

Title: Urban Fringe Land Use Conflict: Two Poultry Case Studies

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Summary

Due to the changing nature of industry standards and a number of factors impacting Australia's domestic agricultural markets and landscapes, Australian producers need to respond accordingly. This often involves continually improving procedures and capitalising on mechanisation opportunities and benefits from locational advantages such as land use.

In several areas of Australia, land use conflict is becoming an increasing issue for agricultural groups particularly those on the urban fringe or in areas where there is significantly rural residential development.

For the Australian poultry industry, issues of land use include land degradation, community resistance to the intensification of agricultural enterprises and the implementation on farm management practices.

To determine effective solutions to this issue, this study has investigated two case study areas – the south east corridor of Perth and the south west corridor of Sydney - and conducted extensive interviews with egg and broiler producers, industry association members and local and state government representatives.

The study revealed that there is substantial scope for improving the land use conflicts in some, but not all areas. This is due to the fact that in some cases only the relocation of farms is likely to allow the producer to remain competitive and to eliminate complaints from neighbours.

Complexities involved in land use conflict were identified and addressed in order to allow for more informed policy-making by the government and the poultry industry throughout Australia. These include recommendations for farmers applying new sheds, resolving environmental issues or implementing new procedures, conflict management and consultation with local and state governments.

The report includes a comprehensive review of the poultry industry, the planning context, the results of the interviews, a discussion of the results and an extensive list of recommendations. In addition, several avenues for continued and new research are emphasised.