



Hydroponic Farmers Federation Newsletter

A0033906W

Volume 5, Issue 04

December 2021



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

In this issue:-

The Secretary	pg 2
Presidents Report	pg 3
Membership report	pg 3
Royal Brinkman	pg 4
HFF Conference Launch	pg 5
PCA Conference	pg 6
Storm Damage	pg 7
Eclipse Enterprises	pg 8
A and D Australasia Pty Ltd	pg 9
Equipment for sale	pg 10
Covid update	pg 11
Agnova	pg 11
Protected Cropping Strategy	pg 12
Ecomix	pg 14
AIS Greenworks	pg 15
Fernland	pg 15
EE Muir & Sons	pg 15
Rijk Zwaan	pg 16
Western Sydney University	pg 18
Powerplants Australia	pg 20



Rising freight costs

AUSTRALIAN PROTECTED CROPPING STRATEGY 2021-2030



HFF CONFERENCE 2022
Hydroponics Tomorrow • 12-14 July

The Secretary



Well here we are at the end of yet another turbulent year, and hopefully we are looking forward to wards a better 2022!

At this time last year we had just hit the first of the fabled 'donut days' with no new cases of covid recorded, and we were all pinning our hopes on a vaccine being delivered. Fast forward to the current time, and as a state we now have 90% of the population double dosed, and now there is talk of everyone lining up for a third booster shot. However to get to this point has been pretty tough on our wider industry with labour shortages now being experienced across the board, and some serious impacts on getting hold of basic raw materials such as Coir. Gary Edwards has provided a small insight into this issue in this copy of the HFF newsletter, and the not so good news is that we may be experiencing these issues on an ongoing basis for a while. However, growers are certainly a 'never say die' bunch and I continue to see people making extraordinary efforts to keep

their businesses running. Let's just hope that 2022 is the year that we really step away from the Covid associated issues, and something like normality returns. For me personally the year actually got busier, with growers looking to get back into embracing training. Living in metropolitan Melbourne meant that for me travel restrictions were on more than they were off (the worst thing about a 5 day snap lockdown is the first 3 weeks.....) but with the aid of Zoom and Teamviewer we could keep the show on the road. And just when we thought things were getting better - we had an Earthquake and Hurricane strength winds! There was affair bit of damage and none more so that to our illustrious President who had his largest shed literally blow over. I won't steal his thunder but John certainly suffered in the storm and he certainly highlights what it is to be resilient in this current day and age. So good things only for 2022 - we have a conference launch coming up, as well as the conference, and we are all busy planning a return of the ever popular grower days across the coming year. Have a great Christmas everyone and I wish you all the best for the New Year! **Tony B**

HFF Executive Details and Contacts

President:

John Elford johnelford@bigpond.com 0417 035 956

Vice President & VFF Representative:

Tony Spurling info@gatewayestate.com.au (03) 9739 0568

Secretary & Newsletter:

Tony Bundock tony@genesis-hort.com.au 0409 007 610

Treasurer:

David Pearson peo@live.com.au 0419 966 477

Membership:

Ian Mortlock ian@morthydro.com (03) 5461 1111

Committee Members:

Trade liaison

Michael Tran mtran@eemuir.com.au 0418 899 586

Gary Edwards gary.edwards@gardencityplastics.com 0498 001 926

Media Liason

Simon Monk simomonk4242@gmail.com 0414 593 706



The President



Well the past few weeks have certainly been 'interesting' to say the least! As you may have heard I suffered some major damage to one of my shed's in the recent storms. I have to admit that I really couldn't believe my eyes when I first saw the shed literally lying on the floor, and I half expected to wake up from what I assumed was a 'bad dream'! But it was reality and I've been dealing with the issues of trying to sort it the resulting damage. Out of all of this I have been absolutely blown away by the level of support that I have received from the HFF members and the wider industry. We always say the

