

Horticulture Innovation Australia

Final Report

Potato Leadership and Development Mission 2015 – China

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AUSVEG Ltd

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the potato industry
the potato industry

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Overview

The Potato Leadership and Development Mission 2015 – China was an exciting and dynamic learning experience for Australian potato levy payers.

A key focus of the mission was the 9th World Potato Congress in Beijing, which provided deep insight into the international potato industry. Further tour activities also gave insight into the Chinese potato industry, which growers found useful and relevant.

Nine growers from multiple potato growing regions across four states were selected to represent the seed, fresh and processing sectors of the potato industry.

Interest in the mission was high, with AUSVEG receiving many expressions of interest. Those selected were able to demonstrate their commitment to the industry in their applications and have the ability to extend learnings from the mission to the wider industry. In addition to the nine funded growers, an additional full-fee paying grower industry representative joined the mission at the full expense of their own company.

Disclaimer:

Any recommendations contained in this publication do not necessarily represent current HIA policy. No person should act on the basis of the contents of this publication, whether as to matters of fact or opinion or other content, without first obtaining specific, independent professional advice in respect of the matters set out in this publication.

Expected outcomes and how they were achieved

The mission aimed to increase the overall knowledge of international trends and developments, giving the Australian potato industry the best opportunity to adopt best practices that could advance local growing procedures and increase the efficiency of the industry.

Participants were shown many leading farms and facilities throughout China, allowing them to see the similarities and differences in conditions between Australia and China. Participants on the 2015 Industry Leadership and Development Mission all gained a wealth of information that will enhance their domestic growing operations.

These outcomes were achieved through the following:

- Gaining an understanding of the various climate, soil and environmental conditions that international growers contend with. This could assist growers in developing strategies and solutions to manage pests, diseases and similar issues.
- Developing and strengthening relationships between both Australian potato growers and their international counterparts, including other growers, researchers, processors and mechanisation specialists.
- Identifying new tools and machinery that could be introduced to the local industry to increase its efficiency.

As a part of the mission, participants are expected to bring the information home and implement what they have learned while also sharing the information with industry colleagues.

To measure the outcomes participants were required to complete evaluation forms at the conclusion of each day. The quotes below are excerpts from the evaluation forms:

What was best about the development mission?

- “The insight into the Chinese food chain was excellent. We visited the various types of markets and supermarkets to better understand the quality of products and the way Chinese people purchase fresh vegetables.”
- “I gained new contacts in the industry, domestically and internationally as well as new knowledge, a lot of which I can use in my own operation.”
- “Very interested to see the issues that face the Chinese potato growers and finally seeing with my own eyes how things work in China.”
- “Meeting new people that were in the same industry and being able to talk to them about their problems and how they deal with them.”
- “Thanks for a great trip. It’s been a life changing experience. I would never have seen what I have over the past few weeks without AUSVEG.”
- “I think our AUSVEG tour group being exposed on the world stage at the World Potato Conference in China is beneficial to Australia’s future potential trade business.”

Mission Report

Day one: Wednesday 22 July

(Travel day) Melbourne Australia to Beijing China.

Day two: Thursday 23 July

(Travel day/rest day). Beijing to Harbin, growers used the time after arriving in Harbin to rest and recover from travel, as well as meet and network with other delegates.

Day three: Friday 24 July

The group was met by a Chinese representative from McCain's, Mr Ren Wang who holds the position of Agriculture Director at McCain's foods (Harbin) Ltd, in China. The group visited three different potato farms operated by McCain Foods. Growers were eager to be accompanied by Mr Wang and hear about issues which the Chinese potato growers and companies face in China.

The delegation travelled by bus to the Hulan area located outside Harbin to visit the first growing operation. The delegation was met by the owner of the farm Mr Cheng who gave the delegation an overview of his growing operation and explained the venture he has with McCain and the land which he rents from adjoining farmers in the village.



A grower in Harbin showcases potato growing techniques.

Growers were informed about the implications of growing crops in China, it is historical that each person in a village was given a portion of land in each paddock to make sure no one was given the overly fertile land or the non-fertile land. Each farmer in a village is given five to fifteen rows in any one paddock for which they are able to grow whatever they need to support their family for that coming year. This causes problems with farmers not wanting to relinquish their land.

McCain's growers face an arduous task of negotiating land leasing rights, with land holders constantly bargaining for better prices. Growers were amazed at how the growing operations were divided between the famers and contracting companies. The Chinese Government owns the land, which it then leases to landholders on one-hundred-year-leases. Each lease has a different start

date, and is often subtle, adding another complication to the growing operations of commercial crops in China.



Potato and Corn crops in Hulan.

As demonstrated above the potato and corn crops are planted on the same block of land with no separation. By maximising their growing space there is a high chance of spreading disease between each crop variety due to the types of chemicals used on each crop.

The group was taken to the offices of Mr Cheng to look at the machinery used on his growing operation. The group was impressed by the amount of machinery Mr Cheng had for his operation which wasn't overly large. The group was informed that Chinese farmers are given a subsidy by the Chinese government to grow and expand their businesses. Chinese farmers tend to buy machinery and often never use it, as it is all subsidised by the government to help start their businesses.

Upon arrival at the second farm, there was noticeable difference in size and scale, with this farm significantly smaller than the first. Mr Wang pointed out that farms operated by McCain's were different sizes to meet the scale of production which is needed to operate their factory.



Mr Wang showing the growers farm number two.

McCains provided lunch at a Chinese restaurant with Mr Wang, where discussion continued across the table about the issues faced by companies trying to grow large amounts of potatoes under the strict conditions as small farmers and larger organisations often operate independently.



Post lunch at the McCain experiments and demonstrations farm.

After lunch the group was taken to the experiments and demonstrations farm where McCain tests different varieties of potatoes, chemicals and water over a large growing field. Growers were interested in seeing the difference between the chemical areas and how the Chinese growers determined what essentials were missing from the soil. Mr Wang showed his in-depth knowledge on the issues which China faces, explaining the processes of producing potatoes under different environmental circumstances.



Signage of different trials at McCain's testing field.



Signage of different trials at McCain's testing field.

The group found the day visiting growers in the Harbin region to have been useful and insightful, with growers impressed at how McCain's growers do business and grow specified amounts of potatoes for the Chinese market.

Day four: Saturday 25 July

(Travel/Rest day) Harbin to Beijing.

Day five: Sunday 26 July

Rest day/Historic sightseeing day in Beijing.

Day six: Monday 27 July

The group were met in the hotel lobby by Ms Cynthia Wei from Bayer CropScience to be taken on a journey to understand how fresh vegetables and fruit reach Beijing residents' dining tables, food safety, express delivery and retail networking. The day was split into a four stop tour through different areas in Beijing.

The first stop was the Da Yang Lu Market which is the second largest fresh produce market in Beijing covering an area of 326,000m². The market is able to supply businesses with eight different transaction items including, vegetables, fruits, meat, grain, oil, seafood, drinks and flavourings. Growers experienced the different ways of trading vegetables inside a Chinese wholesale market giving them an understanding of how wholesale trade occurs in China. The fresh vegetable area within the market did not have any cold storage as fresh vegetables in China are not seen as a valuable commodity and are too expensive to operate a cold chain system to transport these commodities.



