

Final Report

Apple & Pear Industry Leadership Initiative 2016-2018

Project leader:

Tony McMeel

Delivery partner:

Marcus Oldham College

Project code:

AP15015

Project:

Apple & Pear Industry Leadership Initiative 2016-2018 – AP15015

Disclaimer:

Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited (Hort Innovation) makes no representations and expressly disclaims all warranties (to the extent permitted by law) about the accuracy, completeness, or currency of information in this Final Report.

Users of this Final Report should take independent action to confirm any information in this Final Report before relying on that information in any way.

Reliance on any information provided by Hort Innovation is entirely at your own risk. Hort Innovation is not responsible for, and will not be liable for, any loss, damage, claim, expense, cost (including legal costs) or other liability arising in any way (including from Hort Innovation or any other person's negligence or otherwise) from your use or non-use of the Final Report or from reliance on information contained in the Final Report or that Hort Innovation provides to you by any other means.

Funding statement:

This project has been funded by Hort Innovation, using the apple and pear research and development levy and contributions from the Australian Government. Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.

Publishing details:

ISBN 978 0 7341 4492 8

Published and distributed by: Hort Innovation

Level 8
1 Chifley Square
Sydney NSW 2000

Telephone: (02) 8295 2300

www.horticulture.com.au

© Copyright 2018 Horticulture Innovation Australia

General project overview

Initially, the project was to provide two scholarships of \$10,000 each to support two students from the Apple and Pear industry to undertake the one-year Diploma of Agribusiness at Marcus Oldham College. It was hoped that both scholarships would be awarded to students beginning their studies in 2017. Jack Bartels from Tasmania was awarded a 2017 scholarship. The second scholarship was re-advertised for a 2018 student however, no applications were received. It was recommended that Jack Bartels be awarded the second scholarship to continue his Associate Degree of Agribusiness studies at Marcus Oldham in 2018.

Summary

The partnership between APAL and Marcus Oldham College began in 2013 with the inaugural APAL Emerging Leaders program. The highly successful program saw in excess of 60 people from the Apple and Pear industry gain insight and experience in leadership over the three years that the program ran. APAL also saw an opportunity to provide financial support to two very worthwhile students to Agribusiness at Marcus Oldham. The awardee may progress to complete the Bachelor degree and bring a higher level of maturity and depth of understanding back to the workplace for the benefit of the businesses and the industry. Marcus Oldham has been pleased to partner with APAL and is grateful for the support they have shown to advancing education within the Apple and Pear industry.

The first recipient of the APAL Scholarship was Thomas Griggs from Tasmania who has been studying for his Bachelor degree in 2018.

Achievements

Jack Bartels grew up in the Huon Valley in southern Tasmania. He has been involved with the horticulture industry since age 13 working in cherries as a summer job. Jack became passionate in horticulture with help from his father who is a horticultural adviser. Jack's grandfather and great-grandfather were also in the horticulture industry making him the fourth generation in the family with horticultural involvement. After two years of studying at UTAS Jack chose to pursue a career in horticulture and received a job at Hansen's Apple and Cherry farm. (Howard Hansen is a graduate of Marcus Oldham College.)

Jack is the successful recipient of an APAL New Horizons Scholarship and undertook the one-year Diploma of Agribusiness at Marcus Oldham in Geelong, Victoria. Jack was awarded the second scholarship to continue his Associate Degree of Agribusiness studies at Marcus Oldham in 2018. In 2017, Jack undertook some fantastic work placement opportunities within the industry. Through the help of Marcus Oldham and APAL he spent four weeks with Montague and Marcel Veens (horticultural adviser). This gave Jack a greater understanding of the future of the horticultural industry in production and marketing.

Jack Bartels has continued to undertake his studies with diligence and enthusiasm and has been meeting academic requirements.

Outputs

Marcus Oldham students undertake a series of international study tours and in 2017 as part of his Diploma, Jack toured to China and Hong Kong. In 2018 as part of his Associate Degree of Agribusiness, he participated in the New Zealand International Study Tour which was a fantastic experience and really opened his eyes to New Zealand Agribusinesses and how they create a premium price for their products - through creating a meaningful point of difference and target marketing practices, something Australian Horticulture could really learn from. Jack hopes to continue to be involved with New Zealand horticulture in association with Australia over the coming years.

Outputs from the Associate Degree of Agribusiness studies include: a class five day study tour to the North East of Victoria and to the Yarra Valley to visit a range of agribusiness operations; presentation of a well-researched three minute speech on his personal background and his scholarship sponsor to 27 fellow scholarship recipients, the Principal, Foundation Manager, Scholarship Co-ordinator and Marketing Officer. Jack was selected to speak on the students' behalf at a College Foundation function held at the Metropolis in Melbourne at which the Honourable Jeff Kennett AC was guest speaker.

The study tours provide students with a professional network through which their career may be enhanced.

All Marcus Oldham scholarship recipients are required to be in attendance at the College's Open Day in August to conduct campus tours and relate their College experience to prospective students and parents.

Jack has just completed the required 10 weeks internship as part of the Associate Degree of Agribusiness with Sumitomo Chemical Australia which has been an incredible learning experience. Sumitomo Chemical Australia produce and sell agriculture chemicals for crop protection with a focus on the horticultural field. During this placement he travelled to: Bundaberg, North and South Tasmania, Shepparton, Swan Hill, Mildura, Bairnsdale, Gippsland, Horsham, Renmark, Adelaide Hills and Sydney to meet with horticultural farmers and agronomists.

Outcomes

Jack completed his Diploma of Agribusiness in 2017 with High Distinction marks. On 7 December 2018 Jack will graduate with an Associate Degree of Agribusiness. Once again, this is with the generous support of the APAL New Horizons Scholarship.

From his experience in his internship, Jack was offered and has accepted post-graduation employment with Sumitomo Chemical and looks forward to fulfilling his role of Territory Sales Manager. He will be providing farmers in the Victorian and Tasmanian regions with the tools and advice they require to produce the best product.

This career move is an excellent outcome for Jack Bartels. He is extremely grateful for the generous support of the APAL New Horizons Scholarship which permitted him to study the second year of the Agribusiness Program and achieve a qualification which has, and will continue to, open new opportunities for him to make a considerable contribution to Australia's horticultural industry.

Intellectual property, commercialisation and confidentiality

NA

Issues and risks

NA

Other information

NA

Appendices

NA