



GROWING UNDERCOVER

JUNE | 2025

UPDATES

IDO Update

Matt Plunkett

After a prolonged wet period in many growing regions on the East Coast, it is nice to see some dry weather and sunlight.

Many growers are reporting very cold conditions with increased fungal disease pressures. There has also been a recent outbreak of Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus (CGMMV) in northern NSW and growers are advised to be vigilant with their biosecurity practices.

Whilst this is not a reportable disease under current NSW legislation, it is highly virulent and very hard to manage. Some simple good practices include appropriate signage, sanitation stations, minimising vehicle & people traffic on farm, and appropriate hygiene practices if picking teams are moving from farm to farm.

For infected farms, it is prudent to consider rotation to other crop types, if possible, in addition to sanitising and/or replacing hardware in the greenhouse. It must be said that infection can be moderate to severe in terms of yield reduction so identifying symptoms and knowing what to look for is important.

As we are only a month away from our PCA 2025 conference, excitement is building for this not to be missed event.

There are still free grower passes available and if you are looking to sponsor or exhibit, time is running out. Please contact Zak Iqbal if you wish to exhibit or sponsor
contact@undercoveragency.co

An exciting initiative I am looking forward to is the Ag Tech & Start Up Alley. This session, to be

held on Monday the 28 of July will update delegates on the current state of the sector, what opportunities there are to grow your business together with expert insights from industry leaders.

A big shout out to all our Virginia growers on the Northern Adelaide Plains. Buses will be running from Virginia on the 28th & 29th of July. Bring a grower friend and don't miss your opportunity to see the latest and up to date on the Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus. Please send me a note if you wish to register on ido@protectedcropping.net.au or go to www.pca2025.com for further information.

I look forward to catching up in Adelaide and have a great month.

CONFERENCE

Protected Cropping Australia Conference



CONNECT • SHARE • LEARN

28-30 JULY 2025
ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE

Growing profitably
and sustainably

REGISTER

Protected Cropping Australia Conference

Register Your Attendance Now!

FULL REGISTRATION*	EARLYBIRD AVAILABLE UNTIL 1st APRIL 2025	STANDARD STARTS FROM 2nd APRIL 2025
PCA MEMBER	\$790	\$870
HFF MEMBER	\$920	\$995
NON MEMBER	\$1,020	\$1,100
STUDENT MEMBER	\$485	\$580
STUDENT NON-MEMBER	\$525	\$630

Register Now

[Learn More →](#)

PROGRAM

	Registration Open (arrival tea and coffee)	
07.00am – 8.00am	Sponsored Breakfast – Warren Davies – The I	
From 8.00am	Exhibition Open	
8.30am – 8.45am	Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country (C Session Chair: Andrew Tout (PCA Chair)	
8.45am – 8.55am	Opening Address: TBC Session Chair: Zak Iqbal (PCA Conference Chair)	
8.50am – 9.00am	Naming Rights Sponsor Address TBC	
9.00am – 10.30am	Keynote Panel Presentations & Panel: Godfrey Dol – (Virtual) Van Der Hoeven & Gla Levi Nupponen – Agrology Pty Ltd	
10.30am – 11.10am	Morning Tea and Exhibition	
11.10am – 12.45pm	Concurrent Sessions	
	Ag Tech (Robotics, AI, Automation)	CI
	Hall C	Hi
12.10pm – 12.45pm	Grower Panel discussion - Growing Profitably Session Chair: Jack Mooney, Giacomo Pippo, J	
12.45pm – 1.45pm	Lunch and Exhibition Open	
1.00pm - 1.45pm	Young Researcher R&D Presentations (spons Session Chair SP Singh	
1.45pm – 3.00pm	Concurrent Sessions	
	Building Resilient Profitable Businesses	Fc
	Hall C	Hi
3.00pm – 3.35pm	Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus Panel Disci Session Chair: Andrew Tout, Dr Len Tesoriero,	
3.35pm – 4.15pm	Afternoon Tea and Exhibition	
4.15pm – 5.30pm	Concurrent Sessions	
	IPDM & Biosecurity	Pc
	Hall C	Hi

Program Out Now

[Learn More →](#)

SPEAKERS

PCA 2025
ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE


Tristan Kitchener


Warren Davies


Levi Nupponen


Godfrey Dol


Lee Stiles

Meet Our Speakers

[Learn More →](#)

REGISTER

Showcase Your Innovation at PCA2025
AgTech Alley & Start-Up Alley

If you're building the future of agtech, there's no better place to put your startup on the map than at the PCA Conference – the premier event for protected cropping and advanced horticulture in Australasia.

Now Open For Bookings

Two Powerful Ways To Exhibit:

AgTech Alley
\$1,980 per space

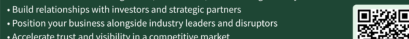
Designed for emerging innovators and lean startups, AgTech Alley is the perfect launchpad for new solutions. With high foot traffic and direct access to growers, advisors, and investors, this is a cost-effective way to start building your network, validate your product, and get noticed. Ideal for early-stage ventures, research teams, or pre-revenue startups ready to test the market.

