



## 2025 Growing Leaders - Participant's Biographies

| Participants                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <p><b>Amanda Smith</b></p>     | <p>QA/OHS Manager<br/>Riviera Fresh Pty Ltd<br/>E: <a href="mailto:amanda@rivierafarms.com.au">amanda@rivierafarms.com.au</a><br/>111 Main Rd, Lindenow, Victoria, 3865</p> <p>I am Amanda, a dedicated quality assurance manager with a passion for ensuring excellence in every project I undertake. As a mother of five, I have honed my multitasking skills and developed a strong sense of responsibility and patience, which I bring to my professional life as well. My role in quality assurance has allowed me to meet and collaborate with many stakeholders within the horticulture industry which I am excited to develop through the Growing Leaders program.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Connor Steel</b></p>    | <p>Agronomist<br/>Elders Rural Services<br/>E: <a href="mailto:connor.steel@elders.com.au">connor.steel@elders.com.au</a><br/>2 Livestock Way, Pakenham, Victoria, 3810</p> <p>My name is Connor Steel, I am a horticultural agronomist servicing south east of Melbourne. I do my best to aid my clients in being more profitable and sustainable, I also try to provide as much support to growers as possible.</p> <p>I am participating in Growing Leaders to expand my skills and network, and learn from others to see the industry through their eyes.</p> <p>I would like to see the vegetable industry become more co-operative so they can wrestle back some power from super markets and markets. I also would like to help the industry become more sustainable, which I am currently working on at a farm level.</p>                                                                   |
| <p><b>Danny Rickard</b></p>  | <p>UAV Pilot/Field Operations Spraying<br/>Schreurs and Sons<br/>E: <a href="mailto:danny@schreurs.com.au">danny@schreurs.com.au</a><br/>4 Lapin Ct, Leongatha, Victoria, 3953</p> <p>My background is Aerial spraying with Helicopters for over 10 years , the company i previously worked for contracted to schreurs with the Helicopter for 5 years . Circumstances changed and using the Drones was discussed to replace the helicopter , schreurs then took me on fulltime to implement a successful spray program with the drones and self propelled sprayer. At the farm we have many clients and other people in the horticultural business that have shown strong interest in what we are doing with the drones , for myself i have never been a strong speaker in groups of people , so i see this course being very helpful in building my confidence to talk to future clients etc.</p> |
| <p><b>Demi Mills</b></p>     | <p>Production Manager<br/>Barden Farms Pty Ltd<br/>E: <a href="mailto:Demi.mills@bardenfarms.com.au">Demi.mills@bardenfarms.com.au</a><br/>1081 Peats Ridge Rd, Peats Ridge, New South Wales, 2250</p> <p>Demi Mills</p> <p>My role at Barden Farms is production manager. I'm in charge of running a team of approx. 20 people, ensuring orders are fulfilled for customers and quality is to standard.</p> <p>I am participating in growing leaders to learn and understand more about this specific industry.</p> <p>I would like to improve supply and knowledge to the industry.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| <p><b>Dylan Bellchambers</b></p>        | <p>Field Officer<br/>Harvest Moon<br/>E: <a href="mailto:dbellchambers@harvestmoon.com.au">dbellchambers@harvestmoon.com.au</a><br/>288 Leith Rd, Forth, Tasmania, 7310</p> <p>Dylan is a Field Officer at Harvest Moon managing 20,000 tonnes of onions and 600 tonnes of swedes for the fresh market. He is also Chair of Agfest Field Days and the 2025 Tasmanian Rural Ambassador. He is participating in 2025 Growing Leaders to enhance his leadership, change management, and team culture skills, Dylan aims to drive positive industry change and expand his capacity. He is committed to fostering innovation, sustainability, and profitability in the vegetable and onion industry, ensuring a resilient future. Dylan aspires to contribute through industry committees and leadership roles, shaping a competitively sustainable sector.</p>                                                                                |
| <p><b>Eliza Seymour</b></p>             | <p>Regional Business Manager<br/>Bayer Crop Science<br/>E: <a href="mailto:eliza.seymour@bayer.com">eliza.seymour@bayer.com</a><br/>1984 Malvern Rd, Malvern East, Victoria, 3145</p> <p>My name is Eliza Seymour, and I currently work as a Regional Business Manager for Bayer Vegetable Seeds in Victoria. I am hoping to make connections in the Growing Leaders Course that will help expand my knowledge of the horticultural sector of Australia. My goal is to become an ambassador for the Australian fruit &amp; veg industry, creating more transparency for consumers about what happens on Aussie farms.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p><b>Erin Cranwell</b></p>           | <p>Post Harvest Operations<br/>AE Cranwell and Sons Pty Ltd<br/>E: <a href="mailto:erin@aecranwell.com.au">erin@aecranwell.com.au</a><br/>105 Murray Rd, Hay Valley, South Australia, 5252</p> <p>Erin Cranwell, a 27-year-old Brussels sprout grower from AE Cranwell &amp; Sons in South Australia, has over 12 years of hands-on experience in horticulture. She manages post-harvest operations, quality assurance, HR, and compliance, ensuring efficiency and sustainability. Joining the 2025 Growing Leaders program will challenge Erin to broaden her industry perspective, strengthen and diversify her networks within the horticulture and leadership space, and contribute to national advocacy. Committed to sustainability, innovation, and workforce development, Erin strives to enhance the vegetable industry's resilience and long-term success through collaboration and the adoption of new technologies.</p>      |
| <p><b>Janaina Fabris Marinho</b></p>  | <p>Senior Scientist<br/>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries<br/>E: <a href="mailto:janaina.fabris@daf.qld.gov.au">janaina.fabris@daf.qld.gov.au</a><br/>Gatton Research Facility, Warrego Highway, Gatton.</p> <p>I am Janaina Fabris Marinho, a Technical Officer delivering the Advanced Vegetable Mechanisation Program. With a Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering and over a decade of experience in agronomy, I specialize in research, technology development, and promoting industry adoption of innovative agricultural solutions. I want to develop my leadership skills to better support the horticulture vegetable industry. Enhancing communication, conflict resolution, and change management will help me drive transformation and foster collaboration. I aim to promote innovative technologies, improve efficiency, and build a high-performing team to drive sustainable advancements in vegetable production.</p> |

