## AGRICULTURE SCHOOLS ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

APRIL – DECEMBER REPORT 2020

### AGFORCE QUEENSLAND

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# ASEP 2020 – FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SMALL BUSINESS AND TRAINING.

AgForce Queensland is delivering Agriculture Schools Engagement Program which aims to facilitate connections with local agribusinesses and offer events and programs to further engage with the agribusiness industry. The program is also connecting with other schools in regions where AGISP schools are located to help open their gateway to agriculture. Events and programs include Ag Inspirations, Career Conversations, Career Snapshots, Ag Connect, Moo Baa Munch and Teach the teacher. In 2020, the program has been impacted by COVID 19 however once some schools were able to participate in events and activities, we have been successfully running Ag Inspirations events in a number of regions.

#### **EVENTS UNDERTAKEN**

#### CALVARY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE LIVESTOCK CHALLENGE



The AgForce ASEP team attended the Calvary Christian College Livestock Challenge and talked to 150 students from six schools (Calvary Christian College, Livingstone Christian College, Caboolture SHS, Dalby SHS, Cleveland SHS, Rochedale SHS) about the diversity of careers in agriculture and training and pathway options to reach those careers. Students also participated in workshops on judging and preparing sheep and alpacas for a show. Then the competition held in conjunction with Beenleigh Show Society started with the sheep competition on Saturday followed by alpacas on Sunday.

#### LIVINGSTONE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE AG TASTER DAY

The AgForce ASEP team presented a session on careers in agriculture to 14 students from Livingstone Christian College on the Ag Taster Day. The Ag Taster Day is designed to give prospective agriculture students from the college a taste of agriculture and the diverse opportunities it offers. The students learnt about the diversity of careers available in agriculture, developed a personality profile to help them consider what type of jobs might suit them, and that career pathways often happen in random ways and it is important to follow your interests and passions and do something you really enjoy.



#### **AG INSPIRATIONS**

Ag Inspirations involves three insight tools in the form of conversations facilitated by the SIPP and the employers to help young people discover their potential and explore career opportunities:

**All about me**: This conversation focuses on the student and aims to discover the student's talents and passions. Students complete a personality profile prior to attending Ag Inspirations and are guided through this profile on the first morning.

**Look behind the scenes**: This conversation focuses on what the business does and generally involves a brief tour around the business with the employer raising awareness of the variety and scope of opportunities within the organisation.

**Careers happen**: This conversation is also facilitated by the employer and aims to illustrate how careers unfold; ie often in a non-linear way, and how opportunistic the nature of career progression can be. During the wrap-up session students are guided through a career board exercise focusing on an employer they found inspiring or related to during the tour.

These insights lead to student outcomes of gaining a better understanding of their personality type and what sorts of careers are best suited to them; talking about their interests and aspirations and how these may fit in with potential careers; learning more about the variety of career options available in agriculture including the challenges and opportunities, and skills needed to gain entry; hearing from employers about how careers evolve and the pathways that took them to where they are today and to gain employment as a trainee / part-time worker.

Hearing from employers and agriculture industry members about their career and the journey that led them to the role they have today shows the students that career pathways are not always linear. We have found that this part of the tour actually has a great impact on students as they learn more about the vagaries and realities of life in the workforce from a 'real life' perspective. It is often a hard task to convince young people that there are rewarding careers in agriculture amdwe believe that programs such as this can make a positive difference by giving students a much better understanding of the diverse and exciting job options available in the industry.

In 2020 we have facilitated Ag Inspirations events in the Southern Downs, Lockyer Valley, Brisbane South and Monto.

#### AG INSPIRATIONS SOUTHERN DOWNS

Wickham Farms:



Wickham Farms specialise in the supply of fresh loose and prepacked potatoes for supermarkets and supply fresh cut vegetables such as potato, pumpkin, and onion products to the manufacturing and wholesale food service markets. Kerri spoke passionately to the students about the bright future of agriculture and the opportunities available for innovation in the industry. Students learnt about the innovative ways that Wickham Farms use their produce to reduce the amount of waste and how they value add to their products to suit their customers' needs. There are at least 42 different careers/jobs available at Wickham Farms in their vegetable and cattle divisions.

