

**Leadership development through growers
attending the 2009 national greenhouse
conference**

Anne Wilson
Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association

Project Number: VG08129

VG08129

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Purpose of the Report:

This report describes the outcome of a leadership development strategy conducted in association with the national industry conference by the Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association in Sydney June 2009 for the protected cropping industry.

Acknowledgment of Funding Sources:

The Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association is grateful to Horticulture Australia Limited (HAL) for supporting the project.

Date of the Report: 31 May 2010

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Summary

A biennial national conference for the greenhouse and hydroponic industry is conducted by the Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association (AHGA). In 2009 it was held in Sydney, NSW. The national conference is a major event and the attendance of growers and industry leaders is a priority. There are many factors which affect grower attendance at conferences. Many of the large number of greenhouse vegetable businesses are smaller, family operated businesses and the costs associated with travel, accommodation and registration can be difficult. Also groups that have not attended conferences before can be unaware of the myriad of benefits that can be gained for their businesses. Project VG08129 *Leadership development through growers attending the 2009 national greenhouse conference*, was designed to address this issue by providing encouragement to greenhouse producers and industry leaders to attend the conference and to provide networking opportunities with other industry stakeholders, sharing of personal experiences and the opportunity to meet and discuss relevant topics with key researchers, growers and retailers.

The inaugural Leadership Development Grant supported by HAL for the 2007 Launceston Conference was a big success. The evaluation survey conducted after the conference demonstrated that growers got many benefits from attending and many planned to attend the next conference.

The AHGA considered comment from the recipients of the Leadership Grants in 2007 in putting together the structure for the 2009 Conference and provided greater opportunities for growers to interact and to participate in presentations on practical and technical matters and broadened the scope of the program to embrace alternative crops, current specialty crops and varying technical levels for new industry entrants.

Introduction

The Australian Hydroponics and Greenhouse Association (AHGA) biennial conference was held at Sydney Showground, Homebush in Sydney, NSW, from 19th to 22nd July 2009. With a theme of 'Future Fresh' the conference focused on how the protected cropping industry can meet the challenges ahead, from the economic situation, to climate change and the fast pace of technological change.

From the Trade Show open to the public on the Sunday afternoon through to the Farm Tours on Wednesday the conference was extremely well attended. Three hundred and twelve delegates attended the lecture and workshop sessions with numbers swelling dramatically with participation of the local Sydney basin growers in the farm tour program.

The AHGA aims through the conference to provide a forum for all those involved in protected cropping to learn about the latest developments in crops and growing techniques, pest and disease management and greenhouse technologies to assist participants to improve their productivity, quality and business success. The lecture program provided technical information in all these areas. The trade exhibition provided another important way for delegates to gain information about the latest developments in the industry.

As the most significant activity of the AHGA, the national conference has grown to become a major event with in excess of 300 attendees, but the single most important measure of success, grower and industry leader attendance is often difficult to achieve. There are a number of possible reasons for this. Many of the large number of smaller greenhouse vegetable businesses that dominate the industry are family operated and the growers have never considered the benefits of conference attendance or balk at the costs associated with travel, accommodation and registration. Project VG08129 was designed to address this shortcoming by providing encouragement to greenhouse producers and industry leaders to attend the conference

The AHGA was able to encourage participation in the conference by new growers thanks to the HAL leadership development grants and scholarships. This enabled many growers, particularly from interstate who would perhaps not have been able to, to attend the conference. In addition, out of its own funds, the AHGA in 2009 also awarded encouragement scholarships to three promising full-time members of the industry in Australia, as a means of attracting future industry leaders to this important educational forum. One of the growers who attended the conference for the first time, Flannel Flower Grower, Lana Mitchell, went on to be awarded Rural Woman of the Year.

Methods and activities

To be eligible for support from project VG08129, applicants must have qualified in one of the following categories:

- Not attended a previous conference
- Industry leader

They must also have been a bona-fide fulltime grower in the greenhouse vegetable industry.

