



AGRIBUSINESS TODAY FORUM

Mixed Farming Enterprises: Adapting to a changing climate



Thursday 4 August 2022
Forbes Golf & Sportsman's Hotel

Thank you for attending the 2022 Agribusiness Today Forum.

This event was made possible thanks to the support of the following sponsors and partners:





ABOUT

For more than 25 years the Agribusiness Today Forum has brought together expert speakers to give an insight into domestic and international market trends, the opportunities for improving productivity and sustainability and increasing market growth.

The forum is an initiative of Charles Sturt University, Local Land Services NSW, Central West Farming Systems and Regional Development Australia Central West.

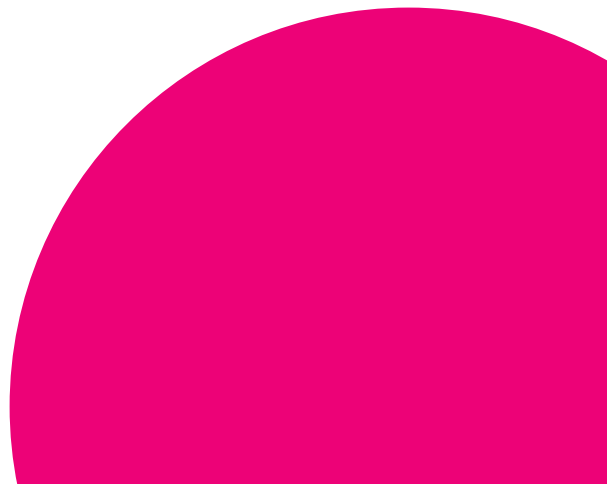


The first forum in 1995 was a gathering of 30 exporters at the Charles Sturt Orange campus. It has grown to become a well attended event held at different locations across the Central West region.

The Agribusiness Today Forum's purpose has shifted over time to provide information direct to producers, advisers and exporters on opportunities in the agribusiness industry through discussion of the complete supply chain from "Paddock to Plate".



The continued success of the forum has been the result of engagement with regional producers and the agribusiness sector as a whole. The forum has developed topics in response to feedback from participants wanting more practical information on market and product development that can be implemented in their own businesses.



PROGRAM

08:30 am – 09:00 am Event registration

09:00 am – 09:30 am Welcome and overview
Hugh Hogan, MC

Welcome to Country
Aunty Aileen Allen

Official opening
Cr Chris Roylance

SESSION ONE: MARKET SNAPSHOT

Market influences, drivers of global markets and major industry trends and threats

09:30 am – 10:30 am Economic and commodity snapshot
Toby Mendl, Rabobank

Climate change impacts and adaption options for mixed farms in
the Central West
Gary Allan, NSW DPI

International and domestic livestock markets and the influence of
climate change
Tim Sullivan, Endeavour Meats

Panel Q&A with Hugh Hogan

10:30 am – 11:00 am Morning tea

SESSION TWO: ADAPTION TO CLIMATE AT WORK

Innovation and technology success

11:00 am – 12:10 pm Effective grain storage techniques used to store grain to ensure global food security
Karen Jolly, HE Silos

Adapting irrigated maize production to the changing climate
Andrew Cogswell, Lachlan Commodities

Asparagopsis seaweed: All-natural dietary solution for methane reduction in cattle and sheep
Eve Faulkner, Future Feed

Lunch

Soil carbon: Essential part of resilient farming systems
Dr Susan Orgill, Select Carbon Pty Ltd

Pastures on mixed farms for a future climate
Jeff McCormick, Charles Sturt University

Tropical grasses in Central West NSW
Callen Thompson, AgSTAR Projects

Panel Q&A with Hugh Hogan

02:15 pm – 02:35 pm Afternoon tea

SESSION THREE: THE FUTURE
What lies ahead for the agriculture industry

02:35 pm – 04:00 pm Wool: Addressing climate change on and off the farm
Angus Ireland, Australian Wool Innovation

Spatial ag and its use to tackle changes in climate
Jonathan Medway, Graham Centre for Agriculture Innovation (CSU)

Adapting to a changing climate – red meat research and development
Brendan Cullen, University of Melbourne

Connectivity supporting farmers: Drones in agriculture
Ben Watts, nbn guest speaker

Panel Q&A with Hugh Hogan

Thank you and close
Hugh Hogan, MC

04:00 pm – 05:00 pm Sundowners

SPEAKER PROFILES



Hugh Hogan, MC

ABC Central West reporter Hugh Hogan is based in Orange but covers the entirety of the region across radio, television, and online platforms.

