



NORTHERN AUSTRALIA FOOD FUTURES CONFERENCE 2021

DARWIN
CONVENTION CENTRE
17 – 21 May

Balancing Agri-development and the Environment in Northern Australia



MONDAY 17 MAY

1730 – Welcome Reception

1900 Hosted by the Hon Nicole Manison, Minister for Agribusiness and Aquaculture, Parliament House

TUESDAY 18 MAY

0830 Welcome to Country

0835 Conference Opening

Hon Nicole Manison MLA, Northern Territory Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Agribusiness and Aquaculture

0850 Conference Welcome

Simon Smith, President NT Farmers Association and Fritz Bolten, Chairman ORDCO

0910 The Federal policy for northern development and progress

Hon. Andrew Robb AO

0935 What does future northern agricultural development look like – what crops and where?

David Cross – CEO, ORDCO

Bruce Vandersee – Director, Vanderfield,

Paul McLaughlin – PMG, Agriculture NT

Chair Matt Brann – NT ABC Country Hour

1020 How can we do development approvals better?

Ray Hall – Director, EcOz Consulting

Luis De Rocha – Executive Director, Dept. Environment, Parks and Water Security NT

Chris Mitchell – Managing Director, Seafarms Group

Chair Paul Burke – CEO, NT Farmers Association

1105 MORNING TEA

1130 Environment values for development

Prof Michael Douglas, University WA and NESP Program – Environmental science in the north

Dr Barry Traill, Former Director Pew Trust Outback Program – Environmental values in development

1210 Developing irrigation systems

National water regulation – John Madden, Australian Government Productivity Commission

Developing an irrigation scheme - Richard Gardner, Tasmania Southern Midlands Irrigation Scheme

1250 Incorporating environmental values in business – case studies

Jim Engelke – General Manager, Kimberley Agricultural Investment

Dan Richards – CEO, Humpty Doo Barramundi

1330 Farm Visits

Visiting farms and developments in the Darwin area including the Export Hub, Darwin Port, mango, vegetables and melon farms

1700 - NBN Industry Night at Barramundi Adventures

2000 Darwin (Berry Springs)

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WEDNESDAY 19 MAY

0700 Northern Territory Young Farmers Breakfast

0830 - Workshops (0830 Session 1, 1000 Session 2)
1130

Four concurrent workshops across two sessions will discuss:

- Land clearing to meet emissions and native fauna/flora habitat
- Irrigation and environmental flows
- A better approvals process for land and water for development
- Indigenous perspectives and participation in agricultural development

Two sessions maximise your opportunity to join workshops of interest

1130 MORNING TEA

1200 - **Where might northern agriculture development happen –**
1245 **NT, WA, Qld**

Gareth Jones - Dept Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland
Jason Hill - Dept Environment, Parks and Water Security, NT
Richard George - Dept Primary Industry and Regional Development, WA

1245 - **Tracking climate change and agricultural adaptation**

1315 Prof David Karoly, CSIRO, Leader Earth Systems and
Climate Change Hub
National Environmental Science Program

1315 LUNCH

1415 - **Indigenous participation in agricultural development in**
1445 **northern Australia**

Serafina Bray – Economic Participation Unit, Central Land Council
Lawford Benning – CEO, MG Corp., Kununurra

1445 - **Prioritising, de-risking and brokering agricultural**
1505 **development in NT and WA**

Paul Rosair, NAJA Consulting (CRC NA projects)

1505 - **The Federal government's role in Northern Development**

1525 Hon Michelle Landry MP, Assistant Minister for Northern Australia

1525 - **New Initiatives in northern agricultural development**

1545 The Honourable Alannah MacTiernan MLC, Minister for Primary
Industry and Regional Development Western Australia

1545 - **Federal perspectives in northern agriculture**

1630 Fiona Simson, President - National Farmers Federation
Senator Murray Watt Shadow Minister for Northern Australia
Hon Julie Collins MP Shadow Minister for Agriculture

1650 - **Close**

1700 Simon Smith and Fritz Bolten

1930 **Conference Dinner & NT Farmers Northern Agriculture**
Awards 2021

Guest Speakers – Rob and Sarah Cook
Hon Shane L Stone AC QC, Chair of National Drought and North
Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency



THURSDAY 20 MAY

0830 - Four concurrent sessions

1130 **Horticulture**

Chaired by Anthony Kachenko, GM Extension and
Adoption, Hort Innovation

Latest developments in horticulture across the north
including adaptation to climate change, mangoes,
melons, grapes, export and the latest from CRC
Northern Australia.

Grains

Chaired by Ken Young, Chair GRDC

Grains R&D including mungbeans, sorghum,
soybean, chickpeas, peanuts, and the latest from
CRC Northern Australia.

Cotton

Chaired by Bruce Connolly, Chair Northern Cotton
Growers group

An overview of developing a northern cotton industry
including farmers, Darwin Port, northern agronomists,
and the cotton gin developments in NT and WA.

Emerging crops

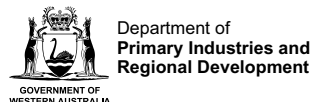
Chaired by Michael Beer, GM Business Development,
Agrifutures Australia

Discussions on a wide range of crops including
tropical fruit, dates, irrigated fodder, agro-forestry,
hemp, sesame and nutraceuticals presented by
farmers and scientists.



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2021 National Farmers' Federation Regional Forum

Presented by the National Farmers' Federation and NT Farmers Association



Cost: \$100 pp

Free to attend for Northern Australia
Food Futures delegates

THURSDAY 20 MAY

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|------|--|
| 1100 | Lunch and Exhibition |
| 1200 | Welcome |
| 1205 | Moderated Discussion with industry leaders |
| 1230 | 2030 Roadmap – our progress so far |
| 1245 | Pillar 1 – Customers and the value chain |
| 1310 | Pillar 2 – Growing sustainably |
| 1335 | Pillar 3 – Unlocking innovation |
| 1400 | AFTERNOON TEA |
| 1420 | Pillar 4 – People and communities |
| 1440 | Pillar 5 – Capital and risk management |
| 1500 | The Northern Territory's place in meeting agriculture's \$100 billion target |
| 1530 | Using the NFF's pillars to grow agriculture in the NT |
| 1600 | Farmer Panel |
| 1715 | Drinks and networking |



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National
Farmers
Federation



Tropical Exotic Fruit Symposium

Presented by Agrifutures and NT Farmers Association



THURSDAY 20 MAY

- 1100 Lunch and Exhibition
- 1300 Welcome and introductions
- 1330 Growers' expectations and regional RD&E updates
- 1340 Queensland perspective
- 1405 Northern Territory perspective
- 1430 Western Australia perspective
- 1455 AFTERNOON TEA
- 1515 Exotic Tropical Fruits RD&E draft plan introduction
- 1520 Working Groups / Commodity sessions
- 1600 Group discussion
- 1650 Summary and next steps
- 1700 Drinks and networking

FRIDAY 21 MAY – FIELD TRIP

- 0800 Bus to Coastal Plains Research Farm
- 0900 Field walk Tropical Fruit Net
- 0940 Presentations on NT jackfruit selections and propagation, rambutan orchard, pollination
- 1030 MORNING TEA
- 1050 Revisit RD&E priorities
- 1100 Open forum
- 1200 Summary and close
- 1210 BBQ Lunch
- 1240 Bus returns to Darwin

Cost: FREE

Registration essential

For more information:

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