

PROGRAM: WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2025

TIME & STREAM	SESSION INFORMATION	LOCATION
<p>CONFERENCE OPENS 8.30AM</p>	<p>Introduction & Welcome to Country <i>Richard Shannon, Conference MC</i></p> <p>Welcome to Tasmania <i>Hon Julie Collins MP, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries</i></p>	PLENARY HALL
	<p>THANK YOU TO PLATINUM CONFERENCE SPONSORS: MOUNTAIN BLUE & PERFECTION FRESH</p>	
	<p>Welcome to BQI25 <i>Simon Dornauf, BerryQuest International 2025 Conference Chair</i></p>	PLENARY HALL
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION	<p>Leading on the Edge: A leadership story from the world's most extreme environment <i>Rachael Robertson</i></p>	
MORNING TEA 10.00AM		TRADE SHOW AREA
<p>10.30AM KEYNOTES:</p> <p>A GLOBAL BERRY PERSPECTIVE</p>	<p>Welcome & Introduction of Keynote Speakers <i>Anthony Poiner, Berries Australia Chair</i></p> <p>What next for the global berry industry? <i>Mike Knowles, Fruitnet UK</i></p> <p>Berry Smart – Growing our future <i>John Gray, Angus Soft Fruits UK</i></p> <p>Supporting a berry bright future <i>Brett Fifield, Hort Innovation</i></p> <p>Ask the Experts – Panel Discussion</p>	PLENARY HALL
LUNCH 12.30PM	<p>LUNCH SERVED BUFFET STYLE</p> <p>ASHS Student Presentations</p> <p>Lunchtime Learning Demonstrations</p>	TRADE SHOW AREA PLENARY HALL TRADE SHOW AREA
<p>CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1.30PM 1. TRADE</p>	<p>Export and Trade Development update <i>Jenny Van de Meeberg, Berries Australia Export Manager</i></p> <p>📺 via LIVE STREAM</p> <p>2025 Vietnam overview & Fruit market snapshot <i>Chris Morley, Austrade (Live from Vietnam)</i></p> <p>China in Focus: Unlocking the Export potential for Australian Blueberries <i>Jesse White, Berries Australia GM Asia</i></p>	PLENARY HALL
2. PEST, DISEASE & DISORDERS	<p>Unwrapping Blueberry Root Wrapping <i>Alice Hayward, University of Queensland</i></p> <p>Blueberry rust diseases – options to prevent survival over winter <i>Dr Kara Barry, Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture</i></p> <p>Fungicide resistance characterised in <i>Botrytis cinerea</i> from Australian small fruit <i>Lincoln Harper, Curtin University</i></p> <p>Biological conservation inc. Green veggie bug & mirid pheromones (Rubus) <i>Dr Jonathon Finch, Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture</i></p>	WELLINGTON ROOM
3. BREEDING & GENETICS	<p>Cultivating Success: The Strategy and Impact of the Australian Strawberry Breeding Program <i>Dr Jodi Neal, Queensland Department of Primary Industries</i></p> <p>25+ years of improving quarantine conditions for berry crops: Strawberry case study <i>Mark Whattam</i></p> <p>Can one cultivar succeed in highly diverse climates? (Rubus) <i>Dr Agnieszka Orzel (Dr Berry), Poland</i></p> <p>Reflections on 50 years of blueberry breeding in Australia <i>Ridley Bell, Mountain Blue</i></p>	THE SHOWROOM
AFTERNOON TEA 3.05PM		TRADE SHOW AREA
<p>3.30PM SECURING THE FUTURE OF BERRIES</p>	<p>Pesticide access for Australian Berries <i>Peter Dal Santo, AgAware Consulting</i></p> <p>Weather, Seasons and Climate: How they each influence our decisions and impact our lives <i>Dr Tom Remenyi, Acclimatised</i></p> <p>📺 via LIVE STREAM</p> <p>Growing Techniques to Improve Productivity and Spread the Season of Production <i>Nick Evans, Delphy (Live from the UK)</i></p>	PLENARY HALL
5.00PM	SESSION CLOSÉS	
5.00PM – 6.00PM	<p>HUMPDAY HAPPY HOUR PROUDLY SPONSORED BY PIÑATA FARMS & BERRYWORLD</p>	THE GREEN ROOM BAR