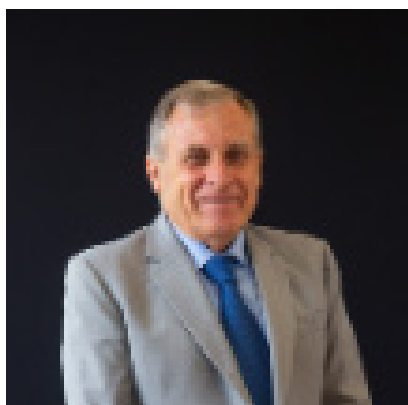
Through working for The Country Hour on ABC local radio in Tasmania and New South Wales he has developed a passion for reporting on all the industries that make our regional communities thrive.



Aunty Aileen Allen Director, Forbes Wiradjuri Dreaming Centre

Aunty Aileen Allen is a proud Wiradjuri woman who grew up in Dubbo and has long called Forbes home.

Aunty Aileen is the director of, and has been instrumental in developing, the Forbes Wiradjuri Dreaming Centre. The dreaming centre provides a safe space for the local Aboriginal Community to remain connected to their Culture and to Country, whilst welcoming all people to visit, learn and embrace traditional Aboriginal Culture.



Cr Chris Roylance Deputy Mayor, Forbes Shire Council

Chris was born and bred in Forbes and is married with three sons and four granddaughters. Chris is the managing director of a national family-owned business and involved with many sporting groups and community groups. Chris has been part of the Forbes Business Enterprise Centre and Business Chamber for over 25 years and was elected to council in 2008.

Chris is focused on economic development as well as maintaining and growing Forbes' services such as hospital, education, police and doctors.



Toby Mendl, Rabobank

Toby Mendl is Rabobank's Regional Manager for Central NSW and has been working with family businesses with their finance requirements for 19 years.

Initially specialising in family farming businesses with Rabobank Goulburn, Toby continued his banking career in London for three years before returning to Australia and working within corporate banking in Sydney.

Toby followed his passion for agriculture and returned to agribusiness banking in 2012, rejoining Rabobank in 2016 where he managed a team of agribusiness bankers before moving into his current role of regional manager in 2017.



Gary Allen, NSW Department of Primary Industries

Gary Allan is the Engagement Manager for NSW Department of Primary Industries' (NSW DPI) Vulnerability Assessment project, based in Bathurst. Gary has worked in a variety of roles associated with climate change research and policy, including with the Murray-Darling Basin Commission, NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water and NSW DPI.

Gary also spent eight years in Canberra with the Bureau of Meteorology's (BoM) Climate Information Services, where he co-ordinated staff in BoM's regional offices across Australia, focussed on improving service delivery and better alignment with the needs of stakeholders.



Tim Sullivan, Endeavour Meats

Tim Sullivan is co-founder and director of Endeavour Meats Australia which exports quality Australian produce to over 30 markets. Tim is responsible for Endeavour Meats Asian business including the rapidly emerging Chinese market.

Tim's career in the meat industry has taken him all over the world, spending time working in Brazil, China and Ireland to name a few.

In 2013 he was awarded the 'Future Industry Leader Award' from the Australian Meat Industry Council and continues to be involved in industry matters.



Karen Jolly, HE Silos Forbes

Karen has been in the agricultural industry for over 20 years and has been with HE Silos as sales manager for over three years.

Prior to HE Silos Karen was a grain origination specialist with Cargill Australia.

At HE Silos Karen is responsible for all sales, customer relationship management and account management, and has a key involvement in sales marketing and social media promotion.



Andrew Cogswell, Lachlan Commodities

Andrew Cogswell has been working in the grains industry for 17 years predominantly at Lachlan Commodities.

His focus is the creation of new markets within Australia and Asia for maize and popcorn-based products, as well as providing a consistent and sustainable supply chain to a global client base.

He is working with Lachlan Commodities extensive grower network to expand production and the reliability of supply, thereby enhancing marketing opportunities for Australian maize and popcorn.