Warwick Equine Vet:

Warwick Equine Vets are a dedicated equine practice that has a positive impact on horses and to the lives of the people dedicated to their care by providing current, evidence based "best practice" services .At Warwick Equine Vets students were lucky enough to see first-hand a horse being examined in the clinic. They also toured inside the surgery, looked at smears under the microscope, learnt about blood samples, veterinary equipment including the vet equipped vehicles. Students also had the opportunity to hear about the career paths of vets, vet techs and vet nurses.



Ashbern Farms:



Ashbern Farms are owned and run by two Sunshine Coast families with two locations in Queensland, Australia. At the Stanthorpe farm they aim to give locals and tourists the opportunity to observe a working commercial strawberry farm and pick their own delicious fresh strawberries straight from the patch. Manager Richard Ross talked about strawberries including how they grow and the different varieties used, the needs of the industry and a great deal of encouragement to join agriculture as a career. Students also toured the farm and packing shed.

#### Clinton McGrath (DAF):



Clinton is an Agronomist and Senior Extension Officer for DAF. He took the students through an activity deconstructing a Big Mac, all the careers involved in bringing it from the paddock to the plate, the importance of photosynthesis and benefits of working in agriculture.

#### Queensland College of Wine Tourism:

The Queensland College of Wine Tourism conducts a range of enrichment programs aimed at secondary school students. These programs cover a range of topics and student experience industry standard facilities and are trained by current, industry professionals. The Granite Belt Wines are truly world class – and no visit to the Granite Belt is complete without a visit to this state-of-the-art facility. Students toured the vineyard, wine room and laboratory to learn about the process of winemaking - from vineyard to table plus the career opportunities in Australian and overseas.



#### **Condamine Apiaries:**



Condamine Apiaries supplies Capilano with honey and wax and also contract pollinates crops such as avocados with their 1200 hives spread throughout Queensland and NSW. The students toured the honey facility and learnt about the importance of bees to agriculture and the steps in making honey and wax for the consumer.

#### Davanya Grains Pty Ltd:



David and his wife Tanya farm 800 hectares grains with a flexible approach to their cropping program, with David an advocate of planting what he "grows best" rather than "chasing the dollar in terms of what is selling well". They have grown maize, sorghum, mungbeans, barley and chickpeas, sunflowers and wheat. Cattle also feature on the property. Students got out into the paddock to talk about cropping and grains with a bit of cattle production in the mix as well.

Hermitage Research Station:

Alan Cruickshank, Senior Plant Breeder (sorghum genetics/breeding), welcomed the students to Hermitage Research Station before they headed to the silos for a careers focussed, post-harvest grain protection presentation and hands-on activities which involved sieving grain to discover and identify insect pests with Philip Burrill, Senior Development Agronomist. Alan and Philip both gave overviews of their careers and the journeys that led them to the current roles they have today.



#### MRAEL:

MRAEL provided the students with an overview on the assistance they can provide to industry entrants.

#### REFLECTIONS

There are so many jobs in one industry and how there is something for everyone in agriculture.

I was surprised by the demand for engineers and the technology used on farms.

Ag Inspirations has made me feel keen and excited for my future and all the opportunities there are in ag areas.

I was surprised by how much tech there is in every aspect of farming.

Ag Inspirations has made me feel like I had more options and now know that I can do more.

There are many different types of jobs and career in agriculture. That you could work as anything you want in agriculture because there is a large variety in ag jobs and the work you put in is what you get out.

Agriculture opens many jobs and opportunities.

Way more interested in the different fields of ag throughout our community.

#### AG INSPIRATIONS HAS OPENED A BUNCH OF NEW CAREERS UP THAT I PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT OR CONSIDERED.

#### TEACHER FEEDBACK

Having been involved with Ag Inspirations for a few years we have examples of students directly gaining employment as a result of the program.

THE EXPERIENCES FOR TEACHERS HAVE INFORMED OUR TEACHING PRACTICES AND HELPED KEPT US IN TOUCH WITH INDUSTRY SO THAT HOPEFULLY OUR TEACHING PRACTICES HAVE IMPROVED.