PROGRAM: THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2025

TIME & STREAM	SESSION INFORMATION	LOCATION
8.30AM FOOD SAFETY & WORKFORCE ISSUES	<p>FOOD SAFETY A mandatory food safety standard for berries: An unfinished story.... <i>Rachel Mackenzie, Berries Australia</i> Bridging Industry, Science & Regulation: Food Safety in Transition <i>Farzana Adams, FPSC-ANZ</i> Freshcare: 25 Years of Trusted Assurance <i>Jane Siebum, Freshcare</i></p> <p>WORKFORCE ISSUES *Not available* <i>Lisa Rossow, Fair Work Ombudsman</i> What does it matter if your people are skilled, experienced, trained, competent, productive? <i>Michael Rogers, Agri Labour Australia</i> Modern Workforce Practices: Insights from a large agriculture employer <i>Sarah Miles, Costa</i></p> <p>Workforce Panel Discussion <i>Michael Rogers, Lissa Rossow & Sarah Miles</i></p>	PLENARY HALL
MORNING TEA 10.30AM		TRADE SHOW AREA
CONCURRENT SESSIONS 10.55AM 1. RETAIL & MARKETING	<p>Food Marketing Unwrapped: The Special Sauce <i>Luke Gibson, Perfection Fresh</i> Berry Basket Marketing campaign - breaking new ground for berries <i>Jane Richter, Teres Communication</i> The power and the challenge of communicating the health benefits of berries <i>Dr Emma Beckett, FOODiQ Global</i> Making simple sense of how the AQS system can benefit packaged goods manufacturers <i>Julian Horsley, A&D Australasia</i></p>	PLENARY HALL
2. GROWING ENVIRONMENT	<p>Nitrogen Nutrition in Blueberries <i>Dr Sophie Parks, NSW Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development</i> Substrate Moisture Monitoring & Management- turning data into productivity <i>Stephen Welsh, Agri-Tech Pacific</i> Benefits of nanobubble technology for berry growers <i>Leon Power, Nanobubble AgTech NZ</i> Light Quality in Tunnels <i>Dr Sophie Parks, NSW Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development</i></p>	WELLINGTON ROOM
3. POLLINATION	<p>Improving Berry Pollination: From on-farm practices to a new national strategy <i>Fiona Chambers, Wheen Bee Foundation</i> Managing hoverflies for pollination <i>Raylea Rowbottom, Seed Purity</i> How can automated insect monitoring technology enable site-specific berry pollination management? <i>Prof. Alan Dorin, Monash University</i> Managing flies for blueberry pollination: insights from the Mid North Coast <i>Dr Abby Davis, University of New England</i></p>	THE SHOWROOM
LUNCH 12.30PM	LUNCH SERVED BUFFET STYLE	TRADE SHOW AREA
CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1.30PM 1. INNOVATION	<p>Lunchtime Learning Demonstrations Autonomous pollination and yield forecasting with drones and AI <i>Siddharth Jadhav, Polybee</i> Unpacking the findings of two recent berry trials to improve traceability, consumer engagement and the cross border inspection process <i>Greg Calvert, FreshChain Systems</i> Plant production agrivoltaics: Transforming crop production towards net zero and climate resilience <i>Dr Sabine Tausz-Posch, University of Melbourne</i> Engineering a complete use strawberry for space and Earth <i>Prof. Michelle Watt, University of Melbourne</i></p>	PLENARY HALL
2. IPDM	<p>Chilli Thrips (<i>Scirtothrips dorsalis</i>) Outbreak in WA: Introducing <i>Franklinella vespiformis</i> "Frankie" <i>Lachlan Chillman / Jake Byrne, Biological Services</i> Flower Power: Boosting IPM Strategies <i>Shane Steffen, Rural Solutions Qld</i> Soil Fumigation for Today's Growers: Proven Methods, Emerging Technologies <i>Dr Scott Mattner, VSICA</i> Powdery mildew disease: A grower's guide to management <i>Apollo Gomez</i></p>	WELLINGTON ROOM
3. SUSTAINABILITY	<p>Environmental sustainability metrics for Australian Rubus berry production <i>Marguerite Renouf, Lifecycles</i> Unlock the hidden value of your packaging data <i>Elliot Costello, Phantm</i> Environmental pressures on the berry sector & possible solutions to minimise their impact <i>Ed George, GreenlifeGRO</i> Developing a Common GHG Accounting Framework <i>Claire McClelland, AFPA</i></p>	THE SHOWROOM
AFTERNOON TEA 3.05PM		TRADE SHOW AREA

3.30PM
**FARMING INTO
THE FUTURE**

Tag the food naturally, not the packaging: Advanced Biotechnology for Uncompromised

Traceability

Kirsty Hall, Natural Trace

A Small Industry with a BIG Impact

Danny Le Feuvre, Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

Panel Discussion: Observations from BQI25 & what it means for the future

Facilitated by MC Richard Shannon: Mike Knowles, John Gray, Fiona Turner, Simon Dornauf

PLENARY HALL

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5.00PM

CONFERENCE CLOSES

FROM 6.30PM

DRISCOLL'S GALA DINNER & AWARDS EVENING

**PRINCES
WHARF 1,
HOBART**