HFF is about "Growers helping Growers" and this has certainly been the case. Whether it has been offers of support to help out in a practical way or just a phone call to see how I'm travelling, the response has been overwhelming, and for that I have to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone. Anyway, that's enough about me, and there are plenty of good things coming up in the industry. Next year is our conference year, and we intend to start things off with a bang! The committee have been working hard behind the scenes and we will be having an official conference 'launch' at the Atura Hotel, Hallam on Thursday the 24th of February. This will be the first time we have run such an event and we are hoping to see a large number of growers and trade at the event. The evening will have a buffet meal (and of course drinks!) as well as entertainment. Full details are on page five of the newsletter, and special thanks go to Simon Monk who has been working on this project. I'm really looking forward to being able to see members face to face again after all the dramas we have endured across the past 12 months. Covid has certainly given us some headaches in the industry, and we are now facing a number of issues in terms of skyrocketing prices for basic materials and freight, on top of all the other associated dramas associated with this virus. I have heard that this is a one in a one hundred year event - let's hope so! So as we come to the end of another difficult year, let's hope that 2022 will provide us with renewed hope and some brighter days, and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a safe New Year from myself and the rest of the committee. I was going to put a Christmas tree on this report, but as it blew away in the storm I've had to replace it with a Christmas 'veggie' Tree! Stay safe everyone! **Regards, John**



Membership

Another difficult year for all of us in the growing industry, but I'm pleased to report that we still have seen our membership figures holding steady at around the 70 plus mark. Next year is a busy one on the conference front with the HFF event happening in July. Members get some good discounts on this event, so if you can encourage others to sign up and come along to the conference that would be great. And the PCA also offer a 10% discount on their conference registrations, so if you are thinking of heading up to Coffs Harbour in March there is a saving to be had. We are really hopeful that we can get back to some sort of normality next year so that we can give members the value for money that HFF membership represents. Grower days are always popular so let us know if you are willing to host one, and we will also be hosting a special dinner event to launch the conference - more of that in this newsletter! Finally can wish you and your families a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.



Ian Mortlock - Membership Secretary

Royal Brinkman

Smarter solutions
for a better and
sustainable future

Let's
improve
together.



CROP ROTATION



CROP CARE



CROP PROTECTION & DISINFECTION



PACKAGING & DESIGN



MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT



TECHNICAL PROJECTS



SERVICE ARTICLES

royalbrinkman.com/australia
the No. 1 platform for horticulture.

Growers want to provide the highest quality vegetables, flowers and plants and there is nothing we enjoy more than helping them to achieve this.

Royal Brinkman has specialized knowledge about cultivation and business processes and works worldwide on innovations for better and unique products.

Brinkman Australia: your reliable partner with quality products and specialists who advise and install.



royal brinkman
global specialist in horticulture

Brinkman Australia Pty Ltd | 18-20 Jarrah Drive, Braeside | Victoria 3195
T 03 9587 2566 | info@royalbrinkman.com.au



This challenging, unpredictable year is almost over, and the festive season is fast approaching

Despite the global situation many of you have thrived under the tough conditions, you continue to achieve great things, your contribution and continued Investments strengthens, enhances & further develops the protected cropping industry in Australia.

The team at Brinkman Australia are very proud of our association and would like to take this opportunity to thank you all very much for the your support and the trust you have placed in us, we are excited with what 2022 will bring and look forward to continuing our good co-operation with you all in the new year and beyond.

Season's Greetings from Brinkman Australia



royal brinkman
global specialist in horticulture

Brinkman Australia Pty Ltd | 18-20 Jarrah Drive, Braeside | Victoria 3195
T 03 9587 2566 | info@royalbrinkman.com.au

HFF 2022 Conference Launch

In previous newsletters we had a 'watch this space' area in relation to a proposed Growers and Trade dinner to launch our 2022 conference. Our planning committee has been working overtime on this event and we can now announce that **Thursday the 24th of February** has been allocated as the locked in date!

The evening will take the form of a meal with networking and socialising, as well as some entertainment.

One of our speakers will be Sheree Marris. If Sheree had her choice, she would have gills instead of lungs, a breath hold to rival the sperm whale and a sparkly green mermaid-esque tail. Since she doesn't she spends most of her time blowing bubbles and developing innovative marine environmental projects that bridge the gap between science and the public. A marine biologist, Adjunct at James Cook University, speaker and commentator Sheree is one of Australia's most passionate and dynamic science communicators sharing her wit and humour of the natural world through radio, regular TV appearances on The Project and Studio Ten and documentaries. She's also a former Young Australian of the Year and award-winning author with several publications including KamaSEAta – Secrets of Sex in the Sea, a humorous read about the unique reproductive methods of sea creatures and the parallels they share with humans.



