

SUBMISSION I PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION - FROM PERFECT PIGS

JOINT VENTURE
BOX 169 ORROROO
S.A. 5431

PERFECT PIGS IS A 200 SOW MULTI-SITE PORK PRODUCING OPERATION IN THE UPPER NORTH OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

THE OPERATION CONSISTS OF THREE UNITS;
BREEDER/GESTATION UNIT
WEANER UNIT
FINISHER UNIT

PERFECT PIGS HAS TAKEN ON WHAT IS WIDELY CONSIDERED AS WORLDS BEST PRACTICE ON THIS 200 SOW UNIT

THESE PRACTICES ARE AS FOLLOWS;

- (1) USING MINIMUM DISEASE GENOTYPE A, FI GILTS TO ESTABLISH HERD
- (2) ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION SO WE CAN ACCESS HIGHEST QUALITY GENETIC~ FOR BREEDING AND MEATLINE PIGS AND CONSISTENCE OF QUALITY.
- (3) BATCH FARROWING; 30/32 SOWS FARROWING OVER ONE WEEK PERIOD SO WE HAVE A GROUP OF 270-300 PIGS TO MOVE INTO UNITS
- (4) SEGREGATED EARLY WEANING ;WEANING THE BATCH OF PIGS BETWEEN 12&18 DAYS OF AGE OFF SUE INTO AN EMPTY CLEAN ROOM.
- (5)PHASE FEEDING;FEEDING SPECIFIC DIETS TO THE PIGS ACCORDING TO THE SEX AND WEIGHT OF THE PIGS.
- (6)ALL IN ALL OUT; WHERE THE BATCHES OF PIGS ARE MOVED IN GROUPS ACCORDING TO AGE INTO EMPTY CLEANED ROOMS AND ALL SOLD IN GROUPS AS WELL.

PERFECT PIGS STARTED OPERATION IN APRIL 1996 WITH THE FIRST INTRODUCTION OF UNMATED FI GILTS FROM HYFARM IN QUEENSLAND AND A HYFARM MULTIPLIER UNIT IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

IT HAS TAKEN ALONG TIME TO GET OUR OPERATION UP AND RUNNING AT FULL PRODUCTION BE WE BELIEVE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS WE HAVE BEEN GETTING CLOSE TO OUR TARGETS WE ORIGINALLY SET OUT FOR.

ENCLOSED IS THE 96/97 TAX RETURN WHICH WE HAVE FORWARDED TO OUR ACCOUNTANT PLUS INFORMATION AND FACTS ON OUR OPERATION. WE HAVE BEEN SEVERELY AFFECTED BY THE RECENT DOWNTURN IN PIG PRICES. BECAUSE OF THE EFFECENCIES IN OUR OPERATION WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PAY OUR FEED ,VETENARY ACCOUNTS ACCOUNTS RELATING TO OUR A. I. PROGRAM AND OTHER CONSUMABLES BUT HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO PAY THE CONTRACT RATES TO THE UNITS FOR THE RARING OF OUR PIGS.

THESE CONTRACT RATES ARE BASED ON LABOUR INPUT, POWER, WATER ,REPAIRS,DEPRECIATION AND REPAYMENTS ON CAPITOL OUTLAYED TO BUILD UNITS.

THIS HAS LEFT US IN SEVERE FIANCIAL DIFFICULTY AND AN EXTREME AMOUNT OF UNCERTAINTY AS OUR PRODUCTION FIGURES WE BELEVE ACCORDING TO PIGSTATS ARE IN THE TOP TEN PERCENT OR HIGHER IN THE COUNTRY.

BECAUSE OF OUR LOCATION IN S.A. WE HAVE EXTRA FRIEGHT COSTS ON FEED AND FREIGHTING PIGS TO SLAUGHTER OF APPROXIMATELY 25 CENTS A KILO WHICH AT FARM GATE MAKES OUR COST OF PRODUCTION IN THE TOP 5% IN THE COUNTRY.

I TRUST THE INFORMATION WE HAVE SENT YOU WILL GIVE YOU SOME IDEA OF HOW DEVASTATING THIS RECENT DOWNTURN HAS BEEN TO OUR PORK PRODUCING BUSSINESS WHEN WE HAVE TAKEN ON BEST PRACTICE TECHNOLOGY TO BE WORLD COMPETITIVE IN THE FUTURE .

YOURS FAITHFULLY

JOHN O'DEA JOINT VENTURE PARTNER PORFECT PIGS