

Industry Update

Vol. 1 No.5



6
Current
projects



\$99,341
RD&E
Investment
July -
September
2019



\$609,258
RD&E
investment
committed
from 1 October
2019

Advisory Panel

- Nicole Christolodou (Chair)
- Ethan Graham
- Jason Keating
- Scott Kirkwood
- Dr Mike Smith
- Lucinda Staley (AgriFutures Australia Manager, Research)

evoke^{AG}. 2020

evoke^{AG}. is returning to the iconic Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne, Australia on 18-19 February 2020. Our inaugural event was a sell-out and those wishing to attend in 2020 are encouraged to secure their tickets.

This year we have discounted Primary Producer tickets selling for \$770 and student tickets for \$440 (inc GST).
evokeag.com/#tickets

Project spotlight: Ginger extension coordination project

Project ID: PRJ-011740

Principal investigator: Katarina Keating

Research organisation: Australian Ginger Industry Association

The industry's growth target is to increase the national ginger production by 2021 from 8,000 tonnes per annum to 12,000 tonnes per annum and at the same time sustain farm gate price. With a rising number of ginger growers and growing production area, an efficient ginger extension and communication project will assist growers to remain sustainable. The Association is confident that the target can be reached by increasing the awareness of ginger research, development and extension (RD&E) investments, innovative technology and growth opportunities.

This project will provide a platform to encourage discussion on concerns, challenges and opportunities faced by the ginger industry and an extension, along with communications offering to act on these. It aims to encourage all ginger growers improve and increase their uptake of RD&E and to improve the general public's perception that ginger growers are proactive and innovative.

It will facilitate forums for information sharing, assist growers by providing effective and timely dissemination of key RD&E information for ginger-based farming operations, and inform the public aware of ginger RD&E projects that are being undertaken.

The project will also help improve the adoption of improved planting material and enhanced pre and post-harvest management practices. It will provide support and maintenance of current food safety and quality assurance programs and deliver broad access to current and past research, showcase new innovations and facilitate better sharing of expert resources across all growing regions.

AgriFutures Australia Advisory Panels

AgriFutures Australia is committed to working with industry to deliver the research and development outcomes that meet rural Australia's needs. We work closely with Advisory Panels to decide on research priorities and to make investment decisions each year.

Members of AgriFutures Australia's Advisory Panels are selected following an open call process which involves a competitive skills-based assessment and/or consultation with key industry bodies and stakeholders. The successful applicants are appointed to the respective Advisory Panel by the Managing Director of AgriFutures Australia. Applicants are required to declare any actual or perceived conflict of interest to the AgriFutures Australia Managing Director prior to appointment. Any subsequent conflicts of interest are managed in accordance with the Corporation's Conflict of Interest Policy.

To learn more about the AgriFutures Australia Advisory Panels and the members of the Ginger Program Advisory Panel please visit agrifutures.com.au/advisory-panels

Current projects

Project ID	Project Name	Start	Finish	Principal Investigator	Research Organisation
PRJ-011612	Improving ginger to future proof the industry against pests and disease	22/11/2017	29/11/2019	David Lee	University of the Sunshine Coast
PRJ-011522	Ginger Ninja: Automating disease detection in seed ginger stock	28/7/2019	18/6/2020	Matthew Dunbabin	Queensland University of Technology
PRJ-011849	Chemical minor use permit research	01/08/2019	28/07/2022	Zane Nicholls	QDAF
PRJ-011627	Site-specific weed control for ginger cropping systems	01/07/2019	31/07/2022	Michael Walsh	The University of Sydney
PRJ-011740	Ginger extension coordination project	30/08/2019	31/08/2022	Katarina Keating	Australian Ginger Industry Association
PRJ-010862	Review of the biosecurity plan for the ginger industry	01/06/2014	31/03/2023	Rodney Turner	Plant Health Australia Ltd

New partnership to tackle cross-sectoral community trust challenge

Leaders of agricultural, fisheries and forestry industries have come together for a new cross-sectoral community trust program aimed at building the capacity of food and fibre industries to actively engage with, and respond to, changes in community trust.

The Community Trust in Rural Industries Program is a collaborative partnership involving ten Rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs)*, the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) and the NSW Department of Primary Industries. This timely capacity building initiative is designed to drive impactful, cohesive and consistent responses to the cross-sector community trust challenge.

Community trust relates to the nature of the relationship between industries and the social context in which they operate. Decreasing trust can lead to reduced industry productivity, profitability, and sustainability resulting from increased regulation, limited market access, and disincentives to invest in infrastructure, among other consequences.

Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Managing Director, Dr Patrick Hone, said the days of thinking we just need to better communicate with the community about what we do and how we do it are gone.

“Research shows we need to actively demonstrate that we share the community’s values when it comes to topics they care about most – safe food, quality nutrition, outstanding animal care and environmental stewardship,” said Dr Hone.

“Australia is a world leader in many contentious domains, such as animal welfare, environmental sustainability, the use of veterinary medicines and pesticides and labour conditions, but we know that trust can be fragile and the

sector must continue to strive to do better.

“This Program aims to build a common language and collective national narrative across industry sectors around the community trust challenge. It will build on our understanding of best practice approaches to effectively engage with the community about their concerns.

“We must be proactive in understanding what influences and drives decisions around values and how industries can respond,” said Dr Hone.

Over an initial three-year period, community research will be undertaken to provide insights on cross-sector issues and best practice approaches – the first round of results will be delivered in late 2019. Ongoing engagement will be conducted to make research outputs available as an input to food and fibre industries developing their own strategies.

To continue reading about Community Trust in Rural Industries Program, please visit agrifutures.com.au/community-trust