Sheree Marris

Keeping some sort of control of the event, and also hosting a quiz night will be well known celebrity host—Brian Nankervis. For nearly four decades, Brian Nankervis has made Australians laugh. And that's not an easy task because we're a pretty tough crowd. Of course, it helps that he has many talents – poet, performer, writer, producer and one of the country's best MCs. Originally best known for his character Raymond J. Bartholomeuz, an eccentric beat poet who was extremely popular during the 1980s and 1990s and made regular appearances on Hey Hey It's Saturday. Brian has frequently appeared as himself on television and stage and was the regular warmup man and audience wrangler for The Panel and Thank God You're Here. In 2005, Brian co-created the SBS music trivia game show Rockwiz, which he also appears in as adjudicator and co-host alongside Julia Zemiro. In 2012, Brian hosted Pictures Of You for Channel 7 and since 2016 he has co-hosted The Friday Revue on ABC Radio.



Brian Nankervis

"It's a real thrill to be able to go back to planning events for our members once again", said President John Elford.

"Covid has certainly taken its toll on all of us across the past two years, and it will be great to meet up with everyone on a face to face basis", said John.

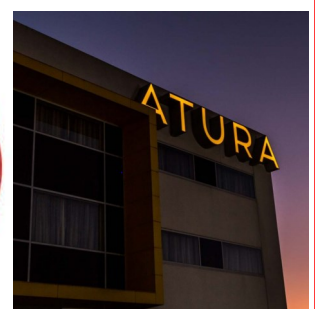
Further details will be sent out to all members ASAP

SAVE THE DATE! HFF CONFERENCE LAUNCH

THURSDAY THE 24TH OF FEBRUARY

7:00PM ONWARDS

ATURA DANDENONG



PCA Conference

REGISTER NOW

Protected Cropping Australia 2022 Conference

PACIFIC BAY RESORT,
COFFS HARBOUR, NSW

28 – 31 MARCH 2022

www.pcaconference.net.au



ARE YOU A GROWER/LEVY PAYER?

PCA have the ability to financially subsidise up to half the cost of a Full Registration for Grower/Levy Payers attending the 2022 national conference.

REGISTRATION INCLUSIONS

FACE-TO-FACE FULL REGISTRATION

- Access to all sessions
- A ticket to the Welcome Function and Conference Dinner
- All morning/afternoon teas and lunches during the program
- Certificate of attendance post conference
- The registration fee covers and includes all Australian Government taxes

FROM \$750

FACE-TO-FACE SINGLE DAY REGISTRATION

- Access to all sessions on your nominated day of attendance
- Catering during the breaks on your nominated day of attendance
- Certificate of attendance post conference
- The registration fee covers and includes all Australian Government taxes

FROM \$570

VIRTUAL FULL REGISTRATION

- All proceedings papers and presentations, including live streaming from Coffs Harbour, NSW
- Real time chat with attendees and fellow presenters.
- Group networking video calls
- Access to virtual exhibitors and sponsor specials

FROM \$175

www.pcaconference.net.au

PCA Conference



Pacific Bay Resort—Coffs Harbour

The PCA Conference has also been something of a victim of the pandemic, with the date being shifted across the diary until it finally landed on the 28th to the 31st of March. “Like the HFF, we saw an ever shifting playing field with our conference - and we certainly did wonder if we would ever get this off the ground, but it is now all set to run’ said PCA Chair, Matt Plunkett. As with many other events, it is unlikely that there will be a huge amount of International delegates being able to participate, but with travel restrictions changing at a rapid rate, we may see some old familiar faces on our shores again. The conference itself is being held at the Pacific Bay Resort in Coffs Harbour which will provide first class accommodation, as well as being sited in the expanding berry growing territory. ‘Our field trips will certainly be looking at some of the key berry producers, and there will also be training events and seminars happening at the conference - there will literally be something for everyone! We always look forward to having HFF members at the conference as they are key players in the overall industry’ added Matt. As per the agreement with the PCA, fully paid up HFF members are entitled to a discounted rate of 10% on the Conference registration fees.

Storm Damage



Structural damage at Yendon Gourmet Hydroponics

The recent storms that lashed Victoria not only left a trail of destruction across the state, but impacted heavily on HFF members. None more so that our very own John Elford. “I woke up at 5am as the power went off, and all seemed OK at that point. However at 6am I could hear plastic flapping in the wind, so I went to investigate and found the shed literally on its side’ said John. Several other farms suffered damage, including Rijk Zwaan, and the nursery production facility of Alameda Homestead Nursery. Of course the ongoing issue of not being able to adequately insure plastic structures came to the fore again, and the HFF and PCA sent out a quick survey to try and gauge the level of damage, so that the respective organisations could lobby government with an indication of the extent of the damage, and hopefully secure some support for growers. This process is ongoing to try and secure some relief funding but unfortunately this is not looking like it will proceed, leaving primary producers to once again to literally ‘pick up the pieces’.



