



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

MEDIA RELEASE

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Opportunities for Tasmanian Protected Horticulture

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Senator Richard Colbeck welcomed the release of a KPMG report* on Dutch agricultural lessons for Australian producers.

“I have had the opportunity to observe protected horticulture in the Northern Hemisphere when I was previously in this role and from those observations I believe that Tasmania could be one of the best locations in Australia to develop this practice,” Assistant Minister Colbeck said.

“I have already had discussions with my State Government counterpart, Primary Industries Minister Sarah Courtney, regarding the opportunities in this sector and I look forward to working with her further.

“We can do a lot of work to significantly increase our productivity, grow our exports and therefore employment and investment into Tasmanian horticulture through a focus on protected horticulture – this form of agriculture could form a significant proportion of Tasmania’s agriculture growth targets.

“The Dutch have used protective horticulture to become the world’s second largest food exporter, I see no reason why Tasmania can’t become the Netherlands of the South.”

*Going Dutch: Opportunities for the Australian agri-food sector
(<https://home.kpmg.com/content/dam/kpmg/au/pdf/2018/australian-agtech-lessons-from-the-netherlands.pdf>)

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