



NUFFIELD
AUSTRALIA
FARMING SCHOLARS



OLDEST LIVING CULTURE ON EARTH



- Aboriginal people have inhabited Australia for >50,000 years
- Diversity of language and social and cultural organisation across groups
- Land is intrinsic to identity, language, law, relationships and mythology
- Some groups maintain unfragmented cultural traditions - own language is first
- Traditionally hunter gatherer societies with extensive trade networks
- Evidence of early agriculture, including grain harvesting and storage. eg *Panicum decompositum* – Native Millet
- Impacts of colonisation still – wealth and health deprivations
- Modern aboriginal-run agricultural enterprises & business relationships
- Surviving and here to stay – population growing (3.3% nationally, 30% NT, 5% Qld.)

TRUE OR FALSE ?



- One of the most diverse populations in the world – 45% have one parent born overseas
- Australian Alps get more snow than the Swiss Alps
- Australia has a larger population of camels than Egypt
- Australia is home of the only species of penguins that can fly
- The wine cask was an Australian invention
- The origins of our accent
- Tasmania has the cleanest air in the world / massive per capita polluters
- Wombat poo is shaped like a triangle
- Home to 20% of the world's poker machines, but have 0.33% of the world populations
- Australia is home to an active volcano that is predicted to erupt by 2024

HISTORY



Livestock diversity includes a pool of **38** species of domesticated birds and mammals with more than **8800** breeds currently used for food and agriculture

AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURE



- 70% of agricultural production exported, with a value of nearly \$60bn
- Exports: Cattle \$9.48 bn, Wool \$4.16 bn and wheat \$3.76 bn
- National beef cattle herd, 24 million head, national sheep flock 67.7 million head
- 1.2 million tonnes of chicken meat annual production
- Approximately 18 million hectares cropped
- Winter crop receipts in major bulk handling sites ~16.85 million tonnes
- Australian Ag reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 63% between 1996 – 2013
- 2/3 of Australian farmers are male with an average age of 57

OUTLOOK



STRENGTHS

Diverse

Clean green image

Geographic Isolation - biosecurity

Proximity to growing population and increasing demand from SE Asia

Limited Regulation - freedom to operate and innovate

CHALLENGES

Changing climate - greater extremes

Social license - consumer sentiment/education

Cost of production can be higher relative to competitors

Limited domestic market

FUTURE

Increased regulation

Adaptation to climate change

Technology fueling efficiency and productivity gains and improved cost control

