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N&G NEWS

NURSERY & GARDEN INDUSTRY NSW & ACT

Nursery & Garden Industry
NSW & ACT



SPRING BLOOMS

A new season brings new members like 'September Peony' *pictured on cover*

Australian Native Bush Tucker Edition

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES | INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS | SOCIAL MEDIA FOR INDUSTRY | ASK AN EXPERT



2023 Events & Training CALENDAR

June

Wednesday 21 | Sydney Trade Day
Wednesday 28 | Online Member Forum

July

Wednesday 19 | Sydney Trade Day
Tuesday 25 | Board Meeting
Wednesday 26 | Online Member Forum
Tuesday 25 | Green Expo Tour Starts
Friday 28 | AQF3, Northen Rivers
Friday 28 | AQF3, Central Coast
Friday 28 | AQF3, Sydney

August

Thursday 3 | First Aid & CPR, Central Coast
Thursday 3/4 | AQF4, Northern Rivers
Thursday 3/4 | AQF4, Sydney
Thursday 10 | First Aid & CPR, Alstonville
Thursday 10 | First Aid & CPR, Sydney
Wednesday 16 | Sydney Trade Day
Wednesday 23 | Online Member Forum
Friday 25 | Pulling Back The Shade Cloth
Friday 29 | Port Macquarie Trade Day

September

Wednesday 6 | Board Meeting
Tuesday 12 | Northern Rivers Trade Day
Wednesday 20 | Sydney Trade Day
Wednesday 27 | Online Member Forum
Friday 29 | Pulling Back The Shade Cloth

October

Wednesday 11 | Board Meeting
Wednesday 18 | Sydney Trade Day
Wednesday 25 | Social Media Course
Wednesday 25 | Online Member Forum
Thursday 26 | Sydney Group Event
Friday 27 | Pulling Back The Shade Cloth

November

Wednesday 1 | Board Meeting
Wednesday 15 | Sydney Trade Day
Wednesday 15 | NGINA AGM
Wednesday 22 | Online Member Forum
Friday 24 | Pulling Back The Shade Cloth

December

Friday 1 | Gala Dinner & Awards Night
Wednesday 6 | Sydney Trade Day
Wednesday 13 | Board Meeting

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IN THIS ISSUE

4 JOBS BOARD

5 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

10 ASK AN EXPERT

12 SUPPORTING EMPLOYEES WITH ADHD

14 SUSTAINABLE LAWN ALTERNATIVES

18 AUSTRALIAN BUSH TUCKER GARDENING

25 SOCIAL MEDIA

26 SURVIVABILITY OF LANDSCAPE PLANTS IN WET CONDITIONS

28 WELLNESS THROUGH PLANTS

29 AUSTRALIA'S CITRUS INDUSTRY

32 FIRE ANTS

34 INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

39 MEMBER VISITS

44 BECOME A MEMBER

46 NGINA EVENTS

55 NEW MEMBERS

60 INDUSTRY PUZZLES

61 FROM PLANT TO PLATE

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Executive Summary

One year ago, the economic outlook was rather bleak. Inflation was accelerating, the RBA had commenced raising interest rates, households were suffering from rising living costs, and businesses were struggling with severe labour and skills shortages.

One year on, how much has changed? The most brutal sequence of rate increases to be seen in Australia's inflation-targeting era has meant that the cost of living squeeze has intensified, with surging mortgage interest payments and accelerating rent increases adding to the burden of higher prices for health, food and energy.

But it's not all terrible news for the gardeners! Our industry traditionally performs well in times of economic uncertainty. It's time we remind everyone of the importance of getting out into the garden to improve the mental health and wellbeing of individuals, families and the greater community, to contribute to the health of our environment, to provide food crops, and to improve the livability of our homes. As we come into spring there is really no better time for everyone to be enjoying their garden.

The word amongst our members is everyone is frantically working and gearing up for Spring. We had a huge Sydney Trade Day in August with buyers coming out in force. The Spring Trade Day in Port Macquarie was also a huge success and at the time of writing the Northern Rivers Spring Trade Day is also shaping up to be a full house.

One of NGINA's great many strengths is our networks and the many opportunities we offer members to connect with each other. While Trade Days are a fantastic networking opportunity NGINA also has a long history of supporting and fostering member groups in special interest areas and regions of NSW and ACT. Today we have active groups in several regions as well as three special interest groups.

However, not all members are connected by a group. Our current structure isn't always fit for purpose and in some cases has diluted effective service delivery and member participation due to the lack of relevance of subject matter content or just the sheer distance to attend physical events. It has also been difficult to resource the groups as there is a heavy reliance on volunteers and the burden of work remains with a few central dedicated members. Additionally, the administration of group activities in some cases has left potential audit and risk issues with the association.

NGINA's Board of Directors has included in its 2023 – 2036 Strategic Plan a commitment to enhance and improve our regional member strategy:

- Increase inclusion and member benefits within NGINA via delivery of regional group structures. All members will be assigned to a regional group for which there will be no charge to join.
- Change "Growers & Suppliers Group" to Sydney Group to ensure it is fully inclusive across membership types.
- Invite all members to attend all regional group events.
- Consolidate some regions to form new bigger groups and focus on our Sydney, Central Coast, Northern Rivers, Western, ACT &Surrounds, and NextGen Groups.
- Utilise technology to assist regional groups with their event planning, promotion and execution.
- Reduce regional group administration with the majority of this being centralised to the NGINA head office to take a huge burden away from group volunteers.
- Transfer the Group Bank accounts into sub-accounts under NGINA which will be managed by the regional group elected chairs and committees who will have full access to their accounts. These funds will still belong to the regional group and remain quarantined.
- NGINA to develop policy and procedural guidelines for all regional groups to follow.
- Consolidate some regions to form new bigger groups and focus on our Sydney, Central Coast, Northern Rivers, Western, ACT & Surrounds, and NextGen Group.



Executive Summary

For members, this will mean there will be more local and regional events to attend providing valuable networking opportunities. We can use this platform to actively grow membership by incentivising regions to actively seek out new members. It will improve the ability of our Membership Services Manager to provide regional services that members want and require and will provide better communication of information between the office and the groups.

We launched our new Regional Group Strategy (internally referred to as Operation Sunrise) at the Sydney Group Event on August 30 and everyone was excited to welcome a new and improved era for NGINA member groups.

Our monthly online member forums continue to be a valuable way to connect with all our members regardless of geography. We update members on industry news and cover a range of interesting topics. We encourage everyone to register for these forums which are held at 4pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

In July we took our networking out on the road. The NGINA Chaperoned Tour of Green Expo and SE Queensland Nurseries was a resounding success. Not only did our members have the opportunity to visit such a variety of nursery businesses and learn best practices, discuss the latest in innovation and technology, and discuss industry issues and trends but they had an invaluable opportunity to network amongst themselves. A huge thank you to NGIQ for organising our tour and hosting us at so many of your member businesses.

The tour was also a great example of what can be achieved when the state associations collaborate on joint projects. Not only is there obvious cost savings when resources are shared but alignment on policy and strategic direction will always result in improved member outcomes for all.

And finally, we are thrilled that so many businesses have been nominated for our

Industry Awards. It's not too late to be a part of the excitement with some categories still open. All trade day standholders are in the running for Trade Day Stand of the Year and most excitingly, all NGINA garden centre members are in contention for the People's Choice Award. We are thrilled at how many of our retailers have embraced the new award category which has proven to be an excellent way for them to engage with their customers.

NGINA will present all winners and finalists with their awards at our gala dinner and awards night which is being held on Friday 1 December at Rydges Norwest.

We can't wait to see you all there.



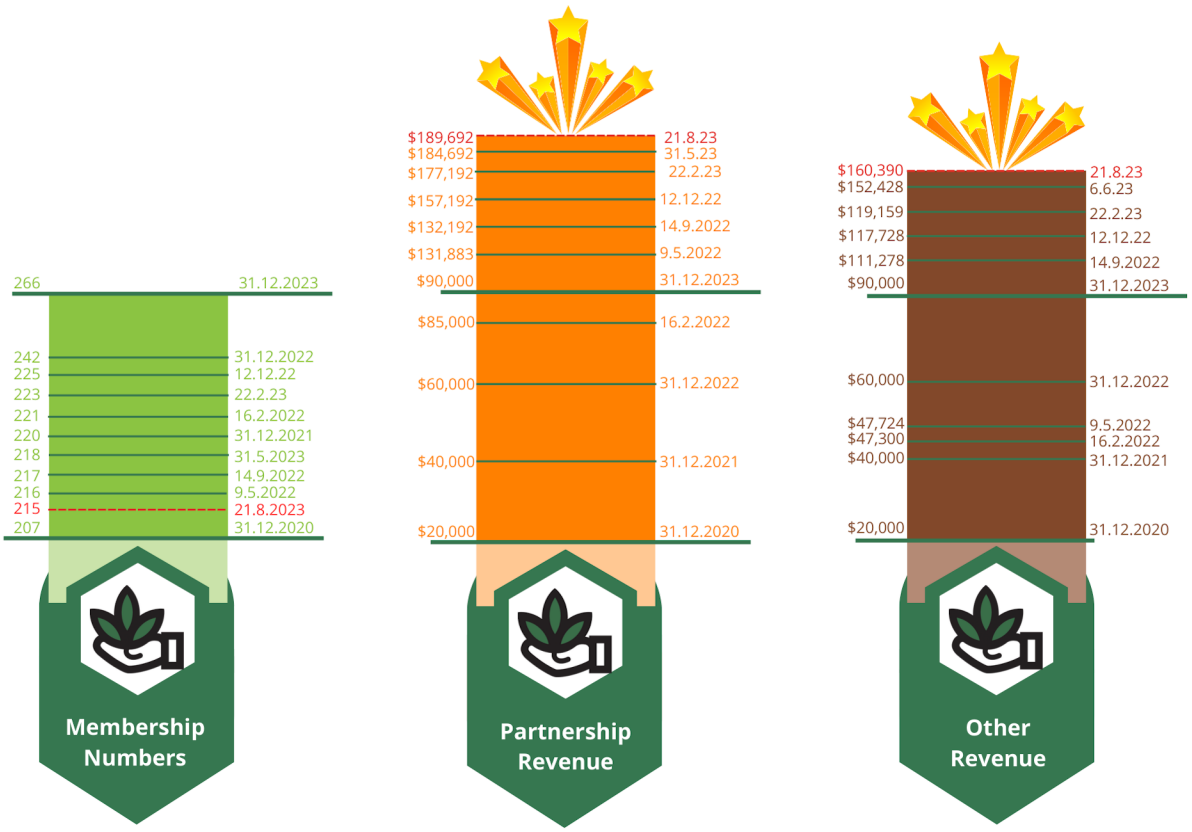
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Silver
TRANSPLANT SYSTEMS
syngenta
Ball Australia
Bronze
POWERPLANTS
SIDEKICKER
envu
vegepod

Executive Summary



MEMBER INCENTIVE

As we rally together to grow our industry, NGINA is excited to offer a Membership Signup Incentive.

Earn $150, simply refer a potential member. Once they have successfully signed up you will receive $150! The more members you bring on board, the more you earn!

NEW
MEMBER INCENTIVES
$150 COULD BE YOURS!



Celebrate your workers with SPRING BLUEMING

More than ever it feels like the world needs the benefits of the garden industry. We are a large part of the solution to climate change. We also know that as people's every day lives become more stressful. plants and gardens play an increasing role in supporting the mental health of our population. Of course, the Garden Industry through Horticulture Innovation Australia have invested in programs designed to aid our response to these challenges such as Greener Spaces Better Places and Plant Life Balance. All very worthwhile and focused on the end user.

Another issue we face as an industry is the difficulty in attracting and retaining staff. This is, of course, not unique to the Nursery industry with most industries reporting difficulty in attracting staff. At the same time research shows that staff are looking to find work that is more meaningful. Work that is good for the planet and gives a sense of purpose.

ICL has responded to these trends and created Spring Blueming. It is a simple idea where businesses in the Nursery and Garden Industry are invited to host a function for their staff to thank them for all they contribute to the business, the industry and the wider community.

Most companies have hosted a morning tea or lunch. ICL provide a video to play at the function, highlighting the amazing work that your staff do to improve the mental health outcomes of the community due to their actions.

Most of us in the industry don't step back and acknowledge the beauty we provide to the community; the physical activity, beautiful houseplants and the satisfaction of growing your own food. So, whether you work in propagation, growing on, making pots, or potting media, your efforts need to be highlighted and celebrated.

ICL encourages all businesses to sign up to Spring Blueming. ICL will send you a pack with information and inspiration to make it easy. You can raise some funds for Beyond Blue if you choose, however, the most important aspect is to thank your staff for what they do. We have had some fantastic past Spring Blueming Ambassadors with Jason Hodges, Costa Georgiaadis and Joanna Cave. This year ICL is pleased to announce that their colleague Roger Boyle has accepted the role of Ambassador. Roger has been a major driver for Spring Blueming. In over 40 years of working in the industry, across so many segments, Roger knows the difference the workers in nurseries make. Roger is battling a brain tumour and as he put it, "in all my ups and downs in life the industry has been beside me". You can scan the QR code to hear Roger's message and sign up for Spring Blueming. Is it a small way to help ensure that your business and our industry is an Employer and Industry of Choice. The week to hold your activity for Spring Blueming is during the week commencing 23rd October.

Hear Roger's message and sign up for Spring Blueming



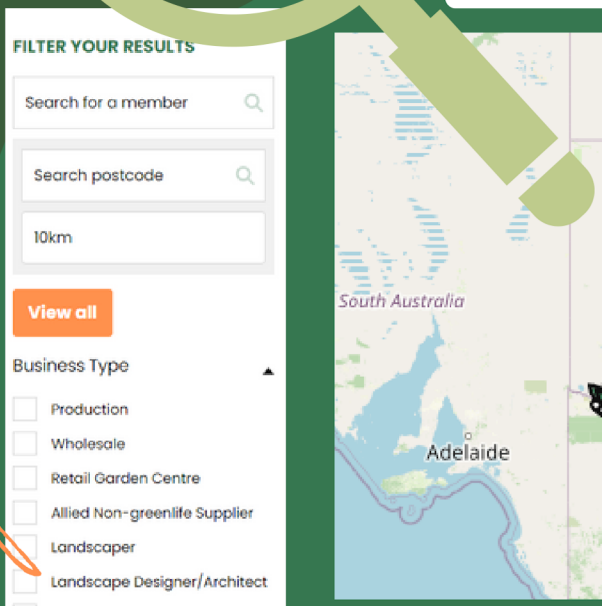




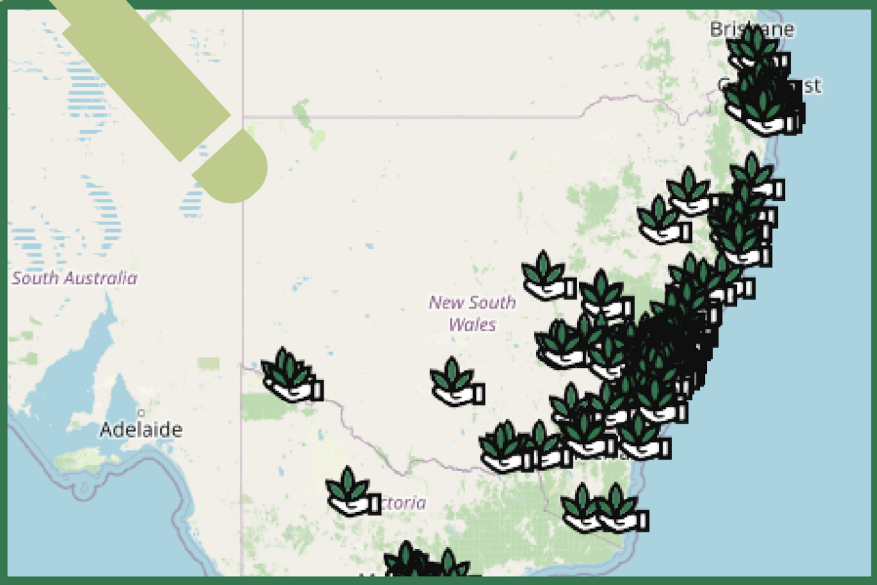
just launched!!

FIND A MEMBER

www.ngina.com.au/findamember



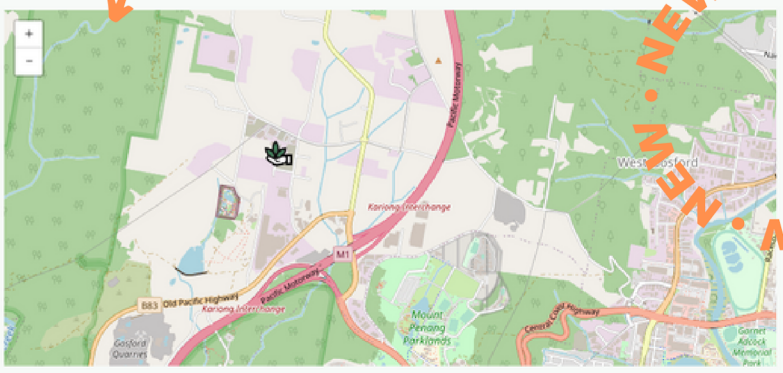
Visit our member search



We are thrilled to announce the official launch of our personalised member search feature on the NGINA website. Our dedicated team has invested considerable effort to develop an interactive map, empowering our members to connect with those in search of their services. As the second most frequented page on our website, we eagerly anticipate the enhanced business opportunities our members will enjoy, courtesy of our user-friendly map.

Our users can seamlessly explore options by location, postcode, radius, member name, business type, and key lines. These searches yield easily accessible member profiles, complete with interactive elements that seamlessly link to the member's website, social media channels, crucial contact details, and a comprehensive company overview.

NEW • NEW • NEW • NEW • NEW



*Searching by postcode and distance will populate the map.

**Green members are open to the public. Orange are for Trade customers only.

ALL MEMBERS

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ASK AN

A 2023 Apprentice recently asked:

"ARE THERE ANY PLANT GROWTH REGULATORS THAT MAKE PLANTS FLOWER?"

Elliot Akintola from GCP says: "The simple answer is Yes!"

However, it is important to note that a plants' flowering response by the addition of a plant growth regulator (PGR) depends on several factors such as plant species, growth stage, environmental conditions, mode of action of the PGR used and the timing of application. Since PGRs are chemicals applied for specific purposes to elicit specific plant responses, it is critical to remember that there's a requirement to understand plant growth and developmental processes and conduct trials to determine the "sweet spot". Overall, PGRs are strategic tools in plant production rather than substitutes for poor management. They must be used in conjunction with other practices including, but not limited to lighting, nutrition, irrigation etc, to manipulate plant growth and development for desired results.

