

ONLINE AG CAREERS EXPO

We are excited to announce the speakers for the 2020 Online Agricultural Careers Expo.



HOLMES SACKETT

Courtney Cheers

Consultant



Courtney grew up on a mixed enterprise farm in the Riverina.

Courtney has a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science and first gained experience in consultancy when she completed her work placement component with Holmes Sackett in 2017. Courtney has solid practical experience in the wool industry having worked as a wool classer and shed hand as part of multiple shearing teams across southern NSW, VIC, SA and WA. Courtney's primary role with Holmes Sackett is managing the benchmarking process, assisting clients and providing support to our other consultants on a range of projects.

www.holmessackett.com.au



Melanie Rowse

HR Business Partner



Since 1839, Elders has been a leading agribusiness and iconic brand throughout rural and regional Australia. For 180 years, Elders has expertly combined agribusiness knowledge and technical expertise to create specialised products and services, tailor-made to meet the needs of our varied clients. Elders has links to markets, production expertise, national network and access to leading farm supply brands.

Growing up in on a farm in the South-East of South Australia Melanie, who has only recently commenced with Elders, jumped at an opportunity to join such a reputable organisation in the agricultural industry. Having previously worked in local government, mining, casinos and natural gas, Melanie has a diverse and well-rounded HR generalist background with a current focus on working with livestock trainees.

www.elders.com.au



Fiona Bell

HR Manager

The Costa business started in a fruit shop in Geelong more than 120 years ago and has grown to be one of Australia's largest producer, marketer and exporter of premium quality fresh fruit and vegetables.

Costa employs 7,000 people during peak season times and operates nationally across more than 30 regional and rural communities. Fiona has been working with Costa HR for more than 9 years.

www.costagroup.com.au



Keagan Size

2019 Graduate of RuralBiz Training.

Keagan studied a Diploma of Agriculture and an Advanced Diploma of Agribusiness Management with RuralBiz Training as part of an integrated degree pathway at UNE. Keagan received the 2019 RuralBiz Training Leadership Award as recognition for his ongoing commitment to Leadership in Ag.

Following graduation Keagan accepted a position as Livestock Manager on a mixed farming operation near Yass. Keagan manages the operations 350 Angus cows and up to 20,000 merinos (wool production and breeders).

Kathy Sims

CEO

Kathy is a former rural financial counsellor in Dubbo and Rural Skills Development Manager for NSW Farmers Association. She has worked extensively with farmers in both business and education/training.

Founded in 2002 RuralBiz Training has become a leading provider of accredited training for agriculture, agribusiness, horticulture and other related courses. As part of Academies Australasia, this training is now available to international students. Kathy has also designed and delivered agribusiness training in Papua New Guinea since 2015.

Kathy is passionate about education and agriculture and devoted most of her life to the advancement of both.

www.ruralbiztraining.com.au





Sam Coggins

The Crawford Fund seeks to increase Australia's engagement in international agricultural research and development.

Sam Coggins has a degree in soil science from The University of Sydney and was awarded the University Medal and the prestigious University of Sydney Convocation Medal in 2018. While at uni, he founded the Uni of Sydney Food Wastage Society. Sam received The Horizon Scholarship and a New Colombo Plan Scholarship. He became passionate about working with smallholders following an internship at the International Rice Research Institute and a semester in Sri Lanka during his undergrad ag science degree. Sam's main interest is leveraging digital tools (apps) to support scaling of extension services in developing countries. Sam, with two friends, is further developing RiseHarvest, a smartphone app designed to help farmers in Myanmar use fertiliser more effectively. This social enterprise was selected from 800 teams from 160 countries in the international Thought for Food Challenge in 2018. Sam was then employed as a graduate at the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, and is now involved with his continuing work with digital tools for developing country farmers and on a large Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation digital project. He's also doing an interdisciplinary PhD aiming to help to alleviate climate risks for farmers abroad and at home.

www.crawfordfund.org



Zander Baulch

HR Business Partner

Established in 1824, the Australian Agricultural Company (AACo) is Australia's largest integrated cattle and beef producer, and is the oldest continuously operating company in Australia.

Today, AACo owns and operates a strategic balance of properties, feedlots and farms comprising around 6.4 million hectares of land in Queensland and the Northern Territory. This equates to roughly 1% of Australia's land mass. AACo specialises in grain fed beef and Wagyu beef production.

AACo offer's a range of opportunities across our stations, feedlots and farms, as well as within our corporate office including a graduate program that opens for applications each October.

www.aaco.com.au