

## Day 1 — Tuesday 5 March 2024

9.00 am – 9.30 am

### Conference opening

MC

**Kate Banville**

Journalist

Welcome to Country and Senator the Hon. Murray Watt, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry opening address

9.30 am - 11.00 am

### Session 1

National and Global Economic Outlook – opportunities and risks shaping Australian agriculture’s future

An examination of the Australian and global economies and the expected drivers affecting agriculture, fishery and forestry sectors and their respective supply chains.

MC

**Kate Banville**

Journalist

### Keynotes and Q&A

**Dr Marion Jansen**

Director Trade and Agriculture, OECD  
(Virtual presentation)

Outlook for Global Agriculture

**Dr Jared Greenville**

Executive Director, ABARES

Outlook for Australian agriculture

**Dr Luci Ellis**

Chief Economist, Westpac

Outlook for the Australian economy

11.00 am – 11.30 am

**Morning tea break and networking**

11.30 am – 12.30 pm

### Session 2

Agriculture in focus

A keynote address from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, followed by a panel of ABARES commodity and farm data analysts discussing the medium-term economic outlook for key farm sector commodities and farm incomes.

MC and panel moderator

**Dr Jared Greenville**

Executive Director, ABARES

### Keynote

**Adam Fennessy PSM**

Secretary,

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

**Panel: Outlook for commodities and farm incomes**

**Emily Dahl**

ABARES, Grains and oilseeds

**Alistair Read**

ABARES, Livestock commodities: Meat, wool and dairy

**Tim Kane**

ABARES, Horticulture and wine

**Patrick Mulcahy**

ABARES, Australian farm performance

12.30 pm – 1.30 pm Lunch break



## Day 1 — Tuesday 5 March 2024

1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

### Session 3

#### Climate change impacts and adaptation on Australian farms, agricultural policy and the net zero challenge

Introducing two major climate change and net zero-related plans—the Australian Government’s ‘Agriculture and Land Sectoral Plan’ and the joint DAFF/CSIRO work program, ‘Ag2050’. These presentations are followed by a panel discussion on Australian agriculture’s net zero challenge and initiatives underway in a number of sectors.

MC and panel moderator

**Anna Skarbek**

CEO Climateworks Centre, Monash University

#### Ag and Land Sectoral Plan and Ag2050

**Nick Blong**

First Assistant Secretary,  
Sustainability Climate and Strategy, DAFF

*Australian Government’s Agriculture  
and Land Sectoral Plan*

**Dr Rose Roche**

Research Lead Ag2050, CSIRO

*What Australian farming systems could,  
should and need to look like to be profitable,  
productive and sustainable*

#### Panel: Agriculture’s net zero challenge

**Alex Baker**

CEO, FutureFeed

**Rachel Palumbo**

General Manager,  
Nuseed Australia (Nufarm’s Seed Division)

**Dr Sharon Harvey**

Senior R&D Program Manager, Wine Australia

**Dr Sue Ogilvy**

Program Director, Farming for the Future

3.00 pm – 3.30 pm Afternoon tea

3.30 pm – 5.00 pm

### Session 4

#### Changing the global conversation on trade, support, and food security

A dive into the newly-launched ‘Catalysing Australia’s Biosecurity’, a joint DAFF/CSIRO initiative. This is followed by a panel focussed on Australia’s contribution to the global conversation on agricultural sustainability and the harmful role agricultural subsidies continue to play on trade and global food security.

MC and panel moderator

**Matt Koval**

Acting Deputy Secretary, Agricultural Trade Group, DAFF

#### Catalysing Australia’s Biosecurity (CAB)

**Bronwen Jagers**

First Assistant Secretary,  
Biosecurity Strategy and Reform, DAFF

**Dr Andy Sheppard FTSE**

Chief Research Scientist CSIRO and Co-Executive  
Director DAFF-CSIRO Catalysing Australia’s Biosecurity

#### Panel: Changing the global conversation on sustainability, agricultural support and food security

**James Fell**

Trade and Global Change, ABARES

**Su McCluskey**

Special Representative for Australian Agriculture

**Sarah Hyland**

Sustainability and NRM Policy, GrainGrowers Limited

**Azizah Fauzi**

Food Security and Agriculture Research,  
Centre for Indonesian Policy Studies

5.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Welcome Sundowners and networking

## Day 2 — Wednesday 6 March 2024

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9.00 am – 10.00 am

#### Session 5

##### Farm debt, investment and resilience

Session focussed on farm business risk, including drought risk, in a period of high interest rates and the impact on investment in the sector. A longer-term issue relates to the pricing of climate risk in agriculture, through impacts on debt and other sources of capital, such as corporate sector investment.

