

## DAY 1 CONFERENCE PROGRAM – TUESDAY 13/10



# GROWING FOR THE FUTURE

## THEME: Taking Australian Almonds to the World

MC: Daniela Ritorto

|                 |                                                                                                            |
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| 11:00 – 11:15am | <b>Welcome:</b> ABA CEO (15mins)                                                                           |
| 11:15 – 12:00pm | <b>Eating trends: Weight loss, protein &amp; GLP-1s</b> – Theo Konstantopoulos and Jemma O'Hanlon (45mins) |

**LUNCH (12:00pm – 12:30pm) 30mins**

**THEME: Maximising value and understanding consumers**

MC: Daniela Ritorto

## Trade Exhibit Stage – THEME: Interactive masterclass

*Facilitated by Peter Jealous*

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| 12:30 – 1:15pm | <b>ABA marketing showcase:</b> Melissa Wyness, Sumit Saran, Joseph Yuan, Poh Ling Yeow, Kyle Chalmers (45mins)                         | 1:15 – 2:45pm | <b>Interactive Masterclass: pest and disease monitoring and detection (1 hour 30mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brittany Oswald, Simone Kreidl (Agriculture Victoria) &amp; Greg Browne (USDA) – Almond diseases and disorders, prunus replant disease.</li> <li>• Len Tesoriero – Monterey.</li> <li>• Sam Edley (Agriculture Victoria) – almond pests.</li> <li>• Narelle Borgmeyer (Fruit Doctors) – in-field monitoring.</li> <li>• ABA Josh Fielke &amp; Peter Reynolds – spray considerations</li> </ul> |
| 1:15 – 2:00pm  | <b>Product Innovation: Consumption trends –</b> Ashok Krishen, Sumit Saran, Melissa Wyness, Belinda Neville, Deane Hubball (45mins)    |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2:00 – 2:45pm  | <b>Panel: Global market update/supply and demand snapshot – Australian marketers.</b> Facilitated by Damien Houlahan (45mins)          |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2:45 – 3:45pm  | <b>International Masterchef collaboration – maximising almonds featuring celebrity chefs Poh Ling Yeow and Sanjeev Kapoor (1 hour)</b> |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

**AFTERNOON TEA (3:45 – 4:15pm) 30mins**

**THEME: Leadership – AGM**

*MC: Kellie Hollingworth*

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| 4:15 – 4:45pm | <b>Growing Almond Leaders graduation: program highlights &amp; presentation of certificates (30mins)</b> |
| 4:45 – 5:15pm | <b>ABA Annual General Meeting (30mins)</b>                                                               |