Bayer representative, Ms Wei answering growers questions about the size of potatoes and issues of transporting of potatoes to the wholesale market

Growers departed the Da Yang Lu Market for a chain Metro supermarket. The group was taken around the store by Mr Xu Dongwei the Fresh Food Manager. Metro supermarkets are a German owned company with a particular focus on business to business wholesale markets. Metro run eighty one wholesale markets in fifty seven cities across China with more than twelve thousand employees serving more than 3.8 million customers annually.



Metro representatives walking the group through Metro Supermarket.

The third stop was at the San Yuan Li Market which is a local fruit market located near the embassies. These markets were interesting as they were able to stock fruits from around the world which other supermarkets didn't have on their shelves. The group used Mandarin to barter and purchase fruit for a traditional Chinese market sales experience.



Growers purchasing fresh fruit from local vendors.

Stop number four was at a small local Jing Ke Long supermarket where the group was able to browse the shelves of the fresh produce section comparing prices and potato varieties. The group found much in common between both Australian prices and quality compared to the Chinese varieties.



Available potato variety at Jing Ke Long supermarket priced at 1.19Yuan per/500g which is equivalent to what it would sell for in Australia.

After finishing the tour the group was taken to Bayer's Chinese headquarters to enjoy lunch and a presentation on the fresh produce industry and the future China is looking towards. At the conclusion of the presentation the group departed Beijing for Yanqing for the World Potato Congress.

The group attended the opening ceremony where growers were able to gain an appreciation of the scale of the congress and a detailed understanding of the program for the coming days.

Day seven: Tuesday 28 July

The group departed for the Congress centre at 8:00am to hear the opening ceremony and commence the first day of speaker sessions. Growers were able to move between speakers, the trade show and technical session presentations, allowing the group to divide and listen to areas of specific interest.

Topics on Day One of the Congress covered, 'Sustainable Development of the Potato Industry in China' by the Chairman of the Potato Association of China, Mr Dongyu Qu. Another notable speaker for the day was the President of the China Agricultural University Bingsheng Ke speaking on the 'Development of Chinese Agriculture and Food Security'.

At the conclusion of Day one, a networking event was held for growers to discuss the day's events and what knowledge they had taken away from the day's proceedings.



Main hall for the World Potato Congress.

Day eight: Wednesday 29 July



Growers departed the hotel for the Congress at 8:00am for an 8:30am start listening to speakers discuss variety development, integrated crop management, major potato diseases, development of potato staples and the industry, potato mechanization, application of biotechnology in potato breeding and potato consumption markets. These areas were covered throughout the day allowing the growers to divide into groups and attend the topics they were interested in. Growers ventured into the tradeshow where machinery, chemicals and innovative food products were being displayed. The upstairs area in the tradeshow was insightful, showing the different uses of potatoes that the Chinese had developed.

Overall the day was for growers to network throughout all speaker sessions and at the Gala Dinner that evening, allowing them to continue with conversations from previous meetings during the day.

Australian potato industry researcher Dr Kevin Clayton-Greene was awarded for his lifetime of achievements and contributions to the Australian potato industry.

Dr Kevin Clayton-Greene receiving his lifetime of achievements and contributions to the Australian potato industry award.

Day nine: Thursday 30 July

The World Potato Congress organised three industry tours for participants to choose from, each covering different areas of the potato industry and other aspects of agriculture. Growers were able to look into the production of Chinese potatoes and facilities which were open for display. The delegation took part in an industry tour which visited the Snow Valley Agricultural Development. Growers were able to view the high tech facilities for storage, processing, seed cultivation and growing operations on a nearby lot. This allowed growers to gain an understanding of how a major Chinese company operates and to compare the differences between Chinese and Australian processing companies.



A growing lot in Snow Valley during the Industry Tour.

Impacts for Australian horticulture

Following the mission growers took away new contacts, business partners and information to use within their own growing operations in Australia and share with the broader Australian potato sector. Being exposed to such a diverse group of growers and industry representatives enhances the Australian growers' insights into the international world of potato production.

The growers found that learning about farm investments which major company McCain's has made in Harbin in the North Eastern China was valuable. The most interesting experience from the McCain grower's visits in the Harbin area were:

- Understanding the difficulties they experience when dealing with local conditions and disease pressures and how they dealt with smaller Chinese farmers. Plots of land are owned by individual farmers which McCain's leases. This can be challenging when managing relationships with all of the growers involved on those blocks of land.
- McCain's helped the Australian delegation to understand Chinese farm techniques. It was an eye opener for the Australian delegation, seeing the different techniques of the modern and traditional Chinese farmer. This covered the size of the blocks farmed and methods which were used between the farms, as well as machinery versus hand planting and harvesting.

The World Potato Congress provided the Australian delegation with the opportunity to interact with world leaders within the potato industry, sharing knowledge and creating contacts to secure international partnerships at later dates. A majority of international contacts were based in the United States of America and discussed the scale of production which Australian growers found highly relevant and useful. The scale the Americans were talking about inspired the Australian delegation with ways they could upscale their own operations to become more competitive within the Australian market.

There were discussions about large companies from America coming to Australia to scope out new venture options, to determine if they could be competitive within the Australian and Asian market places. This opened up discussion between growers as to how it could positively and negatively impact the Australian industry. A large majority of growers were open to the idea of these companies setting up a facility in Australia to compete in the Asian marketplace.

One grower in particular has benefited significantly from the World Potato Congress meeting a seed supplier and inventor from the Netherlands. This grower has been able to see the benefits by visiting the Netherlands post-China to see the research facilities, talk to the scientists and establish a connection for future collaboration of bringing new seed varieties to Australia. This new partnership could establish other new contacts within the European industry to look at Australia for expanding seed supply.

The mission was successful overall in providing members of the Australian potato industry with an intimate understanding of the Chinese potato industry. The information which arose from the World Potato Congress has enabled the Australian growers to look at how they are able to adapt and configure structures for their personal farms. Engagement with international and domestic growers enabled them to raise points of interest with each other to combine ideas and develop solutions for the industry and their own potato growing areas.

How the information gathered will be disseminated

All participants exchanged details during the mission in order to keep in touch. AUSVEG also encouraged participants to attend the 2015 National Horticulture Convention in order to share all the information gained from the mission with their industry associates.

Following the mission, participants have kept in regular contact to discuss various parts of the mission and further develop networks. AUSVEG has strongly encouraged participants of the 2015 Potato leadership and development mission to share information on what they learnt and experienced with their local counterparts.

AUSVEG has also encouraged the participating growers to share their new knowledge with growers by actively participating in industry events and through networks and by attending the 2016 National Horticulture Convention in order to share all the information gained from the mission with their industry associates. Grower attendance at this event provides an opportunity to access a large section of the industry and engage in the sharing of valuable industry knowledge.

AUSVEG will publish an article in an upcoming edition of *Potatoes Australia* indicating the outcomes of the tour by covering the major findings and events of the tour. The magazine is distributed to approximately 3,000 industry members and stakeholders. AUSVEG has also featured articles about the tour in its *Weekly Update* e-Newsletter, communicating information from the tour to approximately 4,000 industry members.