Interested persons were requested to apply for a grant and these were considered by members of the AHGA conference committee. A copy of the application form is in Appendix 1.

A post conference evaluation reported on in final report for VG08017, was conducted of all delegates, and a survey of recipients of leadership development grants was conducted separately at a later date. A copy of the evaluation survey form can be found in Appendix 2. Unfortunately only a few of the surveys have been returned. The survey form mentioned was prepared in an effort to gather the required information. In the survey, the AHGA sought to identify the benefits to recipients of attending the conference and their understanding of the role of and level of satisfaction with the AHGA as its national representative body. Interest in attending future conferences and networking opportunities was also canvassed. The survey attempted to drill down into recipients’ reaction to the program and whether it was beneficial. A copy of the program is attached in Appendix 3. This included the workshops, which were conducted on selected topics considered to be areas of strong interest to industry. A substantial trade exhibition is run concurrently with each conference and the AHGA sought the reaction of recipients to it.

There was also opportunity for recipients to provide their own insights. All of this information will be used by the AHGA when it plans the next biennial national conference to be held in Adelaide in July 2011.

Evaluation

Twenty two grants were awarded to growers and industry leaders (Appendix 4) from all six States.

Table 1. Summary of leadership grant recipients who attended the AHGA national conference, Sydney, June 2009.

| | |
|--------------|----|
| State | |
| Queensland | 2 |
| NSW | 10 |
| Victoria | 4 |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| South Australia | 2 |
| Western Australia | 1 |
| Tasmania | 3 |

Summary of Responses to Leadership Travel grant Surveys.

We only received a limited number of responses to the Leadership Travel Grant Surveys but the overall response from the recipients was very positive. All responses were indicated as 4 or 5, the highest level of satisfaction. Comments highlighted the overall organisation, the number of findings and practical ideas they were able to take away from the conference and the value of the contacts made.

Summary of responses to conference survey

Ninety five conference surveys were returned and the results indicate high rates of delegate satisfaction with the conference. Lectures and workshops were rated from 1-5, and all were rated above 3, with most being rated at a median of 4.

Overall satisfaction with the organisation and quality of all aspects of the conference was also high with again a median rate of 4. The majority of delegates were also happy with the format of the conference and felt that the ratio of workshops/ lectures/plenary sessions was good.

Based on these results it is surprising to see that of the 75 delegates who answered the question – *Based on this year’s conference would you attend the next conference* - 33 indicated that they would not attend. Perhaps we need to assess the wording of the survey.

However the comments whilst generally positive picked up on several issues that the AHGA can look to address at future conferences.

1. High cost of the conference in the current economic climate. This is a difficult one to address as the delegate cost is set to cover all expenses and reducing it may impact on the AHGAs ability to deliver a quality conference but perhaps can be taken into consideration with the selection of the venue. The AHGA always tries to make the conference affordable for all growers by attracting trade and sponsors to help cover the cost and by the generous support from HAL through grants and scholarships.
2. ‘More grower presentations’ was a very positive comment that the next conference committee can certainly address. It was excellent to see the positive response to the grower presentations offered at the 2009 Conference.
3. Need to attract more growers to increase/maintain relevance. There were quite a few comments along these lines and this is something obviously the AHGA needs to consider. The AHGA did feel that there was good grower participation from across the country, representation from almost every state and quite a few international visitors. It is always high in the minds of the organising committee to attract as many growers as possible, and this year although a lot of local growers did not attend the full conference they did come in for the trade exhibition and turned up in large numbers for the farm tours. So although they did not gain from the lecture and workshop program, the AHGA were able to reach out to them with the networking opportunities on that day.

