



## Nuffield Australia is open for 2022 scholarship applications and they're looking for a chicken grower

Nuffield Australia's Program Operations Manager Nicola Raymond has written to ACGC to advise that *"This year there is a scholarship specifically for a chicken meat producer, or person working directly in the chicken meat industry, so I would be very grateful if you could share this opportunity through your networks"*

**NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA** PREMIER SCHOLARSHIPS  
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- 14 week scholarship
- Applications open **24 May 2021**

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This is great news for people involved in meat chicken growing who are between 28 and 45 years of age, and are interested in how techniques and technologies in other countries could benefit Australian chicken growers.

Scholars are selected annually as people who are committed and passionate about farming or fishing, are at the leading edge of technology uptake and potential future leaders. Scholars continue to be involved with Nuffield after they complete their final reporting commitments and along with investors, make Nuffield one of the most influential agricultural networks in Australia.

To find out more about the scholarship including how to apply (before August 6<sup>th</sup>), see: [Home | Nuffield Australia](#)



## Growing Black Soldier Fly larvae in spent litter

These days spent chicken litter is a valuable commodity, destined for the production of compost, fertiliser or biogas, and Australian researchers are now looking at its potential to grow Black Soldier Fly larvae, which not only quickly convert animal manures to useful compost, but can be used as protein for aquaculture, animal feed, pet food and human nutrition. The Black Soldier Fly is already present in Australia and is not regarded as a pest or food safety threat to humans.

A team from the University of Western Australia has approached the Australian Chicken Meat Federation, asking for help to encourage chicken growers to complete a 20 minute survey as part of their *Socio-economic costs and benefits of insect farming and waste treatments* project. Survey respondents could win a \$100 voucher of their choice. If you're interested in helping with this project, visit this site: [Online Survey Software | Qualtrics Survey Solutions](#)

## Recent research of interest to growers

### Litter tilling review

This time last year Australian growers were asked to contribute to an AgriFutures litter survey, and some of the results from that survey are included in Mark Dunlop's and Claire-Marie Pepper's *Review of litter turning during a grow-out as a litter management practice to achieve dry and friable litter in poultry production*. See their paper [here](#).

### Effects of age on immune function in broiler chickens

This study suggest that the immune system and its function have not developed well in the broiler chickens at days 6 to 13 and that the immune system does not mature until d 30 to 34. The authors conclude that it is necessary to enhance the immune function of the broiler chickens through nutritional measures from d 1 to 30. Read the paper [here](#).

### Associating sounds with behaviour in poultry houses

This study has an initial look at how the frequency ranges of sounds including bird vocalisation, fans, feed systems, heaters, wing flapping and dustbathing may be associated with bird behaviour. See [here](#) for more.

### Sustainable Meat: Looking through the Eyes of Australian Consumers

An interesting look at how consumers interpret 'sustainability' and associate it with chicken price and accreditation labels. See [here](#) for more.