

Sustainable Farm Families™



Department of
Primary Industries



Sustaining Rural Communities
National Conference
Narrabri 2010
*HEALTH OF RURAL
COMMUNITIES
AND FARMING FAMILIES*

Clinical Assoc Prof Susan Brumby
Director
National Centre for Farmer Health,
Hamilton
03 5551 8533

The median age of farmers in Australia is?

1. 45
2. 56
3. 61
4. 51
5. 65

What is the number of farming families (reference person and or spouse or partner) whose main occupation was farming in 2006?

1. 318,400
2. 400,300
3. 102,600
4. 212,700

What proportion of farmers are under 35 years of age?

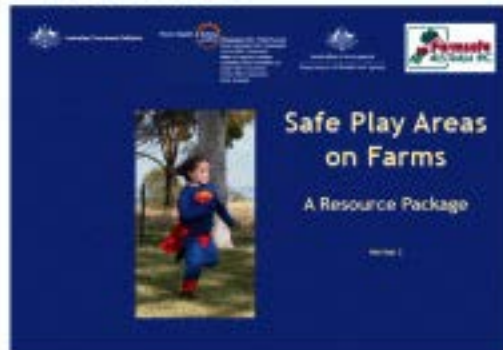
1. 10%
2. 14%
3. 19%
4. 24%
5. 30%

In 1893 women working or contributing to farm work were removed from the census.

1. True
2. False

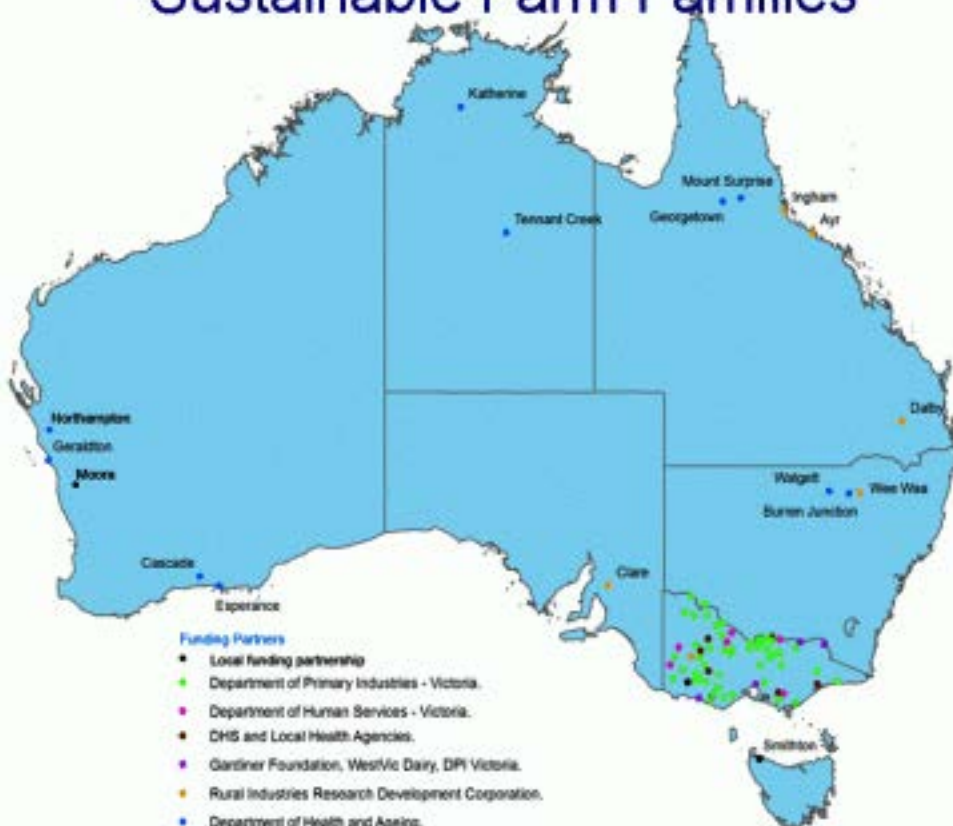
Approximately one child dies every month on Australian farms?

