YOUNGSTAR

# Cattle slipping on concrete?

# 'oungStar<sup>®</sup> rubber mats could be the answer.

The YoungStar rubber mat was designed to stop cattle slipping. It has been tested in some of the toughest cattle handling environments and has proven itself as an effective and durable anti-slip cattle mat.

#### **Inside:**

- What is YoungStar mat?
- How much does it cost and where can I get it?
- Who else is using YoungStar mat?
- Can I get a sample of the mat?





# What is YoungStar mat?

YoungStar mat is designed to be installed in high through-put areas where cattle are at risk of slipping and injuring themselves. It has large optimally placed lugs that stop hooves slipping, giving confidence to cattle and making them easier to handle.

#### **YS20**

Width: 35 and ‰ inches Length: 6 feet 10 and ‰ inches Thickness: ¾ inches (with ‰ inch lugs)

#### What are the features?

- ¾ ¾ inch high lugs designed to stop hooves slipping
- 12 MPA rubber for extreme durability
- Recessed anchoring system holds mats in place

#### **YS32**

Width: 35 and ½ inches Length: 6 feet 10 and ¼ inches Thickness: 1 and ¼ inches (with ½ inch lugs)

## What are the benefits?

- Major reduction in slipping
- Fewer hoof injuries from concrete
- Cattle are more comfortable and calmer



We can freight your mats to your farm with installation instructions.

Contact us from our website : youngstarrubber.com

# 5+ Years of Reduced Slipping at Opal Creek Feedlot.

Opal Creek Feedlot, managed by Angus Lee at Australian Country Choices, faced significant safety challenges in their hightraffic areas with cattle slips, trips, and falls. This case study examines how they addressed these issues using the YoungStar mat.





## The Challenge

**Safety Concerns**: The feedlot was experiencing frequent slips, trips, falls, and injuries such as broken legs and hips, along with foot abscesses among the cattle.

**Unsatisfactory Previous Solutions:** Previous products failed to withstand the high flow of traffic and did not effectively reduce accidents.

### Implementation

Ease of Installation: In-house installation was straightforward.

Maintenance Benefits: Easy to clean, fitting seamlessly into their daily routine.

**Angus Lee on Installation:** "Installation for us was pretty straightforward. It was easier to adapt the YoungStar rubber matting into our current facilities. We did all the installation in-house."

### Outcomes

**Durability and Longevity:** The matting proved to be a long-term investment, with a lifespan of over five years, surpassing other products they've used.

**Cost-Efficiency:** Although the initial cost was higher than the previous matting Opal Creek had used, it was viewed as an investment due to its durability and reduced need for frequent replacements.

Safety Improvement: Significant reduction in slips, trips, and falls

"We've been very happy with the YoungStar matting. When future development arises, we'll definitely be using the same matting, and also we'd recommend it to other businesses and organisations as well."

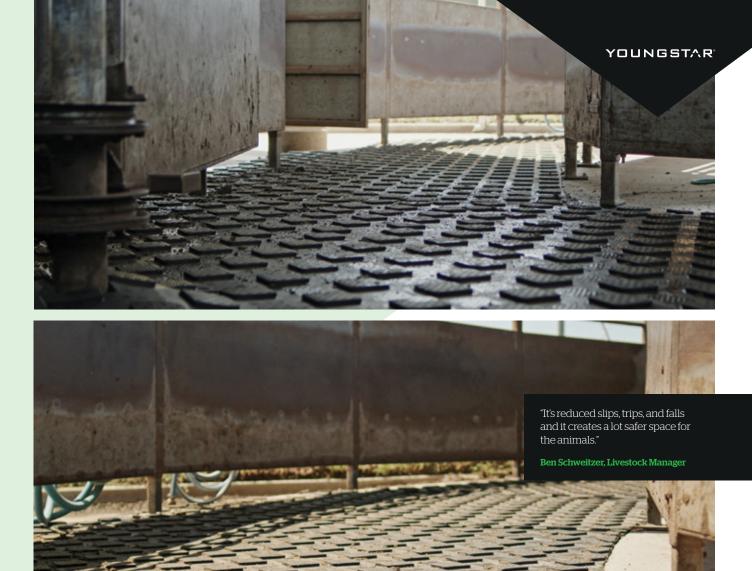
Angus Lee, Feedlot Manager, Opal Creek Feedlot