Extensive damage at Alameda Homestead Nursery

Eclipse Enterprises



AGRIFAST

TOM SYSTEM

Greenhouse tying system

Innovative and unique
Clipping solution for trellis and
greenhouse crops,
saving you time and money

Contact us for
further information,
pricing and your
nearest distributor.



V-46 - Pepper crop

V-46 -Tomato crop

V-46 - Cucumber crop



1 Marlow Road, Keswick, SA, 5035
P: (08) 8351 8611 F: (08) 7225 1993

E: info@eclipseenterprises.com.au
www.eclipseenterprises.com.au

11/2020/007

TOM-System is the new, quick, and easy working method for trellising greenhouse plants such as tomatoes, cucumbers, and capsicums/peppers to string lines. The AgriFast V-46 ring clips are fastened using the Model TT235 electronic application tool. These metal clips support similar or heavier loads than other tying methods, do not hinder plant growth and support formation of the stem. The Model TT235 allows the user to apply ring clips to string line up to 50% faster than standard clipping methods and requires no specialised training. The clips are designed to rust away after composting. The period depends on the conditions but there have been some reports here in Australia of clips disappearing after only 7 months

What are the benefits of TOM System?

- Reduces labour costs by 40% or more
- Reduces damage to the plant caused using other trellising methods
- User friendly with no specialised training required
- Adjustable tension to suit different string thickness
- Compatible with eco-string
- Clip closure between 22mm and 23mm
- TOM-System can hold plants more than 8kg
- Reduces transport costs compared to other clips
- Reduced fatigue on the operator
- Battery will last up to 2 days



For a demonstration or quotation, feel free to contact

Michael Tran at EE Muirs - 0418 899 586

A & D Australasia Pty Ltd

Inspection Systems | Metal Detectors | Checkweighers | Data Capture

PREVENT PRODUCT RECALL

REDUCE PRODUCT GIVEAWAY



Includes A&D's wide range of stand-alone or networked scale solutions that can reduce giveaway and increase packer speeds.



Talk to A&D today about how to reduce giveaway and improve product quality with our local range of in-line Inspection Systems.

Locally stocked and supported in Australia.

1800 241 434

or visit: www.andweighing.com.au



NFT Hydroponic lettuce plant and equipment for sale



Based in Echuca, Gourmet Greens has been operating as a commercial (outdoor) hydroponic lettuce operation for over 20 years, and have built a strong name for quality in the fresh vegetable market.

But that time has now arrived where the owners are retiring to (hopefully!) a quieter life away from the demands of being a commercial grower.

The complete crop production infrastructure is now available for removal. This includes growing benches and gutters, pumps, Bluelab fertiliser dispensers, seeding trays, lettuce spinner, stainless steel packing benches, as well as two refrigerated delivery vans etc.

In total there are 71 bench tables with the capacity to grow 40,000 lettuce plants.

The total package of the hydroponic lettuce plant and equipment is being offered for sale for \$100,000 or best offer. This offer also includes the well respected trading name of 'Gourmet Greens' as well as a large amount of pre printed packaging.

If the purchaser is in the Echuca region, the current owners we would be prepared to help with the re-establishment of the infrastructure, as well as an introduction to the current client base.

**For further information on this unique business opportunity,
please contact Sally on mobile 0407 839 394**

Covid–19 The knock on effects



As we have all seen, the Covid-19 pandemic has generated some real economic impacts on the general horticultural industry. Infections and quarantine measures have prevented the regular delivery of certain goods and associated services, and also played havoc with labour supplies. Basic commodities such as coir as a growing media have been impacted with sharply rising costs for the raw material and the associated freight to deliver the products. HFF Committee Member and Garden City Plastics Manager, Gary Edwards explains. "Covid and many other factors have affected all aspects of the coir supply chain, Constant lockdowns in all countries where coir is processed, as well as a the deadly second wave that hit