Start-Up Alley
\$3,850 per booth

Ready to scale and make a statement? Start-Up Alley offers a premium booth setup in a high-visibility zone, ensuring your brand is seen by decision-makers. It's the ideal option for funded startups and fast-growing companies seeking traction, partnerships, or customer acquisition. Includes a turnkey booth, enhanced branding, and support to make your presence unforgettable.

Why Exhibit At PCA

- Connect with commercial growers, researchers, retailers & agtech buyers
- Build relationships with investors and strategic partners
- Position your business alongside industry leaders and disruptors
- Accelerate trust and visibility in a competitive market



AgTech & Start Up Alley

[Learn More →](#)

PROGRAM

**ToBRFV
 WORKSHOP**

2025 -
 MASTER
 NOW!


 CONNECT • SHARE • LEARN

Monday 28 July
 2:00PM - 3:30PM
 Trad

pca2025.

28-30 JULY 2025
 ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE

Growing profitably
 and sustainably

ToBRFV Worskop

[Learn More →](#)

SPEAKERS



NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Do you know someone who makes a fantastic contribution to protected cropping and deserves some recognition?

Nominations are now open in the following categories:

- ★ Rick Donnan Memorial Award for most outstanding contribution to industry
- ★ Biennial Grower Award
- ★ Biennial Young Achiever Award
- ★ Industry Development Award

[VIEW AWARD GUIDELINES](#)[SUBMIT A NOMINATION](#)

Awards Nominations Open

[Learn More →](#)

**Protected
Cropping
Australia
Conference**

28-30 JULY 2025
ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE

Growing profitably
and sustainably

FREE GROWER PASS

WHEN YOU PURCHASE 2 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP

CORPORATE
\$440 + GST

- 2 years of corporate grower membership
- 2 FREE conference grower passes*

INDIVIDUAL
\$100 + GST

- 2 years of corporate grower membership
- 1 FREE conference grower passes*

EVENTS

OCTOBER



Vertical Farming World Congress 2025

[Learn More →](#)

JULY

AWARDS



AIPH International Grower Of The Year 2026

[Learn More →](#)

NEWS

Tendrils

Your monthly round-up of plant biosecurity news





Message from the CEO

May has proven to be a month of strategic momentum and meaningful progress for PHA. From high-level Member engagement in Adelaide to national collaboration, our work continues to demonstrate the strength of a united biosecurity system. Significant milestones this month include surpassing over 8,000 LinkedIn followers and achieving 10 million surveillance records on AUSPestCheck®. We also celebrated the International Day of Plant Health and the launch of the Australian Research Centre (ARC) for Plant Biosecurity. You'll find a snapshot of these highlights and more in this edition of Tendrils.

[Read more](#)

PHA Member meetings

PHA's Member meetings were held in Adelaide last week. Visit our [website](#) to view the General Meeting presentation and Chair address.

Board meeting #119

The communique of PHA's Board Meeting #119, which was held in Adelaide, South Australia, in May, is now available on our [website](#).

Plant Health Australia - Tendrils June 25

[Learn More →](#)

RESOURCE



Can Far-Red Light Boost Growth In Lettuce

[Learn More →](#)

NEWS



Growing Horticulture Through PC Innovation

[Learn More →](#)

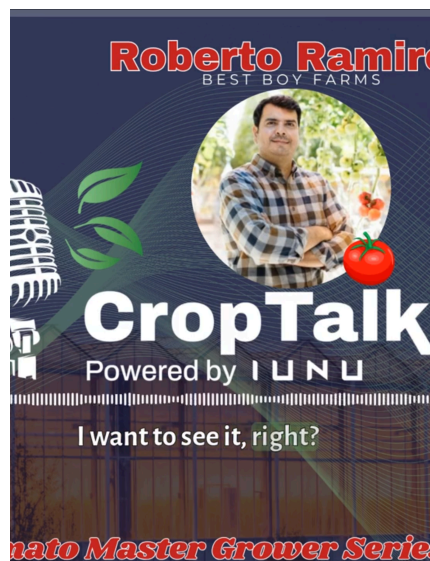
NEWS



Have Your Say - The Future Of Food & Fibre Education

[Learn More →](#)

PODCAST



Crop Talk Master Tomato Grower Series

[Learn More →](#)

MEMBER ADVERTISEMENTS

AIPH - FLORACULTURE INTERNATIONAL

fci

WWW.FLORACULTUREINTERNATIONAL.COM

JUNE 2025



INTELLIGENCE IN BLOOM

**AI becomes a new tool for
growers finding new rhythms
in plant production**

ABOVE THE CANOPY, BEYOND CONVENTION

**Drones are rewriting the rules
of labour, precision, and care in
ornamental crop production**

CITIES THAT LISTEN,
LANDSCAPES THAT LEARN

**Tech takes root in urban
spaces, with a new vision for
greener, smarter cities**

SMART, SUSTAINABLE, SCALABLE TECH

From AI to automation, the quiet power of innovation is reshaping
our industry—rooted in tradition, reaching toward tomorrow



[Unsubscribe](#)

Protected Cropping Australia
PO Box 470, Roseville

Sydney, Australia
+61 2 9037 3166
admin@protectedcropping.net.au