With our resources, time and contacts we would not be able to organise such a quality program from our individual school.

Due to time constraints, I don't think we at the school level would be able to make contact and link with the number of different industries that we get to experience in Ag Inspirations. 1 or 2 we might be able to organise, but not 3 per day for 3 days. It is very valuable, and I know one student has already gone to organise work experience after doing the excursion, based on what she was exposed to on the tour.

I believe it is really great how it is. This is the third time I have been involved and each time is different, but equally beneficial, both as PD for me, and for showing the students what is around their local area.

#### AG INSPIRATIONS LOCKYER VALLEY

Brisbane Valley Protein:



Brisbane Valley Protein's mission is to feed and grow communities through sustainable, innovative agriculture. They are slowly but surely turning 2500 acres into a diverse agriculture and food production hub growing, processing and exporting poultry, beef and quail. The students toured the cattle facility as well as one of the broiler sheds and learnt about the cattle, poultry and quail production and marketing undertaken at Brisbane Valley Protein. They also heard about the career pathways of the Broiler Production Manager and the Business Manager.

Ag Requirements:

Ag Requirements is a Case-IH franchise and over the years Agricultural Requirements diversified into other pursuits such as irrigation and manufacturing and today manufactures the AR Boom Irrigator at its Gatton site. The engineering division also produces Sprayers, Square Plows and Pulverisers as well as modifying machinery for horticultural use. Students were able to see all aspects of the business along with hearing from Noel about being a valuable employee and what it takes to succeed.



#### Windolf Farms:



Clinton McGrath (DAF):

Windolf Farms is a family owned and operated business and prides itself in the production, packing and transportation of quality vegetables for local and overseas markets. Each product they grow (pumpkins, watermelons, broccoli, lettuce, washed potatoes, parsnips and cauliflower) has a prime season in the Lockyer Valley and they aim to produce our product during this time. Students were taken on a tour of the processing facility and were able to see the diversity of jobs available at Windolf Farms. They also learnt about the other jobs available on the farm, in transport, administration, marketing and human resources.



Clinton is an Agronomist and Senior Extension Officer for DAF. He took the students through an activity deconstructing a Big Mac and fries (including pulling potatoes straight from the ground), all the careers involved in bringing it from the paddock to the plate, the importance of photosynthesis and benefits of working in agriculture.

Blanch's Dairy:

Blanch's Dairy is located in Lower Mount Walker and their herd has decreased in recent times. They have a mixed herd of Holstein, Jersey and Brown Swiss cows. Steve and Ross took the students on a tour of the dairy and their feed operation followed by a lively question and answer session about the dairy industry.



**Fisher Farms:** 



Fisher Farms produces cabbages, cauliflower and capsicums at a farm in the Lockyer Valley. Students toured the farm, observed the harvesting of cauliflower, the machinery used on a vegetable farm, and how the vegetables make it from the paddock to the plate. Careers in horticulture were discussed as well as pathways to those careers.

#### Neogen:

Neogen offers genomic services worldwide that deliver innovation, affordable DNA testing for the discovery and commercial application of genomic advances that enhance the safety and abundance of life. Neogen Australasia is an animal genomic lab and supplier of genetic testing to all 27 of Australia's major beef cattle associations. Sarah from Neogen introduced the students to the wonders of genomics and genetic testing, why it is used in agriculture, and the range of positions available for school leavers to university graduates.

#### MOCS (Rural):

Formally known as the stock squad, MOCS (Rural) focusses on tackling rural crime issues such as drugs, child exploitation and fraud as well as livestock-related crime.

Students were taken through some case studies of crimes; the varied career pathways officers had taken to their current roles and the tools of the trade used in the squad.

#### MRAEL:





MRAEL provided the students with an overview on the assistance they can provide to industry entrants.

#### REFLECTIONS

*I have realized that there is a very large range of jobs in the field and there are very detailed and specific jobs.* 

That there are more careers than what I thought there was and it has opened my eyes that there all different careers to the normal ones that I have heard of before.

The Ag Inspirations tour made me feel excited and keen to learn more about agriculture.

I was inspired by the dedication and commitment people showed towards their jobs.

Ag Inspirations has made me feel enlightened about possible careers and curious about several others.

