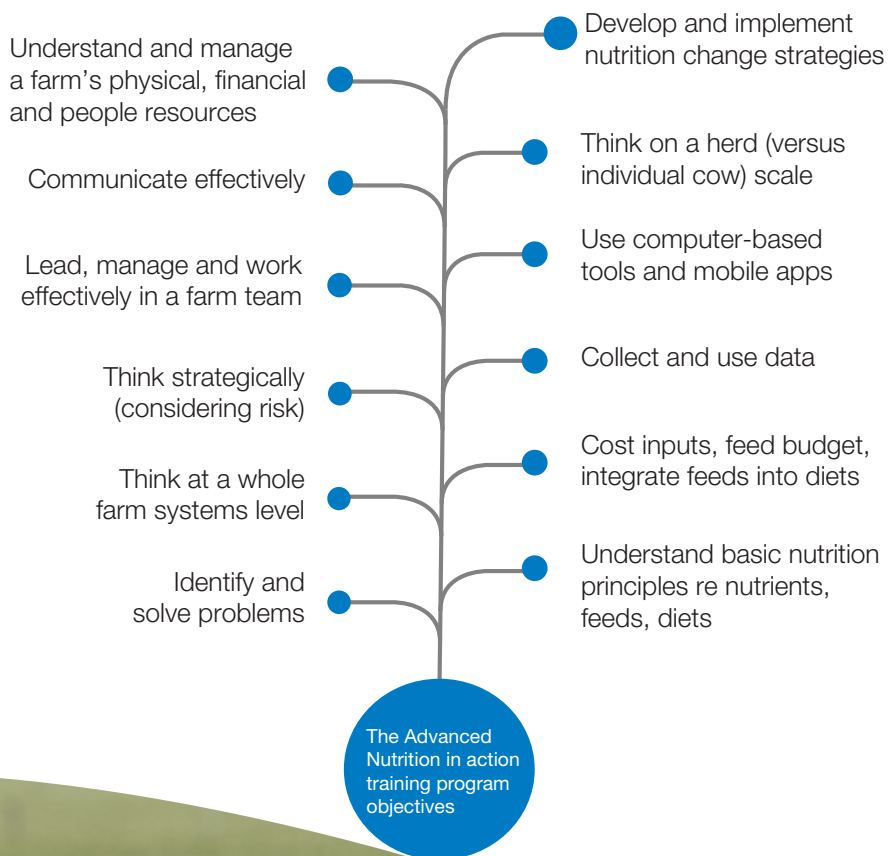


# Advanced Nutrition in Action

## Training program

Are you an Australian dairy farmer or advisor who already has a solid grasp of dairy nutrition and feeding management and are now looking to take your capabilities to a higher level? If so, the Advanced Nutrition in Action training program might be just what you are looking for.

**Figure 1** Advanced Nutrition in Action training program's learning objectives



The goal of the Advanced Nutrition in Action training program is to enable you to improve herd nutrition practices on farm by providing you with the technical knowledge, problem solving and strategic planning skills, and tools to develop and implement appropriate, nutrition-related management strategies which support your personal and business goals.

Participating in the Advanced Nutrition in Action training program will help you to:

- › confidently and competently develop and implement appropriate, nutrition-related management strategies on farm with other members of the farm team to create change.
- › effectively apply the most up-to-date herd nutrition knowledge, tools and approaches to herd nutrition management on farm, aided by:
  - an enhanced understanding of how herd nutrition integrates with other components of the farm system (feedbase, herd productivity, health and welfare, farm business management and people).
  - your capacity to define the key areas you must excel at, and for each area the capabilities required and appropriate actions to succeed.



## Who is the program for?

- › Dairy farm owners and managers who are looking to take their capabilities to a higher level.
- › Advisors with a strong interest in nutrition who wish to take their capabilities in supporting farmers in dairy nutrition and feeding management to a higher level.

*Note: Advisors must do the program accompanied by a farmer (ideally one of their own clients).*

## Entry requirements

To obtain maximum benefit from this advanced level program you will need to already have a solid grasp of herd nutrition and feeding management.