MC and panel moderator

##### **Sarina Locke**

ABC Regional

##### Scene-setting

##### **Dr Neal Hughes**

Farm Data and Analysis,  
*ABARES Farm risk, debt and investment trends  
and risk management practices*

##### Panel

##### **Melissa Brown**

FAS Farm Resilience, DAFF

##### **John Howard**

CEO, Regional Investment Corporation

##### **Josie Zilm**

Head of Agribusiness Strategy,  
National Australia Bank

##### **Kristina Hermanson**

Managing Director, Asia and Africa,  
Nuveen Natural Capital

9.00 am – 10.00 am

#### Session 6

##### Marine fisheries in a changing climate

A discussion of the impacts of climate change on fish stocks and an exploration of the adjustment required to adapt and ensure sustainable marine fisheries.

Panel moderator

##### **Patrick Hone**

Managing Director,  
Fisheries Research & Development Corporation

##### Panel

##### **Professor Gretta Pecl**

Director, Centre for Marine Socioecology,  
Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies,  
University of Tasmania

##### **Wez Norris**

CEO, Australian Fisheries Management Authority

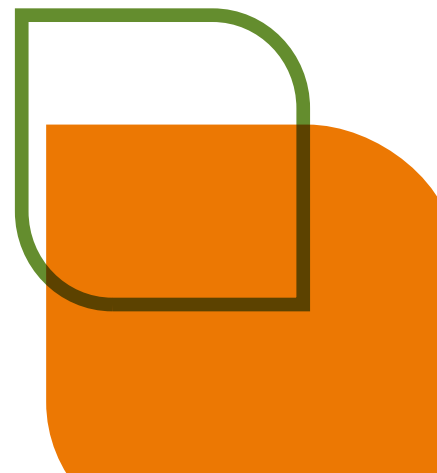
##### **Sam Gordon**

Managing Director, South Coast Mariculture;  
and Executive Director, Blue Harvest Pty Ltd

##### **Martin Exel**

Managing Director,  
Seafood Business for Ocean Stewardship (SeaBOS)

10 minute break



## Day 2 — Wednesday 6 March 2024

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10.10 am – 11.10 am

#### Session 7

##### Shaping the future of the agricultural workforce

Discussion of the future for agricultural labour and careers, covering topics such as skilling the agricultural workforce and workforce planning; sustainable supply of farm labour; young farmers and career progression in agriculture; and working smarter with technology and management practices.

MC and panel moderator

##### **Maddelin McCosker**

ABC Rural

##### Scene setting

##### **Ben Slatter**

Agricultural Workforce Analysis and Data, ABARES  
*Snapshot of the agriculture workforce  
and longer-term trends*

##### Panel

##### **Michael Hartman**

CEO, Skills Insight (Jobs and Skills Council)

##### **Associate Professor Amy Cosby**

Senior Research Fellow Agri-tech Education  
and Innovation, Central Queensland University

##### **Matt Palise**

Managing Director, Red Rich Fruits

##### **Andrew Slatter**

CEO, Viridis Ag

10.10 am – 11.10 am

#### Session 8

##### Living with varroa: ensuring healthy bee stocks and effective crop pollination

This panel will discuss the issues around living with varroa mite going forward and lessons learned for biosecurity more broadly.

Panel moderator

##### **Kate Banville**

Journalist

##### Panel

##### **Professor Saul Cunningham**

Director, Fenner School of Environment & Society,  
Australian National University