Therefore, to provide a starting point for the selection of the right PGR in ornamental plant production to induce flower initiation or synchronise flowering, increase flower numbers, or bloom size etc, one might want to consider Gibberellic acid (GA3) or Chlormequat chloride based PGRs.

Gibberellins:

These are hormones found in all parts of higher plants including shoots, roots, leaves, flower, petals, anthers, and seeds. Typically, reproductive plant parts contain elevated concentrations compared to non-reproductive parts. The application of gibberellins has been found to stimulate cell division and elongation, promote germination of seeds, prevent of genetic dwarfism, increase flower, and fruit size, break dormancy, induce maleness in dioecious flowers, extending shelf life and stimulating bolting / flowering in response to long days, etc.

Gibberellin (particularly Gibberellic Acid GA3) possess the potential to serve as a substitute for specific environmental cues governing flower development. GA3 application prompts early flowering in many long-day and cold-requiring plants. It also triggers flower formation in certain long-short-day plants, effectively replacing the long-day stimulus. While typically augmenting flowering in short-day plants under inductive conditions, GA3's impact is unfavourable during non-inductive growth.

The flower formation of long-day or long-short-day plants can be controlled by regulating the endogenous level of gibberellin-like substances

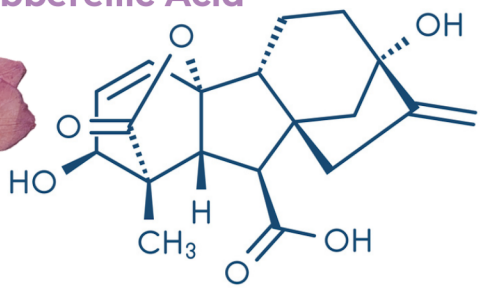




EXPERT



Gibberellic Acid



with such growth retardants that inhibit gibberellin synthesis. Note that in many short-day plants or in plants that do not require variations in light for flowering, gibberellin application usually delays flower initiation or blocks it entirely. This delay may be caused by rapid shoot growth, which results in much competition between vegetative growth and floral development.

Some examples of where GA3 have been used in ornamentals include enhancing of flower size in Camelia and Gysophilia, accelerating Limonium flowering and yield, and inducing Spathiphyllum flowering. In vegetables, GA can trigger flower induction in potatoes, lettuce, radish, mustard, dill, as well as induce flowering in biennial vegetables like beets, carrots and cabbage which require cold temperature. However, overapplication or incorrect timing can cause weak stems and excessive stem elongation.

Chlormequat chloride:

A PGR often used to control stem height, and promote compact growth, it has been observed that when it is applied to plants as a foliar spray, it can prompt a redirection of plant metabolic processes into reproductive process thereby promoting early flowering and greater flower numbers on plants. Notable examples of chlormequat chloride application to induce plant flowering include Hibiscus and Geranium. Although this effect can vary based on plant species, and environmental conditions, chlormequat chloride is less effective under high temperature conditions and multiple applications are generally required to achieve desired outcomes and it may cause discolouration of leaves when used at high rates.

Cytokinin:

Another PGR worth considering is the group of Cytokinin based hormones like benzyladenine. Cytokinin have specific effect on cell division and growth regulation. Hence, they are considered as natural plant growth hormones promoting cell division, enlargement, and differentiation. Cytokinin have been applied to stimulate bud initiation, root growth, translocation of nutrients, prolong storage life of flowers and vegetables, prevent chlorophyll degradation, morphogenesis, lateral bud development, and delay senescence. It has been reported that flower induction with Cytokinin can be successfully employed in short day plants as they seem to trick the plant into thinking that it is receiving longer days. Cytokinin play a role in counteracting hormones such as auxin and genes that inhibit flowering in plants. It is also important in assisting the transport of signalling molecules from the leaves and travel to the shoot apical meristem where flowering is promoted.

Finally, the success of PGR applications to promote flowering seriously depends on timing, choice of PGR and understanding of the target plants' physiological process.



Elliott Akintola
GCP Agronomist and Category Manager – Plant Health and Protection





How do I support employees with ADHD?

Employers can build an inclusive and safe workplace to better support workers with ADHD:

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a neurodevelopmental condition that affects both children and adults. According to ADHD Australia, ADHD affects around one in twenty Australians, which is over 1.2 million people.

In the workplace, employees with ADHD may face challenges related to focus, organisation, time management, and impulsivity. As a manager, it's important to understand and accommodate the unique needs of employees with ADHD to help them thrive in the workplace and avoid any risks to health and safety.

It has been said that ADHD is a disease of "can't", not "won't". Individuals with ADHD are typically trying very hard to be productive workers but can find their best efforts thwarted when their brain processes are hijacked. It is extremely challenging for employees and employers alike when efforts are inconsistent.

Employees with ADHD may struggle with understanding and following instructions. Therefore, it's crucial to provide clear, concise, and written instructions for tasks and assignments. Use bullet points, checklists, or visual aids to help employees with ADHD stay organised and focused. Make sure to also communicate expectations and deadlines verbally and encourage employees to ask questions or seek clarification.

Employers should also consider offering flexibility in work arrangements for employees with ADHD. For example, allowing flexible work hours, remote work options, or a designated quiet space for focused work can help accommodate the needs of employees with ADHD. Flexibility can reduce distractions and create an environment where employees can better manage their symptoms and be more productive.

Creating an inclusive workplace:

Chief executive of ADHD Australia Melissa Webster said the first step was to provide a safe environment where employees feel that they can disclose their ADHD diagnosis with their manager and what it means to them.

"For an employee to feel safe to disclose their diagnosis, they need to know that their employment won't be compromised, and whilst this is illegal, we hear it still happens, unfortunately," Ms Webster said.

"If you have an employee with ADHD, have a chat with them about their positive traits as well as their challenges. Knowing how to capitalise on their strengths is equally as important as supporting them through their challenges.

"Ask them how they would be best supported within the workplace – it could be where they sit, how information is shared with them, setting time for them to hyperfocus, or reducing distractions around them etc."

"Keep in mind ADHD is a spectrum, and there are three types: inattentive, hyperactive, and a combination of both. So even those with the same diagnoses can present in different ways and have different challenges."

Ms Webster said that employers must also consider that there's no "one-size-fits-all" solution. The first step would be to understand each employee with ADHD in order to determine how they each need support.

"But dysregulation of focus is a key challenge for those with ADHD, so you might want to start by thinking about their work environment – is it a distracting space in terms of noise, activity or visual cues? If so, do they have access to spaces that are less distracting," Ms Webster explained.

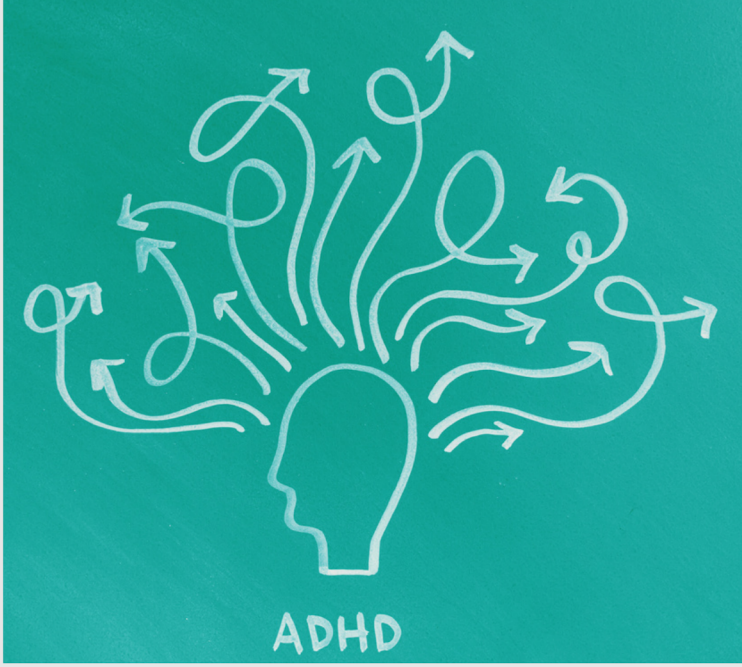
When it comes to overcoming challenges in the workplace, ADHD presents many amazing qualities and some more challenging ones, according to Ms Webster.

On the positive side, those with ADHD can be creative, fast-moving, they can hyperfocus on areas that interest them, be empathetic, have high emotional intelligence, have lots of energy, and be natural problem solvers.

"Due to this, you can find a lot of people in creative, sales, and entrepreneurial roles. On the flip side, some of the challenges presented may include bad timekeeping, forgetful, easily distracted, talk a lot, trouble sitting still, leaving things to the very last minute to complete, interrupting people before they finish speaking and so on," she said.

"The key to supporting those with ADHD is allowing them to capitalise on their positive attributes and understanding their negative qualities and working out ways to help support them. Half the challenge with ADHD is actually understanding what it means to have it – that's why ADHD Australia is focused on driving awareness and destigmatising it."

It will be crucial to foster an inclusive and supportive work culture that values diversity and neurodiversity. Businesses can foster a culture where employees feel comfortable disclosing their ADHD status and seeking support when needed. Train your team to be understanding and supportive of employees with ADHD and encourage collaboration and teamwork among all employees.



"Be open to TRULY understanding what it means to have ADHD – read up about it, go online (adhdaustralia.org.au), or check out social media. And if you have someone who has ADHD in your team, ask them all about it," Ms Webster said.

"What's it like to have it? What do you struggle with? What things work for you? The more you are open to understanding it and to having honest and open conversations, the better an employer you will be."

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Lawn Alternatives – Sustainable Landscapes

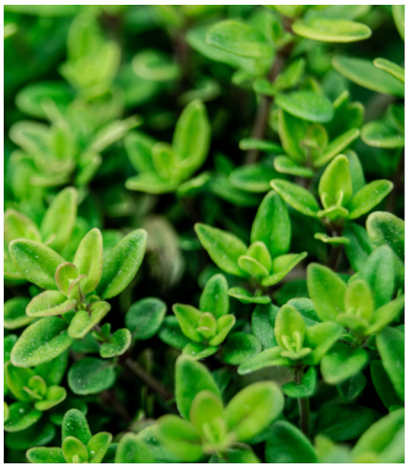
By Tara Preston

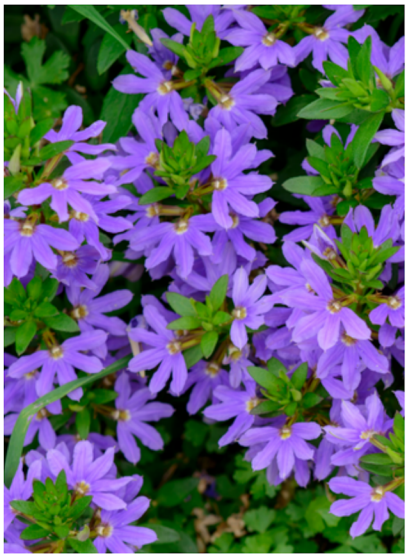
Lawn alternatives have emerged as a popular and eco-friendly choice for homeowners and landscapers seeking to create sustainable and lush landscapes. One of the primary advantages of lawn substitutes is their low maintenance requirements. Now, if you're looking for alternatives to a traditional grass lawn, there are several lawn substitute options available, each with its own unique benefits and considerations. Here are some popular choices:

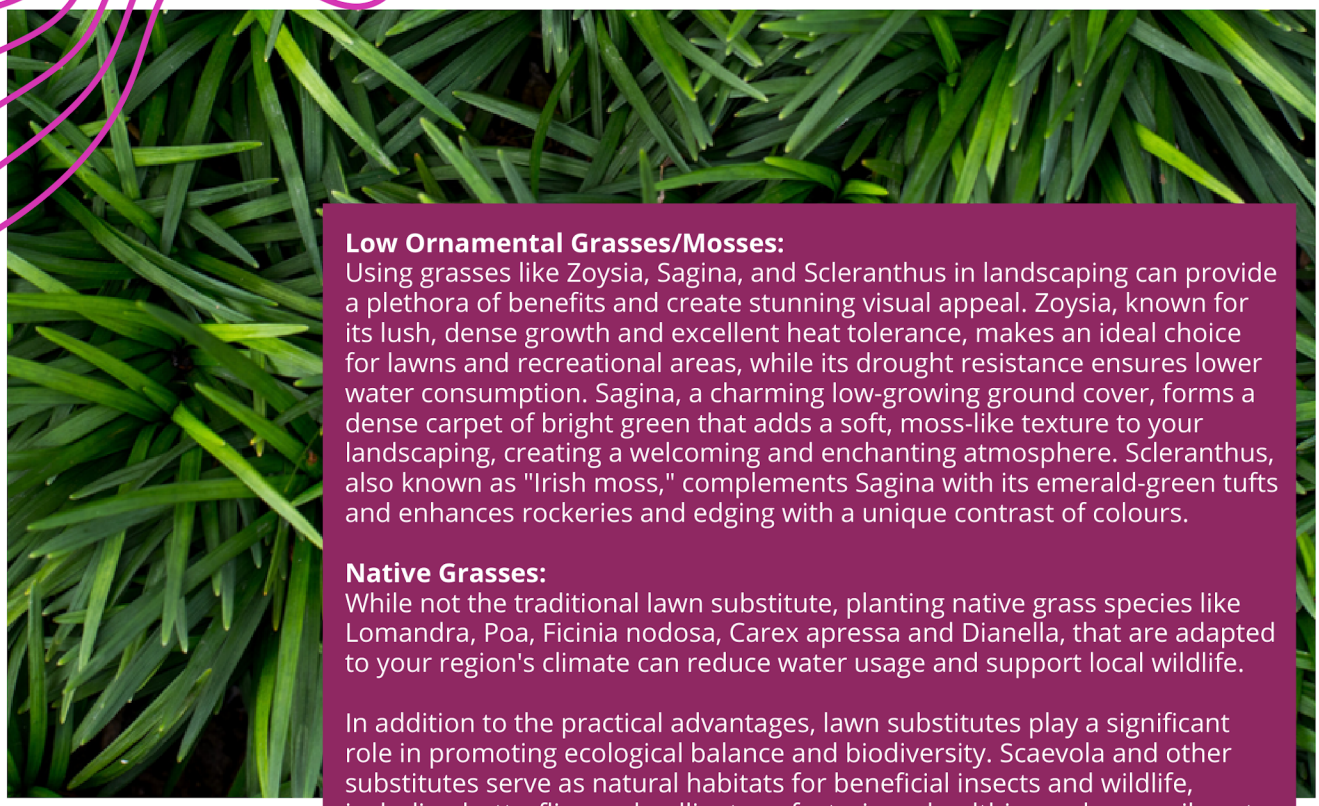
Full to Part Sun Ground Cover Plants:
Ground cover plants like creeping thyme, creeping juniper, Myoporum, Scaevola, Chamomile (cooler climate), Gazania, Trachelospermum, prostrate forms of rosemary, Grevillea, Rhagodia, Dampiera, Brachyscome, Eremophila, Hibbertia, Westringia and Hardenbergia can be used to form a dense, low-growing carpet, reducing the need for regular mowing and maintenance. These plants also help prevent soil erosion and weed growth, making them an excellent choice for slopes or uneven terrain.

Shade Tolerant Ground Cover Plants:
Native Violet (Viola hederacea), Blue Star Creeper (Isotoma fluviatilis), Ajuga, White Star Creepter (Pratia), Mini Mondo Grass (Ophiopogon japonicus 'Nana', Lysimachia, Corsican Mint (Mentha requienii) and Dichondra repens are great options for shaded or partially shaded spots, providing a carpet-like cover that requires little maintenance. Some options also tolerate light to moderate foot traffic which makes them an excellent choice for areas such as paths or walkways between houses.

Succulent Ground Covers:
In coastal or arid regions, succulent ground covers like Sedum, Portulaca, Pigface (Carpobrotus/Mesembryanthemum) are perfectly adapted to hot and dry conditions. These plants have fleshy leaves and produce colourful flowers, adding a splash of vibrancy to your landscape while conserving water.



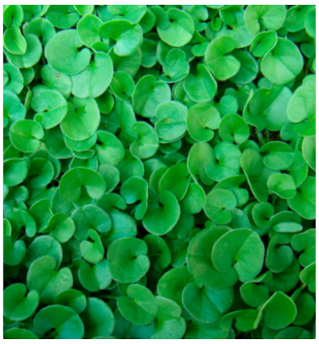




Low Ornamental Grasses/Mosses:
Using grasses like Zoysia, Sagina, and Scleranthus in landscaping can provide a plethora of benefits and create stunning visual appeal. Zoysia, known for its lush, dense growth and excellent heat tolerance, makes an ideal choice for lawns and recreational areas, while its drought resistance ensures lower water consumption. Sagina, a charming low-growing ground cover, forms a dense carpet of bright green that adds a soft, moss-like texture to your landscaping, creating a welcoming and enchanting atmosphere. Scleranthus, also known as "Irish moss," complements Sagina with its emerald-green tufts and enhances rockeries and edging with a unique contrast of colours.

Native Grasses:
While not the traditional lawn substitute, planting native grass species like Lomandra, Poa, Ficinia nodosa, Carex apressa and Dianella, that are adapted to your region's climate can reduce water usage and support local wildlife.

In addition to the practical advantages, lawn substitutes play a significant role in promoting ecological balance and biodiversity. Scaevola and other substitutes serve as natural habitats for beneficial insects and wildlife, including butterflies and pollinators, fostering a healthier and more vibrant ecosystem in the yard.



One of the most notable environmental benefits of lawn substitutes is their contribution to water quality and overall environmental health. By reducing the need for chemical fertilisers and pesticides, these substitutes help improve water quality and protect aquatic ecosystems from harmful pollutants. Additionally, the reduction in chemical use benefits not only the environment but also the health of humans and animals that come in contact with the lawn. Moreover, as the adoption of lawn substitutes means little to no mowing they aid in reducing carbon emissions associated with lawn maintenance equipment, such as gas-powered mowers and trimmers.



As more homeowners and landscapers embrace these eco-friendly alternatives, they not only create visually appealing and functional landscapes but also play a significant role in preserving the planet's health. By adopting lawn substitutes and innovative plant varieties we can all contribute to a more environmentally conscious and ecologically diverse world.



Consider your specific climate, local regulations, and the amount of foot traffic the area will receive when making your selection. When establishing ground cover substitutes, proper soil preparation and regular watering during the establishment phase are essential. While some of these ground cover options may require more attention initially, once established, they should offer a low-maintenance and visually appealing alternative to traditional lawns.

In summary, the increasing popularity of lawn substitutes like Mondo grass, Pratia and lawn alternatives like groundcover Grevillea, is revolutionising the way we approach landscaping. By embracing these eco-friendly alternatives, we not only reduce the environmental impact of traditional lawns but also create lush, low-maintenance, and visually captivating landscapes that benefit both us and the planet.

The shift towards lawn substitutes and ground cover alternatives reflects a growing awareness of the importance of ecological balance, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability.

OVER 100 NURSERY ENROLMENTS!!!



