



25th

**Annual General Meeting
& Industry Conference**

**ALICE SPRINGS | 2009
MARCH 26 - 27**



Media release

Historic year for NT cattlemen

March 10, 2009

It's been 25 years since a group of cattle producers from the farthest corners of the Northern Territory came together at a meeting in Tennant Creek with the aim of creating one united body to represent their industry.

A quarter of a century later, The Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association has become the peak primary industry group in the NT and represents more than 95 per cent of its cattle herd, managing 45 per cent of the NT land mass.

"From small family operations to the large corporate organisations, the NTCA represents an industry that is the third largest GDP earner in the Northern Territory," Executive Director Luke Bowen said.

"In the past 12 months, more than 365,000 head have been exported from Darwin, bound for our key trading partners in South East Asia. This year will see further growth in this essential trade, with forecasts signalling a doubling of demand over the next four to five years for the Indonesian market.

"The NTCA has a key role to play in driving continual improvement, adapting to change and safeguarding the ongoing viability of the industry."

The focus for this year's 25th anniversary celebrations will be the NTCA's Annual Conference in Alice Springs on March 26 and 27.

A strong line-up of speakers has been brought together to tackle the big ticket issues the industry will be facing over the next 25 years and beyond – world food security, energy, climate change, carbon and changing markets.

There will be briefings on how the world economic crisis is likely to impact on producers, world trends in agriculture and the latest developments in environmental policy.

“Members are getting quite excited by this event,” NTCA president Roy Chisolm said.

“It is a great opportunity to celebrate 25 years of the NTCA and recollect the trials and achievements that led to this being the organisation it is today.

“We will also have a world-class line up of speakers that will confront issues of today as well as identifying the challenges and opportunities that we will face as producers and as an industry into the future.”

25th anniversary Ausfuel photography competition



This fabulous image of Dave Joseland's last muster at Mittiebah Station was taken by renowned outback photographer Grenville Turner.

Turner has recently based himself in Darwin and will be one of the judges in a special photographic competition to mark the 25th anniversary of the NTCA. He has donated a limited edition print of the Mittiebah photograph as a prize. The competition will be judged the day before the annual conference on March 26. His fellow judges will include His Honour Tom Pauling QC Administrator of the NT.

The competition is open to NTCA members and categories include The Muster, Long-awaited Rains, Kids and Poddies and You and Your Team. There is also a section for historical/hysterical moments captured over 25 years of the NTCA.

Also up for grabs are two drums of Castrol RX super oil valued at \$1000 each (donated by major sponsor Ausfuel), two \$500 RM Williams vouchers (also donated by Ausfuel) and two \$100 vouchers to Char Restaurant.

The competition closes on March 20. Entry forms are available from the competition co-ordinator, Terry Underwood, phone (08) 8975 0775, or the NTCA office, phone Ian McLean on (08) 8952 5122.

***The image of Mittebah Station is available for conference-related media use.
(Pic credit Grenville Turner required.)***

For more information on the conference go to www.ntca.org.au

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Media inquiries

Luke Bowen, Executive Director, NT Cattlemen's Association, (08) 8981 5976 or 0427 815 990.

Dale Webster, Michels Warren Munday, (08) 8981 6445 or 0448 656 668.