

First leg of veterinarian tour revealing the latest trace minerals research for optimal dairy cattle performance concludes in Victoria

Stage one of Virbac Australia's multi-stop tour through Victoria and Tasmania has just wrapped up, and it's been heralded as a great success by attendees. Designed to explain the effects of trace minerals on dairy cattle health and performance, the roadshow is being headlined by international dairy veterinarian Dr Dan Tracy, along with a host of local industry experts. The first leg saw the team visit country Victoria locations in Warragul, Leongatha, Yarram, Tinamba and Sale between Tuesday 11 and Thursday 13 June. Producers had the chance to learn more about the latest research on trace mineral science and the impact of trace mineral injections on cow and calf immune systems, with insights on how and why trace mineral injections can improve fertility and productivity. As Dr Tracy explains, "we already know a fair bit about trace minerals as they relate to fertility – but the really interesting stuff is looking specifically at immunity and the potential for overall improvements to animal health. The US is leading the research in this area, and it really is showing us what's achievable, with some intriguing potential solutions to help boost the overall health of dairy cows and calves." Dairy producer Darryl Hammond from "Melaleuca Park", Buln Buln attended the Warragul event, and described the event as a great opportunity to see a lot of independent studies backing up Multimin claims. "Dr Tracy really gave us a sense of confidence with using Multimin in our dairy herd by showing us the independent data backing up what we have been seeing visually in our treated animals. I learnt a lot about how well Multimin compliments vaccines and drenches when used at the same time and I find it interesting to see the gradual improvements to growth and coat colour in our herd after treating with Multimin." Also in attendance was Virbac Australia's new Technical Services Manager for Nutrition, Dr Paula Gonzalez-Rivas, who promises to bring a wealth of experience in animal nutrition to the company in her new role. She spoke about the improvements of vaccine response when using Multimin in conjunction with 7 in 1, explaining that "nutrition – along with adequate health programs such as vaccination and drenching – is the foundation for good health. Multimin is increasingly proving its worth, not only as one of Virbac's best-known products for fertility, but also for immunity and overall cattle health and performance." Dr Tracy's presentation at the roadshow's Tinamba event was live-streamed on the Virbac Australia Primary Producer Facebook page, and is available to view here: [Part 1](#) [Part 2](#) Next up will be the second stage of Dr Tracy's visit, where the roadshow will tour Rochester, Numurkah, Cobram, Kirkstall, Simpson and Tyrendarra in Victoria between Monday 17 and Friday 21 June. Interested producers can contact their local Virbac Australia representative or local Virbac merchandise store for more information on how to attend these invitation-only events. For more information on Virbac Australia's injectable trace mineral Multimin, visit www.virbac.com.au/multimincattle Media Opportunity Virbac Australia welcomes the media to interview Dr Tracy during the second leg of his visit, as well as attend any of the local events. - Ends - Contact: Kate Munsie, C7EVEN Communications, 0421 935 843 Dr Dan Tracy: Dan Tracy DVM, MS received his DVM at Mississippi State University of Veterinary Medicine in 2001. In 2002 he received his MS degree in Dairy Production Medicine at Mississippi State. Upon completion of college, Dr Tracy worked as a large animal practitioner working with beef and dairy producers. His practice experience includes dairy and beef nutrition consultation, herd health and reproductive management. Virbac Australia: Virbac (Australia) Pty Ltd is a specialist animal health company, with its core business in sheep and cattle products, veterinary pharmaceuticals and vaccines, a wide range of petcare products for dogs and cats, plus a broad range of products for horses. Virbac Australia's 2015 sales turnover was more than A\$120 million. In Australia, Virbac employs around 260 personnel, all of whom are passionate about animal health. Virbac offers an injectable product called Multimin, designed to top-up important trace minerals (manganese, zinc, selenium and copper) in cattle. The focus of trace mineral supplementation has developed to beyond merely correcting deficiency symptoms. Strategic mineral supplementation is aimed at the optimisation of reproductive performance, immune function and growth, resulting in significant improvements in productivity and subsequently profitability. Photo captions: Heifers treated with Multimin on Darryl Hammonds farm Dr Matt Ball presenting during last week's roadshow Dr Paula Gonzalez, Dr Matt Ball, Matthew Grylls and Dr Dan Tracy

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