



Greener Spaces Better Places

Quarterly Update

Q3 | FY 23-24

Welcome to your quarterly update from the government pillar of Hort Innovation's Nursery and Garden Marketing Program – Greener Spaces Better Places (GSPB).

GSPB is a movement that brings together community, growers, government, business and everyday people to make our homes, streets and suburbs the greenest in the world.

We hope you enjoy this update.

Q3 HIGHLIGHTS

GSPB has been busy working to expand market opportunities for growers in Australia's urban development via Urban Green Infrastructure and Urban Forestry. Here are some of the highlights.

Green Star recognition of greenlife



Focused on sustainability, Green Star is an internationally recognised rating system setting the standard for healthy, resilient, positive buildings and places in Australia.

In a recent breakthrough, GSBP secured the integration of the *National Urban Green Infrastructure Handbook* into the Green Building Council of Australia's (GBCA's) soon-to-be-released Green Star 'Communities' Framework.

This means that guidelines for urban green infrastructure will be embedded in seven key areas of the Green Star Tool.

This inclusion marks a significant milestone in GSBP work, as it encourages the incorporation of greenlife into urban developments, opening up new market opportunities for growers.

- *Our strategic focus on influencing business and industry is yielding results, as we advocate for the promotion and inclusion of urban green infrastructure.*

The Plant Pod recording: Where City Life Meets Greenlife

In our upcoming episode of The Plant Pod, GSBP talks to lead strategist Belinda Bean alongside urban green infrastructure trailblazers David Martin and Michael Casey.

The podcast unpacks the newly launched *National Urban Green Infrastructure Handbook* which aims to help elevate green infrastructure to the same level of importance as traditional infrastructure, like roads and electricity.

That means more people buying plants and trees – good news for everyone involved!

You can listen to the podcast [here](#).

Where the Shade Hits the Pavement conference collaboration

in collaboration with Citygreen, GSBP is building on *Where the Shade Hits the Pavement* – a green and blue urban planning and development summit held in Brisbane in March. GSBP is focused on strengthening commitments to urban green spaces among urban greening implementers, businesses, researchers and policymakers.

The levy-funded guest speaker, Belinda Bean (Lead Strategist, Greener Spaces Better Places) contributed valuable insights at the conference, moderating the Q&A panels and delivering a presentation on the new *National Urban Green Infrastructure Handbook*.

“We certainly appreciated Greener Spaces Better Places’ involvement in the event. Your command of the issues and hot topics was very noticeable and contributed greatly to the increased professionalism of the event. Initial feedback has been incredibly positive.” - Ben Gooden, CEO – Citygreen



Photo caption: Belinda Bean (Lead Strategist, Greener Spaces Better Places)

Coming together to process urban greening

Over the last three months, GSBP has engaged with a wide range of stakeholders to champion collaboration and insight-sharing between organisations, to co-create a greener urban future.

Stakeholders consulted include:

- Nursery and Garden Industry associations from each state
- Australasian Green Infrastructure Network (AGIN)
- Green Infrastructure Research Labs (GIRLs)
- Which Plant Where
- Conservation Volunteers Australia
- ICLEI CitiesWithNature
- A New Normal Sydney
- Office of Planetary Observations
- Green Building Council of Australia
- Citygreen

Pitching a novel urban greening concept



GSBP is leading a project team to design site-specific solutions to increasing urban greening in cities.

The project is creating scalable and replicable prototypes that the community – including key decision makers – can experience and consider.

The project team, comprising Nursery & Garden Industry, NSW & ACT (NGINA), the University of Melbourne, MULPHA, and REALM studios, has drafted and pitched the concept to the A New Normal Sydney team. GSBP looks forward to sharing an update on its progress with you next quarter.

What's happening next quarter?

- GSBP will continue the novel urban greening concept for Planting, Biodiversity and Cooling for A New Normal Sydney, alongside Nursery & Garden Industry of NSW & ACT.
- GSBP will progress work with the Australian Green Infrastructure Network (AGIN) to advance Australia-wide Urban Green Infrastructure.
- GSBP will visit several states to connect with the greenlife industry, provide updates on the Greener Spaces Better Places program, and seek feedback.

We appreciate your continued support of GSBP. If you have questions, suggestions or would like to get involved in any initiatives, contact us at hello@greenerespacesbetterplaces.com.au.

Stay in touch via GSBP monthly [Living Network newsletter](#) or the [LinkedIn group](#).

Hort Innovation 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