

400m

Agrifood Innovation Forum 2022

Taking our agrifood products to the world through supply chain innovation



PROGRAM

Toowoomba - 13 July 2022

www.tsbe.com.au/400m

Event Facilitated by



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AN INVITATION

The 400M Agrifood Innovation Forum is a showcase of solutions that use innovative technology to resolve industry challenges right along the supply chain. There is 400 million hectares of arable land in Australia that needs to play its role in efficiently feeding the rapidly growing global population – this is a challenge, but also a great opportunity for the producers.

The 400M Agrifood Innovation Forum, held annually, now in its sixth year, continues to bring together the brightest innovators to connect with delegates representing industry and the most influential international investors.

The 400M Agrifood Innovation Forum drives the adoption of AgTech and delegates will hear from global leaders in innovation, and network with industry professionals to find opportunities to grow their agrifood business into the future.

This year you can expect topics such as:

- The Queensland's AgTech Opportunity
- Agrifood supply chain innovation showcases and success stories
- Industry Led innovation - What that means
- The growth of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics in Queensland
- Current Agrifood research projects that will change the way food gets to consumers
- Interactive Q&A opportunities

You will enjoy valuable industry networking opportunities and take in the tradeshow of the latest Agrifood technologies. You will have access to the full two-day program including an optional industry tour and an investor pitch night dinner.

We invite you to come and experience the Future of Ag

Tickets are currently available at tsbe.com.au/events/400m-agrifood-innovation-forum-0

TSBE Member price \$295

Non-Member price \$395

Accommodation Options

[Oaks Hotel Toowoomba](#) | 12% discount code 'Oakscorp'

[Burke & Wills Hotel](#) | Contact TSBE on 4639 4600 for code

[Central Apartments](#) | Contact TSBE on 4639 4600 for code

[Highlander Motor Inn](#) | 15% discount

- 8.30am** **Registration**
- 9.00am** **Opening Address**
Ali Davenport, CEO, **Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise**
- 9.10am** **Ministerial Address**
Hon. Mark Furner MP, Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities
- 9.20am** **Canegrowers – a journey of innovation**
Dan Galligan, CEO, **Queensland Canegrowers**
- 9.30am** **Keynote Address - Critical factors of digital AgTech adoption on Australian Farms**
Dr Amber Marshall, Postdoctoral Research Fellow at **Queensland University of Technology's Digital Media Research Centre**
- 10.00am** **Keynote Address - Future Forces: A ten-year horizon for Australian agriculture**
Matthew Pryor, Co-founder and Managing Partner, **Tenacious Ventures**

10.30am **Morning Tea**

- 11.00am** **Panel Session: Supply Chain Challenges and what's needed to improve**
A panel of Industry Leaders from along the Supply Chain discussing the challenges.
- Reeanjou Ram, CEO, **iTrazo**
 - Rose Elphick-Darling, Research Fellow-Centre for **Regional and Rural Futures**
 - Kylie McKnight, Marketing Manager, **Costa Group**
 - Chris Day, Director, **APAC Sales Engineering for Denodo Technologies**
 - Brett Williams, General Manager, Beef Sales and Production, **Mort and Co**
 - Jessie Chiconi, Ausgyu Seedstock Production Manager, **Chiconi Grazing**
- 11.45am** **Panel Session: Traceability to Product Sovereignty**
A Panel of Australia's leading Agtech entrepreneurs and thought-leaders discussing emerging technology to solve supply chain challenges.
- Dr Sivam Krish, Founder and CEO, **Go Micro**
 - Danielle Morton, CEO, **Zondii**
 - Long Huynh, Project Manager - Market Access Science and Technology, **MLA**
- 12.45pm** **AgBot Product Launch**
Philip Livingston, Founder and Managing Director, **AgBot**

1.00pm **Lunch**

1.45pm

Panel Session: Robotics, Automation and Autonomy

A panel discussing the journey from robotics through to full autonomy.