AUSVEG personnel have also presented information about the Potato leadership and development mission in presentations delivered at industry meetings.

Potato Leadership and Development Mission 2015 – China itinerary

| Date | Location | Activities |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Day 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 22 July 2015</p> | <p>Melbourne - Beijing</p> | <p>Attendees to catch individual flights to Melbourne to meet with the tour group and then proceed to China.</p> <p>Airline Qantas, Hong Kong Dragon Airlines</p> <p>Flights Qantas QF29 departs Melbourne MEL 10:20 am arrives Hong Kong HKG 6:00pm</p> <p>Hong Kong Dragon Airlines KA906 departs Hong Kong HKG 7:00pm, arrives Beijing BJS 10:30pm.</p> <p>On arrival in Beijing we will be met and transferred to the hotel.</p> <p>Accommodation: Traders Hotel by Shangri-la No.1 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Beijing, 100004, China Ph: 86 10 65052277</p> |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Day 2 Thursday 23 July 2015</p> | <p>Beijing - Harbin</p> | <p>Transport:</p> <p>We will fly from Beijing to Harbin. Depart Beijing 8:50 am CA1643 Arrive Harbin 10:45 am</p> <p>Upon arrival we will be met and transferred to the hotel. Then we will be met by representatives from Syngenta to visit seed potato operations, providing an opportunity see how Syngenta operate within the China potato industry.</p> <p>This evening we will be served dinner at the hotel.</p> <p>Accommodation: Sofitel Wanda Harbin 68 Ganshui Road Xiangfang District Hei Long Jiang, 150090, Harbin, China Ph: 86 451 8233 6888</p> |
| <p>Day 3 Friday 24 July 2015</p> | <p>Harbin</p> | <p>Today we will be met by an agricultural guide from McCain at our hotel who will accompany and lead us on a tour of a number of growing facilities which McCain operate. Harbin is a large potato growing area in China, mainly contracted by McCain's.</p> <p>We have been invited to taste local food for lunch during the farm visits.</p> <p>Dinner will be organised at a local restaurant, where we will be joined by the McCain agricultural guide following the day's farm visits.</p> <p>Accommodation: Sofitel Wanda Harbin 68 Ganshui Road Xiangfang District Hei Long Jiang, 150090, Harbin, China Ph: 86 451 8233 6888</p> |
| <p>Day 4 Saturday 25 July 2015</p> | <p>Harbin - Beijing</p> | <p>Rest and recovery day with the opportunity to explore the city of Harbin.</p> <p>Transport to the airport from the hotel has been arranged. Upon arriving in Beijing we will be taken to the hotel.</p> <p>Air China flight CA1612 Depart Harbin: 7:50 pm Arrive Beijing: 9:45 pm</p> <p>Accommodation: Traders Hotel by Shangri-la No.1 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Beijing, 100004, China Ph: 86 10 65052277</p> |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Day 5 Sunday 26 July 2015</p> | <p>Beijing</p> | <p>Event: Historic sightseeing day of Chinese history.</p> <p>Today we have a chance for sightseeing in the Beijing area with a program including visiting The Great Wall of China at the Juyongguan section and the Temple of Heaven.</p> <p>Lunch has been included in today's activities.</p> <p>Dinner will be organised at a restaurant for the evening.</p> <p>Accommodation: Traders Hotel by Shangri-la No.1 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Beijing, 100004, China Ph: 86 10 65052277</p> |
| <p>Day 6 Monday 27 July 2015</p> | <p>Beijing – Yanqing County</p> | <p>We will begin the day with a Beijing Food Chain experience, hosted by Bayer. The Beijing food chain experience will include visits to a wholesale market, a major multinational B2B market (Metro), a consumer wet market, a local supermarket and a presentation by Bayer focussing on the entire horticulture market in China.</p> <p>In the afternoon we will travel by bus from central Beijing to Yanqing County, where the World Potato Congress is being held.</p> <p>Upon arrival in Yanqing we will check into our accommodation and register for the World Potato Congress and attend the reception in the evening.</p> <p>Accommodation: Beijing Jinyu Badaling Spa Resort No.1 North Guishui Street, Yanqing County, Beijing Ph: 010 69186869</p> |
| <p>Day 7 Tuesday 28 July 2015</p> | <p>Yanqing</p> | <p>World Potato Congress including expo, keynote presentations, technical sessions and poster sessions.</p> <p>Dinner will be organised in Yanqing.</p> <p>Accommodation: Beijing Jinyu Badaling Spa Resort No.1 North Guishui Street, Yanqing County, Beijing Ph: 010 69186869</p> |
| <p>Day 8 Wednesday 29 July 2015</p> | <p>Yanqing</p> | <p>World Potato Congress including technical sessions, presentations, industry development technical seminars and closing plenary.</p> <p>We will also attend the World Potato Congress Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony. Held at the Badaling Great Wall, the Awards ceremony will allow the opportunity to enjoy Chinese potato delicacies, climb the Great Wall in the moonlight, traditional Chinese music, and the unique charm of Chinese food culture.</p> <p>Accommodation: Beijing Jinyu Badaling Spa Resort</p> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | No.1 North Guishui Street, Yanqing County, Beijing Ph: 010 69186869 |
| Day 9 Thursday 30 July 2015 | Yanqing | World Potato Congress industry tour featuring insights into the Chinese potato and agricultural sector. Dinner will be organised in Yanqing. Accommodation: Beijing Jinyu Badaling Spa Resort No.1 North Guishui Street, Yanqing County, Beijing Ph: 010 69186869 |
| Day 10 Friday 31 July 2015 | Yanqing - Beijing - Australia | On the final day of the mission we will make our way from Yanqing to Beijing for departing flights home. Flight CX391 will depart Beijing airport (PEK) at 1:30pm and will arrive in Hong Kong (HKG) at 5:20pm. Flight QF30 will depart Hong Kong at 8:30pm and arrive in Melbourne (MEL) at 8:00am on Saturday 1 August. |
| Day 11 Saturday 1 August 2015 | Beijing - Melbourne | Flight QF30 arrives Melbourne MEL 8:00am, at which point participants will catch their respective flights home. |

Recommendations

Based on feedback from study tour participants and observations made during the tour, the following list of recommendations has been compiled:

- Dissemination of the tour insights and learnings through multiple communication channels such as the Potatoes Australia magazine and the AUSVEG weekly update.
- Liaising with participating growers to gain an insight into what are the main areas of interest to accommodate with setting the itinerary.
- Offer more study missions to attend the World Potato Congress with a delegation of potato growers to attend the next congress in 2018.
- When setting the itinerary consider the length of the tour program and the possibility of incorporating all visits into a shorter timeframe.

Acknowledgments

AUSVEG would like to thank the following:

- The Australian potato growers who participated in the delegation.
- Bayer CropScience – China for the informative market experience and hospitality at their headquarters in Beijing.
- McCains for organising a day of farm visits to their respective growers in the Harbin area.
- The World Potato Congress organisation team for the setup of the event.
- Blue Ocean International Travel for the organisation of buses and interpreters.

