

# 400m

## Agrifood Innovation Forum 2022

Taking our agrifood products to the world through supply chain innovation



# PROGRAM

## Toowoomba - 13 July 2022

Event Facilitated by

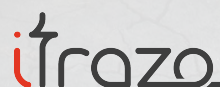


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# WELCOME

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 and 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.

## Today's program includes topics such as:

- 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. Your ticket includes access to the full two-day program including the pitch dinner and the site tours.

## Meet Your MC



### Stephen Dummett

AgTech & Innovation Manager  
TSBE

Stephen Dummett is the Innovation and Agtech Manager. He joined the TSBE team from AGDATA Australia, a national industry leader in the Agtech space, where he was charged with business development and marketing responsibilities for the company. Prior to that he was the Microsoft Alliance Manager at UNISYS, a global technology company.

Stephen has broad experience in the Education, Defence, Agriculture, Local Government and Technology sectors in sales, relationship management, project management, marketing, accounts, and ICT management. More recently, he has completed his Graduate Certificate in Business majoring in Strategic Marketing at the University of Southern Queensland.

- 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, **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. Facilitated by Reeanjou Ram, CEO, **iTrazo**
- Rose Elphick-Darling, Research Fellow, Centre for **Regional and Rural Futures at Deakin University**
  - 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**
  - Richard Plunkett, General Manager of Business Enablement, Group Enablement Team, **Woolworths**
- 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. Facilitated by Amanda Kenafake, CEO and Executive Director, **Power Tynan**
- 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.

Facilitated by Dr Sue Keay, Chair, **Robotics Australia Group**

- 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.

Facilitated by Molly Wagner, Trade and Market Development Co-ordinator, **TSBE Food Leaders Australia**

- 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.

Facilitated by Ali Davenport, CEO, **Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise**

- Thomas Hall, Interim Director, **AGRIFOOD Connect**
- Owen Williams, Hub Manager, **Agtech and Logistics Hub**
- Prof. John McVeigh, Director, **Southern Queensland Northern New South Wales Drought and Agriculture Innovation Hub**

## Pitch Networking Dinner | Oaks Toowoomba Hotel, 25 Annand Street

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.

The entrepreneurs pitching are:

- GoMicro
- Aquatrough
- Lyro Robotics
- Datafarming
- Pairtree Intelligence
- N-Drip

Thursday, 14 July 2022

Site Tours | meet at Oaks Toowoomba Hotel, 25 Annand Street

**7.45am** Meet outside Oaks Hotel, 25 Annand Street. Car parking available along Annand Street

**8.00am** Departure to Site Tours

**2.00pm** Return, Event close

### Site tour 1 – Boomaroo Nurseries

Operating for over 30 years, Boomaroo is renowned for its premium-quality commercial seedlings, greenlife products, customer service and innovative approach to horticultural production. Boomaroo supplies fresh produce growers and greenlife retailers across Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania.

### Site tour 2 – Story Fresh

Story Fresh produce fresh-cut vegetables year-round to the highest level of quality, freshness, and safety. Their farming and on-farm processing operations offer an integrated seed-to-salad supply for the major food service companies in Australia, including McDonalds and Subway. Story Fresh has decades of experience and has invested heavily towards innovation across both farm and processing, delivering fresh produce from field into store in the day.

### Site tour 3 – AgTech and Logistics Hub (break for lunch)

The AgTech and Logistics Hub works with industry to understand their real challenges and then works with their ecosystem to provide agnostic and validated recommendations to help solve challenges.

Please ensure you bring the following PPE:

- Closed-in shoes
- Face mask

## 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

**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.

## **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 for Regional and  
Rural Futures at Deakin  
University**

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.



### **Richard Plunkett**

General Manager of  
Business Enablement, Group  
Enablement Team  
**Woolworths**

Richard is the General Manager of Business Enablement which forms part of the Group Enablement Team at the Woolworths Group. He provides oversight to critical master data services and transformational projects.

Richard has over 30 years of retail experience focusing his leadership efforts on delivering to customer and team. Richard has management and leadership experience across core IT and digital technology area's, Supply chain, Finance, Master Data management and Transformational Program Delivery.

Career highlights include the executive sponsorship and delivery for the replacement of Store Point of Sales and Inventory management systems, Business delivery of SAP Retail, Liquor Supply Chain Transformation and creation and Leadership of the Woolworths Group Traceability Tribe.

## **Panel Session: Traceability to Product Sovereignty**



### **Amanda Kenafake**

CEO and Executive Director  
**Regional and Rural Futures**

Amanda Kenafake is an innovative, dynamic and highly energetic business facilitator with a proven ability to identify and capitalise on business opportunities. As CEO and Executive Director of Power Tynan, one of her proudest achievements was the recognition of the firm as the Employer of Choice for the Toowoomba region in 2020. Amanda is a proactive team leader with a proven ability to improve processes and people by promoting best practice procedures. This has been recognised by being awarded not only the Executive of the Year but also the Accountants Daily Excellence Award at the 2015 Australian Accounting Awards.

Her greatest enjoyment at work is looking beyond the numbers, helping business owners and managers to look at and solve problems, showing them how a rethink or a restructure can solve apparently insurmountable problems.



## 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 democratises 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.



### **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: Robotics, Automation and Autonomy**



### **Dr Sue Keay**

Chair - **Robotics Australia  
Group**

Sue is the robotics technology lead at OZ Minerals. An expert in emerging technologies, she is passionate about developing new technology industries in Australia and founded and chairs Robotics Australia Group and the Australia AI Collective. Sue led the development of Australia's Robotics roadmaps, outlining how robotics and automation will impact on every sector of the Australian economy.

Recognised by SME on their global list of 20 women making their mark in robotics and automation in 2021, as an outstanding contributor to the drone and robotics industry (2020) and as a Superstar of STEM by Science & Technology Australia.



### **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**



### **Molly Wagner**

Trade and Market  
Development Co-ordinator  
**TSBE Food Leaders Australia**

Molly is the Trade and Market Development Co-ordinator for Food Leaders Australia. Molly graduated from the University of Queensland, with a Bachelor of Business and a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in International Business, International Relations, Journalism and Mass Communications.

Molly brings experience in policy advisement for Members of Parliament, through her research project on Dam Construction with UQ. She is skilled in law administration and contracts, and international market and industry research.

Born and raised in Toowoomba, Molly is passionate about regional Queensland accessing international opportunities.



## 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

Director

**Southern Queensland  
Northern New South Wales  
Drought and Agriculture  
Innovation Hub**

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.





# Agrifood Innovation Forum 2022

Taking our agrifood products to the world through supply chain innovation



## Thank you for attending the **400M Agrifood Innovation Forum**

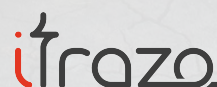
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