A snapshot into the Territory’s beef production will be taken from a comprehensive pastoral industry survey currently being carried out by the NT Government.

Primary Industry Minister Kon Vatskalis said officers from the Department of Resources Primary Industry Division are covering thousands of kilometres this year as part of a pastoral industry survey of more than 200 cattle properties in the Territory.

The survey, which follows the launch of the NT Government’s Agribusiness Strategy last month, aims to gain an in-depth snapshot of the Territory’s beef production is a follow up to one in 2004.

“The Northern Territory Government is a strong supporter of the pastoral industry and is keen to see the live cattle export trade grow into the future,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“This survey seeks to gain up to date information on the industry, improve communication between pastoralists, industry groups and the department, and help set priorities for future research and assistance.”

The project will mean many hours on the road for the survey team.

“They’ll be visiting every property – about 230 – which has more than 300 head of cattle.

“Pastoralists will also have the opportunity to provide direct feedback as well as providing an opportunity for those conducting the survey to gain a first-hand understanding of the issues faced by producers on each property.”

He said the results from the 2004 survey had proved invaluable.

“They’ve been widely used by all sections of the industry, and now we need to update the information so we can understand what people’s research and development needs are.

“It will be confidential with results presented on a regional basis. It won’t be possible to identify individual properties.”

Contact: Maria Billias 0401 119 746