

# AG HORIZONS FORUM



Regional  
Development  
Australia

WIDE BAY BURNETT

9:00am **Registrations open** - tea & coffee available

9:30am **Forum Opening** - *Hon David Littleproud MP (Federal Member for Maranoa)*

**Why this forum? Why now?** - *Carl Rackemann (Businessman & farmer)*

**Commodity markets, global developments, competitiveness and conduct in supply chains: Where do Australian farmers fit?**

*Derek Baker (UNE Professor of Agribusiness and Value Chains)*

**Regional value creators: Why processing matters**

*Josh Gadischke (Owner, Plenty Foods Pty Ltd)*

**Question Session followed by smoko from 11.15 until 11.45 am**

11:45am **Panel Session: Learning the tough lessons; what the peanut industry's decline can teach every industry about safeguarding farmers, regional economies and food security**

- *Mark McGovern (retired QUT Professor of Economics)*
- *Robbie Katter (State Member for Traeger & regional Qld advocate)*
- *Peter Howlett (Kumbia farmer & forum committee member)*
- *Graeme Wright (peanut breeder & historian)*

**Question Session followed by lunch from 12:30 – 1:15 pm**

1:15pm **Rural and regional economies: Why Australian industries are so important to regional economies and Australia's future**

*Ben Lyons (USQ Professor of Rural Economies)*

**Securing food from the foundations: Why food security needs a coordinated response, not just shared concern**

*Rachel Chambers (Qld Food Farmers Commissioner)*

**Questions followed by Facilitated Session – Where to from here? How do we get the profitability of agriculture, and viability of regional economies, on the agenda?**

**Forum closes at 3 pm - optional networking over a cuppa**



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19 June 2026  
SCAN FOR TICKETS

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