

# AUSTRALIAN PIG BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

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**FAX TO:** BRUCE GOODAY  
**PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION**  
**SAFEGUARD ACTION AGAINST IMPORTS**  
**SUBJECT:** APBA SUBMISSION RECORDED AS No. 38  
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In an attempt to further qualify questions raised by you, the meeting agreed to the following points:

1) Relationships as to the number of sows to the number of breeders

In 1988, 292 breeders registered 2993 pigs – average 14.8

In 1997, 91 breeders registered 1128 pigs – average 12.4.

The above figures relate only to the number of pigs fully registered for those years. Some 400 plus of pigs registered in 1997 included late (prior generation) registrations to ensure full pedigrees to satisfy contracts for Korean exports.

It was agreed that fewer breeders having more registered stock would not increase the genetic lines available due to the management difficulties that this would incur.

2) Access to genetic material from overseas

NIL

Due to current quarantine restrictions there is no access to genetic material from overseas.

3) Productivity gain from imported animals

We believe that the standard of the Australian pure bred pig herd is second to none in the areas of growth rate and carcass quality. However, we believe there may be productivity gains to be made in such areas as pigs reared per sow per year.

We accept that the introduction of the correct overseas genetic material would by heterosis show some improvement in certain traits.

Our pure bred pigs continually prove their value to the industry, being consistently awarded high points in nationwide carcass competitions. The top four placing's in the

1997 Australian Supreme Carcass Competition were awarded to pure bred pigs entered by registered breeders.

Hoping that these points help answer your questions.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Saines  
Australian Pig Breeders Association