



## Day 1 — Tuesday 4 March 2025

9.00 am – 9.25 am

### Conference opening

MC

**Kate Banville**

Journalist

Welcome to Country

**Selina Walker**

Ngunnawal Woman

Minister's opening address

**The Hon Julie Collins MP**

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

9.25 am - 10.40 am

### Session 1

Driving agriculture's productivity and sustainable success

Agriculture today faces unprecedented challenges. Climate change, geopolitical turmoil and shifting market dynamics demand innovative solutions and adaptive strategies. Understanding the economic trends and productivity hurdles is essential for developing resilient and sustainable agriculture, fishery and forestry sectors and their respective supply chains.

MC

**Kate Banville**

Journalist

#### Keynotes

**Dr Jared Greenville**

Executive Director, ABARES

*Economic Outlook for Australian agriculture*

**Professor Alex Robson**

Deputy Chair, Productivity Commission

*Australia's productivity challenge*

**Ben van Delden**

Climate and Agrifood Partner, Deloitte

*Transforming Australia into a food superpower*

10.40 am – 11.15 am

### Morning tea and networking

11.15 am – 12.30 pm

### Session 2

Commodities spotlight: navigating future trends and opportunities

A panel of ABARES commodity and farm data analysts will discuss the medium-term economic outlook for key agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector commodities and farm incomes. The anticipated economic conditions and their implications for key commodities is vital to understanding the magnitude of the opportunity for the sector.

#### Panel moderator

**Dr Jared Greenville**

*Executive Director, ABARES*

#### Panel

**Emily Dahl**

*Grains and oilseeds*

**Gaby Coulthard**

*Livestock commodities: Meat, wool and dairy*

**Fred Litchfield**

*Horticulture and wine*

**Patrick Mulcahy**

*Australian farm performance*

**Harrison Tuynman**

*Fisheries*

**Stephanie Black**

*Forestry*

12.30 pm – 1.45 pm

### Lunch and networking





## Day 1 — Tuesday 4 March 2025

1.45 pm – 3.00 pm

### Session 3

#### Cultivating intelligence: data for shaping modern agriculture

A critical conversation about the future of agricultural data and its role in driving productivity and sustainability in Australia. To set the scene, a conversation highlighting the ongoing efforts to modernise data collection and dissemination, ensuring our statistics keep pace with the evolving needs of the agricultural sector. Following this, an engaging panel discussion will delve into how data is shaping the necessary changes for increased productivity and sustainability.

#### Chair and panel moderator

##### Matt Lowe

Deputy Secretary, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Policy Group

#### In conversation with

##### Brenton Goldsworthy

Deputy Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics

#### Panel

##### Katie McRobert

Executive Director, Australian Farm Institute

##### Sam Brown

CEO, Agricultural Innovation Australia

##### Kyaw Kyaw Soe Hlaing

General Manager ICT and Digitalisation, Fisheries Research and Development Corporation

3.00 pm – 3.45 pm

### Afternoon tea and networking

3.45 pm – 5.00 pm

### Session 4

#### Fields of influence: agricultural trade, global giants and protectionism

An exploration of the intricate web of factors shaping the future of agricultural trade and its far-reaching impacts on the global economy. A keynote and a scene-setting presentation will set the stage for a panel discussion. We will hear perspectives on critical issues such as future trading environment, impacts of geopolitics, rising protectionism, securing critical inputs and climate challenges.

#### Chair and panel moderator

##### Tina Hutchison

Deputy Secretary, Trade and Regulation Group

#### Keynote

##### Vangelis Vitalis

Deputy Secretary Trade and Economic, New Zealand Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade

#### Q&A

#### Scene-setting

##### James Fell

Trade and Global Change, ABARES

#### Panel

##### Dr Pru Gordon

Executive Director, Australian Centre for International Trade and Investment

##### Fiona Simson

Vice President, Oceania, World Farmers' Organisation

##### Tim Ryan

Interim CEO, Australian Meat Industry Council

5.00 pm – 7.00 pm

### Welcome Sundowners and networking Celebrating 80 years of ABARES





## Day 2 — Wednesday 5 March 2025

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9.00 am – 10.15 am

#### Session 5

##### Sowing seeds of investment: attracting capital to agriculture

An exploration of the financial landscape of agriculture and the innovative pathways to attract capital to help secure a prosperous future for this vital sector.

