



Nursery & Garden Industry
Australia

Media release

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Production nurseries to benefit from new best practice portal

A one-stop shop to help Australia's nursery businesses meet industry best practice standards has been launched, providing online resources and access to e-learning opportunities.

The Nursery Production Farm Management System website (nurseryproductionfms.com.au) includes information about the Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme Australia (NIASA), environmental certification EcoHort, and on-farm biosecurity program BioSecure HACCP.

Nursery & Garden Industry Australia (NGIA) Chief Executive Peter Vaughan says the portal makes it easier than ever for production nurseries to implement the programs, which can provide huge flow-on benefits to businesses and their bottom lines.

"We're excited to unveil a new online, technical hub for businesses in the nursery industry. It's easy to use and will help growers find up to date information on best management practice, biosecurity, and environmental and natural resource management," Mr Vaughan said.

"Some of the topics covered by the portal include irrigation, growing media, pests and diseases, weeds, pesticides, energy use and cropping system design and development.

"Building on existing skills and learning new practices is vital for any business in the current environment. Having video and written resources readily available provides an opportunity for growers to refresh skills and remain current."

Mr Vaughan said production nurseries are already seeing great results from adopting the Nursery Production FMS programs.

"For example, one Queensland-based production nursery has saved around \$350,000 per year by implementing BioSecure HACCP, which has helped them better manage their pest, disease and weed risks," Mr Vaughan said.

"Access to the portal will help all growers improve their cropping systems, adopt new technology and techniques and implement change at a business level.

"Growers can also access news and events, which we hope builds even greater engagement and collaboration in our vibrant industry."

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