

PROTEIN 2021

DAIRY - PORK - BEEF - POULTRY

Conference - Dalby

24 - 25 February, 2021

PROGRAM



Conference Partners:



Coffee Cart Sponsor:



Welcome to Protein 2021



Bruce McConnel, TSBE Food Leaders Australia, General Manager

Southern Queensland is the home of intensive animal industries in Australia. The region has many advantages that see continued strong investment in the beef, pork, poultry and dairy sectors. With our reliable grain production, significant infrastructure spending in air, road, and rail and available workforce, Southern Queensland will continue to drive these industries within Australia.

The Protein 2021 Conference will bring together all of the four industries of beef, pork, poultry and dairy with the view to share best practice, advocate for common policy change and allow collaboration across the sectors.

Today's full day conference will include four sessions to discuss:

- An industry update
- Climate decision making
- Enabling the growth of the protein sector
- Labour market updates
- Sustainability and carbon neutrality targets
- Monitoring our waste streams
- Agtech

Day two of the conference includes a site tour of Condabilla Fish Farm. If you haven't already, please ensure you have informed TSBE staff of your intention to attend the tour.



For more information contact the team

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Program

WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2021 – CONFERENCE – DALBY EVENTS CENTRE

8:30 AM Registration

9:00 AM Welcoming Address - **Bruce McConnel**, General Manager, TSBE Food Leaders Australia

9:05 AM Mayoral Welcome - **Paul McVeigh**, Mayor, Western Downs Regional Council

9:15 AM **Proteins - what should be on the menu for Australia?** - **Dr Mirjana Prica**, Managing Director, FIAL

9:45 AM **Climate Decision Making:** How to make informed decisions in a variable climate - **Dr Chelsea Jarvis**, Research Fellow, Centre for Applied Climate Sciences, USQ

10:15 AM **The Importance of the Intensive Ag Industry to the Western Downs** - Todd Summerville, Planning and Environment Manager, Western Downs Regional Council

10:45 AM Morning Tea

11:15 AM **Labour Market Update:** Options to build your workforce - **Brad Seagrott**, CEO, Food Industry People Group and **Adrienne Ritchie**, General Manager Sales, Food Industry People Group

Water Efficiency: Case studies currently being deployed across the sectors - **Shane Matthews**, Managing Director, Syngineering

Industry Carbon Neutrality: What will this mean? - **Doug McNicholl**, Program Manager - Sustainability Innovation, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA)

Sustainability and Carbon Neutrality Targets: What do these mean for industry? **A panel discussion.**

1:15 PM Lunch

2:15 PM **Waste to Value: Monitising our waste streams**

Introduction - **Matthew Deegan**, Program Manager - Sustainability, AMPC

Waste to Energy Overview: International, National and Local Perspectives - **Professor Bernadette McCabe**, Principal Scientist, Leader - Energy and Bioresource Recycling Research Program Team, Centre for Agricultural Engineering, USQ

Helmont Energy: The path to energy from waste - **Roger Pattison**, Director, Helmont Energy

3:15 PM Afternoon Tea

3:40 PM **AgTech for the Protein sector**

AgriFood Connect: the Region's Agtech Hub - **Thomas Hall**, Interim Director, AgriFood Connect

Supply chain traceability and building your claims for consumer engagement - **Paul Whybird**, Chief Operating Officer, iTrazo Tracetechnology

A Technology Case Study in Practice: What a network of providers can perform - A panel discussion

4:40 PM **AgTech Solutions** - Enabling salmon farming at sea - **Rob Vernon**, CEO, Vastnet

4:50 PM Closing Address

5:00 PM Conference Close

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THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2021 – SITE TOUR

9:30 AM	Bus departs Dalby - Meet at Thomas Jack Park (78 Pratten Street, Dalby)
10:30 AM	Site tour of Condabilla Fish Farm
12:30 PM	Depart Condabilla Fish Farm
1:15 PM	Arrive Dalby Optional lunch at Urban Paddock , who are one of the local cafes to feature Condabilla fish on their menu

Condabilla Fish Farm

Condabilla is a fish farm that is based southwest of Chinchilla on the Western Downs, obtaining its water from the floodwaters of the Condamine River.

The farm utilises an innovative aquaculture farming system which is unique in Australia. With a perfect mix of artisanal ideals and adoption of appropriate technologies, their fish are grown in the most sustainable and ethical manner. Their exceptionally large ponds house embedded fixed raceways where the fish exist. The other 95% of the ponds are devoted to mother nature.