- Bala Ganesh, Lead Engineer, **Acumen Automation**
- Ben Kelly, Production Systems Manager AU/NZ, **John Deere**
- Andrew Scott, Executive Chairman, **Queensland Robotics**

2.45pm

Afternoon Tea

3.10pm

Government Investment in Traceability and Agtech

Government agencies sharing their investment and policies around the growth of Agtech as a stand alone sector.

- Dr Andrew Macnish, Team Leader Supply Chain Innovation, **Department of Agriculture and Fisheries**
- Dr Glenn Anderson, Director – Emerging Technologies, Intensive Livestock, Fisheries and Aquaculture Research, Development & Extension Animal Science, **Department of Agriculture and Fisheries**
- Jasveer Singh, Director of the Data, Trust and Insights team (Future Traceability Hub), **DAWE**

4.10pm

The Regional Agtech Experience

A discussion around the Southern Queensland agtech ecosystem.

Thomas Hall, Interim Director, **AGRIFOOD Connect**

Owen Williams, Hub Manager, **Agtech and Logistics Hub**

Prof. John McVeigh, Executive Director of the **University of Southern Queensland's Institute for Resilient Regions**

Pitch Networking Dinner

6.30pm -
8.30pm

Pitch Networking Dinner

Join us for a post-conference dinner event to hear from six innovative entrepreneurs as they battle for strategic investment from investors.

This is a Shark Tank style competition and is open for everyone to participate and realise world investment opportunities.

This is a sit down dinner as an optional extra which is included in your conference registration.

Thursday, 14 July 2022

Site Tours

9.30am -
2.30pm

Tours of several significant agri-industries in the region, including lunch and displays at the AgTech and Logistics Hub.

The site tours are an optional extra which are included in your conference registration.

Speakers



Ali Davenport

CEO

Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise

As the CEO of TSBE Ali Davenport leads a highly motivated team to deliver economic development for Toowoomba and the Surat Basin. Commencing in the role in 2018, Ali believes the region's strength is the diversity of the economy and the resourcefulness of its people. She loves the fact that TSBE is a purpose-driven organisation making a difference to local businesses by connecting them to opportunities.

Ali's professional career has taken her to many parts of regional Queensland including Cairns, Mackay and the Gold Coast as well as the city of Brisbane. Previously she worked in media managing radio and television stations as well as newspapers but now has firm roots on the Darling Downs.

In her time at TSBE, Ali has helped the organisation grow from a staff of 15 to its current size of 23 full time employees. This growth has given TSBE greater capability to assist more businesses to access opportunities providing further economic development for the entire region.



Dan Galligan

CEO

Queensland Canegrowers

Dan Galligan has been the CEO of CANEGROWERS since June 2015. CANEGROWERS is the peak industry body representing over 70% of all Australian cane growers. The organisation provides advocacy on key issues of trade and market access, environmental sustainability, social license to operate and cost of production as well as delivering membership, communication services and programs to support leadership, capacity building and grower engagement.

Previously, Dan was six years as the head of the state farm lobby group, the Queensland Farmers' Federation and spent 10 years driving policy and grower services working with Cotton Australia an industry body representing the interests of the Australian cotton industry. During this time, he worked in advocacy roles, as well as holding grower services and management positions.

Originally from a mixed farming enterprise, Dan has spent a career across a broad range of roles in the agricultural sector. He has a formal background in applied science, rural systems management and environmental auditing.



Dr Amber Marshall

Postdoctoral Research Fellow at **Queensland University of Technology's Digital Media Research Centre**

Dr Amber Marshall is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Queensland University of Technology's Digital Media Research Centre, and an Adjunct Research Fellow at The Cairns Institute, James Cook University.

Dr Marshall's research focuses on digital inclusion and sustainable rural development. Drawing on communication and organisation sciences, she employs practice/process based theoretical perspectives to investigate sociocultural factors influencing how individuals, organisations and communities can become digitally connected and adopt digital technologies.

