

# **Apiam Animal Health Ltd H1 FY21 results**

24 February 2021



# H1 FY21 performance snapshot

Revenue

\$61.2M

+8.9% vs H1 FY20

**Gross profit** 

\$34.5M

+13.4% vs H1 FY20

**Underlying EBIT** 

\$4.4M

+30.8% vs H1 FY20

**Reported NPAT** 

\$2.6M

+53.8% vs H1 FY20

Interim dividend

**1.2** cps

+50.0% vs H1 FY20



# Highlights









Material earnings uplift - continued gross margin expansion & operating cost leverage

Solid balance sheet & cash flow supporting dividends and reinvestment in business growth



# **Operational snapshot**



55 CLINICS<sup>1</sup>



40

APIAM MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID OFFICERS



3 new

CLINICS OPENED (ACQ + GREENFIELD)



> 4,300

BEST MATES MEMBERS



> 160

**VETERINARIANS** 



~ 40%

GROWTH IN NEW SERVICE PROGRAMS MEMBERS in H1 FY2021



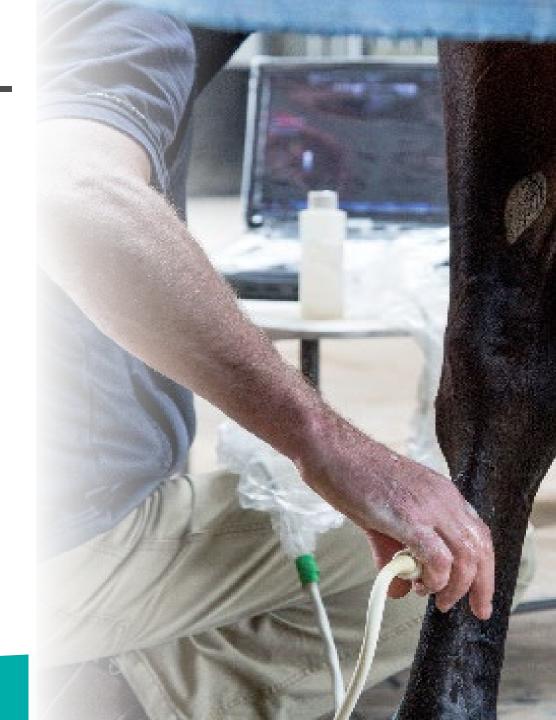
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LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATES



~50%

MIXED ANIMAL CLINIC % REVENUE CONTRIBUTION



# H1 FY21 Financial Review





## H1 FY21 profit and loss summary

### Strong reported revenue growth & continued margin expansion

\$m	H1 FY21A	H1 FY20A	Variance	%
Total revenue	61.2	56.2	5.0	8.9%
Gross profit	34.5	30.4	4.1	13.4%
Operating expenses	(26.9)	(24.1)	(2.8)	11.8%
Underlying EBITDA <sup>2</sup>	7.5	6.3	1.2	19.8%
Amortisation ROU assets	(1.2)	(1.2)	(0.0)	2.9%
Depreciation & amortisation	(1.9)	(1.7)	(0.2)	10.1%
Underlying EBIT <sup>2</sup>	4.4	3.4	1.0	30.8%
Underlying NPAT <sup>2</sup>	2.7	2.0	0.7	35.1%
Reported NPAT	2.6	1.7	0.9	53.8%
EBITDA (pre AASB 16)	6.2	5.0	1.2	23.7%
GM	56.3%	54.1%		
Underlying EBIT margin	7.2%	6.0%		

#### Notes.

Adjusted to exclude contributions from ACE Laboratories (Oct 19), Devoted Vets (Nov 19) and Grampians Animal Health (Dec 19)
Underlying adjustments to earnings exclude one-off acquisition, integration & corporate costs (tax effected where applicable at NPAT level)

#### Strong reported revenue growth

- Growth of 8.9% in face of COVID-19 impacts and varying conditions across animal segments
- Revenue growth (ex acquisitions)<sup>1</sup> was (0.9)% vs PCP reflecting market cycles in feedlot & pig segments

