## Cairns Post

SE News Rinehart raises her stakes in beef HD 179 words WC PD 20 December 2014 Cairns Post SN **CAIRPO** SC Cairns ED 68 PG ΙΔ **English** CY © 2014 News Limited. All rights reserved.

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Mining magnate Gina Rinehart's foray into the beef industry has expanded, with the purchase of a major waqyu herd in western NSW.

A **company** associated with Ms Rinehart's Hancock Prospecting has struck an agreement to **buy** two grazing properties near Dubbo and about 3000 head of cattle, including 1600 full-blood wagyu females.

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"This is part of Gina Rinehart's commitment to invest in Australian agriculture and ensure the country is positioned to meet the demands of our northern neighbours," a spokesman for Hancock Prospecting said.

The deal would likely make Ms Rinehart the second- largest wagyu producer in the country, behind Australian Agricultural **Company**, which exports the majority of its high-quality beef to northern and South East Asia.

Ms Rinehart is also understood to be close to finalising the acquisition of four more beef cattle stations in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. Australia's richest person also recently reached agreement with the Queensland Government over a \$500 million dairy export deal into the Chinese infant formula market.

**CO** austag : Australian Agricultural Co Ltd | hkpros : Hancock Prospecting Pty. Ltd.

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