



2<sup>nd</sup> International Seaweed Conference Asia-Pacific

# Seagrass

18 - 20 MARCH 2025  
ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

## Seagrass Asia-Pacific 2025 Conference Program

### Site Visit: Tuesday 18 March 2025

To Fleurieu Peninsula and SARDI

Pick-up and Drop-off Point: Bus zone on North Terrace outside the Adelaide Convention Centre

Departure: 9:00, please be at the pick-up point at 8:45

Drop-off: Around 17:00

### Conference: 19 - 20 March 2025

#### Moderator of the conference:

Catriona MacLeod, Adjunct Professor in Environmental Interactions and Sustainable Ecosystem Management, University of Tasmania; Board Member Australian Sustainable Seaweed Alliance (ASSA), Australia, World Aquaculture Society and New Zealand King Salmon

### Conference Day 1: Wednesday 19 March 2025

8:00 - 9:00 Welcome Coffee

#### 9:00 - 9:25 Opening of the Conference

Jo Kelly (Australian Sustainable Seaweed Alliance, Australian Seaweed Institute)

Welcome to Country

#### 9:25 - 9:45: Headliner of the conference

Prof Tim Flannery (Australian climate change leader): The Global Seaweed Industry - current state of play

#### 9:45 - 10:05: Keynote Presentation

Steve Meller (CH4Global, USA): Enteric Methane: The opportunity to make an impact on global warming starting today

### 10:05 - 10:55 Session 1: Seaweeds for climate change mitigation and adaptation

#### Moderator:

Prof Tim Flannery (Australian climate change leader)

#### Panelists:

Catriona MacLeod, Adjunct Professor in Environmental Interactions and Sustainable Ecosystem Management, University of Tasmania; Board Member Australian Sustainable Seaweed Alliance (ASSA), Australia, World Aquaculture Society and New Zealand King Salmon

Jo Kelly (Australian Sustainable Seaweed Alliance, Australian Seaweed Institute)

Steve Meller (CH4Global, USA)

Prof Emeritus Rocky de Nys (Sea Forest, Australia)

### 10:55 - 11:25 Coffee Break / Trade Show

### 11:25 - 12:45 Session 2: Policy, Regulation, and Governance

11:25 - 11:45: Lleidan Hunter (Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry) & Dr. Naidu Bodapati (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water): Australian Government's role in the seaweed industry

11:45 - 12:05: Dianne Maynard (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Tasmania, Australia): Adapting regulation and government functions to support sustainable seaweed aquaculture

12:05 - 12:25: Heidi Alleway (Senior Aquaculture Scientist, The Nature Conservancy, Australia): Restorative practices for environmental, social and economic gains

12:25 - 12:45: Hayley Fraser-MacKenzie, Founding Board Member & Deputy Chair, ANZSA

### 12:45 - 13:00 Exhibitor Showcase: Introduction of Trade Show Participants



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**13:00 - 14:15 Lunch / Trade Show**

**14:15 - 14:35: Keynote Presentation (Pre-Recorded)**

Dr Alan T. Critchley (Verschuren Centre, Canada):  
Phyconomy 101: The elegance and legacy of Kathleen  
Drew's seminal work on *Porphyra sensu lato* the raw  
materials for nori

**14:35 - 15:25 Session 3: Panel discussion on  
seaweed investments and business aspects in  
Asia-Pacific**

**Moderator:**

Marni Oaten (OCTES, Australia)

**Panelists:**

Nick Hill (Coast 4C, Australia)

Alexia Akbay (Symbrosia, Hawaii/USA)

Tim Harmsen (Next Wave Seaweed, Australia)

Arnav Mariwala (MariTide Aquatech LLP, India)

Wes Ward (Saltbush Innovations, Australia)

**15:25 - 15:55 Coffee Break / Trade Show**

**15:55 - 17:15 Session 4: Seaweed farming 2.0**

15:55 - 16:15: Simon Davis (SEADLING, Malaysia):  
Building the Tropical Seaweed Industry of the Future

16:15 - 16:35: Nate Baker (Kelson Marine, USA): Cost  
Reductions in Offshore Seaweed: What Matters and What  
Doesn't

16:35 - 16:55: Nelson Vadassery (Sea6 Energy, India):  
Large scale farming of Tropical Eucheumatoid seaweeds

16:55 - 17:15: Kim Kristensen (Arctic Seaweed AS):  
Enabling a global sustainable seaweed industry

