Board of Directors

David Anthony, Chairman – Chairman and former CEO of Auscott Limited; Chairman of Cotton Catchment Communities CRC; Chairman of Career Harvests Inc; Council member NSW Minister for Primary Industries Ministerial Advisory Council.


Jane Bennett – Non-Executive Director, Australian Broadcasting Corporation and CSIRO. Chairs the Tasmanian Food Industry Advisory Council Member of the Brand Tasmania Council. Previously, Managing Director Ashgrove Cheese Pty Ltd. 2010 Tasmanian Telstra Business Woman of the Year and 1997 Australian ABC Rural Woman of the Year.

Andrew Spencer – Chief Executive Officer, Australian Pork Ltd. Director, Pork CRC Ltd. Twenty-five year career in agribusiness, both in Australia and internationally. Worked in France, in the agricultural biotechnology and seeds markets.

Mick Keogh – Executive Director, Australian Farm Institute. Mick holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Agricultural Science (UNSW) and has previously had roles as a research scientist, agribusiness consultant, industry lobbyist and farm manager. He is involved in family farming interests in southern NSW.

Key Staff
Mick Keogh, Executive Director
E: keoghm@farminstitute.org.au
Adam Tomlinson, Senior Research Officer
E: tomlinsona@farminstitute.org.au
Gaétane Potard, Research Officer
E: potardg@farminstitute.org.au
Mark Henry, Project Officer
E: henrym@farminstitute.org.au
Tracey Bligh, Administration Officer
E: info@farminstitute.org.au
Sally Beech, Publications Designer & Editor
E: beechs@farminstitute.org.au
Kylie Smith, Communications & Administration Officer
E: smithk@farminstitute.org.au
The Australian Farm Institute

The Australian Farm Institute is an agricultural policy research institute that has been established to develop and promote public policies that maximise the opportunity for businesses in the Australian agriculture sector to operate in a profitable and sustainable manner.

The Institute was established in 2003 in recognition of the need for Australian agriculture to develop and promote its own preferred future direction, rather than relying on directions handed down by politicians or bureaucrats. A founding principle of the Institute is that policies need to be based on objective and robust information, rather than public opinion or current political imperatives.

The Institute conducts research into agricultural policy issues that are of strategic importance to agriculture, and promotes the findings of this research to policy-makers and the wider community through publications, seminars and briefings. Institute research is overseen by the Institute’s Research Advisory Committee, which consists of leading researchers and academics.

The Australian Farm Institute is independent of government, is non party-political and is committed to ensuring research findings are the conclusion of high quality, rigorous and objective analysis. The Institute relies on income received from voluntary membership, corporate sponsorships, conferences and donations to carry out its activities.

Vision

Agricultural policies that maximise the opportunity for Australian agricultural businesses to operate in a profitable and sustainable manner.

Objective

To enhance the economic and social wellbeing of the agricultural sector and farmers in Australia by conducting highly credible public policy research, and promoting the outcomes to policy-makers and the wider community.

By becoming a supporter of the Institute, your contribution can help Australian agriculture to achieve this vision.

Institute Activities

The Australian Farm Institute utilises funding contributed by individuals and corporations to carry out or commission research projects on strategic policy issues of importance to Australian agriculture.

Research project topics are developed by the Research Advisory Committee from discussion at the Institute’s annual Agriculture Roundtable Conference which is attended by leaders of agribusiness, corporate agriculture, farmers, researchers and policy-makers.

Once research projects have been developed, the Institute seeks support for the research project from other organisations, before commissioning or carrying out the research using the best available expertise relevant to that project.

The Institute publishes the results of its research, and makes the findings available in a number of ways. Research outcomes are promoted to industry and policy-makers through seminars, presentations at industry conferences, and briefings to politicians and bureaucrats.

The Australian Farm Institute also publishes a quarterly Farm Policy Journal. Each edition of the Journal focuses on a strategic farm policy issue. The contributing papers are written by Australian and international experts. The aim of the Journal is to inform and stimulate debate on contemporary farm policy issues.

Membership & Subscriptions

The Institute relies solely on memberships, subscriptions and sponsorship as the source of revenue to fund its activities. You can be part of the Institute’s work and also gain access to Institute reports, newsletters and seminars by becoming a member of the Institute. The Institute is recognised as an accredited research institute by the Australian Government, which means that contributions by individuals are fully tax deductible.

Membership of the Australian Farm Institute is an ideal way for individuals or organisations with an interest in farming, agriculture, agribusiness or related industries to access valuable industry information, while at the same time ensuring that the work of the Institute will continue. Membership categories include:

- **Individual Membership**
  Benefits include access to Institute publications and free attendance at Institute research seminars.

- **Corporate Membership**
  Available to organisations seeking to make a significant financial contribution to the work of the Institute and which desire access to Institute publications and events for a number of their staff. Tailored options are available upon application.

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[Please mark the appropriate category – one only]

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