To confirm this, you will need:

- › at least two years practical field experience as a dairy farmer or advisor.
- › to have successfully completed an online pre-registration quiz, comprising 25 multiple choice questions.

If the pre-entry requirements are not met, other nutrition programs are available to gain sufficient knowledge to participate in a later program. A nutrition fundamentals course and nutrition-related information and tools on the DA website will be available.

Advanced Nutrition In Action training program participants will be required to bring a laptop computer to each workshop for use in activities.

## Program structure

The Advanced Nutrition in Action program consists of:

- › 3 units, each comprising online learning modules, preparatory tasks, face-to-face learning sessions (workshops) and further tasks, completed over a 15 week period.
- › A further one-day workshop 3-5 months after completing Unit 3.

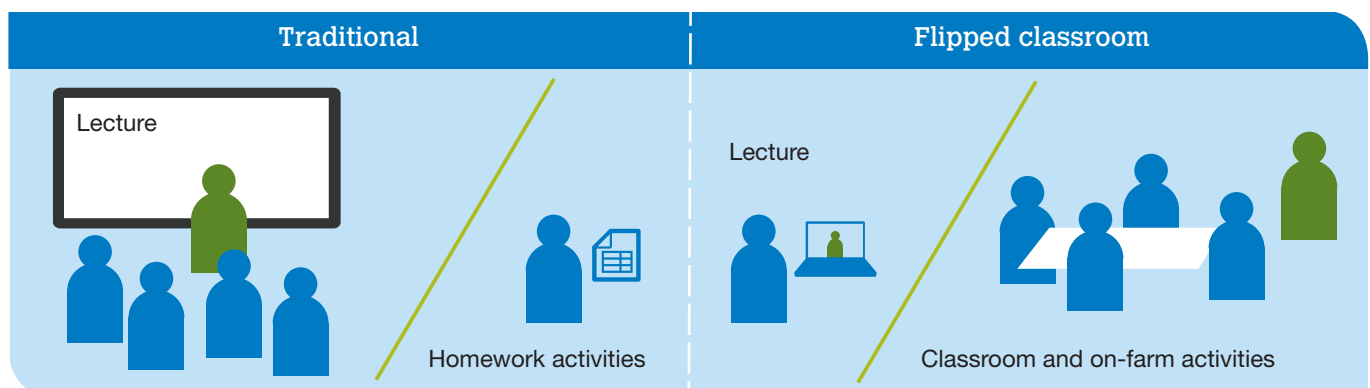
## Tasks and assessment

Tasks and assessments are conducted through the online learning management system that all participants will have access to.

There are:

- › Pre-course online tasks.
- › Online tasks throughout each module.
- › Group/Individual tasks set out in face-to-face workshops.

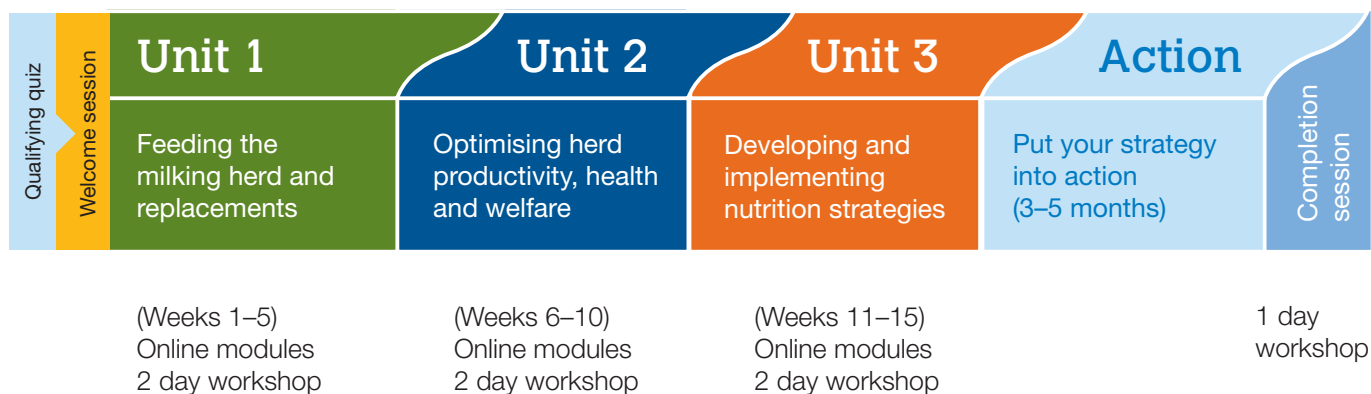
Tasks are focused on participants' farms.



