steeDA INVITED SPEAKERS – BIO AND PHOTO

DAY 1

Alex McBratney – The University of Sydney

Alex McBratney is a world-renowned soil scientist. He is Director of the Sydney Institute of Agriculture and Professor of Digital Agriculture and Soil Science. He holds BSc, PhD and DSc degrees in soil science from the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, and the DScAgr degree from the University of Sydney for research in precision agriculture. He has made major contributions to soil science and agriculture through the development of the concepts of Pedometrics, Digital Soil Mapping, Precision & Digital Agriculture, and Soil Security**.**

Michael Robertson – CSIRO

Dr Michael Robertson is the Deputy Director of CSIRO Agriculture and Food. He is based in Perth, Western Australia. His research background is in crop agronomy and simulation modelling, where his work has aimed to analyse and understand broadacre farming systems to inform better management regimes for economic, environmental and social outcomes. As part of his current role he is leading an initiative in 'digital agriculture' that brings together agricultural researchers and information and communication technology experts in CSIRO to explore new ways in which digital technologies can improve the way research is conducted and results are delivered to end users.

Andrea Koch – Board Director, National Farmers Federation

Andrea Koch is an agtech strategy and product development consultant and board director with the National Farmers Federation and SproutX. She is from a fifth-generation farming family and is passionate about Australian agriculture and the translation of science into practice. She spent 15 years in corporate marketing and product development and six years leading a soil policy think tank program at the US Studies Centre. She holds a Bachelor of Business and a Master of Sustainable Development.

Jessica Koch - Breezy Hill Precision Ag Services

Jessica Koch is a farmer/director at Breezy Hill Ag, the cropping and merino farming business she and her husband's family run at Booleroo Centre in the Upper North of SA. Jessica also has a Precision Agriculture business called Breezy Hill Precision Ag Services, where she provides data mapping services and solutions to farmers in the district. Jessica is the immediate past president of the Society of Precision Agriculture Australia and runs a group called Ladies on the Land where she extends technical ag information to women.

David Lamb – Chief Scientist, Food Agility CRC Ltd
McClymont Distinguished Professor (Research) of the University of New England

David is a physicist and has worked in precision agriculture for more than 25 years. He has led more than 40 industry-funded R&D projects. In 2002 he established the University of New England's Precision Agriculture Research Group, and more recently the internationally renowned SMART Farm project. David recently completed reviews of telecommunications challenges and opportunities for a number of agriculture sectors is an advisor on a number of sector-specific technical innovation groups and communities of interest. David currently serves as the UNE-hosted, Chief Scientist in Food Agility, a $150M+, 10 year Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) focussed on transforming the agrifood sector using the power of digital.

Robert Bramley – CSIRO

Dr Rob Bramley is a Senior Principal Research Scientist with CSIRO, based at Waite Campus, Adelaide, and has been active in Precision Agriculture (PA) research since the mid-1990s. While particularly recognised for pioneering the development of Precision Viticulture, his broader expertise is reflected by leadership and engagement in major PA projects across the wine, grains and sugar sectors, in Australia and overseas. A Soil Scientist by training, Dr Bramley was made a life member of SPAA (Society of Precision Agriculture Australia) in 2018.

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DAY 2

Evie Murdoch – KPMG Australia

Evie is a Senior Agribusiness Consultant at KPMG Australia, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (Hons I) and the University Medal in 2016. Since then she has been working across the agribusiness sector where she is passionate about meaningful, innovative change; most recently she worked with the National Farmers' Federation co-authoring their $100bn industry plan.

Richard Heath – Australian Farm Institute

Richard Heath is Executive Director of the Australian Farm Institute, an independent agricultural policy research organisation. Richard is a Nuffield Scholar and was a farmer at Gunnedah for 20 years until 2012. Prior to his current role Richard was an Associate Professor of Agronomy and Farm Management at the University of Sydney. He is currently also a director of the GRDC and member of CSIRO Food and Ag advisory committee.

Michael Crowley - MLA

Michael joined MLA in February 2009 to manage the Meat Standards Australia program. In 2012 he moved with his family to Brussels taking on the role of International Business Manager for EU and Russia with MLA. He returned home in 2015 and joined MLA's Executive Team in 2016. He is now General Manager Producer Consultation and Adoption. This business unit is responsible for MSA, Genetics, On Farm R&D, Adoption, Producer Innovation and the Regional Consultation Framework.

