



**Regenerative  
Agriculture  
Network  
Tasmania**



**Conference 2024**  
**Thriving in Agriculture:**  
**Land, People & Profit**  
**Our Speakers**

**For details & tickets visit [www.regenagtas.org.au](http://www.regenagtas.org.au)**

# Walter Jehne

## Regenerate Earth

Walter Jehne is an internationally recognised soil microbiologist and innovation strategist. He has immense field and research experience in soils, grasslands, agriculture and forests at local, national (CSIRO and Science Adviser to Australia's National Soil Advocate), and international (UN) level. Walter's specialisation is the role of soil microbes' symbiotic processes in the ecology of diseases, plant health, nutrient and waste cycling, soil pedogenesis and the regeneration of bio-systems.



Decades of research have made him expert in plant root ecology, mycorrhizal fungi, glomalin, and soil carbon formation. He also has worked on biology's enormous influences in hydrological cycles, weather patterns, regional and global cooling, and cloud formation and rain precipitation. Recent work has focused on commercializing leading bio-innovations which will urgently help restore agro-ecosystems and urban agriculture and ecologies. Walter is determined to advance the practical verification, application and extension of these innovations, including for cities and their supply chains, to sustain the current 8 billion and projected 10 billion people by mid-century.

# Gabe Brown

Gabe Brown is a pioneer of the soil-health movement and has been named one of the twenty-five most influential agricultural leaders in the United States. Gabe and Shelly, with their son Paul and daughter in law Jazmin, own Brown's Ranch, a holistic, diversified 5,000-acre farm and ranch near Bismarck, North Dakota. The Browns integrate their grazing and no-till cropping systems, which include a wide variety of cash crops, multi-species cover crops along with grass finished beef and lamb.



They also raise pastured laying hens, broilers and pigs. The diversity and integration of enterprises has regenerated the natural resources on the ranch without the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, and fungicides, and at a profit. The Browns are part owners of a state inspected abattoir which allows them to direct market their products. Over 2,000 people visit the Brown's Ranch annually. Gabe is the author of *Dirt to Soil* and a founding partner in Understanding Ag LLC. He is also an instructor for Soil Health Academy, which focuses on teaching others the power and importance of healthy functioning ecosystems.

# Graham Hand

## Hand for the Land

Graeme has a diverse professional background working as an industrial chemist, international marketer, meat industry consultant and farmer. He has 30 years' experience as a farm consultant to family and corporate farmers creating profitable and sustainable farm businesses, which prioritise being fulfilling and enjoyable to work in. Graeme trains farmers, advisors and educators internationally and throughout Australia on regenerating grasslands using planned grazing management.



Graeme has delivered bushfire and drought extension services for Victoria's DPI, Holistic Management training for Catchment Management Authorities and universities, and consulted for the meat industry on eating quality and marketing.

In addition to his consultancy work, Graeme is actively engaged in beef cattle farming in East Gippsland, and hosts on-farm landscape function grazing schools.

Gabe Brown describes Graeme as having ".....the greatest understanding of not only ecosystem functions, but also how that relates to what we, as farmers and ranchers are doing. OUTSTANDING!"

# Rachelle Armstrong

## Soil Restoration Farming

Rachelle is driven by the people and cultural side of creating new models of farming that regenerate landscapes and community.



Rachelle comes from a farming family, and developed the vermiculture based business, NutriSoil with her parents.

Rachelle and her husband Justin now focus on building a community of support for independent coaches and consultants who work with farmers on the journey of farming more regeneratively.

## Steven Hobbs

Steven Hobbs is a Nuffield Scholar and fourth generation mixed farmer situated 18km NW of Kaniva, Victoria. Since experiencing the impacts of climate change, Steven has re-evaluated his farm enterprise mix to diversify income streams and move towards being carbon neutral. He has shifted his 60:40 cropping/grazing mix to 30:70 to reduce his climate risk and increase profitability.



Steven collects data to identify and evaluate the impact of changes in management and make evidence-based decisions, while addressing barriers to adoption. Based on this data he has chosen to regenerate the perennial pastures, use rotational grazing and mixed species plantings for grazing & carbon sequestration, and to grow crops that can be used as biofuels.

# Chris Main

Chris Main is the CEO of Australian Soil Management (ASM). ASM's mission is to help farmers remove 1 billion tonnes of CO2 from the atmosphere and assist in the registration and management of carbon projects.



An experienced farmer and the founding director of the Australian Holistic Management Co-op, which monitors the ecological health of farmland. In addition to this, Chris worked in the investment industry in Sydney and runs his own farming operation. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with Honours, majoring in Agronomy and a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and Investment at the Securities Institute of Australia (now Finsia).

Chris sets direction for the ASM and helps it grow. “We have a great team of people who are passionate about helping farmers achieve good ecological outcomes on their farms. ASM is unique in the soil carbon sector with the depth of experience in the business.” Chris has a deep passion for improving agricultural systems and spending time with his cattle is his favourite way to de-stress!

# Celia Leverton

## Regenerative Agriculture Network Tasmania

Celia has recently returned from a transformative Churchill Fellowship to the UK, Europe and the US looking at how to increase the successful adoption of regenerative agriculture; and exploring what tangible outcomes are possible in terms of land regeneration, profitability and personal wellbeing.



As the President and co-founder of Regenerative Agriculture Network Tasmania and founding member of Permaculture Tasmania, Celia has been actively involved in creating change in food and fibre production for 40 years, alongside farming vegetables, fruit, poultry and beef cattle. She has been practicing and teaching permaculture for over 20 years and regenerative grazing for 10 years.



# Panel Discussion Topics

- Multi-species cover crops as a soil primer for cash crops
- Grazing to have it all - profit, landscape function and manageability
- Perennial Cropping - managing the interrow for crop health and productivity
- Transitioning to regenerative agriculture - a warts and all recount

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