# Assessing the YoungStar Matting System at Stockyard's Kerwee Feedlot.

#### **Background:**

Challenges Faced at Stockyard's Kerwee Feedlot: Before Stockyard's Kerwee Feedlot in Jondaryan, Queensland implemented the YoungStar Matting system, their existing infrastructure had aged and was no longer satisfying the business's strict standards. Animal welfare is a key focus for Stockyard's, and when exploring a new system to replace the existing, they needed one that would improve the safety and comfort for their cattle. "We tried other products that that were probably more from a dairy background with not much success," recalls Ben Schweitzer, Livestock Manager at Stockyard's Kerwee Feedlot. The existing mats, installed with steel mesh, could not withstand the water and the environment, further deteriorating the conditions for the cattle





### Solution

The YoungStar Matting System: In a bid to find a sustainable solution, Kerwee Feedlot came across the YoungStar matting system. *"NumatAGRI approached the yard roughly two years ago and this is a step we've taken forward from there. From hearing other people's experiences from other feedlots, we decided to go with the YoungStar here,"* Ben comments. The matting system distinguished itself not only through its unique grip pattern but also through its remarkable durability, specially designed to withstand the demanding conditions and frequent usage of the feedlot environment.

#### Implementation

Transforming the Feedlot Infrastructure: The implementation process began with installing the YoungStar mats at the dispatch area. A crucial aspect that set YoungStar Mat apart from the previous solutions was the installation process. *"The mats are installed with 10 concrete screws which adds a lot more stability in the mat with the movement of the mat,"* Ben notes, highlighting the durability and resistance of the YoungStar mat to wear and tear.

### Impact

A Safer Environment for the Cattle: The implementation of YoungStar mat had an immediate effect on reducing trips, slips, and falls at the feedlot, thereby providing a safer environment for the cattle. *"It's reduced slips, trips, and falls and it creates a lot safer space for the animals,"* Ben says. Unlike the previous matting systems, the YoungStar matting proved to be sturdy and reliable.

#### Outcome

Enhanced Operational Efficiency and Animal Welfare: Not only did the YoungStar matting enhance the safety conditions, but it also simplified the cleaning process. *"We clean this facility every day. With the YoungStar matting, it's nice and easy to clean nothing gets too stuck to it,"* says Ben.

Handling a throughput of roughly 4,000 head per month, the matting continues to showcase its resilience.

# Improved Safety and Comfort: Rubber Matting Installation at Rangers Valley Feedlot.

Rangers Valley Feedlot is a cattle processing facility located in Glen Innes, northern New South Wales. They process up to 1250 to 2000 head of cattle per week, depending on demand. The facility experienced numerous slip and fall injuries due to inadequate rubber matting in their processing shed.

#### **Objective:**

To evaluate the effectiveness of the YoungStar rubber matting from NumatAGRI in reducing slip and fall injuries and improving overall safety and comfort at Rangers Valley Feedlot.

