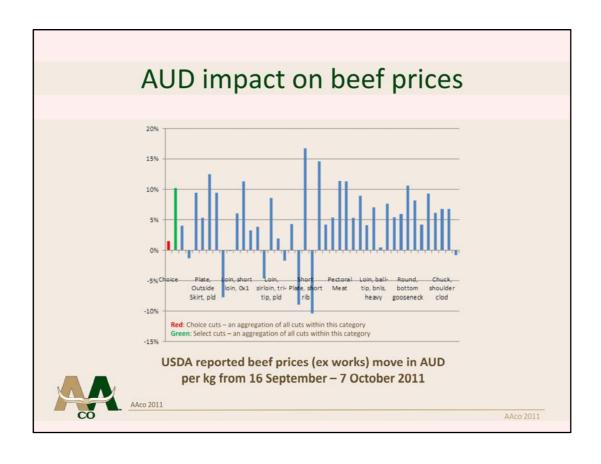


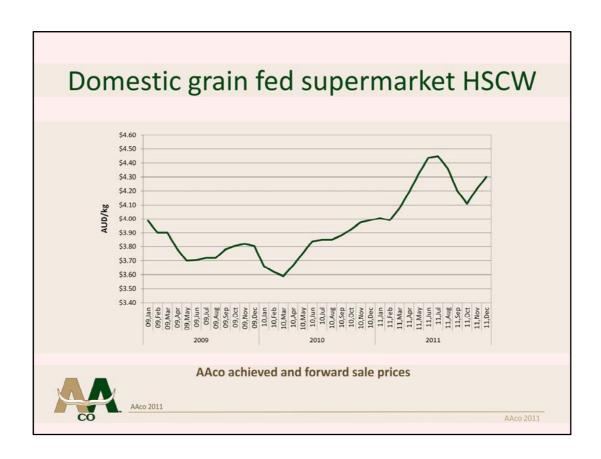
High demand for biodiesel and ethanol is forecast to hold many crops at historically high price levels, affecting livestock feed costs.

Increased appeal of beef: decline in relative cost of production of beef protein (compared to chicken and pork).

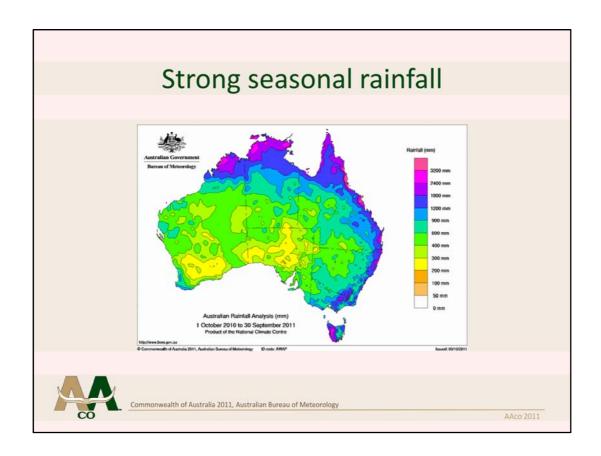
Continued strength in global meat prices, particularly beef, is projected over the next half decade.