Eve Faulkner, Future Feed

Eve is a passionate marketer and communicator with a history of establishing and growing marketing and communications departments across various industries. Eve is a firm believer in the power of communication to engage stakeholders and drive business results.

Eve specialises in long value chains where many groups need to align to drive behavioural change and is responsible for all FutureFeed's media engagement and external communications.



Dr Susan Orgill, Select Carbon Pty Ltd

Susan is a soil scientist who has specialised in soil carbon sequestration R&D for over 17 years. She has led multi-disciplinary teams and research programs for both government and industry with an emphasis on building soil resource condition to support productive, profitable, and sustainable farming systems.

Her research for NSW Department of Primary Industries, and her role with Select Carbon, focuses on understanding how management can influence the biogeochemical cycling of carbon; how we can use modelling, measurement, and mapping techniques to reliably estimate soil carbon stocks and investigating innovative strategies to build soil carbon under pastures, cropping and rangeland systems.



Dr Jeff McCormick, Charles Sturt University (CSU)

Jeff teaches pasture and rangeland agronomy at CSU. Current research includes hard seeded pasture legumes, phalaris management and dual-purpose crops.

Previously Jeff taught plant science at Lincoln University, New Zealand. Prior to moving to New Zealand Jeff researched pastures with NSW Department of Primary Industries and completed his PhD at CSU on dual-purpose canola.

FEEDBACK FORM

Your feedback is important to us.

A survey will be emailed to you this afternoon and will help the Agribusiness Today Forum Committee plan the next event in 2023.

Thank you.



Callen Thompson, AgSTAR Projects

Callen is a partner and consultant for AgStar Projects and has worked in agricultural extension for the last 17 years. During this time, he has worked in the private and public sector as an agronomist and as a farm advisor.

Callen has worked in Katherine in the Northern Territory for the Department of Primary Industry and Resources and for Central West Local Land Services where he was involved in the Adapt project, which aimed at helping Central West producers adapt to changes in climate.

Callen and his wife run a beef cattle property at Coonabarabran. They are working through a program of pasture improvement, which includes sowing tropical pastures.



Angus Ireland, Australian Wool Innovation (AWI)

Angus is the Program Manager – Fibre Advocacy and Eco Credentials at AWI. He coordinates research programs to extend the scientific evidence base for wool's environmental and wellness attributes, providing the rationale for consumers, brands and supply chain members to increase adoption of wool.

Angus chairs the International Wool Textile Organisation's Product Wellness Working Group and is deputy chair of their Sustainable Practices Working Group.

Angus and his family run the family's grazing property at Mudgee, NSW.



Brendan Cullen, University of Melbourne

Dr Brendan Cullen is Associate Professor in pasture and grazing systems in the Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences at The University of Melbourne.

Over the last 20 years, Brendan has worked on a series of research projects with the dairy and red meat industries to understand the impacts of projected climate changes on livestock production businesses across Australia. The research aims to identify industry pathways that are adapted to a variable and changing climate.



Jonathan Medway, Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation, Charles Sturt University (CSU)

For the last three years, Jonathan has been the Senior Research Fellow – Spatial Agriculture at CSU. In this role, he is developing a program of research activities to investigate and demonstrate the use of spatial and digital technologies in a range of agricultural industries.

Part of this newly created role also involves working to expand the AgTech and autonomous operation capabilities utilised on the CSU farm for both research and day-to-day farm management activities.

Since 2000 he has operated a spatial data services consultancy based in Wagga utilising a broad range of technical, theoretical and practical skills, working with farmers and businesses across Australia and internationally.



Ben Watts, nbn Guest Speaker

Over the past 25 years Ben has worked with Australia's leading mixed farming producers and processors to understand the complexity of the agricultural supply chain.

Consulting to clients across livestock and cropping enterprises, his projects over the past five years have included measuring pasture growth and biomass on a weekly basis, landform mapping, pre- and post-irrigation/ spray maps, large scale volume measurements daily, measuring body temperature of animals and identifying and locating pest animals.

Ben has developed a deep understanding of commercial AgTech and the areas in which systems offer benefits to business by increasing efficiency, capturing timely information, and automating dull and repetitive tasks.