The 2015 Potato Leadership and Development Mission to China was funded by Horticulture Innovation Australia (HIA) using the National Potato Levy and funds from the Australian Government.

Potato Leadership and Development Mission 2015 – China participants

| Name | Surname | Organisation | Position | City | State |
|---------|-----------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jamie | Roberts | Thomas Foods International Fresh Produce | General Manager | Virginia | South Australia |
| Michael | Radcliff | Rhebanvale | Owner | Wesley Vale | Tasmania |
| Chris | Waugh | Red Gem Potatoes | Seed and Development Manager | Nar Nar Goon | Victoria |
| Nathan | Daly | GP & SJ Daly Pty Ltd | Trainee Farm Manager | Boomer Bay | Tasmania |
| Sam | Humphries | KR & JM Humphries | Grower | Manya North | Victoria |
| Gary | O'Neill | Mitolo Group | General Manager – Agronomy | Virginia | South Australia |
| Dean | Bone | Emerald Valley Seed Potatoes | Grower | Kennedy's Creek | Victoria |
| Ian | Holmes | J.S Holmes & Co | Co-Owner | Guyra | New South Wales |
| Greg | Murphy | A.P.Murphy & Sons | Manager | Dunnstown | Victoria |
| *Rod | Knight | Thomas Foods International Fresh Produce | Chief Financial Officer | Virginia | South Australia |
| Tom | Cohen | AUSVEG – Staff Member | Assistant to the CEO | Melbourne | Victoria |

*Denotes full fee paying participant.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Rod Knight

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Speaking to people from different businesses, and different
cultures/countries in regards to the potato industry.

4. Why did you attend?

Try and learn more about doing business in China and globally

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: N/A

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Farm trips were ok, and not being able to visit the packing facility in operation was disappointing.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Was good to see the different components of the value chain (ie wholesale & retail market), professionally hosted, and market fruit buying game was fun, and assisted learning some more language, and understanding more of the China experience.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The expo was quite well presented, and the keynote
speakers topics were quite good

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: A couple of the speakers in relation to variety
development were quite good. Minimal impact of the Expo in
Day 2.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Tour A offered little relevance

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: Could have been better organised. Opening Ceremony was
ordinary. Needed a bit more detail, and language barrier
provided some challenges at times.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: Beijing & Harbin was excellent, Yangqing was average to
poor.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes No

Why or why not?

Only with the implementation of some recommended
improvements. Some of the travel distances were too far,
but not sure how you get around that.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

Trip may have been 2 days too long. A better organised conference with maybe 2 days of field/factory visits

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Thankyou for the opportunity of being part of the tour.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Nathan Daly

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Meeting new people that were in the same industry & being able to talk to them about their problems and how they deal with them, to help me understand more about the potato industry was the best part for me.

4. Why did you attend?

I attended to grow my knowledge in the potato industry & to experience a new culture and their ways of doing things.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Tiger Park Produced the Good!

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: would have been nice to see
Mccains factory working but over all a
Good. Was my first eye opener on the
trip to How things are done over there.
enjoyed seeing the farm equipment the best.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: was good seeing a few sites
in ~~the~~ harbin city.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: ~~Fabian city was good to see.~~
Sat in on some interesting ~~lect~~ speakers
enjoyed looking through the BRIMNEE
display as I'd never seen a 4 row harvester
before.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: listen in on some good speakers
and talked to some interesting growers
from around the world.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Was a bit disappointed in the
tour but was good to see the mini
tuber factory & know under stand how
it works.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: I'd never been to one before
 so I didn't know what to expect.
 over all I had a good time & have
 gained alot from it. I now hope i
 can implement it into my own work place

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: The first two places were unreal
 was a shame in the last one; but
 understandable in a small town with
 something on like the congress. accomadation
 8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers? would have been limited.

Yes No

Why or why not?

would highly recommend it to every one
 I talk to.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

seeing operations in Mongolia would have been good

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Thanks for a great trip. its been a life changing experience. would never have seen what I have over the past few weeks with out Ausveg. cant thank Tom & the team at Ausveg enough for a great trip

Cheers

Nathan Duly

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Dean Bone

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

For me networking with other growers to ~~be~~ here
about current issues and new ideas & Technology
from around the world

4. Why did you attend?

It's something that I really enjoy, talking to, learning
from ^{growers} and listening to speakers and seeing the
ways of a different culture.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: very interested to see the issues that face
the chinese growing potatoes and finally seeing for
my own eyes how things work in china.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: This was a great experience Bayer
really put on a good show, showing us the
various stages of the food chain, market was
an eyeopener, metro supermarket was first class,
hands on game we played worked well as did local supermarket
and lunch at Bayer's 5 star headquarters was enjoyable
and cythias presentation on how china is taking on
the future was extremely informative.
This was a great day

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: networking, excellent
speakers, good
trade show excellent
acoustics - terrible

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: networking - excellent
speakers - good
Trade show - excellent
sound - shit
gala dinner - unprofessional

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Tour No. 1. was a waste of time
it was supposed to be about seed, I think
I would of been better off on Tour 2. It
sounded better, but at least other members of
our group gave me a good report so I don't feel
as though I missed out on so much

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: I prefer to concentrate on what I got out of it and that was plenty, much more than I probably thought I would. I reestablished relationships from last world congress and made plenty of new ones that I'm keen to explore more. I think I can change and improve my business significantly after this tour. Topics covered were interesting and informative. Trade show was all about the future science and products.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: Sobitel and Trades Hotel was excellent. Badalin Spa was adequate. I think considering we were in a foreign third world country it was ok. No complaints from me.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

For me I find it extremely beneficial and I look forward to passing on what I learnt to other growers. ~~think~~ so yes I would

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

you can always improve things with hindsight but overall I think Ausveg did an excellent job. arranging what we saw and did. perhaps for another tour Ausveg could call on past tour members who have made relationships with growers and company's from other countries to help with Itinerary plans

11. Do you have any additional comments?

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to attend as I was for the last Edinburgh congress I hope I ~~can~~ ^{have} added to the tour somehow with my input and be of value to the group and tour. For those who treat this opportunity as a junket they should have a good hard look at themselves overall I think our group was a good one ~~event~~. Thank you Tom for doing an excellent job on short notice, you made a great "fearless leader" and kept a variety of personalities and ego's to come together ^{seamlessly}

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

I hope Ausveg considers a tour to Peru for the next congress and I will be sure to apply for a spot again. Thanks again

Sean.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: IAN HOLMES

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

- ① Exchanging knowledge with fellow participants.
② Gaining new information/contacts worldwide at seminars and trade shows at world congress
③ Learning about China's culture and challenges they face growing ^{x selling} potatoes.