### Continued gross margin expansion

- · Increased revenue capture at clinic level
- Change in business mix strategy during FY20 growing dairy & mixed contribution and strategic changes in pig segment
- Impact of acquisitions
- Gross Profit (ex acquisitions)<sup>1</sup> increased 2.2% (vs PCP)

### Operating cost base leverage

- Limited underlying operating expense growth of 2.9% (ex acquisitions)<sup>1</sup>
- Underlying increase in employment costs of 6.0% due to:
  - organic business growth, particularly in dairy & mixed animal segment
  - increased leave provision expense given reduced annual leave utilisation by staff
- Strong general cost containment with a 5.9% reduction in other expenses vs PCP (excluding acquisitions)<sup>1</sup>

# Revenue & gross profit analysis

### Diversified model delivering resilient revenue



#### Reported

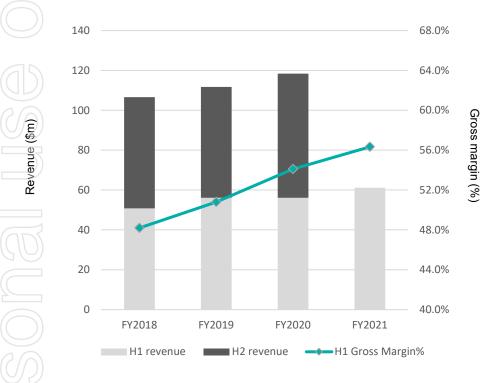
Revenue growth: +8.9% vs H1 FY20 Gross profit growth: +13.4% vs H1 FY20



#### **Excluding acquisitions**<sup>1</sup>

Revenue growth: (0.9)% vs H1 FY20 Gross profit growth: + 2.2% vs H1 FY20





# **3**

#### **DAIRY & MIXED ANIMALS**

- Strong performance in mixed animal revenue with significant Best Mates contribution & double-digit growth recorded across all regions
- Favourable industry conditions since H2 FY20 & launch of ProDairy driving strong dairy revenue uplift

#### **PIGS**

- Resilient revenue performance despite challenges and market cycle
- · Strategic focus on "higher-value" consultancy services to support revenue
- Reduction in low margin wholesale business



#### **FEEDLOT**

- Impacted by reduced animal numbers across industry through H2 FY20 and FY21 coming off record highs in FY19 and H1 FY20
- Reduced beef export demand associated with COVID-19 impact on food service
- Industry building capacity for expected growth phase in market cycle





### **Balance sheet**

### Stable balance sheet, reflecting reinvestment in growth initiatives (acquisitions & clinics)

\$m	31 Dec 2020A	30 Jun 2020A <sup>1</sup>
Cash	2.3	2.5
Trade & receivables	12.8	12.1
Inventories	17.8	17.7
Property, plant & equipment	8.0	7.0
Lease ROUA	14.9	12.8
Intangibles	89.1	84.4
Other	5.0	4.7
TOTAL ASSETS	149.7	141.1
Borrowings	41.5	37.0
Trade & other payables	9.7	8.8
Lease liability	16.0	14.1
Other liabilities	10.1	12.8
TOTAL LIABILITIES	77.3	72.7
NET ASSETS	72.5	68.4

Notes:

#### **Working capital management**

- · Efficient management of receivables & inventory
- Increase in payables in line with business growth

#### PPE & leases

 Growth in-line with organic business growth, greenfield clinic roll-outs and acquisition during period

#### Intangibles from acquisitions

Don Crosby Vets (Dec 2020)

### **Borrowings to fund growth**

- Net Borrowings increased to \$39.2M due to:
  - cash component for Don Crosby acquisition (\$3.3M)
  - deferred earn-out consideration payment for ACE Laboratories (\$2.9M)
  - investment in roll-out of new greenfield clinics during period (~\$0.8M)
- Operating leverage ratio (net debt basis) as at 31 December 2020 of 2.3x vs covenant of 3.0x – significant headroom for growth opportunities
- Access to additional \$19M under NAB acquisition facility

#### Other liabilities

Other liabilities reduction due to payment of ACE deferred earn-out consideration