1. True
2. False





Sustainable Farm Families



Sustainable Farm Families

- > Better health
- > Better business
- > Better understanding



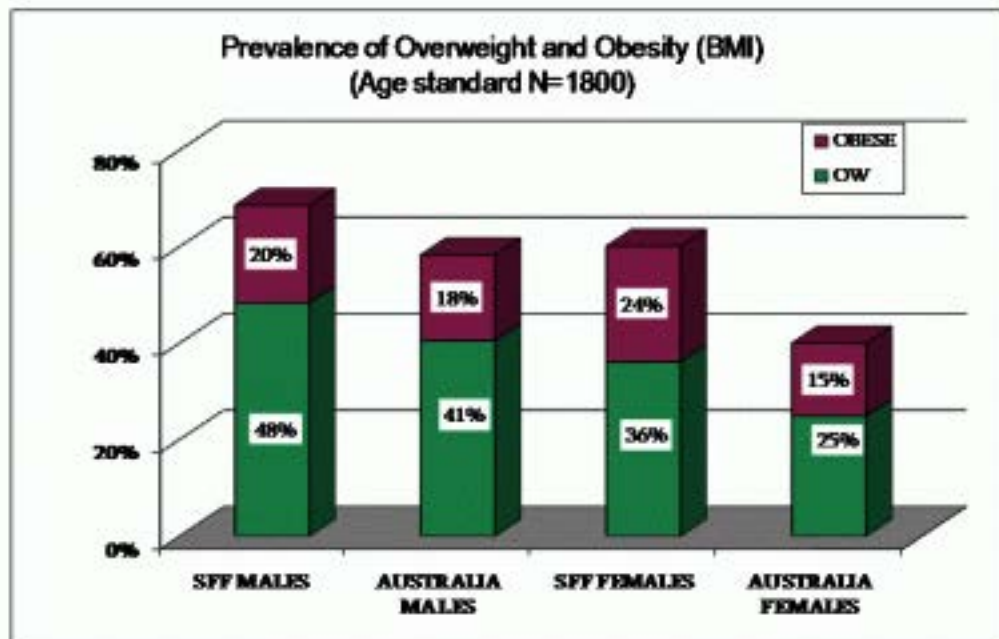
Current health issues

- Agricultural accidents
- Disasters, disaster responses
- Medical emergencies
- Zoonoses
- Skin complaints
- Musculoskeletal disorders
- Chemical pesticide exposures
- Depression and suicide
- Stress and anxiety
- Domestic violence
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Respiratory diseases
- Cardiovascular disease
- Cancers
- Diabetes
- Hearing disorders

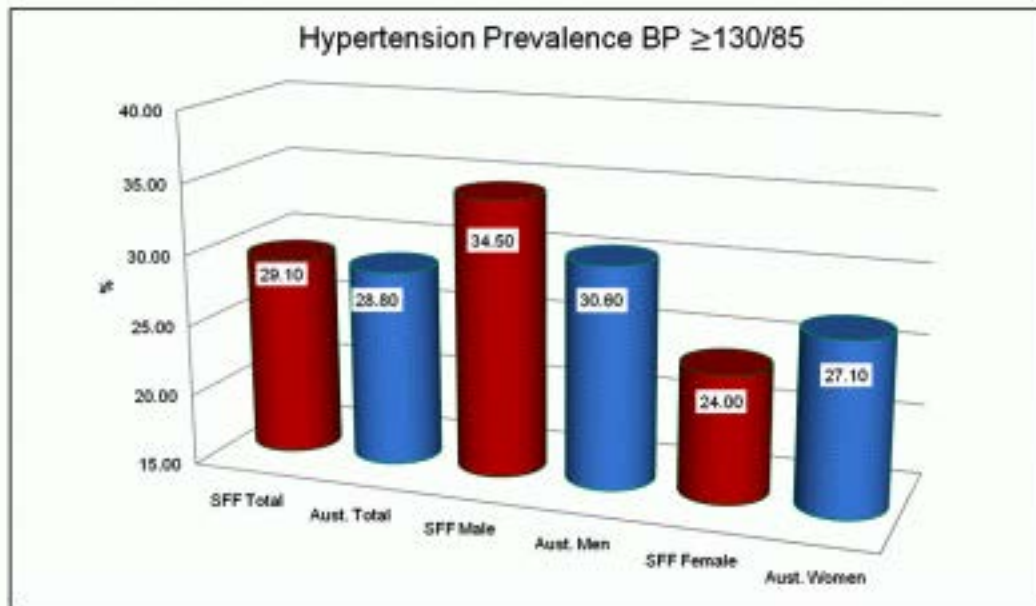
Compounded by reduced access to health and social services