4. Why did you attend?

To gain knowledge in the areas mentioned above ~~and~~ and to use that information in my own operation and to disseminate that information to my fellow industry contacts

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

One of the main points about China's challenges expanding their potato industry was learnt on this tour. The fact that so many small Chinese farmers (owning only 1 acre or so of land each) own so little land inhibits large potato operations expanding. Disappointing to miss Harbin Potato factory.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Cynthia was an extremely thorough and intelligent tour guide. The wholesales markets, the super market and her speech all gave us an excellent insight into the Chinese potato industry as a whole.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

~~Others who have been to previous WPCs said I~~ Enjoyed the speeches and gained knowledge from them. However, some of them focused on ~~local~~ Chinese issues (which is totally understandable) and had little relevance to my operation.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Once again enjoyed the seminars very much and the trade show was fantastic. So good in fact that I didn't have enough time to see everything I wanted. I noticed the Chinese expo was held just prior to the WPC. If that happens in Peru it may be beneficial to arrive early just to get more time at the trade show.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Snow Valley Farms were excellent. Good to see experiments with intercropping, drip irrigation, fertigation, mulching and the variety trials. Mini tuber propagation was also interesting. Would be a must on any future Chinese tour and is on the way to inner Mongolia which would also be interesting to see.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: Others who have been to previous WPCs said
this one was disappointing. However, for me, this WPC
provided a tremendous amount information about new
trends, technology and issues in the World potato industry.
I also gained great contacts at the event. The focus
on the Chinese industry was understandable and unavoidable.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: Would have been excellent if it wasn't for
the WPC accommodation which wasn't too bad anyway.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

For all the reasons mentioned in the previous
answers, I gained new contacts in the industry domestically
and internationally. New knowledge, a lot of which I can
use in my own operation. And I gained an insight into
Chinese culture. (Our ~~the~~ tour guides and interpreters were
excellent).

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

Things mentioned earlier - The Harbor factory, operations in inner Mongolia and a possible early arrival at the wire to see more of the trade show.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Tom was an excellent tour leader and made things run as smoothly as possible in a sometimes chaotic environment. Lee, and Edward were, also excellent at their jobs and essential to the success of the tour.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: GREG MURPHY

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Hard to pick a best, The Harbin visit only
because it was french fry based and that is
the sector of the industry that I am in

4. Why did you attend?

To investigate the industry in China
To see what the world potato industry see: what
the issues are across the world & China Inparticular
To meet & Network growers from all over the world

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

NA
Big hungry Tigers.

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

The information imparted by Ben was valuable in understanding the position of McCain & the French Fry Industry in the Harbin area. As well as the problems the growers have in the area.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

* It was interesting to see the chain of food from market to supermarket & local markets in the way that it is presented at each step of the chain.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The opening ceremony was rather disappointing in the fact that it was hard to hear the presenters of the speeches and I also thought we may have been seated & fed. Presentations I attended had some useful information

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The trade stands & food area upstairs was insightful as to the uses of potatoes that the Chinese are developing.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Although it was a long bus ride it was good to see the position that they have developed with tissue culture to new varieties & mini tubers through to field trials & irrigation practices. The day was massive, good SHOW

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: There was some interesting stats about the industry throughout the world as well as future challenges that I found interesting

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: First Traders + Sofitel were very good. The last one was disappointing in appearance but bedding was clean.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes No

Why or why not?

It is a great opportunity to learn about other areas around the world and meet growers from other areas.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

I don't know that anything in particular would be more beneficial or enjoyable, but the involvement of Companies like Bayer with the local involvement in the Industry ~~is~~ gives a different slant on the Industry.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Tom did a good job as tour leader, very thorough & professional.
The tour guides we had Edward & he were invaluable to the tour as the language barrier was evident where ever we went

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Sam Humphries

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

4. Why did you attend?

To go to the world potato conference, learn about
new technology, learn ~~the~~ chinese culture and to meet other
growers from ~~the~~ around the world.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The tour had 3 farms, ~~of~~ various stages of development. We did miss out on the factory which was closed, we were on a tight timeschedule.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Insight into the chinese food chain was excellent. We visited the various types of markets and supermarkets to better understand quality of products and the way chinese people purchase fresh vegetables. The Bayer tour was very well organised

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The networking was excellent. There were language ~~bar~~ issues but this had little to do with the performance of the show. The local government had control over the presentations which lead to a lot of repetitive speeches. Trade show was quite large and had some good technology on show.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The Networking was better. The technical presentation had more information & detail. The guide was really handy.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

~~Was~~ were on show. We had our photo's taken on facilities that were not operational with very little technical explanations.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: I think overall the conference was good.
There was not a huge amount of technical
information provided. Sound quality through the PA
system was very poor.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: Good at the start. Very Average at
the end.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

The experience was excellent, seeing how far
in front our production systems are generally. Experience
what other potato producers are doing.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

Better organisation of flights/timing. Alternative arrangements for if a day gets changed or setup so the tour can visit the farms with the guide. Better selection of growers, visited a limited range of growers. We did not see the more advanced growers

11. Do you have any additional comments?

The tour leader was good. China/Mongolia (more advanced farmers) would be worth while in the future. Flight timing meant we were arriving late or leaving early even without delays. Overall very good tour. European potato expo might be worth looking at some people suggested it had more technical info & Machinery.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Gary O'Neill

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth *Weekly Update* Email Newspaper
 Mail *Potatoes Australia* AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

The tour participant's all got on very well and it was a very well balanced group of industry participants. I found the Bayer tour on the Monday looking at the different types of markets as the highlight of the activities undertaken.

The overall running of the tour in terms of transport, accommodation and the interpreters made the trip so much more enjoyable. It would have been very difficult to negotiate your way around China if you did not have an interpreter and had to use public transport or taxis.

4. Why did you attend?

I attended the tour to firstly gain an appreciation of the emerging potato industry in China and what opportunities there may be for Australian potato imports in the future. I also wanted to attend the WPC to gain more information to adopt in my business. Thirdly I saw the tour as a great opportunity to gain some insight into the Chinese culture and renew and make new beneficial contacts as part of my networking.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The Syngenta networking dinner did not occur.

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: It was nice to travel out into the country and see some farming and local villages. We spent a full day on the bus to only see 3 paddocks of potatoes which was a lot of travel for such a small amount of content. I did enjoy talking to the McCains rep and understanding some of the difficulties they were experiencing when dealing with the local conditions and disease pressures and they dealt with the smaller Chinese farmers.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: This was the highlight of the tour for me. I gained a very good understanding of how produce is delivered and marketed through the value chain. It also highlighted to me that potatoes are not seen as a preferred staple outside of the lower class Chinese. The Bayer staff provided a great morning of activities and sites to visit.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: I have attended both the Idaho and New Zealand WPC previously and I thought the overall content of the Congress was not as good as the 2 WPC's I had attended previously.

I did gain some insights into the nutritional benefits of potatoes compared to other vegetables and starch food stuffs. The varietal breeding information was also useful.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Comments the same as day 1.

I attended the mechanization session and it did not provide a lot of information that could be applied back in Australia.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Tour A was very disappointing in that it provided little in the way of increasing anyone's knowledge on potatoes. I believe tour B provided a much better day of potato activities.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: Having been to 2 WPC's previously my expectations were fairly high. I thought there could have been more international content from a global perspective rather than being focused heavily around the Chinese potato industry.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: The accommodation was excellent except for the last place we stayed at the WPC at the Spa Resort. I am sure it looked much better on the website at the time of booking than what it turned out to be.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes No

Why or why not?

