

Agtech solutions for future farming



SYMPOSIUM

2 April 2025
8:00am-5:30pm AEDT

University of New England
University of Western Sydney
+ online

PRESENTED BY



Australian Academy of
Technological Sciences
& Engineering
1975-2025

08:00-08:45	Registration and coffee	Armidale & Sydney
Opening session 08:45-09:15	<p>Welcome and Welcome to Country</p> <p>Dr Katherine Woodthorpe AO FTSE FAICD – President, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences & Engineering</p> <p>Professor Deborah Sweeney – Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice President (Research, Enterprise & Global), Western Sydney University</p> <p>Professor Chris Moran FTSE – Vice-Chancellor and CEO, University of New England</p>	Armidale, Sydney + online
Keynote presentation 09:15-10:30	<p>SPEAKER Su McCluskey FTSE – Special Representative for Australian Agriculture</p> <p>SPEAKER Scott Hansen – CEO, Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority</p>	Sydney & Online
10:30-11:00	Morning Tea	Armidale & Sydney
11:00-12:30	<p>SESSION 1 – Automating the Future</p> <p>CHAIR Chris Vonwiller AM FTSE – Chairman, Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering</p> <p>SPEAKER Professor Salah Sukkarieh FTSE – Professor of Robotics and Intelligent Systems, University of Sydney</p> <p>PANEL MEMBERS</p> <p>Sarah Nolet – Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Tenacious Ventures</p> <p>Jesse Reader – Head of Investments, Growth and Commercial, Horticulture Innovation Australia</p> <p>Jay Jalota – Chief Executive Officer, Goanna Ag</p> <p>Marcus Agnew - Beanstalk AgTech</p>	Sydney & Online
12:30-1:30	Lunch	Armidale & Sydney

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1:30-3:00	<p>SESSION 2 – Selecting for the Future</p> <p>CHAIR Professor Susanne Hermesch FTSE – Professor, Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit, University of New England</p> <p>SPEAKER Professor Ben Hayes – Centre Director, Animal Science, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, The University of Queensland</p> <p>PANEL MEMBERS</p> <p>Michael Crowley – Managing Director, Meat & Livestock Australia</p> <p>Dr Steve Jefferies AM FTSE – Principal, Jefferies Ag Solutions</p> <p>Professor Neena Mitter FTSE – Deputy Vice-Chancellor Associate (Global Research), Charles Sturt University</p> <p>Dr Sonja Dominik – CSIRO</p>	Armidale & Online
3:00-3:30	Afternoon Tea	Armidale & Sydney
3:30-5:00	<p>SESSION 3 – People Engineering the AgTech Future</p> <p>CHAIR Professor Lou Conway – Director of Enterprise, University of New England</p> <p>SPEAKERS</p> <p>Sally-Ann Williams FTSE – CEO, Cicada Innovations</p> <p>Meg Lovegrove – Executive Officer, Australian Agritech Association</p> <p>PANEL MEMBERS</p> <p>Dr Jack Mooney – Owner, Provenance Propagation</p> <p>Danielle Morton – CEO and Founder, Zondii</p> <p>Bill Mitchell – CEO and Founder, Optiweigh</p> <p>Mat Goddard – CEO and Founder, Aquacultr Group</p>	Armidale & online
5:00-5:30	<p>Summary of Future Actions</p> <p>CHAIR Distinguished Professor David Tissue – Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment, Western Sydney University</p> <p>SPEAKERS</p> <p>Su McCluskey FTSE – Special Representative for Australian Agriculture</p> <p>Professor Paul Wood AO FTSE – Commercial R&D leader</p>	Armidale, Sydney + online
5:30 onwards	Cocktail reception and networking	Armidale & Sydney

SMART FARM VISITS – Armidale: 1 April; Hawkesbury: 3 April

APRIL
1-3



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