**CONFERENCE COCKTAIL WELCOME EVENT (5:15 – 7:15pm) 2 hours**

DAY 2 CONFERENCE  
PROGRAM – WEDNESDAY 14/10

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| 7:00 – 8:15am                                                                                          | Women in Almonds networking breakfast: InterContinental Hotel, Banksia Room 2 (1 hour 15mins)<br>Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to Register |
| SESSION 4 (1 hour 30 mins)                                                                             |                                                                                                                                         |
| THEME: Almond Outlook MC: Daniela Ritorto                                                              |                                                                                                                                         |
| 8:45 – 9:00am                                                                                          | Welcome and setting the scene: Alan Hoppe, ABA Directors (15mins)                                                                       |
| 9:00 – 9:40am                                                                                          | State of the Industry: Tim Jackson, CEO ABA (40mins)                                                                                    |
| 9:40 – 10:05am                                                                                         | Keynote address: Ashok Krishen, INC chair (25mins)                                                                                      |
| 10:05 – 10:15am                                                                                        | A word from our major sponsor: HAIFA Australia CEO (10mins)                                                                             |
| MORNING TEA (10:15 – 10:45am) 30mins                                                                   |                                                                                                                                         |
| SESSION 5 (2 hours)                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                         |
| THEME: International Experts MC: Daniela Ritorto                                                       |                                                                                                                                         |
| 10:45 – 11:20am                                                                                        | Root architecture and maximising growth potential: Professor Astrid Volder, UC Davis (35mins)                                           |
| 11:20 – 11:55am                                                                                        | Carbohydrate storage: Maciej A Zwieniecki, UC Davis (35mins)                                                                            |
| 11:55 – 12:30pm                                                                                        | Tackling soil-borne disease and soil disinfestation: Prof Greg Browne, formerly USDA (35mins)                                           |
| 12:30 – 12:45pm                                                                                        | Q&A (15mins) Facilitated by Josh Fielke                                                                                                 |
| LUNCH (12:45 – 1:45pm) 1 hour                                                                          |                                                                                                                                         |
| Poster Showcase (1:00pm – 1:30pm) 30mins                                                               |                                                                                                                                         |
| SESSION 6 (1 hour 45 mins)                                                                             |                                                                                                                                         |
| THEME: Water & Bees MC: Daniela Ritorto                                                                |                                                                                                                                         |
| 1:45 – 2:15pm                                                                                          | Navigating a changing water market: Risks and Opportunities for Almond Growers: Benjamin Williams, Ricardo (30mins)                     |
| 2:15 – 2:35pm                                                                                          | Water policy, basin plan and almonds: Tim Goodes, Murray Darling Basin Authority (20mins)                                               |
| 2:35 – 2:55pm                                                                                          | Honey bee industry dynamics: Danny Le Feuvre, AHBIC (20mins)                                                                            |
| 2:55 – 3:30pm                                                                                          | Panel: New technologies and pollination prospects: Clayton Hiskins, Bee Hero, Ray Kwon, Bee Star, Bee Wise (35mins)                     |
| AFTERNOON TEA (3:30 – 4:00pm) 30mins                                                                   |                                                                                                                                         |
| SESSION 7 (1 hour)                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                         |
| THEME: Sustainability MC: Daniela Ritorto                                                              |                                                                                                                                         |
| 4:00 – 4:25pm                                                                                          | What could natural capital mean for farm finance?: Carmel Onions, Commonwealth Bank (25mins)                                            |
| 4:25 – 4:40pm                                                                                          | Biosecurity strategy – what’s coming our way: Tim Jackson, ABA (15mins)                                                                 |
| 4:40 – 5:00pm                                                                                          | Maximising business by adopting innovation: a hundred right decisions, one wrong result: Matt Strmiska, (20mins)                        |
| GALA DINNER (HALL OF FAME & ENTERTAINMENT BY NOTED COMEDIAN PETER HELLIER)<br>(6:30 - 10:30pm) 4 hours |                                                                                                                                         |

DAY 3 CONFERENCE  
PROGRAM – THURSDAY 15/10

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| 8:30 – 9:00am                                                        | Trade exhibition open floor (30mins)                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| SESSION 8 (45 mins)                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| THEME: Orchard Production MC: Daniela Ritorto                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 9:00 – 9:15am                                                        | Learnings from the Almond Industry Study Tour – California 2026: Josh Moss and Gemma Jealous (15mins)                                                                                                                              |
| 9:15 – 9:30am                                                        | Quality score card (Qcify data) and optimising returns: ABA (15mins)                                                                                                                                                               |
| 9:30 – 9:45am                                                        | Plantings research – Shaping the future of efficient almond orchards: Tim Pitt, PIRSA (15mins)                                                                                                                                     |
| MORNING TEA (9:45 – 10:15am) 30mins                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| SESSION 9 (1 hour 45 mins)                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| THEME: Global Shifts MC: Daniela Ritorto                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 10:15 – 11:00am                                                      | A Californian perspective: Clarice Turner, CEO Almond Board of California (45mins)                                                                                                                                                 |
| 11:00 – 11:25am                                                      | Mapping the Almond Industry - Results and Applications from Australian and California: Joel Kimmelshue, LandIQ (25mins)                                                                                                            |
| 11:25 – 11:50pm                                                      | Almond economics: Abran Padilla, California State University (25mins)                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11:50 – 12:00pm                                                      | Q&A (10mins)                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| LUNCH (12:00 – 1:00pm) 1 hour                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Poster Showcase (12:15pm – 12:45pm) 30mins                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| SESSION 10 (1 hour 30 mins)                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| THEME: Redevelopment MC: Daniela Ritorto, Facilitated by Josh Fielke |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1:00 – 1:40pm                                                        | Growing for tomorrow – tree densities and new on-farm technology: Ben Brown, SHV, Louw Lourens, ofi, Matt Strmiska, Andrew MacDonell, Bonsai (40mins)                                                                              |
| 1:40 – 2:20pm                                                        | Panel: Rootstocks and Varieties for the future: Nav Kaur Sarao (Agromillora), Jonathan Moss (Mossmont), Tim Millen (L&T), Lachie Mackenzie (Growtek), Cassandra Collins (Adelaide Uni), Graham Fleming (Graham’s Factree) (40mins) |
| 2:20 – 2:30pm                                                        | Conference closing remarks: Alan Hoppe (10mins)                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| CLOSE – HAPPY HOUR + DRINKS (2:30 - 3:30pm) 1 hour                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

EVENT SPONSORS:

