

Subject: Growing Undercover - November 25

Date: Friday, 28 November 2025 at 4:30:49 pm Australian Central Daylight Time

From: PCA

To: Jade Lewis



GROWING UNDERCOVER

NOVEMBER | 2025

UPDATES

IDO Update

Matt Plunkett

Welcome to the November edition of Growing Undercover.

The year is flying by, and it has been a busy month for PCA working on a range of initiatives and programs for our members.

Our last webinar for the year was delivered by the team at Macquarie University this week on Serpentine Leaf Miner management. Our webinars have been very popular and will continue next year.

PCA would also love to hear from our growers on what gaps exist in the minor use permit program. Whilst many other associations consult on this matter on behalf of their growers, PCA can also advocate and pass on valuable knowledge to other associations and Hort Innovation. This is an area that our Industry Advisory Council will be focussing on next year.

Project Manager Tony Bundock has been busy working on several projects in the Education & Training space including a visit to Apex Greenhouses in Virginia South Australia. This state-of-the-art training and research facility is a great asset to our industry and PCA plan to run short courses tailored to protected cropping there in 2026.

PCA have also discussed delivering further training programs with the team at Applied Horticulture Research (AHR) all around Australia. In exciting news, Tony Bundock can now deliver basic chemical training courses around Australia tailored to the needs of protected cropping growers.

A tender has been released by Hort Innovation entitled “Smart Energy in Protected Cropping: Reducing Costs and Emissions.” Labour and energy are undoubtedly two of the biggest costs faced by our growers and PCA are committed to finding solutions to these ongoing challenges.

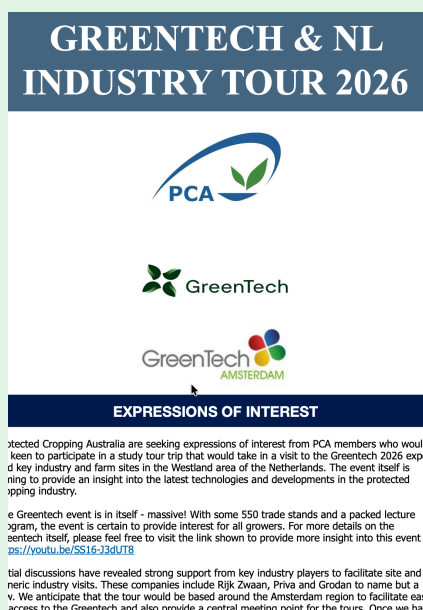
This project will investigate alternatives to gas, identify and trial cost effective scalable energy solutions, investigate approaches for Carbon Dioxide capture/production and ensure that these solutions are economically viable.

On a recent trip to the North Coast region of NSW, there is still significant growth in the berry and vegetable industries. Many growers are trialling different summer cropping options and niche crops that yield potentially better returns than traditional low-tech summer crops such as cucumbers. The move from soil-based systems into substrate production in the berry category has been remarkable and continues as growers seek higher yields coupled with better genetics and improved fruit size and quality.

Have a great month and stay safe.

EVENTS

JUNE



**GREENTECH & NL
INDUSTRY TOUR 2026**

PCA

GreenTech

GreenTech
AMSTERDAM

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Protected Cropping Australia are seeking expressions of interest from PCA members who would like to participate in a study tour trip that would take in a visit to the Greentech 2026 expo and key industry and farm sites in the Westland area of the Netherlands. The event itself is aiming to provide an insight into the latest technologies and developments in the protected cropping industry.

The Greentech event is in itself - massive! With some 550 trade stands and a packed lecture program, the event is certain to provide interest for all growers. For more details on the Greentech itself, please feel free to visit the link shown to provide more insight into this event - <https://youtu.be/SS16-J3dUT8>

Preliminary discussions have revealed strong support from key industry players to facilitate site and generic industry visits. These companies include Rijk Zwaan, Priva and Grodan to name but a few. We anticipate that the tour would be based around the Amsterdam region to facilitate easy access to the Greentech and also provide a central meeting point for the tour. Once we have

Greentech & NL Industry Tour 2026 EOI

[Learn More →](#)

DECEMBER



FFS - End Of Year Networking Event

[Learn More →](#)

FEBRUARY



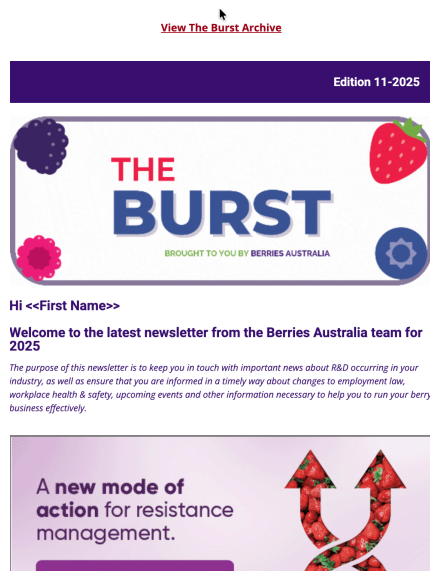
Lighting In Greenhouses & Vertical Farms

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INFORMATION

NATIONAL

NEWS



Berries Australia - The Burst November 2025

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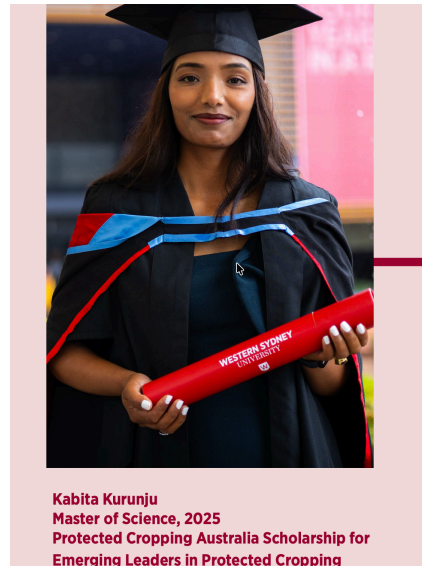
NEWS



Timelines For Decisions On Chemical Reconsiderations

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NEWS



Kabita Kurunju
Master of Science, 2025
Protected Cropping Australia Scholarship for
Emerging Leaders in Protected Cropping

Kabita Kurunju - PCA Scholarship Graduate

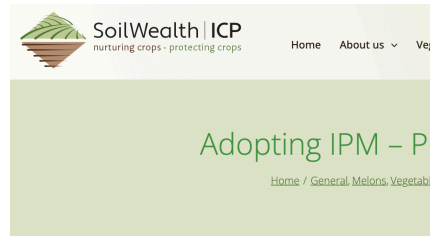
RESOURCE



Pre-Farm Gate Waste Data Dashboard

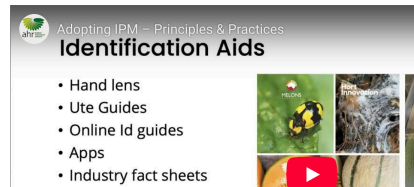
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RESOURCE



Adopting IPM – Principles & Practices

Discover the essentials of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) with Andy Rylan Consulting in this adopting IPM webinar. Learn how adopting these principle approach to pest control in vegetable and melon cultivation. Whether you are your current practices, this session will equip you with valuable insights and p



Adopting IPM - Principles & Practices

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GRANTS



Queensland Low Interest Grants & Loans

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NOVEMBER 2025



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