

GROWING UNDERCOVER

OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

PCA

Protected Cropping Australia

AGM UPDATES - JULIE KRIEGER

Spring is a time of growth and renewal, and here at PCA, the same applies. Yesterday we held our Annual General Meeting, at which a number of changes were announced. Chair, Matt Plunkett stepped off the Board after serving six years, the past two as Chair, with an enormous level of energy and commitment. Matt's input, and his achievements on behalf of all members cannot be understated. Also stepping off the Board after a six-year term was Emily Rigby. Emily has been instrumental in the delivery of several consecutive PCA Conferences, including this year's record-breaker in Brisbane. I would like to express, on behalf of the Board, deepest gratitude to Emily and Matt for their outstanding contributions.

Prior to stepping down, outgoing Chair, Matt announced the launch of a new three-year strategy for the organisation. The summary of this can be seen in the image below and further details will be available on the PCA website soon.

STRATEGY ON A PAGE:



Finally, following the recent Board election process, the successful nominees for Director roles were announced at the AGM. We are delighted to welcome the following members as Directors of PCA for the coming three-year term:

- Alastair McLean from Power Plants (previously in a Casual Vacancy role)
- Andrew McIlwain from Green Camel (previously in a Casual Vacancy role)
- Andrew Tout from Centuria (previously in a Casual Vacancy role)
- Jack Mooney from Provenance Propagation (newly appointed Director)
- Melanie Power from Prodoz international (newly appointed Director)

Together with Zak Iqbal (Fernland), Elio Jovicic (Qld DAFF), Michelle Mak (Western Sydney Uni), and Louise Austin (who recently joined the Board as an independent Director with a finance specialty), the new Directors make up the PCA Board. I'd like to congratulate everyone on their appointment. We look forward to achieving great things for our members under your leadership.

I'd also like to thank the other nominees for stepping up to volunteer in leading the PCA forward. What a fortunate position we're in to have so many willing, committed and enthusiastic members. It's a great sign of the organisation's strength. Thank you all so much.

YOUR CURRENT BOARD



Alastair McLean



Andrew McIlwain



Andrew Tout



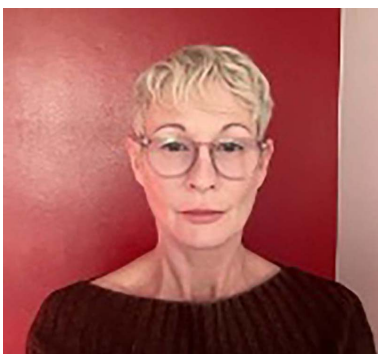
Elio Jovicich



Jack Mooney



Louise Austin



Melanie Power



Michelle Mak



Zak Iqbal



DATES TO REMEMBER

26 October: Plant Factory Visit: Meet Charlie Wang

AGRIFUTURES AUSTRALIA 2024 INDUSTRY INNOVATION TOUR

After a preliminary call for industry nominations, AgriFutures Australia now invites growers and producers from our levied and emerging industries to apply to be selected for the 2024 Industry

Innovation Tour to Perth, WA.

The Tour will take place from Sunday, 18 February to Thursday, 22 February 2024 in Perth, WA and provides the opportunity for Australian growers and producers to be immersed in the best of Perth's agrifood technology and participate in a curated program catering to the group's interests.

The Tour includes a complimentary two-day ticket to [evokeAG 2024](#), visits to world-class tech and innovation facilities, an agritech and innovation workshop and a range of networking events.

To be successful, applicants will:

- Be an Australian grower, producer or related representative (e.g. those facilitating on farm innovation and adoption) from one of AgriFutures Australia's levied or emerging industries.
- Describe why the industry Innovation Tour would be of benefit to your role/industry/business.
- Explain why you think agritech innovation is of value and how it can help current and/or emerging issues facing your industry.
- Explain how you plan to share your experience, knowledge, and learnings from the Tour with your industry.
- Be available to attend the Tour in Perth, WA from Sunday, 18 February to Thursday, 22 February 2024.
-

Applications close: 5.00pm Wednesday, 4 October 2023

Assessment period: Thursday, 5 October 2023 - Monday, 16 October 2023

Successful applicants notified: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 - Monday, 23 October 2023

Be quick - positions are strictly limited.

Please read the Terms and Conditions before applying.

