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The good oil for growers

A MARGATE-based essential oil manufacturer has formed a new research agreement with the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture in a move it says will boost yields from native plants along with established crops such as lavender and peppermint.

"The new three-year memorandum of understanding will help Essential Oil Tasmania and producers refine existing products and develop new ones," TIA Professor Dugald Close said.

EOT uses four native Tasmanian plants — boronia, southern rosalina, Tasmanian native pepper and kunzea.

TIA's research will help it sustainably increase yield and quality from these plants along with EOT's well-established crops such as lavender, peppermint, fennel and parsley.