##### Chair

###### John Howard

Regional Investment Corporation

##### Scene-setting

###### Dale Ashton

Farm Data and Analysis, ABARES

*Trends in farm debt and investment in farming*

##### Panel

###### Charley Cramer

National Head of Agribusiness, AgFin Australia

###### Dr Nicola Thomas

Faculty of Business, Justice and Behavioural Sciences,  
Charles Sturt University

###### Jesse Reader

Head of Investment, Growth and Commercial,  
Hort Innovation

###### David Bryant

Managing Director, Rural Funds Management Ltd

9.00 am – 10.15 am

#### Session 6

##### Harvesting harmony: balancing social license, sustainability and productivity for long-term success

A scene-setting presentation will highlight the significance of community trust in rural industries and how to measure trust and foster positive relationships. A diverse panel of speakers, each from industries facing unique social license challenges, will share their perspectives and strategies to address issues while ensuring productivity and sustainability.

##### Chair

###### Caitlin Crowley

Cussons Media

##### Scene-setting

###### Courtney Bailey

Agriculture Sector Lead, Voconiq

*Community trust in rural industries – how do you determine and measure community trust?*

##### Panel

###### Veronica Papacosta

CEO, Seafood Industry Australia

###### John Lawson

Carbon Projects Manager, Midway Limited

###### Dr Sarah Bolton

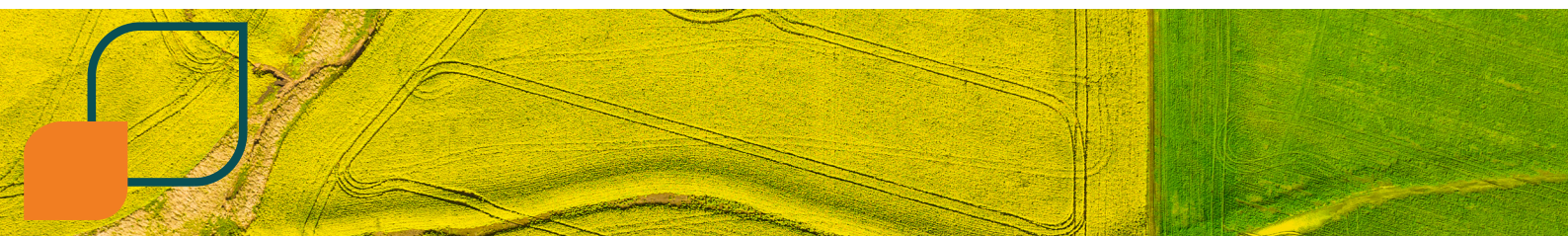
Research Fellow, Animal Welfare Program, University of British Columbia

###### Charles Burke

Queensland Food Farmers' Commissioner

10.15 am – 10.45 am

Morning tea and networking





## Day 2 — Wednesday 5 March 2025

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10.45 am – 12.00 pm

#### Session 7

Resilient landscapes: tackling pests and weeds for sustainable agriculture and biodiversity

Explore one of the most pressing challenges in agriculture and environmental management – controlling pests and weeds while promoting sustainable practices and preserving biodiversity.

#### Chair

**Laurissa Smith**

ABC Rural

#### Scene-setting

**Dr Tony Arthur**

Chief Biosecurity Scientist, ABARES  
*Insights into Australia's established pest and weed problems*

#### Panel

**Dr Ryan Wilson**

Acting Assistant Secretary, Methods Branch,  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the  
Environment and Water

**Nerida Bradley**

Chief Impact Officer, GreenCollar

**Justin Crosby**

Director of Government and Strategic Relations,  
CropLife Australia

**Dr Ken Young**

Senior Manager, Biosecurity and Regulation,  
Grains Research and Development

10.45 am – 12.00 pm

#### Session 8

Farming talent: ensuring a sustainable agriculture workforce

Addresses one of the most critical components of the agricultural sector – building and sustaining a skilled, capable workforce that can meet the demands of the future.

#### Chair

**Caitlin Crowley**

Cussons Media

#### Scene-setting

**David Turvey**

Executive Director, Jobs and Skills Australia  
*Food Supply Chain Capacity Study*

#### Panel

**Jennifer Galloway**

Acting General Manager, Workforce Communications  
and Adoption, AgriFutures Australia