India hardest of all, have all contributed to uncertainty of supply. This has made it very difficult moving stock from coir mills to the plants, and even harder to source packaging to get the stock into a container. On top of this the La Nina weather pattern in southeast Asia is producing well above average rainfall, this has made it even harder to dry out the material to have it ready for export. With the world in and out of lockdowns throughout 2020 and 2021 most people decided to landscape their gardens and fill their houses with indoor plants. This increased demand for all substrates on an already disrupted supply chain, which has pushed things to breaking point. With overseas travel still not on the agenda there seems to be no signs of things slowing down. For suppliers that have been able to source coir, and actually have product ready for export, you then have the massive issue of freight. Freight prices are hitting over 1,000% what they were before Covid, and that's if you are lucky enough to secure a booking. We are also seeing stock being taken off ships in places like Singapore, and replaced with something of higher value where someone is prepared to pay more for the space. We have also had several ships pulled into port and parked for a few weeks due to Covid being detected on the vessel, pushing the delivery date back by a few weeks.



My advice? With all of these issues impacting availability and delivery it is important that you lock in your orders for all imported goods, no matter what it is - lead times can be 6 - 12 months on some products."

AgNova



- Two modes of action
- Systemic & protective activity
- Soft on beneficials
- Rainfast in one hour
- New mode of action, for resistance management

Zampro®
Fungicide

Innovation. Quality. Solutions.

Zampro® is a registered trademark of BASF. 211115



agnova.com.au

Australian Protected Cropping Strategy Launched

THE STRATEGY ON A PAGE

The purpose is to provide a clear direction and priorities for research, development and extension investment to enhance the profitability of vegetable, berry, nursery and tree-fruit value chains by 2030



VALUE CHAINS

Develop profitable, diversified markets

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

- V.1. Identify profitable value chain opportunities for PC products
- V.2. Identify opportunities to grow exports through PC
- V.3. Showcase potential for product development and diversification through PC
- V.4. Optimise postharvest quality of PC products



PEOPLE

Increase knowledge, capacity, and practice change

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

- P.1. Understand and address barriers to PC adoption
- P.2. Examine the extent of PC adoption across Australia
- P.3. Build industry capacity and capability to adopt PC systems
- P.4. Identify approaches to building a skilled PC workforce
- P.5. Investigate options to streamline PC development consents



TECHNOLOGIES

Optimise fit-for-purpose, cost-effective technologies

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

- T.1. Identify and adapt cost-effective technologies
- T.2. Develop whole-of-enterprise PC systems and agronomy packages
- T.3. Address current issues and limitations in PC systems
- T.4. Harness next-generation PC technologies
- T.5. Advance technologies and protocols for environmental sustainability of PC systems
- T.6. Understand the economics of PC systems

ADOPTION OF NEW KNOWLEDGE AND 'BEST IN CLASS' PC SYSTEMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA'S HORTICULTURE INDUSTRY

2030 OUTCOMES

Australia's horticulture industry has harnessed the potential of PC systems to develop new and existing markets, domestically and internationally

2030 OUTCOMES

Australia's horticulture industry has improved capacity and capability to harness the potential of PC systems across a diversity of crops, regions, climates, business models and markets

2030 OUTCOMES

Australia's horticulture industry has access to cost-effective, fit-for-purpose PC systems to transform productivity, increase profitability and drive industry growth

A vision for a thriving Australian horticulture industry, which is positioned for growth, sustainability, prosperity and international competitiveness

Investment principles of strong collaborative practice, two-way learning, systems thinking and environmental sustainability

Australian Protected Cropping Strategy Launched



The Hon. David Littleproud

AUSTRALIAN PROTECTED CROPPING STRATEGY 2021-2030

Opportunities for research, development and extension to support the adoption of protected cropping in the Australian horticulture industry

A strategy to provide direction and support for crops grown under shelter in Australia has been launched. Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia David Littleproud said the Australian Protected Cropping Strategy 2021-2030 was a pathway for the industry to develop. "Protected cropping is a very broad term but basically it refers to crops grown within or under a structure, meaning crops can be grown with protection from the elements," Minister Littleproud said. "The strategy will look to increase knowledge and the capacity of industry to adopt and take advantage of protected cropping systems. With these systems we can look at developing new markets, both domestically and