By Stephen Rixon (Head of Nursery TAFE NSW) and Peter Thorburn (President Independent Garden Centres of Australia, NSW Director Garden Centres of Australia).

Who would believe, less than 12 months after launching our new delivery model, industry apprenticeships and TAFE enrolments at Richmond would explode and exceed 100. Anita Campbell (CEO, NGINA) and Stephen Rixon (Head of Nursery, TAFE NSW), worked closely to develop a new model for delivery as well as a communication strategy and marketing campaign to inform industry. Initially given a target of 50 enrolments by 2024 to retain the CIII Nursery Operations (Production & Retail) qualification on TAFE's scope, these targets have been smashed. The word has spread across the border to Southeast Queensland (where training options are limited) and TAFE NSW has agreed to deliver there as well. Steve said "the nursery owner was one of my original students at Richmond when I first started, so I couldn't say no".

Steve Rixon manages the process and is the singular point of contact to assist industry from sign-up to start to completion. Each client's situation is different and delivery is customised to meet those individual needs. Some apprentices have attended their local TAFE college, whilst the majority attend a live 2-hour weekly session online and attend workshops in the off season.

Over the TAFE vacation period in July, Steve offered two back-to-back workshops covering: growing media testing, media mixing, handling & potting techniques, transport and storage, plant nutrition benchmarking and use in propagation and production, followed by propagation techniques that developed skills from de-flasking to stem cuttings, seed and division. Peter Thorburn had four apprentices attend the workshop as well as Honeysuckle Garden's General Manager Jack. Peter popped in one afternoon to see for himself and this is what he said:
"It was fascinating to experience the hands on, stimulating, Rixon-esque approach, and to see how much our future leaders were learning. Honeysuckle's 5 apprentices who attended loved the learning and the 'all hands on deck' practical teaching method of creating media for different propagation purposes, the all-important sterilisation and maintenance of benches, plant material, pots and tools, and the multiple methods of propagation, not to mention rose grafting techniques.

They've all come away more enthused and knowledgeable than ever, and anxious to practice and hone their prop techniques in our production nursery environment, as well as gaining confidence in their skill set that will stand them in good stead in our retail Garden Centres, or any other horticultural industry jobs.
On a personal level, I was reminded how much I've forgotten after 40+ years in retail and production, how



little I actually knew in the first place, and how much more that I want to learn/relearn. Steve's hands-on style is heavy on knowledge and humour, backed up by multiple resources and he provides the guiding hand that all students should want to emulate. Having reached its nadir last year, it's incredibly refreshing to see the huge enrolments in nursery production and associated TAFE Horticulture courses this year. Massive kudos to Steve and NGINA for keeping the vital nursery operations course alive. Huge credit should also go to Graham Ross and the Australian Garden Council for non-stop lobbying at State and Federal level, for saturating Primary and Secondary schools with information about careers in horticulture, and for supporting careers events staffed by young Horts who've graduated from the Global Footprints International scholarship program. Employers who see the outstanding value in employing and mentoring young achievers, and guiding them through their studies are also benefiting greatly. Congratulations to all concerned."

Testimonials from some of the workshop participants:
Kim Dale from Mudgee Nursery said "The hands-on experience was invaluable. The pace of learning was excellent and it was brilliant to meet with other industry students".

Xena Nohokau – section supervisor from Andreasen's Green said "I had the chance to learn SO much more than if I was only onsite. I found it to ignite my passion even more. To meet other like minded people was amazing and learning from someone with as much knowledge as you (Steve) was an honour!!"

Luke Plevey, second year Apprentice from Nestlebrae Wholesale Nursery said "our thirst was quenched with Steve's limitless knowledge and understanding of our common passion for plants and nurseries"

Sandra Gillanders, Executive Director from Exotic Flora Nursery had this to say "Of exceptional value are the pearls of wisdom from our TAFE lecturers, information that cannot be gleaned from a text book. There is no substitute for learning best practice from lecturers who have real world practical experience".

Jack Thorburn, General Manager, HoneySuckle Nurseries after Day 1 sent a text "Thanks so much for a fantastic day, loved making my own potting mix, learned heaps".

This workshop, followed the very successful 2 day Irrigation sessions in April. Students that started this year have now completed three subjects, almost four and are working on their three work-based units at the moment. Steve said, "the students are doing very well, I am very happy with their progress, sometimes it's hard to keep up with their passion, so I had to schedule another online class!!".
I think our ongoing challenge with apprentices, is providing clear career pathways for progression and implementing quality employment retention strategies.





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Australian Bush Tucker Gardening

Cultivating Native Plants for Nutrition, Culinary Delights, Medicinal Benefits, and Optimal Garden Care

By Tara Preston



Bush tucker gardening offers cultural connection and unique flavours through cultivating native plants used traditionally by Indigenous communities. These plants foster biodiversity, require low maintenance, and promote sustainable agriculture. They adapt well to local conditions, enhancing resilience and reducing environmental impact. Additionally, bush tucker gardening educates us about Indigenous culture, imparts health benefits, and holds market potential. It brings communities together, especially in arid regions, aiding erosion control and supporting wildlife. In this article, we will explore examples of bush tucker plants including their nutritional value, culinary use, medical applications, watering requirements, care instructions, and the best locations to grow them in a garden. This will help you sell and provide the best advice on bush tucker plants to your customers!



1. Warrigal Greens (Tetragonia tetragonioides):

- Edible Part: Leaves (after cooking/blanching/steaming to break down oxalic acid)
- Nutrition: Rich in vitamin C, vitamin A, and omega-3 fatty acids.
- Culinary Use: Substitute for spinach in salads, stir-fries, and soups.
- Medical Use: Traditionally used for it's anti-inflammatory properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Thrives in moist but well-drained soil, plant in partial shade.

2. Lemon Myrtle (Backhousia citriodora):

- Edible Part: Fresh leaves
- Nutrition: Contains antioxidants, calcium, and zinc.
- Culinary Use: Adds citrus flavour to sauces, marinades, desserts, and beverages.
- Medical Use: Known for antimicrobial and digestive properties and helps improve immunity.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Prefers well-drained soil, needs regular watering. Plant in sheltered spot with full sun or partial shade.





3. Macadamia (Macadamia integrifolia):

- Edible Part: Nuts
- Nutrition: Rich in vitamins, minerals, healthy fats, fibre, and antioxidants.
- Culinary Use: Snacking, baking, salads, stir-fries.
- Medical Use: Leaves used for antimicrobial properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Deep watering required, well-drained soil. Plant in a sunny location with protection from strong winds.

4. Muntries (Kunzea pomifera):

- Edible Part: Berries
- Nutrition: High in antioxidants, vitamin C, and fibre.
- Culinary Use: Jams, desserts, and sauces with spicy apple flavour.
- Medical Use: Antiseptic and wound-healing properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Drought-tolerant, occasional watering during dry spells. Suitable for rockeries, raised beds, or containers





5. Finger Lime (Citrus Australasica):

- Edible Part: Fruit (vesicles)
- Nutrition: Rich in vitamin C, folate, and potassium.
- Culinary Use: "Citrus caviar" for garnishing salads, seafood, desserts, cocktails.
- Medical Use: Rich in antioxidants, antimicrobial properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Regular watering, especially in dry spells. Plant near wall or fence for wind protection.

6. Riberry (Syzygium luehmannii):

- Edible Part: Berries when ripe only
- Nutrition: Contains antioxidants, vitamin E, essential minerals.
- Culinary Use: Sauces, jams, desserts, beverages with tart cranberry-like flavour.
- Medical Use: Antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Thrives in moist soil, can tolerate dry spells. Plant in a sunny spot with wind protection.





7. Quandong (Santalum acuminatum):

- Edible Part: Fruit (fleshy outer layer) when ripe
- Nutrition: High in vitamin C, protein, healthy fats.
- Culinary Use: Sauces, jams, pies, desserts with unique tangy flavor.
- Medical Use: Antiseptic and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Drought-tolerant but benefits from occasional deep watering. Plant in well-drained sandy or loamy soil.

8. Bush Tomato (Solanum centrale):

- Edible Part: Fruit
- Nutrition: Rich in antioxidants, iron, and zinc.
- Culinary Use: Spice blends, sauces, chutneys, meat dishes for smoky flavor.
- Medical Use: Antimicrobial and antifungal properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Prefers well-drained soil, moderate watering. Plant in a sunny location with wind protection.





9. Davidson's Plum (Davidsonia spp.):

- Edible Part: Fruit
- Nutrition: High in antioxidants, vitamin E, anthocyanins.
- Culinary Use: Sauces, desserts, jams, beverages with tart and tangy flavour.
- Medical Use: Anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Thrives in moist soil, needs regular watering. Plant in shaded or partially shaded area.

10. Lemon Aspen (Acronychia acidula):

- Edible Part: Fruit (fleshy outer layer)
- Nutrition: Contains antioxidants, vitamin C, and folate.
- Culinary Use: Sauces, desserts, beverages with citrusy and tangy flavour.
- Medical Use: Antimicrobial properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Prefers well-drained soil, regular watering. Plant in sheltered spot with full sun or partial shade.





11. River Mint (Mentha australis):

- Edible Part: Leaves
- Nutrition: Rich in essential oils, antioxidants, menthol.
- Culinary Use: Teas, salads, sauces, desserts with refreshing minty flavour.
- Medical Use: Digestive and antiseptic properties
- Watering, Care, and Location: Requires moist soil, regular watering. Plant in sunny or partially shaded area.

12. Kangaroo Grass (Themeda triandra):

- Edible Part: Seeds (ground into flour)
- Nutrition: High in fibre, protein, essential minerals.
- Culinary Use: Ground into flour for bread, cakes, porridge.
- Medical Use: Diuretic properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Drought-tolerant, occasional watering during dry spells. Plant in well-drained soil, sunny location.





13. Saltbush (Atriplex spp.):

- Edible Part: Young shoots, leaves
- Nutrition: Contains antioxidants, vitamins A and C, iron.
- Culinary Use: Seasoning for meats, roasted vegetables, salads with salty and tangy flavor.
- Medical Use: Diuretic and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Drought-tolerant, minimal watering once established. Suitable for coastal gardens or sandy soil areas.

14. Bush Tomato (Lycium spp.):

- Edible Part: Fruit
- Nutrition: Rich in antioxidants, vitamins A and C, iron.
- Culinary Use: Sauces, jams, desserts, beverages with sweet and slightly tart flavor.
- Medical Use: Antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Prefers well-drained soil, moderate watering. Plant in a sunny location with wind protection.





15. Native Ginger (Alpinia caerulea):

- Edible Part: Ginger scented rhizomes, young shoots, fruits (not seeds)
- Nutrition: Contains antioxidants, essential oils, anti-inflammatory compounds.
- Culinary Use: Used in Asian-inspired dishes, teas, traditional medicine for aromatic and digestive properties.
- Medical Use: Anti-inflammatory and antiseptic properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Regular watering needed for moist soil. Plant in shady or partially shaded area with well-drained soil.

16. Roselle (Hibiscus sabdariffa):

- Edible Part: Calyces (the fleshy red sepals)
- Nutrition: High in vitamin C, antioxidants, and minerals.
- Culinary Use: Used for making hibiscus tea, jams, sauces, and desserts.
- Medical Use: Known for its potential to support cardiovascular health and digestive function.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Prefers well-drained soil, regular watering. Plant in a sunny location with protection from strong winds.





17. Flax Lily (Dianella spp.):

- Edible Part: Edible berries
- Nutrition: Contains fibre, antioxidants, and vitamins.
- Culinary Use: Used in jams and desserts.
- Medical Use: Leaves traditionally used for their anti-inflammatory properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Requires well-drained soil, moderate watering. Plant in a shaded or partially shaded area

18. Mat Rush (Lomandra spp):

- Edible Part: Edible shoots
- Nutrition: Rich in fibre, antioxidants, and essential oils.
- Culinary Use: Used in salads, stir-fries, and as a garnish.
- Medical Use: Leaves used traditionally for their antimicrobial properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Drought-tolerant, occasional watering during dry spells. Suitable for rockeries, gardens, or containers.





19. Pigface (Carpobrotus glaucescens):

- Edible Part: Edible fruit and leaves (raw or cooked)
- Nutrition: Contains vitamin C and antioxidants.
- Culinary Use: Used fresh or in jams. Roasted leaves can be used as a salt substitute
- Medical Use: Traditionally used for wound healing (stings/bites) and skin irritations similar to Aloe vera. Can be used as a water source in a survival situation
- Watering, Care, and Location: Drought-tolerant, well-drained soil. Suitable for coastal gardens as it is salt tolerant.

20. Native Violet (Viola hederacea):

- Edible Part: Edible flowers
- Nutrition: Rich in vitamins A and C, antioxidants.
- Culinary Use: Used in salads, garnishes, and desserts.
- Medical Use: Used for their soothing and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Requires moist soil, regular watering. Plant in shaded or partially shaded area





21. Chocolate Lily (Dichopogon strictus):

- Edible Part: Edible tubers
- Nutrition: Contains carbohydrates and fiber.
- Culinary Use: Traditionally roasted or used in stews.
- Medical Use: Used by Indigenous Australians for its potential health benefits.
- Watering, Care, and Location: Tolerates dry conditions, occasional watering during dry spells. Suitable for well-drained soil in sunny locations.



Corporate painting with Deadly Ed



Josh Brown educating kids on native plants

DEADLY GROWING

Unveiling the Untamed Bounty: Exploring Australia's Native Edibles

Growing up on a farm instilled a love for edible gardens in me from a young age. Yet, a gulf in knowledge about our natives, especially their relationships with our First Nations, was evident both in me and the wider Australian society. So eight years ago I began to fill that gap personally and, where possible, to share information with others, be that through my own network of friends and contemporaries or via Vegepod. This journey eventually led me to joining the advisory board for Deadly Ed. This organisation champions indigenous edible gardens and a host of other cultural activities through their educational arm and their Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPs) arm.

During the late 70s and early 80s, our farm near Alstonville hosted a scattering of baupel trees, better known as macadamias, long before they and avocados dominated the landscape and took over aging dairy farms. Yet, our conversations rarely ventured into their native Australian identity, let alone their historical and cultural importance. Astonishingly, the fact that maccas are indigenous remains unfamiliar to many Australians today, with a common misattribution to Hawaii. This misconception is worse overseas, and recently on a flight I viewed a cooking show now proclaiming the Hawaiian origin of gululang (finger limes) too! Proactively correcting this wherever possible is a responsibility for all of us in the nursery industry.

Vegepod, whilst an innovator in hardware, lacked insight into native edibles. Seeking to rectify this, I pursued botanical education elsewhere. My journey began with weekend courses in native edibles (which is where I also happened to meet my partner who later joined Wildflower, a First Nations gardening organisation cresting wonderful native landscapes across Sydney. Wildflower is helmed by Roman Deguchi, who I had coincidentally first worked with at his Five Senses Garden at Ryde Hospital).

From there my intrigue and appreciation for native edibles deepened and I managed to pick up learnings from my 'dial-a-friend' mentor and native plant sage, Angus Stewart, and my good Royal Botanic Gardens buddies Phil Pettit, Brenden Moore and Josh Brown.

Time progressed and Josh emerged as co-founder of Deadly Ed alongside Kane Wright. It has been fantastic to watch these fellas grow over the last couple of years into one of Australia's leading consultancies and hands-on cultural immersion / RAP support providers. I strongly believe you can't just give advice to be a top 'consultant', you have to also "do". Well, they certainly are doers and it's amazing to watch them deliver projects such as bush tucker gardens, teaching culture, painting murals, leading RAP workshops etc. Being ex-schoolteachers gives them great skills in delivering educational experiences, whilst their corporate backgrounds bring an intimate understanding of what we all need to do so as to create a more mature, integrated and aware society. My passion is of course the native gardens but there is so much more to this mob and I highly recommend everyone to find out more about what Deadly Ed can do to improve their own organisations.



By Simon Holloway

vegepod

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Social Media

Why it's important to cultivate connections for Wholesalers, Production, Allied Suppliers and Retail Nurseries

By Leisha Jordan

In the ever-evolving landscape of business, social media has emerged as a powerful tool that nursery growers, wholesalers, and retail nurseries can harness to their advantage. This digital platform isn't just for sharing selfies and holiday photos; it has transformed into a dynamic marketplace that fosters connections, boosts brand visibility, and drives growth across the horticultural industry.

In this digital age, **a strong online presence is no longer optional—it's a strategic imperative**. For wholesalers, production, allied suppliers and retail nurseries, social media offers a platform that transcends geographical boundaries, connects with a global community, and drives business growth. By leveraging the power of social media, nurseries can cultivate not only plants but also thriving relationships and flourishing businesses. Best of all... its FREE!

01. Reach a Wider Audience:

Social media platforms provide an expansive stage for nursery businesses to showcase their products and services. Whether you're a wholesale supplier offering a variety of plants or a retail nursery specialising in unique flora, social media offers a direct line to a vast and diverse audience. Through well-crafted posts and engaging visuals, businesses can capture the attention of potential customers, even those who might have been out of reach through traditional marketing channels.

02. Build a Brand Identity:

In a world saturated with options, a compelling brand identity is crucial for differentiating a nursery business from its competitors. Social media platforms enable growers and retailers to craft a unique narrative that resonates with their target audience. By sharing stories about the journey of a plant from seed to sale, or offering insights into sustainable cultivation practices, businesses can forge authentic connections that go beyond transactions.

03. Showcase Expertise:

Nurseries can position themselves as industry experts by sharing valuable insights and tips on plant care, gardening trends, and landscaping ideas. This not only fosters trust among existing customers but also attracts newcomers seeking reliable information. By becoming a go-to source for horticultural advice, businesses can solidify their reputation and become an indispensable resourse.

04. Engage in Visual Storytelling

The nursery industry is inherently visual, making it tailor-made for social media platforms. Striking images of lush gardens, colorful blooms, and flourishing landscapes can captivate audiences and inspire them to want a part of this for themselves. Regular updates on plant growth stages and seasonal offerings can create anticipation and excitement, driving customers to visit retail outlets or make wholesale purchases.

05. Build Customer Relationships:

Social media provides a two-way communication channel that nurtures customer relationships. Nurseries can respond to inquiries, address concerns, and provide personalised recommendations, creating a sense of care and attention. Engaging with customers in this manner not only enhances customer loyalty but also offers opportunities for valuable feedback and continuous improvement.

06. Navigate Trends and Market Insights:

Social media platforms are also hubs of trends and insights. By observing discussions, following relevant hashtags, and analysing engagement patterns, nursery businesses can gain valuable market insights. This real-time information can guide decisions on what plants to cultivate, which trends to embrace, and how to adapt to evolving customer preferences.

Not sure what to post? Each eNews I share a new idea of something you can post on your social media that is industry specific. Members can access all my top tips in the member section of the website under "Social Media".