There is a lot more pathways and apprenticeships than I thought there was and there is many to choose from.

They opened a new can of worms for the agricultural industries from agricultural perspectives of sciences and further industries such as stock quad, Neogen and Agronomist.

#### TEACHER FEEDBACK

It gives the students opportunities to see a wide range of Agricultural businesses and people that have not only worked in those business but a lot of the time the owners themselves. It shows students that there are many different paths to get somewhere which I think reduces the stress on students at this age.

GREAT PROGRAM THAT I REALLY ENJOY BEING A PART OF AND APPRECIATE THE SCHOOL BEING A PART OF AS IT CREATES GOOD EXPERIENCES FOR THE STUDENTS DURING THE TOURS BUT IT ALSO CREATES A LOT OF DISCUSSION BACK IN THE CLASSROOM AT SCHOOL WHICH BENEFITS MANY MORE STUDENTS THAN JUST THOSE THAT ATTENDED.

This initiative is funded by The Department of Employment, Small Business and Training's Gateway to Industry Schools Program.

Ag Inspirations offers a great opportunity to discover agriculture in their regions. Some of students have obtained jobs from attending Ag Inspirations.



AG INSPIRATIONS BRISBANE SOUTH

Warren Drynan and Matt Arkinstall (cattle, hay and broiler production):



Warren Drynan's property near Tamrookum has a mix of lucerne hay (irrigation) and stud Brahmans along with 310000 meat chickens/year. Warren talked to the students about the hay and beef industries and then the students able to have a look in one of the broiler sheds and hear about the modern broiler industry in Australia. Matt Arkinstall from Rathdowney Blondes - a breed of cattle called Blonde d'Aquitaine. Matthey talked to the students about his journey in agriculture. After school Matthew studied Information Technology at university and then returned to the family farm. About two years ago he used his computer skills to design a computer program and camera set-up which scientifically records just how efficient the blondes are.

Scenic Rim Robotic Dairy:

The Dennis Family's farm was converted to a Robotic Dairy starting in 2010 and in 2013 the Dennis family started bottling their own milk. The students learnt about how the cows are cared for, from what they eat to their regular health checks; how the fields they graze on are looked after; how the LELY robotic milking system works; how often the cows are milked and the fact the cows choose when they are milked – 24/7 and what happens to the milk afterwards – from pasteurization, bottling to distribution to stores.



#### Rocky Point Sugar Mill:



The Rocky Point Sugar Mill is the only privately owned Australian mill, having started in 1878 it is also one of the oldest, although possibly one of the most technologically advanced. Being a high rainfall region, limited irrigation is required to grow the sugarcane crop compared to other areas. The mill operates on a continuous basis from July to December each year crushing more than a quarter of a million tonnes of cane, with the waste fibre used to power some thirty thousand homes in south east Qld. The students were heard from David Heck about his journey in agriculture, sugar production and were able to tour the facility. Students were offered the opportunity to undertake work experience.

#### **Rocky Point:**

Rocky Point began as sugar cane farmers in 1949, with the brand growing into five separate divisions across multiple growth industries. These include garden, production, rural, renewables and revegetation. Along with the farm and production site at Jacob's Well, they also have cattle and cropping properties on the Darling Downs. The students were given a tour of the sugar cane farm, close up of a harvester and haul-out bins plus mulch baling. The many careers available were discussed and pathways to those careers. Vanessa also talked to the students about her journey from teacher back to the farm and now as head of marketing for Rocky Point.



**Taylor Family Produce:** 



Taylor Family Produce moved to Redland Bay in 1968 and also another farm in the Granite Belt region of Amiens, which they acquired in 1992 in order to extend their growing season. The Taylor Family Produce Company has been growing vegetables for Woolworths since 2006. There are five main products: iceberg lettuce, wombok (Chinese cabbage), celery, broccoli and silverbeet and they are all produced 12 months a year. Wayne Taylor took the students through the process of producing lettuce, wombok, silverbeet and celery from seed to packed ready for market.

