



# FARMING FUTURES



# UNE FARMING FUTURES PROSPECTUS 2026

**SCHOOLS PROGRAM - THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY**

**CAREERS FAIR - THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**INDUSTRY DINNER - THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY**



# FARMING FUTURES 2026

**The aim of Farming Futures is to create opportunities for students to connect, learn, and network with current and future leaders of the agricultural industry.**

Supporting these student-led events is a powerful way to demonstrate your commitment to the future of Australian agriculture. Discover the latest trends in research, business, and technology while engaging in meaningful discussion with peers and industry representatives. Share your knowledge, showcase opportunities, and help shape the next generation of agricultural professionals.

# 2026 CHAIRPERSONS WELCOME

Farming Futures is a remarkable example of what happens when passionate university students come together with a shared vision: to connect people, create opportunities, and celebrate the future of Australian agriculture. Since its inception in 2011, Farming Futures has built a strong reputation for hosting events that are inclusive, engaging, and forward-thinking. Events that inspire careers, foster innovation, and strengthen ties between students and industry.

In 2026, our committee is focused on making Farming Futures more impactful than ever. Guided by our vision, we are committed to delivering exceptional events that showcase the diversity of modern agriculture, highlight innovation, and provide tangible pathways into rewarding careers. Our aim is to create spaces where every student feels they belong, whether they come from a farming background or are discovering agriculture for the first time.

Across the year, we host three flagship events. In May, the Schools Program introduces high school students to the breadth of opportunities agriculture has to offer, sparking curiosity, encouraging further study, and connecting them to potential career pathways. In July, the Careers Fair and Industry Dinner provide university and graduate students with unparalleled networking opportunities, structured industry engagement, and personal and professional development. These two events, including Australia's largest student-run agricultural careers fair, have proven to be launchpads for careers and collaborations that benefit both students and businesses alike.

For me, Farming Futures has always been more than an event series, it is a bridge. It connects students to mentors, employers, and peers; it connects industry to its future workforce; and it connects people to a community that values leadership, innovation, and inclusion. In 2026, we are determined to strengthen this bridge even further, leaving a legacy that will set future committees up for even greater success.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our student committee, the generosity of our sponsors, and the vision of businesses and organisations who believe in supporting young people.

Your involvement is not only an investment in our students, it is an investment in the resilience and growth of Australian agriculture.

On behalf of the 2026 committee, I invite you to join us in Armidale this May and July, and be part of shaping the future of our industry.