**17:15 - 18:00 Seaweed Elevator Pitches**

Dr. Maya Puspita (CREST Project – S. Alga Indonesia):  
CREST Project Indonesia: Improvement of Eucheumatoid  
Seed Production in Indonesia Through Gradual Selection  
and Good Aquaculture Practice

Eka Sunarwidhi Prasedya, Ph.D. (University of Mataram):  
Importance of exploring wild populations of Eucheumatoids  
for sustainable seaweed industry in Indonesia

Philip James (Nofima, Norway): Growing algae on top of  
the world

Sarah Gorst (South Coast Seaweed, Australia): Beyond the  
Shoreline: The Cultural Significance of Seaweed in  
Indigenous Australian Traditions

Chris de Cuyper (Fremantle Seaweed Pty Ltd, Australia):  
Fremantle Seaweed: The Blueprint for Offshore Cultivation  
of *Asparagopsis*

Dr Shea Cameron (Huon Aquaculture, Australia): Scaling  
seaweed production using Salmon farms in South East  
Tasmania?

**18:00 – 18:10 Closing of Conference Day 1**

Conference Dinner at the Rose Garden Pavilion

**Conference Day 2: Thursday 20 March 2025**

8:00 - 9:00 Welcome Coffee

9:00 - 9:10 Opening of Conference Day 2

**9:10 - 9:30 Keynote Presentation**

Steven Hermans (Phyconomy, Belgium): A reality check on  
Asian seaweed markets



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### 9:30 - 10:30 Session 5: Value-added products and market opportunities

9:30 - 9:50: Daniel Abrahams (Marine Bioproducts CRC, Australia): The Economic and Social Value from Marine Bioproducts

9:50 - 10:10: Colin Barrow (Deakin University/Marine Bioproducts CRC, Australia): Bioprocessing blueprints for creating value from seaweed

10:10 - 10:30: Johan Svenson (Cawthron Institute, New Zealand): Seaweed solutions looking for problems

### 10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break / Trade Show

### 11:00 - 12:00 Session 6: Seeding & breeding of seaweeds

11:00 - 11:20: Ryan Marchington (Greenwave Aotearoa): Advancing Seaweed Cultivation in New Zealand: Greenwave Aotearoa's Journey and Vision for the Future

11:20 - 11:40: Haik van Exel (Hortimare, The Netherlands): Binder seeding since 2012: What have we learnt?

11:40 - 12:00: Cayne Layton (University of Tasmania, Blue Conservation Services, Australia): Kelp seedbanks: safeguarding genetic diversity and supporting aquaculture and restoration

### 12:00 - 12:35 Seaweed Elevator Pitches

Monique English (Standards Australia): Standards for new areas: A case study on standard AS 5404 Natural bromoform feed additives product quality Products derived from Asparagopsis

Masaru Okamoto (Algae Culture Tec Corp., Japan): Labor saving seaweed cultivation using floatable block

Dr Michael Rule (Drift Consulting, Australia): A novel system for cultivating seaweeds in the ocean

Jeff Wright (Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, Australia): Development of cultivation methods for Bull Kelp *Durvillaea* spp.

Dr. Manoj Kumar (Coastal Marine Ecosystems Research Centre, Central Queensland University, Australia): Advancing Asparagopsis Hatcheries: Overcoming Challenges for Industry Growth

### 12:35 - 13:50 Lunch / Trade Show

### 13:50 - 14:10: Keynote Presentation

Alex Baker (FutureFeed, Australia): FutureFeed - Commercialising new products in emerging impact markets – a balancing act

### 14:10 - 15:30 Session 7: Seaweed of the year 2025: Asparagopsis

14:10 - 14:30: Margie Rule (Australian Sustainable Seaweed Alliance): The Australian Sustainable Seaweed Alliance: Supporting Australia's seaweed industry through the Asparagopsis National Hatchery Network and development of a cultivation manual

14:30 - 14:50: Leonardo Mata (Greener Grazing, Vietnam/Portugal): Asparagopsis farming: key learnings and challenges to overcome

14:50 - 15:10: Alexia Akbay (Symbrosia, Hawaii/USA): Building IP and Culture in an Emergent Market

15:10 - 15:30: Breanna M. Roque (FutureFeed, Australia): Advancements in Asparagopsis as an enteric methane inhibitor in beef feedlot diets

### 15:30 - 15:40 Closing of the Conference