



# Confinement Feeding Field Walk March 14, 2023

What an incredible turn out at our second Confinement Feeding Field Walk! We had over 25 farmers and a great representation from local industry coming to learn about the previous year's findings and have a look at John Howard's set up.

On March 14, the MLA funded Confinement Feeding project held a field walk at John Howard's in South Stirlings. The day included presentations from Bridie Luers (Nutrien), Andrew Longbotton (DPIRD), project lead Sheridan Kowald and was filled with great conversation!

The key takeaways from the project so far were presented with a focus on the labour efficiency gains, with some producers saving over 24 hours a week. Sheridan also presented on the reduction of supplement wastage and increases in energy efficiency, with all farmers in the trial so far having significant financial savings.

Bridie presented on the importance of appropriately managing feed quality within a confinement feeding setting and also discussed the need for understanding the cost of feed on an

energy basis. Andrew then presented on eID's and their place within confinement & traditional style grazing, and additional information regarding the upcoming requirement changes for sheep eID's.

We also had a presentation from our own Philip Honey, who went through the NLP Optimising Pastures project and talked us through the digital tools available for landholders to better manage their pasture (level) variability.

The day finished with a viewing of the Howard's confinement feeding set up with 5 pens with water troughs at the top of the paddocks and half cut corrugated pipe along the bottom of all paddocks to make for easy filling.

With the final group of farmer's setups in the 2023 trial to be discussed, there are several more field walks coming in the year, so be sure to keep an eye on this project! To find out more head to: [scfarmers.org.au/confinement-feeding](http://scfarmers.org.au/confinement-feeding)