4. The final comment to be considered was to hold the conference at smaller regional centres to reduce costs and perhaps attract more growers. Several of the past conferences have been held successfully at regional centres (Bundaberg, QLD and Launceston TAS). Delegate, and in particular grower, participation has been very similar to this year's conference. Costs for venues may be less but transport and travel costs to the venue are increased, especially for the trade exhibitors. So while the committee will certainly consider regional venues for future conferences we don't feel that it will necessarily address the issues raised.

These comments support the need to continue to try to attract new growers to the industry conference and we hope that the AHGA can continue to offer leadership grants to participants in partnership with HAL.

Implications

The AHGA needs to continue to consider new ways to encourage grower participation in the National Conference. The trade exhibitors, which form the financial backbone of any conference, require substantial grower attendance for it to be worth their while supporting the conference.

The AHGA clearly runs a successful biennial national conference and there is evidence that it is continuing to improve. The national conference is conducted for the benefit of growers, both to learn, to network, to make valuable trade contacts and to keep abreast of new technology. Each year the conference continues to attract many industry participants both from within Australia and overseas.

The strong response from all growers to the question about post conference discussions with growers in their area was encouraging. This should increase awareness and level of interest in future conferences amongst growers, a positive outcome of this leadership development partnership between the AHGA and HAL.

There were many positive comments about the networking opportunities provided and the value of the grower presentations. These are things we can continue to build on in our efforts to further attract grower participation in the national conferences.

Recommendations

1. On the basis of the high level of satisfaction measured against all performance indicators amongst recipients of leadership development grants, and on the positive feedback from trade exhibitors at the 2009 national conference, the AHGA is convinced that this program (VG08129) was an unqualified success. The AHGA therefore will be submitting to HAL an application for a further leadership development project for the 2011 national conference.
 2. That HAL considers similar initiatives to enhance grower attendance at other horticultural industry national conferences
 3. That the AHGA Board continues to look for ways to encourage grower participation in industry conferences, including considering fee structures.
 4. That the AHGA Board continues to develop its conference program to provide greater opportunities for growers to interact and to participate in presentations on practical and technical matters
 5. That the AHGA Board discusses initiatives in its conference program structure to broaden its scope to embrace alternative crops, current specialty crops and varying technical levels for new industry entrants.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Saskia Blanch, AHGA Administrator, for her efforts in assisting with the development of the project, in establishing contact with grower groups around Australia to alert them to its availability and in liaising with growers and industry leaders in the application and evaluation survey phases. The AHGA thanks HAL for their financial support, without which it would not have been possible to conduct the conference and continue the high standard set by previous conferences. The AHGA would particularly like to thank HAL for the continued support for the initiative expressed in this project. The leadership development grant enabled many more growers to experience the conference for the first time. Hopefully with further funding opportunities for the same purpose the AHGA will be able to claim resounding support from growers in the future.

Appendices

Appendix 1. Application form for leadership grant



Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Industry National Conference

GROWER TRAVEL SUBSIDY

The 2009 National Conference of the Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Industry will be held at the Sydney Showgrounds, Homebush, Sydney 19th to 22nd July 2009

To encourage up to 40 approved growers and industry leaders to attend the conference, travel and accommodation subsidies are available. The subsidies will be restricted to conference fresh faces and regional industry leaders.

Knowledge and ideas gained by growers attending the conference will enable them to achieve improvements in management decisions in crop production and crop protection, as well as environmental control, systems management, post-harvest handling techniques and investment and modernisation decisions.

The result will be improved standards of greenhouse technology, productivity, product quality and profitability.

Subsidies: Based on available discounted airfares to Launceston and the cost of accommodation for three days the AHGA and HAL offer the following subsidies:

- \$300 for grower delegates from Tasmania, NSW, SA and Vic and Vic
- \$400 for those from Western Australia.

The AHGA will be sole arbiter.

