

GROWING UNDERCOVER

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



FROM THE EO

As we slide across the finish line of 2023, the weather around the country continues to keep us on our toes. From Far North Queensland to the Adelaide region and many places in between, the past few weeks have seen cyclonic winds, frosts, heavy rains, and blistering temperatures - all are very tough conditions for farmers. We'd love to hear from you, and we encourage you to reach out to us for pointers in the direction of support.

Weather notwithstanding, 2024 is going to be an exciting year for PCA, with a range of new member offerings, as well as the regular supports, updates, events and education you know and love.

Wishing you all a happy festive season and some well-deserved rest for all.

Stay safe,
Julie.



DATES TO REMEMBER

23 Dec - 1 Jan: PCA office is closed for the holidays (re-opening 2 Jan)

27 - 30 July: PCA 2025 Conference - Adelaide, SA

INDUSTRY EVENTS

22 - 23 Feb: [For Food's Sakes Summit Program](#)

27 - 29 Aug: [Australian Biosecurity Symposium](#)



Haifa

DownUnder

YOUR LATEST SPECIAL BULLETIN
FROM HAIFA AUSTRALIA

- ▶ Micronutrients key to maximising returns
- ▶ Sources of potassium and nitrogen
- ▶ Chelates very important in soilless cropping

PLUS MUCH MORE

CLICK
TO READ
ONLINE



HORT CONNECTIONS 2023 AGM - EARLY BIRD TICKETS

Early bird tickets for Hort Connections 2024 are now available! One lucky winner will receive reimbursements for their passes and accommodation. Book your early bird tickets, flights and accommodation for Hort Connections 2024 through the [Hort Connections registration portal](#) and [Corporate Traveller's YOUR.CT portal](#) for automatic entry into the prize draw. The draw closes on January 31 2024.



MEMBERS, ARE YOUR DETAILS UP TO DATE?

Never miss out! Click the button below to ensure we have your correct contact details, preferences, and that your membership is up to date.

[UPDATE DETAILS](#)

Royal Brinkman



With the festive season fast approaching, Brinkman Australia wish to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a happy, safe festive holiday period and Prosperous 2024.

We thank you very much for the support and trust you place in us as your preferred supplier throughout the year. It is our pleasure working closely with you. We are excited with what 2024 will bring and look forward to continuing our co-operation with you all in the new year and beyond.

Brinkman Australia Christmas and New Year Trading

Close: 12:00pm *Friday 22nd December 2023*

Re-open 8:00am *Tuesday 2nd January 2024*

Final day for despatch/deliveries will be Thursday 21st December

During this peak period please identify/advise your requirements early, your orders can be schedule/delivered on time.



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LLS RECOVERY PROJECT: INFORMATIVE DAY GUIDES GROWERS THROUGH STORM CHALLENGES

On November 27th, the PCA/Local Land Services Early Needs Recovery Project organized an information day for local growers, addressing recent storm-related challenges. Key speakers covered topics like Irrigation Basics, Chemical Training Updates, VEGNET NSW updates, and a Natural Disaster update. Lisa Sullivan emphasized the importance of growers completing the PiNDDA survey for damage assessment

after the recent windstorm in SW Sydney. Completing the survey, including photo evidence, is crucial for potential assistance. The well-attended event provided over 40 participants with valuable resources and ended with a BBQ, showcasing Nicolas Srour's culinary skills. PCA plans similar events in 2024, with details shared through social media and magazines. [Read more here.](#)



The Early Needs Recovery Program is part of the \$150 million Primary Industries Support Package which is co-funded by the Australian and NSW Governments.

BECOME A MEMBER

PCA has more than 40 years of experience providing relevant and practical services to businesses in the protected cropping industry.

We strive to keep our growers thriving and to provide allied trade and other industry partners with opportunities to grow with the industry.

Corporate	Individual	Student
\$1000 _{/yr}	\$250 _{/yr}	\$50 _{/yr}
+ GST	+ GST	+ GST

[SIGN ME UP](#)

BIOSECURITY RESPONSE: RED IMPORTED FIRE ANTS

An updated [biosecurity control order](#) streamlines movement requirements in Murwillumbah and across NSW.

The order allows people to move domestic goods, including pot plants and landscaping material, from the fire ant movement control area in Murwillumbah.

Businesses and people moving commercial quantities of carrier materials need to submit a [record of movement declaration form](#).

The order allows fire ant carrier material to transit the control area in Murwillumbah from the remainder of NSW.

Hay producers, people and businesses can move hay, organic mulch, compost and soil if they apply practical treatments outlined in the order to mitigate the risk of those products containing fire ants.

To maximise prevention and eradication efforts, properties in the South East Queensland infested area must apply fire ant treatments before they can send carrier materials into NSW.

More information

For more information, check out the NSW DPI website, www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rifa or visit the NSW DPI fire ant van outside the Tweed Shire Council chambers on Tumbulgum Road in Murwillumbah during business hours.



The banner features a background image of a rural landscape with green fields and trees under a hazy sky. The logo for 'Level Up Hort' is centered, with 'Level' in blue, 'Up' in orange, and 'Hort' in blue. A green leaf icon is positioned above the 'Up'. Below the logo, the tagline 'Link • Learn • Leverage' is written in green. At the bottom of the banner, a dark blue bar contains the text 'A program focused on supporting vegetable and onion businesses to increase profitability and build long-term resilience.' in white.

Level Up Hort
Link • Learn • Leverage

A program focused on supporting vegetable and onion businesses to increase profitability and build long-term resilience.

To register your interest click [here](#) [LevelUpHort EOI Form](#) or go to www.leveluphort.com.au

[Click here for frequently asked questions.](#)

Contact Steff Carstairs | 0428 712 852 | steff@planfarm.com.au | www.leveluphort.com.au



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WWW.FLORACULTUREINTERNATIONAL.COM

DECEMBER 2023

VIS-A-VIS

**FCI speaks to its founder
Debbie Hamrick**

SUSTAINABILITY

**Organics in the UK is a
mixed picture**

EXPOSURE

**Horticultural Trade
Shows Supplement**

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

Where the treetops glisten



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