

Farm Forward 2035 – Visions of Smart Efficiency from Three Continents

Executives of large scale farms from
Australia, Canada, and Kazakhstan
share their outlooks on arable farming

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The structural shift toward larger agricultural operations continues to gain momentum. Large-scale farms benefit from increased efficiency, higher productivity, and economies of scale. At the same time, they face growing demands in terms of management and strategic planning. On the Expert Stage, owners and managers of major agricultural enterprises will share their visions for the future development of their businesses. They will provide insights into how the integration of artificial intelligence, digitalization, automation, robotics, and workforce management can support the effective operation of complex farm structures in arable farming.

Target group: Farmers, consultants, representatives from the agricultural industry

Moderator

Dr Anna Catharina Voges, Member of the DLG Executive Board, DLG e.V.,
Saat-Gut Plaußig Voges KG agricultural enterprise

Speakers

- **Maxim Bozhko**, CEO and co-owner of Shanyrak Management Company, Kazakhstan
- **Jason Friesen**, G & B Friesen Farms and Resilire Ag Ltd, Canada
- **Nick Paterson**, General Manager, EXCEL FARMS, Australia

Moderator and speaker profiles

Dr Anna Catharina Voges

is the CEO and managing partner of **Saat-Gut Plaußig Voges KG**, a family-owned agricultural enterprise based near Leipzig, Germany. With a strong academic background in agricultural science and economics, she leads the company's operations across 2,500 hectares, combining conventional and organic farming. The business focuses on sustainable crop production and regional value creation, including its own flour brand. Under her leadership, the company has expanded into environmental services and rural development. Dr. Voges also founded *Voges Kaufmannsladen GmbH & Co. KG* and chairs the DLG Committee for Farm Management, promoting innovation and responsible agriculture.



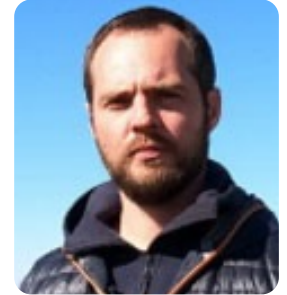
- **Monday, 10 November 2025**
- **4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.**
- **Expert Stage 'Smart Efficiency',
Hall 24, Hanover Exhibition Centre**
- **English**



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Maxim Bozhko

is the CEO and co-owner of Shanyrak Group, a vertically integrated agribusiness holding in Kazakhstan. With a background in economics and project management (George Washington University), he leads a diversified company active in poultry farming, crop production, feed manufacturing, and food processing. Shanyrak Group operates under the “field-to-shelf” model, producing eggs, broiler meat, and processed foods under the brand Kurochka Ryaba. The company cultivates over 34,000 hectares and emphasizes sustainable farming, diversification, and technological innovation



Jason Friesen

is one of the more progressive, younger farmers in Western Canada. He grew up on his family farm in Quill Lake, Saskatchewan, where he was actively involved from a young age alongside his parents and younger brother. After completing high school, he pursued some post-secondary education before returning to the farm. During the winter months, he worked in the oilfield and long-haul trucking for several years. In 2003, he established a mobile grain cleaning business, which he operated primarily during the winters over the next 11 years, while gradually expanding the farm. Around 2008, he and his brother purchased the farm company from their parents and continued to grow the operation. At that time, they were farming approximately 7,500 acres (ca. 3000 ha). Today, the farm spans about 25,000 acres (ca. 10000 ha), producing spring wheat, canola, barley, peas, and lentils. They are generally early adopters of advanced agricultural technologies, including variable rate seeding, fertilizer and chemical application, sectional control, and other innovations aimed at improving efficiency and sustainability. He has two sons involved in the farm—one working full-time and the other part-time while finishing high school. His daughter works as an office manager and accountant for a local business and also has aspirations to join the farm. In addition to his farming responsibilities, he serves as the reeve of his municipality and is the president of the board of directors for Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance.



Nick Paterson

General Manager, EXCEL FARMS

Excel Farms is a fast-growing agricultural company formed through a joint venture between Australian farmers and a Canadian investment fund. Headquartered in Ararat, VIC, it operates eight large-scale farming aggregations across Australia. The company focuses on grain cultivation, lamb trading, and wool production. Using modern farming techniques, strategic investments, and efficient property management, Excel Farms aims to build a sustainable agricultural portfolio that delivers strong long-term returns. Nick manages farms through the Western Districts, Wimmera and Mallee regions with a strong focus on mixed farming. He is also in the Board of Directors of Southern Farming Systems.