Please submit your applications at the link below and any queries via email to:

Hayley Mayer

Executive Coordinator, Levied & Emerging Industries

hayley.mayer@agrifutures.com.au

APPLY HERE

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

PROTECTED CROPPING AUSTRALIA ARE CURRENTLY WORKING WITH LOCAL LAND SERVICES NSW, TO DELIVER THE EARLY NEEDS RECOVERY PROJECT

The project itself is primarily designed to give primary producers in the most flood impacted regions of NSW access to a range of technical support and recovery advice. The services provided under the program have been designed and delivered in partnership with industry to ensure that the unique recovery needs of the most impacted sectors are met. The program is also looking to assist growers in making the 'next step', in terms of transitioning from soil based production to 'soilless' production. This has been achieved by the running of two seminars to date with further events planned.

Leading the PCA involvement in the project is ex PCA board member, Tony Bundock. Tony has an extensive background in protected cropping and training delivery. As part of his role, Tony is also writing a number of resources to aid growers in their transitional 'journey' as well as participating in site visits and the delivery of seminars. Further details will be forthcoming via the PCA social media and websites.



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

MACHINES FOR SALE



Heecon Speedy Binder 2001

This machine is used during greenhouse cleanouts to bind rows of plants with twine.

Bought new in 2013.

Only had moderate use. All in good working order.

Comes with original user manual.

Price: AUD\$15000 - negotiable.

Pick up only.



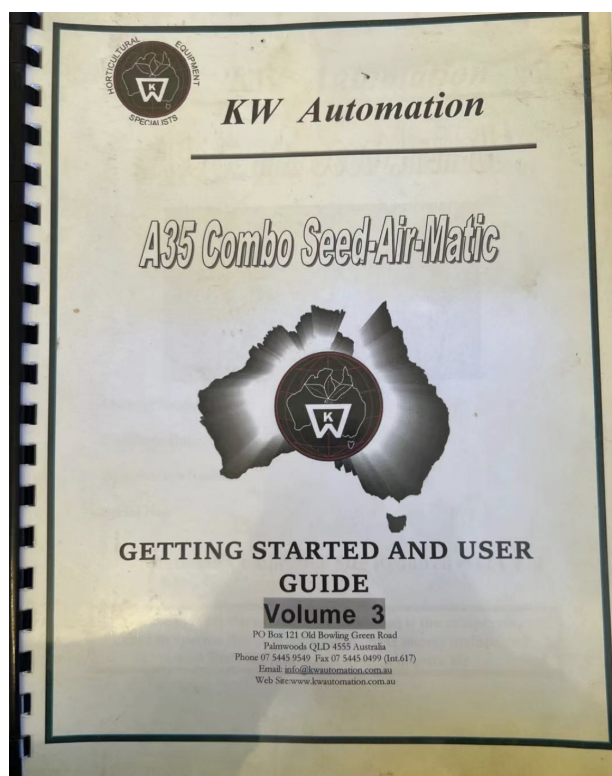
A35 ComboSeed-Air-Matic (KW Automation)

This machine was bought in 2017.

Only used once.

The KW Seeding line is working in very good conditions.

Price: AUD\$12000 - negotiable.



Nursery Trolley

Trolleys are all working in very good conditions.

Price: negotiable.

For more general information, please contact:

Jacqueline, [0405 531 669](tel:0405531669)

or for technical information:

Nick, [0499 888 221](tel:0499888221)



THE PROTECTED CROPPING PODCAST

The latest news, tools and resources for the Australian protected cropping industry.

Hosted by Protected Cropping Australia.

Click the image to catch up on all the latest episodes, with a bunch of great guests!



VISIT PLANT FACTORY, MEET CHARLIE WANG

Plant Factory has had the benefit of mentoring from Charlie Wang, who will be flying in from the United States for the OPENING of Plant Factory HQ in Mt. Waverley.

Previous CEO of BioTech, a joint venture with SananBio of China, Charlie oversaw the building of a 6,500 m2 vertical farm in Las Vegas and was Senior Vice President of AeroFarms, one of the largest vertical farmers in the USA, built the world's largest R&D facility for vertical farms in UAE.

Charlie offers many insights to the technology and the positive impact vertical farming will have on the communities it serves. Welcome to join us for a visit and participate in our discussions about the industry, either on the 25th or 26th of October. If you are interested, please kindly let us know via email

info@plantfactory.com.au and your preference of dates and AM/PM.

fci



WWW.FLORACULTUREINTERNATIONAL.COM

OCTOBER 2023

INTERVIEW PROFESSOR FERRINI

**The right tree in the
right place**

SHINING ON LEDS

**LED lights dawn
massively on horticulture**

INNOVATIVE BREEDING AND
MARKETING

**The pot carnation is an
instant success**

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

Where ornamental trees and plants grow

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