I believe it is important for industry to take the opportunity to go overseas and see how the potato industry operates in different countries. It is great opportunity to network and meet other likeminded potato people.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

After travelling to China I think it would have been great to have gone and visited Inner Mongolia where the major processors have set up and are growing potatoes. This seemed to be where most of the western influence is occurring and would have been great to see and gain an appreciation of the scale of production in this region.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

I would like to thank both AusVeg and HIAL for selecting me for the tour and putting the tour itinerary together. I don't think I would have travelled to China to gain an insight into their agricultural practices or culture if it had not been for the tour being arranged on my behalf.

Overall Tom did a good job at keeping the tour participants together and looking after their needs when required.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Michael James Radcliff

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Always in getting to know fellow delegates involved is similar field of work. Visiting China for 1st time puts its all into perspective of what economy about & direction forwards. Experiencing the culture is always important.

4. Why did you attend?

It is important to get off farm & experience World potato production & trends at a venue such as WPC being in Yangjing Country Beijing. Meeting delegates & general networking is beneficial.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

~~Cancelled.~~

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

It was good driving out of Harbin into fields & learning how it is done growing McCain potatoes for the factory. Shame we didn't physically witness site but of course long drive & factory closed anyway. Gov't encouraging real/traditional farmers to move off land to the city to free up land for modern Agricultural practices.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Absolutely excellent tour by Cynthia Wei & her team in hosting us. The whole sub market extremely interesting experiencing the lack of cool-chain implementations. The Supermarket inspection & explanation very interesting. The game to buy 5 fruits from 5 county origins with seller by group photograph with local money spent was a good exercise.
Our group WON on 64 RMB Spend !!!

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: After disappointingly opening ceremony but ~~right~~ it was made up by having nice meal with our group across rd. The Day at sessions good with some relevance of going to trade show when you could was excellent. The day was completed once again by going to some Chinese restaurant esp. feel right because we were advised by locals it was one of the best. It was also good catching up with fellow delegates from other tour groups.

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Day of sessions varied in interest & relevance but some good info from some. The emphasis on Chinese production to increase with higher yields & encouraging Chinese people to eat more potatoes was always re-iterated. Closing ceremony disappointingly half meal & drinks, the trip to Badaling Great Wall was worth it & fun climbing a section with it lit up so well.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The tour organised by WPC to visit Snow Valley research & production was an eye-opener.

The Dairy operation was staggering witnessing 6x 80 hd. Rotary dairies lined up with 20500 head. A long way to drive but a good look at country on way.

Discussions they gloss over the tour sites without a little more information and practical inspection devoted.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment:

It was good but missing some hospitality skill with catering & providing a content atmosphere for guests at functions. This problem is a Chinese culture problem that is obviously changing quickly with experience. The networking is always great meeting new people from around the world in the industry. The trade show was excellent with so much to see. The machinery built in China & replicated other Country famous brands was ^{staggering}

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment:

Traders Hotel by Shanghai very comfortable
 Harbin Sotitel Wa-de very deluxe & great.
 Beijing Jinge Badaling Spa Resort disappointing but adequate.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

Obviously same tour in China/WPC won't happen again but to China as an agricultural study tour would be recommended especially due to the potential of becoming a important trading partner.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

I'd always love to expect and appreciate what is on offer and organised by these trips always by an organisation such as Aus-veg. Hard to please everyone & not everything that is organised in itinerary works out eg Sygents tour. Flexibility when away is important so everyone enjoys themselves.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

A tremendous tour group led by Tom and handled extremely well considering Tom very young, very well grounded & adaptable.

I think our Ausveg tour group being exposed on the world stage at a WPC in China is beneficial to Aus & future potential trade business.

The WPC in China created World potato significance & obviously helps potato consumer awareness & thus potential potato production profitability.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

Thanks Tom.

Andrew

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Gary O'Neill

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth *Weekly Update* Email Newspaper
 Mail *Potatoes Australia* AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

The tour participant's all got on very well and it was a very well balanced group of industry participants. I found the Bayer tour on the Monday looking at the different types of markets as the highlight of the activities undertaken.

The overall running of the tour in terms of transport, accommodation and the interpreters made the trip so much more enjoyable. It would have been very difficult to negotiate your way around China if you did not have an interpreter and had to use public transport or taxis.

4. Why did you attend?

I attended the tour to firstly gain an appreciation of the emerging potato industry in China and what opportunities there may be for Australian potato imports in the future. I also wanted to attend the WPC to gain more information to adopt in my business. Thirdly I saw the tour as a great opportunity to gain some insight into the Chinese culture and renew and make new beneficial contacts as part of my networking.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:**Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner**

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The Syngenta networking dinner did not occur.

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: It was nice to travel out into the country and see some farming and local villages. We spent a full day on the bus to only see 3 paddocks of potatoes which was a lot of travel for such a small amount of content. I did enjoy talking to the McCains rep and understanding some of the difficulties they were experiencing when dealing with the local conditions and disease pressures and they dealt with the smaller Chinese farmers.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: This was the highlight of the tour for me. I gained a very good understanding of how produce is delivered and marketed through the value chain. It also highlighted to me that potatoes are not seen as a preferred staple outside of the lower class Chinese. The Bayer staff provided a great morning of activities and sites to visit.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: I have attended both the Idaho and New Zealand WPC previously and I thought the overall content of the Congress was not as good as the 2 WPC's I had attended previously.

I did gain some insights into the nutritional benefits of potatoes compared to other vegetables and starch food stuffs. The varietal breeding information was also useful.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Comments the same as day 1.

I attended the mechanization session and it did not provide a lot of information that could be applied back in Australia.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Tour A was very disappointing in that it provided little in the way of increasing anyone's knowledge on potatoes. I believe tour B provided a much better day of potato activities.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: Having been to 2 WPC's previously my expectations were fairly high. I thought there could have been more international content from a global perspective rather than being focused heavily around the Chinese potato industry.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: The accommodation was excellent except for the last place we stayed at the WPC at the Spa Resort. I am sure it looked much better on the website at the time of booking than what it turned out to be.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes No

Why or why not?

I believe it is important for industry to take the opportunity to go overseas and see how the potato industry operates in different countries. It is great opportunity to network and meet other likeminded potato people.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

After travelling to China I think it would have been great to have gone and visited Inner Mongolia where the major processors have set up and are growing potatoes. This seemed to be where most of the western influence is occurring and would have been great to see and gain an appreciation of the scale of production in this region.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

I would like to thank both AusVeg and HIAL for selecting me for the tour and putting the tour itinerary together. I don't think I would have travelled to China to gain an insight into their agricultural practices or culture if it had not been for the tour being arranged on my behalf.

Overall Tom did a good job at keeping the tour participants together and looking after their needs when required.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: GREG MURPHY

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Hard to pick a best, The Harbin visit only
because it was french fry based and that is
the sector of the industry that I am in

4. Why did you attend?

To investigate the industry in China
To see what the world potato industry see what
the issues are across the world & China Inparticular
To meet & Network growers from all over the world

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

NA
Big hungry Tigers.

