



SPECIALISED BREEDERS AUSTRALIA

**Hy-Line Layers Australia Pty. Ltd.**

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## **New farms provide ongoing confidence to Australian egg producers**

PRESS RELEASE

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**Huntly, VIC.** Specialised Breeders Australia (SBA) today announced that it has stocked the first of four planned new farms in northern Victoria. The new facilities are part of a multimillion capital works programme to increase livestock supply security for Australian egg producers.

Richard Rayner, CEO of SBA, explains “As the market leading supplier of livestock to Australian egg producers we take our responsibility to the industry extremely seriously. Four years ago the board and management of SBA recognised that the emerging disease risk to the poultry industry required a thoughtful response.

“With our genetics and commercial chick farms in close proximity to each other and to our hatchery we accepted that significant investment was required to spread our risk, so a five year capital works programme was initiated. The first and most critical part of the plan was the design and delivery of a state of the art hatchery. We have also upgraded our fleet of delivery trucks, and we are now embarking on building farms for the production of commercial chicks.”

Four parcels of land have been secured, each with a significant bio-security buffer, between the company’s Huntly base and Rochester where SBA’s new hatchery is located.

Steve Ligoli, Livestock Manager for SBA, says “The farms feature full shower on facilities and modern tunnel ventilated sheds providing full environmental control through Skov control panels. Each shed will contain 16,000 head of breeding stock to supply the commercial Hy-Line and Lohmann Brown hatching eggs for day old chick production.

“The use of Hato 2900k warm white LED lighting alongside variable speed BlueFans provide outstanding energy efficiency. The sheds are fitted with Jansen nest boxes and slats, we have configured the sheds with one third deep litter to give the birds an enriched environment.”

Mr Rayner concludes “With the first farm complete and stocked we are looking forward to completing this capital works programme to provide greater livestock supply security to Australian egg producers”

### **About Specialised Breeders Australia**

Specialised Breeders Australia (SBA) is the largest supplier of day old chicks and point of lay pullets to the Australian egg industry. Based close to the Victorian city of Bendigo and employing approximately 140 staff, SBA supplies the world’s leading layer breeds, Hy-Line® Brown and Lohmann Brown to Australian egg producers.

For more information on Specialised Breeders Australia please visit

<http://www.specialisedbreeders.com.au>.