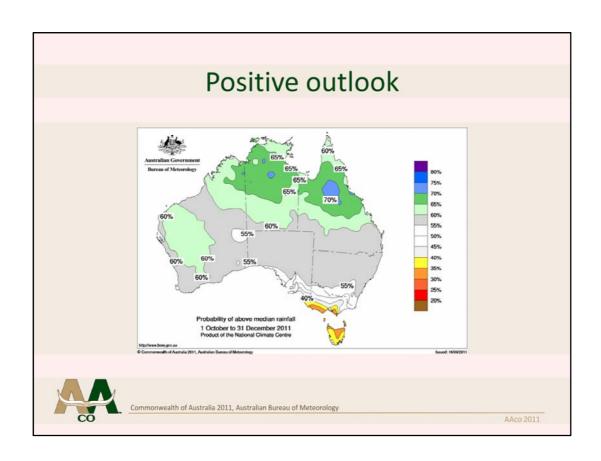


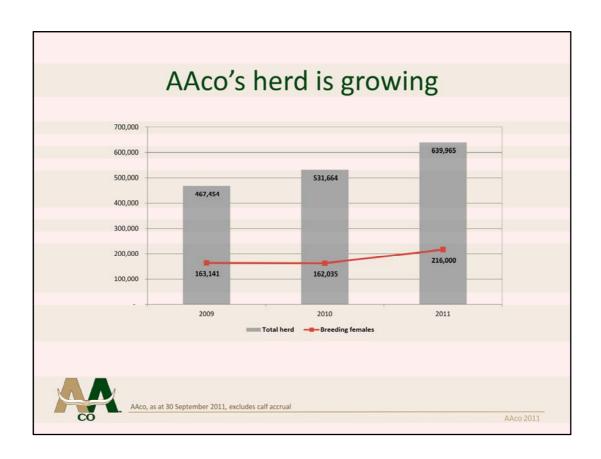


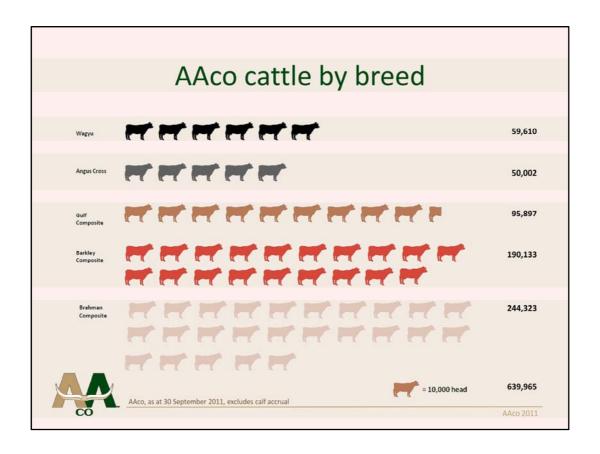


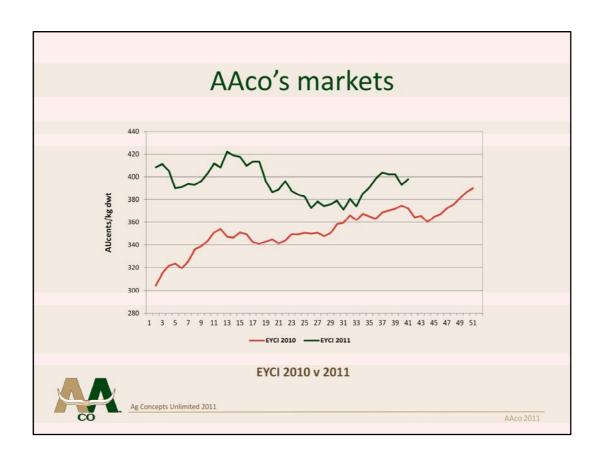


Season is our key driver, without rain and grass AACo stops.







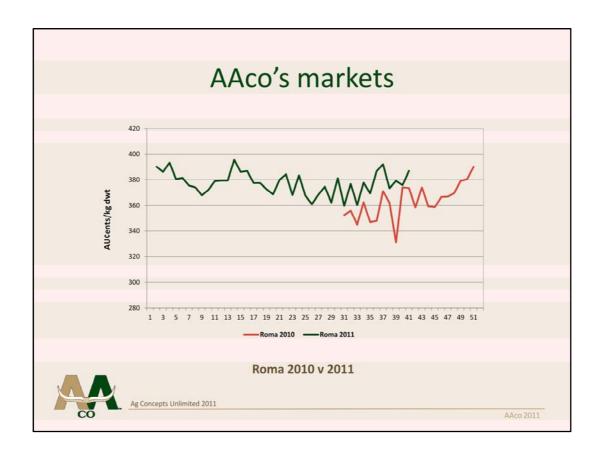


#### **EYCI**

The Eastern Young Cattle Indicator (EYCI) is the general benchmark of Australian cattle prices.

The EYCI includes vealer and yearling heifers and steers, grade score C2 or C3, 200kg+ liveweight from saleyards in NSW, QLD and VIC. The results are expressed in cents per kilogram carcase (dressed) weight (c/kg cwt).

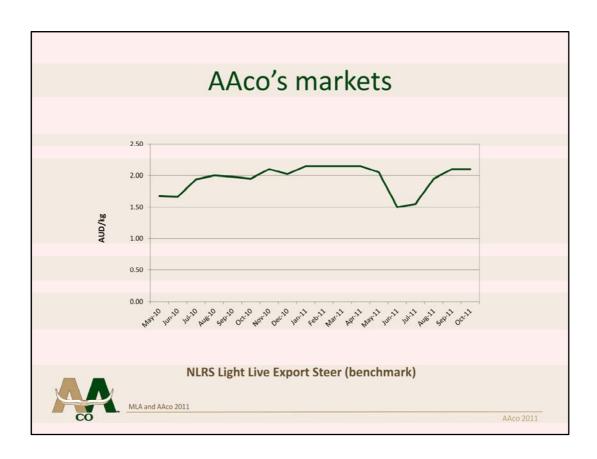
This slide indicates improvement in prices 2011, when compared to 2010, and the anticipated increasing prices through to the end of the calendar year.