This synergy allows for any waste produced by the fish to be assimilated within the dynamic ecosystem of the pond, which eliminates the requirement for any type of discharge from the farm back into the surrounding environment.

This fish farm is the most sustainable aquaculture enterprise in the country.



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About the speakers



Bruce McConnel, General Manager, TSBE Food Leaders Australia

Bruce McConnel is the General Manager of Food Leaders Australia, bringing with him a wealth of experience in agribusiness management. Bruce holds a Bachelor of Agribusiness and Diploma of Export Management, and has spent the last 17 years in a range of roles across the Australian finance industry.

Before joining FLA, Bruce was Regional Manager (South West Queensland, Regional and Agribusiness Banking) for the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, and a driver of business growth across the Toowoomba and Surat Basin region.

Bruce has expertise in beef, horticulture, grains and cotton industries and their respective supply chains and export markets. Through his previous roles he has experience in Domestic and International Trade and led the Queensland agribusiness growth strategy for Commbank. He also spent time with the National Australia Bank, including working as their Agribusiness Strategy Advisor.



Paul McVeigh, Mayor of the Western Downs

Having lived on the Western Downs for more than 55 years, Councillor Paul McVeigh brings a sense of pride and positivity to his second term as Mayor and is determined to build a legacy that our future generations will prosper from.

Coupled with his credentials in agriculture, which include family properties at Nandi, Warra and Moonie, and his former role as Director of Cotton Seed Distributors, Cr McVeigh is a proven campaigner for buying local, and has extensive experience as a local business owner and advocate in the community.

Committed to leading a progressive and high-performing Council team, Cr McVeigh stands by his platform of People, Progress and Performance. His areas of interest include agricultural development, water rights, and fostering community spirit by being a positive and proactive voice for the people of the Western Downs.

He is passionate about farming and reaping the rewards of continued hard work across all aspects of life, and enjoys sharing this passion with his four children and their partners, and 10 grandchildren.



Dr Mirjana Prica, Managing Director, FIAL

Dr Mirjana Prica is an enthusiastic visionary who focuses on entrepreneurship and innovation to deliver commercial value. Mirjana sits on boards and advisory groups for cooperative research centres, universities, research and industry organisations and businesses, where she leverages her 20+ years of research and commercial experience in food and agribusiness, including advanced materials and minerals.

Currently, Mirjana is leading FIAL, a national and industry-led organisation, established by the Department of Industry to drive innovation and business growth for the ~180,000 firms in the food and agribusiness sector.



Dr Chelsea Jarvis, Research Fellow, Centre for Applied Climate Sciences, USQ

Climate and weather necessarily shape many important aspects of the agricultural industries, from the field to the finished product. Doctor Chelsea Jarvis is a Research Fellow at the University of Southern Queensland's Centre for Applied Climate Sciences, focusing on communicating advancements in forecasting to primary producers so as to assist in on-property management. She works closely with the pastoral industry across northern Australia.

With an undergraduate degree in geography that included a strong focus on climate, vegetation, and water use, Chelsea pursued a Masters and then a PhD in applied climatology. She has published a number of papers evaluating the relationship between large-scale climate drivers, such as El Niño, and primary production and has a special interest in communicating climate science to end users as well as taking recommendations from the producers back to the researchers.

About the speakers



Todd Summerville, Planning and Environment Manager, Western Downs Regional Council

Todd has a background in Town Planning and Environmental Health, and leads a diverse department that includes the Council's Town Planning, Environmental Health & Local Laws, Rural Services and Waste Management functions. This Western Downs Planning and Environment team is well renowned for its business like and pragmatic approach to service delivery, and has been recognised with several State and National awards including the 2017 Planning Institute of Australia - Queensland Excellence Award for their major reforms to the Development Approval processes.

Todd has previously operated his own planning consultancy and has worked with various local governments in the Downs for over 22 years, and is proud to call the Western Downs home.



Brad Seagrott, CEO, Food Industry People Group

Brad's impressive career in the food Industry started as a butcher's assistant before embarking on a key strategic role with one of our largest meat processing companies in Australia. Brad has become a thought leader in both the food processing and food production sectors across Industrial relations and workforce planning. During his time in this industry Brad has built invaluable expertise in strategic leadership, organisational development, critical thinking, reporting and formulating opportunities for continuous development within the food industry.