Eligibility: To be eligible for financial support, applicants must qualify in one of the following categories:

- **Conference fresh face;** A person must be a bona-fide fulltime grower in the greenhouse vegetable industry and verified by the AHGA as never having previously attended a biennial national conference
- **Industry leader;** A person must be a main contact for the hydroponic and greenhouse industry in their region and verified by the AHGA as such.
- Recipients to provide formal feedback to the AHGA and their regional grower groups on the subsidy and the conference following the event. For example, what stood out, what they learned, what they could now put into practice, suggestions/recommendations for future AGHA events, etc.
- Recipients to receive an annual subscription for the Soilless Newsletter, where they will be kept up to date with industry events, information and news on significant issues and AHGA activities such as the introduction of bumblebees for crop pollination, proposed restrictions on calcium nitrate, biosecurity threats, etc
- Applications should be received by the AHGA and postmarked no later than 1/6/09.



AHGA 2009 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

GROWER TRAVEL SUBSIDY APPLICATION FORM

Name

Company

Position/Occupation

Address

.....

City/TownState.....Postcode

Country.....

Phone No: Fax No:

Email:

Date of Birth:.....

Crops grown:.....

System type;

Industry affiliations:.....

.....

Location:

- *Please describe the benefits you believe this subsidy and conference will have on you, those around you, and your work environment or research:*
- *Please list any industry activities in which you are or have been involved and describe your contribution:*
- *Please list any leadership positions and experiences you have been involved with and describe your responsibilities in each:*
- *The Fresh Face & Industry Leader Travel Subsidy offered by the Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association and HAL are provided on an equal opportunity basis. No decision made in awarding this funding is based on race, colour, religion, national origin, disability, sex, age, sexual orientation or ancestry.*

Submit to: The Administrator, AHGA, PO Box 538, Narrabeen, NSW 2101 administrator@ahga.org.au

Applications sent by post should be postmarked no later than 1 June 2007

Appendix 2.
Conference Program –see attached PDF File.

Appendix 3. Cover letter and survey form to grant recipients

**Post Conference Grower Evaluation for Growers who received a Travel Grant from
HAL**

Post Conference Grower Evaluation Survey for those who received the 2009
Sydney Conference Travel Grant of \$300 (or \$400 WA growers)

Dear 2009 Conference Travel Grant Recipient,

Back in July 2009 you received a travel grant that enabled you to attend the
Australian hydroponic and greenhouse industry national conference in Sydney.

We hope you enjoyed the experience.

This grant was made possible by a project funded by Horticulture Australia
Limited (HAL), which requires a Final Report on the success of the project.
To complete this we are required "to survey grower delegates who received a
grant to attend the conference".

The aim of providing financial encouragement to attend the conference was
for growers to continue to improve their greenhouse technology,
productivity, product quality and profitability, &/or were considered to be
industry leaders in their region, who would disseminate the information
acquired from the event. For example, what stood out, what they learned,
what they could now put into practice, suggestions/recommendations for
future AGHA events, etc.

We apologise for the fact that some considerable time has passed since the
conference and your recollection may not be as good as you might wish. A
copy of the conference speaker list is attached for your assistance.

Please complete and return the survey below ASAP.

Kind regards,

Saskia Blanch
Administrator - Editor

AUSTRALIAN HYDROPONIC & GREENHOUSE ASSOCIATION
PO Box 538 NARRABEEN NSW 2101
phone 0414 333 996 ph/fax 02 9907 6633

2009 National Conference Survey Form

Complete to the best of your ability.

