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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Nuffield Conference: the epicentre of agricultural innovation**

An iconic Queensland venue will become a focal point of agribusiness activity from the 17 to 19 of September, as more than 300 of our nation’s best and brightest in farming come together for the 2019 Nuffield Australia National Conference.

[Early bird registrations](https://nuffield.com.au/2019-nuffield-australia-national-conference/) have opened for Nuffield Australia’s flagship event, which will be held at the Royal International Convention Centre, the home of Brisbane’s EKKA precinct. This year’s theme is based on the three key pillars of ‘*Collaborate, Innovate and Cultivate’*.

The conference opens with the Awards Dinner, followed by two days of informative seminars, networking events, trade exhibitions, and a tour of Scholar’s farms and agribusinesses across the Darling Downs region on Friday 20 and Saturday 21 September.

Nuffield Australia Interim CEO and 2013 Queensland Scholar Jodie Redcliffe said she was excited to be hosting the prestigious conference on home soil, a state she believes is rich in diversity, innovation and resilience, especially when it comes to agriculture.

“Our conference provides a meeting point to connect and exchange knowledge within Australian agriculture, and as a state so focussed on farming’s growth and prosperity, we cannot wait to welcome attendees for three days of exciting sessions and speakers,” Ms Redcliffe said.

“Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from returning Nuffield Scholars, who will present the findings of their cutting edge global research for the first time.

“This year, speakers will cover highly topical research areas, such as business risk management in variable climates, effective branding to attract premiums, facilitating the uptake of new farm technologies, soil health and regeneration principles, among many others.

“Other inspiring keynote speakers include former President of the Australian Rugby Union and National Farmers Federation, David Crombie AM, and Chairman of the Grains Research & Development Corporation, John Woods.

“Our conference is led by scholars and enjoyed by the entire sector. Whether you’re a primary producer, an agribusiness consultant or a policy maker, access to fresh insights across a range of topics and the connections you make along the way, means the Nuffield Conference is an unmissable event.

Ms Redcliffe encourages potential attendees to secure the competitive early bird rate, so as not to miss important highlights like the announcement of the 2020 Nuffield Scholarship recipients at the distinguished Awards Dinner.

“The announcement of new scholars provides a first insight into the study topics that will sow the seeds of change for their respective industries. The conference is an unrivalled opportunity to meet and network with the Nuffield Scholar alumni from across the country, and to make sure your finger is on the pulse in Australian farming,” she said.

**Early bird registration is now open! To register, or to find out more information, visit** <https://nuffield.com.au/2019-nuffield-australia-national-conference/>

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***About Nuffield Australia:***

*Nuffield Australia is building capacity for Australian food and fibre industries to be world leading in adoption of technology, best practice and innovation. As part of a global partnership, Nuffield has supported the best and brightest in Australian agriculture since 1951.*

*Today there are over 400 scholars in Australia who, through their scholarship, have significant insight into global agriculture. These scholars have gone on to influence industry and community changes resulting in productivity increases and new industry and economic development for rural communities across Australia.*