Adrienne Ritchie, General Manager Sales, Food Industry People Group

After a successful 13-year career in publishing working as the Commercial Director for the largest free newspaper group in the UK, Adrienne moved into the recruitment industry bringing with her a very bold vision of growth and a strategic mind to share in the recruitment market.

Her thorough understanding of recruitment earned her a place on the board of the Recruitment and Employment Federation (REC), the governing body for the recruitment industry in the UK (known as the RCSA in Australia) during which she worked with businesses and Recruitment Agencies to formulate exemplary trading practices when providing recruitment services for projects and businesses.

Since living in Australia, she has developed some outstanding relationships throughout most business sectors and is viewed by her clients as a source of truth when approaching their business challenges and an authority in successfully winning, developing and implementing some of the most complex recruitment solutions throughout all levels of the workforce.



Steve French, Director, PASTech

Steve French is an electrical Engineer with over 20 years' experience specializing in process automation across multiple industries around the world. Steve is a director and co-founder of PASTech, an engineering company that specializes in process automation and communication system for industry.

PASTech was established in 2013 and its expertise covers industries from energy and resources through to manufacturing.

About the speakers



Doug McNicholl, Program Manager - Sustainability Innovation, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA)

Doug is an Innovation Manager experienced in livestock production, research and development, infrastructure project development, and business administration. Currently Sustainable Innovation Manager at Meat and Livestock Australia.

He oversees MLA's investments into innovation processes where sustainability considerations (environmental, social, financial) are integrated into the Australian red meat value chain from idea generation through to commercialisation. This applies to new technology, products and services, as well as new business and organisation models. He is also a partner in McNicholl Livestock & Veterinary Services, a beef production business in Queensland.

His former positions include R&D Program Manager at the Australian Meat Processor Corporation and various renewable energy project development roles in the UK.



Professor Bernadette McCabe, Principal Scientist, Leader - Energy and Bioresource Recycling Research Program Team, Centre for Agricultural Engineering, USQ

Professor Bernadette McCabe is a principal scientist at the University of Southern Queensland's (USQ) Centre for Agricultural Engineering (CAE) and is the Research Program Team Leader for Energy and Bioresource Recycling. Bernadette is Australia's National Team Leader for the International Energy Agency (IEA) Bioenergy program Task 37: Energy from Biogas and is a member of the Australian Research Council (ARC) College of Experts.

Bernadette has a background in agricultural biotechnology and has over 20 years' experience as an academic and researcher. Her research investigates technologies to enable intensive Australian farming and food-processing industries to turn their commercial waste into a valuable commodity. She works with these industries to be more profitable by using organic waste to produce biogas, clean recycled water and biofertiliser. Her research has been applied to the livestock and cropping sectors (both on and off farm) and water utilities.



Roger Pattison, Director and Co-Founder, Helmont Energy Pty Ltd

Roger brings over 30 years of managing complex, multi-disciplinary infrastructure projects through development and delivery phases to enable businesses to invest for growth across various sectors including energy, transport and mining.

Over the past decade Roger has focussed on developing energy projects across Australia (20 plus projects totalling 330MW) for remote energy to communities and businesses, plus, clean energy projects. The later qualified for carbon credits for the gas or electricity produced and drove sector innovation, such as a waste coal mine gas power sector and Australia's first renewable hybrid - solar, wind and diesel back up power station at Cooper Pedy.

With global momentum to decarbonise economies building, Roger co-founded Helmont Energy in 2020 to help create a biomethane (green gas) sector in Australia, utilising the abundant organic waste-resources from agriculture to service gas, transport, agriculture and power markets and decarbonise the wider economy. Roger and the Helmont leadership team have 60 plus years of energy sector business development skills to determine how to best monetise ag waste- resource energy products to highest value markets.



Matthew Deegan, Program Manager, Sustainability, AMPC

Matt is Program Manager, Sustainability at AMPC. He has a background in project management and has worked in clean energy and climate change programs with not-for-profits and statutory corporations since 2010. Matt was previously a director with the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, and a project manager with the international Carbon Disclosure Project.

About the speakers



Thomas Hall, Interim Director, AgriFood Connect

Thomas is the Interim Director for 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 collaborative ecosystems and optimising the agri-food value chain through digitisation and innovation.



Paul Whybird, Chief Operating Officer, iTrazo Tracetechnology

As a solution-driven, team-oriented executive, Paul has over 25 years' experience in domestic and international business across manufacturing, supply chain, marketing, product development in the retail and industrial markets.