**Audrey McPherson**

***Farming Futures Chairperson, 2026***

**0448 712 557 | [amcphe22@myune.edu.au](mailto:amcphe22@myune.edu.au)**





# 2026 FARMING FUTURES COMMITTEE

**Chairperson** - Audrey McPherson

**Vice-Chairperson** - Molly Spencer

**Secretary** - Victoria Wythes

**Treasurer** - Damian Abou-Antoun

**Public Relations Coordinator** - Poppy Starr

**Publicity Coordinator** - Isabelle Willis

**Schools Program Coordinators** -

Bella O'Brien, Jack Ferguson & Lucy Beckett

**Careers Fair Coordinators** -

Georgia Minato, Max Christie, Lily Moore

**Industry Dinner Coordinators** -

Georgie Cronin, Amelia Ramsey & Millicent Beattie

# FARMING FUTURES 2025: YEAR IN REVIEW

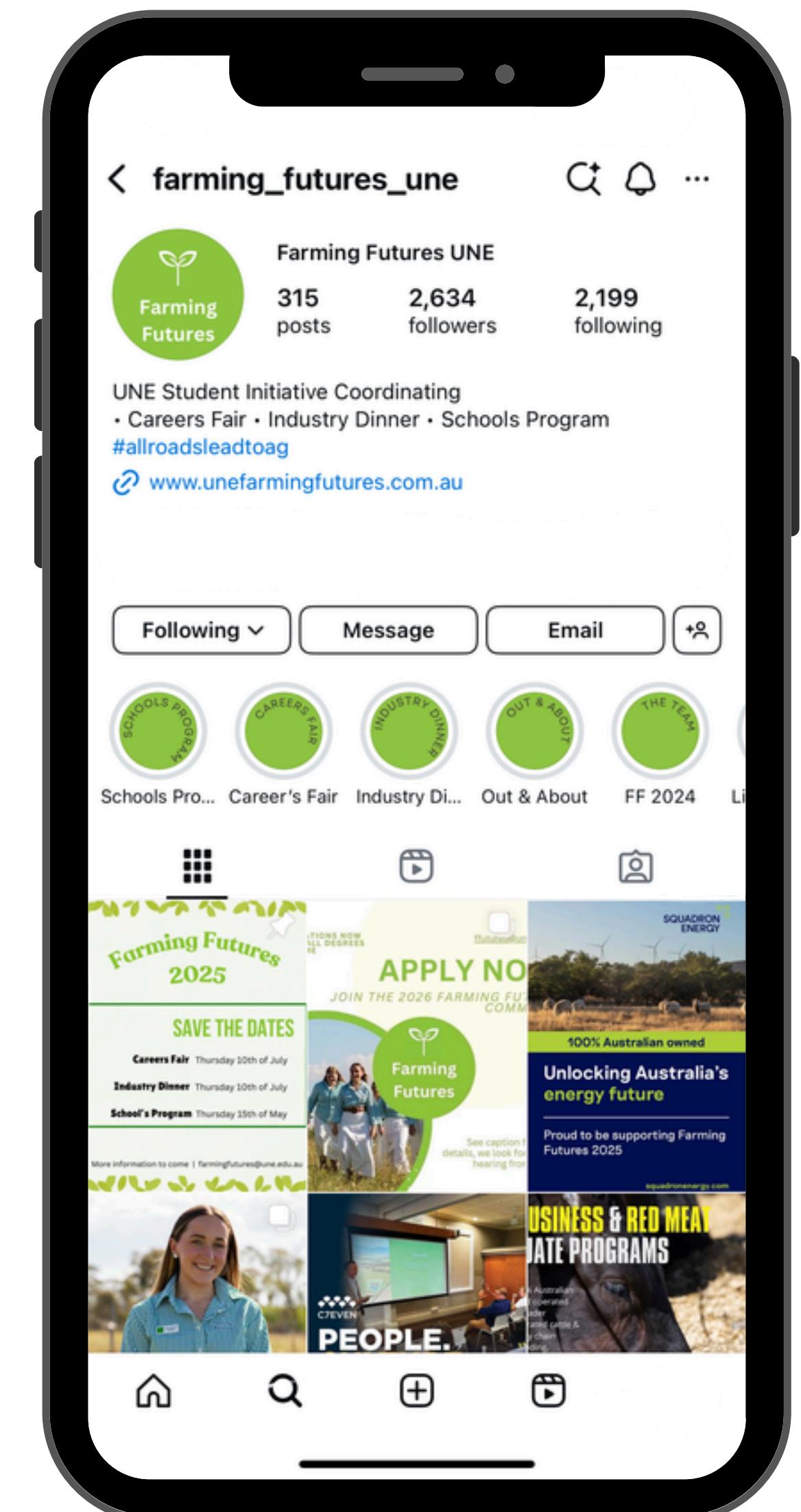
2025 was a standout year for Farming Futures, showcasing the strength of our student-led events and the connections we continue to build between schools, universities, and industry.

Our Schools Program welcomed over 100 students from more than 10 schools across Queensland and New South Wales, with a wide range of industry professionals sharing their insights and inspiring the next generation of agricultural leaders.

The Careers Fair brought together 60 booths and professionals from across multiple sectors, engaging with over a 1000 university students throughout the day and providing tangible pathways into the industry.

The celebrations continued at the Industry Dinner, where 140 students and 96 industry representatives gathered for an evening of networking, connection, and inspiration. Hosted by Farmer Andy, a well-known agricultural influencer, and featuring three incredible guest speakers, the dinner was also an opportunity to give back, raising \$11,000 for Angel Flights, which Farming Futures proudly matched for a total of \$22,000 donated.