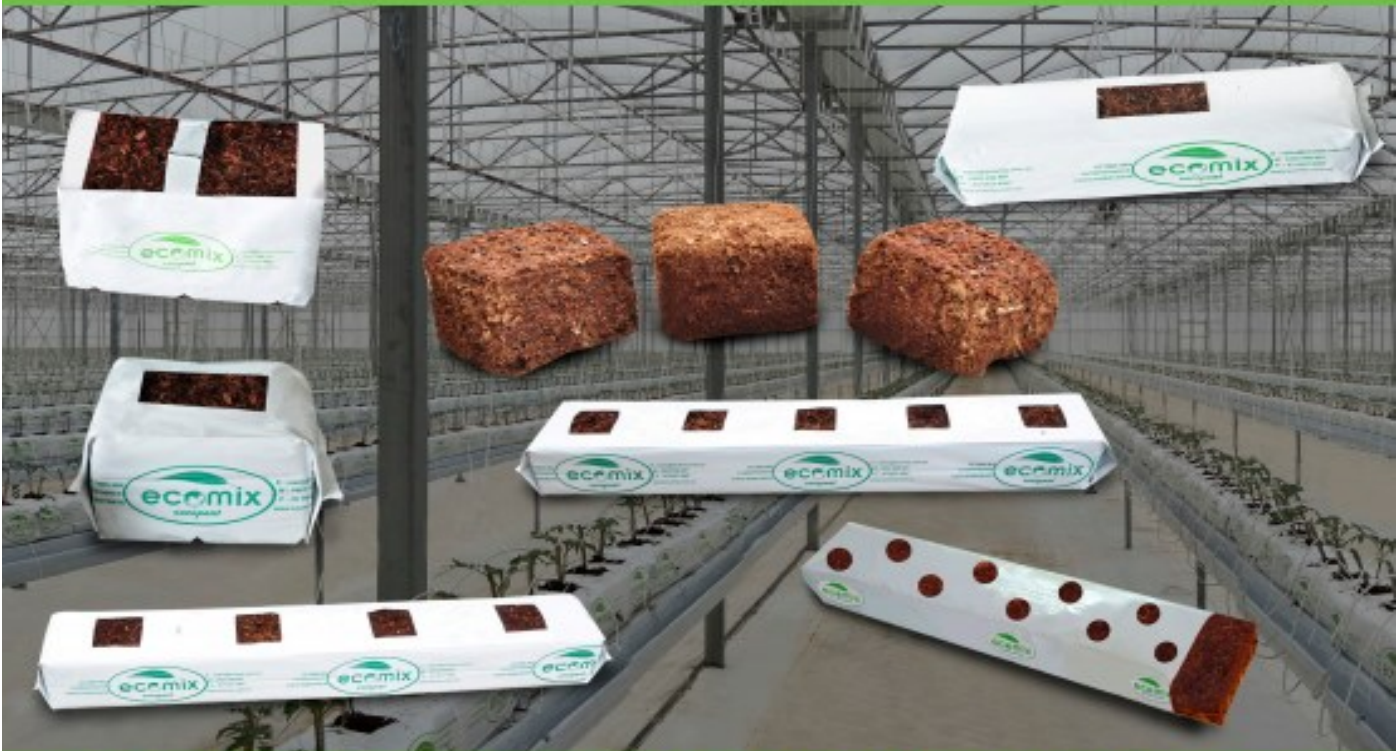
internationally. "There is huge potential for protected cropping, and I'm really excited for what the next decade could bring." Implementation of the strategy is being led by Protected Cropping Australia with support from Hort Innovation. Hort Innovation Australia Chief Executive Officer Matt Brand said protected cropping-based horticultural production is tipped to grow considerably. "Because protected cropping provides control over growing conditions, a dedicated strategy is vital," Mr Brand said. "From high-tech glass houses to basic covers and nets, protected cropping is becoming a popular choice for Australian horticulture. "With input from industry, this strategy provides an important roadmap to drive innovation and competitiveness in the horticulture sector."

The Australian Protected Cropping Strategy 2021-2030 was funded through the Hort Frontiers Advanced Production Systems Fund through Horticulture Innovation Australia.

Ecomix



ECOMIX HIGH PRECISION COCO GROW BAGS



ECOMIX, LARGEST SELLING COCO GROW BAGS IN AUSTRALIA HIGH PERFORMANCE...BETTER YIELD



AIS Greenworks



Greenhouse Solutions
Climate Control
Heating, Cooling
Efficiency

Australia-wide
Sales, Service & Spare Parts
Ph 1300 763 141
aisgreenworks.com.au

EE Muir & Sons



E.E. Muir & Sons

E.E. Muir & Sons wish all of our customers a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

We thank you for your trade across the past year and look forward to being of service to you in 2022.