Her research interests include digital AgTech and data, digital inclusion ecosystems, remote telecommunications infrastructure (both technical and social), and digital skills and capability development.



Matthew Pryor

Co-founder and Managing
Partner

Tenacious Ventures

Matthew Pryor is co-founder and Managing Partner at Tenacious Ventures.

He was previously co-founder of Observant, an Australian agtech pioneer acquired by Jain Irrigation in 2017. He was the founding chair of Rocket Seeder, a food & ag innovation accelerator, a founding board member of the Australian AgriTech Association, and a current member of the CSIRO Agriculture & Food Advisory Committee.

He is passionate about promoting Australian agri-food innovation globally.



Philip Livingston

Founder and Managing
Director

AgBot

Philip Livingston is founder and Managing Director of Gasbot. Prior to Gasbot Philip founded Redback Technologies, an energy storage and electricity grid intelligence company operating on the University of Queensland's long-pocket campus. Philip has 20 years experience within the energy industry and is passionate about customer use cases that leverage his skills in IoT communications, materials science, production engineering, and scalable cloud platforms.

Panel Session: Supply Chain Challenges and what's needed to improve



Reeanjou Ram

CEO

iTrazo

Reeanjou Ram is the CEO of iTrazo specializing in Supply Chain traceability and bespoke Agtech solutions. As the creator of iTrazo's award-winning Supply chain Traceability platform, Reeanjou is a business and IT pioneer who has developed new ways to enable practical, large-scale analysis of securely encrypted active digital identities.

With over 20 years of international and domestic experience, Reeanjou is an ambitious and determined IT industry leader managing large scale programs, incorporating company mergers & acquisitions, across multiple sectors and industries, including Banking & Insurance, Supply Chain Logistics, Agriculture, Manufacturing and Health.



Rose Elphick-Darling

Research Fellow-Centre

Regional and Rural Futures

Rose has a background in executive management, project management and public policy in the areas of transport infrastructure, strategic planning, freight, and logistics. She has led numerous programs and projects to deliver supply chain improvements, strategic investment in freight networks and to develop capacity in industry sectors and individual firms. Rose has been an industry advisor to governments and has extensive experience in bridging industry-government relations on key supply chain issues. Rose has extensive experience and specialist expertise in demographic research, transport and logistics industry analysis, strategic planning and public policy, industry advocacy, and industry capability building and business mentoring.

Rose currently leads the Deakin Food Traceability Research Laboratory, part of Deakin University's Future Food capability, and her current research relates to traceability in food supply chains, supply chain optimisation, digital business and e-commerce, freight network planning and business performance in supply chain.



Kylie McKnight

Marketing Manager

Costa Group

Kylie McKnight is the Marketing Manager at Costa Group, with 8 years of experience in the Fresh Produce industry. With a skilled background in product development, business strategy development, brand building and campaign management, Kylie is an energetic, creative, and driven individual. Kylie has a passion for the agriculture industry and loves sharing the fresh produce 'paddock to plate' story with consumers and understands the consumer demand for brand trust and product provenance. In her role as a marketing manager Kylie helps ensure Costa adopts the need for supply chain traceability so that their brand and product is protected in the market place across Australasia.



Chris Day

Director

**APAC Sales Engineering for
Denodo Technologies**

Chris Day is the Director, APAC Sales Engineering for Denodo Technologies where he assists organisations to leverage the capabilities of Denodo Data Virtualisation to increase their understanding, agility and collaboration across their disparate information landscapes.

With over 17 years of experience in data integration, data governance, data quality and system architecture, Chris leads enterprises through the challenge of transforming their data contained in disconnected disparate silos, into valuable information assets that the whole enterprise can use and understand.



Brett Williams

General Manager, Beef Sales
and Production

Mort & Co

Brett Williams has worked in the Australian beef industry for over 30 years, holding various senior roles in the beef processing sector and has been with Mort & Co in 2018. Brett has management experience in business improvement, quality, and various operational services. He is focused on key measurable aspects relating to resource planning, productivity, efficiencies, innovation, and continuous improvement programs across the entire supply chain.