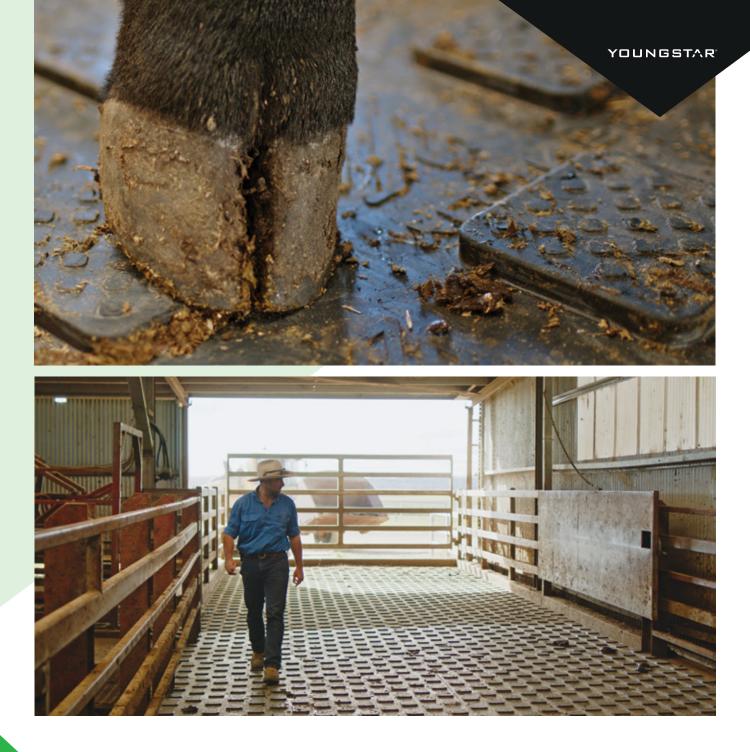
## Implementation

Rangers Valley Feedlot initially decided to trial the YoungStar rubber matting in high pressure areas and on corners to test its performance over a few months. The trial was deemed successful, leading to a complete replacement of the old rubber matting with the new YoungStar product.

"The design of the YoungStar rubber matting from NumatAGRI is a significant improvement on any rubber we've had in the past."

Ryan Smith, Cattle Processing Manager, Rangers Valley Feedlot





#### Results

Significant improvement in design and durability: The YoungStar rubber matting was a notable upgrade from the previous rubber matting. The old rubber could not withstand the heavy traffic, leading to peeling, wear, and installation issues. The new rubber mats, on the other hand, have proved durable and reliable.

**Enhanced cleanliness and ease of maintenance:** The YoungStar rubber matting has made cleaning and hosing down the processing shed easier, contributing to better hygiene and upkeep.

Increased comfort for cattle: The new rubber mats provide a more comfortable surface for the cattle to walk and run on, which potentially leads to reduced stress and improved overall welfare. **Improved staff safety:** The upgraded rubber matting has led to a significant reduction in slip and fall injuries for both cattle and staff, resulting in cost savings and increased productivity.

#### **Future Plans**

Given the success of the YoungStar rubber matting in the processing shed, Rangers Valley Feedlot plans to expand its usage to their hospital facilities and dispatch yard. This decision is based on the improved safety, comfort, and cleanliness benefits observed during the initial installation.

"We noticed with the amount of slip and fall injuries that we were having, it was actually costing us money and time with steers that had been injured in the processing shed. Over the course of time, with the lifespan of the YoungStar rubber, it will easily pay for itself."

Ryan Smith, Cattle Processing Manager, Rangers Valley Feedlot

**Case Study:** 

# YoungStar matting solution for Teys Australia Condamine Feedlot.

Teys Australia Condamine Feedlot is a 30,000-head SCU Feedlot based in the Western Downs in Queensland. The facility has been feeding cattle since 1989, striving for the highest standards for animal welfare and providing the best care they can for the cattle at the feedlot.







# General Manager, Phil Lambert, has been working with the NumatAGRI team since late 2019.

Having used rubber matting at Teys Condamine for many years, Phil and his team were familiar with the benefits of using matting in their high-traffic concrete areas. The rubber solutions had helped reduce and prevent slips and falls when working cattle through the yards, but due to the high flow and large volume of cattle that were moving through daily, the previous rubber products did not keep up with the demand, wearing down quickly.

Because of the uniquely engineered features of the YoungStar mats, Teys Condamine began trialling the thicker, purpose-built rubber in their yards, and figuring out if and how they could adapt the rubber into their daily operation.

#### Solution

Rubber matting has been the best solution to reduce slips and falls in the high-traffic, concrete areas at Teys Condamine. The mats are also protecting the soles of the cattle which Phil explains has been helping reduce bacteria and prevent infection through the feeding period. A reduction in noise and calmer animals have also been a result of installing the YoungStar mats.

The team at Teys Condamine Feedlot are now looking toward the future and identifying more ways they can utilise the benefits of NumatAGRI YoungStar rubber mats.