**Currey Flowers:** 

Currey Flowers is a family owned and operated Queensland Flower farm, opened originally by Don and Lynda Currey, and managed by Sonia and Jeremmy Bitmead. They have grown mini gerberas, gerberas, roses and spray roses for over 40 years. The students heard about Don and Lynda's journey in agriculture that lead them to starting the flower farm. They toured the farm and learnt about what goes into getting the perfect flowers for customers.



DAF EcoSciences Precinct:



The Ecosciences Precinct is a highly collaborative working environment and consists of state-of-the-art facilities including research and educational laboratories, insect houses, controlled environment rooms, greenhouses, offices and workshops. Students toured the facility including the insect houses where they were introduced to the world of entomology and the importance of keeping insects out of fruit bound for overseas markets. They heard from a number of different staff members about their journeys in agriculture and the pathways they took to where they are today.

Clinton McGrath (DAF):

Clinton is an Agronomist and Senior Extension Officer for DAF. He took the students through an activity deconstructing a Big Mac and fries, all the careers involved in bringing it from the paddock to the plate, the journey of a lettuce from seed to a supermarket in China, the importance of photosynthesis and benefits of working in agriculture.



#### REFLECTIONS

One thing I have realized about careers is that there are so many more job opportunities and pathways you could choose from and that I should find a job or career pathway that I will enjoy.

This Ag Inspirations has made me feel very inspired and driven about getting a career in agriculture. The tour has given me an awesome insight into the local industries in our region.

The tour has made me feel very positive and know that I want to definitely work within the agriculture businesses from working on farms or ag offices.

*I was inspired by all of the farmers as they were all passionate and determined about their jobs and for the future of the industry.* 

Very keen about what the future of agriculture has for me.

Ag Inspirations has made me feel very inspired and driven to getting a career in agriculture



More appreciative for everything that makes up the Ag industry.

Even more wanting to work in the agribusiness field.

This Ag Inspirations tour has made me feel inspired, educated and included.

#### TEACHER FEEDBACK

The greatest value for my students were the conversations and advice from the people on the tours. It wasn't the fact that were visiting interesting places that inspired them it was the advice they got about how to get a job, what qualities employers are looking for and the fact that there is so many pathways to go in Ag.

I would like to explain my point above to the question about leading and resourcing Ag Inspirations. To run a successful program such as this requires so much work and contacts. To put together and run this workshop could not be done by teachers who are teaching and running their own Ag facilities. Programs such as this give students empowerment that there is an industry out there wanting them to choose Ag. It's not just their teachers barking it at them.

Having access to agribusiness premises and owners/staff, and industry professionals – real world settings and workplaces. Plus, the variety of sites/perspectives on the tour. This (the farm tours experience) is something I (teacher) could not resource myself – there's no way within the demands of my teaching life I could cope with the level of time and administration putting such a tour together would take. We (school and students) rely fully on the AgForce Schools to Industry Partnerships program for this type of experience, and it is ONE OF THE MOST BENEFICIAL AND SIGNIFICANT CAREER-RELATED EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS I'VE SEEN OR BEEN INVOLVED IN. ALSO FOR TEACHERS AS THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT THAT I GAINED WAS OUTSTANDING AND WILL DIRECTLY IMPACT AND IMPROVE MY AGRICULTURAL TEACHING.

#### **AG INSPIRATIONS MONTO**

#### BettaPork:

BettaPork piggery prides itself on being one of the most sustainable and vertically integrated pork producer in Australia.

BettaPork specialise in delivering an environmentally friendly, quality assured product to the modern Australian market whose desire for greater animal welfare is their highest priority.

BettaPork are leaders in state of the art pig breeding and growing piggery facilities and are wholeheartedly committed to investing in the care of our pigs and in the future of this great country. The Brosnans seasonally grow; wheat, barley, sorghum, Chickpea and triticale. These crops are grown and harvested for the piggery and use very few synthetic fertilisers throughout the process. BettaPork introduced a biogas plant to power the piggery in 2015.



The students toured the facility including the biogas plant and various pig sheds including the nursery and finishing sheds. Laurie talked to the students about careers available at the piggery, pathways to those careers and the innovations that they have introduced over the years to improve animal welfare and sustainability.



