



Wellard

MEDIA RELEASE
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SUCCESSFUL START TO MEXICAN SERIES MORE HEIFERS REQUIRED

Australia's largest live cattle exporter has begun sourcing more export dairy heifers after the success of its first large Australian shipment to Mexico.

More than 9400 heifers were unloaded at the Mexican port of Manzanillo late last week, after a 15-day voyage aboard the world's newest livestock carrier, the MV Becrux. A success rate of 99.9 per cent was recorded for the voyage.

Wellard Rural Exports Managing Director Steve Meerwald said he believed the shipment was the largest ever consignment of dairy cattle exported from Australia, and more shipments would follow.

"This shipment marks the beginning of a regular Wellard shipping program to Mexico," he said.

Wellard Rural Exports North and Central America Manager Javier Mata said the cattle had travelled extremely well throughout the voyage, and the Mexican importers were impressed with the quality of stock they had received.

"The Australian farmers supplied a great consignment of heifers, and the heifers that walked off the vessel were even better than those that walked on," he said.

Wellard already has additional dairy shipments planned for December, January and March and it has just released new spot and forward pricing for suitable heifers to fill those export orders.

Wellard Rural Exports Victorian, NSW and SA Dairy Buyer David Lumsden said Wellard's recently developed forward contracts had been well received by dairy farmers for the most recent Mexican shipment, so he expected strong interest in the new pricing schedule.

"We believe our pricing and our ability to transport stock aboard the most modern livestock vessel fleet in the world should prove attractive to farmers with surplus, export quality heifers," he said.

For further information please contact:

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Background – Wellard Rural Exports

Wellard Rural Exports has supplied quality Australian dairy and beef cattle and sheep and goats to the world for more than 25 years. Based in Fremantle, the company's operations cover every aspect of the export chain, including feed and high fibre milling, road transport, feedlot facilities and modern shipping.

Wellard has priority access to the most modern fleet of livestock carriers on the ocean through its association with Siba Ships. The company's flagship carrier, the MV Becrux, is a purpose-built livestock carrier capable of carrying 75,000 sheep or 18,000 cattle from Australia to major markets around the globe. She was commissioned in 2002.

For more information visit: www.wellardgroup.com.au