# Whyalla Beef's Success Story with Youngstar Matting

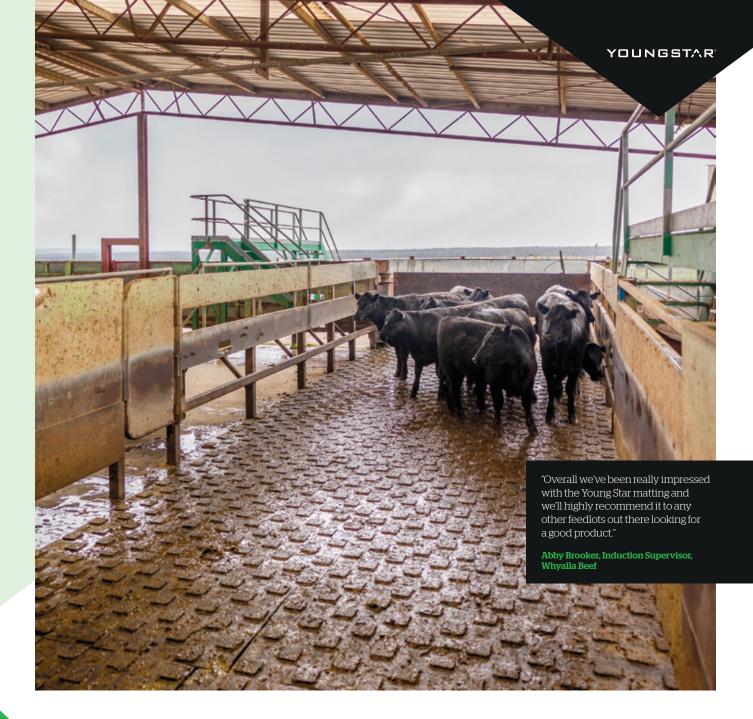
Whyalla Beef, located in Texas, Queensland, is a significant player in the Australian cattle industry, managing approximately 50,000 cattle on feed. The induction shed, a critical component of their operation, sees around 2,500 cattle weekly. Abby Brooker, the induction supervisor at Whyalla Beef, provides valuable insights into the challenges they faced and the solutions they found.

#### The Challenge:

The induction shed at Whyalla Beef, characterized by tight bends and corners, experienced high rates of slip and trip incidents. This not only incurred financial costs but also raised concerns regarding animal welfare. As Brooker states,

"In the induction shed there's quite a few tight bends and corners, and being such a high traffic area, slip and trip rates were quite high which cost us financially and the animal welfare was not up to standard."





### **Previous Attempts**

Before adopting YoungStar matting, Whyalla Beef experimented with several other products. However, these alternatives did not significantly improve the situation. The existing solutions required constant maintenance and repairs, as they lacked durability. Brooker remarks, *"We tried multiple other products before using YoungStar matting and they weren't making much improvement on the concrete. Constant maintenance and repairs were required because they're not so durable."* 

#### Implementation of YoungStar Matting

Whyalla Beef then turned to YoungStar matting, which led to a notable reduction in injuries and slips. The design of the matting, specifically the lugs, played a crucial role in enhancing safety for the cattle. Brooker notes the effectiveness of the matting: *"Now that we have YoungStar matting the injuries and slips have reduced due to the lugs doing the job and keeping our cattle safe."* 

### **Maintenance and Durability**

Maintenance and cleaning of YoungStar matting proved to be as straightforward as it was with concrete. This ease of maintenance, coupled with the matting's durability, impressed the Whyalla Beef team. *'Hosing the YoungStar matting is easy... We've had YoungStar matting in the shed for a couple of years now and it still looks quite new*, "Brooker shares, underscoring the product's longevity.

# Customer Satisfaction and Recommendation

The overall experience of Whyalla Beef with YoungStar matting has been extremely positive, leading to a strong endorsement of the product. *"Overall we've been really impressed with the YoungStar matting and we'll highly recommend it to any other feedlots out there looking for a good product,"* concludes Brooker, highlighting the satisfaction and confidence Whyalla Beef has in the product.