Together, these events demonstrated the power of collaboration, innovation, and generosity, reinforcing Farming Futures' commitment to supporting students and strengthening the future of Australian agriculture.



# 2026 FARMING FUTURES SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2026

UNE Campus, Armidale

## CAREERS FAIR

Thursday 16th July, 2026

UNE Campus, Armidale

## INDUSTRY DINNER

Thursday 16th July, 2026

Armidale, NSW



THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2026

# SCHOOLS PROGRAM

*The Farming Futures Schools Program is your chance to discover just how exciting and diverse a future in agriculture can be. Open to students in Year 10 and above, the program showcases UNE's agricultural degrees and shines a spotlight on the many career opportunities across the sector, from ag-tech and business to sustainability and on-farm pathways.*

*Through interactive presentations and real industry insights, students gain a clear picture of the opportunities available after school, whether through further study, a gap year, or direct career entry.*

*Join us in 2026 to explore new possibilities, meet inspiring role models, and take the first step toward a vibrant career in agriculture.*



There is no fee for student involvement in the Schools Program.

**To secure your school's involvement, please submit your expression of interest to our School Program Coordinator/s.**

**Schools Program Coordinators:**

Jack Ferguson | [Jfergu37@myune.edu.au](mailto:Jfergu37@myune.edu.au) | 0477 144 992

Bella O'Brien | [bobrie25@myune.edu.au](mailto:bobrie25@myune.edu.au) | 0498 014 539

Lucy Beckett | [lbecket3@myune.edu.au](mailto:lbecket3@myune.edu.au) | 0447 007 361

THURSDAY 16TH JULY, 2026

# CAREERS FAIR

*The Farming Futures Careers Fair is Australia's largest university-run agricultural careers fair for students and graduates. It provides a platform for meaningful conversations between students and industry professionals, helping to spark connections that lead to real career opportunities. By fostering these networks, Farming Futures supports students in launching careers across agribusiness, ag-tech, and agricultural industries dedicated to advancing the sector.*

*Each year, the Careers Fair showcases a diverse range of employers, from leading agribusiness corporations to innovative organisations. For students, it's a chance to explore future pathways, build professional networks, and develop skills for life beyond university. For industry, it's an opportunity to connect directly with motivated graduates and future leaders of Australian agriculture.*



*To secure a booth at the 2026 Careers Fair, companies are asked to pay a nominal fee of \$550 to cover setup costs (sponsorship packages excluded). This includes a corporate display booth (2m x 1m), trestle table with cloth and chairs, company signage, and the option to be featured in the official Careers Fair guide. Power is available on request.*

*The event is free for UNE students, secondary students and teachers, TAFE students, and the public, making it a high-impact showcase for both industry and future professionals.*

To express interest or book a booth, please contact our **Careers Fair Coordinators:**

Georgia Minato | [gminato@myune.edu.au](mailto:gminato@myune.edu.au) | 0455 877 675

Max Christie | [mchris29@myune.edu.au](mailto:mchris29@myune.edu.au) | 0498 101 840

