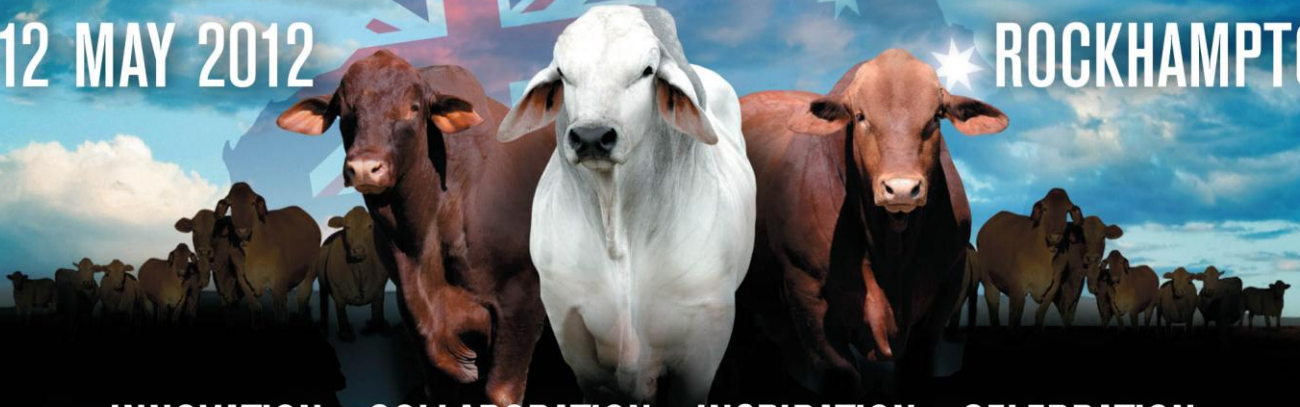


BEEF AUSTRALIA 2012

7-12 MAY 2012

ROCKHAMPTON



INNOVATION • COLLABORATION • INSPIRATION • CELEBRATION

 **Agribusiness**

Wilga Vale

Thursday 10th May 2012

Full day tour - \$120.00pp

Wilga Vale is situated 25 kilometres east of Baralaba. Part of an aggregation of three properties totalling 4175ha, *Wilga Vale* is owned and operated by the Bailey Grazing Certified Organic Beef Enterprise and is used for growing and finishing. The country is as diverse as it is picturesque and ranges from Brigalow river flats, to softwood scrub to broadleaf Ironbark. Not opposed to employing techniques that 'work for them', Gavin and Fiona Bailey manage *Wilga Vale* under a time controlled grazing system and this system is employed by Bailey Grazing across their network of properties.

A further 4455ha is leased and this country is used for breeding and growing organic cattle. The landholder was open to allowing the Bailey family to certify the land as organic during the lease period and this land also has a rotational grazing system in place. The property encompasses light Eucalyptus forest, with sandy creek flats meandering up into scenic range country.



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The properties which form the portfolio for the Bailey family were certified organic in 2006. It was however, not an overnight transformation and the journey towards organic certification began in 1994. A realisation that current practices needed to change, the Bailey family began a search for alternate grazing management practices. This resulted in a change in attitude towards grazing and agriculture in general. With this foresight, the Bailey family came to the belief that there is a positive link between good environmental health and production. From this realisation, a commitment to continuing education was born and the need and desire to seek further knowledge on business management and ecological processes resulted.



Firm believers that beef production is a by-product of good grazing land management, the Bailey family further believe that this begins with soil and moves through to plant and pasture. They feel that the management of good soil health and biodiversity of plant species is the basis for any grazing enterprise, all of which are evident in their operation at *Wilga Vale*.