GLOBAL INNOVATIONS in horticulture seminar

On Thursday 23 June 2016, AUSVEG in conjunction with Horticulture Innovation Australia (Hort Innovation) will hold a seminar to discuss global innovations in horticulture that will demonstrate to attendees the very latest in innovative technology from around the world. This seminar will precede the 2016 National Horticulture Convention, Trade Show and Awards for Excellence, to be held at RACV Royal Pines Resort Gold Coast, Queensland from June 23-25, 2016.

With a focus on new innovations in horticulture from world renowned experts in the field, the seminar will showcase a variety of ideas that are at the leading edge of agricultural innovation. Growers will also get an insight into technologies that will allow them to become more efficient, more productive and ultimately more profitable.

Participants will have the opportunity to field questions to speakers, while discussing the importance and challenges of incorporating scientific and technical innovation into modern Australian farming practices. This year the following speakers will cover a wide variety of topics including: Precision Agriculture, Processing Machinery, Robotic Technology, Genetic Modification, Agriculture Innovation Research, Agricultural Economics, Pollination and Plant Breeding.

Funded places are available for vegetable levy paying growers to attend this event. For more information please contact AUSVEG on (03) 9882 0277, or email info@ausveg.com.au.

SPEAKER LIST

Jon Entine
Author and Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Food & Agricultural Literacy University of California U.S.A

Presentation
Biotech 2.0: How GMO innovation and new breeding techniques are revolutionizing food and farming

Jon Entine is founder of the Genetic Literacy Project, an independent Washington, DC based NGO that educates the public on the intersection of human and agricultural genetics. He is Senior Fellow at the Institute for Food and Agricultural Literacy at the University of California, Davis and the American Enterprise Institute in Washington. He lives in Cincinnati and lectures around the world on science literacy. Jon is a 45-year journalism veteran: 20 years with ABC and NBC News; writer of 7 books including “Let Them Eat Precaution: How Politics is Undermining the Genetic Revolution in Agriculture” and “Crop Chempophobis: Will Precaution Kill the Green Revolution?” He has won 20 international journalism accolades including two Emmys and a National Press Club Award.

Dr. Richard Visser
Chair and head Wageningen University Plant Breeding

The Netherlands

Presentation
Plant Breeding

Richard Visser received his Msc in Molecular Microbiology and Cell and Plant Genetics in 1984, as well as his PhD in Biology in 1988 from the State University of Groningen. In addition to being the Chair and head of Wageningen University Plant Breeding, he currently holds the position of Dean of Research of Wageningen University & Research. Dr. Visser has supervised the completion of over 108 PhD students, and is involved in the supervision of over 60 more. He has been published in over 450 internationally refereed journals including: Nature, Nature Biotech, Nature Plants, Plant Cell, Plant Journal, EMBO J, Plant Phys, MPMI, Planta, MGG, TAG, Molecular Breeding and Euphytica, and is a regular lecturer at various agriculture seminars throughout the world on Plant Breeding.

Dr. Amos Albert
CEO Bosch Deepfield Robotics

Germany

Presentation
From the internet of fields to the internet of plants

Prof. Dr. Amos Albert is the CEO of Deepfield Robotics, a Bosch start-up established in 2014, which is inspired to contribute innovative technologies towards sustainable farming. He holds degrees in Electrical Engineering and Economic Sciences and received his PhD in 2001 for his work on bipedal robots. In 2002 he joined Bosch Research and held different positions. In his last position Amos was the Chief Expert for Autonomous Systems and Robotics, responsible for their respective strategic programs. Besides his engagement in industry, Amos is giving graduate lectures on different topics of control theory. During 2011-2013 he also headed the Institute for Automatic Control, Leibniz University Hannover. Bosch Deepfield Robotics is inspired to contribute innovative technologies towards sustainable farming. Their approaches consist of both connectivity solutions to support farmers in making better decisions, as well as robotic systems, e.g. for improving seed breeding or mechanical weed control.

Dr. David Pattemore
Pollination Scientist
Plant & Food Research’s Ruakura site
New Zealand

Presentation
The surprising ways that a deeper understanding of pollinators, flowers and their interactions can improve crop production

Dr. David Pattemore leads Plant & Food Research’s Pollination & Apiculture team, with a diverse portfolio of research projects covering apiculture, alternative pollinators (bumble bees, native bees and flies), floral biology and the pollination of fruit, nut and vegetable seed crops. David is particularly interested in how the interaction between flowers & insect behaviour affects pollination and in the use of radio telemetry for studying insect behaviour. He leads a government funded programme to develop alternative strategies for crop pollination, as well as Plant & Food Research’s internal programme on improving bee health and honey production. He has been at Plant & Food Research for the last five years since completing his PhD at Princeton University.
**Dr. David Ireland**  
Principal, ThinkPlace  
Australia  

Presentation  
Innovation in agriculture  

David’s experience in innovation ranges from bench scientist, to entrepreneur, consultant, and innovation systems policy and international development practitioner. He is recognized as a leading entrepreneur and innovation specialist and has recently been cited as one of the world’s top 50 most talented social entrepreneurs. David is regularly invited to participate in global entrepreneurship and innovation accelerators and competitions and to present on innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, and foresighting. He has also published widely in these fields. David holds a dual PhD in medicinal chemistry and innovation from the University of Queensland together with a Bachelor of Science with honours and Bachelor of Business Management. He has completed a number of post graduate qualifications in fields including executive leadership, strategy, and governance. David is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is a long-time supporter of various NGO programs.

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**Dr. Fred Ziari**  
CEO IRZ Consulting Inc  
United States  

Presentation  
Precision Irrigation Technologies – A Global Model  

Fred Ziari is an entrepreneur and innovator. His water resource and irrigation innovations in satellite soil-moisture monitoring and sensor technologies have resulted in savings of one hundred billion gallons of water and over 300 million kilowatt hours of electricity in just the last decade. He founded his first water resource engineering company, IRZ Consulting, in 1984 and his fourth company in 2008. Through IRZ Consulting, he has assisted agricultural communities around the world to maximize our planet’s precious resources. In 2012, Mr. Ziari’s three of four companies were acquired by Lindsay Corporation.