



SPECIALISED BREEDERS AUSTRALIA

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

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## **SBA celebrate 25 years of Hy-Line Brown in Australia**

PRESS RELEASE

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**Huntly, VIC.** Specialised Breeders Australia (SBA) recently celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Hy-Line® Brown genetic import into Australia. From humble beginnings the Hy-Line® Brown has become the most popular breed for Australian commercial egg producers. “The Hy-Line® Brown is renowned for feed efficiency, prolific egg numbers, excellent egg quality as well its docile nature and outstanding liveability. It is the combination of these attributes that has lead the Hy-Line® Brown to market leadership in Australia” says Jonathan Leslie, National Sales and Marketing Manager for SBA.

He continues “The investments made to create a world class breeding programme by our partners at Hy-Line® International have seen the Hy-Line® Brown’s genetic gains improve dramatically over time. With Hy-Line® International’s continued development of advanced genomic technology, which allow for more rapid and better targeted genetic selection from their breeding programme, we can look forward to even more improvements in the years to come.”

Jonathan Cade, President of Hy-Line International explains “We congratulate the team at SBA on reaching the 25 year mark as a Hy-Line® distributor. SBA have been a fantastic partner in the Australian market, offering industry leading support and advice to egg producers. The capital works programme that SBA have instigated in recent years has delivered a state of the art hatchery and improved chick quality, alongside new breeding facilities which improves long term supply security for Australian egg producers.”

Kerrie McManara, who currently works with SBA’s grandparent breeding flocks, helped manage the hatching of the first Hy-Line® Brown import through the Torrens Island quarantine facility in 1993. Kerrie recalls “Some of the equipment was pretty basic, one of the incubators was made of timber and the hatching eggs needed to be turned manually five times a day – which meant that one of us had to shower in to the hatchery five times to turn a wheel then shower back out!

She continues “Once we got the genetic stock to our facility we noticed how different the Hy-Line® Brown was to our locally bred birds. They were much calmer chooks, particularly the males, and much better layers. The breeding performance was also a lot better, because of this after 18 months we were able to move from artificial insemination to natural breeding which was far more efficient.”

For more information on the Hy-Line® Brown Specialised Breeders Australia’s Technical Service team can be contacted via [www.specialisedbreeders.com.au](http://www.specialisedbreeders.com.au).

### **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.

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