SARDI Food Sciences
Meat Safety and Market Access

Introduction
The Meat Safety and Market Access Science program sits within the SARDI Food Sciences Research Division.

We assist the meat industry by:

- Developing effective solutions to current and emerging industry issues and problems of national importance to the Australian meat industry
- Carrying out applied research and development projects for meat processors and other clients
- Providing a rapid-response advisory service to industry and government organisations
- Contributing to key industry advisory committees and industry meetings.

Risk analysis
Identification of food safety hazards across the supply chain, ranking of hazards in terms of risk and quantitative risk assessment to support improvement in risk management practices across the supply chain and market access.

Technical market access
Research and technical input into the development of new international regulatory meat standards and national monitoring programs to ensure they are risk commensurate and cost effective.

Meat microbiology and molecular biology
Analysis of meat in PC2 rated laboratories for microbiological pathogens and indicator organisms. These can be used for optimisation of meat processing performance, shelf-life assessment, industry benchmarking and safety evaluations of new product types.

Post-slaughter handling
Investigation of the impacts of post-slaughter handling on product quality and resultant shelf-life.

Process optimisation
Evaluation of new cooling and processing technologies to enhance product quality and shelf-life, minimise wastage and optimise efficiencies.

Statistical process control
Statistical process control deals with monitoring processes and using statistics to determine when processes are in control. A statistical process control program identifies process problems, whether physical, chemical or microbiological.

Shelf-life assessment
Microbiological, chemical and sensory techniques to evaluate impacts of post-slaughter handling, processing and packaging.
Animal health feedback from processors to producers

Development of a standardised approach to data collection on disease-related carcase and offal condemnations and a nationally agreed, consistent feedback system to producers from meat processors.

Rodent control and use of rodenticides

Investigation of the effect of anticoagulant rodenticides on the excretion, feeding and exploratory behaviour of rats. Risks associated with the use of anticoagulant rodenticides, rodent control practices in intensive livestock industries and alternative options for rodent control.