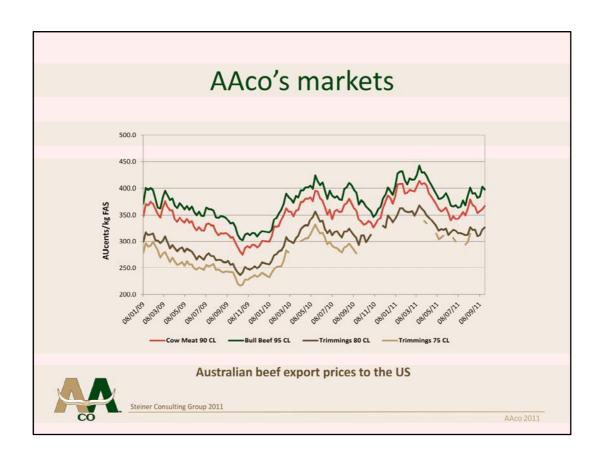


#### Roma

Roma Saleyards are Australia's largest cattle selling centre.

This slide again shows improvement in prices compared to 2010, and the last three months of the year should see a further increase in prices.





### Indonesian live trade





- AAco's compliant supply chain secured
- Investment in:
  - New yards and abattoirs
  - Stun technology
  - Audit and Welfare Officers
- Strong, committed progress from both Australian and Indonesian governments and industry



AAco 2011

### Northern Territory abattoir



The abattoir will be situated at 360 Stuart Highway, Livingstone Valley, about 50km south of Darwin.

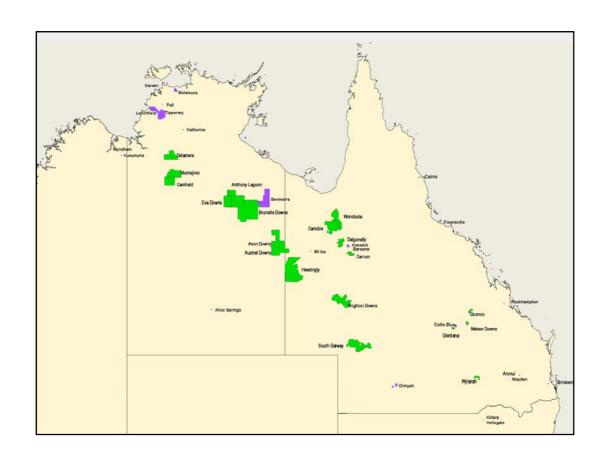
- Development application lodged September 30 2011
- Exhibition stage
  - Underway from 7 October –
     4 November 2011
  - Includes community consultation period
- MeatEng appointed as process engineer and design firm



AAco 2011

For further information: http://www.aacont.com.au





# Summary

On track to deliver forecast CY2011 EBITDA \$50-\$60M

- AAco harnessing global conditions
  - AAco herd growing in contrast to global decline
  - Global demand for protein driving pricing increases
  - Live export situation secured
- AAco well positioned
  - Herd growth strong with ideal seasonal conditions
  - Well executed strategic initiatives are realising benefits
  - Stable to slightly ascending land values.

### Disclaimer

While every care has been taken in the preparation of this presentation, Australian Agricultural Company Limited ("AAco") and each of their respective related bodies corporate and associated entities and each of their respective officers, employees, associates, agents, independent contractors and advisers, do not make any representation, guarantee or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness, currency or reliability (including as to auditing or independent verification) of any information contained in this presentation and do not accept, to the maximum extent permitted by law:

- (a) any responsibility arising in any way for any errors in or omissions from any information or for any lack of accuracy, completeness, currency or reliability of any such information made available;
- (b) any responsibility to provide any other information or notification of matters arising or coming to their notice which may affect any information provided;
- (c) any liability for any loss or damage (whether under statute, in contract or tort for negligence or otherwise) suffered or incurred by any person as a result of or in connection with a person or persons using, disclosing, acting on or placing reliance on any information contained in this presentation, whether the loss or damage arises in connection with any negligence, default or lack of care or from any misrepresentation or any other cause.

No representation, guarantee or warranty is given as to the accuracy, completeness, likelihood of achievement or reasonableness of any forecasts, projections or forward-looking statements contained in this presentation.

You acknowledge and agree that you will rely only on your own independent assessment of any information, statements or representations contained in this presentation and such reliance will be entirely at your own risk.



AAco 201