



Nursery & Garden Industry  
Australia

# Case Study

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Tuesday, 18 December 2018.

## Become a 2019 Green Leader – Apply now!

Nursery managers and employees interested in developing their leadership skills, in a business or representative role, are being encouraged to apply for the 2019 Green Industry Growing Leaders program.

The Green Leaders program seeks to equip nursery and turf managers with the tools they need to thrive within their businesses, and grow into future leaders and advocates for their respective industries.



*Kristian Spink, 2018 Green Leader*

Now in its third year, the program is run by consulting firm, The Right Mind, and is funded by Hort Innovation using nursery and turf industry levies with contributions from the Australian Government.

Tuition is covered by the levy, and the course is conducted over three-months, which includes two face-to-face workshops, set to be held 1-2 May in Sydney, and 1-2 August in Brisbane next year.

The course covers several key topics, including:

- Leadership and capturing hearts
- Mastering the people dimension
- Understanding and managing energy
- Achieving success
- Aligning physical well-being
- Mastering the inner warrior

In between the workshops, participants choose a workplace project of their choice. Using knowledge gained from the course, participants then deliver a presentation detailing their project at the final workshop in Brisbane.

At the start of the program, participants will have the opportunity to establish relevant goals to meet their professional development, and to apply these ambitions to their business and industry upon completion.

The course will also provide participants with a greater understanding of behavioural drivers by using the latest management and emotional behavioural tools. The program provides a highly valuable opportunity for participants to learn key mentoring and coaching skills.

Young managers and leaders across the nursery industry have seen real results since undertaking the program including Kristian Spink, Nursery Manager at Marlborough Nursery, located at Redland Bay in Queensland.



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Kristian was able to absorb the information quickly and apply key learnings from the course to strengthen his management skills in the nursery.

“The course allowed me to see that everyone learns differently – some people are visual, auditory or list learners, whereas others learn from doing it themselves and repeating it back to ensure they’ve got it right,” said Kristian.

“I want to be a great leader for our business and the industry more broadly. I’m always looking to improve my skills, which is a key reason that I took up the opportunity to be part of Green Leaders.”

Understanding how to communicate effectively was a key focus for Jesse Andrews, Nursery Manager at Anderson’s Horticulture; an avocado wholesale nursery in Duranbah, New South Wales.

Having trained as a chemical engineer, Jesse’s transition to a nursery career was inspired by his family’s connection to the land. His manager was aware of the program and encouraged Jesse to apply.

“Prior to this, my career had been very focused on the technical side of things, so it’s been a great experience to hone in on improving my people, communication and leadership skills,” said Jesse.

“After attending both workshops, I walked away with a greater sense of confidence and ownership in my role as nursery manager – and my colleagues noticed a change in my approach at work.”

Both Kristian and Jesse believe that in order for the nursery industry to have a strong, sustainable future, it must have the right leaders within, to realise its full potential.

### How to Apply

Applications for the 2019 program are now open and young growers and managers are encouraged to apply.

The Right Mind are accepting applications until Friday 8 March 2019. Nursery and turf applicants will need to complete a short online written survey, and successful applicants will be advised after the closing date.

To request an application form, or to find out more information, click [here](#).

**Hort  
Innovation**  
Strategic levy investment

**NURSERY  
FUND**

This project has been funded by Hort Innovation using the nursery research and development levy and funds from the Australian Government. For more information on the fund and strategic levy investment visit [horticulture.com.au](http://horticulture.com.au)

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