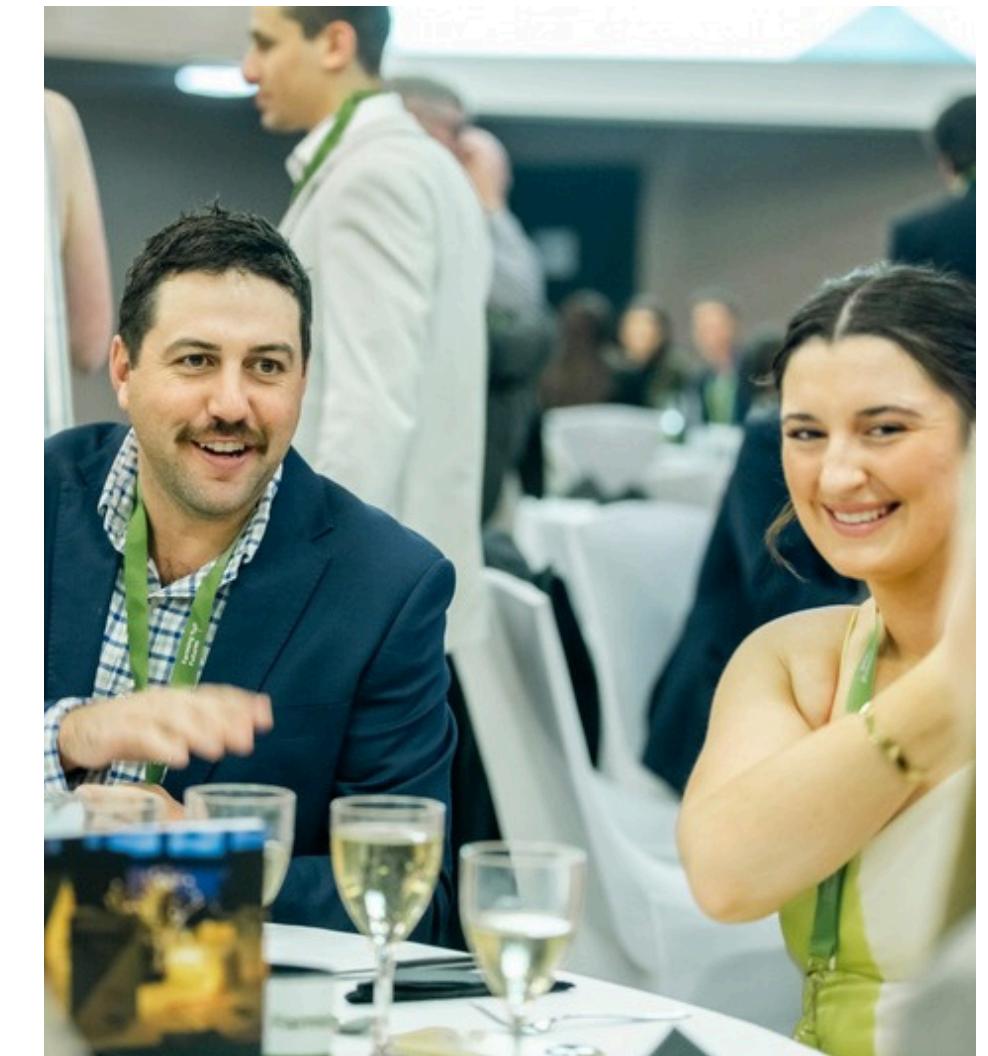
Lily Moore | [lmoore45@myune.edu.au](mailto:lmoore45@myune.edu.au) | 0419 961 081

THURSDAY 16TH JULY, 2026

# INDUSTRY DINNER

*The Farming Futures Industry Dinner is one of the highlights of our annual calendar, designed to foster meaningful connections between students, graduates, and industry representatives in a relaxed yet professional setting. Held after the Careers Fair, the dinner provides a unique opportunity to continue conversations, share insights, and build lasting relationships over an enjoyable evening.*

*Each year, the Industry Dinner showcases new voices, highlights sector-wide challenges and opportunities, and celebrates the diversity of agriculture. More than just a networking event, it's a chance to hear from leaders shaping the industry while forming connections that can spark future careers and collaborations.*



*Tickets for the 2026 Industry Dinner will be released in the lead-up to the event, with early bird specials and final cut-off dates announced via our social media channels and website. Be sure to follow along for updates so you don't miss your chance to be part of this memorable evening.*

## Industry Dinner Coordinators

Georgie Cronin | [gcronin3@myune.edu.au](mailto:gcronin3@myune.edu.au) | 0428 515 808  
Amelia Ramsey | [aramsey2@une.edu.au](mailto:aramsey2@une.edu.au) | 0403 185 227  
Millicent Beattie | [mbeatt23@myune.edu.au](mailto:mbeatt23@myune.edu.au) | 0417 508 840

# SPONSORSHIP

The 2026 Farming Futures Executive Committee warmly invites you to explore our Prospectus and consider partnering with us through sponsorship. Your support directly contributes to the future of Australia's agricultural industry by empowering students and strengthening connections between the next generation of leaders and the sector they will help shape.