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| <p><b>Jed Clark</b></p>         | <p>Consultant<br/>RM Consulting Group<br/>E: <a href="mailto:jedidiah@rmcg.com.au">jedidiah@rmcg.com.au</a><br/>28 Plow St, Thornbury, Victoria, 3071</p> <p>Jedidiah Clark is a consultant at RMCG, an agricultural and environmental consultancy that undertake levy-funded horticulture projects. With over two years of experience at RMCG, he primarily contributes to the Soil Wealth ICP project through supporting industry adoption of R&amp;D. Passionate about working in extension, he aims to enhance his leadership and communication skills through this program. His focus is on fostering a sustainable vegetable industry by promoting profitable, environmentally responsible practices that improve soil and crop health. Jedidiah is committed to helping growers adopt innovations that underpin long-term productivity and business sustainability.</p>                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Kalveer Sandhu</b></p>  | <p>Sales Coordinator<br/>Fresh Select Pty Ltd<br/>E: <a href="mailto:kim@freshselect.com.au">kim@freshselect.com.au</a><br/>620 Duncans Rd, Werribee South, Victoria, 3030</p> <p>Hi, I am Kalveer Sandhu, Working at Fresh Select 10+ year experience on this position, my role involves supporting the sales team through administrative tasks, managing client communications, and coordinating key sales activities. Help my team Sales inputting orders ensuring they processed as per customers requirement and delivered on time. Maintaining positive relationship with our Grower &amp; costumer overseeing urgent call, emails &amp; quires related to their quires. Participating in the 2025 Growing Leaders program to enhance my leadership skills and broad my network within the farming industry. Help me gain more knowledge &amp; productive skills. My aim to enhance sustainability and efficiency within the through innovative agricultural practices for better supply chain.</p>                                             |
| <p><b>Katia Howell</b></p>    | <p>Marketing and Communications Assistant<br/>Flavorite<br/>E: <a href="mailto:katia.howell@flavorite.com.au">katia.howell@flavorite.com.au</a><br/>30-32 Riding Boundary Rd, Ravenhall, Victoria, 3023</p> <p>Katia Howell is the Marketing and Communications Assistant at Flavorite, Australia's largest producer of glasshouse-grown fresh produce, where she contributes to branding, marketing, sustainability initiatives, and more. Currently completing a Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Laws, she brings valuable knowledge of business practices and legal foundations to the industry.</p> <p>Katia is excited to participate in the Growing Leaders Program to accelerate her leadership development, contribute fresh perspectives, and drive innovation. She aspires to build a more sustainable and consumer-focused vegetable industry by educating Australians on the benefits of increased vegetable consumption. Katia looks forward to collaborating with peers to drive progress and create meaningful industry outcomes.</p> |
| <p><b>Lok Chow</b></p>        | <p>Senior Agronomist<br/>Coolibah Herbs<br/>E: <a href="mailto:agronomy@coolibah.com.au">agronomy@coolibah.com.au</a><br/>191 Craig Rd, Pearcedale, Victoria, 3912</p> <p>I entered the agricultural industry to grow healthy and sustainable food for all people. While my technical expertise is in agronomy, I am also interested in nutrition and food politics and hope to shift the agricultural industry to a food systems approach. I am joining the Growing Leaders program to meet like-minded people and gain the skills to champion these shifts.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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| <p><b>Rashan Walia</b></p>  | <p>Agronomy Assistant<br/>Bulmer Farms<br/>E: <a href="mailto:agronomyassistant@bulmerfarms.com.au">agronomyassistant@bulmerfarms.com.au</a><br/>30 Bulmers Rd, Lindenow, Victoria, 3865</p> <p>I'm an agronomist, who is committed to increasing productivity by acquiring and using technical agronomical knowledge to offer innovative, ecologically friendly solutions for a range of agricultural and environmental systems.</p> <p>Growing leaders 2025 will help me learn, develop, and put leadership skills into practice at the industry level. It will also help me build relationships with the upcoming generation of leaders and promote mutual respect and trust.</p> <p>My vision for the vegetable industry is to help foster relationships with supply chains and the consumers. Also, adapt to evolving consumer tastes and market trends within the industry.</p> |
| <p><b>Tim Schreurs</b></p>  | <p>Crop Maintenance Manager<br/>Peter Schreurs and Sons Vegetable Farm<br/>E: <a href="mailto:timschreurs04@gmail.com">timschreurs04@gmail.com</a><br/>2/18 Madisson Cr, Carrum Downs, Victoria, 3201</p> <p>My name is Tim Schreurs and I am the crop maintenance manager for my family Farm. This involves controlling weed seed populations through mechanical and chemical measures, as well as controlling insect pests through IPM and diseases through biological and chemical measures. I'm participating in this program to gain a further understanding of the industry and to improve my network for the benefit of myself and the family business. I would like to achieve a method of controlling all insect pests and diseases without the use of chemicals on a commercial scale, through regenerative agriculture, to improve the surrounding ecosystems.</p>         |