| Question | | Response | | | | | |
|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. General | | | | | | | |
| Did you find the conference - | Overall beneficial to you as a grower/industry leader? | | | | | | |
| | Beneficial to your understanding of the industry? | | | | | | |
| | Provided you with an understanding of the role of the Australian Hydroponic & Greenhouse Association (AHGA) as your national industry Association and the benefits of membership to it? | | | | | | |
| Do you feel that the AHGA adequately represented your interests at the conference? | | | | | | | |
| Would you attend a future national conference? | | | | | | | |
| Any further comments on the above are welcome: | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Do you think the conference helped you to be a better grower/industry leader? | | | | | | | |
| Did you make any useful new contacts? | | | | | | | |
| Since returning, have you spoken to growers in your area about the conference? | | | | | | | |
| 2. Program: The program comprised 2 invited speakers, 20 topics of which you could hear 8 and 2 workshops. There was also a trade exhibition | | | | | | | |
| Did you find the program - | | | | | | | |
| | Informative | | | | | | |
| | Stimulating | | | | | | |
| | Practically useful | | | | | | |
| Did you participate in the workshops? | | | | | | | |
| Did the speakers present the topics | | | | | | | |
| | At a level you could follow | | | | | | |
| | Too basic | | | | | | |
| | Too advanced | | | | | | |
| Was the trade exhibition large enough to interest you? | | | | | | | |
| Did you see any new products that interested you? | | | | | | | |
| Did you learn any new practices/information from the trade presenters? | | | | | | | |

Any further comments on the section on the Program above and/or any suggestions for improving the conference for growers and industry leaders are welcome:

e.g. what stood out, what you learned, what you could now put into practice and any suggestions / recommendations for future AGHA events, etc.

| |
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| |
| |
| |
| |

Appendix 4.

**Leadership Development Grant Recipients
2007 AHGA National Conference, Launceston**

| 2009 AHGA Leadership Travel Grants Summary | | | | |
|---|---|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Name | Company | State | Claimed | Re-imbursed |
| Vince Calabrese | Greenleaf Quality Landscapes | | No | |
| Joe D'Anastasi | Glenorie Hydroponics | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Paul Mifsud | Paulmar Investments / Paulmar Hydroponics | VIC | No | |
| Nick Cracknell | Cracknell Tomatoes | TAS | Yes | \$300 |
| Wade Mann | Tyrade Ltd | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Hogan Gleeson | Urban Ecological Systems | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Yvonne McDonnell | Irbernley | | Yes | \$300 |
| Ian Tung | Yarra Valley Hydroponics | VIC | Yes | \$300 |
| Kon Tsalamangos | Rose Growers | | No | |
| Rodljev Kotoric | Greenhouse Vegetable Grower | SA | Yes | \$300 |
| Matthew Belfroge | Country Fresh Herbs | VIC | Yes | \$300 |
| Keith Webb | KJA Webb | SA | Yes | \$300 |
| Caterina Mandaglis | M & C Hothouse Tomatoes | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Carl van Loon | Powerplants Australia | VIC | Yes | \$300 |
| Jorian Blanch | Hydro Organic Horticulture | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Sue Korevaar | Fodder Tech | VIC | No | |
| Joe Boustani | Y & J Boustani - Grower | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Peter Petsios | P O Pestsios | QLD | No | |
| Jane Hawes | NJRD Investments | Qld | Yes | \$300 |
| Neil Hawes | Petals in the Park | Qld | Yes | \$300 |
| Brian Ellis | Clean Green Hydro | QLD | No | |
| Joseph DeAmicis | Transworld Foods | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Stan Parker | Transworld Foods | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Darren Way | Reservations Plus | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Mark Fonderie | Naked Carrot | TAS | Yes | \$300 |
| Lynda Stellamaris | Owner Naked Carrot | TAS | Yes | \$300 |
| Thong Minh Le | Le Fresh | | No | |
| Lisa Crooks | Riverview Herbs | QLD | No | |
| Emmanuel Cafiatcicis | Cafiatcicis | | No | |
| Jan Cloete | Magi Flowers - Flower Grower | WA | Yes | \$100 |
| Shaun Rebello | Oasis Horticulture | NSW | Yes | \$300 |
| Total Qty | | | 22 | |