As the COO of iTrazo TraceTech, Paul helps customers to transform the way they work by designing and delivering the right strategies and execution plans for their challenges. With his years of experience working with blue-chip customers, he has secured large long-term partnerships, delivering mutual benefits. He contributes to shareholder and customer value by setting a clear vision, delivering on the vision, forming and developing high performing teams and ongoing relationships.

Paul has built successful turnarounds in supply chain operations and understands the demand for end to end traceability of products and services. The cutting-edge platform (iTrazo) enables and empowers brand owners to create trust, transparency, and visibility of their products and services.



Shane Matthews, Managing Director, Syngineering

Shane is the Managing Director of Syngineering Technology, a business that specialises in designing, constructing and installing innovative waste water treatment systems. Shane has a background in manufacturing and mechanical engineering working for the likes of Onesteel, Santos, QGC, IOR, GHD, Jaguar and Ford. Shane is a RPEQ qualified engineer.

In recent times Shane and the Syngineering team have focused their attention on applications in feed lots, rendering plants and abattoirs where the Syngineering VMT systems have successfully used to filter "stick water" and concentrate the solids left in the waste water.



Rob Vernon, CEO, Vastnet

Rob Vernon is CEO of TasmaNet, a national digital services provider who through a recent acquisition has re-energised Vastnet, the Toowoomba and Surat Basin focused telecommunications company.

Rob's background is in software development and since 2017 he has worked in bringing new services to market within TasmaNet's - and now Vastnet's - growing portfolio of offerings, with a focus on delivering those services utilising automation and orchestration, freeing Vastnet's skilled Technical Pre-Sales, Service Support and Delivery teams to concentrate on further improving Vastnet's exceptional customer service approach.

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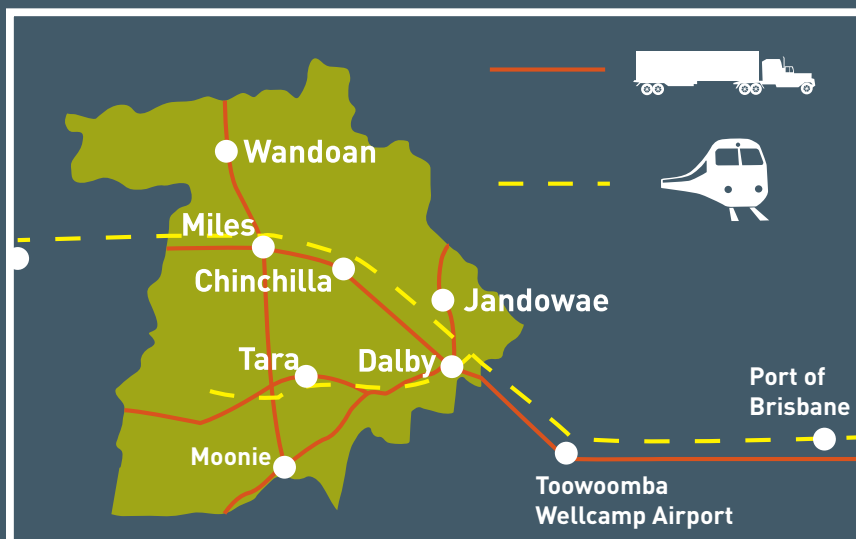
ESTABLISH YOUR BUSINESS IN THE WESTERN DOWNS

Locating your business in the Western Downs positions you with easy connectivity to national and international export markets, a growing diverse economy with established supply chains, lower location investment costs and the support of a progressive regional council.

As at June 2018, the Gross Regional Product (GRP) of the Western Downs region has grown by 26.3 percent over a twelve-month period to reach \$4 billion.

With a strong agricultural foundation that continues to grow and diversify, the region has also experienced investment over the past 15 plus years by the Energy Production Industry (EPI) into large scale resource sector developments.

These ongoing projects and others, provide flow-on economic opportunities for your business to increase business scope and profitability.



Fast Facts

- The Energy Capital of Australia
- Opportunity across a diverse range of established industries and access to major projects
- Access to the award-winning Western Down Regional Council Planning Scheme (fast approval process)
- Land zoned to allow for low, medium and high impact industry
- Up to 87% lower land acquisition costs per hectare when compared to the Brisbane city area
- Available land to expand your business as required
- A pool of skilled workers with positive team cultures and high workforce retention rates
- Efficiencies around connectivity (road, rail and air), with B-Triple approved routes
- Access to the Port of Brisbane and Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport create export opportunities
- Support from economic development groups, industry groups, active Chambers of Commerce and Western Downs Regional Council

