

# Industry update January 2019



**5**  
Current & contracting projects



**\$77,919**  
Invested in RD&E October - December 2018



**\$252,382**  
Committed to RD&E from 1 July 2018

## AgriFutures™ Ginger Program Advisory Panel

- Nicole Christodoulou (Chair)
- Ric Stevens
- Shane Templeton
- Scott Kirkwood
- Dr Mike Smith
- Jason Keating
- John Smith (AgriFutures Australia Senior Manager, Research)

## Upcoming events

19-20  
Feb

evoke<sup>AG</sup>, Melbourne

21 Feb

AgriFutures™ Ginger Program Advisory Panel meeting

1 Mar

AgriFutures™ Horizon Scholarship applications close

## Project spotlight (complete):

### Ginger automation scoping study

**Project ID:** PRJ-011406

**Research Organisation:** University of Southern Queensland

This table provides key information and potential options for automation/development in each of the key areas within the ginger production cycle.

Process	Options	Feasibility
<b>Fusarium detection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-field detection using drones</li> <li>• Processing-line sensors as the ginger enters the processing stream to remove unwanted pieces</li> </ul>	<p>Plausible with research</p> <p>Plausible with research and development</p>
<b>Seed ginger cutting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machine vision (detecting fusarium)</li> <li>• Manipulator (position and cut the ginger)</li> </ul>	Not probable due to high cost
<b>Fresh ginger cutting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machine vision (detecting fusarium, roots, old seed pieces)</li> <li>• Manipulator (position and cut the ginger)</li> </ul>	Not probable due to high cost
<b>Seed planting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adapting an improved feed method</li> </ul>	Plausible with development
<b>Spraying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescription or live weed maps for inter-row spot spraying</li> </ul>	Plausible with research
<b>Harvesting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adapting/improving a similar harvester for use with ginger</li> </ul>	Plausible with development
<b>Removal of plant material</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design of a machine/implement to remove plant material prior to harvesting</li> </ul>	Plausible with development



Nicole Christodoulou (Ginger Advisory Panel Chair) and Matt Ezzy, Carter & Spencer

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AgriFutures™ Ginger  
Program newsletter to  
receive regular program  
updates

## Current projects

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Improved tissue culture production of ginger clean planting material

**Principal Investigator:** Sharon Hamill

**Research Organisation:** QDAF

**Expected Completion Date:** 30 May 2019

**Project ID:** PRJ-008308

Ginger Development and Extension

**Principal Investigator:** Zane Nicholls

**Research Organisation:** QDAF

**Expected Completion Date:** 31 July 2019

**Project ID:** PRJ-010755

Improving ginger to future proof the industry against pests and disease

**Principal Investigator:** David Lee

**Research Organisation:** University of the Sunshine Coast

**Expected Completion Date:** 29 November 2019

**Project ID:** PRJ-011612

Review of the Biosecurity Plan for the Ginger Industry

**Principal Investigator:** Rodney Turner

**Research Organisation:** Plant Health Australia Ltd

**Expected Completion Date:** 31 March 2023

**Project ID:** PRJ-010862

## New leadership brings a fresh perspective to the ginger industry

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Carter & Spencer Group's Nicole Christodoulou has been appointed as the new AgriFutures™ Ginger Program Advisory Panel Chair. Nicole joined the Advisory Panel in 2017 and put her hand up for the role with the encouragement of former Chair, Shane Templeton.

Outgoing Advisory Panel Chair, Shane Templeton of Templeton's Ginger, said Nicole's contribution to the Advisory Panel has been noted, particularly her steely focus on ensuring R&D investment decisions are aligned with the industry five year plan.

A particular focus for Nicole is encouraging more young people into the industry, and she believes opportunities with technology is the carrot needed to get the next generation on board.

Growers with an interest in, and passion for, R&D were encouraged to apply for the vacant Advisory Panel position. Applications closed in December with a new panel member to be announced ahead of the next panel meeting in February 2019.



Outgoing Advisory Panel Chair, Shane Templeton welcomes Nicole Christodoulou to her new role

## Update from the Australian Ginger Industry Association

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Members of the Australian Ginger Industry Association gathered on 24 November for a social 'Day at the Races' at the Gympie Turf Club. It was a great day filled with excitement and some friendly competition. "It was an opportunity for our members to get together to celebrate the end of a very busy planting season and the beginning of the festive season" said Katarina Keating, secretary of the association. The form guides were studied carefully and some serious discussion happened before bets were placed. At the end of the day some members went home with fuller pockets than others.



Shane (AGIA President) and Julie Templeton, Templeton Ginger

Learn more  
[agrifutures.com.au/ginger](http://agrifutures.com.au/ginger)