## Flipped classroom

- › The program uses the 'flipped classroom' learning model, comprising a series of online learning modules to be completed prior to the face-to-face workshop sessions.
- › You learn online at home whenever it suits, then meet with other participants in a classroom and on local farms.
- › This frees up time together for discussion and activities.

## Program structure and content



### Welcome session

A 2-hour welcome session will be run by the RDP Extension Coordinator just prior to commencement of each program. This will generally be a face to face session.

### Unit 1: Feeding the milking herd and heifer replacements

- › The cow's digestive tract and the main nutritional components of feeds
- › Water: Access and quality
- › Carbohydrates, protein and fats: Intake, digestion and metabolism
- › Designing nutritionally balanced milker diets to optimise MOFC
- › Developing and implementing feed plans
- › Feeding systems, facilities and equipment
- › The cow's working day, feeding behaviour and feed intake
- › Calf and heifer nutrition and management

### Unit 2: Optimising herd productivity, health and welfare

- › Making tactical feeding decisions
- › Improving lifetime feed efficiency
- › Feeding for fertility
- › Balancing diets for minerals and vitamins
- › Dry cow and fresh cow management for establishing successful lactations
- › Maintaining healthy rumen function
- › Lameness, hoof health and nutrition
- › Feeding for optimal milk fat and protein concentrations
- › Mycotoxicosis risk management
- › Heat stress risk management

### Unit 3: Developing and implementing nutrition strategies

- › Tail winds and head winds (forces for and against change)
- › Assessing the financial impacts of a nutrition change strategy
- › Human challenges in implementing a nutrition change strategy
- › Developing my selected nutrition change strategy and putting it into action

### Completion session

- › Review change strategy implementation

### Course completion

Participants who complete all tasks will receive a Certificate of Completion from Dairy Australia and may have the opportunity to apply for RPL to gain a diploma unit in ruminant nutrition.







### Trainers

The workshops will be delivered by nutritionists with relevant technical skills and qualifications, extensive experience as a practicing farm nutrition advisor, and training skills and experience.

This trainer will be supported by an RDP Extension Coordinator with solid group facilitation and administration skills, who will act as support trainer and course coordinator.

### Cost

There will be a cost associated with participating in this program.

### Program timing

RDP's will be conducting the Advanced Nutrition in Action program throughout the autumn season.

### Interested?

If you are interested in participating or finding out more about the Advanced Nutrition in Action training program, please contact your RDP.



**Dairy NSW**  
Ph: 02 4655 0737  
[dairynsw.com.au](http://dairynsw.com.au)



**Murray Dairy**  
Ph: 03 5833 5312  
[murraydairy.com.au](http://murraydairy.com.au)



**GippsDairy**  
Ph: 03 5624 3900  
[gippsdairy.com.au](http://gippsdairy.com.au)



**DairySA**  
Ph: 08 8766 0127  
[dairysa.com.au](http://dairysa.com.au)



**Subtropical Dairy**  
Ph: 0431 197 479  
[dairyinfo.biz](http://dairyinfo.biz)



**WestVic Dairy**  
Ph: 03 55571000  
[westvicdairy.com.au](http://westvicdairy.com.au)



**DairyTas**  
Ph: 03 6432 2233  
[dairytas.com.au](http://dairytas.com.au)



**Western Dairy**  
Ph: 0435 174 719  
[westerndairy.com.au](http://westerndairy.com.au)

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**Dairy Australia Limited** ABN 60 105 227 987  
T + 61 3 9694 3777 F + 61 3 9694 3701  
E [enquiries@dairyaustralia.com.au](mailto:enquiries@dairyaustralia.com.au)  
[dairyaustralia.com.au](http://dairyaustralia.com.au)