Fernland

Are you looking for reliable and consistent quality coir - grow bags at an affordable price!

We have grow bags from
✓ 1m Slabs to ✓ 6L ✓ 8L ✓ 10L and ✓ 30L Bags
Ideal for vegetables, berry crops, ginger and medicinal cannabis.

We also stock: ✓ Weedmat, ✓ Shadecloth,
✓ Bird Netting and a range of ✓ Plant Bags.



Rijk Zwaan

The success of truss tomatoes in Australia

Rijk Zwaan's dual line tomato varieties, Endeavour RZ and Adventure RZ are delivering on consumer expectations in the truss tomato segment. Since first introduced to the Australian market, Endeavour RZ has successfully grown and maintained its popularity, capturing the confidence of growers on the east coast and west coasts of Australia.



Endeavour RZ features high quality fruit and robust flavour, performing well and maintaining a good shelf life in the harsh Australian climate. New South Wales Account Manager, Philip Ritchie explains that "Growers are doing very well as they understand Endeavour RZ extensively and are maximising their yields with specific growing techniques. This has created a confident approach where growers are refining their growing techniques for improved quality and yield and the market has reacted positively."

Throughout the year, in times of market fluctuations, there may be instances where there is an excess of fruit. In these situations, growers and marketers can often find themselves in a situation of having to hold fruit for a longer period. Phill explains, "At times of over supply the market may be moving the fruit slower than usual, and as a result there may be a build-up of fruit. In these circumstances, with extended storage time, certain tomato varieties struggle to maintain a high quality unless they are moved quickly. Endeavour RZ holds up very well in respective market conditions. Companies can rely on Endeavour RZ and gain confidence from knowing it has good holding ability."

With many businesses, Endeavour RZ has really become a part of their family, where the variety is known, and there are no surprises. The growers know how to maximise and predict respective yields, and the allocation of time for labour etc is very well known. With Endeavour RZ, growers know exactly what they're dealing with."

Adventure RZ joined the Rijk Zwaan suite of product offerings as a complementary variety to Endeavour RZ. Since then, it has become a favourite amongst Adelaide growers, a traditionally reserved market. Featuring improved powdery mildew resistance over other varieties, it has resulted in reduced spraying and chemical usage, and in turn, has reduced associated crop pressures for growers.

South Australian Account Manager, Steve Natsias explains, "Growers of tomato varieties found that Adventure RZ gave them an advantage with the powdery mildew resistance. Adventure RZ has also highlighted how well it could handle harsh environments and extreme conditions."

Adventure RZ has provided some growers with a quality truss tomato and an alternative that they were looking for. With the ability to set well under both hot and cool conditions and a firmer, larger TOV (truss on vine) fruit size with the added protection of mildew resistance, this variety has proven to be a game changer for those that have adopted it.

Both Rijk Zwaan tomato varieties, Endeavour RZ and Adventure RZ, are grown using hydroponic methods for long-term production, providing a longer growing cycle and increased production.

For more Information, contact Rijk Zwaan.

Rijk Zwaan

Adventure RZ

Trials have yielded impressive results in Australia.

Well adapted to handling extreme conditions and harsh climates, it produces high yields of quality truss tomatoes.

Key features

- High quality and high yield
- Strong well balanced plant
- Sets well under hot and cool conditions
- Improved mildew resistance

For more information contact your technical representative

Endeavour RZ

This variety has a strong reputation for its balanced plant habit, improved flavour and high quality fruit.

It consistently performs under the tough and variable Australian conditions.

Key features

- Market leading variety
- Good presentation and shelf life
- Open and balanced crop
- Exceptional setting ability



HFF Platinum Sponsor 2022

Rijk Zwaan Australia Pty Ltd

PO Box 284 Daylesford, Victoria 3460 | Australia
T (03) 5348 9000 | www.rijkszwaan.com.au

Sharing a healthy future





WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY

A photograph of a woman with brown hair tied back, wearing a white lab coat, standing in a hydroponic greenhouse. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background shows rows of green plants in a controlled environment.