Linking farm business and health conditions

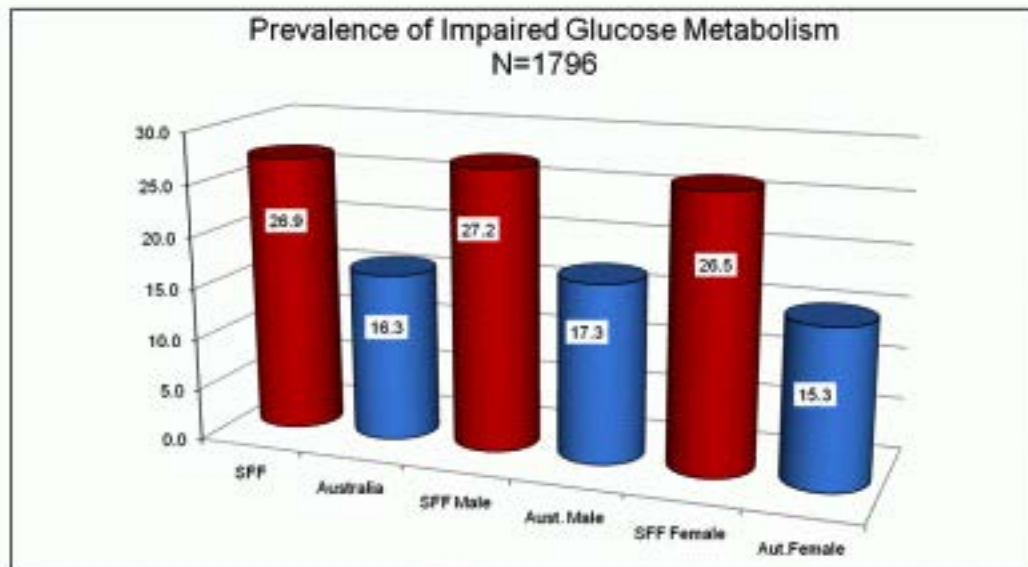




(Ref. Australian Institute of Health & Welfare report 2008)



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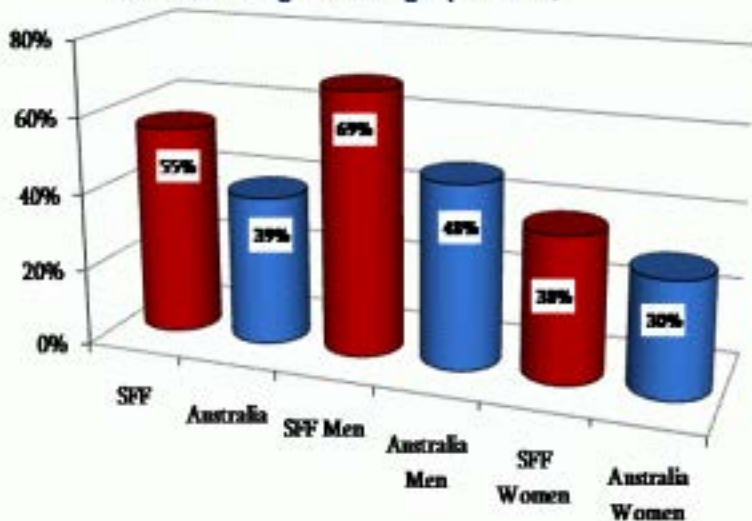


IGT ≥ 5.5 mmol/L

(Ref. Australian Institute of Health & Welfare report 2008)



Short Term High Risk Age (N=1562)



(Ref. Australian Institute of Health & Welfare Report 2008)

Has SFF prompted you to think differently about managing work on the farm? (n=422)



Health challenges / opportunities



COAG's National Reform Agenda-human capital-health.

“ A healthy, skilled and motivated population is critical to workforce participation and productivity, and hence Australia's future living standards.. ”

Presented by Mr. Peter Allen, Under Secretary, portfolio services & Strategic Projects

National Centre for Farmer Health Inaugural Conference

'Opening the Gates on Farmer Health'

11-13 October 2010
Hamilton, Victoria

For more details visit

www.farmerhealth.org.au