In his roles, he has been responsible for analysing, collating, and reporting on results, setting targets/KPIs and ensuring accountability in delivering profitable outcomes. Brett also has overseen quality assurance and accreditations, procurement and contract program management and other operational services.

Brett runs the Mort & Co Phoenix Beef export program and is responsible for managing customer partnerships, export sales, quality, production, shipping, administration, and documentation.



Jessie Chiconi

Ausgyu Seedstock Production
Manager

Chiconi Grazing

Jessie Chiconi is the Ausgyu Seedstock Production Manager for the family-owned and operated wagyu herd for Chiconi Grazing located on their 84,000-acre property, Taylors Plains at Mungallala. With her husband Gary, their 2 children Hailey and Samuel, and alongside in-laws, Noel and Jo-Anne, the Chiconi family focus on the production of premium quality beef with the Ausgyu herd consisting of Angus F1, Wagyu Purebred, and Fullblood cattle with an emphasis on structural integrity, maximizing marbling and beef yield without compromising maternal or terminal traits.

Panel Session: Traceability to Product Sovereignty



Sivam Krish

Founder and CEO

Go Micro

Dr.Sivam Krish is an Engineer/Designer developing cutting edge AI Technologies for food quality assessment with a PhD from Cambridge University and an undergraduate degree from MIT. He is the founder and CEO of GoMicro, a company that democratising quality assessment in India and in Australia with the combined use of phone apps and low-cost patent-pending imaging devices.



Danielle Morton

CEO

Zondii

Danielle Morton is the CEO of Zondii delivering disruptive AgTech tools for authentication and traceability. Zondii has patented the world's first inverse spectroscopy technology that is empowering producers to test food or fibre real time with their smartphone.

Danielle has a 20 year history of implementing disruptive technology and a passion for solving problems on the farm. Zondii aims to empower producers and supply chain by allowing them to test for important characteristics, authenticity or provenance of food and fibre. This is done real time with a smartphone using Zondii advanced spectral scanning, data modelling and proprietary Artificial Intelligence.



Long Huynh

Project Manager - Market
Access Science and
Technology

Meat & Livestock Australia

Long Huynh is the project manager for Market access science and technology at MLA. With a degree in Food science, he has over 15 years' experience in the food industry in Quality assurance and research and development. Long works with supply chain partners and processors on topics such as product traceability, food safety, shelf-life extension, and cold chain management.

Panel Session: Robotics, Automation and Autonomy



Bala Ganesh

Lead Engineer

Acumen Automation

Bala Ganesh leads Acumen Automation in its strategic and operation activities, engaging in business transformation through process and industrial automation, and robotics.

Prior to Acumen Automation, Bala Ganesh served in automation engineering and robotics sector in the APAC region with major conglomerates in the food, pharmaceutical and semiconductors sectors. His experience spans various automation solutions focusing on future-proofing business operations through digital transformation, the introduction of automation and IoT applications in small and medium enterprises.



Ben Kelly

Production Systems Manager
AU/NZ

John Deere

Ben grew up on a cropping and livestock property near Gulargambone in Central New South Wales and went on to complete a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Newcastle. In 2014 his passion for precision agriculture led him to complete a Graduate Certificate in Precision Agriculture from the University of New England.

Ben joined John Deere in 2005 and has spent the last 15 years supporting John Deere customers through various field-based roles. In Ben's current role, he is responsible for identifying market trends in Australia and New Zealand agriculture for future product development opportunities as well as leading John Deere's go to market strategies for the Small Grains, Cotton and Sugar Cane Production Systems.



Andrew Scott

Executive Chairman

Queensland Robotics

With a long history in technology innovation, Andrew has over 30 years of experience in the resource industry working with Placer Dome and Barrick Gold. Andrew is part of the founding team for the Global Mining Guidelines collaboration group (now in its 12th Year of operation).

