



ANNUAL SUMMARY

2025

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AUSPestCheck® Annual Summary 2025

Plant Health Australia, Canberra, ACT

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ISSN:

Acknowledgement of Country

PHA acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands where we work, live and learn.



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What is AUSPestCheck®?

Operated and maintained by Plant Health Australia (PHA), AUSPestCheck® is a secure, cloud-based environment where government, industry and research partners can contribute, visualise and share surveillance data to strengthen national biosecurity outcomes.

Created as a collaborative asset, AUSPestCheck® brings together historical and ongoing surveillance data from multiple sources into a single, protected system. With strong data security, trusted governance and expanding interoperability, AUSPestCheck® helps participants understand surveillance coverage, identify priority gaps, reduce duplication of effort, and generate evidence to support domestic and international market access.

AUSPestCheck® is designed to grow alongside Australia's biosecurity needs, supported by strong partnerships and continuous improvement to increase functionality, participation and national value.

What does AUSPestCheck® deliver?

Data management

AUSPestCheck® provides:

- tools to generate automatic data upload templates and maintain upload and deletion logs
- multiple data submission pathways including API integration, webforms, and CSV uploads
- a system that allows participants to verify and control the data they contribute.

Data sharing and access

AUSPestCheck® offers:

- a secure platform to enable data sharing within and across agencies
- flexible data sharing settings that allow users to tailor visibility and access to selected datasets.

Analysis and decision support

AUSPestCheck® enables users to:

- assess surveillance coverage, identify gaps, and explore data using tables, maps, and customisable map overlays
- monitor and track emerging pest risks across Australia
- support operational and response decision-making by identifying when and where surveillance was last conducted
- generate reports using integrated PowerBI functionality
- enhance communication through national maps and reports that visualise surveillance activities.

Coordination and system growth

AUSPestCheck®:

- supports Australia's national surveillance system, facilitated by governance structures that ensure continuous improvement and expansion
- manages a rapidly growing collection of surveillance data, exceeding 11 million records as of December 2025.

Case studies

- National Plant Health Surveillance Program (NPHSP) data are being used to coordinate early detection surveillance for Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) delivered by state and territory agriculture departments and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- NPHSP data from AUSPestCheck® have contributed to the European Union (EU) recognising Australia's Pest Free status for *Xylella*, in line with [EU plant health requirements for non-EU countries](#).

Secure, support and future-ready

- Strong governance frameworks overseeing system integrity and development.
- Ongoing maintenance and enhancements to meet evolving user needs.
- Contemporary security and hosting practices to protect data and system operations.
- Mechanisms to manage permissions, user access and data management tasks.
- Validation checks to ensure data quality, consistency and compliance with established standards.
- Ongoing training and user engagement to build capability and confidence.

Help desk

Phone	02 6215 7700
Email	apc@phau.com.au
Hours	Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm AEST

Surveillance snapshot

The *Bactrocera* (fruit fly) genus had the largest volume of surveillance data with almost 8 million records captured in AUSPestCheck®.



Potato psyllid (Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, bugwood.org) CC BY 3.0 US

Industry-led programs held over 500,000 records, largely comprised of over 120,000 records from the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program, 100,000 records from Forest Watch, and 15,000 records from the CitrusWatch Program.

Government-led programs held the highest number of records with more than 9 million contributions across all fruit fly programs and over 1 million records from the National Plant Health Surveillance Program.



In 2025, almost 1.7 million surveillance records were captured in AUSPestCheck®. Since its release, data have been collated for more than 250 different pest species.

695 datasets were exported from AUSPestCheck®, approximately a third of which were requests from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.



Biosecurity Online Training

The new AUSPestCheck® User Guide BOLT course introduces users to the purpose and functionality of AUSPestCheck®, covering topics such as navigating the system, understanding surveillance data, and using key features like search and data sharing tools. It is designed to assist new users with onboarding, and also serves as a refresher for current or infrequent users looking to sharpen their skills.

Launched in March of 2025, the AUSPestCheck® User Guide BOLT course has been accessed by 119 users across all states and territories.







Course modules

This e-learning course is made up of four learning modules. At the end of each module there will be a short quiz to confirm your knowledge and understanding.

To start, click on module one and progress through the course by using the next button in the bottom right-hand corner.

You can also revisit this course as a refresher at any time and navigate directly to the module you're interested in from this slide.