Sponsorship provides meaningful visibility for your organisation while backing student-led initiatives that showcase innovation, opportunity, and community within agriculture. By supporting Farming Futures, you are investing in both students and the long-term success of the industry.

Sponsorship opportunities for 2026 include:

- Lanyard Partner
- Rural Student Travel Bursary
- Program Advertisements (½ or full page)
- Schools Program Meal Partner (Morning Tea or Lunch)
- Careers Fair Meal Partner (Lunch)
- Industry Dinner Transport Partner

For more information or to discuss sponsorship options, please contact:

Poppy Starr | [pstarr3@myune.edu.au](mailto:pstarr3@myune.edu.au) | 0428 816 862



# FARMING FUTURES PARTNERSHIP

## OPPORTUNITIES

\*FARMING FUTURES EVENTS ONLY, NO GST HAS BEEN CHARGED

ANNUAL PARTNERS				
ENTITLEMENTS	PLATINUM \$10,000	GOLD \$5,000	SILVER \$3,000	BRONZE \$1,000
<b>Industry Dinner Course Partner - Choice of Entree, Main or Dessert</b>	YES	NO	NO	NO
<b>Sponsored social media posts</b>	10	5	3	1
<b>Speaking Opportunity at Industry Dinner event</b>	YES	NO	NO	NO
<b>Acknowledgement of contribution at all 3 events</b>	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Powered Careers Fair booth</b>	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Industry Dinner Tickets</b>	4	3	2	1
<b>Speaking session at Schools Program</b>	YES – 30 MINUTES	YES – 15 MINUTES	NO	NO
<b>Corporate profile on UNE Farming Futures website</b>	YES – 300 WORDS	YES – 200 WORDS	YES – 100 WORDS	YES – 50 WORDS
<b>Featured episode on Farming Futures podcast - Established 2025.</b>	YES	NO	NO	NO
<b>Car Parking Passes for Careers Fair &amp; Schools Program</b>	3	2	1	NO
<b>Access to UNE WIFI</b>	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Option to provide branded merchandise for Careers Fair &amp; Schools Program show bags</b>	YES – 3 ITEMS	YES – 2 ITEMS	YES – 1 ITEM	NO
<b>Logo on banners, dinner program &amp; advertising material</b>	YES - LARGE	YES - MEDIUM	YES - SMALL	YES - SMALL
<b>Corporate profile &amp; advert in programs of all 3 events</b>	FULL PAGE PROFILE & FULL PAGE ADVERT	½ PAGE PROFILE & ½ PAGE ADVERT	¼ PAGE PROFILE & ¼ PAGE ADVERT	NO
<b>Logo on Website partners page</b>	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Sponsored showcase slides displayed at all 3 events</b>	6	4	2	1

# THANK YOU

The Farming Futures 2026 Executive Committee extends our sincere gratitude to all our sponsors, partners, and supporters. Your generosity and commitment make it possible for us to deliver events that connect students with industry, showcase opportunities across agriculture, and inspire the next generation of leaders.

Farming Futures has thrived since 2011 because of the continued belief and investment from forward-thinking businesses, organisations, and individuals who share our vision for the future of Australian agriculture. Together, we are creating meaningful opportunities, building lasting networks, and strengthening the resilience of our industry.

On behalf of the entire committee, thank you for walking alongside us as we continue to grow, innovate, and inspire. Your support not only empowers our students but also ensures the agricultural sector remains vibrant, inclusive, and future-focused.

We look forward to welcoming you to our 2026 events and to continuing this journey together.

**Audrey McPherson**  
2026 Chairperson

**Molly Spencer**  
2026 Vice-Chairperson