Balance sheet as at 30 June 2020 restated for intangibles related to the acquisition of ACE Laboratories which had been provisionally accounted for in the prior period

### **Cash flow**

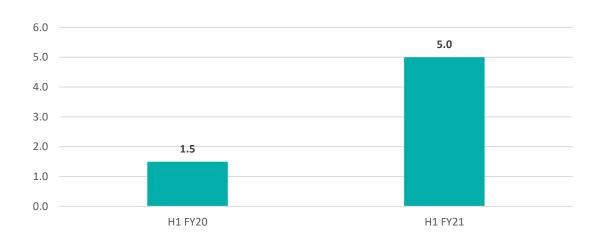
### Strong uplift in operating cash & cash conversion

Statutory cashflows \$m	H1 FY21A	H1 FY20A
Net cash provided by operating activities	6.4	2.7
Acquisition of subsidiary, net of cash	(6.2)	(12.5)
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(2.3)	(1.0)
Purchases of Intangible assets	(0.2)	0.0
Net cash used in investing activities	(8.8)	(13.5)
Net changes in financing	4.6	13.4
Dividends paid to shareholders	(0.9)	(0.6)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(1.6)	(1.6)
Other	0.1	0.1
Net cash inflow from financing activities	2.1	11.3
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(0.3)	0.6

- Operating cashflows in FY21 increased in-line with strong earnings growth
- Acquisition investing outflow (\$6.2M), due to:
  - cash component for Don Crosby acquisition (\$3.3M)
  - deferred earn-out consideration payment for ACE Laboratories (\$2.9M)
- Capex increase to \$2.3M due to reinvestment in business growth:
  - roll-out of new greenfield clinics (\$~0.8M)
  - maintenance capex
  - capex phasing increasingly weighted to H1

Cashflow Conversion \$m	H1 FY21A	H1 FY20A
Underlying EBITDA (pre AASB 16 adjustment)	6.2	5.0
Net cash inflow from operating activities (less AASB 16 lease reclassification impact in FY20)	5.0	1.5
Add back:		
One-off expense	0.2	0.5
Interest paid	0.5	0.6
Income tax paid	0.7	0.3
Underlying cashflow before tax & interest:	6.5	3.0
Conversion	106%	59%

### Operating cash flows half-on-half (less AASB16 lease reclassification impact) (\$M)



### **Dividends**

### Interim dividend of 1.2 cps

	H1 FY2021 interim dividend
Dividend	1.2 cps
Payout ratio on NPAT	57%
Franking	100%
Record date	22 March 2021
Payment date	23 April 2021

- Board declares an interim dividend of 1.2 cps, fully franked, payable on 23 April 2021
- Dividend reinvestment plan in place
  - Last day to elect to participate in DRP: 29 March 2021
  - DRP pricing period : 5 day AHX VWAP between 30 March 2021 & 5 April 2021



# Strategy, operations & outlook



# Strategic framework for growth



### **Operations, process & capacity**



- ✓ Practice Management System in place across whole clinic network
- ✓ Leveraging cost base to deliver margin expansion on incremental revenue



#### Increase animal numbers

Driving growth in FY21

- ✓ Ongoing acquisition program
- ✓ Greenfield clinic strategy in attractive regional growth corridors
  - ✓ Best Mates & ProDairy subscription models



### **Product and service expansion**



- ✓ Private label strategy commenced roll out of private label products in FY20
  - ✓ New product distributions delivered and more to come
- ✓ Specialist vaccine & diagnostics operations through ACE acquisition in FY20

Target = earnings growth and shareholder returns

Delivering leading market footprint for regional animal care



### Driving regional clinic growth in FY21



Capitalising on the rapid acceleration in regional animal ownership with a focus on expansion in high population growth corridors



### Significant market opportunity

- ✓ Population rates surging in regional growth corridors
- ✓ Significant increase in pet ownership post COVID-19
- ✓ Larger and broader animal expertise required for regional offering – different to metro focussed models
- ✓ Mixed animal clinics generally offer higher margin opportunities than livestock only clinics

JV formed Feb 2018





JV strategy to open co-located clinics & retail outlets in which Apiam have an 80% interest