AUSTRALIAN HYDROPONICS & GREENHOUSE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2009 PROGRAM

Day 1 – Sunday 19 July 2009

| | | |
|---------------|---|------------------|
| 1.00 – 5.00pm | Trade exhibition open to public and delegates | |
| 1.00 – 6.00pm | Registration | |
| 1.30 – 1.45pm | Official opening trade exhibition – Exhibition Area | Badgery Pavilion |
| 5.15 – 7.00pm | AHGA AGM. Discussion on future directions of the industry | Southee North |
| 7.00 – 8.00pm | Welcome cocktails – Exhibition Area | Badgery Pavilion |

Day 2 – Monday 20 July 2009

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------|
| 5.00 – 8.30am | Bus visit to Flemington Market and market breakfast | |
| 8.00 – 9.00am | Registration and trade exhibition open | |
| 9.00 – 10.00am | Welcome, official opening, presentation of awards and scholarships | Southee North |
| 10.00 – 10.40am | Keynote address <i>Future vision – expected impacts of climate change on intensive horticulture</i> Gerard McEvilly, E3international | Southee North |
| 10.40 – 11.30am | Morning tea – Exhibition Area | |
| 11.30am – 12.10pm | Concurrent Session 1 <i>Improving yields and quality by managing plant vegetative/generative balance</i> Ben van Onna, PTC+, The Netherlands (also on Tuesday) – Sponsored by Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE | Southee North |
| | <i>Biochar as an hydroponic growing medium</i> Mike Nichols, Massey University, New Zealand – Sponsored by Casetech | Southee South |
| | <i>Greenhouse technology and management – getting started</i> Geoff Connellan, University of Melbourne, Burnley (also on Tuesday) | Southee 3 |
| | <i>Bacterial canker management</i> Leanne Forsyth, NSW Department of Primary Industries (also on Tuesday) | Southee 5 |
| 12.15 – 1.05pm | Concurrent Session 2 <i>Alternative greenhouse crops</i> Mike Nichols, Massey University, New Zealand – Sponsored by Casetech | Southee South |

| | | |
|---------------|--|----------------------|
| | <i>The challenge for protected cropping in semiurban areas – new opportunities</i> | |
| | Stephen Goodwin, Biocontrol Solutions (also on Tuesday) | <i>Southee 5</i> |
| | <i>Spots, wilts and rots – disease threats from overseas</i> | |
| | Len Tesoriero, NSW Department of Primary Industries (also on Tuesday) | <i>Southee North</i> |
| | <i>Innovations in greenhouse construction</i> | |
| | Henk van Tuyl, Kubo Greenhouse Projects, The Netherlands | |
| | (also on Tuesday) | <i>Southee 3</i> |
| 1.05 – 2.30pm | Lunch – Exhibition Area | |
| 2.30 – 3.10pm | Concurrent Session 3 | |
| | <i>Good hygiene cuts costs</i> | |
| | Jeremy Badgery-Parker, NSW Department of Primary Industries | |
| | (also on Tuesday) | <i>Southee 3</i> |
| | <i>Up close and personal with common pests and how to manage them</i> | |
| | Leigh Pilkington, NSW Department of Primary Industries | |
| | (also on Tuesday) – Sponsored by Biological Services | <i>Southee North</i> |
| | <i>Developments in greenhouse cooling</i> | |
| | Geoff Connellan, University of Melbourne, Burnley and Graeme Smith, | |
| | Graeme Smith Consulting (also on Tuesday) | <i>Southee South</i> |
| | <i>Future availability and price of hydroponic fertilisers</i> | |
| | Trevor Dennis, Haifa Australia | <i>Southee 5</i> |
| 3.15 – 3.55pm | Concurrent Session 4 | |
| | <i>World economic trends – what should growers know?</i> | |
| | Frank Drum, National Australia Bank | <i>Southee South</i> |
| | <i>The importance of measuring and managing actual plant temperature</i> | |
| | Ben van Onna, PTC+, The Netherlands (also on Tuesday) | |
| | – Sponsored by Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE | <i>Southee North</i> |
| | <i>Waste not, want now – delivering biocontrol agents on target</i> | |
| | Marilyn Steiner, Biocontrol Solutions (also on Tuesday) | |
| | – Sponsored by Biological Services | <i>Southee 3</i> |
| | <i>Improving nutrient management through (a) using on-farm meters and</i> | |
| | <i>(b) interpreting nutrient analysis (also on Tuesday)</i> | |
| | Sophie Parks, NSW Department of Primary Industries & Rick Donnan, | |
| | Growool Horticultural Systems | <i>Southee 5</i> |
| 3.55 – 4.30pm | Afternoon tea – Exhibition Area | |
| 4.30 – 5.10pm | Concurrent Session 5 | |
| | <i>Biological control – past and present</i> | |
| | Donald Lester, JH Biotech, United States of America | |
| | – Sponsored by Zadco | <i>Southee North</i> |
| | <i>Five ways to grow your business</i> | |
| | Marcus Kroek, Action Coach | <i>Southee 5</i> |