EVALUATION OF SURVIVABILITY OF DIFFERENT LANDSCAPE PLANTS IN VARIOUS WET FEET CONDITIONS

By Todd Layt, Ozbreed Green Life



In a recent decade-long Australian study, researchers examined the impact of urbanisation and altered land use on ecosystems, particularly related to weather extremes, plant waterlogging, and increased flooding. This study aimed to identify plant species that can thrive in extreme wet conditions, providing landscape architects with opportunities to create more resilient landscapes in Australian developments. These selected plant species act as buffers against wet conditions, enhancing the usability of the landscape. Additionally, the study highlighted the success of certain drought-tolerant native plants during flooding events. It also identified Lomandra and other species suitable for heavy wet soils, offering specific plant recommendations for Australian bio-retention swales and rain gardens.

Three testing procedures showcased extreme waterlogging over a 10-year period. Area 1 evaluated plants' ability to withstand wet feet conditions, while area 2 examined their effectiveness in bio-retention swales. Area 3 observed plant adaptability in floodplains. Analysing data from six recent floods, the study employed statistical tools such as two-way ANOVA and Pearson correlation coefficients to determine some factors influencing plant survival.

TESTING AREA 1

In Testing Area 1, which had heavy clay-type soil and extreme wet feet conditions, certain plant species showed impressive survival rates. Evergreen Baby Lomandra and Shara Lomandra had a 100% survival rate. However, commercial types of Lomandra confertifolia and Lomandra longifolia performed poorly. Liriope species thrived in the wet parts of Area 1. A root rot treatment trial revealed that treating Tanika Lomandra longifolia with Metcalf TdAVC1 & TdAVA2 and Rhizovital42 from OCP significantly improved survival rates.

TESTING AREA 2

In the Bio-retention swale testing area 2, Liriope and Rhaphiolepis Cosmic White, along with native plants like Slim, Better John, and Green John Callistemons, thrived for 10 years. Wet feet loving Shara, Evergreen Baby, and Tropic Cascade Lomandra also thrived. However, many plants, including Dianella and Tristianopsis, did not survive the trial.



TESTING AREA 3

In Testing Area 3, the study examined plant survivability in floodplains. Overall, the study emphasised the importance of selecting resilient plant varieties for floodplain landscapes. The number of floods experienced correlated with plant survival, and mature plants had a higher chance of survival compared to young plants. Lomandra, Liriope, Dianella, Nandina, ornamental grasses, Agapanthus, turf grasses, and Callistemon viminalis generally survived well. Hibertia scandens, Murraya, Acacia and many other varieties showed varying results.

The study underscored the significance of breeding wet feet-loving plants and testing plants to survive extreme wet conditions, highlighting the importance of variety over species when selecting plants. For example, Grey Box and Mundi Westringia thrived in the wet, while other Westringia varieties did not. These findings offer crucial guidance for landscape planners working in urban environments with wet conditions. They also provide nurseries with knowledge to recommend suitable plants for wet conditions. Testing new plants for wet feet and other criteria such as drought is imperative for Ozbreed and their clients, just as Ozbreed Zen Grass was tested recently in waterlogging and floods and passed with flying colours. For the full paper, visit www.ozbreed.com.au and search "waterlogging."

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HARNESSING NATURE'S WELLNESS POWER THROUGH PLANTS

By Melissa Meadows

Echinacea: Not Just a Pretty Face

In the world of botanical wonders, the Echinacea plant takes centre stage as a healer. With its vibrant flowers, Echinacea emerges as a dynamic force in holistic wellness, offering a multifaceted approach to nurturing well-being through the power of plants. Its vibrant blossoms, part of the daisy family Asteraceae, reveal a world of healing potential. A powerhouse of herbal remedies, Echinacea's diverse properties contribute to its revered status as a source of holistic wellness.

The Healing Potential of the Echinacea Plant

The Echinacea plant boasts a spectrum of attributes that make it a versatile addition to natural health regimens. Rich in antioxidants, it supports the immune system and helps the body combat oxidative stress. This botanical treasure trove also houses antiviral, anti-inflammatory, and analgesic properties, making it a potential aid in managing ailments ranging from colds and respiratory issues to skin concerns.

Its capacity to stimulate immune cells and support overall immune health makes it a valuable resource during shifts in seasons and challenging moments.

Empowering Immunity with Echinacea

Echinacea's impact on the immune system is particularly noteworthy. This botanical ally is often utilised to bolster the body's defenses, aiding in the prevention and reduction of common colds. Its ability to stimulate immune cells and promote overall immune health, positions it as a powerful natural resource during seasonal changes and challenging times.

A Plant Lover's Palette

Integrating Echinacea into one's wellness routine is an easy thing to do. Echinacea offers itself in multiple forms, each with its own unique benefits. Here's a glimpse into how you can infuse this plant into your daily routine:

1. Echinacea Tea: Sip your way to well-being with Echinacea-infused teas. With the added benefit of taking a pause to enjoy your cuppa, this tea combines the earthy goodness of Echinacea with hot water, creating a drink that may offer both immune support and comfort.

2. Echinacea Supplements: Echinacea comes in supplement form, available as capsules, tablets, and concentrated liquid tincures. These convenient options provide an easy and controlled way to incorporate Echinacea's wellness attributes into your daily regimen.

3. Echinacea Topicals: Some skincare products harness Echinacea's soothing properties, offering you a natural way to nurture your skin's health. These topicals can be a gentle addition to your beauty routine.

Mindful Echinacea Usage: A Guiding Principle



Just as you would tend to your garden with care, consult a healthcare professional before integrating Echinacea into your routine. This ensures that it aligns with your health needs and any existing conditions.

For those seeking a connection between nature and well-being, the Echinacea plant stands as a testament to the innate power of plants. From its vibrant blossoms to its healing attributes, Echinacea reflects a harmonious interplay between humans and the botanical world. By embracing its essence, we embrace a timeless tradition of using nature's gifts to nurture our own well-being.

Disclaimer: This article is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute medical advice or a substitute for professional healthcare consultation. Always consult with a qualified healthcare provider before making any changes

AUSCITRUS: PROTECTING AND NURTURING AUSTRALIA'S CITRUS INDUSTRY



By Tara Preston

Australia is renowned for its vibrant citrus industry, producing an array of delicious and refreshing fruits. Australia's citrus industry owes much of its success to the tireless efforts of organisations like Australian Citrus Propagation Association Incorporated (Auscitrus). Auscitrus boasts an impressive rootstock seed and budwood production and distribution facility that plays a vital role in supporting the citrus growers and nurserymen across the country. With their state-of-the-art infrastructure and unwavering dedication to biosecurity, Auscitrus stands at the forefront of protecting and nurturing the citrus industry.



Ensuring Disease-Free Production and Protecting Against Biosecurity Threats:

At the heart of Auscitrus lies their 32 hectare nursery in Dareton, in far southwest NSW, a bustling hub of activity. Auscitrus has dedicated seed and budwood supply trees outside in the nursery which receive meticulous care, with drip irrigation, fertigation, and exclusive cultivation for bud and seed production. Auscitrus leaves no stone unturned when it comes to disease prevention and the team maintains virus-free and pre-immunised foundation trees, providing a solid base for healthy citrus growth. Their field trees undergo regular testing for graft transmissible diseases including exocortis. Exocortis is a viral disease that affects citrus plants, particularly oranges, lemons, and grapefruits. Excortis can have severe detrimental effects including stunted plant growth, health (disruptions in nutrient and water transport and graft incompatibility), declined productivity (fruit yield, quality and commercial value) and even tree death.

There is no cure for virus infections; management is through the use of pathogen-free rootstock seed and budwood from the Auscitrus propagation scheme. Pathogen indexing and elimination are carried out meticulously, ensuring the propagation material is free from harmful pathogens. The small cost for using Auscitrus tested material is negligible when compared to the cost of orchard establishment and reestablishment. Tim and the team use QR codes to track each budwood or seed batch back to the original tree which can be done years after it leaves. Auscitrus also plays a significant role in importing new citrus cultivars, enhancing the diversity and flavour of Australia's citrus offerings.





Recognising the importance of safeguarding the industry against biosecurity threats, Auscitrus maintains two trees of all major commercial citrus varieties available in Australia. These trees are housed in an insect-proof glasshouse, serving as a frontline defence against potential threats. Restricted access to Auscitrus staff and permitted contractors ensures the highest standards of biosecurity are maintained throughout all activities.







Innovative Budwood and Seedling Production:

Auscitrus's budwood is grown on potted trees within a rapid multiplication greenhouse, providing an ideal environment for efficient propagation. Currently operating at 2,500m2, with plans already underway to expand by another 2,500 m2, this cutting-edge facility allows Auscitrus to meet the growing demand for high-quality budwood. It is screened for insect exclusion, primarily to prepare for any future incursion of Huanglongbing (HLB) and the Asiatic citrus psyllid.

HLB, previously known as citrus greening, is one of the worst diseases of citrus trees in the world. It is caused by the bacterial disease Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus, which spreads through the tree canopy, causing decline and then death of the tree. The only way to rid citrus orchards, nurseries and home gardens of the disease is to replace infected trees, so the cost of an outbreak is huge. The disease could make it to Australia through the importation of infected plants or budwood, cuttings and rootstock which is why buying from Auscitrus is recommended. The Asian citrus psyllid is a small, sap-sucking insect. The psyllid is a serious pest of young citrus trees and can also transmit the citrus disease Huanglongbing. Citrus psyllids are not currently in Australia which is why national and state biosecurity measures are so essential.

Auscitrus also houses a 300m2 propagation house dedicated to seedling production and budding. This facility ensures the consistent supply of healthy and vigorous seedlings for citrus growers. Additionally, a spacious 600 m2 repository house serves as the home for mother trees, which provide the budwood necessary for producing daughter trees and guarantees the preservation of desired traits and varietal purity. Auscitrus sell 1.1 to 1.2 million buds a





year across 90 varieties – that up to 80,000 buds going out per week during budwood season. Budwood sticks are collected fresh then kept in a cool room before being distributed through express post. Each 20cm budwood stick has between 12 and 14 buds – each bud becoming a citrus tree for you to enjoy!

Auscitrus also collect rootstock seed from over 3 acres of citrus trees to distribute across the country. The flesh from collected fruit is removed onsite, the seeds are then washed and sterilised in 52 ◦ C water for ten minutes to kill any potential phytophthora or pathogens under the seed. The seeds are then dried and sifted for quality (small seeds are removed) before they are treated with a blue fungicide and redried. One cubic metre of fruit can typically produce between 5 to 60 kilograms of seed with 5-30 seeds collected per fruit depending on the variety.

Sustainable Practices and Continuity of Supply:

Auscitrus prioritises sustainable practices to ensure a reliable supply of water and electricity. The nursery's irrigation water is sourced from the nearby Murray River (Wentworth weir pool) and undergoes thorough filtration and treatment with chlorine dioxide. This preventative measure prevents the introduction of diseases through the water supply. With a two-week supply of water held on-site at all times, Auscitrus remains prepared for any contingencies. Furthermore, an auto-

start generator ensures uninterrupted power supply, safeguarding the nursery's cooling fans and irrigation pumps. These cooling fans and water walls are used to ensure the temperature in the greenhouses is kept below 32 ◦ C to prevent plants being affected by 44 ◦ C+ summer temperatures.

A Diverse Range of Offerings:

Auscitrus takes pride in its wide range of citrus offerings, catering to the diverse preferences of growers and consumers alike. Whether you are in search of citrus rootstock seeds or seeking unique budwood options, Auscitrus has you covered. Their selection includes the coveted Flying Dragon, P.Trifoliata, and Troyer citrange for citrus rootstock. Moreover, their budwood options encompass a delightful array of flavors and aromas, such as the Cara Cara Navel, Eureka and Lemonade Lemons, Tahiti Lime, Calamondin, Seminole, Ray Ruby Grapefruit, Buddha's Hand, Yuzu, and Bergamot.



Thanks to organisations like Auscitrus and their members, such as Eyles Citrus and Engalls Nursery, the Australian Citrus Industry thrives. Auscitrus stands as a beacon of excellence in the citrus industry, providing growers with top-quality propagation material. So, next time you enjoy a juicy orange or fresh lemon, remember Auscitrus' dedication to preserving and enhancing the citrus industry for generations to come.

Auscitrus Contact Details
Tim Herrmann | Auscitrus Manager
Address: 398 River Rd,
Dareton NSW 2717
Phone: (03) 5027 4411

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Do you get our emails?

We regularly communicate with our members via email. If you feel you could be missing out on any of our emails please contact the office on **(02) 9679 1472** or email **info@ngina.com.au** so we can look into it for you.





DON'T SPREAD FIRE ANTS

Fire ants are small, but they can have devastating consequences on the environment, economy and our outdoor way of life. Infestations restrict the use of backyards, parks, playgrounds, beaches and sports fields and damage electrical, irrigation and agricultural equipment. They can also destroy crops and kill native flora, fauna, pets and livestock. Fire ants feed on seeds, insects, spiders, lizards, frogs, birds and mammals and displace or kill off native plants and animals and change whole ecosystems beyond repair.

Large numbers of fire ants can swarm onto a person or animal stinging over and over, causing the sensation of being on fire. Stings can become infected and in rare cases lead to fatal allergic reactions. Their presence limits the ability to export goods to states or countries free of red imported fire ants. If we don't work together and stop them, fire ants could infest all of Australia —costing billions per year and changing our way of life, forever. We need your help.

Fire ants in South East Queensland

Fire ants were first discovered at the Port of Brisbane in 2001 and currently infest around 600,000 ha in South East Queensland. The interactive fire ants map on the National Fire Ant Eradication Program's website shows sites that have had fire ants in the last 12 months. They have been found west to Kleinton and the Lockyer Valley and north to Deception Bay.

NSW partners with and contributes funding to the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Program. This program aims to eradicate fire ants from South-East Queensland by 2032 and has been in place since 2017. Modelling shows that without it, fire ants would have spread west to Longreach, north to Bowen and south to Canberra by now.

Fire ants are a high risk to NSW

As of the end of August 2023, fire ants have been found 5.5 km from the NSW border at Tallebudgera in Queensland. They have also been found at Mermaid Waters, Tabooba, Kleinton, Carrara, Worongary, Mudgeeraba and Innisplain. The closeness of the South-East Queensland infestation makes fire ants one of the highest biosecurity risks to NSW.
Fire ants are most likely to be found in parts of NSW along the border with South-East Queensland including the Tweed, Kyogle and Tenterfield local government areas. Fire ants are also highly mobile and can travel undetected by hitching a ride in organic materials that are moved by people. Human-assisted movement is the biggest risk for spreading fire ants into new areas. Fire ants like to nest in soil, manure, potted plants, baled materials, turf, mulch, green waste and quarry products. If you transport these materials from within the fire ant biosecurity zones, you must follow the movement requirements in the Biosecurity Regulation 2016. Moving these materials without mitigating the risk of spreading fire ants is an offence and penalties apply.



FOR MORE INFORMATION HEAD TO:
WWW.DPI.NSW.GOV.AU/BIOSECURITY/INSECT-PESTS/FIREANTS

Fire Ant Identification

Fire ants are aggressive and will swarm when disturbed. Their distinguishable features make them easy to identify against other ant species. Fire ants are:

- copper brown with a darker abdomen
- small, measuring 2–6 mm
- found in a variety of sizes within the one nest
- waist section has two segments
- aggressive behaviour - hundreds of ants will come out of a nest if disturbed, trying to sting over and over

Fire ant nests can look like mounds or flat patches of soil with no obvious entry or exit holes. They are not always visible and can take months to pop up. Fire ants can adapt and survive in most climates and environments around the world. They are usually found in warm, open areas such as:

- lawns, pastures and cropland
- footpaths and driveways
- garden beds and in piles of organic matter
- water sources—taps, dams and irrigation lines
- utility pits—water and gas meters
- cultivated land
- along fence lines
- disturbed soil and newly developed areas.

Look under and next to objects on the ground like timber, logs, rocks, pavers or bricks.

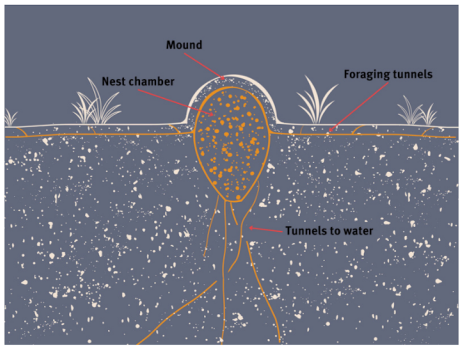
Interstate Trade

NSW has its own rules when it comes to moving plant material, soil and any related equipment. To move potted plants (plants in containers grown in potting media including the plant, the container and the potting media) into NSW from known fire ant infested areas in South East Queensland they must be:

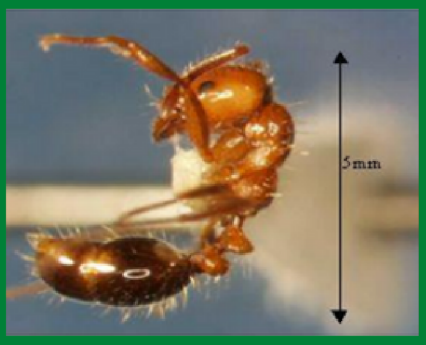
- treated with a chemical approved for the control of fire ants before dispatch

- They must be accompanied by one of the following certifying these requirements have been met:
  > a Plant Health Certificate
  - *Issued by inspectors from the Queensland Government to applicants wanting to move fire ant materials into NSW from Queensland)*
  > a Plant Health Assurance Certificate that certifies they have been produced and dealt with in accordance with the Interstate Certification Assurance Scheme ICA-39 Treatment of Bulk Growing Media and Potted Plants for Red Imported Fire Ants
  - *A person, who may represent a business, can become accredited as a biosecurity certifier under the national Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) Scheme allowing them to issue plant health assurance certificates for produce.*
  > a Biosecurity Certificate that certifies they have been produced and dealt with in accordance with BioSecure HACCP Entry Conditions Compliance Procedure Number ECCPRIFA03.
  - *A person, who may represent a business, can become accredited as a biosecurity certifier for the Biosecure HACCP scheme allowing them to legally self-certify consignments for compliance with interstate movement controls.*





IF YOU FIND A SUSPECT NEST OR ANTS, REPORT THEM WITHIN 24 HRS AT FIREANTS.ORG.AU OR BY CALLING 13 25 23.



Receiving Materials

If you are purchasing or receiving materials that may be at risk of carrying fire ants, ensure that your supplier is operating with fire ant-safe practices in place. By taking these simple steps, you can help protect your property and prevent the spread of fire ants into new areas.

What should I do if I suspect fire ants?

Don't touch the ants or their nest with any part of your body as there is a high chance of being severely stung. Don't disturb or treat the infestation yourself as this can cause the ants to move and spread, or swarm and sting.