#### The Australian Mungbean Company:



The Australian Mungbean Company have decades of experience in production, agronomy, grading and marketing mungbean. They bring clean, healthy mungbean from the fields of Central Queensland to your plate. Since 2006, the business has grown, cleaned, packaged and supplied mungbean to the world with rigorous quality control and traceability systems, so every bag of mungbean can be traced back to the field where it was grown.

The students toured the facility, participated in a hands-on sieving activity and heard from Damien and Jonnie about their careers in agriculture and how they ended up owning their own agriculture business in Biloela.

Biloela Mechanical and Agricultural Services (BMAS):

The students visited BMAS for an exploration into careers in machinery, mechanics, tractor and merchandise sales. The stop involved a tour of the workshop, looking at some new tractors and spray equipment including guessing the price of a new sprayer. We heard from two of the mechanics including an apprentice and a school-based administration trainee.



#### Boonie Doone Beef:



Bonnie Doone is the homeland of the Burnham Family. Grant, a third-generation beef producer and his wife Carly a fifth-generation farmer share a passion for regenerative agriculture and real food. Balance is the key. At Bonnie Doone the motto is to tread as gently as possible on the earth, using livestock to regenerate pasture and sequester carbon. Working in sync with nature and seasonal processes to ensure regeneration on an ecological level is priority, while producing nourishing beef.

Students heard about how Boonie Doone follows regenerative agriculture principles and went on a tour of the property. Careers on the farm and those careers that support the farm were discussed.

#### Monto Veterinary Surgery:

Monto Vet Surgery has fully equipped examination rooms, diagnostic machines and pharmaceutical stores and provide on-the-spot assistance for nearly all pet health and medical needs. They also provide livestock services including bull soundness evaluation and early age pregnancy diagnosis.

The students toured the surgery with vet Katelyn Press taking them through what a mixed practice does, the in's and out's of the surgery including looking at some fresh and preserved specimens.



#### Burnett Catchment Care Association:



The Burnett Catchment Care Association (BCCA), formed in 1994, is a member-based, not-for-profit organisation, employing professional staff to develop and implement natural resource management projects across the Burnett Catchment. They work directly with landholders to support sustainable land management practices and facilitate knowledge and capacity building and partner with associated, like-minded organisations such as landcare where much of our funding is derived from State and Federal Government funding programs.

Students heard from Katie Muller from Burnett Catchment Care Association who talked about her career pathway in agriculture and what the association

does including regeneration, land and water management, barrier Reef protection and more.



#### REFLECTIONS



#### TEACHER FEEDBACK

The greatest value was that they saw that there are so many jobs that they can have within the ag sector which didn't involve just being a farmer.

It was a well run and informative event for the students.

It gave all the students a different insight into different career opportunities.

#### **COMBINED TEACHER FEEDBACK ON AG INSPIRATIONS**

**100%** of teachers agreed or strongly agreed that *the Ag Inspirations program helped facilitate career conversations with the students.* 

**100%** of teachers agreed or strongly agreed that *Ag Inspirations could be included as part of the career development program for Australian students.* 

**100%** of teachers agreed or strongly agreed that *Ag Inspirations could be included as part of the career development program for Australian students.* 

**100%** of teachers agreed or strongly agreed that *as a teacher I felt Ag Inspirations was a worthwhile experience for me to attend and for my professional development.* 

**100%** of teachers agreed or strongly agreed that *Ag Inspirations offers students an opportunity to engage with and learn from industry in a productive and valuable way.* 

**100%** of teachers disagreed or strongly disagreed that *Ag Inspirations is a program that we as teachers can lead and resource.* 

The greatest value for my students were the conversations and advice from the people on the tours. It wasn't the fact that were visiting interesting places that inspired them it was the advice they got about how to get a job, what qualities employers are looking for and the fact that there is so many pathways to go in Ag. Ag Inspirations offers a great opportunity to discover agriculture in their regions. Some of students have obtained jobs from attending Ag Inspirations.