John Gardenier – The University of Sydney

John completed a BSc. and MSc. in Aerospace Engineering in 2014 at Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands. After working in automation, robotics, and flight simulation, he commenced a PhD. in 2016 at the Australian Centre for Field Robotics (ACFR) at The University of Sydney. John's PhD thesis focusses automatic lameness detection in dairy cattle, using the latest advances in two of his key interests, machine vision and deep learning, in order to solve a real-world problem facing the dairy industry.

Peter Richardson – Maia Technology

Peter is CEO of Maia Technology, a company providing farm management and decision support tools for graziers.

Peter was a cofounder of Natural Carbon, a carbon project developer generating credits for landowners focussed on grazing and grassland management.

Previously he founded InfoMedix, a company providing electronic medical record software. Peter has consulted widely as an IT architect, designing systems in areas as diverse as agriculture, wholesale banking, telecommunications, hospitals, online games and children's education.

Winyu Chinthammit – University of Tasmania

Dr. Winyu Chinthammit is a research leader at Human Interface Technology Laboratory (HIT Lab) within Discipline of ICT, University of Tasmania (UTAS). He graduated from University of Washington, Seattle in 2007 before joined UTAS in 2009. His research interest is in Human Computer Interaction (HCI) such as Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR). He has applied his interface research in different disciplines such as virtual reality for forest inventory, augmented reality for tele-health and visualisation and education technology.

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DAY 3

Edward Anderson – The University of Sydney

Eddie Anderson is Professor of Decision at the University of Sydney Business School. Prior to joining the University of Sydney in 2008, he was at University of New South Wales. Eddie has an honours degree in Mathematics and a PhD in Operations Management, both from the University of Cambridge. Eddie has wide ranging interests in supply chains, particularly in relation to contracts and risk. Risk management is the focus of Eddie's teaching and he has written an advanced text: "Business Risk Management: Models and Analysis" Wiley 2014.

Simon Cook – Curtin University

Professor Simon Cook is an expert in applying data science and technologies to agricultural systems and natural resource management. An internationally accomplished scientist with experience in five continents, he holds the State Premier's Fellowship in Agriculture and Food appointment across both Curtin and Murdoch Universities, based in Western Australia. Simon has over 25 years' experience of research management in agriculture, including many years with CSIRO and within International Agricultural Research Centres. Simon also leads the food Agility CR research program into Sustainable Food Systems.

Carolina Diaz – Australian Wool Innovation

Carolina Diaz is the Program Manager for Agri-Technology in Australian Wool Innovation. After some time working as a veterinary practitioner in Spain, she started to work for the Spanish government in national and European projects related to improvement and conservation of indigenous breed, traceability databases and animal identification. Carolina moved to Australia with her family 3 years ago and joined AWI, where she has kept nurturing her passion for innovation and Agri-tech. Activist in the data revolution, technology has come to Agriculture to stay.

Peter Carter – GS1 Australia

Peter Carter is a partnership broker, innovator and passionate advocate for digital transformation in industry and government. Having lead CSIRO|Data61 National Digital Missions focused on supply chain integrity and food provenance, Peter joined GS1 Australia to direct new business and innovation activity through industry collaboration and support for the adoption of global standards. Peter and the GS1 Team are helping industry, governments and research networks unlock opportunity through the power of open standards and digital systems that enable business interoperability and industry ecosystems to evolve. Peter has recently been awarded a Churchill Fellowship to undertake international research into food traceability systems and best practice in industry.

Broughton Boydell – John Deere

Broughton is a Senior Staff Engineer, John Deere ISG - Advanced Engineering Group and north-west NSW farmer.

Broughton has extensive experience in automation and agriculture, working with John Deere for more than 17 years. Previously he has had a career as an academic, studying soil science at the University of Sydney, before completing a Masters in precision agriculture at the University of Georgia, then a PhD at the University of Sydney investigating precision agriculture in the cotton industry. As a follow up to the PhD, he was involved in the foundation of a start-up, AgTech firm, Precision Cropping Technologies (PCT) in 2001.