If it's safe to do so taking photos will help with identification. If you can only see a nest, gently poke the edge of the nest with a long stick to encourage the ants to come out, making sure you don't get too close.

Keep your camera still and allow ants to walk past the lens. Moving the camera too much makes the image blurry. Use the zoom on your camera to get a close-up image while keeping a safe distance. Put an object like a coin or a key near the ants as a size comparison.

What should I do if I get stung?

The following guidance is general information and if in doubt, seek medical advice. If you are stung by fire ants, small blisters may form on your skin. Leave the blisters intact, wash with soap and water and apply a cold compress or ice to relieve the swelling and pain.

Stings are rarely life threatening. People prone to allergic reactions could experience severe symptoms and should seek immediate medical attention.

INVENTORY Management SYSTEMS





In the dynamic landscape of production nurseries, the effective management of resources, inventory, and operations stands as a critical determinant of success. Embracing modern solutions like production planning and inventory management systems offers a pathway to enhanced efficiency, streamlined operations, and optimised customer service. By delving into the multifaceted benefits of these systems, we uncover how they revolutionise resource utilisation, demand prediction, cost management, and more, positioning nurseries to thrive in a competitive market.

Production nurseries can benefit from using production planning and inventory management systems for several reasons:

- **Efficient Resource Utilisation and Accurate Demand Forecasting:** These systems helps nurseries optimise their resources, such as plants, seeds, growing media, pots, fertilisers, and labour. It also enables nurseries to analyse historical sales data, market trends, and customer preferences to make accurate demand forecasts. This helps nurseries avoid overproduction or underproduction or rushed orders, ensuring optimal utilisation of resources, reducing the risk of overproduction or stockouts, additional freight costs for urgent deliveries and minimising waste and loses.

- **Improved Customer Service:** By maintaining appropriate inventory levels based in customer demand, nurseries ensure a consistent supply, mitigating stockouts and bolstering customer satisfaction.

- **Cost Reduction:** Effective planning can help nurseries minimise carrying costs associated with excess inventory or inventory obsolescence. By reducing storage costs, minimising wastage, and optimising procurement and production processes, nurseries can achieve cost savings and improve profitability. Minimising waste not only saves costs associated with unsold inventory but also aligns with sustainability goals by reducing environmental impact.

For Production Nurseries

- **Efficient Procurement:** Nurseries can forecast their material requirements which allows them to plan procurement activities better, negotiate favourable terms with suppliers, and potentially secure volume discounts. By optimising procurement processes, nurseries can reduce purchasing costs and minimise the risk of stockouts or production delays due to material shortages.

- **Streamlined Operations:** These systems provide nurseries with real-time visibility into their operations, including plant availability, production schedules, and current and predicted future inventory levels. This enables better decision-making, effective coordination between departments, and streamlined workflows, leading to increased operational efficiency.

- **Optimised Production:** Systems align schedules with seasonal demand patterns, plant growth rates, weather patterns, market trends and resource availability, reducing overtime and labour expenses while enhancing resource allocation

- **Data-Driven Insights:** By implementing a production planning and inventory management system, nurseries can gather valuable data on production, inventory levels, sales, and customer behaviour. Analysing this data provides insights into trends, patterns, and opportunities for improvement. Nurseries can use these insights to optimise their production processes, introduce new plant varieties, identify slow-moving inventory, and make informed business decisions.

- **Advanced Reporting and Analytics:** Inventory management software offers robust reporting and analytics capabilities. It can generate various reports, such as inventory valuation, sales trends, stock turnover, and demand forecasting.

- **Integration with Other Systems:** Inventory management software can integrate with other systems, such as sales, procurement, and accounting software. This facilitates seamless data flow between different functions, eliminates manual data entry or reconciliation, and improves overall operational efficiency. Spreadsheet based inventory management and planning systems often require manual data transfers between systems, leading to potential errors and delays.

- **Scalability:** As nurseries grow and expand their operations, inventory management software can scale accordingly. It can handle larger data volumes, accommodate multiple users, and support complex inventory management needs.

Overall, a production planning and inventory management system can help production nurseries streamline their operations, improve customer service, reduce costs, and achieve greater efficiency and profitability in a competitive market. While spreadsheets can serve as a basic inventory management tool for small nurseries with limited needs, inventory management software offers more comprehensive features, automation, and scalability, making it a superior choice for larger nurseries or those aiming to streamline their operations and achieve efficient inventory management practices.

Now we will look at production planning and inventory management systems offered by NGINA members:



The Perfect Cloud-Based Inventory Management Solution.
Improve Productivity, Increase Your Sales, Save You Time!

EvergreenConnect is well known for its plant stock sourcing website and it is the largest greenlife database in Australia with over 195,000 plants listed. It has up to date plant sourcing and supply information which is widely used by wholesale and retail nurseries, landscapers, councils and the allied professional landscape community to find the plants for their nursery or project. The EvergreenConnect team have continued to add functionality to produce an inventory solution fully integrated across the greenlife industry to greatly reduce administration costs for growers and retailers alike including EvergreenConnect Inventory and Sales Management system.

Contact Details:

Email: info@evergreenconnect.com.au

Phone:
Mat: 0407 212 316
Christina: 0419 165 865
Todd: 0484 111 183

Website: www.evergreenconnect.com.au

Key Benefits and Features of EvergreenConnect Inventory Management System:

- Built by nurserymen for nurserymen – 40 years of collective Greenlife Experience
- Annual subscription – no large upfront purchase price
- User friendly
- Cloud-based based so you have instant access to your data from anywhere with an internet connection
- App-based data entry for production processes through your smartphone reducing the need for paper forms which then must be entered at a later date.
- Free support for all enquiries.
- All future software upgrades free of charge
- Easily integrate with various accounting systems including commonly used systems such as Xero, MYOB or Quickbooks.
- Electronic Data interchangeability to allow growers to receive orders from chain stores including Bunnings directly into EvergreenConnect.
- Integrated with your Customer/Supplier base so administration tasks such as data entry of orders are greatly reduced.
- Production scheduling, tracking and forwarding orders are easily accounted for.
- Evergreen Connect also offers their plant sourcing website, online ordering and e-commerce and point of sale solutions
- Australian-owned and operated.
- Online ordering for customers either via the EvergreenConnect portal or via your email or website which feeds directly into your sales orders, therefore removing the necessity for data entry (can add any orders in manually if needed).
- User-defined items such as freight and packaging can be entered.
- Easily identify and correct stock which has been oversold.
- Consignment functionality for stock sold on consignment. Track, reconcile and invoice easily.
- Trade day app for easy sales and invoicing at trade day.
- Versatile planning. Program your future planting requirements, no limits on batches or dates. Work as far into the future as you require.
- Complete your potting online directly at the potting station easily and simply.
- Multiple nursery sites capability.
- Create your own growing times to determine growing lengths for each crop and adjust for season variability.
- Easily identify forward orders and stock available for sale for every batch in your nursery from wherever you are.
- Trace from batch to batch as stock is potted up.

The nuts and bolts behind EvergreenConnect are Christina Gnezdilo and Mathew Plummer, who collectively have over 40 years' experience in Greenlife industries with qualifications in horticulture, Landscape architecture, marketing, business management and Administration. These skills and experience have enabled the development of the full EvergreenConnect software suite from an industry needs basis so that it's easy to operate and the information is pertinent to the needs of your business.

As simple as EvergreenConnect is to use, they provide free training before you even sign up. They pride themselves on providing a free Helpdesk service. Support is only a phone call or email away.

NURSERY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

our business is growing your business

By Agnov8

Australian Software Specifically for the Wholesale Nursery Industry, locally owned and supported, developed specifically for the Australian Nursery Industry by the industry.

Contact Details:

Email: admin@agnov8.com

Phone: 02 9653 3992

Website: www.nurserymanagement.com.au

Nursery Management Systems (NMS) is an innovative software solution designed to revolutionise the way wholesale production nurseries operate. NMS is a comprehensive and intuitive management platform that seamlessly integrates all aspects of nursery administration that can position nurseries to excel in a competitive market environment and save time and money.

Key Benefits and Features of Nursery Management Systems:

- NMS Hybrid version allows for real-time data connectivity allowing for features such as Mobile Apps and remote access from anywhere.
- NMS has the facility to store all important customer details, freight carriers and days, barcodes, SKUs, discounts, pricing, quotes, email customer invoices, multiple price points, and much more.
- Barcoding for chain stores and individual garden centres, SKUs, fine lines, barcodes, and PIM numbers.
- Sales lists can be created in-field enabling the ability to create scan books and availability lists for customers.
- Export sales availability lists to Evergreen Connect and Bunnings GreenLife lists automatically.
- B2B Bunnings and Evergreen Connect - import and export orders.
- Integration with accounting software with the export facility for invoices to Xero, MYOB, QuickBooks
- Production and sales reports to analyse market trends and customer preferences avoiding overproduction or underproduction.
- Production planning tool enables forward planning.
- Inventory management enables live data, numbers, and locations.
- Despatch is a dream with picking lists, label lists, and trolley labelling.
- Weekly propagation and potting report including number to be cut/sown/potted and batch numbers and location.
- Potting and propagation batch tags can be printed onto labels or stickers, and scannable QR codes to record losses and stock movement in the field.
- NMS also allows you to multi-plant mixed species in one pot and track back to each batch origin.
- Provenance seed traceability, management, and tracking are available for bush regeneration nurseries.
- Advanced Reporting and Analytics generate various reports, such as inventory valuation, sales trends, and stock turnover which enables forecasting and many more.
- Traceability for all batches.
- Streamline your operations with real-time visibility into plant availability, production schedules, and current and predicted future inventory levels.

NMS packages are tailored to suit different nurseries. They provide the option of a two-user, three-user, four-user, or 5+ for the basic, intermediate, and professional modules. Suitable for small to large wholesale nurseries there are three packages offering comprehensive features, automation, and scalability as nurseries grow and expand their operations. It can handle larger data volumes, accommodate multiple users, and support complex inventory management needs.



Agnov8 employs local support and technical staff who understand the industry and all nursery businesses' issues and are available to assist in managing this turn-key project. They are engaged from the project's inception and remain engaged until the project is completed with our installation, training, file conversion, and set-up package.

This comprehensive package has many more features, ask for a live demonstration today.

SEE your business. KNOW your business. GROW your business.

Australian ERP software designed for producers, manufacturers and inventory management businesses

Accentis is an Australian family-owned company dedicated to helping small to medium sized businesses reach their full potential through enabling them to grow. Accentis Enterprise manages all of your business data in a single system that is robust, scalable and centralised. Their software is built by a dedicated team of engineers supported by staff from varied fields of expertise who enjoy a challenge in making its ERP system the best it can be for every business.

Contact Details:

Email: sales@accentis.com.au

Phone: 07 3256 6875

Website: https://accentis.com.au

Key Benefits and Features of Accentis Enterprise:

- Australian created, developed, owned, implemented, and supported for over 20 years
- Replaces a patchwork of disparate software packages, spreadsheets and manual records with one system
- Eliminates hours of manual data handling, and streamlining information driven processes
- Provides one system to manage all key business processes, including accounting, payroll, production, inventory, customer relationship management, sales, suppliers, procurement, employees, and job costing
- Capture all costs, including labour, materials, overheads and holding costs, to accurately report cost of grown saleable products and protect profit margin
- Comprehensive out-of-the-box functionality can be customised cost-effectively, so the program can be tailored to your priorities and special processes
- Ability to forecast inventory requirements, and plan production weeks, months, and years, in advance
- Flexibility in how licences are acquired, offering both 'Software as a Service' monthly subscription, or one-off purchase options
- Ability to be integrated with other software or websites, including online availability lists and Bunnings' EDI
- Customisable reports including barcoded labels for each variety
- Manage your entire sales process from initial enquiries to Quotes to converted Sales Orders
- Set up detailed Discount Structures so the price for the customer being quoted is correct every time
- Review the available inventory, and forecasted inventory, as the Quote is created
- Report on all previous sales activity, breaking down total sales by state, product, customer, season, and more
- Ability to handle any size order, from quickly selling and dispatching stock using point of sale, to setting up multiple delivery dates and dispatches for large orders
- Ability to track growing plants in batches, tracing lineage, and inputs like growing media, fertiliser, mother stock, cuttings and so on – all the way through to saleable product
- Constantly track and report the quantities, and locations, of all stock items, including raw material inputs, growing stock at various stages of production, saleable products, and stock sold on consignment
- Manage the goods inward process, picking for production, picking for dispatch, and goods outward processes, using location information when needed
- Utilise barcode scanning technology to streamline inventory data capture, stocktake, reporting and more
- Manage, and procure, required inputs in real time based on forecast (or actual) Sales Orders and production plan





MEMBER SERVICES MANAGER





NGINA MEMBER SITE VISITS

WITH TARA

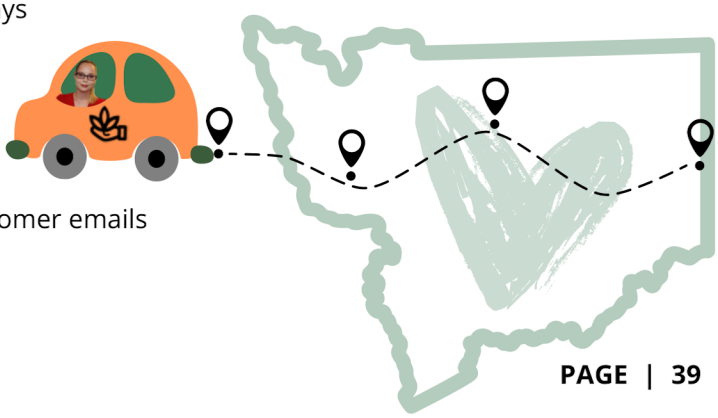




TOGETHER WE GROW!

Tara, our dedicated Members Services Manager, is your go-to resource for offering both technical and business assistance to the NGINA's wide-ranging membership base. This includes professionals involved in production and wholesale nurseries, retail garden centres, online plant stores, allied suppliers, florists, plant rental firms, and related industry sectors like technology, education, and freight services. Tara is your ultimate problem solver – just pose your query, and she will deliver the solution you need! Beyond that, the Membership Services role plays a vital role in facilitating new connections and strengthening existing industry bonds among our members. This year alone, Tara has made visits to more than 76 members across NSW and ACT, and she thoroughly enjoys engaging with staff on a diverse range of topics during these visits, fostering valuable discussions including:

- Training courses – first aid, chemical (AQF3 and AQF4), forklift, social media, bobcat, business management, manual handling, irrigation, customer service
- e-News, N&G News Magazine and member blogs
- 250+ legally compliant HR documents available through the NGINA at a reduced cost including industry specific WHS Manual
- Business Advice Line – free access with monthly code – it provides direct access to experienced workplace specialists who can answer questions on a range of issues including wage rates, leave entitlements, performance management issues, bullying, harassment, and discrimination claims or workplace investigations.
- Free recruitment job advertising on NGINA's website, social media and LinkedIn
- Sydney, Northern Rivers and Port Macquarie Trade Days
- Production and inventory management software
- Visual merchandising
- Apprenticeships
- Biosecurity
- Weed and pest and disease management
- Staff management and HR
- Social media, content creation, photo editing and customer emails
- Invoicing
- Hail, flood and other weather events
- Insurance



MEMBER VISITS

Mudgee Nursery

Mudgee Nursery is a locally owned and operated independent nursery in the Central West. Scott, Wendy, and Kristie lead the team, offering expert plant advice and are located not far from the centre of Mudgee. Their dedication to the region radiates through vibrant flowers, lush foliage, and a wealth of plant wisdom. They carry a wide range of plants from established trees, roses, perennials, hedging, annuals, food plants, veggies to tubestock. Mudgee Nursery also keep a wide range of outdoor and indoor pots in store to suit all needs. Customer can also buy StaightCurve steel, VegePods and Biofilta wicking beds, Little Veggie Patch Co and Mr Fothergill's seeds, a wide range of potting mixes, plant conditioners and plant food.



Quality Products

Quality Products is an Australian company and is the exclusive distributor of renowned brands like Burgon & Ball and Haws watering cans. Since 1997, Debbie and the team have been curating the finest garden essentials including secateurs, orchid snips, trowels, gloves, kneelers, watering cans, misters, indoor pots and children gardening tools. Quality Products have even crafted their own gems like Scratch Protector gloves and Canvas Flower Carriers. Passionate about excellence, Quality Products is a haven for those seeking the best tools and gifting lines to sell at their garden centre or online shop.



Royston Petrie Seeds

Royston Petrie Seeds is a family-owned seed wholesaler based in Mudgee. With roots dating back to 1976, this establishment has been unwavering in its commitment to providing top-quality seeds to nurseries, commercial growers, and garden enthusiasts not only across Australia but also on the global stage. Rowena Petrie the director at Royston Petrie Seeds has created a unique niche in the industry, as they are dedicated to growing, harvesting, and supplying clean, traceable, and reliable seeds. Every seed they offer undergoes rigorous germination testing and trials to ensure superior quality. This dedication to excellence sets them apart, making them a trusted source for customers throughout Australia and overseas.



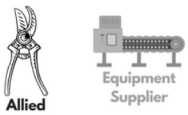
Garden City Plastics

NGINA's Diamond partner, Garden City Plastics (GCP) is the Australian leader and largest manufacturer of plastic pots and containers, for the horticultural industry. Their range also includes substrates and growing media including orchid bark, coir and perlite and fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, miticides, plant growth regulators, nematicides, wetting agents, disinfectants, fertilisers, soil conditioners, weed mat, plant nursery trolleys and benches, stakes, watering tools, PPE, sprayers and biological control agents such as Predators and Parasitoids.
GCP partners with Polymer Processors and Norwood Industries in the pot, tray and label recycling initiative and GCP are ready to use the PP sourced to make pots over and over again. GCP also offers custom injection moulding services and they have an in-house agronomy team are available to assist their customers with solutions to Pest, Disease, and Nutrition issues in your nurseries.



Transplant Systems

Established in 1984, Transplant Systems specializes in providing hassle-free solutions for nursery, forestry, and field machinery, including procurement, supply, and installation. They are renowned domestically and internationally for their expertise in plant nursery design, construction, and commissioning. With a dedicated team of specialists, consultants, and top-tier global suppliers, Transplant Systems ensures customers receive top-quality products and service to optimize their business outcomes, whether it's a new project, ongoing management, or automation, resulting in a quicker return on investment. Their automation machinery range includes pot/tray fillers, seeding, transplanting, irrigation, handling, de-nesting, dibbling, germination, labelling, plug popping, trimming and washing machines. Transplant Systems also sell injection moulded seedling and plug trays.