| | | |
|----------------|--|---------------|
| | <i>Taking the plunge – two growers' experience of making a major hydroponic investment</i> | |
| | Robert Hayes Freshzest and Anne Wilson, Bellarine Hydroponics | Southee 4 |
| 2.15 – 2.55 pm | Concurrent Session 7 | |
| | <i>The challenge for protected cropping in semiurban areas – new opportunities</i> | |
| | Stephen Goodwin, Biocontrol Solutions – Sponsored by Freshzest Pty Ltd | Southee 4 |
| | <i>Good hygiene cuts costs</i> | |
| | Jeremy Badgery-Parker, NSW Department of Primary Industries | |
| | – Sponsored by Freshzest Pty Ltd | Southee 3 |
| | <i>Improving nutrient management through (a) using on-farm meters and (b) interpreting nutrient analysis</i> | |
| | Sophie Parks, NSW DPI and Rick Donnan, Growool Horticultural Systems | |
| | – Sponsored by Freshzest Pty Ltd | Southee 5 |
| | <i>Greenhouse technology and management – getting started</i> | |
| | Geoff Connellan, University of Melbourne, Burnley | |
| | – Sponsored by Freshzest Pty Ltd | Southee South |
| 2.55 – 3.40pm | Afternoon tea (Trade exhibition concludes) | |
| 3.40 – 4.20 pm | Concurrent Session 8 | |
| | <i>Innovations in greenhouse construction</i> | |
| | Henk van Tuyl, Kubo Greenhouse Projects, The Netherlands | Southee 5 |
| | <i>Managing leaf diseases in your crop</i> | |
| | Kaye Ferguson, South Australian Research and Development Institute | Southee 3 |
| | <i>The importance of measuring and managing actual plant temperature</i> | |
| | Ben van Onna, PTC+, The Netherlands | Southee South |
| | <i>Up close and personal with common pests and how to manage them</i> | |
| | Leigh Pilkington, NSW Department of Primary Industries | |
| | – Sponsored by Biological Services | Southee 4 |
| 4.20 – 5.00 pm | Concurrent Session 9 | |
| | <i>Spots, wilts and rots – disease threats from overseas</i> | |
| | Len Tesoriero, NSW Department of Primary Industries | Southee 3 |
| | <i>Developments in greenhouse cooling</i> | |
| | Geoff Connellan, University of Melbourne, Burnley and Graeme Smith, | |
| | Graeme Smith Consulting | Southee 5 |
| | <i>Improving yields and quality by managing plant vegetative/generative balance</i> | |
| | Ben van Onna, PTC+, The Netherlands | |
| | – Sponsored by Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE | Southee South |
| | <i>Waste not, want now – delivering biocontrol agents on target</i> | |
| | Marilyn Steiner, Biocontrol Solutions – Sponsored by Biological Services | Southee 4 |
| 5.00pm | Tuesday program finishes | |
| 7.00 – 7.30pm | Pre-dinner drinks | |
| 7.30pm | Conference banquet dinner | Southee North |