#### Rationale & clinic economics

- Growth & margin opportunity
- AHX capital position allows investment subject to strict return assessment
- Attractive clinic economics on greenfield projects :
  - 6-10 FTE vets
  - √ \$3-6M annual revenue
  - Break-even profit expected in year 2
  - Full maturity in year 3

### **Update on progress - H1 FY21**

- Torquay North, VIC (opened January 2021) fast growing regional hub outside of Geelong
- Shepparton, VIC (to open Q3 FY21)
- Further clinics in planning stage



# **Acquisitions supporting FY21 strategy**



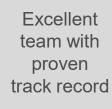
# Apiam's growth through acquisition strategy

- Strong acquisition pipeline of strategic investments
- Disciplined approach with strong track record of M&A execution
- 6 acquisitions in past 3 years consisting of 8 clinics and a laboratory
- Purpose-built company infrastructure delivers cost efficiencies
- Strict acquisition criteria

# DRIVING INCREASED ANIMAL NUMBERS IN IMPORTANT REGIONAL LOCATIONS











## Service program initiatives



# INNOVATIVE MODEL OFFERING END-TO-END PRODUCTS & SERVICE TO DAIRY FARMERS

- 41.5% growth in dairy farm enrollments in H1 FY21 (since end of FY20)
- ~12% of Victoria's dairy cows are enrolled in the program with further opportunities for expansion into Tasmania and NSW
- Strategy to increase market penetration in Apiam's other geographic areas
- Two new ProDairy satellite clinic locations to open in FY21



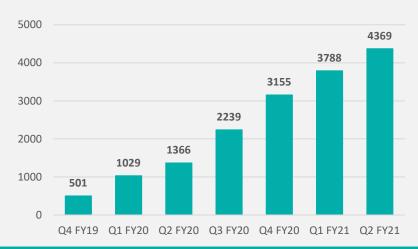


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# WHOLE OF LIFE COMPANION ANIMAL WELLNESS PROGRAM

- Rolled-out across whole company footprint in FY20
- Very strong growth reflective of increased pet ownership post COVID-19 lockdowns
- Full advertising campaign (including TV) in Q1 FY21
- Immediate synergies in acquisition and greenfield clinics
- Member growth of 38.5% in H1 FY21 (since end of FY20)
- ~6.0% of active patients were Best Mates members as at end of H1 FY21

#### **Best Mate members (quarterly)**







### Zoono disinfectant distribution update

### Apiam and Zoono have entered into an exclusive distribution agreement

- Agreement entered into in November 2019 for livestock use in Australia & swine in the US
- Strong interest from pig, poultry and veterinary industries
- Zoono products have demonstrated feed efficiency and growth rate production gains in poultry
- Pig productivity trials to establish economic benefit are progressing in both Australia & the US
- Stage 1 laboratory studies at Iowa State University (ISU) to determine the effectiveness of Zoono Microbe Shield on contact (6 minutes) against the two main pathogens to the US pig industry have been highly successful with no survival of either virus tested
- Stage 2 trial results have shown up to a 99.9% reduction in Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (a swine coronavirus) on farrowing mat surfaces 7 days after they were either sprayed with or dipped in Zoono Microbe Shield

### Estimated efficacy study timeline



Stage 2 - demonstrated ongoing activity on surface for 7 days (ISU)



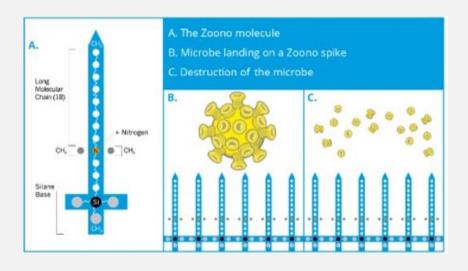
**Q3 FY21** 

Stage 3 – trial to demonstrate on-going activity on surfaces for 21 days (ISU)

Expected Q4 FY21

Greater range of economically important pathogens to be tested Commercial in-market launch

Expected H1 FY22



#### ZOONO

- Innovative proprietary sanitiser and disinfectant
- Provides ongoing mechanical activity (length of time against animal pathogens currently subject of trials)
- Demonstrated effectiveness in global trials against a range of viruses including COVID-19 surrogate, Avian influenza, African Swine Fever, PEDv and PRRSv.
- Range of products including Z-71 Microbe Shield applied to surfaces via fogging or spraying
- Range of products listed by the various regulatory bodies in Australia, USA, and Canada.