Ball Australia

Ball Horticultural Company Australia is part of a global family of breeders and researchers providing the Australian horticultural industry with the most commercially viable and innovative plants from around the world. Ball Australia has introduced many varieties to the Australian market including Simply Beautiful, Nature's Décor, Sunpatiens, Osteospermum Blue Eyed Beauty, SuperCal Petunias and Trixi. Ball Australia's seed, tissue culture and plug collection also includes Aglaonema, Alocasias, Aloe, Argyranthemum, Begonia, Bracteantha, Calibrachoa, Dahlia, Echeveria, Echinacea, Ferns, Hemerocallis, Kangaroo Paw, Lomandra, Petunia, Philodendron, Salvia and Syngonium. With environmentally controlled glasshouses, an automated production facility and state of the art despatch systems, Ball Australia has the flexibility of growing high-quality plants to supply growers with plugs all year.



MEMBER VISITS

Plantmark Wholesale Nurseries - Vineyard

Plantmark Wholesale Nurseries is wholesale trade only nursery with over 35 years of industry experience and their NSW location is in Western Sydney at Vineyard. Its customers include landscapers, garden maintenance, landscape architects, trades & services, government, retail nurseries, wholesale nurseries/growers and schools. Plantmark's Trade Market provides a one-stop-shop experience where trade customers can hand select wholesale plants and garden products onsite and get expert plant advice. Their Quotes and Orders team offer compilation of orders, national plant sourcing through their extensive network of reputable growers and suppliers nationwide, substitute suggestions, and delivery to site across NSW and the ACT.

Wholesale

EvergreenConnect

EvergreenConnect is Australia's largest online plant stock sourcing website, with over 195,000 plants from hundreds of nurseries nationwide. Customers like retail nurseries, councils, and landscapers can find plants online from new and existing suppliers and place instant online orders. EvergreenConnect also offers inventory management, invoicing, e-commerce, and point-of-sale solutions, streamlining the process for both buyers and suppliers. EvergreenConnects software integrates with Xero, MYOB and Quickbooks as well as Univex and Tower.

Software & Technology

Proptec

Proptec offers horticultural & nursery wholesale supplies to reduce crop loss, grow time, and labour costs by up to 40% while producing a higher quality plant for your customers. With over 40 years of growing experience and Australian commercial plug solutions the Proptec team can help your business custom design growing media mix specially for your nursery's needs. They offer high quality and economical trays and plugs and have sold over 70 million Ellepots. Proptecs range also includes nursery machinery & equipment like tray fork attachments, manual and automatic dribblers, top coaters, tray fillers, waterralls/irrigation units, sticking lines, hand, drum and turbo needle seeders, and the complete Ellepot integrated propagation system.

Allied

Equipment Supplier

Parklea Pots & Plants

Parklea Pots and Plants is a family run business with over 20 years of experience and is located at Parklea Markets. They have a variety of indoor and outdoor plants including vegetable seedlings, hedging plants, trees and palms and letterboxes, indoor and outdoor pots, statues and water features. Their expert staff can assist with all your garden needs, and are waiting to serve you seven days a week!

Retailer



Powerplants can provide solutions for all your potting and automation needs. Contact us for a full product overview.

POWERPLANTS

Technology is what we do, innovation is what we live for

powerplants.com.au · pb-tec.com

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MEMBER VISITS

Mr Fothergill's Seeds

Mr. Fothergill's Seeds offers a diverse range of high-quality seeds with over 700 flower and vegetable varieties which have been trialled and tested for the Australian climate. Their range has expanded beyond seeds to include flower and produce bulbs, garden accessories, propagation products, indoor smart gardens, and garden hand tools. Increased demand for produce seeds and bulb is the result of people continuing to grow their own food. This is driven by rising grocery prices and cost-of-living pressures. Mr Fothergill's commitment to quality is evident through rigorous germination testing, ensuring successful growth.

Allied

SEEDS

Online

Killibinbin Native Nursery

Killibinbin Native Nursery is in The Blue Mountains at Dargan. They have a large range of unusual and reliable native and exotic plants suitable for a cool climate including species of Acacia, Banksia, Callistemon, Ceratopetalum, Correa, Eremophila, Grevillea, Hibbertia, Leptospermum, Leucadendron, Prostanthera, Protea and Telopea. Kevin and Patricia are there to offer friendly and helpful plant selection and care advice and can source plants for you. Open Thursday to Monday.

Retailer

Natives

COOL CLIMATE

Wyee Nursery

Wyee Nursery, with 20+ years of experience, is passionate about plants, sustainability, and crafting beautiful gardens. Wyee Nursery has cultivated strong relationships with reputable growers and suppliers, allowing them to curate a diverse and extensive selection of high-quality plants, trees, shrubs, and gardening essentials. Tom, Adrian and the rest of their expert team offers tailored advice to help their customers create stunning outdoor spaces. Wyee Nursery prioritises sustainability, preserving biodiversity, and promoting native plants to create eco-friendly gardens, offering a diverse range of native species to support this commitment.

Retailer

Lumpy's Nursery and Landscape Yard

Lumpy's Nursery and Landscape Yard, a local family-owned business on the Mid-North Coast at Tuncurry, offers expert advice and a wide range of plants, garden supplies, and decorative items. Lumpy, Jenny and the team are there to assist with projects of all sizes, from small courtyards to large landscaping jobs. Their Garden Centre features diverse plant varieties, pots, water features, statues, and more. They also offer bulk landscape supplies, including mulch, top dressing, and aggregates, with delivery options. Additionally, their gift shop is full of personal, garden and decorating lines.

Retailer

Bulk Landscape Supplies

Pineleigh Plants

Pineleigh Plants Nursery operates in two NSW locations: Mid North Coast and Southern Highlands. Their Mid North Coast growing site focuses on revegetation tube stock, including koala food trees, native grasses, strappy leaf plants, wetland plants, and sedges. Large project pre-growing is available with a capacity of 600,000+ tubes. The Southern Highlands nursery specialises in frost-hardy hedging, screening plants, native and exotic shrubs. Wholesale customers can email them for plant orders and monthly availability. Retail customers can order plants through their online store.

PRODUCTION

Grasses

COOL CLIMATE

Shrubs & Hedging

Natives

Exotic Flora Nursery

Exotic Flora Nursery is a wholesale production nursery located on the sub-tropical mid-north coast of NSW specialising in Heliconia, and Frangipani supplying nurseries, garden centres, landscapers and plant hire businesses in NSW, QLD and Victoria. This season Sandra and Pete have over 40 varieties of Heliconia and Gingers and 48 named varieties of Frangipanis for sale. The team work to pro-actively manage the health of their plants without needing harmful chemical interventions as part of their commitment to looking after the local natural environment and eco-system.

PRODUCTION

Shade Plants

Trees







MEMBER VISITS

Fruit Salad Tree Company

Fruit Salad Tree Company is a small family business located on the Mid North Coast of NSW. Fruit Salad Trees are multi-grafted trees with different fruits from the same family grafted together on the one tree. All the fruits retain their own characteristics like flavour, appearance and ripening times. Fruit Salad Trees can be grown in a pot or in the ground, perfect for your balcony or backyard and are suitable for all climates. The Fruit Salad Tree Company range covers Citrus Fruit Salad Trees (including Lime/Lemon, Lime/Lemon/Orange, Lemon/Orange/Mandarin and Lemon/Pomelo/Grapefruit), Stone Fruit Salad Trees (including Peach/Plum/Nectarine, Apricot/Peach/Nectarine/Plum, White Nectarine/Yellow Nectarine/Plum/Peachcot) and Apple Fruit Salad Trees (including Granny Smith/Red Lady/Anna and Granny Smith/Green Glow/Tropic Sweet/Anna/Golden Dorsett). Their handcrafted trees are available through their website for Australia wide delivery in specially designed boxes.



Vanderley Nursery and Abundance Garden Centre

Vanderley Nursery is located on the Mid North Coast near Port Macquarie and specialises in innovative plants for domestic and commercial projects. The Sancrox site has been in production for 18 years and has allowed for an increase in lines and volume so that today Vanderley Nursery is one of the largest producers of Bougainvilleas (including Li'l Beauty and Bambino varieties) in Australia. John and Carol also grow Euphorbia Little Sparkler, Epipremnum, zonal and ivy geraniums, double impatients, Gerbera, finger limes, bananas, blueberries, Caliphruria Green Supreme, Stephanotis, Hibiscus, double and triple Mandevillas, Metrosideros, Nepenthes and Syzygium.

Since opening in October 2012, Abundance Garden Centre has established a firm reputation for high quality, well priced plants, pots, garden art, giftware and wall art including stock from their production arm. Abundance Garden Centre strives to provide friendly personal service and guidance with their qualified staff always willing and able to provide expert advice. Open Wednesday to Sunday.



Kellyville Plant Patch

Kellyville Plant Patch is a production nursery specialising in 50mm tube stock lines including Abelia, Buxus, Dietes, Duranta, Escallonia, Gardenia, Gazania, Liriope, Lomandra, Mesembryanthemum, Murraya, Nandina, mondo grass, Tulbaghia, Teucrium, Trachelospermum, Viburnum, Viola and Westringia as well as select 75mm, 100mm, 140mm and 200mm lines.



Kenthurst Nursery

Kenthurst Nursery is proudly one of Sydney's largest wholesale nurseries. Spanning over three large sites they have grown exponentially since establishment in 1980. Kenthurst Nursery can supply an incredible array of native and exotic trees and shrub, groundcovers, grasses and tropical plants. Their range includes Banksia, Boston Ivy, Camellias, Callistemon, Cupressus, Cycads Dianella, Grevillea, Mondo grass, Liriope, Philodendron, Pratia, Rhaphiolepis, Strelitzia, Trachelospermum, Viburnum, and Zoysia, as well as advanced trees like Acers, Fraxinus, Magnolias, Lagerstroemia, Olives, Prunus, Pyrus, Syzygium and Waterhousea and in 45L to 200L pots. Kenthurst Nursery supply plants to landscapers, landscape architects, landscape designers, garden centres and developers.



Keith Wallace Nursery

Keith Wallace Nursery is a production nursery in Sydney's Hills District, specialising in indoor plants, ferns, and orchids, their collection is incredible. From high-demand plants like Anthuriums, Begonia Maculata, Monstera variegata, Monstera Siltepecana El Salvador, Monstera standleyana variegata, Peperomia Pink Lady and Watermelon, Keith, Gordon and the team have it all. 90% of their indoor plants are grown in-house from divisions or cuttings. Keith Wallace Wholesale Nursery is also home to Cymbidium Orchids, a labor of love for Gordon, who has dedicated 66 years to hybridising them. Patience pays off, as these magnificent orchids bloom after 6 to 7 years of nurturing from seed.









PAGE | 43



Become a member

Nursery & Garden Industry
NSW & ACT

The Nursery & Garden Industry NSW & ACT (NGINA) is an industry-led, membership-based, not-for-profit organisation that is the peak industry body for operators in the nursery and garden sector in NSW and ACT. This can include:

- growers and producers of plants
- wholesalers and hirers of plants
- retailers of plants and related products
- industry gardens, florists and landscapers
- allied traders—suppliers of growing media, chemicals, containers, tools and equipment, etc.
- service providers including consultants, training providers, government departments, etc.

Members of NGINA range from small- to medium-sized family-based operations through to multinational corporations and all share a passion for greenlife and for the industry.

Such a diverse membership brings with it many different needs and requirements and that's why we have created a range of membership categories.

NEW
MEMBER INCENTIVES
$150 COULD BE YOURS!

Earn $150, simply refer a potential member. Once they have successfully signed up you will receive $150!
The more members you bring on board, the more you earn!

Students

$50

Subscription to N&G News, eNews, access to Sydney and regional trade days. Invitations to attend our four NextGen events held throughout the year

Single Business Owner

$600

A business entity (owner/operator) that conducts its operations with no additional employees and/or contractors engaged in the delivery or production of its products or services

Trading

$1,400

Available for businesses with 5 or less full-time equivalent (FTE*) employees including owner/principal

Enterprise

$2,370

Available for businesses with 6–20 full-time equivalent (FTE*) employees including owner/principal

Corporate

$4,200

Available for businesses with more than 20 full-time equivalent (FTE*) employees including owner/principal

Complete our NGINA membership application form online by scanning this QR code. Approved applicants will be notified by email or contacted by phone. If you have any questions about membership, please contact the NGINA office on 02 9679 1472.

NGINA MEMBER BENEFITS

Growth

We know that you, like all our members, strive to grow both your business and our industry. To help you flourish, membership of NGINA provides you with access to a suite of key business tools and services.

- NGINA advice line. If we can't help you, we will find someone who can.
- Personal HR advice from the specialists at Business Australia
- Access to 'members only' area on NGINA's website
- Resources to help run your business inc 250+ Industry specific discounted HR & WH&S templates & documents
- NGINA Member support calls & visits

Connectivity

Knowing what's both going on and growing on is paramount in our industry. NGINA strives to make this an easy task for you by providing a range of tools, platforms and forums designed to ensure you are up to date and informed.

- Networking events
- Special Interest Groups
- Jobs Board for posting positions vacant
- Comms: fortnightly eNews, quarterly N&G News Magazine, Texts, Monthly Member Forums, Podcasts, Social Media, Biosecurity Legislation and grant updates
- Free attendance & opportunity to be a Stall holder (fees apply) at our NSW Trade Days (Sydney, Port Macquarie, Northern Rivers) as well as NGIQ Trade Day

Knowledge

Each year NGINA conducts a wide range of industry-driven events, workshops and training courses to help you build your business, and grow and develop not only your knowledge and professional skills but also those of your staff.

- Stay informed of new opportunities for your business
- Keep your finger on the pulse of industry trends
- We can help promote large upcoming news and events on your behalf
- Industry workshops and training courses including first aid, chemcert, marketing & business training

Savings

NGINA can save you both time and money—from helping to untie legal knots to providing industry-specific technical advice, offering subsidised training and accreditation programs to cost-saving initiatives with industry partners—to name just a few!

- Commercial member discounts with our commercial partners: Dell Aust
- Free hire of NGINA's large meeting room and assisted catering
- Inclusion on the Greenlife Industry Australia (GIA) trade register
- Discounted advertising in N&G News Magazine

Recognition

Being a member of an Industry Association shows a level of excellence and high standards of your business and products.

- Professional recognition at Industry awards night
- New member feature in our publications
- Alliance with us giving customers confidence in the high standards of your business and product
- The use of the NGINA logo
- Social Media posts from our Member Services Manager to your business

Representation

NGINA represents its members at all levels of government to ensure policy makers, regulators, and research and development opportunities are aware of your business priorities

- Representation through us to government, policy makers, regulators and research and development
- Eligibility to apply for NGINA board or advisory committees
- Business listing on our website & store locator so the local public can find you
- Our association offers a unique chance to meet celebrities and get up close and personal with some of the biggest names in the industry.

WHAT YOUR COMPANY CAN SAVE BY BEING A MEMBER:

HR & IR Advice line | $3500
Average cost of an external suport line

HR & IR Documents | $5000
Average cost to create legal company specific HR & IR documents through a lawyer

WH&S Manual | $5000
Average cost to create a legal company specific WH&S Manual through a lawyer

Jobs Listings | $225
Per job: Posted on website, Instagram, Facebook, Linked In & eNews

N&G News Ads x 4 | $6600

Yearly NSW Trade Day Entry | $250

N&G News x 4 | $50

Social Media Advertising | $80

Forklift Training | $300
Per person

Training Savings | $150
Members get 10-20% off. Average calculated per person for 3 courses per year

Dell Australia Commercial Member Discounts | $500+
Price may vary year to year

Meeting Room | $500
Full day, fully equipped

GIA Register | $2500
Non-member listing price

New Member Features | $1100
Full page article/ad in N&G News, CEO welcome in eNews, Full ad with company links in eNews

Social Media Post | $80
Recap of our visit and a blurb about your business on our Feacebook and Instagram.

Store Locator | $1000
Be found by the public and other industry professionals on our website store locator.

Website Links | $500
Member feature on our website with all your contact details including backlinks to your website which assist in boosting SEO.

OTHER INVALUBLE SERVICES:

- NGINA staff technical support
- Freight savings at Trade Day
- Networking
- Exposure
- Information
- Professtional Development

A TOTAL SAVING OF: $28,515.00*

*Savings may vary year to year and are calculated by the average member potential savings

Nursery & Garden Industry NSW & ACT

You Can Expect the Best

2023 Annual Awards Night

Save the date for Friday, 1st December and join us for a night of horticultural excellence at the 2023 NGINA Annual Awards Gala Dinner, hosted at Rydges Norwest.



BEST LARGE RETAIL NURSERY



BEST SMALL RETAIL NURSERY



BEST LARGE PRODUCTION NURSERY



BEST SMALL PRODUCTION NURSERY



BEST ALLIED SUPPLIER



EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR



BEST TRADE DAY STAND



NEXT GENNER OF THE YEAR



APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

Tickets and accommodation packages available

Scan here

Sponsorship Opportunities

Please contact us at the NGINA office for more information on the following sponsorship opportunities we have available for the awards night.

Cocktail Sponsors

Elevate your brand as one of 2 Cocktail Sponsors. Design and name a signature cocktail for the pre-dinner canapés, something that reflects your brand and ensures that your name lingers on the tip of everyone's tongue.

Awards Category Sponsors

Showcase your commitment to excellence by sponsoring an awards category that resonates with your brand's values.

Event and Photobooth Sponsors

Put your business in the spotlight throughout the entire event. As an Event or Photobooth Sponsor, your logo and business name will prominently grace the event's promotional materials, pre-event through to post-event.



Hosted by The Garden Guru's Bonnie-Marie Hibbs

Prepare to be charmed by the expertise and charisma of our distinguished host, Bonnie-Marie Hibbs, renowned TV Presenter of "The Garden Gurus." A prominent figure in both the world of television and horticulture, Bonnie-Marie has nurtured a thriving career that positions her at the forefront of the industry.

NGINA Partners

GARDEN CITY PLASTICS GCP

TRANSPLANT SYSTEMS

vegepod

Bali Australia

envu

SIDEKICKER

GREENLIFE OZBREED
NO FUSS . FUNCTIONAL . RELIABLE

syngenta

POWERPLANTS

Win $200 by voting in the People's Choice Awards!

Nursery & Garden Industry NSW & ACT
2023 WINNER

PEOPLE'S CHOICE GARDEN CENTRE OF THE YEAR

Do you have a favourite garden centre or nursery? Your support matters, and when you vote in the People's Choice Awards, you not only show your appreciation but you will also be in the running to win a $200 garden centre voucher, redeemable at your people's choice.

scan the QR code to cast your vote.

When was your last vist to Sydney Trade Day?



COME AND SEE WHAT HAS CHANGED

SYDNEY TRADE DAY IS BECOMING THE MONTHLY MEETING PLACE FOR MEMBERS AND FRESH NEW FACES

Your unwavering support has been the driving force behind our progress, and we're thrilled to share a comprehensive overview of the changes and initiatives that have shaped our Sydney trade community over the past 6 months.

