



Prior to NABRC being formed, the Central Coastal Graziers Association and The Cattlemen's Union (CU) held separate meetings during which research was discussed. Belmont Research Station, which at the time was run by CSIRO, had an advisory committee which gave advice to both CSIRO and to the Meat Research Corporation (MRC) who were the technical owners of Belmont on behalf of industry.

In the late '80s, early '90s industry, both UGA/CCGA and the CU considered that they were not being listened to by the MRC. CSIRO and DPI were also of the same view. This led to a meeting of interested parties at Yeppoon on 3-5 October 1991. Interested parties were the University of Queensland, James Cook University, QDPI, MRC, AMLC, DPIE/BRR, LMAQ, Department of Lands, RIRDC, LWRRDC, NT Department of Primary Industries, CSIRO, CU, NTCA and UGA – 38 people in all. The meeting which was jointly chaired by Graham Cavaye and John Vercoe had been called by the CU.

The meeting agreed that there needed to be a joint organisation established with producer and researcher membership to take forward the research needs of both groups to the MRC. A Working Party comprising Ray Byrnes, John Vercoe, Graham Cavaye and John Mactaggart was established at the 1991 meeting to progress formation of the North Australia Beef Research Council (NABRC) and Regional Beef Research Committees (RBRCs). Initially there were seven RBRCs - Central Queensland, North Queensland, South Queensland, South East Queensland, Katherine, Central Australia and the Kimberley.

By September 1992 they were ready to appoint a Chair of NABRC. Three people applied and John Stewart was successful. The first NABRC meeting was held in Townsville on 15 April 1993. All RBRCs, except the Kimberley had met before the meeting so the Chairs of these RBRCs attended this first NABRC meeting.

NABRC initially comprised a Chairman plus the seven RBRC Chairs, and a representative from the QDPI, CSIRO, UQ, LMAQ and MRC. RBRCs comprised a Chairman, 3 UGA members, 3 CU members plus QDPI or NT Department and WA Department of Agriculture, CSIRO, Universities and others as required.

## Chairs

- John Stewart was appointed as NABRC's Inaugural Chairman in 1992.
- Tom Stockwell commenced 1 April 1999
- John Cox commenced 7 April 2005
- Ralph Shannon commenced 7 August 2010
- Lee Fitzpatrick commenced October 2014
- John Taylor commenced October 2020

First NABRC meeting was held in Townsville on 15 April 1993 and was attended by:

<b>Members</b>	<b>Observers</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Stewart, Chairman</li> <li>• Bruce Chapman, Central Queensland BRC Chair</li> <li>• John Underwood, Katherine BRC Chair</li> <li>• Sam Bassett, South Queensland BRC Chair</li> <li>• Dr John Ternouth, University of Queensland</li> <li>• Ray Byrnes, Queensland Department of Primary Industries</li> <li>• Don Heatley, North Queensland BRC Chair</li> <li>• Sam Goldsworthy, Central Australia BRC Chair</li> <li>• Dr Phil Jennings, CSIRO</li> <li>• Howard Dengate, Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry &amp; Fisheries</li> <li>• Gavin Browne (for Dr Jennifer Wythes), Livestock &amp; Meat Authority of Qld.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Members of NQBRC:</b> Tom Mann, Richard Makim, Professor Phil Summers (also James Cook University), David Moore, Les Wickstead (QDPI), Roger Kaus (QDPI)</li> <li>• Ralph Shannon, Meat Research Corporation</li> <li>• Janine Palmer (now King), NABRC Secretariat (Livestock &amp; Meat Authority of Qld)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Apologies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shane Walsh, South East Queensland BRC Chair</li> <li>• Dr Bob Clements, CSIRO</li> <li>• Dr Jennifer Wythes, LMAQ</li> </ul>

## **Incorporation**

NABRC was incorporated in August 2018.