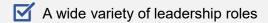
### **Employer of choice**

### Apiam values people & culture as a key asset of its business and they are intrinsic to its competitive advantage



#### **MARKET LEADING HR PRACTICES**

To attract the best talent Apiam offers the following benefits:



Significant opportunity for flexible work practices

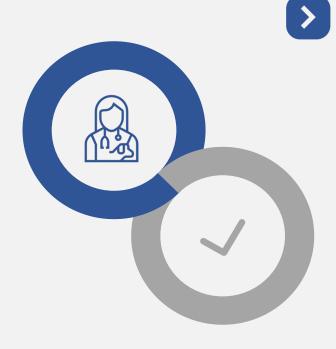
Strong culture of recognising female talent

Flexible path to promotion

Continuous education focus

Recognition and rewards programs

Mental health support



#### **TELE-TRIAGE INITIATIVE**

Introduced in H1 FY21 to address work-life balance issues for regional vets:

After hours calls taken by experienced virtual support team

Incidents triaged to ensure best practice response to emergency care and other non-critical matters

Proprietary software system developed to allocate appropriate resources and ensure best practice veterinary services

Reduction in vet after hours calls by up to 50% since deployment

Initiative assisting in recruitment and retention of vet workforce



#### Finalist in 2020 Australian HR awards:

- ✓ Best Graduate Development Program
- ✓ Employer of choice (100-899 employees)
- ✓ Australian HR team of the year







# Industry conditions update



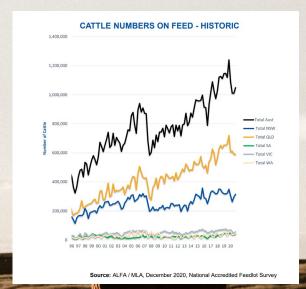
## Dairy & mixed

- Australian milk production is forecast to increase 4% in 2021<sup>1</sup>
- The growth will be driven by favourable farm conditions such as abundant feed stocks, summer rainfall and a lowering water price <sup>1</sup>
- Companion animal ownership in regional & rural areas experiencing strong growth
- Regional demographics changing rapidly



### **Feedlot**

- Despite a difficult 2020, where the cattle herd hit a 20-year low, the outlook for beef feedlot is largely positive<sup>2</sup>
- Beef production is expected to tighten in 2021, as producers across the country look to rebuild herd numbers
- December 2020 feedlots were at 72.5% capacity with 1.048m cattle on feed <sup>3</sup>
- 'Mega-trends' of population growth and middle-class incomes, combined with effects of African Swine Fever on Chinese pork supply, underpin the appetite for Australian beef<sup>2</sup>





### Input prices

- Australian farmers have delivered the second largest grain crop ever after years of drought<sup>5</sup>
- La Niña weather event declared by Bureau of Meteorology in Sep 2020 - typically results in higher rainfall in eastern and northern Australia during the spring and summer season, possibly for several years<sup>6</sup>



- Australia's sow numbers are forecast to rise marginally in 2020-21
- Chinese pig herds will be rebuilt in 2021 following containment of African swine fever <sup>4</sup>
- Industry capacity expansion continuing to meet future demands

Dairy News Australia – December 2020
Meat & Livestock Australia – December 2020
ALFA/MLA Feedlot Survey October-December 2020
Department of Agriculture – December 2020
ABC news – December 2020
Bureau of Meteorology – September 2020



# FY21 outlook

- Apiam's business operations expected to remain strong & stable despite ongoing COVID-19 impacts and market cycles
- Continue to drive clinic growth off the back of the rapid acceleration in pet ownership in regional growth corridors;
   a key management priority for FY21
- Business reinvestment to be carefully balanced against return on capital thresholds



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