GRAZING INTELLIGENCE

PARTNERS

NSW GOVERNMENT Department of Primary Industries

Pasture.io

IN SHORT

This Food Agility CRC project has empowered sheep and beef producers to make proactive and confident grazing decisions through a commercially available agtech solution.

"This project has delivered unparalleled predictive accuracy that dynamically accounts for environmental variability, populating producers' devices with actionable insights."

Ollie Roberts, Pasture.io

THE CHALLENGE

Farmers generally make subjective decisions about grazing management and supplementary feeding requirements. There is a high degree of uncertainty about these decisions in extensive sheep and cattle systems, particularly as farmers are heading into dry conditions, as there are limited options to get real-time feedback on decisions. There is also a lot of complexity due to variation in landscapes and seasonal conditions.

OUR APPROACH

Data on pasture biomass and composition and liveweight change of animals was collected on four NSW DPI research stations at Orange, Cowra, Trangie and Glen Innes and on commercial farms. This data was aligned with other data sources, such as mob movements and weather, before machine learning methods were used to develop pasture predictions. Farmers using the Pasture.io software can now predict feed availability and estimate animal performance, leading to confident decisions regarding purchasing and de-stocking.

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