



*TIA is a joint venture of the University of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Government*

Monday, 8 October 2018

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## **A free look inside the world of agriculture research**

From drones zipping through the air to a chance to hear the harrowing tale of the first grower in Australia to find a vicious sap-sucking invader in his fields, North West Tasmanians have a free front row ticket to the agriculture action this Wednesday.

The Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture's (TIA) Open Day is a free pass for students, farmers and the public to have a sticky beak inside the Forthside Vegetable Research Facility.

Attendees will get to see ground-breaking research and demonstrations, to meet industry professionals, and hear from two special guest speakers:

Dr Fred Crowe, an international authority on onion and garlic funguses, will discuss organic methods of preventing onion white rot in Tasmania.

Darryl Smith, a third-generation potato grower from 200km south of Perth, will share his experiences as the first grower in Australia to detect Tomato-Potato Psyllid.

TIA Director Professor Holger Meinke said Open Day presented an opportunity for the community to observe agricultural advances happening nearby.

"TIA produces internationally recognised, cutting edge agricultural research," he said.

"Open Day gives the community a chance to see how the future of farming is being developed right down the street; students can discover a new career, farmers can get practical solutions to problems."

Entry to Open Day is free to all. More than a dozen presentations will be capped off by a spit roast dinner from 4pm-6pm.

Forthside Open Day is being run in collaboration with VegNET, an initiative to communicate vitally important research-based information to Australia's vegetable industry.

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**Event:** Forthside Vegetable Research Facility Open Day

**Date:** Wednesday, 10 October 2018

**Time:** *Registration & Morning Tea*  
9.30am

*Presentations & Demonstrations*  
10am – 4pm

*Spit Roast Dinner*  
4 – 6pm

**Location:** TIA's Forthside Vegetable Research Facility  
124 Forthside Road  
Forth, TAS 7310

**More info:** <https://tinyurl.com/ycu45udt>

**Media contact:**

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