Queensland Robotics (a member of Robotics Australia – growing the robotics Industry globally), is a competitive cluster where Industry, Researchers, Government, Entrepreneurs, Startups and Venture capitalists are working together to grow the Australian robotics industry through collaboration, trust and innovation. Andrew is interested in deep symbiotic collaboration to stimulate, promote and realise positive outcomes for humanity and the planet earth.

Government Investment in Traceability and Agtech



Dr Andrew Macnish

Team Leader Supply Chain
Innovation

**Department of Agriculture
and Fisheries**

Dr Andrew Macnish is a postharvest horticulture and supply chain management specialist with the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. He has 25 years of applied research, development and training experience in enhancing fresh produce quality through adoption of improved practice and technology. His interests and expertise are in supply chain monitoring, quantifying the storage response of fruit and vegetables, and developing practical decision support tools for consistently delivering high quality fresh produce to consumers.



Glenn Anderson

Director - Emerging Technologies,
Intensive Livestock, Fisheries
and Aquaculture Research,
Development & Extension Animal
Science

**Department of Agriculture and
Fisheries**

A parasitologist by training, Glenn has spent most of his career in animal health. He has worked across the university, private and government sectors in technical, product innovation and business development roles. He currently leads a diverse group of researchers covering all production livestock species and a broad range of scientific disciplines from traditional animal studies to the application of artificial intelligence to agriculture. His passion is seeing science translated into real industry impacts.



Jasveer Singh

Director of the Data, Trust
and Insights team (Future
Traceability Hub)

DAWE

Jasveer is an advocate for modern regulation and reducing compliance burden for industry. He championed the “tell us once” approach in the Prime Minister and Cabinet’s Deregulation Taskforce.

Currently leading the Data, Trust and Insights team in DAWE's future traceability hub, he continues to push for a simple, innovative and data-led approach to regulation. His work on traceability will increase transparency in the supply chain, support industry to meet new and emerging requirements like sustainability, and boost Australia’s agricultural sector.

Jasveer is a lawyer and designer from Canberra and spent much of his childhood on his family’s sugar cane farm in Fiji.

The Regional Agtech Experience



Thomas Hall

Interim Director

AGRIFOOD Connect

Thomas is the interim director for the Agrifood Connect. He has a diverse background in aviation and agribusiness, coordinating multi-DC operations and exports throughout APAC and the Middle East.

He is passionate about creating collaborate ecosystems and optimising the Agrifood value change through digitisation and innovation.



Owen Williams

Hub Manager

Agtech and Logistics Hub

Owen Williams has enjoyed a vast career in Agribusiness spanning more than 30 years. Owen hails from a mixed enterprise family farm in South Australia where he studied Science at Adelaide University before taking up rolls with Elders and the Nufarm / Crop Care Group.

During the past 15 years he has specialised in building go-to-market models for products and services. Owen has a deep passion to work with the Agricultural Industry to understand the challenges they face before collaborating with innovators and investors to expediate validated technical solutions.



Prof. John McVeigh

Executive Director

**University of Southern
Queensland's Institute for
Resilient Regions**

Prof. John McVeigh is the Executive Director of the University of Southern Queensland's Institute for Resilient Regions, which focusses on economic and social sciences research and engagement to assist regional communities embrace change and adapt successfully, and Director of the Southern Queensland Northern New South Wales Drought and Agriculture Innovation Hub.

He is Chair of Toowoomba Surat Basin Enterprise (TSBE); Chair of the Regional Economies Centre of Excellence (RECoE), a research collaboration between USQ, UQ, JCU and CQU; a Board Member of the Royal Agricultural Society of Queensland and has previously been a steering committee member of the AgTech & Logistics Hub.

John is passionate about the agribusiness and energy sectors and sustainable community development. He is a strong advocate for industry and infrastructure development in regional Australia.