Expanded Vendor Lineup: We've welcomed an array of new stand holders to our Sydney Trade Day family, enriching the diversity of offerings and ensuring a dynamic experience for attendees.

Innovative Theme Events: Each month, we've injected a fresh dose of excitement by hosting theme-specific events. From "Winter is Here" to "Christmas in July," these themes have created unique atmospheres and engaging interactions.

Buyer Referral Rewards: Our Buyer Referral program promotes network growth. Introduce a new annual buyer to Sydney Trade Day, and earn a $50 NGINA voucher.

Discounts and Prizes: Our commitment to offering more than just a trade experience has manifested through the incentives we've shared. From giveaways to stand credit, plants, discounts, and even the joy of turkeys and hams during our Christmas in July trade day, every month, we invest at least $100 in prizes and discounts.

Elevated Buyer Engagement: Our efforts have led to increased buyer engagement, drawing in fresh faces and nurturing lasting relationships among trade professionals.

Enhanced Promotion: Our marketing strategies have evolved, generating heightened awareness and anticipation for each Trade Day event, resulting in impressive turnouts

A Haven of Accessibility: At NGINA, we believe that accessibility is key to fostering a thriving trade family. As your dedicated Sydney Trade Day Coordinator, I am always at hand, and you can find me easily within the pavilion. This approachability extends to the insightful committee of industry volunteers who contribute their wisdom, making your voice heard and your insights count. Let's continue to collaborate and create a united trade front.

Continuous Feedback Loop: Your feedback has been invaluable. We've made ongoing adjustments based on your suggestions, ensuring each Trade Day raises the bar.

Accommodation Discounts: We have secured a discount at the Vineyard Hotel for buyers and standholders who travel long distances to attend Sydney Trade Day.

These initiatives collectively highlight the commitment of our community to adapt, innovate, and thrive in the face of challenges. As we move forward, our dedication to creating a vibrant, supportive, and enriching trade environment remains unwavering.

Stay tuned for even more exciting developments and collaborations in the coming months. As always, your insights and ideas are essential in shaping our path forward. Feel free to reach out to us at info@ngina.com.au with your thoughts.

As we move forward, our commitment remains steadfast: to nurture, support, and elevate our trade family. We invite you to share your thoughts, ideas, and aspirations with us. Your insights shape our collective success.

SYDNEY TRADE DAY, THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
HAWKESBURY SHOWGROUND FROM 7AM

We also hold the following regional Trade Days: PORT MACQUARIE TRADE DAY IN AUGUST + NORTHERN RIVERS TRADE DAY, MARCH AND SEPTEMBER

Contact us at info@ngina.com.au for more information



Port Macquarie Trade Day

On Monday night, 28th August, Tara caught up with many of our members, Trade Day exhibitors and buyers at the Mid North Coast Dinner. The Port Macquarie Racecourse was buzzing with energy on Tuesday 29th August as we welcomed 29 local and regional exhibitors, some even traveling from QLD and Sydney. Port Macquarie Trade Day is an excellent opportunity to connect with a diverse audience of new and returning buyers and an extensive array of stand holders. When buying opened at 7:30 plants flew off the stands and out to our retail nurseries shelves just in time for a busy Spring!

Beyond the bustling trade and transactions, the Port Macquarie Trade Day acts as a hub for networking and camaraderie. It's more than just business; it's a vibrant event that unites industry professionals and plant enthusiasts alike for two days of sharing insights, forming new bonds, and celebrating our shared passion. A huge thank you to Julie Worland, whose hard work shone through in bringing everyone together for Tuesday's Trade Day. We would also like to thank the Port Macquarie Trade Day event sponsors Garden City Plastics, GoGrow, Norwood Industries, Greenlife Gro and AMES .











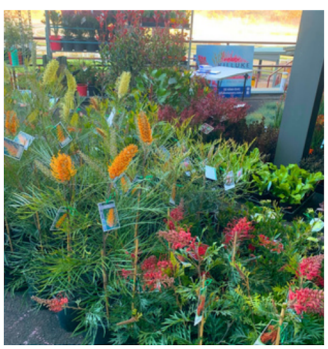






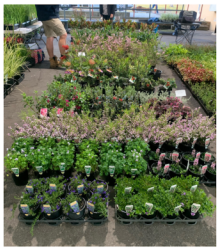
















Find us on
NGINA Northern Rivers Regional Group

NGINA
Northern Rivers Regional Group

NORTHERN RIVERS

Spring Trade Day

The Northern River Spring Trade Day, held on Tuesday, September 12th, was a magnificent celebration of the entire nursery and garden industry in Northern NSW. This vibrant event brought together growers, allied suppliers, and retailers for a day filled with green inspiration. Before the trade day, Monday night was a delightful gathering at the Wollongbar Tavern. Attendees enjoyed a fantastic evening of drinks and nibbles, setting the tone for the main event.

On Tuesday, the trade day took place at Alstonville Showground, where the atmosphere was buzzing with excitement. Attendees enjoyed a complimentary breakfast that fuelled a day of fruitful interactions and buying up big. So many amazing plants and products were on offer! We extend our heartfelt thanks to our generous event sponsors: Transplant Systems, Rocky Point, Greenlife Gro, Powerplants, EvergreenConnect, Garden City Plastics, Think Water, Go Grow, Fernland, Envirotec and Norwood Industries. Your support played a pivotal role in making this event a resounding success. Congratulations to the three lucky buyers who preregistered for NR Trade Day and won $100 to spend at the stand of their choice as lucky door prizes. Your enthusiasm adds to the joy of our gatherings. Let's continue nurturing our industry relationships and making the nursery and garden industry in Northern NSW flourish.







NGINA
Northern Rivers Regional Group







PULLING BACK THE

SHADE CLOTH







Last Friday of every month

Northern Rivers Area

8:00am - 10:00 am

REGO HERE



REGO HERE

These seminars are for NGINA Members only and you are welcome to bring along a team member with you. If you are not yet a member, please contact the NGINA and for a modest fee can join a passionate and committed group here in the Northern Rivers.

Check out the NGINA Northern Rivers Regional Group on Facebook for pictures and infomration on past/upcoming events, as well as lots of useful information!



Follow us!







NGINA TOUR OF GREEN EXPO AND SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND NURSERIES

On Tuesday 25th July, Tara and Anita flew to the Gold Coast for the 'NGINA Tour of Green Expo and SE Queensland Nurseries'. We attended the Green Expo Dinner where around 180 people got together for a night of networking and entertainment and to celebrate the Green Expo Spotlight competition winners. It was wonderful to catch up with colleagues from all around the country and to see so many NSW members having a good time.

On Wednesday morning our first stop on the tour was Green Expo at the Gold Coast Turf Club and Event Centre. Green Expo is a showcase of Australia's greenlife industry where 63 exhibitors displayed a huge range of greenlife, allied products for horticulture, garden centre supplies, growing media, essential business solutions, and education and training options. It was great to catch up with the NSW members, which included Alpine Nurseries, Alstonville Plants, Ball Australia, Bamboo World Nursery, Camwil Palms, Evergreen Connect, Garden City Plastics, ICL, Norwood Industries, QIF, Parkers Place Nursery, Pearces Nurseries, Powerplants, Proptec, Sprint Horticulture, Syngenta and Transplant Systems. The displays were fantastic – so vibrant and eye-catching!

Everyone can contribute to the target of recycling 10 million kilograms per annum, the steps are important but simple:

- knock loose media out of pots,
- stack pots tightly together and
- return them to the recycle stream free from other plastics (non-PP) or contaminants such as biodegradable containers.

Lawrence from Spruced Trees explained that he and DeeWeed has developed a novel device that is designed to reduce the labour and herbicide costs of weed control in potted plants. The product has been dubbed the Pothead™ and is manufactured by Garden City Plastics to suit a range of standard pots. It consists of an elegantly shaped, concave plastic lid, applied in two overlapping parts that fit snugly to the rim of the pot preventing light from reaching the growing media surface. It has been shown to reduce weeds by over 80%! This is also a perfect example of how GCP work with the industry to develop and manufacture new and innovative products for our industry.

Everyone is hopeful for a busy spring and judging by the number of deals and big orders being done we think we are heading in the right direction. Congratulations to Ian Atkinson and the NGIQ team for organising such a professional and memorable event!

After Green Expo, we visited NGINA's Diamond partner, Garden City Plastics. Jason gave us a tour of their Stapylton facility. GCP is the Australian leader and largest manufacturer of plastic pots and containers, for the horticultural industry. GCP partners with Polymer Processors and Norwood Industries in the recycling initiative aiming to close the plastic packaging loop, enhance plastic recovery rates, and promote the increased use of recycled plastics in horticulture packaging and to meet Australia's 2025 National Packaging Targets. GCP are ready to use the PP their recyclers source from various industry members, landscape businesses or home gardeners to make pots over and over again. We learnt how the plastic is washed and chipped then heated to remove any unwanted elements before being converted into polymer granules and then made into new plastic pots.

Our last stop for the day was Brookfield Gardens, a gorgeous garden centre, nestled amongst a natural backdrop of bushland in the western suburbs of Brisbane. Brookfield has a very successful Garden Club that they use to create a sense of exclusivity and belonging amongst their customers. They offer members club prices on select garden favourites across all categories in the nursery from potting mix through to indoor plants and pots. Exclusive discounts can help to make customers remain loyal to your brand. They offer discounts on specific high margin or high-volume lines, seasonal or feature buys or stock they are trying to clear. Offering store-wide discounts can eat into your profit margins across the board. By discounting specific product lines for club members, you can control the impact on your overall profitability.

On Thursday a jam-packed itinerary started with a visit to Marlborough Nursery - a large production nursery supplying the retail trade with high-quality containerised indoor flowering and foliage plants. The business specialises in the production of Anthurium, Bromeliad, Spathiphyllum and Orchids along with foliage plants including Aglaonema, Alocasia, Calathea, Dieffenbachia and Stromanthe. They have excellent tools to pick up multiple 140mm pots at a time and to keep all stock














evenly spaced to allow their multi-pronged forklift to lift more than 50 plants at one time. They also have rack lifts to allow their workers to load each shelf full of plants without any stretching and other manual handling risks.

Over the last few years observations and assessments have shown that the market has shifted towards a more diverse range of foliage plants including a diversity of colour and flower. Based on this data Marlborough Nursery has undertaken a complete range review to shift the focus from palms to flowering indoor plants which now make up approximately 65% of turnover and highly coloured foliage plants taking the remaining 35%.

Kristian, Operations Manager, and GIA also organised a demonstration of the self-driving plant carrier robot, Burro. Burros are collaborative robots designed to help people work more productively. The technology utilises computer vision, high-
precision GPS and AI to follow people (with auto stop tech) and navigate autonomously from A to B along routes while carrying, towing trailers and scouting.

We had a stop at Proptec for a tour of their facility and to see their machines in action. One of Proptec's key lines is the Ellepot System which is a unique integrated propagation system that consists of specially designed machines and propagation trays, and specially developed paper for paper pots. The Ellepot System is suitable for propagation of cuttings and seeds for young plants, potted plants, cut flowers, nursery stock, forest plants and vegetables. We also learnt about the latest in plant machinery, automation, and horticultural supplies to minimise waste and shrinkage and get greater yields.

Next up was morning tea at Nursery Traders which is one of Qld's largest nursery market servicing wholesale retailers, plant hire, florists, garden care, builders, developers, landscapers, governments and large corporations. We made it to Rutters Rd Nursery for a late lunch where Paul and Shaun gave us a tour of their nursery which included a variety of landscaping plants, shrubs, trees and specialty lines such as the deciduous Magnolias.

They also explained their plans to open a retail nursery in the near future. Our last stop of the day was Award Plants where we had a tour of the nursery and a demonstration of their potting machine purchased from Transplant Systems. A special thank you to NGINA member, Evergreen Connect who supplied the drinks and gave us a presentation on his system for plant stock sourcing and inventory management software.

On Friday, as we headed further up the coast we visited Waterworths Nursery, a huge production nursery at the foothills of the Glasshouse Mountains specialising in shrubs and natives. We then visited Manawee Garden Centre which we all agreed was one of the best garden centres we have ever seen. Marjorie is a passionate horticulturalist who strives for excellence across all aspects of her business. High-quality visual merchandising, clear vibrant signage and a focus on customer education are key factors in her customer retention. She has expanded into production and freight to best meet her customer's needs.

Our final stop of the tour was Heatons Nursery where Peter showed us through his nursery which specialises in Ferns and Anthuriums. Heatons Nursery is a three generation, family owned and operated indoor plant nursery with some 100 varieties of Adiantums (Maidenhair fern) which they propagate from spores onsite. The nursery is continually evolving and the team are committed to always maintaining high standards of growing, using only the best quality products from their suppliers, with an emphasis on nursery hygiene at the forefront of their business.
A highlight of the tour was their ever expanding range of anthuriums – flowering indoor plant heaven!

The NGINA bus tour was a resounding success. Not only did our members have the opportunity to visit such a variety of nursery businesses in SE Queensland and learn best practices, discuss the latest in innovation and technology, and discuss industry issues and trends but they had an invaluable opportunity to network amongst themselves.














GET QUALIFIED IN NURSERY OPERATIONS BY HAVING YOUR EXISTING EXPERIENCE RECOGNISED!

There are many people working in our industry who already have skills and knowledge, gained through working, volunteering or previous study, which could be directly relevant to a Certificate III in Nursery Operations (Retail or Production Stream).

By applying for recognition of this experience and skills, these people could reduce the amount of time needed to study and get a qualification faster.

The Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) pathway to a qualification gets very little take-up in our industry. NGINA and Training Services NSW are determined to change that by making the process of collecting evidence A LOT easier.

NGINA has received a grant under the Trade Pathways Innovation Fund which enables the delivery of industry-led projects that enhance pathways to trade qualifications.

NGINA has engaged software developers, PACE, to build an evidence-collection tool to help experienced workers attain Certificate III in Nursery Operations via RPL and gap training. The digital platform will enable students to upload evidence of skills and training completed.

NGINA's skill tracking software will initially prequalify students to determine their eligibility for RPL. Once accepted, the student will be able to upload their evidence for all 16 modules of the qualification.

Industry best practices and standards will be used to align unit performance criteria with outcomes ensuring evidence is current and valid. Most importantly the app will remove the ambiguity that often surrounds the types of evidence required, it will streamline an inefficient process and overcome the required level of numeracy and literacy required which is often a barrier and often makes it harder for some cohorts to engage with the process.

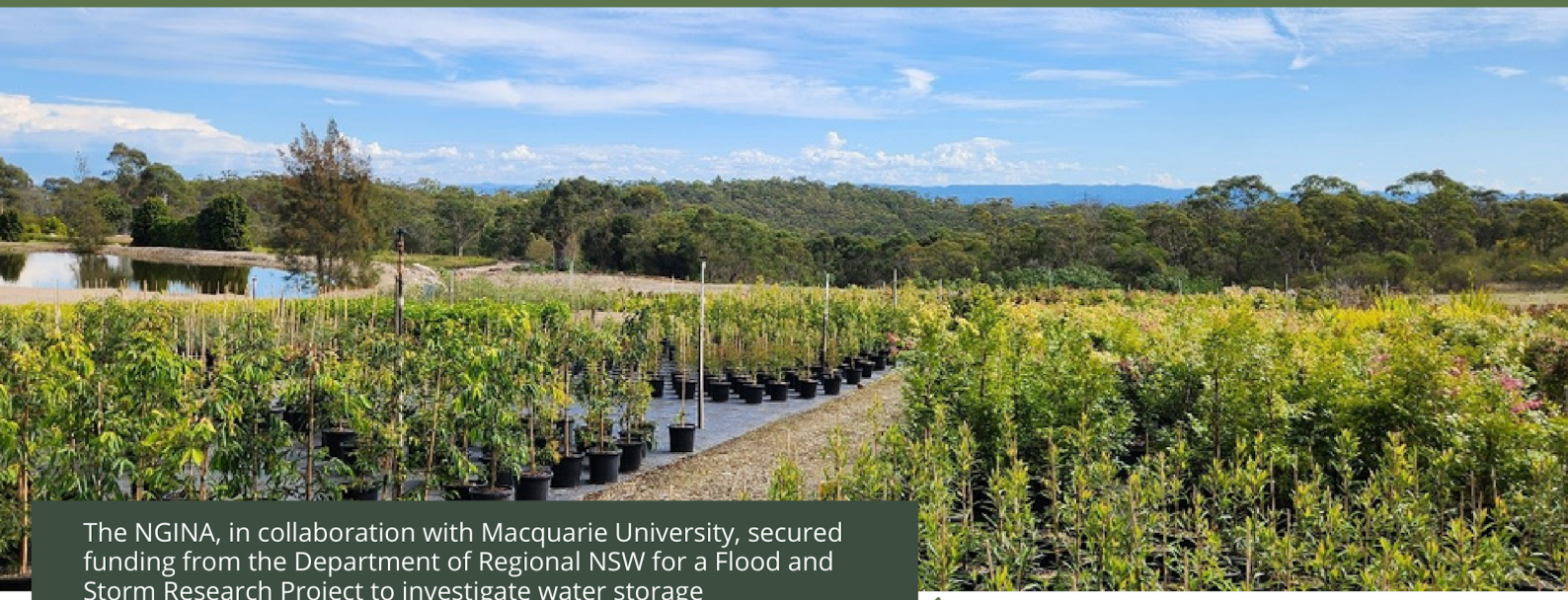
NGINA has a year in which to develop the software and have it operational. We are aiming to have at least 30 students enrolled in the process by early next year. There is also the potential to expand the application to cover Certificate III in Horticulture.

If you are interested in obtaining your Certificate III in Nursery Operations and think you might be able to apply for RPL then **watch this space!**

NSW GOVERNMENT Education



Flood and Storm Research Project Update



The NGINA, in collaboration with Macquarie University, secured funding from the Department of Regional NSW for a Flood and Storm Research Project to investigate water storage contamination in NSW nurseries post flood/heavy rain. Nurseries from Northern Sydney, Central Coast, and Northern Rivers are taking part. The project will delve into various aspects, including landscape settings, runoff and hydrology, water and soil contaminants, plant pathogens like phytophora, and aquatic biota, providing a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by the industry.

Eight nurseries, including Kenthurst Nursery, Camerons Nursery, QIF, Alpine Nurseries, Camwill Palms, Altonville Plants, Overland Nurseries, and Scotts Tubes, have agreed to participate. We are still looking for one more production nursery on the Central Coast to join the project. If you are interested please contact Tara at tara.preston@ngina.com.au. Monthly water tests will provide real-time data (pH, chloride, turbidity, etc.), aiding informed decisions. Project outcomes include water flow mapping, site analysis, and action plans for nurseries pre and post storm and floods.

