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  - Latest Ag & Rural
  - Photos & Videos
  - Agribusiness
  - <u>Cattle</u>
  - o Sheep
  - Livestock & Sales
  - o Cropping
  - Horticulture
  - o Machinery
  - Property
  - o Rural Lifestyle
  - o Metro News
  - World News
  - Metro Lifestyle
  - E-Newsletter
  - Print subscriptions
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  - o Site Archive
  - o RSS
- CATTLE
  - o Beef
  - o Dairy
  - General
  - Livestock Sales
  - Livestock General
- SHEEP
- GRAIN
- OPINION
  - o <u>Blogs</u>
  - o Polls
  - Readers' Comments
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# \$100m Moxey dairy deal finalised

ANDREW MARSHALL 03 Aug, 2015 09:15 AM

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We look forward to building a strong and successful relationship with Moxey Farms

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THE Sino-Australian milk processing and farming consortium comprising Leppington Pastoral Company, New Hope Dairy Holdings and Freedom Foods Group has completed its acquisition of the \$100m Moxey Farms business in Central West NSW.

Moxey Farms, one of Australia's largest single-site dairy operations, runs a 3700-cow farming operation in the Lachlan Valley near Gooloogong, 340 kilometres west of Sydney.

Moxey Farms' portfolio on 2700 hectares produces about 50 million litres of milk annually.

The Moxey family will continue to operate the farming business based at "The Angle" dairy in a joint venture with the Perich family which also owns a similar large-scale farming enterprise at Leppington Pastoral's Bringelly base, south west of Sydney.

The Moxey-Perich joint venture, flagged in May, is now officially part of a farm management agreement with the newly formed consortium Australian Fresh Milk Holdings (AFMH).

The Moxey family, including principal Janet Moxey and her children Quentin, Jill and Rose and their spouses, has also picked up a strategic stake in AFMH as part of the deal.

The completion of the acquisition confirms AFMH's strategic operations across every aspect of the dairy value chain including processing activities in Australia and China and distribution networks in China.

AFMH is expected to further invest in additional greenfield dairy production sites as part of its plan to become a significant player in the Australian dairy industry.

AFMH director and dairy manager at Leppington, Michael Perich, described the Moxey Farms acquisition as an "exciting step forward" for Australian Fresh Milk Holdings which provided the new export dairy player

with a great opportunity to enhance its expertise in high performance dairy farming.

"We look forward to building a strong and successful relationship with Moxey Farms," he said.

Mr Moxey, the general manager of his family's business said the company's objective since establishing two generations ago (in the Hawkesbury Valley west of Sydney) had always been to build a world-class milk production platform.

Early last year the Moxeys began reviewing their operations with the aim of finding a strategic partner to assist with a new growth stage, which includes establishing other farms similar to "The Angle" elsewhere in eastern Australia.

The review included considering taking on equity partners from overseas to help fund the family company's expansion plans.

"We are pleased to partner with AFMH on the development of Moxey Farms and the establishment of additional world class greenfield dairy farming operations in Australia," Mr Moxey said.

The consortium agreement allows AFMH to leverage Sydney-based Freedom Foods' processing capabilities and New Hope Dairy's Asian footprint to readily access export markets in China and South East Asia.

Freedom currently produces a range of long-life carton beverage products, breakfast cereals and snack bars and has an ultra-high temperature (UHT) treated export milk operation at its Pactum Dairy site at Shepparton, Victoria a joint venture with nearby family farming business Australian Consolidated Milk.

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1 2 single page farmonline



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Email: andrew.marshall@fairfaxmedia.com.au

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#### READER COMMENTS

#### **Jock Munro**

3/08/2015 11:52:26 AM

More of Australia to the Chinese! China has enough cash to buy us out completely.

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Mike Logan

3/08/2015 2:53:47 PM

This is the A team of dairy. Moxey, Perich and New Hope is a pretty impressive line up. A good model of co-investment with an international consumer and Aussie management expertise. It shows good support for the value & direction of NSW dairy.

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#### **Jock Munro**

3/08/2015 5:24:43 PM

Mike, So if it is the A team of dairy why does it need a Chinese interest!

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#### **Bob**

4/08/2015 11:43:32 AM

Capital?

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#### Alan

4/08/2015 1:12:49 PM

I wonder how much milk from this dairy will now be on the Australian market, or will it all get shipped straight to China for their own use ....

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### Mike Logan

4/08/2015 4:40:24 PM

Hi Jock. I think it benefits from a Chinese interest by being able to access that export market. The only way past the Colesworths dilemna for the NSW dairy industry is to develop new export markets. We have nowhere to sell new production from growth without export. By having a co-investment they get access to the export market and maximise the value of their management expertise.

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Dairy Innovation Day, Busselton, May 4

## **BLOGS**



The cattle industry would not exist but for foreign investment.

David Levonhielm



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## **COMMENTS**

For a Real CVT, go to "Power Transmission Engineering April 2013" and click on the first two <a href="Steiger gets CVT">Steiger gets CVT</a>

Artfully played by Curtin. Run the campus down over a decade, walk away saying it costs too Curtin University to offer Agribusiness degree at Muresk

To 'replace' a relevant, top-quality, recognised tertiary qualification in agriculture in a Curtin University to offer Agribusiness degree at Muresk

## Latest

Profit down, but rebounding Nufarm is seeking acquisitions
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Agrium merger makes super-sized fertiliser parent for Landmark
China's Rifa pays \$55m to beef up its NSW estate
GrainCorp syndicate withdraws from CBH bid
Chinese buy into live shipper Wellard
NZ crop tech firm eyes ASX listing

## What our team's tweeting

China's ag investment rush leaves us for Brazil

A Twitter list by @FarmOnline



@jessie\_davies @canberratimes It's so weird how you would think I'm mad about this. Isn't it

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## **Beef**

China has followed through with flagged plans to resume importing United States beef, lifting a ban that has existed since mad cow disease was found in the States in 2003.

Indonesia has relaxed its trade restrictions on secondary beef cuts, re-opening a market that was worth \$42 million to Australian exporters two years ago.

# **Sheep**

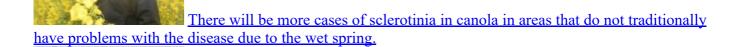


The recent rainfall will lead to a change in the micron profile of the Australian wool clip next spring, while boosting production volume and lamb marking rates.



While the favourable season is spurring lamb prices and providing more marketing options for producers, livestock agents are concerned rates are reaching unsustainable levels.

# **Cropping**



Chickpea prices have jumped \$30 to \$50 a tonne above global market values as farmers caught with soggy crops look for alternative grain supplies to fulfill their forward contract commitments.

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