

SE WestReg
HD **Chinese** investors inspect Moora land for feedlot

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Chinese investors are circling prime farmland near Moora which carries environmental approval to develop one of the State's biggest cattle feedlots.

A delegation from Shanghai inspected the 1400ha **property** at the weekend as the State Government tries to attract investment to boost cattle production.

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The **property**, known as Killarney, was given a green light for the staged development of a 14,900-head feedlot in 2005.

It has the potential to reach 20,000 head based on the available land and licences to tap into groundwater reserves.

Plans for the **site**, about 7km east of Moora, include an abattoir.

It is close to Brand Highway and positioned to supply live cattle or boxed beef for export from Fremantle and Geraldton.

The Shire of Moora hosted a civic reception for the **Chinese** delegation on Sunday after the Department of State Development and the Department of Regional Development helped organise the WA visit.

The DRD believes there are multiple sites with feedlot potential in the region, but no others with detailed development plans, environmental pre-approval and water licences. Shanghai CRED Real **Estate** president Guojie Gui, whose **company**'s recent **purchases** include a golf resort and vineyard in New Zealand, led the **Chinese** delegation.

Killarney is owned by Jetway Holdings, a **company** controlled by Perth lawyer Tony McCarthy.

Under the original plans, Harvey Beef was set to operate the feedlot to prepare cattle from WA's north for processing at its abattoir in the South West.

The **Chinese** interest comes as new Harvey Beef owner Andrew Forrest grapples with ways to satisfy growing demand in Asia. The WA billionaire wrote to producers this month and asked them to email him with their suggestions.

"Increasing the number and weight of head produced within agreed specifications is the key that we believe will unlock increased profitability for all industry participants," he said.

"We know there are challenges, so please share those with us along with your ideas to overcome them."

Mr Forrest said he and wife Nicola saw a "once-in-a-generation opportunity that can be claimed for WA by coming up with some new solutions".

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