

PAUL QUINLAN SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION AWARD 2025



The National Herd Improvement Association of Australia (NHIA) is proud to announce that Paul Quinlan has been awarded the Significant Contribution Award, recognising his outstanding and transformative contributions to the herd improvement industry.

Paul's dedication to advancing the Australian dairy sector spans decades and encompasses a broad range of achievements that have shaped the industry. From pioneering innovations to mentoring the next generation of leaders, his impact is both wide-ranging and profound.

→ Transforming the Industry Through Innovation

Paul's career has been defined by a commitment to offering dairy farmers access to the best tools and knowledge available, ensuring a dairy farmer's life is easier and more profitable.

He has championed the integration of advanced herd recording, milk testing, artificial breeding services, and genetic advice, ensuring farmers in Western Victoria, Gippsland, and Tasmania have access to cutting-edge solutions.

His leadership was instrumental in the establishment of Tasherd, a pivotal move following the deregulation of the Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority. Tasherd became a cornerstone of genetic improvement services in the region, providing vital resources to farmers. Paul also played a key role in introducing genomic testing for international sires in Australia, revolutionising genetic selection to meet local needs.

→ Building Teams and Mentoring Leaders

Paul's success is rooted in his ability to build passionate, knowledgeable teams. By fostering collaboration and mentorship, he has empowered colleagues to thrive, with many of his team members becoming leaders in their own right.

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"Having a great team of people around you always meant you could provide customers the best service and options," Paul said. "You can never lose knowledge—only gain it—and it's crucial to share that with others."

→ A Legacy of Excellence and Impact

Paul's work has driven significant advancements in genetic management and herd improvement. He has consistently led the way in offering innovative solutions, which will continue in his work. His efforts have improved the productivity and profitability of countless farming operations across the country.

"Receiving this award is a tremendous honour," Paul remarked. "To be recognised by peers in an industry you love is truly rewarding. It's a moment where you feel your contributions have genuinely made a difference."

→ Looking Ahead

Paul remains passionate about exploring new frontiers in herd improvement, including calf health monitoring and extending dairy advancements to beef herds. He is excited to introduce emerging technologies and review strategies to eliminate bobby calves through better genetic selections and sexed semen.

His forward-thinking approach continues to inspire innovation, ensuring the Australian herd improvement industry remains at the global forefront.



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→ Paul's Reflections on Success

Paul credits his success to finding great mentors, including his father, Bill, and stepping outside his comfort zone to learn from diverse experiences, both domestically and internationally. He emphasises the importance of continuous learning, asking questions, and striving for excellence. Paul highlights the value of embracing change, listening to others, and taking on meaningful challenges that benefit colleagues, customers, and the industry.

NHIA congratulates Paul Quinlan on this well-deserved recognition. His dedication, innovation, and mentorship have not only advanced the industry but also set a standard of excellence for future generations.