Made & Grown

The Future of Food

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n Agrifood Innovation y Institute



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Draft conference program



21 August 2025. 9am-5pm, followed by networking.

SESSION		TIME	
REGISTRATION		08:30-09:00	
OPEN & WELCOME		09:00-09:15	
SESSION 1: INTRODUCING MA	DE & GROWN - THE TECHNOLOGIES, APPLICATIONS AND POLICY IMPERATIVE	09:15-10:30	
The opening session will set the scene for the conversations of the day, starting with an exploration of the evolving food system and opportunities for Australian farmers, founders and FMCG. We'll introduce you to the technologies underpinning the future of the agrifood system, including precision fermentation, cell cultivation, molecular farming and synthetic biology. You'll get a complete picture of the science, applications and progress towards commercialisation both globally and here in Australia.			
1B. The Role of the Bioeconomy in Securing Australia	A keynote panel exploring the interplay between biotechnology, sovereign capability and building a larger and more resilient economy. The keynote will also touch on how biotechnologies and food production intersect with national security.		
MORNING TEA		10:30-11:00	

SESSION 2: GROWN - AGRICULTURE IN THE BIOECONOMY

Biotechnology is already transforming traditional agricultural crops. In this session, we'll explore current innovations in crop biotechnology – in food, climate resilience and more – while keeping one eye to the future as new technologies emerge. You'll hear how these technologies are being commercialised and the impact these production methods could have on regional economic growth.

2A. Plants as Factories	A facilitated discussion exploring the ways agricultural crops are driving the creation of new, novel and functional ingredients, and how they are being commercialised in agrifood settings.	
2B. Redesigning Biology	A panel discussion on the power of synthetic biology to re-design natural systems and disrupt traditional industrial manufacturing.	
2C. Gross 'Regional' Product	A presentation exploring how biotechnology could generate and diversify regional economic growth, including value-adding to existing agricultural production and supporting the development of new industries.	

LUNCH

12:30-13:30

SESSION 3: MADE - INNOVATIONS IN BIOMANUFACTURING

Cellular agriculture companies are already integrating across the food system to create new products or improve existing ones. We'll dive deep and look at how Australian companies are reducing production costs, and increasing yield through innovations in advanced biomanufacturing and process design. This session will also showcase the depth and width of the cellular agriculture supply chain as specialist B2B providers start to emerge to further improve performance.

3A. Cell Ag Across the Food System	A panel looking at how ingredients and food products produced using cellular agriculture can be integrated and improve the performance across our food system. Highlighting that cellular agriculture technologies can be used to create high-value and commodity ingredients as well as wholefoods.
3B. Driving Down Costs Through Technical Innovation	A fireside deep dive looking at how two globally leading companies are re-designing bioreactors and bioprocesses to drive down CapEx requirements and COGS for key technologies like precision fermentation and cell-cultivation.
3C. Specialisation & the B2B Supply Chain	A panel discussion exploring the evolution of specialist B2B suppliers across the cellular agriculture industry in Australia. This panel will not only showcase the breadth of the ecosystem in Australia but also the role specialist suppliers will play in supporting the scale and commercial viability of cellular agriculture products.

13:30-15:00

AFTERNOON TEA		15:00-15:30		
SESSION 4: MADE & GROWN - OUR OPPORTUNITY				
This session will explore the policy, research and financial settings required to realise Australia's regional advantage and build sovereign capability in food biomanufacturing and the bioeconomy.				
4A. Australia's Regional Competitiveness	A presentation that looks at the regional competitiveness of countries in our region, highlighting what Australia needs to do to position itself as a regional or global leader in the future of food biomanufacturing.			
4B. Public vs Private - Who Pays?	Looking at the support, signals and finance mechanisms needed to enable Australia to postion itself as a leader in biomanufacturing and build economic growth and resilience as a result.			
SESSION 5: Q&A AND WR	AP-UP	16:30-17:00		
NETWORKING DRINKS		17:00-18:00		







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