##### **Danny Le Feuvre**

CEO, Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

##### **Shane Hetherington**

Director Plant Biosecurity Enhancements and Projects,  
NSW DPI

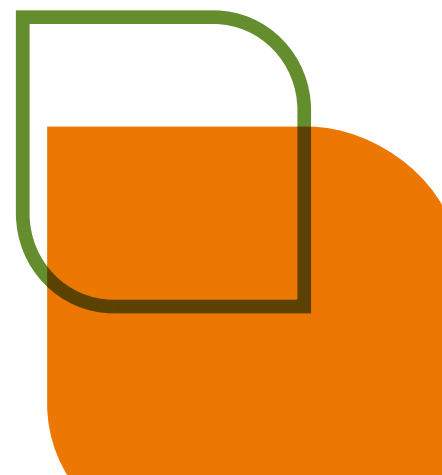
##### **Deidre Jaensch**

Industry Development Manager,  
Almond Board of Australia

##### **Zarmeen Hassan**

National Manager Extension and Engagement, AUSVEG

11.10 am – 11.45 am — Morning tea break



## Day 2 — Wednesday 6 March 2024

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11.45 am – 12.45 pm

#### Session 9

##### Shaping a purpose-oriented innovation system

An exploration of practical steps towards more agile and multi-purpose agricultural, food and national innovation systems. The challenge for innovation systems is no longer just to maintain international competitiveness but also to meet multiple sustainability and other societal goals. The session explores how the challenges faced by Australia's agriculture and food sectors are changing, and how we can augment our existing innovation system to meet these challenges.

Panel moderator

##### Dr Rohan Nelson

Institutional Economist, Food Systems Horizons, CSIRO

##### Panel

##### Dr Andy Hall

Senior Principal Scientist, CSIRO

##### Dr Jane O'Dwyer

CEO, Cooperative Research Australia

##### Dr Heleen Kruger

Social Scientist, ABARES

##### Amelia Olsen-Boyd

Executive Manager,  
Mission Innovation Strategy and Design, CSIRO

11.45 am – 12.45 pm

#### Session 10

##### Growing Australian agriculture with First Nations people

A discussion to explore where and how First Nations people are involved in agricultural production, and where the opportunities are for ongoing engagement and mutually beneficial relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous farmers.

Panel moderator

##### Maddeline McCosker

ABC Rural

##### Panel

##### Natalie Somerville

Windjara Ag & Euromina Holdings  
(grain and livestock production); and President of  
Australian Women in Agriculture

##### Joshua Gilbert

Young Indigenous farmer; member of Young NFF; and  
member of Future Drought Fund Consultative Committee

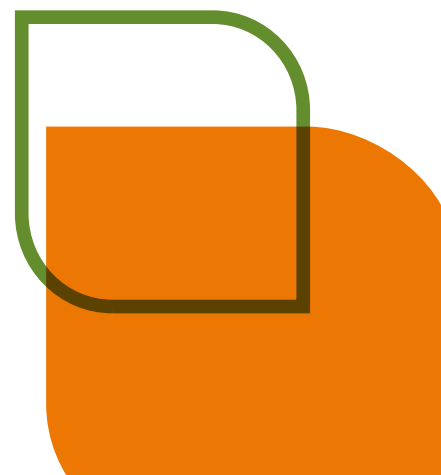
##### Ninielia Mills

Yuwaru Station (cattle); and CEO of Nyamba Buru Yawuru

##### Suzanne Thompson

Chair of Australian Native Foods and Botanicals;  
Director of the Indigenous Carbon Industry Network;  
and Member of Emissions Reduction Assurance Committee

12.45 pm – 1.45 pm — Lunch break



## Day 2 — Wednesday 6 March 2024

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1.45 pm – 2.45 pm

#### Session 11

Consumer interest in environment, sustainability, and nutrition

In a discussion focussed on consumer interest in the environment, sustainability and nutrition, panellists will explore the drivers and demands being placed on agricultural producers.

Panel moderator

**Kate Banville**

Journalist

#### Panel

**Katherine La Macchia**

General Manager,  
Grains and Legumes Nutrition Council

**Samantha Jamieson**

Group Manager, Stakeholder Collaboration,  
Meat & Livestock Australia

**Michaela Aspel**

Senior Consultant,  
Sustainability and Climate Change, Aurecon

**Kieran Macdonell**

A/g Assistant Secretary, Agricultural Traceability,  
DAFF

1.45 pm – 2.45 pm

#### Session 12

Water markets and the environment: opportunities and challenges

Managing environmental water efficiently is critical for keeping rivers healthy and sustaining healthy communities. Join our panellists for a discussion exploring the role of water markets in environmental water management in the Murray-Darling Basin.

MC and panel moderator

**Sarina Locke**

ABC Regional

#### Scene setting

**John Walsh**

Land and Water Economics, ABARES

**Dr Simon Banks**

Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder

#### Panel

**Deborah Nias**

Executive Officer,  
Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd

**Zara Lowein**

Executive Officer,  
Gwydir Valley Irrigators Association;  
Director, National Irrigators' Council

2.45 pm – 4.00 pm — Conference close followed by afternoon tea and networking