**Mick Fuller**

National People Lead, Dairy Australia

**Professor Ruth Nettle**

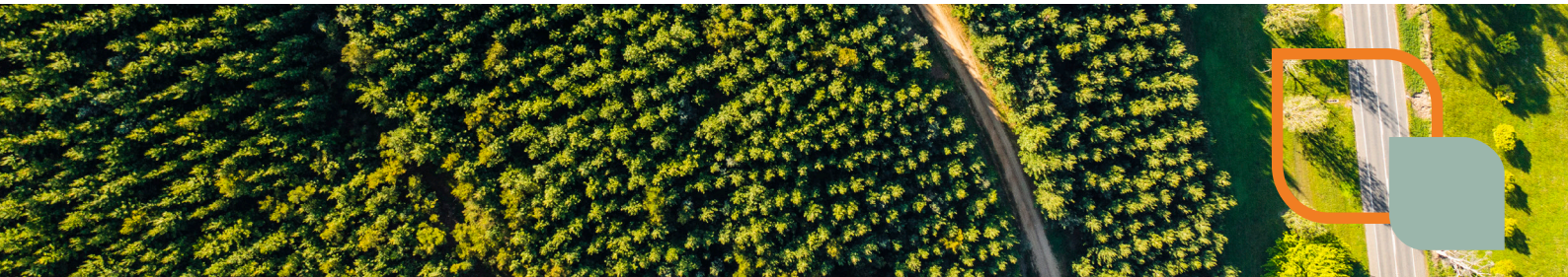
School of Agriculture, Food and Ecosystem Sciences,  
University of Melbourne

**Richard Shannon**

Executive Officer, National Farmers' Federation  
Horticulture Council

12.00 pm – 1.00 pm

Lunch and networking







## Day 2 — Wednesday 5 March 2025

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1.00 pm – 2.15 pm

#### Session 9

##### ‘Walking together’ for Indigenous commercial outcomes

Explore and celebrate the significant contributions of First Nations people in agriculture, fisheries and forestry and their vital role in creating sustainable commercial markets for cultural products and enterprise while managing and preserving their lands and resources.

#### Chair

##### Russell Barnett

Partner, Australian Venture Consultants

#### Scene-setting

##### Rohan Jacobsen

Forests and Land Sciences, ABARES  
*Insights into Indigenous Land and Forest Estate*

#### Panel

##### Professor Emma Lee

Professorial Research Fellow, Federation University

##### Angela Huston

CEO, Bushtukka and Botanicals  
Indigenous Enterprise Cooperative

##### Amy Brooks

Group Safety, Training and Development Manager,  
Stockyard Beef

1.00 pm – 2.15 pm

#### Session 10

##### Securing the essentials: fuels, fertilisers and farm chemicals

A discussion of the critical components that are fundamental to agricultural productivity and sustainability. Ensuring the security and availability of these essential inputs is vital for the success and resilience of our farming communities. Our panellists will explore the challenges and opportunities facing these input sectors and how we can work towards securing them for the long term.

#### Chair

##### Kate Banville

Journalist

#### Scene-setting

##### Andrew Henderson

Principal, Agsecure  
*Food security preparedness*

#### Panel

##### Scott Bowman

President, Incitec Pivot Fertilisers

##### Scott Hansen

CEO, Australian Pesticides and Veterinary  
Medicines Authority

##### David Jochinke

President, National Farmers' Federation

2.15 pm – 2.25 pm

10 minute break





## Day 2 — Wednesday 5 March 2025

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2.25 pm – 3.40 pm

#### Session 11

##### Eyes in the sky: leveraging satellite data for sustainable agriculture and climate resilience

In a world where climate change is increasingly impacting our food systems, this exploration of satellite earth observation for agriculture and climate resilience will showcase the latest advancements in this field, including the innovative collaboration between UK and Australian earth observation scientists.

#### Chair

##### Laurissa Smith

ABC Rural

#### Scene-setting

##### Dr Hugh Mortimer

Global Research Innovation Partnership Program Lead, UK Science and Technology Facilities Council  
*Satellite Earth observation for agriculture and climate (UK-Aus collaborative program)*

#### Panel

##### Professor Richard Lucas

Head of Earth Observation and Ecosystem Dynamics Research Group, Aberystwyth University, UK

##### Professor Jadu Dash

Professor of Remote Sensing, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of Southampton, UK

##### Professor Owen Atkin

Professor of Plant Science, Australian National University and Director Agrifood Innovation Institute, Australia

##### Dr Phil Tickle

Managing Director, Cibo Labs, Australia

2.25 pm – 3.40 pm

#### Session 12

##### Sustainable productivity and net zero

Exploring the journey around sustainable productivity in agriculture and reaching net zero emissions, we discuss strategies to balance productivity with environmental stewardship for a prosperous future for agricultural communities and our planet.

#### Chair

##### Kate Banville

Journalist

#### Scene-setting

##### Dr Will Chancellor

Farm Performance, ABARES  
*The evolution of farm productivity measurement*

#### Panel

##### Richard Heath

CEO, Zero Net Emissions Agriculture Cooperative Research Centre

##### Angela Williamson

Director, Blue Policy & Planning, Blue Economy CRC

##### Su McCluskey

Special Representative for Australian Agriculture

##### Chris Stevens

Director, Global Agribusiness, Kellanova

3.40 pm – 4.30 pm

Conference close with afternoon tea