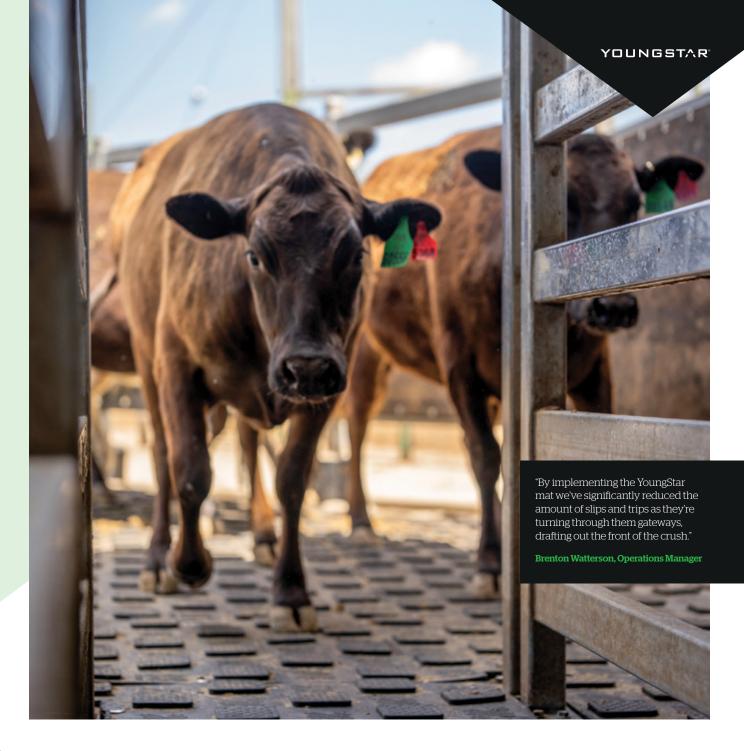
# YoungStar Mat Leads to Significant Reduction in Slipping at Aronui Feedlot.

AACO's Aronui Feedlot in Dalby, QLD, Australia, has taken a significant step in improving livestock management by incorporating the YoungStar mat into their operation, overseeing the welfare of around 22,000 cattle each year.

#### The Challenge

Improving Animal Safety: The Aronui Feedlot faced a pressing challenge with the safety of cattle in areas prone to slips and trips. Brenton Watterson, the Operations Manager, identified the need for a solution, remarking, *"Initially we found a need for the YoungStar matting down on one of our hospital yards."* 





### Solution Implementation

The YoungStar mat was chosen for its potential to provide a safer environment for cattle movement. Watterson observed the mats effectiveness and decided to expand its use "As we built this new facility here we've definitely thought it had its place in our bud box setup and then in our rebuild on our induction shed."

### **Outcomes of the Installation**

**Safety Enhancements:** The primary benefit was a significant reduction in cattle slips and trips. Watterson attests to this improvement: *"By implementing the YoungStar mat we've significantly reduced the amount of slips and trips as they're turning through the gateways, drafting out the front of the crush."* 

**Installation Efficiency:** The mat was not only effective but also easy to install. *"It arrived with all the gear we needed right down to the steering knife to cut it, so yeah, everything within the box ready to go,"* Watterson appreciated the convenience.

Maintenance and Comfort: The YoungStar mat proved to be more manageable and comfortable than traditional surfaces. ""It's a lot easier to clean than normal stamped concrete... It's better than concrete when you're standing on it all day," Watterson highlighted the dual benefits of the matting.

# **Model for Future Adoption**

The success of the YoungStar mat at Aronui Feedlot has set a precedent, with Watterson concluding, *"We will definitely be considering putting it in all of our sheds in the coming years and recommend any other feedlot with an issue with slips and trips especially around your crushes and drafting yards."* 





# Watch our YoungStar mat video.





YoungStarrubber.com

#### Quotes from the video:

"We wanted a durable mat, we wanted a non-slip surface, we wanted a mat that was easy to install, and we wanted a mat that was quiet. YoungStar has certainly achieved all the for us."

David Thomberry, North Australian Pastoral Company

"We've found that the durability of YoungStar matting is exceptional. That will make it pay for itself without doubt over the longer term."

David Bailey, Australia Country Choice

"It's about knowing that your animals don't slip and fall over and that we're giving them the best care we possibly can. And it reduces our workload in the long-term."

Steve Martin, Edwards Livestock

# Can you send me a sample?

Simply contact us from our website: **youngstarrubber.com** to request a sample of YoungStar mat.