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The information imparted by Ben was valuable in understanding the position of McCain & the French Fry Industry in the Harbin area. As well as the problems the growers have in the area.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: * It was interesting to see the chain of food from market to supermarket & local markets in the way that it is presented at each step of the chain.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The opening ceremony was rather disappointing in the fact that it was hard to hear the presenters of the speeches and I also thought we may have been seated & fed. Presentations I attended had some useful information

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The trade stands & food area upstairs was insightful as to the uses of potatoes that the Chinese are developing.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Although it was a long bus ride it was good to see the position that they have developed with tissue culture to new varieties & mini tubers through to field trials & irrigation practices. The display was massive, good SHOW

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: There was some interesting stats about the industry throughout the world as well as future challenges that I found interesting

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: First Traders + Sofitel were very good. The last one was disappointing in appearance but bedding was clean.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes No

Why or why not?

It is a great opportunity to learn about other areas around the world and meet growers from other areas.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

I don't know that anything in particular would be more beneficial or enjoyable, but the involvement of Companies like Bayer with the local involvement in the Industry ~~is~~ gives a different slant on the Industry.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Tom did a good job as tour leader, very thorough & professional.

The tour guides we had Edward & Le were invaluable to the tour as the language barrier was evident where ever we went

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: IAN HOLMES

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

- ① Exchanging knowledge with fellow participants.
② Gaining new information/contacts worldwide at seminars and trade show at world congress.
③ Learning about China's culture and challenges they face growing ^{selling} potatoes.

4. Why did you attend?

To gain knowledge in the areas mentioned above ~~and~~ and to use that information in my own operation and to disseminate that information to my fellow industry contacts

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

One of the main points about China's challenges expanding their potato industry was learnt on this tour. The fact that so many small Chinese farmers (owning only 1 acre or so of land each) own so little land inhibits large potato operations expanding. Disappointing to miss Harbin Potato factory.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Cynthia was an extremely thorough and intelligent tour guide. The wholesales markets, the super market and her speech all gave us an excellent insight into the Chinese potato industry as a whole.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

~~Others who have been to previous WPCs said~~ Enjoyed the speeches and gained knowledge from them. However, some of them focused on ~~with~~ Chinese issues (which is totally understandable) and had little relevance to my operation.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Once again enjoyed the seminars very much and the trade show was fantastic. So good in fact that I didn't have enough time to see everything I wanted. I noticed the Chinese expo was held just prior to the WPC. If that happens in Peru it may be beneficial to arrive early just to get more time at the trade show.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Snow Valley Farms were excellent. Good to see experiments with intercropping, drip irrigation, fertigation, mulching and the variety trials. Mini tuber propagation was also interesting. Would be a must on any future Chinese tour and is on the way to inner Mongolia which would also be interesting to see.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: Others who have been to previous WPCs said this one was disappointing. However, for me, this WPC provided a tremendous amount of information about new trends, technology, and issues in the world potato industry. I also gained great contacts at the event. The focus on the Chinese industry was understandable and unavoidable.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment: Would have been excellent if it wasn't for the WPC accommodation which wasn't too bad anyway.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

For all the reasons mentioned in the previous answers, I gained new contacts in the industry domestically and internationally. New knowledge, a lot of which I can use in my own operation. And I gained an insight into Chinese culture. (Our ~~at~~ tour guides and interpreters were excellent).

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

Things mentioned earlier. The Harbin factory, operations in inner Mongolia and a possible early arrival at the WPC, to see more of the trade show.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Tom was an excellent tour leader and made things run as smoothly as possible in a sometimes chaotic environment. Lee and Edward were also excellent at their jobs and essential to the success of the tour.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Dean Bone

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

For me networking with other growers to ~~be~~ here
about current issues and new ideas & Technology
from around the world

4. Why did you attend?

It's something that I really enjoy, talking to, learning
from ^{grower} and listening to speakers and seeing the
ways of a different culture.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: very interested to see the issues that face
the chinese growing potatoes and finally seeing for
my own eyes how things work in china.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: This was a great experience Bayer
really put on a ~~good~~ show, showing us the
various stages of the food chain, market was
an eyeopener, metro supermarket was first class,
hands on game we played worked well as did local supermarket
and lunch at Bayer's 5 star headquarters was enjoyable
and cynthias presentation on how china is taking on
the future was extremely informative.
This was a great day

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

networking, excellent
 speakers, good
 trade show excellent
 acoustics - terrible

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

networking - excellent
 speakers - good
 Trade show - excellent
 sound - shit
 gala dinner - unprofessional

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Tour No. 1. was a waste of time
 it was supposed to be about seed, I think
 I would of been better off on Tour 2. It
 sounded better, but at least other members of
 our group gave me a good report so I don't feel
 as though I missed out on so much

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment:

I prefer to concentrate on what I got out of it and that was plenty, much more than I probably thought I would. I reestablished relationships from last world congress and made plenty of new ones that I'm keen to explore more I think I can change and improve my business significantly after this tour. Topics covered were interesting and informative Trade show was all about the future science and products

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment:

Sohibel and Traders Hotel was excellent Badajoz Spa was adequate I think considering we were in a foreign third world country it was ok. No complaints from me.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

For me I find it extremely Beneficial and I look forward to passing on what I learnt to other growers. ~~I think~~ so yes I would

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

you can always improve things with hindsight but overall I think Ausveg did an excellent job. arranging what we saw and did. perhaps for another tour Ausveg could call on past tour members who have made relationships with growers and company's from other countries to help with itinerary plans

11. Do you have any additional comments?

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to attend as I was for the last Edinburgh congress I hope I ~~can~~ ^{have} added to the tour somehow with my input and be of value to the group and tour. For those that treat this opportunity as a junket they should have a good hard look at themselves overall I think our group was a good one ~~overall~~. Thank you Tom for doing an excellent job on short notice, you made a great "fearless leader" and kept a variety of personalities and ego's

to come together ^{seamlessly} Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

I hope Ausveg considers a tour to Peru for the next congress and I will be sure to apply for a spot again. Thanks again

Sean.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Nathan Daly

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Meeting new people that were in the same industry & being able to talk to them about their problems and how they deal with them, to help me understand more about the potato industry was the best part for me.

4. Why did you attend?

I attended to grow my knowledge in the potato industry & to experience a new culture and their ways of doing things.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Tiger Park Produced the Good!

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: would have been nice to see
Mccains factory working but over all a
Good. Was my first eye opener on the
trip to How things are done over here.
enjoyed seeing the farm equipment the best.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: was good seeing a few sites
in ~~the~~ harbin city.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: ~~Fabian city was good to see.~~
Sat in on some interesting ~~lect~~ speakers
enjoyed looking through the PRIMMEE
display as I'd never seen a 4 row harvester
before.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: listen in on some good speakers
and talked to some interesting growers
from around the world.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

 Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Was a bit disappointed in the
tour but was good to see the Minni
fuber factory & know under stand how
it works.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: I'd never been to one before
 so I didn't know what to expect.
 over all I had a good time & have
 gained alot from it. I now hope i
 can implement it into my own work place

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: The first two places were unreal
 was a shame in the last one; but
 understandable in a small town with
 something on like the congress. accomadation
 8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers? would have been limited.