The experiences for teachers have informed our teaching practices and helped kept us in touch with industry so that hopefully our teaching practices have improved. We (school and students) rely fully on the AgForce Schools to Industry Partnerships program for this type of experience, and it is one of the most beneficial and significant career-related experiences for students I've seen or been involved in. Also for teachers as the professional development that I gained was outstanding and will directly impact and improve my agricultural teaching.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS TO APRIL 2021**



The Food, Fibre and Agricultural Educators Conference on Wheels is a series of two-day teacher professional development events that will be held throughout Queensland in 2021. Day One will consist of plenary sessions in the morning followed by concurrent workshops in the afternoon and a conference dinner. Day Two will offer tours for the teachers to various agribusinesses to be immersed in the latest concepts, information and resources needed to teach Food, Fibre and Agricultural education in schools.

The first conference is being held in Toowoomba on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Speakers include Alison Penfold (Futureye), Greg Mills (GoAhead Business Solutions), Tim Neale (Datafarming), Robert Pekin (Food Connect Australia) and SafeFood Queensland. Workshops include three based on ag mandatory practicals (soil, post-harvest treatment of vegetables, ag databases), Australian Organics, Regenerative Agriculture and assessment of agriculture practicals. Tours include Boomaroo Nursery, TAFE Centre of Excellence, Equivet and Brisbane Valley Protein.

Locations and dates of future conferences: Gold Coast 6 – 7 March Toowoomba 5 – 6 July Sunshine Coast 8 – 9 July Townsville 30 – 31 August Emerald 27 – 28 September Bundaberg 30 – 1 October

#### AG INSPIRATIONS

North Coast – Caboolture SHS, Dakabin SHS and Glasshouse Christian College 22-24 February

#### AG CONNECT / MBM

Texas P-10 12 March Malanda SHS (Dates TBC)

Calvary Livestock Challenge 20 – 21 February Protein 2021 Conference – Industry Jobs Fair 23 February (TBC)

Event	LOCATION	GATEWAY SCHOOLS	FEEDER SCHOOLS	Student Numbers	TEACHER Numbers
CALVARY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE LIVESTOCK CHALLENGE	CARBROOK	CALVARY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE LIVINGSTONE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE DALBY SHS CABOOLTURE SHS	ROCHEDALE SHS CLEVELAND SHS	150	20
LIVINGSTONE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE AG TASTER DAY	ORMEAU	LIVINGSTONE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE		14	2
AG INSPIRATIONS SOUTHERN DOWNS	SOUTHERN DOWNS REGION	SCOTS PGC	WARWICK SHS CLIFTON SHS ASSUMPTION COLLEGE	22	10
AG INSPIRATIONS LOCKYER VALLEY	LOCKYER VALLEY REGION	Faith Lutheran college plainland	LOCKYER DISTRICT SHS	13	3
AG INSPIRATIONS BRISBANE SOUTH	BRISBANE South region	BEENLEIGH SHS Emmaus college Jimboomba Loganlea shs		17	6
AG INSPIRATIONS MONTO	Monto region	Monto shs		34	3

## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING INDUSTRY GROUPS AND MEMBERS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED AGFORCE ASEP ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR:

- DAF HERMITAGE
- WICKHAM FARMS
- CLINTON MCGRATH ( DAF)
- POHLMANS NURSERY
- WINDOLF FARMS
- WICKHAM FARMS
- WARWICK EQUINE VET
- ASHBERN FARMS
- QUEENSLAND COLLEGE OF WINE TOURISM
- CONDAMINE APIARIES
- DAVANYA GRAINS PTY LTD
- MRAEL
- AG REQUIREMENTS
- BLANCH'S DAIRY
- **FISHERS' FARM**
- NEOGEN
- MONTO VETERINARY SURGERY
- MOCS (RURAL)
- BRISBANE VALLEY PROTEIN
- WARREN DRYNAN AND MATTHEW ARKINSTALL (CATTLE, HAY AND BROILER PRODUCTION)
- SCENIC RIM ROBOTIC DAIRY
- ROCKY POINT SUGAR MILL
- ROCKY POINT
- TAYLOR FAMILY PRODUCE
- CURREY FLOWERS
- DAF ECOSCIENCES PRECINCT
- BETTAPORK
- BMAS
- THE AUSTRALIAN MUNGBEAN COMPANY
- BONNIE DOONE BEEF
- BURNETT CATCHMENT CARE ASSOCIATION