You can return to this slide at any time by clicking on the Menu button below.

-  Module 1
Introduction to AUSPestCheck®
-  Module 2
System architecture and permissions
-  Module 3
Data upload
-  Module 4
Data search and visualisation



MENU  AUSPestCheck®

BACK



HOME

Key improvements for AUSPestCheck®

Enhanced navigation experience, user interface and program dashboard

Re-design of the dashboard showing AUSPestCheck® Programs has provided the option to display summary information to all system users, and to improve user's ability to navigate to key features. These improvements will enhance communication and collaboration between AUSPestCheck® system users.

Key updates include:

- knowledge Base integration by clicking on 
- access to latest updates by clicking on 
- profile management and sign-out options via a dropdown next to the username
- links to PHA Digital Systems, Terms of Use, Privacy Policy, and Contact Us at the bottom of the screen.

The Programs overview page enhances information sharing, transparency, and communication among participants. It features:

- a navigation panel to toggle between 'Your Programs' – those you have full access to and 'Other Programs' – providing summary information only
- program titles and descriptions, with a 'Program Info' button for more details
- centralised access to program documentation, participant lists, and associated entities for data upload and search.

Data sharing

Enriched, efficient data sharing through data sharing containers

The release of AUSPestCheck®'s Data Sharing Container (DSC) functionality followed extensive scoping and development and represents a major step forward in data sharing, enabling data to be shared securely between programs within AUSPestCheck®.

In a DSC, participants can share all, or part of their data, by identifying the data fields to be included. Data fields can be mapped across programs to a common field name and geographically de-identified. A suite of enhancements that increase configuration granularity and improve flexibility within DSCs, including built-in governance controls and self-service options, are planned for 2026.

PHA has been working with several Program Administrators to develop a template for Data Sharing Agreements. While not formally needed, Data Sharing Agreements will assist outline the rules under data will be shared in a DSC.

PHA will support users to establish a DSC including what data will be shared, permissions and roles of users within the DSC.

IT Service Management highlights

An IT Service Management (ITSM) team was introduced in 2024/25, to ensure PHA's Digital Systems have well-documented, seamless flows for:

- issue identification and prioritisation
- investigation and scoping of solution
- code development, review and testing
- user acceptance testing and regression testing
- release and communication to users
- production verification testing.

AUSPestCheck® usage

System structure

‘Participants’ are groups of users generally from the same organisation. ‘Programs’ are used for data compartmentalisation and contain information from surveillance activities for target pests. Data records are uploaded by a participant user to a program. Participants can upload data to multiple programs and each program can contain data from multiple participants. An increase in the number of system users, participants, data records and programs demonstrates increasing value in utilisation and service delivery.

In 2025

Performance and Incident Management

Over 99% system uptime. A single incident requiring only 1.5 hours of outage time to resolve.

Change and Release Coordination

14 releases successfully implemented with upgraded deployment and rollback processes.

Continuous Improvement

Implemented ITSM best practice tools and procedures including Jira Service Management Portal and proactive sprint retrospectives to optimise future planning.

Communication

10 ‘Latest Update’ articles published to notify on system release notes and Knowledge Base updates, ensuring users are informed for all maintenance and enhancements.

System comparison 2024 to 2025

	2024	2025
Programs	17	19
Participants	30	30
Users	165	169
Records	8 million	11 million

Future use and enhancements

What’s next for AUSPestCheck®?

Proposed enhancements and value additions include a variety of themes identified by users, stakeholders, steering committees and system developers, prioritised for the next period of system development.

Work areas include:

1. Leveraging data from multiple parties and improved communication by investigating utility of Dataspaces through the Australian Research Data Commons.
2. Exploring links to Biosecurity Commons to provide interoperability between the two systems and give decision-makers access to modelling tools supported by datasets in AUSPestCheck®.
3. Increased functionality through spatial tools and visual analysis to strengthen transparency, interpretation of data, and decision-making in surveillance.

Acknowledgements

The AUSPestCheck® team would like to thank all stakeholders for their continued contributions through uploading surveillance record data, governance and administrative roles and suggestions of ways we can improve the system to meet your needs now and into the future.

AUSPestCheck® is endorsed by the National Biosecurity Committee as Australia’s national plant surveillance database and is funded by jurisdictional and federal Government contributions.






AUSPestCheck® is a registered trademark.
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