BE A SECTOR LEADER

IN PROTECTED CROPPING

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PROTECTED CROPPING GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PROTECTED CROPPING

The Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate in Protected Cropping will educate future leaders for the Australian horticultural sector via an innovative and flexible industry-supported training model.

Be part of the fastest growing food producing sector in Australia and join the only protected cropping course delivered at a postgraduate level in Australia. Western Sydney University offers a unique Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate course in Protected Cropping providing exciting learning opportunities. Extend your knowledge and further develop your expertise in the areas of science, technology and business with a strong focus on high-tech and intensive horticulture.

This course is designed to comprehensively cover both Australian and international challenges in sustainable greenhouse production in a changing global climate. Students will learn how protected cropping utilises cutting-edge technologies in the core areas of crop production, plant physiology, biotechnology, pest management, postharvest, climate control systems, integrated data intelligence, and business management and logistics. Additionally, students will learn best-practices from the protected cropping industry experts to equip graduates for employability and mobility.

The Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate courses in Protected Cropping are funded by the Hort Frontiers Leadership Fund, part of the Hort Frontiers strategic partnership initiative developed by Hort Innovation, with co-investment from Western Sydney University, key industry partners (Flavorite, Costa Group, Perfection Fresh, Australian Fresh Leaf Herbs, and Greenworks) and contributions from the Australian government.

The industry partners will host students for their industry research projects. Therefore, engaged students will be job-ready to start in the protected cropping industry following completion of the course.

ACCREDITATION

Both the Graduate Certificate and the Graduate Diploma in Protected Cropping are recognised by the two industry organisations – Protected Cropping Australia and the Hydroponic Farmers Federation.

WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

The course includes a combination of flexible online learning modules and practical on-site workshops to allow you the flexibility to work while studying.

The highlight for your learning journey is the Masterclass experience, where you will meet with industry experts and work on real life industry challenges in a world-class, high-tech greenhouse facility. Themes within the workshops for the Masterclass include software and hardware systems, crop and produce management, integrated pest management and fertigation systems.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

The Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate in Protected Cropping courses are a key education and training component of National Vegetable Protected Cropping Centre, jointly funded by Horticulture Innovation Australia and Western Sydney University. The Centre encompasses 1800sq. m. over 9 independently controlled growing spaces designed with the world's very best glasshouse infrastructure and sensor controlled systems, to offer research, education and training opportunities in modern protected cropping horticulture.

The practical experience gained during this course will allow you to be part of the sustainable solution that focuses on resource management, reducing agricultural pollutants and environmental footprint, and using technology to advance production.

Graduates of this degree can look forward to career opportunities, such as; Horticultural Business Managers, Crop and Nursery Managers, Business Consultants or High-tech Growers.

HOW TO APPLY

Postgraduate course applications are processed online and can be made directly to Western Sydney University at westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws or alternatively through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) at uac.edu.au/postgraduate.

Students are eligible to apply for one of the 65 **scholarships** (up to \$5,000 each) and **internships** (up to \$17,500 each) generously provided by the five industry partners. The applicants need to submit an Expression of Interest form and the Project Reference Group will make the selection.

For more information about studying this course, please contact

Professor Zhonghua Chen

0466 544 696

z.chen@westernsydney.edu.au

Visit our Protected Cropping course pages for more information.

westernsydney.edu.au/graduate-certificate-in-protected-cropping

westernsydney.edu.au/graduate-diploma-in-protected-cropping



LEADERSHIP
FUND



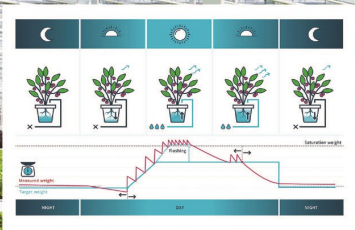
westernsydney.edu.au

POWERPLANTS AUSTRALIA

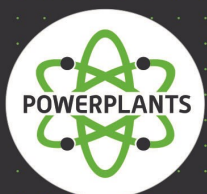


CREATING
A CLIMATE
FOR GROWTH
PRIVA

Australia's Only
Full Service Provider







Powerplants is Australia's only Priva full service provider offering 24/7 support. Contact our team today for custom tailored solutions for all your horticultural projects.



Technology is what we do,
innovation is what we live for

powerplants.com.au pb-tec.com



Follow Us  /powerplantsaustralia  @powerplantsaust  /user/powerplantsaustralia  @powerplantsaustralia