Bradley Graves discussed the project with NGINA members during Sydney Trade Day on July 19, 2023. Tim, Bradley, Anita, and Tara conducted a site visit to one of the participating nurseries in June to test research data and work on requirements. The NGINA has compiled a verified list of production nurseries' addresses and GPS coordinates, which Bradley inputted into software.

Tim and Bradley also conducted online meetings with each participant to discuss mapping, spatial analysis, water quality monitoring, water samples, and equipment installation. Macquarie University is currently procuring and looking to install equipment to monitor water levels, temperature, pH, electrical conductivity, and dissolved oxygen in nursery dams, along with fixed point cameras and water level plates for photopoint monitoring.

In August, Bradley conducted onsite visits to confirm and assess entry/exit point of drainage paths and runoff areas at selected nurseries within the Sydney and Central Coast region. Bradley will be visiting the Northern Rivers nurseries in September

On ground assessment of landscape setting



Entry point of a flow path to a nursery



Identifying on-site drainage and water storages



Ground truthing flow paths around a storage dam



NEW SILVER PARTNER

You can find out more information by calling Syngenta Customer Service on:

1800 022 035

or by contacting:

greencast.au@syngenta.com.



At Syngenta, we are committed to partnering with greenhouse and nursery growers to develop innovative agronomic solutions that result in beautifully strong, marketable ornamental plants. This commitment to success is strengthened by our plant protection products that provide effective and economical solutions for controlling diseases, insects and weeds in greenhouse and nursery plants. We are currently working on development of a variety of fungicides, insecticides, herbicides, so our portfolio has something for every operation. This achieved by leveraging the best of the Global R&D and plant-based technologies from around the world, delivering local growers integrated solutions highly suited to the production nursery industry in both Australia and New Zealand. Syngenta products have a proven performance track-record making them the preferred partner to help protect your business.
Syngenta strives to provide support to help you grow beautifully strong plants. We appreciate just how complex and demanding your job can be which is why we focus on the delivery of innovative products that are designed to solve the pest and disease challenges you face every day.

On a global scale, Syngenta is a leading agriculture company helping to improve global food security by enabling millions of farmers to make better use of available resources. Through world class science and innovative crop solutions, our 28,000 people in over ninety countries are working to transform how crops are grown. We are committed to rescuing land from degradation, enhancing biodiversity and revitalising rural communities.



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Dan Docherty (Syngenta ANZ Business Manager Ornamentals) Quote:
At Syngenta, our commitment to the ornamental industry goes beyond the products we develop and manufacture this in part is why Syngenta is proud to be in partnership with the NGISA as we take pride in investing back into the customers and markets that support Syngenta. We look forward to meeting and connecting with members and endeavour to bring innovation to the market that contributes to even further increases in productivity and sustainability within your business.

NEW MEMBER

September Peony

Contact them for wholesale enquiries, catalogues and pricelists:

@september_peony_flowerfarm
orders@septemberpeony.com
www.septemberpeony.com.au







We are a family of peony lovers who, in 2018, after years of peony adoration set about establishing our own peony farm. Inspired by amazing farmer florists around the world we are starting our journey to deliver exquisite quality cut peony flowers. Peonies are a long-term endeavour easily taking 4 years before the plants are large enough to harvest flowers from. As our love of flowers grows and we wait for our peonies to reach their full potential we are embracing other beautiful annuals and perennials including dahlias and roses. More recently the farm has moved into a large range of additional cut flowers. Our main season is Spring to Autumn when our farm is in full bloom. We supply peony rhizomes, dahlia tubers and farm fresh cut flowers to the public, wholesalers and florists. September Peonies is based in Stanthorpe Queensland and delivers to South East Queensland and Northern NSW seasonally. Follow us on our instagram @september_peony_flowerfarm or you can email us at orders@septemberpeony.com.









NEW MEMBER

Lumpy's Nursery & LandscapeYard













Lumpy's Nursery and Landscape Yard is a locally owned family run business on the Mid-North Coast. Jeff and Jenny Rodick own this beautiful garden centre and they have 10 staff including five horticulturists, which means they always have experienced and knowledgeable people on site. They provide personalised and specialist advice to ensure you make the right choice and end up with the type of garden your neighbours will be envious of. Anything from a small courtyard to a large landscaping job they can help with. The Garden Centre is full of plants including natives, groundcovers, trees, shrubs, edibles, roses, potted colour, shade and indoor plants, perennials and more. Lumpy's have a huge range of indoor and outdoor pots, water features, statues, bird baths, firepits, fertilisers, pest and weed control and tools.

Lumpy's also has a great range of soils, potting mixes or you can choose to buy in bulk for the big jobs from the landscape supplies division of the business. They also have bulk mulch, top dressing, turf underlay, aggregates, sands and decorative pebbles products and deliver far and wide (delivery charges apply).

Their gift shop has a full range of personal, garden and decorating lines and, together with the nursery, attracts groups and garden clubs from near and far. Lumpy's can even deliver free of charge (local area) on non-bulk goods, that means you can get that large feature tree or water feature and not worry about how you are going to get it home. Lumpy's Nursery is located at 27 Chapmans Road, Tuncurry

Contact:

02 6557 6558

lumpysyard@gmail.com.au

lumpys-nursery-landscape-yard.myshopify.com

27 Chapmans Road, Tuncurry

@lumpysyard

@lumpysyard

NEW MEMBER



Brisbane Pot Co.

WHOLESALE POTTERY

TERRACOTTA • ANCIENT • GLAZED • BLACK CLAY • OLD STONE
POLYSTONE • IRON STONE • FIBRE CEMENT • BIRD BATH





Brisbane Pot Company is the newest wholesale pottery supplier in Australia. Established in 2021, our goal is to provide a curated selection of the most exquisite, stylish, and functional pots, placing paramount importance on exceptional quality and unbeatable prices. We've partnered with reliable factories across Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and China to ensure our offerings meet the highest standards. We have a dedicated team responsible for thorough QA checks before loading the goods which ensures that every pot received is in excellent condition.

Our collection includes various styles like terracotta, ancient, glazed, black clay, old stone, polystone, iron stone, fibre cement, and bird bath.

Our focus is supporting independent retailers, nurseries, garden centres, as well as small and large landscaping businesses. We maintain and build strong relationships by working closely with our customers, making sure they get good value for their money and receive their products on time.

Situated in Brisbane, we facilitate shipping across Queensland, New South Wales, Northern Territory, ACT, and Victoria, reaching our valued customers wherever they are. We take extra care in packing the pallets securely and filling them to the brim. This dual approach guarantees that by the time our products reach our customers, not only are there no broken pots, but the pallet space is also maximized for cost-effectiveness.

Get in touch with us to explore and discover the perfect pots to elevate your spaces with style and quality.







Contact:

Noel Ryan: 0431 958 922 Sales & Marketing: 0466 977 694
noel@brisbanepots.com.au or **sales@brisbanepotcompany.com.au**
www.brisbanepotcompany.com.au
@brisbanepotcompany
@brisbanepotcompany

NEW MEMBER

"Fandango Fountains Corporation is based on 5 generations of Andalusian art design traditions and started in Australia back in 2013 and has ever since been active in building a strong network of reputable & ethical distributors across the country.
Our premium home décor range & quality water features are sold & distributed under our brand Fandango 360 in over 138 décor stockists, 51 garden centres across 3 countries.

Our Fountain Store Outlets offers a one stop shopping experience for garden, home and gifts ideas & solutions. We design, produce & sell our collections across Australasia.
Design is our strength; variety is our differentiation & exceeding customer expectations is our mantra. "
you can choose any pictures you like from our site like attached and include our half page ad.



1300 848 094
info@fandango360.com.au
fandangofountains.com.au
Showroom: By Appointments
Warehouse for Pick Ups: Unit 2, 2 Rachael Close, Silverwater NSW 2128
@fandango360
@FandangoFountains









Design is our Strength, Range is our Edge & Value is our Mantra.

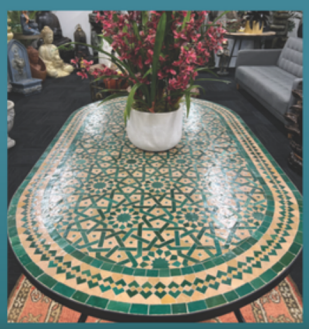
Fireplaces, Fountains, Home Décor & Wall Art.



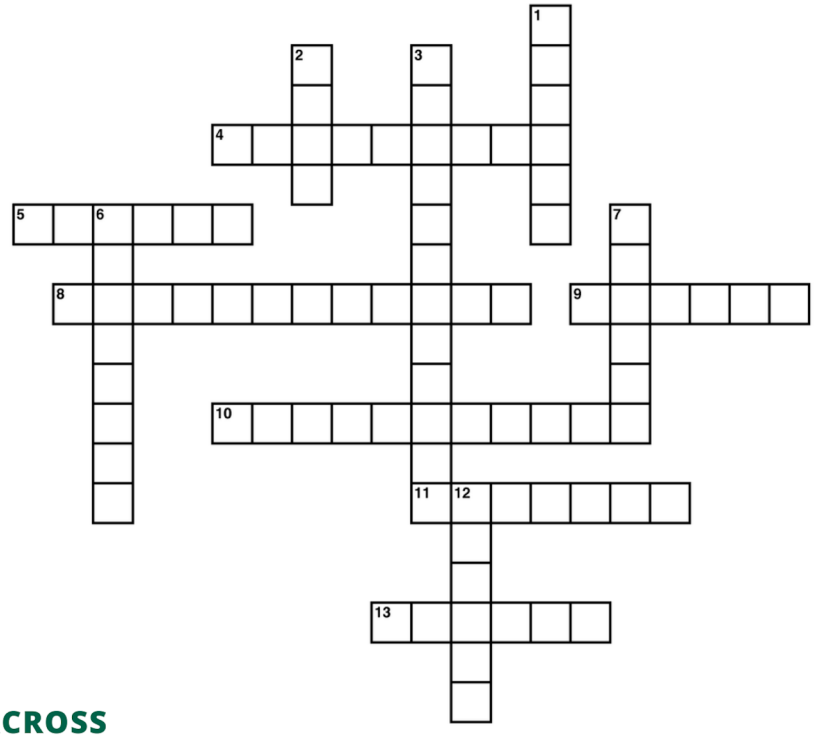








CROSSWORD



ACROSS

[4] a plant that smells and usually bugs hate their odor.
[5] a plant that can be planted next to or near tomatoes.
[8] the production of vegetables.
[9] A person who grows something
[10] the production of grapes
[11] the branch of biology dealing with the relations and interactions between organisms and their environment, including other organisms.
[13] A tree or shrub that has been dwarfed

DOWN

[1] a plant that should be kept close to grapes.
[2] a combining form with the meaning "agriculture, farming," used in the formation of compound words
[3] The production of flowering and ornamental plants
[6] a plant that brings worms up to the top of the earth and aerates soil.
[7] a plant that keeps bugs away from strawberries.
[12] a plant whose branches repel Japanese beetles.

How well do you know your greenlife?

SUDOKU

LEVEL: MEDIUM

6	5	9		1		2	8	
1				5			3	
2			8				1	
			1	3	5		7	
8			9					2
		3		7	8	6	4	
3		2			9			4
					1	8		
		8	7	6				



From plant to plate

With Leisha Jordan

Coming into summer, is there anything better than that zing of a light, fresh lemon tart straight from the garden.The great thing about this recipe is that you can substitute lemons for limes, grapefruit or even oranges - whatever citrus is bountiful in your nursery or garden.

Citrus Tart

Can be made with lemon, limes, grapefruit or oranges. Today we are using lemon.

Ingredients

Pastry

- 1 1/2 cups plain flour
- 2 tbsp icing sugar
- 170g chilled butter, cubed
- 1 tbsp cold water

Filling

- 3 large eggs
- 3/4 cup caster sugar
- 3/4 cup pure cream
- 150ml fresh lemon juice (or other alternate citrus juice)

23cm tart tin with a removable base

Method

Step 1:
To make the pastry, place the flour, icing sugar and butter in the bowl of a food processor and blend until it resembles coarse crumbs.
Add water and use the pulse button until the pastry starts to come together.
Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and bring together with your hands and shape into a disc.
Wrap in glad wrap and refrigerate for around 20 minutes.

Step 2:
After the dough has had it's rest, roll it out on a lightly floured surface with a rolling pin into a rough circle shape to fit the tart tin, making it about 3mm thick. Carefully drape the pastry over the rolling pin to lift it up and gently place it in the tart tin.
Press the pastry into the sides of the tin with your thumbs.
Remove any excess pastry hanging over the edge by running the rolling pin or a knife over the top of the tart tin.
Prick the base about 10 times with a fork and place in the freezer for an hour or until frozen. (This means you don't need to blind bake the shell first)

Step 3:
Preheat the oven to 200°
Place the tart tin on a baking tray and bake for 15 minutes or until golden.
While this is baking, use a fork to whisk the eggs, sugar, cream and lemon (or alternate citrus) juice together until well combined.
Strain into a jug and pour the filling into the hot pastry case.
Reduce the temperature to 160° and bake for 25 minutes or until just set in the centre.

Step 4:
Cool the tart in the tin before removing it and serve it up with a light dusting of icing sugar over the top, some fresh berries/edible flowers/citrus slices and double cream.

Note: If you don't have a blender simply rub the butter into the flour and icing sugar with your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs and continue as above

Thank you to our NGINA Partners

NGINA Partners

Diamond: Garden City Plastics (GCP)

Gold: Greenlife Ozbreed — No Fuss. Functional. Reliable

Silver: Transplant Systems; syngenta; Ball Australia

Bronze: Powerplants; Sidekicker; envu; vegepod

WHY PARTNER WITH NGINA?

By partnering with us:

- **Your brand** will gain the benefit of reflected trust and authority, which is the cornerstone of the relationship between NGINA and its members.
- **Your business** will benefit from the opportunity of open communication with decision makers and key people in NSW and ACT's nursery and garden industry.

NGINA Partner Benefits can include *

- NGINA membership
- Display NGINA partnership logo on any of your print and digital marketing collateral
- Opportunity to speak at a Regional Group event
- CEO and/or NGINA Director escorted visits to meet with NGINA members
- Fulfilment report (a formal report that shows you exactly how we delivered on our promise)
- Advertising and Marketing
  N&G News |eNews |NGINA website |corporate email signature | social media | members packs
- Sydney Trade Day
  Advertising on Trade Day flyer | FREE exhibitor stand | FREE roaming stand | display promotional material |hand out promotional material/showbags
- Representation at other NGINA Events
  Complimentary tickets to awards night and gala dinner | Opportunity to speak at events| Presentation of an award | Major key partner recognition at events | Logo on event promotional material | Complimentary tickets to other NGINA networking events | Logo on pull-up partner banner at all events

*See Partner Benefits Prospectus for more information and conditions

Partnership Opportunities

Off-The-Shelf Packages
We offer various partnership packages;
diamond, platinum, gold, silver and bronze all of which offer year-round access and exposure to NGINA members through events, print and digital media, and exclusive networking opportunities.

Customised Packages
In the event our off-the-shelf packages don't provide exactly what you're looking for, NGINA's flexible approach means that together we can tailor a package that meets your needs and requirements. To discuss this option further please call the office on (02) 9679 1472. All partners will receive a fulfilment report at the end of the 12-month period.

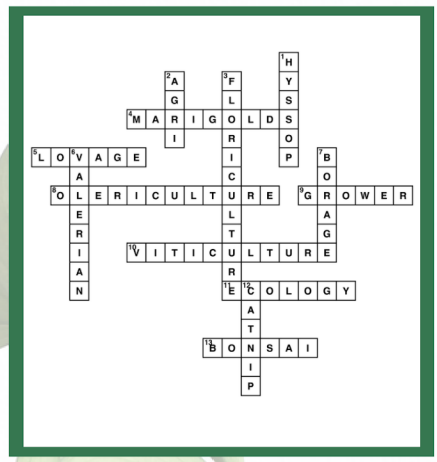
To become a partner or for more information contact NGINA:
t: 02 9679 1472
e: info@ngina.com.au

ANSWERS

SUDOKU

6	5	9	3	1	4	2	8	7
1	8	7	6	5	2	4	3	9
2	3	4	8	9	7	5	1	6
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7	6	5	4	2	1	8	9	3
9	4	8	7	6	3	1	2	5

CROSSWORD



Rural

RayWhite.









The Western District's Native Tree & Shrub Experts

'ERA Nurseries', Hamilton, Victoria

- 4ha* (10ac*) world class nursery on the southern boundary of Hamilton
- Innovative & modern production facility currently stocking a wide range of low cost, high quality items — tube stock, seedlings, advanced trees, potted lines & merchandise with capacity for 5* million seedlings
- Secure & established employee base, in house transport & logistics + quality infrastructure — warehouses, sheds, igloos, plantation, water reticulation & pumping facilities, dams, plant & equipment + other works
- Strategically located to key markets — 3hrs* Melbourne, 5hrs* Adelaide & 1hr* Victoria's south-west coast

Expressions of Interest
Contact Agent

Anthony Stevens
0459 924 164

Ray White Rural Victoria

raywhiteruralvictoria.com.au

*approx.

Trusted Partners in Horticulture

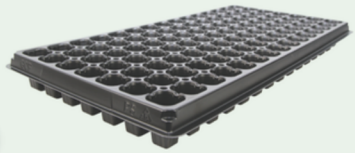
GARDEN CITY PLASTICS

Propagation

Cell Plug Trays | Propagation Substrates | Plug Transport Cartons

Propagation is easy with GCP's new range of Australian made 100% recyclable cell plug trays, ready to use Jiffy propagation substrates and plug transport cartons.

Cell Plug Trays



Discover GCP's range of Australian made cell plug trays

- Standard European footprint 540mm x 280mm
- 50, 105, 128, 288 and 512 cell configurations
- 100% recyclable with GCP's closed loop plastic smart recycle program

Propagation Substrates

Jiffy



With over 40 components to build the perfect mix

- Specifically balanced and ready to use propagation substrate mixes
- 50L, 225L and 5.5m³ configurations

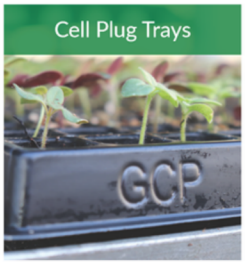
Plug Transport Cartons

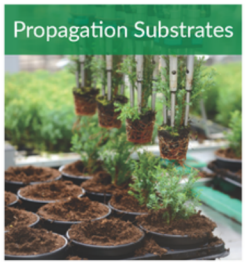
VISY



Cell plug trays pair perfectly with plug transport cartons

- 250mm (GCP250PTC) or 570mm (GCP570PTC) plug transport cartons
- Inserts provide 3, 4, 6, or 8 shelf configurations







To order online, scan the QR CODE

Or reach out to any of the GCP team to get started.

gardencityplastics.com **1300 695 098** **sales@gardencityplastics.com**

Branches in VIC | NSW | QLD | SA | WA – Distribution in TAS | NZ