Yes No

Why or why not?

would highly recommend it to every one
 I talk to.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

seeing operations in Mongolia would have been good

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Thanks for a great trip. its been a life changing experience. would never have seen what I have over the past few weeks with out Ausveg. cant thank Tom & the team at Ausveg enough for a great trip

Cheers

Nathan Duly

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Red Knight

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Speaking to people from different businesses, and different
cultures/countries in regards to the potato industry.

4. Why did you attend?

Try and learn more about doing business in China and globally

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: N/A

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Farm trips were ok, and not being able to visit the packing facility in operation was disappointing.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Was good to see the different components of the value chain (ie wholesale & retail market). Professionally hosted, and market fruit buying game was fun, and assisted learning some more language, and understanding more of the China experience.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

- Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The expo was quite well presented, and the keynote
speakers topics were quite good

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

- Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: A couple of the speakers in relation to variety
development were quite good. Minimal impact of the Expo in
Day 2.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

- Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Tour A offered little relevance

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: Could have been better organised. Opening Ceremony was
ordinary. Needed a bit more detail, and language barrier
provided some challenges at times.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment: Beijing & Harbin was excellent, Yangqing was average to
poor.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes No

Why or why not?

Only with the implementation of some recommended
improvements. Some of the travel distances were too far,
but not sure how you get around that.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

Trip may have been 2 days too long. A better organised conference with maybe 2 days of field/factory visits

11. Do you have any additional comments?

Thankyou for the opportunity of being part of the tour.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Sam Humphries

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

4. Why did you attend?

To go to the world potato conference, learn about
new technology, learn ^{chinese} culture and to meet other
growers from ~~the~~ around the world.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

The tour had 3 farms, ~~of~~ various stages of development. We did miss out on the factory which was closed, we were on a tight time schedule.

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment:

Insight into the Chinese food chain was excellent. We visited the various types of markets and supermarkets to better understand quality of products and the way Chinese people purchase fresh vegetables. The Bayer tour was very well organised.

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The networking was excellent. There were language ~~bar~~ issues but this had little to do with the performance of the show. The local government had control over the presentations which lead to a lot of repetitive speeches. Trade show was quite large and had some good technology on show.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The Networking was better. The technical presentation had more information & detail. The guide was really handy.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: ~~Was~~ were on show. We had our photo's taken on facilities that were not operational with very little technical explanations.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment:

I think overall the conference was good. There was not a huge amount of technical information provided. Sound quality through the PA system was very poor.

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Comment:

Good at the start. Very Average at the end.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

The experience was excellent, seeing how far in front our production systems are generally. Experience what other potato producers are doing.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

Better organisation of flights/timing. Alternative arrangements for if a day gets changed or setup so the tour can visit the farms with the guide.
Better selection of growers, visited a limited range of growers. We did not see the more advanced growers

11. Do you have any additional comments?

The tour leader was good. China/Mongolia (more advanced farmers) would be worth while in the future. Flight timing meant we were arriving late or leaving early even without delays. Overall very good tour. European potato expo might be worth looking at some people suggested it had more technical info & Machinery.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

EVALUATION FORM

2015 CHINA WORLD POTATO CONGRESS MISSION

Name: Michael James Radcliff

1. How did you hear about the 2015 Study Tour?

- Word of mouth Weekly Update Email Newspaper
 Mail Potatoes Australia AUSVEG website Other

2. How did you rate the tour overall?

- Excellent Good Average Poor

3. What was best about the tour?

Always in getting to know fellow delegates involved in similar field of work. Visiting China for 1st time puts it all into perspective of what economy about & direction forwards. Experiencing the culture is always important.

4. Why did you attend?

It is important to get off farm & experience World potato production & trends at a venue such as WPC being in Yangjing Country Beijing. Meeting delegates & general networking is beneficial.

5. Please rate each day listed below at its conclusion:

Day two – 23 July: Syngenta Networking Dinner

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

Cancelled

Day three – 24 July: McCain Farm Tour

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

*It was good driving out of Harbin into fields
 & learning how it is done growing McCain potatoes for
 the factory. Shame we didn't physically witness site but of course
 long drive & factory closed anyway. Gov't encouraging real/traditional
 farmers to move off land to the city to free up land for
 modern Agricultural practises.*

Day four – 26 July: Bayer Food Chain Experience

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: _____

*Absolutely excellent tour by Cynthia Wei
 & her team in hosting us. The whole sub market extremely
 interesting experiencing the lack of cool-chain implementations.
 The Supermarket inspection & explanation very interesting.
 The game to buy 5 fruits from 5 county origin's with
 seller by group photograph with least money spent was
 a good exercise.
 Our group WON on 64 RMB Spend !!!*

Day seven – 28 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: After disappointingly opening ceremony but ~~meal~~ it was made up by having nice meal with a group across rd. The Day at sessions good with some relevance of going to trade show when you could was excellent. The day was completed once again by going to some Chinese restaurant ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~right~~ ^{right} because we were advised by locals it was one of the best. It was also good catch up with fellow delegates from other tour groups.

Day eight – 29 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: Day at sessions varied in interest & relevance but some good info from some. The emphasis on Chinese production to increase with higher yields & encouraging Chinese people to eat more potatoes was ~~re-iterated~~ ^{re-iterated}. Closing ceremony disappointingly half meal & drinks, the trip to Badaling Great Wall was worth it & fun climbing a section with it lit up so well.

Day nine – 30 July: World Potato Congress

Excellent Good Average Poor

Please comment: The tour organised by WPC to visit Snow Valley research & production was an eye-opener. The Dairy operation was staggering witnessing 6x 80hd Rotating dairies lined up with 20500 blanked. A long way to drive but a good look at counts on way. Discussing things gloss over the tour sites without a little more information and practical inspection devolved.

6. How did you rate the 2015 World Potato Conference overall?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment:

It was good but missing some hospitality skill with catering & providing a content atmosphere for guests at functions. This problem is a Chinese culture problem that is obviously changing quickly with experience. The networking is always great meeting new people from around the world in the industry. The trade show was excellent with so much to see. The machinery built in China & replicated other Country famous brands was ^{staggering}

7. How did you rate the accommodation throughout the tour?

Excellent Good Average Poor

Comment:

Traders Hotel by Guangxi - very comfortable
 Harbin Sofitel Wanda very deluxe & great.
 Beijing Jinge Badaling Spa Resort disappointing but adequate.

8. Would you recommend the tour to other growers?

Yes No

Why or why not?

Obviously same tour in China/WPC won't happen again but to China as an agricultural study tour would be recommended especially due to the potential of becoming a important trading partner.

9. What additions to the tour would have made it more beneficial or enjoyable?

I'd change one to except and appreciate was is on offer and organised by these trips away by an organisation such as Ausveg. Hard to please everyone & not everything that is organised itinerary works out eg Sydney tour. Flexibility when away is important so everyone enjoys themselves.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

A tremendous tour group lead by Tom and handled extremely well, considering Tom very young, very well grounded & adaptable.

I think our Ausveg tour group being exposed on the world stage at a WPC in China is beneficial to Aus & future potential trade business.

The WPC in China created World potatoe significance & obviously helps potatoe concensus awareness & thus potential potatoe production profitability.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

Please return to tour leader, Tom Cohen, in person at the conclusion of the tour.

Thanks Tom.

Andrew